

15 March, 2017.

LLANELLI RURAL COUNCIL

Minute Nos: 480 – 488

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, 15 March, 2017, at 4.45 p.m.

Present: Cllr. M. V. Davies (Chairman)

Cllrs.

F. Akhtar	S. M. Donoghue
D. M. Cundy	R. E. Evans
S. L. Davies	S. N. Lewis
T. Devichand	A. G. Morgan
J. S. Phillips	

Absent: T. J. Jones

480. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. T. Bowen and A. J. Rogers (Cllr. S. L. Davies deputising).

481. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

482. TRANSFORMATION PROGRAMME

Correspondence was received from the Director, Transformation, Hywel Dda University Health Board informing of the transformation programme.

The Transformation programme was an internal programme to the Health Board which was led by its Chief Executive. The challenges being faced by the Health Board were shared by health and social care systems nationally and internally and therefore there were many opportunities to work with others to consider solutions.

An initial Transformation group had been established made up of clinicians and managers from across the health and social care system, to start the thinking and define the key areas of focus for the programme. The group would have a key role in linking with all parts of the existing services, listening and learning from what currently happens and linking this to the wider learning.

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Following a discussion, it was

RESOLVED that a letter be sent to the Director, Transformation, Hywel Dda University Health Board inviting the team to attend a future Council meeting to discuss the transformation programme in more detail.

**483. REFORMING LOCAL GOVERNMENT
RESILIENT AND RENEWED**

Members received a consultation document from the Deputy Director, Substance Misuse Policy, Government and Corporate Business Division, Welsh Government, on the White Paper 'Reforming Local Government: Resilient and Renewed'.

The White Paper set out proposals for regional working; described a strengthened role for councils and councillors; provided a framework for any future voluntary mergers; the future role of community councils and proposals around elections and voting.

Following discussion, whereby Members thought it would be beneficial to receive a draft completed consultation document and to hold a Special Council meeting for discussion, it was

RESOLVED that the matter be deferred to a Special Council meeting for discussion.

**484. INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL FOR WALES
ANNUAL REPORT 2017/18**

Further to Minute No. 254, Members were circulated with the Annual Report 2017/18 received from the Chairman, Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales stating the Panel's Annual Report dated February 2017 to be implemented in the financial year 2017/18 had now been published.

Members' attention was drawn to section 13 of the report wherein it stated the payments to members of community and town councils. Members were informed that some minor changes had been made to the final report since the previous draft determinations were approved in November 2016, and it was

RESOLVED that the following determinations be adopted by the Council after the 4 May, 2017 elections:

1. Determination 44: Community and Town Councils are authorised to make a payment to each of their members of a maximum amount of £150 per year for costs incurred in respect of telephone usage, information technology, consumables etc.
2. Determination 45 shall not be adopted whereby community and town councils are authorised to make an annual payment not exceeding £500 each up to three members in recognition of specific responsibilities. However, and in preference to this, Determinations 46 and 47 shall provide for payments to be respectively made to the Chairman and Vice Chairman of Council as indicated in resolutions 3 and 4 below.
3. Determination 46: Community and Town Councils are authorised to provide a civic allowance to the mayor/chair of the Council and so the Council agrees to make an annual

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payment of £500 to the Chairman to undertake the functions of that office. This was in addition to the £150 payment for costs and expenses if that was made and also in addition to the annual budget set by the Council to defray costs and expenses in performing the role.

4. Determination 47: Community and Town Councils are authorised to provide a civic allowance to the deputy mayor/deputy chair of the Council and so the Council agrees to make an annual payment of £250 to the Vice Chairman to undertake the functions of that office. This was in addition to the £150 payment for costs and expenses if that was made and also in addition to the annual budget set by the Council to defray costs and expenses in performing the role.

5. Determination 48 - Community and town councils are authorised to make payments to each of their members in respect of travel costs for attending approved duties. Such payments must be the actual costs of travel by public transport or the HMRC mileage allowances as below:

- 45p per mile up to 10,000 miles in the year.
- 25p per mile over 10,000 miles.
- 5p per passenger per mile carried on Council business
- 24p per mile for private motor cycles.
- 20p per mile for bicycles.

6. Determination 49: If community and town councils resolve that a particular duty requires overnight stay, it may authorise reimbursement of subsistence expenses to its Members at the maximum rates set out below on the basis of receipted claims:

- £28 per 24 hour period allowance for meals, including breakfast where not provided.
- £200 – London overnight.
- £95 – elsewhere overnight.
- £30 – staying with friends and/or family overnight.

7. Determination 50: Community and town councils are authorised to pay a Financial Loss Allowance to each of their members where such loss has actually occurred, for attending approved duties as follows:

- Up to £33.00 for a period not exceeding 4 hours.
- Up to £66.00 for a period exceeding 4 hours but not exceeding 24 hours.

8. Determination 51: Community and town councils are authorised to provide for the reimbursement of necessary costs for the care of dependent children and adults (provided by informal or formal carers) up to a maximum of £403 per month. Reimbursement shall only be made on production of receipts from the carer.

485. 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.

486. POLICY AND RESOURCES WORKING GROUP

Members received the report of the Deputy Clerk informing of the Working Group created to support Officers in overseeing the transition arrangements associated with the Council's training department activities and functions leading up to the review in February 2017 (Minute No. 143 of the Committee meeting held on 20 July, 2016, refers).

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Following a lengthy discussion, it was

RESOLVED that the report be noted and an update report would be presented following the review of the Working Group on the activities of the training department to the quarter ended 30 June, 2017.

487. STAFFING MATTERS

Members considered the report of the Deputy Clerk informing of staffing matters.

RESOLVED that the report referenced 03:2017 be accepted.

488. DISPOSAL OF ASSETS

Members received the report of the Cemetery Manager on the proposal to dispose of the Citroen Picasso vehicle and the Marston trailer.

Following a discussion, whereby Members agreed there should be a policy document in place for selling the Council's surplus assets, it was

RESOLVED that the assets be sold on an online selling internet site and furthermore a policy procedure be drawn up on the disposal of surplus assets for further committee consideration.

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The meeting concluded at 5.50 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 11 April, 2017, adopted by the Council.