

17 November, 2021

LLANELLI RURAL COUNCIL

Minute Nos: 285– 291

At a Meeting of the **POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE** of the Llanelli Rural Council held at the Council Chamber, Vauxhall Buildings, Vauxhall, Llanelli, and via remote attendance on Wednesday, 17 November, 2021, at 4.45 p.m.

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

Cllrs.

C. P. Beer	H. J. Evans
S. L. Davies	J. P. Hart
T. Devichand	A. G. Morgan
A. Evans	J. S. Phillips

Absent: P. M. Edwards

285. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

An apology for absence was received from Cllr. I. G. Wooldridge.

286. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

287. GAMBLING ACT 2005 – REVIEW OF GAMBLING POLICY

Members received a consultation document from the Licensing Lead, Carmarthenshire County Council, regarding a review of the council's Gambling Policy which set out the principles applied when exercising its functions under the Act.

The current policy was adopted by the county council in December 2018 and must be reviewed at least every three years to ensure it reflected feedback from the local community that the statutory objectives were being met.

In exercising most functions under the Gambling Act 2005, licensing authorities must have regard to the licensing objectives as set out in the Section 1 of the Act. The licensing objectives were:

- Preventing gambling from being a source of crime or disorder, being associated with crime or disorder or being used to support crime;
- Ensuring that gambling was conducted in a fair and open way;
- Protecting children and other vulnerable persons from being harmed or exploited by gambling.

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Members then proceeded to consider the accompanying consultation questionnaire and although not within the remit of this review, concern was raised with the amount of on-line gambling that was being advertised on television and the availability of scratch cards at local shops, and it was

RESOLVED that the Clerk responds to the consultation document questionnaire highlighting members' views and observations in general support of the policy. Furthermore, if any members wanted to complete the questionnaire on an individual basis then they were welcome to do so.

Cllrs. S. L. Davies and J. P. Hart left the meeting.

**288. CARMARTHENSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
(DOG CONTROL) PUBLIC SPACES PROTECTION ORDER 2016**

A consultation document was received from the Waste and Environmental Services Unit, Carmarthenshire County Council informing of a Public Spaces Protection Order 2016 that came into force on 1 July, 2016. The Order was initially made for a period of three years and in 2019 the Order was extended for a further 3 years with effect from 1 July, 2019. The current Order was due to expire in 2022.

A Public Spaces Protection Order cannot be made for a period of more than 3 years but it could be extended for further period of up to 3 years at a time. The county council intended to extend the duration of the Order for a further three years in accordance with Section 60 of the Anti-Social Behaviour Crime and Policing Act 2014.

The current Order required people:

- To clean up after their dogs on all public land in the county;
- To put and keep their dog on a lead of not more than two metres in length when directed to do so by an authorised officer of the county council, where such restraint was reasonably necessary to prevent a nuisance, or behaviour by the dog that was likely to cause annoyance or disturbance to any other person, or the worrying or disturbance of any animal.
- Not to take their dog on to, or permit their dog to enter or remain on any enclosed children's play areas in the county.

Members then proceeded to consider the accompanying consultation questionnaire and commented that there were insufficient numbers of enforcement officers in the county to act in a pro-active capacity to challenge dog owners to clean up after their dogs. Dog fouling was a serious problem in some of the council's parks and recreation grounds. Members felt more patrols were needed but also felt more could be done by the county council to inform the public about how they could play their part in combatting this problem through live reporting of incidents. Members called for the county council to perform more pro-active community engagement initiatives to educate the public and it was

RESOLVED that the Clerk responds to the consultation document questionnaire highlighting members' views and observations.

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289. 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.

290. OPERATION LONDON BRIDGE

Further to Minute No. 451 (12 March, 2019, refers) members considered the report of the Community Development Officer informing of the recommended protocol for the council to observe in the event of the passing of Her Majesty the Queen.

Having a plan in place would help the council act efficiently and accordingly with the interruptions caused during a period of national mourning.

The Community Development Officer took members through the information contained in the report in order to produce the council's action plan for council staff and members to adhere to. The report also sought members' views on several actions in connection with the creation of a bespoke website front page to be displayed at the time of national mourning; whether the Chairman should read a public proclamation; administering books of condolence as well as outlining other tasks noting some of these had been carried out already.

Particular attention then focused on the creation of the website page including page content and links. The page would follow a national template and would be developed by the council's website developer NetBop Technologies Limited. A quote had been received in the sum of £455 plus VAT for the design work.

Following discussion, it was

RESOLVED that:

1. In preparation for Operation London Bridge, an action plan shall be developed confirming the council's protocol in the event of the passing of Her Majesty the Queen, and as agreed by members during the meeting.
2. The actions performed thus far and set out in the report be noted and accepted.
3. An official order in the sum of £455 plus VAT be placed with NetBop Technologies Limited, 6 Fishmarket Quay, Swansea, SA1 1UP for the construction of the webpage.

During discussion of the above, Cllr. H. J. Evans left the meeting.

291. STAFFING MATTERS

Members considered the report of the Technical and General Operations Manager informing of staffing matters.

RESOLVED that the report referenced 11:2021 be accepted.

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The meeting concluded at 5.38 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 14 December, 2021, adopted by the Council.