

16 July, 2014.

LLANELLI RURAL COUNCIL

Minute Nos: 145 – 152

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 July, 2014 at 4.45 p.m.

Present: Cllr. A. G. Morgan (Vice Chairman (in the Chair))

Cllrs.

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| T. Bowen | S. N. Lewis |
| T. Devichand | C. A. Rees |
| H. J. Evans | A. J. Rogers |

145. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. L. A. Beer, L. J. Butler, S. M. Donoghue, G. N. R. Edwards (Cllr. S. N. Lewis deputising), M. L. Evans and G. H. Wooldridge.

146. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

147. CODE OF PRACTICE ON WORKFORCE MATTERS 2014

Members considered the Welsh Government's revised Code of Practice on the Workforce Matters 2014 which came into force under Section 19(4) of the Local Government Act 1999.

The revised Code was based closely on the previous Codes with the content being based on the fair treatment of transferring staff and the treatment of staff working alongside transferred staff. The content had been modified to:

- cover a broader range of bodies in a single Code, with the Code being applied by a relevant statutory authority to each body;
- provide strengthened monitoring and reporting arrangements of use of the Code;
- clarify particular aspects; and
- reflect the changed legislative position on pensions, particularly auto-enrolment introduced by the Pensions Act 2008 and the revised Fair Deal.

Following discussion, it was

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RESOLVED that the correspondence be noted.

148. NOTIFICATION OF BALLOT RESULT

A letter was received from the National Secretary, Local Government, Police and Justice, UNISON giving notification of a ballot result in connection with pay rates under the National Joint Council terms and conditions.

The Clerk stated that as a result of the ballot strike action went ahead on Thursday, 10 July, 2014. It was unclear what impact this would have on pay negotiations and indeed whether further strikes were planned.

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

149. DISCLOSURE AND BARRING SERVICE (DBS)

Further to Minute No. 113, Members received the report of the Deputy Clerk (Training) in respect of Council Members' eligibility for DBS checks under the current legislation.

The Deputy Clerk (Training) reported since the drafting of her report, she had now received an email from the Customer Relations Advisor, The Disclosure and Barring Service dated 15 July, 2014. The email was a direct response to the Council's enquiry whether elected Members required DBS checks.

The Council had been advised that under current legislation only those councillors who were part of committees or sub committees which discharged Social Services or Educational functions were eligible for DBS checks. In such circumstances the 'Employer' could initiate an 'Enhanced' level DBS check without barred list checks.

Following discussion, it was

RESOLVED that:

1. A letter be sent to 'The Disclosure and Barring Service' stating that the Council fully supported the principle of all Councillors being subject to DBS checks but that it recognised the parameters of the current legislative framework prevented this from happening at the present time and that hopefully the situation could be reviewed in the future.
2. A copy of the letter be sent to Lesley Griffiths AM, Minister for Local Government and Government Business, Welsh Government.

150. 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.

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151. STAFFING MATTERS

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

RESOLVED that the report referenced 07:2014 be accepted.

**152. TRAINING DEPARTMENT
VEHICLE REQUIREMENTS**

Members considered the report of the Training Manager which set out quotations for the purchase of a new fleet car to support business needs. The report also referred to the potential acquisition of a suitable trailer to carry out Class 1 articulated vehicle tests.

Following discussion, it was

RESOLVED that:

1. The report be accepted and the quotation received from Gravells, 3-5 Banc Pendre, Kidwelly, SA17 4TA for a Clio Expression for the sum of £11,863.35(including VAT) be accepted.
2. The procurement of a trailer to provide Class 1 articulated vehicle training be approved in principle and that an amount up to £5,000 be set aside for its acquisition. However, prior to looking to purchase a suitable trailer on the open market enquiries be made with Carmarthenshire County Council as to whether it had any surplus stock for sale.

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The meeting concluded at 5.30 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 9 September, 2014, adopted by the Council.