

**19 November, 2008.**

**LLANELLI RURAL COUNCIL**

**Minute Nos: 310 - 320**

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, 19 November, 2008, at 4.45 p.m.

**Present:** Cllr. D. J. Davies (Vice Chairman in the Chair))

**Cllrs.**

T. D. Bowen	S. M. Donoghue
S. M. Caiach	H. J. Evans
M. L. Davies	Rh. Ifan
M. V. Davies	T. J. Jones
S. L. Davies	A. G. Morgan
V. R. Thomas	

**310. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. T. Devichand (Cllr. S. L. Davies deputising), C. A. Rees (Cllr. A. G. Morgan deputising) and G. H. Wooldridge (Cllr. S. M. Donoghue deputising).

**311. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

The following Members declared an interest in the under-mentioned matters:-

<i>Minute No.</i>	<i>Councillor</i>	<i>Interest</i>
313	D. J. Davies	Member, Licensing Committee Carmarthenshire County Council
316	M. L. Davies	Member, Fairtrade Steering Group
312	T. J. Jones	Chairman, Environment (Scrutiny) Committee Carmarthenshire County Council

**312. CARMARTHENSIRE COUNTY COUNCIL -  
LITTER PLAN 2008 TO 2011**

Cllr. T. J. Jones declared a personal interest in the following item as he was the Chairman of the Environment (Scrutiny) Committee, Carmarthenshire County Council and did not vote on the matter.

**19 November, 2008.**

Correspondence was received from the Environmental Enforcement Co-ordinator, Carmarthenshire County Council, enclosing a draft litter plan covering the period 2008 to 2011. The plan formed part of the County Council's strategy to protect and enhance the diverse environment of Carmarthenshire.

The report author stated that the plan was a tool for informing people about what the County Council was currently doing and what it proposed to do in the future to stem the ever increasing problem of the proliferation of litter. It also outlined how communities could contribute to the success of the plan by participating in and supporting various campaigns and initiatives to help combat the problem.

Members were generally supportive of the plan content, but the inclusion of further information covering performance targets, finance and resources would of perhaps given the plan more strength and substance. However, it was felt the plan was a lighter read and simple to understand.

Members supported the campaigns promoted in the plan and noted the opportunity for Town and Community Councils across Carmarthenshire to generally participate. The accompanying response time table for clearing different categories of litter/waste was informative and useful. However, a point of clarification was highlighted regarding response times in respect of two particular litter categories.

**RESOLVED** that Members views and observations be forwarded to the Environmental Enforcement Co-ordinator at Carmarthenshire County Council.

**313. CARMARTHENSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL -  
LICENSING RECOMMENDATIONS**

Cllr. D. J. Davies declared a personal interest in the following item as he was a Member of the Licensing Committee, Carmarthenshire County Council, and did not vote on the matter.

Members were circulated with correspondence from the Head of Public Protection, Carmarthenshire County Council. The writer stated that the Trading Standards Department undertook a campaign aimed at measuring the extent of sales of alcohol sold to young people.

Results were disappointing because 100 sales resulted from the 194 test purchases made during July and August, 2008, when young people attempted to purchase alcoholic products from a variety of off licensed premises within Carmarthenshire.

It was revealed that the Trading Standards Department was referring many licences for review by the County Council's Licensing Sub Committee, with recommendations ranging from a variation of the current licences to revocation of licences. It was anticipated that the review would be conducted in December 2008 or in the New Year and the Council's views and observations were welcomed prior to the review process commencing.

Members then proceeded to consider an accompanying list of premises which provided details of the offending outlets and the proposed recommendations in respect of each of those premises. General discussion ensued whereby Members expressed their disappointment over the results of the exercise and the scale of the problem. A duty of care was owed to

**19 November, 2008.**

safeguarding young people's health and well being. Accordingly, Members expressed their full support for the exercise and commended Carmarthenshire County Council's stance on how it was dealing with the problem and it was

**RESOLVED** that Carmarthenshire County Council be informed that the Council fully supports the licensing review process and the proposed actions identified in respect of the offending outlets.

**314. FREEDOM OF INFORMATION**

Correspondence was received from the Assistant Commissioner, Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) informing of the new model publication scheme that all public sector organisations must adopt from 1 January, 2009. The model scheme committed a public authority to produce and publish the method by which specific information would be made available so that it could be easily identified and accessed by members of the public.

To assist Town and Community Councils in this respect a template guide to information had been produced. The template document together with the model scheme document formed the basis of a local council's commitment from 1 January, 2009. Having received the views and observations of the Clerk it was,

**RESOLVED** that:

- (1) The new model scheme is formally adopted by the Council with it taking effect from 1 January, 2009;
- (2) the template guide to information (as supplied by the Information Commissioner's Office) is to be completed to reflect the Council's arrangements as to how it intends making information available; and once completed
- (3) the template guide is to be presented to the Committee's December meeting for formal approval.

**315. HMS TRENCHANT**

The Committee considered the following notice of motion received from Cllr. M. L. Davies that:

- "(1) This Council no longer undertakes visits to HMS Trenchant;*
- (2) after consultation with the Royal Navy and other groups, the Council reviews its relationship with the submarine".*

Lengthy discussion thereupon ensued and it was

**RESOLVED** that the notice of motion was not supported by the Committee and accordingly the Council was recommended not to accept it.

**19 November, 2008.**

**316. FAIRTRADE**

Cllr. M. L. Davies declared a personal interest in the following item, as she was a Member of the local Fairtrade steering group.

The Committee thereupon considered the following notice of motion received from Cllr. M. L. Davies that:

*“this Council becomes a Fairtrade Council”.*

Lengthy discussion thereupon ensued and Cllr. Davies was asked whether she would be prepared to modify her notice of motion in light of the comments and observations received. Cllr. Davies duly consented to modify the notice of motion and in view of such the Committee was happy to support the amended motion and it was

**RESOLVED** that the Council is recommended to consider supporting the principle of Fairtrade on the basis that Fairtrade refreshments be purchased and used in the Members’ room for a trial period of six months. Should the trial prove successful the Council should then consider passing a resolution supporting Fairtrade, and serve Fairtrade coffee and tea to Members.

**317. 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.

**318. EMPLOYING AUTHORITY DISCRETIONS AND DISCRETIONARY POLICY**

Pursuant to Minute No. 144 (18 July, 2007), Members were circulated with a report from the Deputy Clerk (Administration) which informed of the alteration to the existing Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations 1997 (as amended) and the introduction of the new regulations.

Following discussion, it was

**RESOLVED** that the report be received and that the revised policy be adopted.

**319. STAFFING MATTERS**

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

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

**19 November, 2008.**

**320. VEHICLE AND MACHINERY**

Further to Minute No. 255(2), Members considered the report of the Technical Services Officer, and it was

**RESOLVED** that the purchase of a cylinder mower be agreed with the warranty period taking effect from the date of its first usage.

.....

The Meeting concluded at 6.00 p.m.

.....

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 December, 2008, adopted by the Council.