

17 October, 2012.

LLANELLI RURAL COUNCIL

Minute Nos: 233 – 241

At a Meeting of the **POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE** of the Llanelli Rural Council held at the Council Chamber, Vauxhall Buildings, Vauxhall, Llanelli, on Wednesday, 17 October, at 4.45 p.m.

Present: Cllr. D. M. Cundy (Chairman)

Cllrs.

F. Akhtar	H. J. Evans
L. A. Beer	R. E. Evans
S. L. Davies	S N. Lewis
S. M. Donoghue	A. G. Morgan
W. V. Thomas	

233. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. M. V. Davies, T. Devichand (Cllr S. L. Davies deputising), G. N. R. Edwards (Cllr F. Akhtar deputising), and T. J. Jones (Cllr R. E. Evans deputising).

234. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

235. SERVICE PLANS 2012/13

Members considered the half yearly report on the Council's Service Plans for 2012/13 which reviewed the key objectives and targets of the wide ranging services provided.

During discussion Members referred to the various performance indicator measures in particular the percentage of Councillors attending Council and Committee meetings and the importance of improving overall levels of attendance. It was hoped the message would be fed back to all Members via the respective group meetings. Members also debated the performance indicator measure for the number of public footpaths re-opened. In order to better gauge progress and performance targets, Members felt it was important to ascertain the total number of footpaths maintained by the Council to provide baseline information. It was also suggested that officers consult the Ramblers' Association to identify footpaths which merited reopening.

17 October, 2012.

On a general point of presentation of the service plans Members requested that more detailed explanations be inserted into the Results/Mid Year Results Column along similar lines to the explanations provided in the Training Services plan.

Following discussion, it was

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

Cllr R. E. Evans withdrew from the meeting midway through the discussion of Minute No. 235 above.

**236. ECONOMIC, SOCIAL OR ENVIRONMENTAL WELL-BEING
DRAFT STATUTORY GUIDANCE TO PROMOTE THE POWER OF
WELL-BEING**

Further to Minute No. 188 Members considered the consultation document from the Welsh Government in respect of proposed new statutory guidance under Section 3 (6) of the Local Government Act 2000 on the discretionary power now available to Town and Community Councils, namely the Power of Well-Being.

The Clerk referred to similar guidance being issued to Town and Parish Councils in England. The English guidance referred to the repeal of Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972 as the use of the Power of Well Being effectively made Section 137 redundant. It was felt that this point should be flagged up for possible consideration when issuing the proposed guidance for Welsh Local Councils. Members concurred and it was

RESOLVED that the draft statutory guidance to promote the Power of Well Being be supported but consideration of the repeal of Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972 be flagged up with the Welsh Government as part of the Council's formal response.

**237. DYFED POWYS POLICE
POLICING PRIORITIES QUESTIONNAIRE**

Further to Minute No. 220, Members considered Dyfed Powys Police Authority's 2013/14 policing priorities questionnaire. Members stated agreeing a corporate response to the questionnaire would be difficult as the policing priorities in the Council's electoral wards would be different and would depend on local circumstances. In view of this, Members felt the questionnaire should be sent to all Councillors to garner individual responses to be returned to the Police Authority. This needed to be done prior to the planned meeting going ahead in Llanelli on 24 October 2012 (to which Minute No. 220 above refers) and it was

RESOLVED that the questionnaire be circulated to all Councillors with a request that completed questionnaires be returned to the Council office by no later than Monday 22 October 2012.

17 October, 2012.

238. CARMARTHENSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL – HOUSING SERVICES

Members considered correspondence from Jonathan Morgan, Housing Services Manager at Carmarthenshire County Council for the Council to engage with Housing Services for improving plans and policies on key housing factors such as:

- Improving Housing Advice and Options.
- Delivering the Carmarthenshire Homes Standard to council homes.
- Improving home standards in the private rented and owner occupier sectors.
- Supporting people to live independently in their homes.
- Facilitating more affordable housing initiatives.

After discussion, it was

RESOLVED that the Clerk invite Mr Jonathan Morgan to attend a future Council meeting to discuss the developments in more detail.

239. YNNI DA – DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN

Members received correspondence from Ynni Da, a community development organisation which supported community regeneration and engagement. Ynni Da offered a service to work with the Council to help develop a community action plan(s).

The Clerk informed Members that the development organisation could be used as a value added tool in the foundation for new community projects. After discussion it was

RESOLVED that Mr Aled Vaughan Owen, owner of Ynni Da, be invited to attend a future Policy and Resources Committee meeting to present further information on the proposal.

240. PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT, 1960

RESOLVED that in view of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, the following matter be considered in private and that the power of exclusion of the public under Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act, 1960 be exercised.

241. STAFFING MATTERS

Members considered the report of the Deputy Clerk (Administration) informing of staffing matters.

RESOLVED that the report referenced 10/2012 be accepted.

17 October, 2012.

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The meeting concluded at 5:55 p.m.

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The afore-mentioned Minutes were declared to be a true record of the proceedings and signed by the Chairman presiding thereat and were, on 13 November, 2012, adopted by the Council.