

**21 March, 2012.**

**LLANELLI RURAL COUNCIL**

**Minute Nos: 426 – 433**

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, 21 March, 2012, at 4.45 p.m.

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

**Cllrs.**

T. D. Bowen	H. J. Evans
D. J. Davies	T. Rh. Ifan
M. L. Davies	A. C. Thomas
M. V. Davies	G. H. Wooldridge

**426. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. S. N. Lewis, A. G. Morgan, C. A. Rees and B. C. M. Reynolds (Cllr. T. D. Bowen deputising).

**427. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations of interest were made.

**428. THREE COUNTY COMPACT CONSULTATION**

Members received a draft consultation document from the Community Regeneration Manager (Valleys), Carmarthenshire County Council regarding an overarching compact agreement to be entered into between:

- Carmarthenshire, Ceredigion and Pembrokeshire County Councils;
- Carmarthenshire, Ceredigion and Pembrokeshire Associations of Voluntary Services; and
- Hywel Dda Health Board.

The document was based on the existing Carmarthenshire Compact. Its purpose was to enter into a partnership agreement between the public and voluntary sectors to improve working relationships and to provide a framework within which the sectors could understand what to expect from one another based on generic values and principles as prescribed under the National Compact framework.

During discussion Members noted there was no mention of Town and Community Councils being included in the agreement. They felt the principles surrounding the compact agreement

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were generally sound but emphasised it was important that local accountability was not diluted or lost as a result. In this regard concern was expressed over the Health Board's current and future role and how it appeared to lack accountability especially in regard to its communication strategy and the way it went about consulting the public over service reconfiguration.

Following discussion, it was

**RESOLVED** that Members' views and comments be forwarded to Carmarthenshire County Council generally supporting the compact agreement.

**429. SAFE ROUTES IN THE COMMUNITIES GRANT SCHEME**

Members considered correspondence from the Acting Head of Transport and Engineering, Carmarthenshire County Council, which informed of the Safe Routes in Communities Grant Scheme, which aimed to create a safer environment for pedestrians and cyclists through the implementation of engineering measures such as cycle routes, cycle and pedestrian paths and road safety initiatives. A consequence of these measures was a shift away from car use for certain journeys resulting in reduced levels of congestion, improved local air quality and an improved street scene.

The aim was to change how people travel, resulting in greater social inclusion and improved community safety. The project would improve road safety, reduce accidents, improve children's and adults' health and development, reduce traffic congestion and pollution and help create greater community benefit.

The writer was inviting applications from Community/Town Councils and schools within the County. All applications received would be assessed against set criteria with one or possibly two applications being taken forward to the Welsh Government.

Following discussion, it was

**RESOLVED** that:

- (1) the grant scheme be supported in principle;
- (2) the Council will look to work in partnership with schools wishing to participate in the scheme; in this regard
- (3) the potential scheme identified in the Bynea Ward involving Bynea School, Bynea District Forum and the Council be acknowledged and supported subject to the school being able to submit an application bid by the deadline of 5 April, 2012; and
- (4) the potential scheme identified in the Hengoed Ward for the new school in Furnace be earmarked for future consideration following the school being constructed.

**430. THE POST OFFICE NETWORK  
- FELINFOEL AREA**

Further to Minute No. 350, Members received correspondence from the Chief Executive, Carmarthenshire County Council, enclosing a copy letter from the Field Change Advisor,

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Post Office, Ltd. The letter confirmed the opening of the Post Office at Chalky’s Newsagents and Stores for a trial period of 12 months.

**RESOLVED** that the information be noted.

**431. PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT, 1960**

**RESOLVED** that in view of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, the following matters 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.

**432. STAFFING MATTERS**

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

**RESOLVED** that the report be accepted.

**433. APPEALS SUB COMMITTEE**

Members considered the Minutes of the Appeals Sub Committee held on 12 and 19 March, 2012.

**RESOLVED** that the Minutes be accepted.

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The meeting concluded at 5.15 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 12 April, 2012, adopted by the Council.