

18 February, 2015.

LLANELLI RURAL COUNCIL

Minute Nos: 403 – 411

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 February, 2015 at 4.45 p.m.

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

Cllrs.

L. J. Butler	R. E. Evans
M. V. Davies	A. G. Morgan
H. J. Evans	C. A. Rees
M. L. Evans	A. J. Rogers

Absent: T. Devichand

403. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. L. A. Beer, T. Bowen (Cllr. M. V. Davies deputising) and G. H. Wooldridge (Cllr. R. E. Evans deputising).

404. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr. C. A. Rees declared a personal and prejudicial interest in Minute No. 409 as she worked for Carmarthenshire Youth and Children's Association.

405. PUBLIC SERVICES OMBUDSMAN FOR WALES

Members considered a consultation document received from the Finance Committee, National Assembly for Wales stating the Finance Committee was undertaking an inquiry to consider extending the powers of the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales.

The current Ombudsman and his predecessor had both called for changes to the Public Services Ombudsman (Wales) Act 2005 during their role. Five main areas had been highlighted for potential legislative changes to strengthen the Ombudsman's role.

Following discussion, it was

RESOLVED that the correspondence be noted and for individual Members to complete the accompanying questionnaire.

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406. REVIEW OF ELECTORAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE COMMUNITIES OF BYNEA WARD AND LLANGENNECH WARD

Further to Minute No. 283, Members considered draft proposals from the Electoral Services Manager, Carmarthenshire County Council concerning a review of electoral arrangements.

Carmarthenshire County Council had conducted a wide consultation review to seek the opinions and recommendations of the two community councils, the public and elected members affected by this anomaly.

The County Council was recommending that for the purpose of effective and convenient local government and so that all electors of the Bryn Uchaf estate fell within one community area and one electoral division. They proposed that the community and electoral boundaries were amended to ensure that the whole of the Bryn Uchaf estate fell within the boundaries of Llangennech Community Council and Llangennech Electoral Division.

Following discussion, it was

RESOLVED that the recommendation put forward by Carmarthenshire County Council be accepted.

407. THIRD SECTOR FUNDING REVIEW

Members considered correspondence from the Chief Executive, Carmarthenshire County Council informing of the Welsh Governments settlement for Carmarthenshire County Council.

The Welsh Government settlement for Carmarthenshire County Council gave a 3.3% reduction. As a result of this and the future outlook, the Authority was having to make savings of some £45 million over the next three financial years.

As part of its financial planning, the Authority had undertaken a strategic review amongst other areas of all third sector funding facilitated by the Authority.

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

408. PWLL POST OFFICE TEMPORARY BRANCH CLOSURE

Correspondence was received from the Field Change Advisor, Post Office informing of the temporary branch closure at Pwll Post Office following the resignation of the Postmaster and the withdrawal of the premises for Post Office use from 9 April, 2015.

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

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409. CARMARTHENSHIRE YOUTH AND CHILDREN'S ASSOCIATION

Cllr. C. A. Rees declared a personal and prejudicial interest in the following matter as she worked for Carmarthenshire Youth and Children's Association and left the meeting before discussion commenced.

Pursuant to Minute No. 402, Members received the following recommendation of the special meeting of the Recreation and Welfare Committee :-

“RECOMMENDED that the Policy and Resources Committee consider the reinstatement of the financial contribution of £1,000 to Carmarthenshire Youth and Children's Association under the Recreation and Welfare Committee budget”.

Following discussion, it was

RESOLVED that the recommendation not be accepted.

Cllr. C. A. Rees re-joined the meeting.

410. 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.

411. STAFFING MATTERS

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

RESOLVED that the report referenced 02:2015 be accepted.

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The meeting concluded at 4.55 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 10 March, 2015, adopted by the Council.