19 September, 2007.

LLANELLI RURAL COUNCIL

Minute Nos: 203 - 206

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 September, 2007, at 4.45 p.m.

Present: A. G. Morgan (Chairman)

Cllrs.

T. D. Bowen	C. Edwards
S. M. Caiach	M. L. Evans
D. V. Darby	M. P. Jones
D. J. Davies	R. G. Thorne
T. Devichand	G. H. Wooldridge

203. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

An apology for absence was received from Cllr. T. J. Jones (Cllr. G. H. Wooldridge deputising).

204. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

205. NO SMOKING POLICY

Pursuant to Minute No. 473 (21 March, 2007), a report received from the Deputy Clerk (Administration) informed of a review and recommended changes to the No Smoking Policy.

The Policy was reviewed with particular reference to the prohibition of smoking in car parks and external areas, e.g. grounds, as it would be difficult to enforce and there would be no need to do so to protect people from second hand smoke. However, employees would be required not to smoke whilst at work in these places. A change of signage would also be required to implement such changes.

RESOLVED that the review and changes be accepted and adopted.

19 September, 2007.

206. A SHARED COMMUNITY – CONSULTATION ON RELATIONSHIP BUILDING MEASURES AND CHARTERS FOR UNITARY AUTHORITIES AND COMMUNITY AND TOWN COUNCILS

The above document was received from the Minister for Social Justice and Local Government, Welsh Assembly Government.

The foreword stated that public service reform was one of the ongoing priorities of the Welsh Assembly Government and the Local Government Policy Statement issued in March this year highlighted the benefits of unitary authorities engaging more closely with community and town councils.

Three inter-related documents were enclosed, which aimed to enhance relationships within local government. They were the product of considerable joint working amongst stakeholders including the Welsh Assembly Government, Welsh Local Government Association, One Voice Wales, Society of Local Council Clerks, Wales Audit Office and individual representatives from local Government.

The main driver for this work, which began in May 2006, was a commitment to implement recommendations linked to charter information that arose from the Aberystwyth report. The work also contributed significantly towards the current priority on 'citizen focus' and 'working together to deliver' which were hallmarks of the 'Making the Connections' agenda.

A questionnaire was provided with comments and views being welcomed.

The Meeting concluded at 5.15 p.m.

The document was commended during discussion, however it was felt that there was a need to look at local delivery of services, particularly as many people did not know the difference between the County and Community Councils. Reference was also made to the fact that a community council was the first tier of local government and that there was a need for marketing its services.

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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 October, 2007, adopted by the Council.