

# COUNTY COUNCIL

Wednesday, 14 December 2016

**PRESENT:** Councillor E. Morgan (Chair)

## **Councillors:**

S.M. Allen, D.J.R. Bartlett, S.M. Caiach, C.A. Campbell, J.M. Charles, A.P. Cooper, A. Davies, D.B. Davies, G. Davies, I.W. Davies, J.A. Davies, S.L. Davies, T. Davies, W.R.A. Davies, T. Devichand, E. Dole, J.S. Edmunds, P.M. Edwards, H.A.L. Evans, L.D. Evans, W.J.W. Evans, W.T. Evans, M. Gravell, A.D. Harries, C.P. Higgins, W.G. Hopkins, J.K. Howell, P. Hughes-Griffiths, I.J. Jackson, A. James, D.M. Jenkins, J.P. Jenkins, G.O. Jones, T.J. Jones, W.J. Lemon, A. Lenny, M.J.A. Lewis, D.J.R. Llewellyn, K. Madge, A.G. Morgan, J. Owen, P.A. Palmer, D. Price, D.W.H. Richards, B.A.L. Roberts, H.B. Shepardson, A.D.T. Speake, L.M. Stephens, E.G. Thomas, G.B. Thomas, G. Thomas, J. Thomas, M.K. Thomas, R. Thomas, S.E. Thomas, W.G. Thomas, D. Tomos, J. Tremlett, D.E. Williams, J. Williams, J.E. Williams and J.S. Williams.

## **The following Officers were in attendance:**

M. James, Chief Executive;  
C. Moore, Director of Corporate Services;  
J. Morgan, Director of Community Services;  
G. Morgans, Interim Director of Education & Children's Services;  
R. Mullen, Director of Environment;  
L.R. Jones, Head of Administration and Law;  
P.R. Thomas, Assistant Chief Executive (People Management & Performance);  
W. Walters, Assistant Chief Executive (Regeneration & Policy);  
L. Quelch, Head of Planning;  
J. Willis, Housing Services Manager (Advice & Options);  
M.S. Davies, Democratic Services Officer.

**Chamber, County Hall, Carmarthen - 10.00 am - 12.45 pm**

## **1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors T. Bowen, D.M. Cundy, T.T. Defis, D.C. Evans, P.M. Hughes, J.D. James, A.W. Jones, H.I. Jones, P.E.M. Jones, S. Matthews and W.G. Thomas.

## **2. DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTERESTS**

<b>Councillor</b>	<b>Minute Number</b>	<b>Nature of Interest</b>
J.M. Charles	5 – Notice of Motion Submitted by Councillor G.B. Thomas (EU Nitrates Directive in Wales)	Farm owner;

D.B. Davies	5 – Notice of Motion Submitted by Councillor G.B. Thomas (EU Nitrates Directive in Wales)	Chair of Carmarthenshire Amateur Angling Association;
J.A. Davies	5 – Notice of Motion Submitted by Councillor G.B. Thomas (EU Nitrates Directive in Wales)	Farmer;
H.A.L. Evans	9.2 –Review of Access to Social Housing Policy;	Sister is Chief Executive of a Housing Association;
W.J.W. Evans	5 – Notice of Motion Submitted by Councillor G.B. Thomas (EU Nitrates Directive in Wales);	Farmer;
A. James	5 – Notice of Motion Submitted by Councillor G.B. Thomas (EU Nitrates Directive in Wales)	Hill farmer;
M.J.A. Lewis	5 – Notice of Motion Submitted by Councillor G.B. Thomas (EU Nitrates Directive in Wales)	Lives on farm with cattle;
D.W.H. Richards	5 – Notice of Motion Submitted by Councillor G.B. Thomas (EU Nitrates Directive in Wales)	Farming interests;
G.B. Thomas	5 – Notice of Motion Submitted by Councillor G.B. Thomas (EU Nitrates Directive in Wales)	Farmer;
D. Tomos	5 – Notice of Motion Submitted by Councillor G.B. Thomas (EU Nitrates Directive in Wales)	Farmer;
D.E. Williams	5 – Notice of Motion Submitted by Councillor G.B. Thomas (EU Nitrates Directive in Wales)	Farm owner;
J.E. Williams	5 – Notice of Motion Submitted by Councillor G.B. Thomas (EU Nitrates Directive in Wales)	Farmer.

### 3. CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Congratulations were extended to Aled Davies, Jack Davies and Carys Jones, members of the Coleg Gelli Aur team which had won S4C's Fferm Factor competition;
- Congratulations were extended to Manon Lloyd who had won two gold medals in the World Cycling Championships in Glasgow recently;
- Congratulations were extended to former Councillor and Chairman of both Dyfed and Carmarthenshire County Councils D.T. Davies O.B.E.,MM, Dryslwyn, who had recently, in his 98<sup>th</sup> year, published a book recounting his wartime experiences;
- The Chair welcomed to the meeting pupils from Ysgol Bro Myrddin, Ysgol Maes y Gwendraeth and QE High School who had been invited to present their findings regarding possible budget cuts following on from the successful Insight Carmarthenshire event held recently at QE High School, Johnstown. The Leader introduced the pupils from each school and, following their presentations, thanked them for attending.

### 4. MINUTES

**RESOLVED, subject to the deletion of the word 'Unanimously' in the resolution of minutes 8.1, that the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on the 9<sup>th</sup> November, 2016 be signed as a correct record.**

### 5. NOTICE OF MOTION SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR GARETH THOMAS

(NOTE: Councillors J.M. Charles, J.A. Davies, J.K. Howell, A. James, D.W.H. Richards, D. Tomos, D.E. Williams and J.E. Williams, having earlier declared a personal and prejudicial interest in this item, left the Council Chamber during its consideration.)

Prior to considering the Motion being proposed Members received legal advice on the consultation referred to therein being undertaken by Welsh Government. It was also noted that correspondence had been received from Carmarthenshire Fishermen's Federation expressing concern that Members might not have enough information on the subject to consider and vote on the motion.

Whereupon the Council considered the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Edward Thomas:-

"In light of the recently published consultation paper on its plans for implementing the EU Nitrates Directive in Wales this Council opposes both the Whole Designation Territory Option as well as the designated approach proposed in the plans. Its implementation would force the farming community to follow an over prescriptive programme of actions which would be costly and inflexible. Its implementation would lead to significant costs to farm businesses and would have a huge impact on the rural economy leading to farm closures and loss of employment and would be

detrimental to both social and cultural well-being. This Council further agrees that the Experimental Schemes initiative available under the Environment Act should be adopted in order to trial new approaches to the deliverability of functions and the more sustainable management of natural resources. This more enlightened approach not only contributes a more efficient answer to the management of resources but is far more closely aligned to the Welsh Governments legislative aspirations for the Well Being of Future Generations.”

The Motion was duly seconded.

The proposer of the Motion was afforded the opportunity of speaking in support of the Motion and outlined the reasons for its submission, as set out in the Motion.

A number of statements were made in relation to the Motion and some members commented that, as alluded to earlier, they would be unable to vote on the basis that they considered that they were insufficiently informed on the subject.

Following a requisition by more than ten members in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 16.4 a recorded vote was taken with the votes cast being as follows:-

#### **For the Motion (30)**

Councillors S.M. Caiach, C.A. Campbell, A. Davies, D.B. Davies, G. Davies, I.W. Davies, E. Dole, H.A.L. Evans, L.D. Evans, A.D. Harries, W.G. Hopkins, P. Hughes Griffiths, D.M. Jenkins, J.P. Jenkins, G.O. Jones, T.J. Jones, W.J. Lemon, A. Lenny, D.J.R. Llewellyn, A.G. Morgan, J. Owen, D. Price, H.B. Shepardson, A.D.T. Speake, L.M. Stephens, E.G. Thomas, G. Thomas, J. Thomas, S.E. Thomas and J.S. Williams.

#### **Against the Motion (0)**

#### **Abstained (18)**

Councillors S.M. Allen, D.J.R. Bartlett, A.P. Cooper, T. Davies, W.R.A. Davies, J.S. Edmunds, P.M. Edwards, M. Gravell, C.P. Higgins, I.J. Jackson, K. Madge, E. Morgan, P.A. Palmer, B.A.L. Roberts, M.K. Thomas, R. Thomas, J. Tremlett and J. Williams.

**RESOLVED that the Motion be adopted.**

## **6. NOTICE OF MOTION SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR SIAN THOMAS**

The Council considered the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Sian Thomas:-

“This Council expresses its disappointment at the faulty Welsh on the new War Memorial in Llanelli. We consider it disrespectful of those who are being remembered as well as to the language itself. As the War Memorial is on the land of the Town Hall which the County Council owns, we ask that the council create a

Policy that all written signs from now on placed on a building or on land in the ownership of the Council be fully bilingual, and verified by the Translation unit.”

The Motion was duly seconded.

The proposer of the Motion was afforded the opportunity of speaking in support of the Motion and outlined the reasons for its submission, as set out in the Motion.

A number of statements were made in relation to the Motion and, following a vote, it was

**RESOLVED that the Motion be adopted.**

## **7. QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS**

The Chair advised that there were no questions from members.

## **8. PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

The Chair advised that no public questions had been received.

## **9. PRESENTATION BY DWR CYMRU WELSH WATER - RAINSCAPE**

With reference to minute 8 of the Council meeting held on the held on the 10<sup>th</sup> February 2016 the Chair welcomed Rebecca Jones, Alex Davies-Jones, Fergus O'Brien, Teresa O'Neill and Sean Murray from Dŵr Cymru Welsh Water, who had been invited to give a presentation to update Council on the RainScape project. Details were provided of schemes undertaken to date and scheduled in the Llanelli and Burry Port area. Members were also apprised of the Rainscape Community Fund whereby schools, charities and community groups within an area affected by the Rainscape project could apply for a share of £10,000.00.

The presentation was followed by a question and answer session, following which the Chair thanked the officers for an excellent and informative presentation.

## **10. EXECUTIVE BOARD RECOMMENDATIONS**

### **10.1. ANNUAL MONITORING REPORT 2015/16 CARMARTHENSHIRE LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN**

Council was informed that the Executive Board, at its meeting held on the 21<sup>ST</sup> November, 2016 had considered the 2015/16 Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) on the operation of the Carmarthenshire Local Development Plan, produced in accordance with the requirements of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 and the Local Development Plan (LDP) Regulations.

Concern was expressed over the possible ways in which the LDP could be affected by Brexit and issues arising from the Swansea Bay City Region bid e.g. transport

links, and it was requested that members be given the opportunity to debate the matter. The Leader responded that he would be happy to arrange for such a debate to take place.

**UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the following recommendations of the Executive Board be adopted:-**

**“10.1.1 that the Annual Monitoring report 2015/16 – Carmarthenshire Local Development Plan be received;**

**10.1.2 That an annual debate be undertaken on the Annual Monitoring Report on the Carmarthenshire Local Development Plan prior to its submission to the Welsh Government.”**

## **10.2. REVIEW OF ACCESS TO SOCIAL HOUSING POLICY**

Council was informed that the Executive Board, at its meeting held on the 21<sup>ST</sup> November, 2016, had considered report on the review undertaken of the Council's Access to Social Housing Policy prepared following widespread consultation with the public and the Council's partners. The Board had been advised that in preparing the report care had been taken to ensure its compliance with legislative requirements.

**UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the following recommendations of the Executive Board be adopted:-**

**“10.2.1 the results of the consultation exercise be accepted:**

**10.2.2 the Draft Amended Access to Social Housing Policy be approved.”**

## **11. MID YEAR TREASURY MANAGEMENT AND PRUDENTIAL INDICATOR REPORT**

Council was informed that the Executive Board, at its meeting held on the 21<sup>st</sup> November, 2016, had, in accordance with the 2016/17 Treasury Management Policy and Strategy (adopted by Council on the 23rd February 2016 – Minute 9 refers), approved an update on the treasury management activities from the 1st April 2016 to the 30th September 2016.

**UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the report be endorsed.**

## **12. EXECUTIVE BOARD - 21ST NOVEMBER 2016**

**UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the report of the above meeting be received.**

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**CHAIR**

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**DATE**