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THURSDAY, 29 JUNE 2023

TO: ALL MEMBERS OF THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE

I HEREBY SUMMON YOU TO ATTEND A VIRTUAL MEETING OF THE **STANDARDS COMMITTEE** WHICH WILL BE HELD **AT 1.30 PM ON THURSDAY, 6TH JULY, 2023** FOR THE TRANSACTION OF THE BUSINESS OUTLINED ON THE ATTACHED AGENDA

Wendy Walters

CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Democratic Officer:	Kevin Thomas
Telephone (direct line):	01267 224027
E-Mail:	kjthomas@carmarthenshire.gov.uk
The meeting can be viewed on the Authority's website via the following link:- https://carmarthenshire.public-i.tv/core/portal/home	

Wendy Walters Prif Weithredwr, *Chief Executive*,
Neuadd y Sir, Caerfyrddin. SA31 1JP
County Hall, Carmarthen. SA31 1JP

STANDARDS COMMITTEE

9 MEMBERS

MEMBERSHIP: 9 MEMBERS

Independent Members (5)

1. Mrs Mary Dodd
2. Ms Caryl Davies
3. Mrs Daphne Evans
4. Mrs Julie James
5. Mr Frank Phillips

Community Committee Member (1)

1. Town Councillor Phillip Rogers

Elected Members of the County Council (3)

1. Councillor Betsan Jones
2. Councillor Rob James
3. Councillor Gareth Thomas

A G E N D A

- 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.**
- 2. DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST.**
- 3. DISPENSATION APPLICATION BY COUNCILLOR BETHAN CHARLES DAVIES** 5 - 14
- 4. DISPENSATION APPLICATION BY COUNCILLOR JOHN MACLAUGHLAND** 15 - 24
- 5. DISPENSATION APPLICATION BY COUNCILLOR NEIL LEWIS** 25 - 32
- 6. DISPENSATION APPLICATION BY COUNCILLOR WENDY HERON** 33 - 40
- 7. ANY OTHER ITEMS OF BUSINESS THAT BY REASON OF SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES THE CHAIR DECIDES SHOULD BE CONSIDERED AS A MATTER OF URGENCY PURSUANT TO SECTION 100B(4)(B) OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972.**

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Agenda Item 3

STANDARDS COMMITTEE
06/07/2023

DISPENSATION APPLICATION BY COUNCILLOR BETHAN CHARLES DAVIES

Purpose: To consider the application and determine whether to grant dispensation

To consider and comment on the following issues:

- To decide whether to grant the dispensation application

Reasons:

- Cllr Charles-Davies has a personal and prejudicial interest which would otherwise prevent her participating in this council business

CABINET MEMBER PORTFOLIO HOLDER: Not Applicable

Directorate

Name of Head of Service:

Linda Rees Jones

Report Author:

Robert Edgecombe

Designations:

Head of Administration and Law

Legal Services Manager

Tel Nos.

01267 224012

LRJones@carmarthenshire.gov.uk

01267 224018

rjedgeco@carmarthenshire.gov.uk

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
STANDARDS COMMITTEE
06/07/2023

**Dispensation Application by Cllr Bethan Charles
Davies**

Llanwrda Community Councillor Bethan Charles Davies has submitted a dispensation request to speak and vote in relation to council business regarding electricity pylons from Nant Mithil Energy Park to the grid connection in Carmarthenshire.

This is part of the Bute Energy Towy Usk Grid connection scheme.

Councillor Charles Davies would have a personal and prejudicial interest in such business as she and close personal associates of hers would be affected by the proposals put forward by Bute Energy.

Councillor Charles Davies seeks dispensation on the following grounds under the Standards Committees (Grant of Dispensations)(Wales) Regulations 2001

Regulation 2(2)(d) – the nature of the member’s interest is such that the member’s participation in the business to which the interest relates would not damage public confidence in the conduct of the relevant authority’s business.

And

Regulation 2(2)(e) the interest is common to a member and a significant proportion of the public.

The committee will recall that it has already granted a number of dispensations to other councillors to speak but not vote in respect of this matter

If the committee is minded to grant Councillor Charles Davies’s request it will need to determine the duration of that dispensation

DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED ?

NO

IMPLICATIONS

I confirm that other than those implications which have been agreed with the appropriate Directors / Heads of Service and are referred to in detail below, there are no other implications associated with this report :

Signed: Linda Rees-Jones

Head of Administration and Law

Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities	Legal	Finance	ICT	Risk Management Issues	Staffing Implications	Physical Assets
NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE

CONSULTATIONS

I confirm that the appropriate consultations have taken in place and the outcomes are as detailed below

Signed: *LRJones*

Head of Administration and Law

1. **Scrutiny Committee** – not applicable
2. **Local Member(s)** - not applicable
3. **Community / Town Council** - not applicable
4. **Relevant Partners** - not applicable
5. **Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations** - not applicable

CABINET MEMBER PORTFOLIO HOLDER(S) AWARE/CONSULTED
NO

N/A

Section 100D Local Government Act, 1972 – Access to Information List of Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:

There are none.

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**APPLICATION TO THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE
FOR DISPENSATION**

Please note that each section MUST be completed. Please refer to the attached Guidance Notes when completing the form.

1. YOUR DETAILS

Your full name: JANET BETHAN CHARLES - DAVIES.

Name of your Council: LLANWRDA

Your address and postcode: GELLI NEWYDD
LLANWRDA SA19 8HD

Contact telephone number(s): 07811111525

Email address: bethancharlesdavies@gmail.com

2. DETAILS OF YOUR INTEREST

What is the matter under consideration? Pylons - Bute Energy

What is your interest in the above matter?

Own land / property in various locations in various part of upper Towy Valley.

When will the above matter be considered?

Mid June and probably at future Council meetings

Are you applying for dispensation to:

Speak only:

Speak and vote:

Make written Representations

Exercise Executive Powers

3. GROUNDS FOR DISPENSATION

Regulations issued by the National Assembly for Wales prescribe the circumstances in which the Standards Committee may grant a dispensation. These grounds for granting a dispensation are summarised below and are set out in full in the attached guidance notes. On which of the following grounds do you believe that a dispensation should be granted in this case? Please tick the appropriate box(es).

• at least half of the members considering the business has an interest	<input type="checkbox"/>
• my inability to participate would upset the political balance of the meeting to such an extent that the outcome would be likely to be affected;	<input type="checkbox"/>
• my participation would not damage public confidence	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
• the interest is common to me and a significant proportion of the general public;	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
• my participation in the business is justified by my particular role or expertise;	<input type="checkbox"/>
• the business is to be considered by an overview and scrutiny committee and my interest is not a pecuniary interest;	<input type="checkbox"/>
• the business relates to the finances or property of a voluntary organisation of whose management committee or board I am a member and I have no other interest	<input type="checkbox"/>
• it is appropriate to do so in all the circumstances where not otherwise possible to make reasonable adjustments to accommodate a person's disability	<input type="checkbox"/>

4. INFORMATION IN SUPPORT OF YOUR APPLICATION

Please set out below the reasons why you consider that the Standards Committee should grant a dispensation in this case:

(Please note that failure to complete this section will result in the application form being returned to you)

As Councillor, I represent the constituents

As property owner / landlord I represent my tenants.

As a parent, I represent my children^s + their future.

The Bute Energy proposal ^{will affect} ~~is~~ all including me, my family, my constituents, my tenants, in this county.

BUE

P.N. I do NOT work for Bute Energy.

(please continue on a separate sheet if necessary)

I confirm that the information provided on this form is true to the best of my knowledge. I agree that this application and all the information contained within it may form part of a public report to the Standards Committee. I request a dispensation in respect of the above matter.

Signed: Bethan Charles Davies Date: 13 / 06 / 2023

Please return this form to the Monitoring Officer, Chief Executive's Department, Carmarthenshire County Council, County Hall, Carmarthen, SA31 1JP.

Guidance notes

- (1) Please read through the Code of Conduct and decide which of the paragraphs is most appropriate to your case. Brief details of the relevant paragraphs are noted in the table below. If you are unsure, please contact the Monitoring Officer for advice.

Para.	Type of personal interest	
10(2)(a)	Council business which relates to or is likely to affect: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • your employment or business, • your employer, firm or company • a contract made between the Council and you • any land, lease or licence in which you have an interest • a public body or other association in which you have membership or hold a position of general control or management 	
10(2)(c)	Council business which affects your well-being or financial position, or the well-being, financial position or other interests of a person with whom you live or have a close personal association	
13	Council business which is being considered by an Overview and Scrutiny Committee and which relates to a decision of the Cabinet or another Committee of which you were a member at the time [County Council only]	

- (2) The Standards Committees (Grant of Dispensations)(Wales) Regulations 2001(as amended) state that a Standards Committee may grant dispensations where:

- (a) no fewer than half of the members of the relevant authority or of a committee of the authority (as the case may be) by which the business is to be considered has an interest which relates to that business;
- (b) no fewer than half of the members of a leader and cabinet executive of the relevant authority by which the business is to be considered has an interest which relates to that business and either paragraph (d) or (e) also applies;
- (c) in the case of a county or county borough council, the inability of the member to participate would upset the political balance of the relevant authority or of the committee of the authority by which the business is to be considered to such an extent that the outcome would be likely to be affected;
- (d) the nature of the member's interest is such that the member's participation in the business to which the interest relates would not damage public confidence in the conduct of the relevant authority's business;
- (e) the interest is common to the member and a significant proportion of the general public;
- (f) the participation of the member in the business to which the interest relates is justified by the member's particular role or expertise;
- (g) the business to which the interest relates is to be considered by an overview and scrutiny committee of the relevant authority and the member's interest is not a pecuniary interest;
- (h) the business which is to be considered relates to the finances or property of a voluntary organisation of whose management committee or board the member is a member otherwise than as a representative of the relevant authority and the member has no

other interest in that business provided that any dispensation shall not extend to participation in any vote with respect to that business; or

- (i) it appears to the committee to be in the interests of the inhabitants of the area of the relevant authority that the disability should be removed provided that written notification of the grant of the dispensation is given to the National Assembly for Wales within seven days in such manner as it may specify.
- (j) It is considered appropriate in all the circumstances to do so where not otherwise possible to make reasonable adjustments to accommodate a persons disability

Agenda Item 4

STANDARDS COMMITTEE
06/07/2023

DISPENSATION APPLICATION BY COUNCILLOR JOHN MACLAUGHLAND

Purpose: To consider the application and determine whether to grant dispensation

To consider and comment on the following issues:

- To decide whether to grant the dispensation application

Reasons:

- Cllr Maclaughland has a personal and prejudicial interest which would otherwise prevent him participating in this council business

CABINET MEMBER PORTFOLIO HOLDER: Not Applicable

Directorate

Name of Head of Service:

Linda Rees Jones

Designations:

Head of Administration and Law

Tel Nos.

01267 224012

LRJones@carmarthenshire.gov.uk

Report Author:

Robert Edgecombe

Legal Services Manager

01267 224018

rjedgeco@carmarthenshire.gov.uk

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
STANDARDS COMMITTEE
06/07/2023

Dispensation Application by Cllr John Maclaughland

Kidwelly Town Councillor John Maclaughland has submitted a dispensation request to speak only in relation to council business regarding the Princess Gwenllian Centre in Kidwelly.

Councillor Maclaughland would have a personal and prejudicial interest in such business as he is a trustee of the centre.

Councillor Maclaughland has not specified upon which grounds under the Standards Committees (Grant of Dispensations)(Wales) Regulations 2001 he seeks dispensation, but the committee may consider the following to be relevant

Regulation 2(2)(d) – the nature of the member’s interest is such that the member’s participation in the business to which the interest relates would not damage public confidence in the conduct of the relevant authority’s business.

And

Regulation 2(2)(f) – the participation of the member in the business to which the interest relates is justified by the members particular role or expertise

If the committee is minded to grant Councillor Maclaughland ’s request it will need to determine the duration of that dispensation

DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED ?

NO

IMPLICATIONS

I confirm that other than those implications which have been agreed with the appropriate Directors / Heads of Service and are referred to in detail below, there are no other implications associated with this report :

Signed: Linda Rees-Jones

Head of Administration and Law

Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities	Legal	Finance	ICT	Risk Management Issues	Staffing Implications	Physical Assets
NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE

CONSULTATIONS

I confirm that the appropriate consultations have taken in place and the outcomes are as detailed below

Signed: *LRJones*

Head of Administration and Law

1. **Scrutiny Committee** – not applicable
2. **Local Member(s)** - not applicable
3. **Community / Town Council** - not applicable
4. **Relevant Partners** - not applicable
5. **Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations** - not applicable

CABINET MEMBER PORTFOLIO HOLDER(S) AWARE/CONSULTED
NO

N/A

Section 100D Local Government Act, 1972 – Access to Information List of Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:

There are none.

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APPLICATION TO THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE FOR DISPENSATION

Please note that each section MUST be completed. Please refer to the attached Guidance Notes when completing the form.

1. YOUR DETAILS

Your full name: MR JOHN MACLAUGHLAN

Name of your Council: KIDWELLY TOWN COUNCIL

Email address: JOHN.MACLAUGHLAN@KIDWELLY.GOV.UK

2. DETAILS OF YOUR INTEREST

What is the matter under consideration?

A REQUEST FOR DISPENSATION

What is your interest in the above matter?

As a Member of Kidwelly Town Council and a trustee of Princess Gwawlial Centre I wish to speak and report back to the Council.

When will the above matter be considered?

Are you applying for dispensation to:

Speak only: Speak and vote:

Make written Representations Exercise Executive Powers

3. GROUNDS FOR DISPENSATION

Regulations issued by the National Assembly for Wales prescribe the circumstances in which the Standards Committee may grant a dispensation. These grounds for granting a dispensation are summarised below and are set out in full in the attached guidance notes. On which of the following grounds do you believe that a dispensation should be granted in this case? Please tick the appropriate box(es).

• at least half of the members considering the business has an interest	<input type="checkbox"/>
• my inability to participate would upset the political balance of the meeting to such an extent that the outcome would be likely to be affected;	<input type="checkbox"/>
• my participation would not damage public confidence	<input type="checkbox"/>
• the interest is common to me and a significant proportion of the general public;	<input type="checkbox"/>
• my participation in the business is justified by my particular role or expertise;	<input type="checkbox"/>
• the business is to be considered by an overview and scrutiny committee and my interest is not a pecuniary interest;	<input type="checkbox"/>
• the business relates to the finances or property of a voluntary organisation of whose management committee or board I am a member and I have no other interest	<input type="checkbox"/>

4. INFORMATION IN SUPPORT OF YOUR APPLICATION

Please set out below the reasons why you consider that the Standards Committee should grant a dispensation in this case:

(Please note that failure to complete this section will result in the application form being returned to you)

I AM A COUNCIL MEMBER FOR Kidwelly Town Council. I AM ALSO A TRUSTEE FOR THE PRINCESS GWENLIDIAN CENTRE. AS SUCH I AM THE TOWN COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE ON THE BOARD OF THE PRINCESS GWENLIDIAN CENTRE AND WISH TO SPEAK AND REPORT BACK TO COUNCIL ON THE PROGRESS OF PRINCESS GWENLIDIAN CENTRE. I CONFIRM I HAVE NO FINANCIAL INTEREST IN THE CENTRE. I CONFIRM I WISH TO SPEAK ONLY AND NO VOTING AS I NEED TO REPORT BACK AND FORTH TO BOTH COUNCIL + THE PRINCESS GWENLIDIAN CENTRE CHARITY.
My Home Address is 50 STATION ROAD
Kidwelly
SA17 4UT.

(please continue on a separate sheet if necessary)

I confirm that the information provided on this form is true to the best of my knowledge. I agree that this application and all the information contained within it may form part of a public report to the Standards Committee. I request a dispensation in respect of the above matter.

Signed:



Date:

13 / 06 / 2023

Please return this form to the Monitoring Officer, Chief Executive's Department, Carmarthenshire County Council, County Hall, Carmarthen, SA31 1JP. / Monitoringofficer@carmarthenshire.gov.uk

Guidance notes

- (1) Please read through the Code of Conduct and decide which of the paragraphs is most appropriate to your case. Brief details of the relevant paragraphs are noted in the table below. If you are unsure, please contact the Monitoring Officer for advice.

Para.	Type of personal interest	
10(2)(a)	Council business which relates to or is likely to affect: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • your employment or business, • your employer, firm or company • a contract made between the Council and you • any land, lease or licence in which you have an interest • a public body or other association in which you have membership or hold a position of general control or management 	
10(2)(b)	Council business in which there may be a conflict between your decision-making role and your role in representing constituents in your ward	
10(2)(c)	Council business which affects your well-being or financial position, or the well-being, financial position or other interests of a person with whom you live or have a close personal association	
13	Council business which is being considered by an Overview and Scrutiny Committee and which relates to a decision of the Cabinet or another Committee of which you were a member at the time [County Council only]	

- (2) The Standards Committees (Grant of Dispensations)(Wales) Regulations 2001 state that a Standards Committee may grant dispensations where:

- (a) no fewer than half of the members of the relevant authority or of a committee of the authority (as the case may be) by which the business is to be considered has an interest which relates to that business;
- (b) no fewer than half of the members of a leader and cabinet executive of the relevant authority by which the business is to be considered has an interest which relates to that business and either paragraph (d) or (e) also applies;
- (c) in the case of a county or county borough council, the inability of the member to participate would upset the political balance of the relevant authority or of the committee of the authority by which the business is to be considered to such an extent that the outcome would be likely to be affected;
- (d) the nature of the member's interest is such that the member's participation in the business to which the interest relates would not damage public confidence in the conduct of the relevant authority's business;
- (e) the interest is common to the member and a significant proportion of the general public;
- (f) the participation of the member in the business to which the interest relates is justified by the member's particular role or expertise;
- (g) the business to which the interest relates is to be considered by an overview and scrutiny committee of the relevant authority and the member's interest is not a pecuniary interest;

- (h) the business which is to be considered relates to the finances or property of a voluntary organisation of whose management committee or board the member is a member otherwise than as a representative of the relevant authority and the member has no other interest in that business provided that any dispensation shall not extend to participation in any vote with respect to that business; or
- (i) it appears to the committee to be in the interests of the inhabitants of the area of the relevant authority that the disability should be removed provided that written notification of the grant of the dispensation is given to the National Assembly for Wales within seven days in such manner as it may specify.

Agenda Item 5

STANDARDS COMMITTEE
06/07/2023

DISPENSATION APPLICATION BY COUNCILLOR NEIL LEWIS

Purpose: To consider the application and determine whether to grant dispensation

To consider and comment on the following issues:

- To decide whether to grant the dispensation application

Reasons:

- Cllr Lewis has a personal and prejudicial interest which would otherwise prevent him participating in this council business

CABINET MEMBER PORTFOLIO HOLDER: Not Applicable

Directorate

Name of Head of Service:

Linda Rees Jones

Designations:

Head of Administration and Law

Tel Nos.

01267 224012

LRJones@carmarthenshire.gov.uk

Report Author:

Robert Edgecombe

Legal Services Manager

01267 224018

rjedgeco@carmarthenshire.gov.uk

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
STANDARDS COMMITTEE
06/07/2023

Dispensation Application by Cllr Neil Lewis

County Councillor Neil Lewis has submitted a dispensation request to speak, vote, make written representations and exercise executive powers in relation to council business regarding renewable energy, electric vehicles, energy efficiency and decarbonisation.

Councillor Lewis would have a personal and prejudicial interest in such business as he has personal involvement in several organisations operating in these fields in the county

Councillor Lewis seeks dispensation on the following grounds in Regulation 2(2) of the Standards Committees (Grant of Dispensations)(Wales) Regulations 2001

(a)no fewer than half of the members of the relevant authority or of a committee of the authority (as the case may be) by which the business is to be considered has an interest which relates to that business;

(b)no fewer than half of the members of a leader and cabinet executive of the relevant authority by which the business is to be considered has an interest which relates to that business and either paragraph (d) or (e) also applies;

(c)in the case of a county or county borough council, the inability of the member to participate would upset the political balance of the relevant authority or of the committee of the authority by which the business is to be considered to such an extent that the outcome would be likely to be affected;

(d)the nature of the member's interest is such that the member's participation in the business to which the interest relates would not damage public confidence in the conduct of the relevant authority's business;

(e)the interest is common to the member and a significant proportion of the general public;

(f)the participation of the member in the business to which the interest relates is justified by the member's particular role or expertise;

(g)the business to which the interest relates is to be considered by an overview and scrutiny committee of the relevant authority and the member's interest is not a pecuniary interest;

It does not appear however that grounds (a),(b), (c) or (e) are applicable in this case. Also as Cllr Lewis is not a member of the Cabinet, he has no executive functions to exercise.

If the committee is minded to grant Cllr Lewis's request it will need to determine the duration of that dispensation

DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED ?	NO
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IMPLICATIONS

I confirm that other than those implications which have been agreed with the appropriate Directors / Heads of Service and are referred to in detail below, there are no other implications associated with this report :

Signed: Linda Rees-Jones

Head of Administration and Law

Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities	Legal	Finance	ICT	Risk Management Issues	Staffing Implications	Physical Assets
NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE

CONSULTATIONS

I confirm that the appropriate consultations have taken in place and the outcomes are as detailed below

Signed: *LRJones*

Head of Administration and Law

1. **Scrutiny Committee** – not applicable
2. **Local Member(s)** - not applicable
3. **Community / Town Council** - not applicable
4. **Relevant Partners** - not applicable
5. **Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations** - not applicable

CABINET MEMBER PORTFOLIO HOLDER(S) AWARE/CONSULTED
NO

N/A

Section 100D Local Government Act, 1972 – Access to Information List of Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:

There are none.

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**APPLICATION TO THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE
FOR DISPENSATION**

Please note that each section **MUST** be completed. Please refer to the attached
Guidance Notes when completing the form.

1. YOUR DETAILS

Your full name:

DAVID NEIL LEWIS

Name of your Council:

Carmarthenshire County Council

Your address and postcode:

7. Fford-y-Briallu, Abergwili. SA31 2JU

Contact telephone number(s):

0797 0479802

Email address:

neillewis@carmarthenshire.gov.uk

2. DETAILS OF YOUR INTEREST

What is the matter under consideration?

Renewable Energy.
Electric vehicles, energy efficiency, decarbonisation

What is your interest in the above matter?

Manager Carmarthenshire Energy
Manager Trydan, Charge Place Wales Ltd.
Board (NEP) Energy Local

When will the above matter be considered?

Net Zero.

Ongoing/daily

Are you applying for dispensation to:

Speak only:



Speak and vote:



Make written
Representations



Exercise Executive
Powers



3. GROUNDS FOR DISPENSATION

Regulations issued by the National Assembly for Wales prescribe the circumstances in which the Standards Committee may grant a dispensation. These grounds for granting a dispensation are summarised below and are set out in full in the attached guidance notes. On which of the following grounds do you believe that a dispensation should be granted in this case? Please tick the appropriate box(es).

• at least half of the members considering the business has an interest	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
• my inability to participate would upset the political balance of the meeting to such an extent that the outcome would be likely to be affected;	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
• my participation would not damage public confidence	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
• the interest is common to me and a significant proportion of the general public;	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
• my participation in the business is justified by my particular role or expertise;	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
• the business is to be considered by an overview and scrutiny committee and my interest is not a pecuniary interest;	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
• the business relates to the finances or property of a voluntary organisation of whose management committee or board I am a member and I have no other interest	<input type="checkbox"/>

4. INFORMATION IN SUPPORT OF YOUR APPLICATION

Please set out below the reasons why you consider that the Standards Committee should grant a dispensation in this case:

(Please note that failure to complete this section will result in the application form being returned to you)

I have a Masters Degree in Energy.
MSc (Advanced Energy/Environmental Science)

I have founded two community benefit societies - Ynni Sir Gar / Tŷda Ni. ^{Choree Place} ^{Wales Ltd}

I am a NED of "Energy Local"

I have worked as a fund manager for Robert Owen Community Banking Fund.
Setting up wind, hydro and solar projects

All community owned and projects reinvested

I am working for Community Energy Wales
setting up community electric vehicle car clubs

would like to set up renewables,
local supply of renewable energy,
energy efficiency, decarbonised fleets and
shared ownership within CCC.
Saving money and decarbonising
Be shame not to contribute my
expertise / experience.

(please continue on a separate sheet if necessary)

I confirm that the information provided on this form is true to the best of my knowledge. I agree that this application and all the information contained within it may form part of a public report to the Standards Committee. I request a dispensation in respect of the above matter.

Signed:



Date:

16 16 23

Please return this form to the Monitoring Officer, Chief Executive's Department, Carmarthenshire County Council, County Hall, Carmarthen, SA31 1JP.

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STANDARDS COMMITTEE

06/07/2023

DISPENSATION APPLICATION BY COUNCILLOR WENDY HERON

Purpose: To consider the application and determine whether to grant dispensation

To consider and comment on the following issues:

- To decide whether to grant the dispensation application

Reasons:

- Cllr Heron has a personal and prejudicial interest which would otherwise prevent her participating in this council business

CABINET MEMBER PORTFOLIO HOLDER: Not Applicable

Directorate

Name of Head of Service:

Linda Rees Jones

Designations:

Head of Administration and Law

Tel Nos.

01267 224012

LRJones@carmarthenshire.gov.uk

Report Author:

Robert Edgecombe

Legal Services Manager

01267 224018

rjedgeco@carmarthenshire.gov.uk

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
STANDARDS COMMITTEE
06/07/2023

Dispensation Application by Cllr Wendy Heron

Henllanfallteg Community Councillor Wendy Heron has submitted a dispensation request to speak and vote in relation to council business regarding the provision of a sewerage solution for the community hall, pub and several homes in the village.

Councillor Heron would have a personal and prejudicial interest in such business as she is a trustee of the village hall.

Councillor Heron seeks dispensation, on the following grounds under the Standards Committees (Grant of Dispensations)(Wales) Regulations 2001

1. Regulation 2(2)(d) – the nature of the member’s interest is such that the member’s participation in the business to which the interest relates would not damage public confidence in the conduct of the relevant authority’s business.
2. Regulation 2(2) (e) – the interest is common to the member and a significant proportion of the public.
3. Regulation 2(2)(f) – the participation of the member in the business to which the interest relates is justified by the members particular role or expertise
4. Regulation 2(2)(h) – the business which is to be considered relates to the finances or property of a voluntary organisation of whose management committee or board the member is a member otherwise than as a representative of the relevant authority and the member has no other interest in that business provided that any dispensation shall not extend to participation in any vote with respect to that business

The application also seeks to rely on the ground in Regulation 2(2)(c) relating to political balance, but this ground is not applicable in this case.

If the committee is minded to grant Councillor Heron ’s request it will need to determine the duration of that dispensation

DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED ?

NO

IMPLICATIONS

I confirm that other than those implications which have been agreed with the appropriate Directors / Heads of Service and are referred to in detail below, there are no other implications associated with this report :

Signed: Linda Rees-Jones

Head of Administration and Law

Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities	Legal	Finance	ICT	Risk Management Issues	Staffing Implications	Physical Assets
NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE

CONSULTATIONS

I confirm that the appropriate consultations have taken in place and the outcomes are as detailed below

Signed: *LRJones*

Head of Administration and Law

1. **Scrutiny Committee** – not applicable
2. **Local Member(s)** - not applicable
3. **Community / Town Council** - not applicable
4. **Relevant Partners** - not applicable
5. **Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations** - not applicable

CABINET MEMBER PORTFOLIO HOLDER(S) AWARE/CONSULTED
NO

N/A

Section 100D Local Government Act, 1972 – Access to Information List of Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:

There are none.

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**APPLICATION TO THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE
FOR DISPENSATION**

Please note that each section **MUST** be completed. Please refer to the attached
Guidance Notes when completing the form.

1. YOUR DETAILS

Your full name: Councillor Wendy Heron

Name of your Council: Henllanfallteg Community Council

Your address and postcode: DERWENLAS, LLANFALLTEG
WHITLAND CARMARTHENSHIRE SA34 0UJ

Contact telephone number(s): 07768 108826

Email address: wendyheron@gmail.com

2. DETAILS OF YOUR INTEREST

What is the matter under consideration?

A sewerage solution for the community hall , village pub and several private homes

What is your interest in the above matter?

I am a trustee of the community hall

When will the above matter be considered?

At the meeting of the community council in July - date TBC

Are you applying for dispensation to:

Speak only:

Speak and vote:

Make written
Representations

Exercise Executive
Powers

3. GROUNDS FOR DISPENSATION

Regulations issued by the National Assembly for Wales prescribe the circumstances in which the Standards Committee may grant a dispensation. These grounds for granting a dispensation are summarised below and are set out in full in the attached guidance notes. On which of the following grounds do you believe that a dispensation should be granted in this case? Please tick the appropriate box(es).

• at least half of the members considering the business has an interest	<input type="checkbox"/>
• my inability to participate would upset the political balance of the meeting to such an extent that the outcome would be likely to be affected;	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
• my participation would not damage public confidence	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
• the interest is common to me and a significant proportion of the general public;	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
• my participation in the business is justified by my particular role or expertise;	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
• the business is to be considered by an overview and scrutiny committee and my interest is not a pecuniary interest;	<input type="checkbox"/>
• the business relates to the finances or property of a voluntary organisation of whose management committee or board I am a member and I have no other interest	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

4. INFORMATION IN SUPPORT OF YOUR APPLICATION

Please set out below the reasons why you consider that the Standards Committee should grant a dispensation in this case:

(Please note that failure to complete this section will result in the application form being returned to you)

I would like to apply for dispensation under paragraph 10(2) (a)

Officers of the County Council describe this as one of the most complicated issues they have dealt with. ref: Jonathan Morgan. I have taken an informal role of lead of the sewerage group working with all parties, including Carmarthenshire Council to enable a solution. After six years , and covid delays, it has been narrowed down to a couple of technical options which none of the parties can afford due to age, limited or nil property equity, inability to sell due to the issue. The Millennium Community Hall is currently operating with portaloos and no kitchen facility. This limits income especially post covid and is untenable. Sewerage discharge is affecting the community, private homes and wellbeing.

The Community Council are now to step in and consider what sort of facilitation can finally resolve the issue for all parties the and essential village amenities. Given my role and the level of research undertaken along with the personal contact with all parties I request dispensation to speak and answer any questions from community councillors. In the event the meeting would not be otherwise quorate then I would also request to vote as the circumstances are of an exceptional nature.

It is not possible to describe more fully without identifying individuals or their circumstances.

(please continue on a separate sheet if necessary)

I confirm that the information provided on this form is true to the best of my knowledge. I agree that this application and all the information contained within it may form part of a public report to the Standards Committee. I request a dispensation in respect of the above matter.

Signed:

Date:

Please return this form to the Monitoring Officer, Chief Executive's Department, Carmarthenshire County Council, County Hall, Carmarthen, SA31 1JP.

