

# **STANDARDS COMMITTEE**

**MONDAY, 27 FEBRUARY 2023**

**PRESENT:** Councillor M. Dodd (Chair)

**Independent Members (In Person):**

C. Davies  
D. Evans  
J. James

**Independent Members (Virtually):**

F. Phillips

**Community Member (Virtually):**

P. Rogers

**County Councillors (Virtually):**

Councillor R. James, B.W. Jones, and G.B. Thomas

**Also Present (In Person):**

L.R. Jones, Head of Administration and Law  
G. Morgan, Head of Democratic Services  
R. Morris, Member Support Officer  
S. Rees, Simultaneous Translator

**Chamber - County Hall, Carmarthen. SA31 1JP and remotely - 1.30 - 2.05 pm**

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.**

There were no apologies for absence.

**2. DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST.**

There were no declarations of personal interest.

**ORDER OF BUSINESS**

In view of the fact that Agenda items 3, 4 and 6 related to the same matter, the three applications were considered together but are minuted separately.

**3. DISPENSATION APPLICATION BY COUNCILLOR MANSEL CHARLES**

The Committee considered an application submitted by County Councillor Mansel Charles for the grant of a dispensation under the provisions of the Standards Committees (Grant of Dispensations) (Wales) Regulations to speak and vote and make written representations in relation to council business at meetings of Carmarthenshire County Council and Llanegwad Community Council regarding electricity transmission from Nant Mithil Energy Park and other energy

park developments to a grid connection in Carmarthenshire. This would form part of the Bute Energy Towy Usk Grid connection scheme.

It was reported that Councillor Charles would have a personal and prejudicial interest in such business as he and close personal associates of his would be affected by the proposals put forward by Bute Energy.

It was reported that a dispensation was sought by Councillor Charles by virtue of 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 was minded to grant Councillor Charles's request it will also need to determine the duration of that dispensation

Following a discussion it was

**UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that dispensation be granted under Regulations 2 2 (d) and (f) of the Standards Committees (Grant of Dispensation) (Wales) Regulations 2001 to Councillor M. Charles to speak, and make written representations but NOT vote on council business at meetings of Carmarthenshire County Council and Llanegwad Community Council (and public meetings – where attending as county councillors as part of the Councils' business,) regarding electricity transmission from Nant Mithil Energy Park and other energy park developments to a grid connection in Carmarthenshire and the dispensation be valid until the end of the current electoral term.

#### **4. DISPENSATION APPLICATION BY COUNCILLOR ANN DAVIES**

The Committee considered an application submitted by County Councillor Ann Davies for the grant of a dispensation under the provisions of the Standards Committees (Grant of Dispensations) (Wales) Regulations to speak and vote and make written representations at meetings of Carmarthenshire County Council and Llanarthne Community Council in relation to council business regarding electricity transmission from Nant Mithil Energy Park and other energy park developments to a grid connection in Carmarthenshire. This would form part of the Bute Energy Towy Usk Grid connection scheme.

It was reported that Councillor Davies would have a personal and prejudicial interest in such business as he and close personal associates of his would be affected by the proposals put forward by Bute Energy.

It was reported that a dispensation was sought by Councillor Davies by virtue of 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 was minded to grant Councillor Davies 's request it will also need to determine the duration of that dispensation

Following a discussion it was

**UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that dispensation be granted under Regulations 2 2 (d) and (f) of the Standards Committees (Grant of Dispensation) (Wales) Regulations 2001 to Councillor A. Davies to speak, and make written representations but NOT vote at meetings of Carmarthenshire County Council and Llanarthne Community Council (and public meetings – where attending as county councillors as part of the Councils' business) on council business regarding electricity transmission from Nant Mithil Energy Park and other energy park developments to a grid connection in Carmarthenshire and the dispensation be valid until the end of the current electoral term.

## **5. DISPENSATION APPLICATION BY COUNCILLOR LLINOS DAVIES**

The Committee considered an application submitted by County Councillor Llinos Davies for the grant of a dispensation under the provisions of the Standards Committees (Grant of Dispensations) (Wales) Regulations to speak and vote in relation to council business budget proposals for the funding of the peripatetic music service in schools.

It was reported that Councillor Davies would have a personal and prejudicial interest in such business as her husband is a Head of Music in a school in the County..

It was reported that a dispensation was sought by Councillor Davies by virtue of 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.

If the committee was minded to grant Councillor Davies' request it will also need to determine the duration of that dispensation

Following a discussion it was

**UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that dispensation be granted under Regulations 2 2 (d) and (f) of the Standards Committees (Grant of Dispensation) (Wales) Regulations 2001 to Councillor L. Davies to speak and make written representations but not vote in relation to council business budget proposals for the funding of the peripatetic music service in schools and the dispensation be valid until the end of the current electoral term.

## **6. DISPENSATION APPLICATION BY COUNCILLOR HEFIN JONES**

The Committee considered an application submitted by County Councillor Hefin Jones for the grant of a dispensation under the provisions of the Standards Committees (Grant of Dispensations) (Wales) Regulations to speak and vote and make written representations at meetings of Carmarthenshire County Council, Llanarthne Community Council and Llanddarog Community Council in relation to council business regarding electricity transmission from Nant Mithil Energy Park and other energy park developments to a grid connection in Carmarthenshire. This would form part of the Bute Energy Towy Usk Grid connection scheme.

It was reported that Councillor Jones would have a personal and prejudicial interest in such business as he and close personal associates of his would be affected by the proposals put forward by Bute Energy.

It was reported that a dispensation was sought by Councillor Jones by virtue of 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 was minded to grant Councillor Jones' request it would also need to determine the duration of that dispensation

Following a discussion it was

**UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that dispensation be granted under Regulations 2 2 (d) and (f) of the Standards Committees (Grant of Dispensation) (Wales) Regulations 2001 to Councillor H. Jones to speak, and make written representations but NOT vote at meetings of Carmarthenshire County Council, Llanarthne Community Council and Llanddarog Community Council (and public meetings – where attending as county councillors as part of the Councils' business) on council business regarding electricity transmission from Nant Mithil Energy Park and other energy park developments to a grid connection in Carmarthenshire and the dispensation be valid until the end of the current electoral term.

**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.**

There were no items of urgent business.

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**CHAIR**

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**DATE**