

**16 April, 2014.**

**LLANELLI RURAL COUNCIL**

**Minute Nos: 537 – 547**

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, 16 April, 2014 at 4.45 p.m.

**Present:**

**Cllrs.**

F. Akhtar	H. J. Evans
L. J. Butler	T. J. Jones
D. M. Cundy	S. N. Lewis
T. Devichand	C. A. Rees

**537. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN PRO TEMPORE**

**RESOLVED** that Cllr. T. J. Jones be appointed Chairman pro tempore.

**538. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. M. L. Evans, A. G. Morgan (Cllr. F. Akhtar deputising) and A. J. Rogers (Cllr. S. N. Lewis deputising).

**539. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Cllr. D. M. Cundy declared a personal interest in Minute No. 543, as he was a member of the Llanelli Flood Forum Committee.

**540. SERVICE PLANS 2014/15**

Members considered the Council's Service Plans 2014/15 which set key objectives for the following service groups:-

- Administrative Services;
- Community Services;
- Recreation and Leisure Services; and
- Training Services.

*Cllr. M. V. Davies (Chairman) joined the meeting.*

**RESOLVED** that the service plans be accepted.

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**541. MID AND WEST WALES FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY  
ANNUAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN 2014/15**

Further to Minute No. 255, Members were circulated with the Annual Improvement Plan 2014/15. The document outlined the Authority's range of initiatives and performance to date, as well as its proposed three improvement objectives which it believed would improve safety whilst delivering excellent services which would meet the risks and needs of the communities for the future. The improvement objectives were as follows:-

- To improve internal and external communications/public engagement;
- Manage reduced budgets to support safer communities;
- Improve evaluation processes.

The three key improvement objectives would be achieved by actions linked to the 'key improvement areas' detailed in the Authority's Five Year Strategic Plan 2010-2015. The key improvement areas were:

- Managing Risk
- Managing People
- Managing Resources
- Working Together
- Managing Performance
- Managing Communications

Following discussion during which Members expressed concern over the reduced budgets being implemented, it was

**RESOLVED** that the information be noted and to await further developments whereupon it would be more appropriate to comment and express views over the potential ramifications regarding the second improvement objective concerning 'managing reduced budgets'.

**542. SAFER ROUTES IN COMMUNITIES GRANT**

Members received correspondence from the Head of Transport and Engineering, Carmarthenshire County Council.

The Safe Routes in Communities scheme gave an opportunity to local communities and schools to play a vital role in the promotion and development of sustainable transport; in turn reducing reliance on car journeys, reducing congestion, improving road safety and improving the health and well being of children and adults. The programme looked to improve community wide links where there was a strong emphasis on improving links to and from schools.

The Safe Routes in the Communities was a grant accessed through the Welsh Government and Carmarthenshire County Council was inviting applications for the scheme with a deadline being set for 12 May, 2014.

Following discussion, it was

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**RESOLVED** that the information be noted and that it be forwarded to all Members for consideration highlighting the deadline for applications to be returned to the County Council.

**543. LLANELLI FLOOD FORUM**

*Cllr. D. M. Cundy declared a personal interest in the following item as he was a member of the Llanelli Flood Forum Committee.*

Email correspondence was received from the Chairman, Llanelli Flood Forum requesting permission to publicise the Forum's email address on the Council's website in order for residents to raise concerns about flooding issues.

**RESOLVED** that the request be agreed.

**544. FOSTERING COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT  
ENHANCING COMMUNITY LIAISON**

Further to Minute No. 412, Members received the Clerk's letter dated 6 March, 2014, and the responses received from neighbouring Town and Community Councils.

The Clerk enquired with the Clerks from Pembrey & Burry Port Town Council, Llanelli Town Council and Llangennech Community Council about the possibility of holding a meeting between representatives of the four town and community councils covering the Llanelli area to explore and discuss co-production opportunities and whether there was an appetite for working in collaboration as a group of councils going forward.

The two main topics would be:

- Carmarthenshire County Council's Community Asset Transfer programme; and
- The publication of the Williams Commission Report on Public Service Governance and Delivery and its recommendations for the town and community Council sector in Wales.

The Clerk informed Members that he had received positive responses from the three local town and community councils and it was

**RESOLVED** that the Leader of Council, Chairman of Council elect and the Clerk be authorised to attend the proposed meeting as soon as arrangements had been finalised. Thereafter the nominations could be revisited by Council if there was an appetite for a further series of meetings.

**545. DATA PROTECTION POLICY**

Members considered the revised draft Data Protection Policy.

**RESOLVED** that the revised policy be accepted.

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**546. 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.

**547. STAFFING MATTERS**

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

**RESOLVED** that the report referenced 04:2014 be accepted.

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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 May, 2014, adopted by the Council.