

16 April, 2008.

LLANELLI RURAL COUNCIL

Minute Nos: 541 - 547

At a Meeting of the **POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE** of the Llanelli Rural Council held at the Conference Room, Vauxhall Buildings, Vauxhall, Llanelli, on Wednesday, 16 April, 2008, at 4.45 p.m.

Present:

Cllrs.

D. V. Darby
D. J. Davies
T. Devichand

M. L. Evans
M. P. Jones
R. G. Thorne

541. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN PRO TEMPORE

RESOLVED that Cllr. D. J. Davies be appointed Chairman pro tempore.

542. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. T. D. Bowen, C. Edwards and A. G. Morgan.

543. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr. T. Devichand declared an interest in Minute No. 544 as she was a member of the Mid & West Wales Fire and Rescue Service.

544. FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE NATIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR WALES FOR CONSULTATION 2008-2011 – DRAFT

Cllr. T. Devichand declared an interest in the following item as she was a member of the Mid & West Wales Fire and Rescue Service and did not vote on the matter.

The above consultation document was received from the Head of Community Safety Division, Welsh Assembly Government. Reference was made to Sections 21 and 62 of the Fire and Rescue Services Act 2004 which required the Welsh Assembly Government to publish the Fire and Rescue National Framework for Wales. Recognising the development in Fire and Rescue policy in Wales since devolution, Welsh Ministers had committed to replace the current Framework, published in March 2005, with a new one. This consultation draft Framework set out the Welsh Assembly Government's priorities and objectives for the Fire and Rescue Authorities in Wales and described what was expected of them during the three year lifespan of the document.

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During discussion, Members referred to the positive move of the role the Service was undertaking to combat arson in the community by working with children and young people; the Phoenix project being particularly noted. Reference was also made to the admirable home audit targets, although it was difficult to ascertain how targets in the rural areas would be combated. It was understood that smoke detectors would be placed in all new builds.

A recent important development of the service was that it was the first service to attend a scene of emergency. Cllr. T. Devichand referred to a telecare initiative whereby safety issues for the prevention of accidents were given and Members felt that the Welsh Assembly Government should reward such services, i.e. funding, which would aid motivation.

RESOLVED that the document be noted and to await further developments.

545. 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.

546. STAFFING MATTERS

Members were circulated with the report of the Deputy Clerk (Administration) informing on staffing matters.

RESOLVED that the report of the Deputy Clerk (Administration) be received and adopted.

547. MACHINERY

Members having considered the report of the Deputy Clerk (Administration), it was

RESOLVED that a virement for 2007/08 be approved.

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The Meeting concluded at 5.20 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 15 May, 2008, adopted by the Council.