

18 May, 2011.

LLANELLI RURAL COUNCIL

Minute Nos: 54 – 59

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, 18 May, 2011, at 4.45 p.m.

Present: Cllr. S. M. Donoghue (Chairman)

Cllrs.

D. J. Davies	S. N. Lewis
M. L. Davies	C. A. Rees
M. V. Davies	B. C. M. Reynolds
H. J. Evans	A. C. Thomas
T. Rh. Ifan	G. H. Wooldridge

54. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

An apology for absence was received from Cllr. A. G. Morgan.

55. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr. D. J. Davies declared a personal and prejudice interest in Minute No. 56 as he was a member of the Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Authority.

56. APPOINTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES SUB-COMMITTEE

RESOLVED that a Sub-Committee, comprising the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of Committee, Chairman of Council, Leader and Cllrs. M. V. Davies and C. A. Rees, be appointed.

**57. MID AND WEST WALES FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY
- DRAFT ANNUAL ACTION PLAN 2012-2013**

Cllr. D. J. Davies declared a personal and prejudice interest in the following item as he was a member of the Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Authority.

Members received correspondence from the Chairman of the Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Authority which stated that one of the proposals for 2012/13 was to improve the way that resources at Llanelli Fire Station were managed. As a stakeholder within the Llanelli area, the Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Authority wished to bring this specific

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proposal to the Council’s attention and provide additional information ahead of the formal consultation on its draft annual action plan.

Llanelli Fire Station was currently crewed by full-time staff providing 24 hour cover via a 4 watch shift system. The current arrangements required 28 staff to deliver the cover. The station was also supplemented with over 20 retained staff, who respond to crew supporting appliances when required. The writer claimed the Wholetime Duty System was inherently inefficient and at any one time 23 of the 28 staff would be off duty and unavailable for undertaking firefighting and fire safety services.

The writer stated that under any new proposals the number of Wholetime staff actually on duty would still be at least five persons. What would be different was the way staff were rostered. Furthermore, there would be no changes to the level and speed of service delivery. Service would be improved providing benefit to staff whilst utilising resources more efficiently.

The writer further stated that the efficient rostering of staff would generate £500,000 savings every year. However, the savings would not be realised straight away because the new crewing system would be phased in without any firefighters losing their jobs. The Fire and Rescue Authority was confident it could manage the new staffing arrangement through natural staff turnover.

The formal consultation period started on 16 May to 19 August, 2011, and the Council’s views on the proposed improvements contained in the Draft Annual Action Plan 2012/13 were welcomed.

RESOLVED that the correspondence be noted for the time being and that it be re-considered alongside the draft Annual Action Plan 2012/13 upon its receipt from the Fire and Rescue Authority.

58. 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.

59. STAFFING MATTERS

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

RESOLVED that the report be accepted.

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The meeting concluded at 5.00 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 14 June, 2011, adopted by the Council.