

**2 October, 2018**

**LLANELLI RURAL COUNCIL**

**Minute Nos: 208 – 210**

At a **SPECIAL COUNCIL** Meeting of the Llanelli Rural Council held at the Council Chamber, Vauxhall Buildings, Vauxhall, Llanelli, on Tuesday, 2 October, 2018, at 6.00 p.m.

**Present:** Cllr. S. L. Davies (Vice Chairman (in the Chair))

**Cllrs.**

T. Devichand                      A. G. Morgan  
H. J. Evans                        A. J. Rogers  
J. P. Hart                         W. V. Thomas  
I. G. Wooldridge

**Absent:** F. Akhtar, R. L. Najmi, J. S. Randall, E. Simmons

**208.                      APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. S. M. Caiach, M. V. Davies, S. M. Donoghue, T. M. Donoghue, P. M. Edwards, T. J. Jones, S. N. Lewis, J. S. Phillips and C. A. Rees.

**209.                      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>
210	Cllr. S. L. Davies	Personal – she worked for the NHS
210	Cllr. A. J. Rogers	Personal – his partner worked for the NHS

**210.                      HYWEL DDA UNIVERSITY HEALTH BOARD  
OUR BIG NHS CHANGE**

*Cllr. S. L. Davies declared a personal interest in the following matter as she worked for the NHS. Cllr. A. J. Rogers declared a personal interest in the following matter as his partner worked for the NHS.*

Further to Minute No. 192, Members received a press release from Hywel Dda University Health Board (HDUHB) informing of the recommendations made at the Health Board's Extraordinary Transforming Clinical Services Public Board meeting held on 26 September, 2018.

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HDUHB would be embarking upon an ambitious 20-year journey to transform the way the public received health care and support in Carmarthenshire, Ceredigion, Pembrokeshire and borders, it was decided at a public board meeting held on Wednesday, 26 September 2018, at County Hall, Carmarthen. As part of this transformation more investment would be made in the integration of social care with health and well-being across the seven localities (north and south Ceredigion, north and south Pembrokeshire, Taf/Tywi, Amman/Gwendraeth and Llanelli).

A hospital model, would be adopted and included the following:

- A business case would be made for a new hospital in the south of Hywel Dda (somewhere between Narberth and St Clears) to provide specialist urgent and emergency care services and planned care;
- Hospital services to be retained and developed at Bronglais Hospital, Aberystwyth, in-line with the Mid Wales Joint Health & Social Care Committee recognising importance of hospital in delivery of services to populations of Ceredigion, Powys and South Gwynedd;
- Acute medicine (hospital services that need medical input) to be retained at Prince Philip Hospital, Llanelli, following recent modernisation of services developed with the local community and serving a densely populated area;
- Re-purposing Glangwili (Carmarthen) and Withybush (Haverfordwest) hospitals to support community health needs including overnight beds, day case procedures, out-patient and walk-in services such as minor injuries and much more.

This followed one of the largest local NHS consultations in the UK (Hywel Dda Our Big NHS Change), which was held between April and July, and which saw a huge and passionate response from the local population. Responses included more than 5,400 questionnaires, 4,000 attendees at events and workshops, hundreds of written submissions, five petitions and extensive social media debate.

Board members considered all they heard from patients, staff, the general public and interested organisations, not just during the consultation, but also in the pre-consultation engagement and option development period. They also considered recommendations made by Hywel Dda Community Health Council, the clinical viewpoint following consultation, and other matters including safety standards the NHS had to meet and the ability to provide services in the future.

Whilst some key decisions were made, the health board received really insightful feedback from people during the consultation and wanted to investigate further and demonstrate some developments.

The next step would be for clinicians and staff to work with the public and other organisations to bring the additional detail together into a draft Health Strategy to put before public Health Board. The new hospital would be dependent also on a full business case, which will be made to the Welsh Government.

During discussion, Members cautiously welcomed the news that the Health Board supported the retention of acute medicine at Prince Philip Hospital. However, it was important to await the outcome of the publication of the emerging draft strategy for delivering the changes before celebrating the future sustainability and status of the hospital. The draft strategy was to be presented to the Health Board at its next meeting on 29 November, 2018.

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Members commented that ongoing scrutiny played a key role in holding the Health Board to account and the fact that the Health Board intended to work closely with Abertawe Bro Morgannwy University Health Board on services where patients could benefit from a regional approach also needed to be assessed very carefully.

Attention then focused on the Health Board's recommendation in regard to mental health services. The fact that the Health Board intended to align with the transformation work in mental health services to ensure mental health and learning disability assessment and treatment units were provided at the new urgent and planned care hospital meant that patients in the Llanelli district would have to travel much further for care and treatment than what was originally proposed.

The re-purposing of Glangwili Hospital also needed to be scrutinised as no doubt some services provided for Llanelli residents at the hospital might be transferred to the new hospital resulting in people having to travel longer journeys for care and treatment.

Members remarked that there were a number of key issues outside the direct control of the Health Board such as public transport and communication links. Furthermore, there was currently high demand for primary care services and it was difficult to comprehend how this might be sustained over the longer term. It was difficult to see at this juncture how a radical shift in service delivery could be brought about to address the current issues and failings. Members concurred that the Council needed to formulate a strategy for engaging with the Health Board as well as other stakeholders such as the Hywel Dda Community Health Council. Moreover it was important to connect with other stakeholders. As a precursor Members expressed the desire to meet with the local pressure group SOSPPAN as the first step and to then assess the Health Board's draft strategy when it was published in late November before agreeing any further action, and it was

**RESOLVED** that a letter be sent to SOSPPAN inviting representatives to a future meeting of Council scheduled for 13 November, 2018, in order to discuss the way forward.

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The Meeting concluded at 6.35 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 October, 2018, adopted by the Council.