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MONDAY, 27 MARCH 2023

TO: ALL MEMBERS OF THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE

I HEREBY SUMMON YOU TO ATTEND A MEETING OF THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE WHICH WILL BE HELD IN THE CHAMBER, COUNTY HALL, CARMARTHEN AND REMOTELY AT 11.30 AM ON MONDAY, 3RD APRIL, 2023 FOR THE TRANSACTION OF THE BUSINESS OUTLINED ON THE ATTACHED AGENDA

Wendy Walters

CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Democratic Officer:	Martin S. Davies
Telephone (direct line):	01267 224059
E-Mail:	MSDavies@carmarthenshire.gov.uk
This is a multi-location meeting. Committee members can attend in person at the venue detailed above or remotely via the Zoom link which is provided separately.	
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. TO SIGN AS A CORRECT RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE HELD ON THE:**
 - 3 .1 27TH FEBRUARY 2023;** 5 - 8
 - 3 .2 7TH MARCH 2023.** 9 - 14
- 4. DISPENSATION APPLICATION BY COUNCILLOR BETSAN JONES.** 15 - 24
- 5. DISPENSATION APPLICATION BY COUNCILLOR CHERYL JONES.** 25 - 34
- 6. DISPENSATION APPLICATION BY COUNCILLOR DAVID JONES.** 35 - 44
- 7. DISPENSATION APPLICATION BY COUNCILLOR MYFANWY JONES.** 45 - 54
- 8. DISPENSATION APPLICATION BY COUNCILLOR CHRISTOPH FISCHER.** 55 - 64
- 9. 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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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.

CHAIR

DATE

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TUESDAY, 7 MARCH 2023

PRESENT: M. Dodd (Chair)(Ph)

Independent Members:

C. Davies (R), D. Evans (Ph), J. James (Ph),

Councillors:

R. James (R) and G.B. Thomas (R)

The following Officers were in attendance (In Person):

L. Rees Jones, Monitoring Officer
J. Owens, Democratic Services Officer
S. Hendy, Member Support Officer

Also Present (Virtually)

M. Runeckles, Member Support Officer
S. Rees, Simultaneous Translator

[Ph = physical attendance at County Hall. R = remote attendance via Zoom)

Chamber - County Hall, Carmarthen. SA31 1JP and remotely - 10.00 - 11.02 am

[Note: The Chair, in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 2(3) reconfigured the order of business on the agenda to enable Agenda Item 8 to be considered earlier in the meeting].

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

Apologies for absence were received from Mr F. Phillips and Councillor B. Jones.

2. DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST.

Attendee	Minute Item(s)	Nature of Interest
Ms D. Evans	7. Dispensation Application By Councillor Kim Broom	Owens holiday homes

3. TO SIGN AS A CORRECT RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE HELD ON THE 24TH JANUARY, 2023.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Standards Committee held on 24th January, 2023 be signed as a correct record.

4. CODE OF CONDUCT COMPLIANCE BY TOWN AND COMMUNITY COUNCILLORS.

The Monitoring Officer presented a report wherein the Committee was reminded that Town and Community Councils were annually requested to provide data regarding code of conduct compliance by their members and the responses received were combined with data held by the Council to provide a comprehensive overview of code compliance by these councillors covering:

1. Declarations of interest
2. Dispensation requests
3. Code of conduct complaints
4. Code of conduct training.

The Committee's views were sought on the scope and methodology for the 2022/2023 code of conduct compliance exercise. In view of the new duties imposed on Town and Community Councils by virtue of the provisions enshrined within the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021, the Monitoring Officer suggested that additional questions be included for 2022/23 to establish whether training plans had been adopted, published and implemented; and also whether any such training plans included a requirement for members to undertake code of conduct training. In response to a query regarding the feasibility of requesting open-ended questions with a view to further information and context being provided within responses, the Monitoring Officer clarified that whilst there was a requirement for Town and Community Councils to implement training plans, there was no scope at this time for the Council to probe further in respect of the content of such plans. However, it was noted that the Committee may be minded to further refine the questionnaire as part of the next compliance exercise in light of the guidance issued by Welsh Government in respect of training provision and skills gaps within Town and Community Councils.

The Committee agreed that a further question be included within the questionnaire to establish whether the new Model Code of Conduct had been adopted by Town and Community Councils.

To ease the administrative burden associated with the data gathering exercise, it was proposed that the data be collected by way of an online snap survey, with a view to the results being presented to the Committee at its December meeting using a mixture of charts and graphs, enabling, where possible, for comparison with the preceding municipal year's results to be portrayed.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to endorse the suggestions proposed above.

5. CODE OF CONDUCT TRAINING FOR TOWN AND COMMUNITY COUNCILLORS.

In accordance with the Standards Committee terms of reference, consideration was given to a report regarding the provision and delivery of Code of Conduct training for Town and Community Councillors for 2023.

In considering the accessibility arrangements, the Committee was reminded that multi-location training sessions had been provided in 2022 which enabled

councillors to attend either in person at County Hall or remotely via Zoom. It was reported that recordings of the training sessions had also been provided to Town and Community Councils to enable councillors to access the training at their convenience.

A synopsis of the feedback provided as part of the preceding year's training events was provided to the Committee which indicated that overall, there was no appreciable demand for an additional session or for sessions to be held during the evenings. However, the Committee expressed that one of the sessions should be provided early evening, subject to demand, with the caveat that the session would proceed with a minimum of 10 attendees confirming their intention to attend.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that:

- 5.1 Two code of conduct training sessions for Town and Community Councillors to be arranged for June/July 2023.**
- 5.2 One session be held during normal office hours by way of a hybrid event, attended in person at county hall or remotely via Zoom or Microsoft Teams. One session be provided early evening, subject to demand, with the caveat that the session would proceed with a minimum of 10 attendees confirming their intention to attend.**
- 5.3 The sessions be recorded, and the recordings be made available to Town and Community Councils, along with the training materials used.**

6. ACTIONS UPDATE.

The Committee received a report which detailed the progress achieved in relation to the actions, requests or referrals which had emanated from previous meetings.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the report be received.

7. DISPENSATION APPLICATION BY COUNCILLOR KIM BROOM.

[Note: Ms D. Evans having earlier declared an interest, re-iterated her declaration on this item and departed the meeting during the deliberation of the report and voting thereof].

The Committee considered an application submitted by County Councillor Kim Broom for the grant of a dispensation under the provisions of the Standards Committees (Grant of Dispensations) (Wales) Regulations to speak and make written representations only in relation to council business regarding the Council Tax Levy on second homes.

It was reported that a dispensation was sought as Councillor Broom had a personal and prejudicial interest in this matter by virtue of paragraph 10 (2)(a) of the Members Code of Conduct as she is an owner of a second property which she lets as a holiday home.

Following a discussion, it was

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that dispensation be granted under Regulations 2 (d) and (f) of the Standards Committees (Grant of Dispensation) (Wales) Regulations 2001 to Councillor Kim Broom to **SPEAK AND MAKE WRITTEN REPRESENTATIONS ONLY BUT NOT VOTE** at meetings of Carmarthenshire County Council on any council business relating to Tax Levy on second homes and the dispensation be valid for a period of 12 months.

8. DISPENSATION APPLICATION BY COUNCILLOR JAMES PICKUP.

The Committee considered an application submitted by Community Councillor James Pickup of Cilycwm Community Council for the grant of a dispensation under the provisions of the Standards Committees (Grant of Dispensations) (Wales) Regulations to speak only in relation to Council business regarding the Bute Energy Towy Usk Grid connection scheme. Specifically, Councillor Pickup requested a dispensation to provide a presentation/briefing at a meeting of Cilycwm Community Council on the proposals put forward by Bute Energy in respect of the Bute Energy Towy Usk Grid connection scheme.

It was reported that Councillor Pickup had a personal and prejudicial interest in this matter by virtue of paragraph 10 (2)(a) of the Members Code of Conduct as he is employed by Bute Energy and is the scheme's senior land manager.

Councillor Pickup sought dispensation 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.

Following a discussion, it was

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that

8.1 the dispensation be refused.

8.2 the Standards Committee advise that Councillor Pickup refrain from participating in the Cilycwm Community Council discussions pertaining to the Bute Energy Towy Usk Grid connection scheme.

9. 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 was none.

CHAIR

DATE

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STANDARDS COMMITTEE

03/04/2023

DISPENSATION APPLICATION BY COUNCILLOR BETSAN JONES

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 Jones 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
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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
STANDARDS COMMITTEE
03/04/2023**

Dispensation Application by Cllr Betsan Jones

County Councillor Betsan Jones has submitted a dispensation request in relation to council business regarding the Council's Modernising Education Programme (MEP) and the review and remodelling of the footprint of primary schools across the County.

Councillor Jones would have a personal and prejudicial interest in such business as her son is the headteacher of Ysgol Gymraeg Teilo Sant in Llandeilo and is therefore affected by both the MEP and the primary schools review.

Councillor Jones seeks dispensation to speak and vote and make written representations, 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)(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 Jones 's request it will need to determine the duration of that dispensation

The committee will note that Cllr Jones is also a governor of Ysgol Y Betws and Ysgol Feithrin Rhydaman. Whilst these appointments give rise to personal interests they are not prejudicial by virtue of paragraph 12 of the Members Code of Conduct.

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: Betsan Wyn Jones

Name of your Council: Carmarthen County Council

Email address: betsanjones@carmarthenshire.gov.uk

2. DETAILS OF YOUR INTEREST

What is the matter under consideration?

The Modernising Education Plan and the review of our Primary schools 'footprint' and Remodelling.

What is your interest in the above matter?

My son is the Headmaster of Ysgol Gymraeg Teilo Sant Llandeilo

When will the above matter be considered?

It is likely that discussions and debates will take place periodically over the next few years at the Education, Young People & the Welsh Language Scrutiny Committee and at full Council.

Are you applying for dispensation to:

Speak only: ☐

Speak and vote: X☐

Make written
Representations X☐

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	X <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;	X <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 member of the Education, Young People & the Welsh Language Scrutiny Committee. Over the next few months we will be discussing the Modernising Education Plan and the review of our Primary schools 'footprint' and Remodelling.

I am the County Council member for Betws ward near Ammanford and many of my constituents go to Ysgol Bro Banw and Ysgol Gymraeg Rhydaman. I am also a Governor at Ysgol y Betws and Ysgol Feithrin Rhydaman. Both these schools could be impacted by the Remodelling of the Ammanford schools, Therefore I believe the public would expect me as the County Councillor and a Governor at these schools to be able to speak on their behalf.

I was a teacher for 27 years in a Welsh school in Swansea so my experience and knowledge of the Curriculum and how schools are run would benefit me getting fully involved in all aspects of the Committees work.

I wish to take part fully in debates and discussions regarding Carmarthenshire schools. I wish to speak, make written representations and vote. However if Ysgol Gymraeg Teilo Sant is being discussed I don't think I should vote.

I would be grateful if you would grant me dispensation to engage fully as a member of the Education, Young People and the Welsh Language Scrutiny Committee.

(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: BW Jones

Date: 13 / 03 /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.

STANDARDS COMMITTEE

03/04/2023

DISPENSATION APPLICATION BY COUNCILLOR CHERYL JONES

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 Jones 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
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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
STANDARDS COMMITTEE
03/04/2023**

Dispensation Application by Cllr Cheryl Jones

Llanarthne Community Councillor Cheryl Jones has submitted a dispensation request 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 is part of the Bute Energy Towy Usk Grid connection scheme.

Councillor Jones 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 Jones seeks dispensation to speak and vote and make written representations, 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)(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 Jones 's request it will need to determine the duration of that dispensation

Given the volume of dispensation requests being received in relation to this issue, the committee may wish to consider granting delegated authority to the Monitoring Officer to grant dispensations in the event that further requests are received.

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: Cheryl Pugh Jones

Name of your Council:
Llanarthne Community Council

Email address: cpughjones@yahoo.com

2. DETAILS OF YOUR INTEREST

What is the matter under consideration?

Electricity transmission from Nant Mithil Energy Park, Forrest of Radnor and potentially other energy park developments to grid connection in Carmarthenshire.

What is your interest in the above matter?

- I am married to a tenant of a Council holding which this will affect. I received the introductory letter but as of 31.1.23, there has been no request for access onto my land to undertake survey work, though that might change.
- I have immediate neighbours and close associates who have received requests for access onto land to undertake survey work.
- Should pylons be erected, it is possible that they would be visible from my property.
- Should pylons be erected, there would be potential impact on the value of my property.

When will the above matter be considered?

It is likely that the matter will be discussed periodically over the forthcoming three or four years.

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)

As a community councillor, I have received calls about the issue and I have been copied into correspondence by ward residents sent to the company/companies requesting access onto land. The issue, however, will impact on several wards. It is not exclusive to the ward that I represent.

The energy transmission scheme in question will impact on landowners and/or tenants (private and local authority) who use land for various purposes, including agricultural. I feel that I have an understanding of the practical effects and consequences of such a development (buried cables or above ground infrastructure) on land-based enterprises, and therefore would be able to offer a valuable insight as part of any discussion.

It is difficult to say what types of debates might arise in meetings at Council, Committees or Panels on the matter.

(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: Chervl Pugh Jones

Date: 15.3.23

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)(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.

STANDARDS COMMITTEE 03/04/2023

DISPENSATION APPLICATION BY COUNCILLOR DAVID JONES

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 Jones has a personal and prejudicial interest which would otherwise prevent his participating in this council business

CABINET MEMBER PORTFOLIO HOLDER: Not Applicable

<p>Directorate</p> <p>Name of Head of Service: Linda Rees Jones</p> <p>Report Author: Robert Edgecombe</p>	<p>Designations: Head of Administration and Law</p> <p>Legal Services Manager</p>	<p>Tel Nos. 01267 224012 LRJones@carmarthenshire.gov.uk</p> <p>01267 224018 rjedgeco@carmarthenshire.gov.uk</p>
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY STANDARDS COMMITTEE 03/04/2023

Dispensation Application by Cllr David Jones

Llanarthne Community Councillor David Jones has submitted a dispensation request 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 is part of the Bute Energy Towy Usk Grid connection scheme.

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.

Councillor Jones seeks dispensation to speak and vote and make written representations, 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)(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 Jones 's request it will need to determine the duration of that dispensation

Given the volume of dispensation requests being received in relation to this issue, the committee may wish to consider granting delegated authority to the Monitoring Officer to grant dispensations in the event that further requests are received.

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 Leonard Glenn Jones

Name of your Council: Llanarthne Community Council

Email address: glennjones13@gmail.com

2. DETAILS OF YOUR INTEREST

What is the matter under consideration?

Electricity transmission from Nant Mithil Energy Park, Forrest of Radnor and potentially other energy park developments to grid connection in Carmarthenshire.

What is your interest in the above matter?

- I am a landowner. I received the introductory letter from Bute energy and a further letter from Green Gen this week.
- I have neighbours and close associates who have received requests for access onto land to undertake survey work .
- Should pylons be erected, they would be visible from my property.
- Should pylons be erected, there would be potential impact on the value of my property.
- My brother is a member of the 'response group' and contributed to the public meeting which was held at Llanarthne Hall on the 15th January.
- I wish to contribute to forthcoming discussion within the Community Council and at the next Community meeting likely to be held in April.

When will the above matter be considered?

It is likely that the matter will be discussed periodically over the next three or four years.

Are you applying for dispensation to:

Speak only: ☐

Speak and vote: ☒x

Make written
Representations ☐ x

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"/> x
• 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> x
• 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 making a specific application for a dispensation to participate on matters relating to the proposal for an energy transmission scheme in part of the Tywi Valley, which may involve the erection of pylons and overhead electricity cables. It is not yet clear whether any of the scheme will directly impact my own land, but from the corridor of proposed travel circulated by Green Gen it is apparent that it will be visible from my property and land and I have received notification from the proposed developer.

The energy transmission scheme in question will impact on landowners and/or tenants (private and local authority) who use land for various purposes, including agricultural. It will have a detrimental impact on the Tywi Valley and all residents therein and for that reason I would wish to utilise my experience to share my views within the community council and wider community in support of the local response group who are working so diligently for our collective interest.

(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: D. I. Glenn Jones

Date: 15 / 3 / 23

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)(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.

STANDARDS COMMITTEE

03/04/2023

DISPENSATION APPLICATION BY COUNCILLOR MYFANWY JONES

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 Jones 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
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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
STANDARDS COMMITTEE
03/04/2023**

Dispensation Application by Cllr Myfanwy Jones

Llanarthne Community Councillor Myfanwy Jones has submitted a dispensation request 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 is part of the Bute Energy Towy Usk Grid connection scheme.

Councillor Jones 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 Jones seeks dispensation to speak and vote and make written representations, 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.

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

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 Jones 's request it will need to determine the duration of that dispensation

Given the volume of dispensation requests being received in relation to this issue, the committee may wish to consider granting delegated authority to the Monitoring Officer to grant dispensations in the event that further requests are received.

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 FOR DISPENSATION TO THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE

Please note that all sections MUST be filled. Please refer to the attached Guidance Notes when completing this form.

1. YOUR DETAILS

Your full name: Myfanwy Miles Jones

Your Council Name: Llanarthne Community Council

2. DETAILS OF YOUR INTEREST

What is the issue in question?

Electricity transfer from Nant Mithil Energy Park, Radnor Forest, and possibly other energy park developments to grid connection in Carmarthenshire

What is your interest in the above matter?

1. My property is in the original proposed corridor for erecting pylons. I received the preliminary letter from Bute about carrying out inspection work.
2. If pylons were erected, they would likely be visible from my property.
3. If pylons were erected, there would be a potential impact on the value of my property.

When will the above matter be considered?

The issue is likely to be discussed periodically over the coming three or four years.

Have you applied for dispensation to:

Speak only: ☐

Speak and vote: ☒ x

Give written
observations ☐ x

Exercise Executive
Powers ☐

3. REASONS FOR DISPENSATION

Regulations made by the National Assembly for Wales specify the circumstances in which the Standards Committee can allow a dispensation. The reasons for allowing a dispensation are summarised below and are set out in full in the attached guidance notes. For which of the following reasons do you think a dispensation should be allowed in this case? Please tick the box/boxes that apply.

• at least half of the members considering the business have an interest	<input type="checkbox"/>
• my incapacity to take part would change the political balance of the meeting to a degree that would be likely to affect the outcome;	<input type="checkbox"/>
• the fact that I am taking part would not harm public confidence	<input type="checkbox"/> x
• the interest is common to me and to a significant proportion of the public;	<input type="checkbox"/> x
• it is justified that I take part in the business because of my particular role or expertise;	<input type="checkbox"/> x
• the business will be considered by an overview and scrutiny committee and my interest is not a monetary interest;	<input type="checkbox"/>
• the business relates to the financial matters or the property of a voluntary body whose committee or management board I am a member of, and I have no other interest	<input type="checkbox"/>
• it is appropriate to do so in all circumstances where it is not otherwise possible to make reasonable adjustments for a person's disability	<input type="checkbox"/>

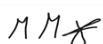
4. INFORMATION TO SUPPORT YOUR CLAIM

Please state below the reasons why you believe that the Standards Committee should allow dispensation in this case:

(Note that this application form will be returned to you if you do not complete this section)

Although I live in the potential corridor for the erection of these pylons, as a community Councillor, it is important that I continue to be able to express the views and concerns of the people of the community. I wouldn't be properly doing my work as a Community Councillor if I didn't make their voices heard.

I confirm that the information provided in this form is true to the best of my knowledge. I agree that this application and all information contained therein can form part of a public report to the Standards Committee. I am making an application for dispensation in relation to the above matter.

Signature: 

Date:

15 / 3 / 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

Notes for Guidance

- (1) You should read the Code of Conduct and decide which of the paragraphs is most appropriate in your case. Brief details of the relevant paragraphs can be found in the table below. If in doubt, please contact the Monitoring Officer for advice.

Para.	The type of personal interest	
10(2)(a)	Council business relating to, or likely to affect: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• your employment or business• your employer, business or company• a contract entered into between the Council and you• any land, lease or licence in which you have an interest• a public body or other association of which you are a member or in which you hold a position of general management	
10(2)(c)	Council business affecting your welfare or financial situation, or the welfare, financial position or other interests of a person with whom you cohabit or with whom you have a close personal connection	
13	Council business which is considered by an Overview and Scrutiny Committee and relates to the decision of the Cabinet or other Committee of which you were a member at the time [County Council only]	

- (2) The Standards Committees (Grant of Dispensation) (Wales) Regulations 2001 (as amended) state that a Standards Committee may allow dispensations in the following situations:

- (a) if not less than half the members of the relevant authority or half the members of a committee of the authority (as the case may be) by whom the business is to be considered have an interest relevant to that business
- (b) not less than half of the executive members of the leader and cabinet of the relevant authority by which the business is to be contemplated has an interest relevant to that business and either paragraph (d) or paragraph (d) also applies;
- (c) In the case of a county council or county borough council, the member's inability to participate would alter the political balance of the relevant authority or the authority's committee considering the business to an extent that would be likely to affect the outcome;
- (d) the nature of the members interest is such that the members participation in the business to which the interest relates would not damage public confidence in the conduct of the relevant authority's business;

- (e) if the interest is common to the member and to a significant portion of the public;
- (f) the member is justified in engaging in the business to which the interest applies because of the member's particular role or expertise;
- (g) the business to which the interest applies is to be considered by the overview and scrutiny committee of the relevant authority and the member's interest is not a financial interest;
- (h) the business to be considered is relevant to the financial matters or property of a voluntary body of which the member is a member of its committee or board of management other than as a representative of the relevant authority and the member has no other interest in that business provided that no dispensation extends to participation in any vote in respect of that business; or
- (i) if it appears to the committee that it is in the best interests of the inhabitants of the relevant authority area for the dispensation to be allowed, provided that written notice that the dispensation is permitted is given to the National Assembly for Wales within seven days in such manner as it may specify.
- (j) if it is deemed appropriate to do so in all the circumstances in which it is not otherwise possible to make reasonable adjustments to accommodate a person's disability

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STANDARDS COMMITTEE 03/04/2023

DISPENSATION APPLICATION BY COUNCILLOR CHRISTOPH FISCHER

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 Fischer has a personal and prejudicial interest which would otherwise prevent his participating in this council business

CABINET MEMBER PORTFOLIO HOLDER: Not Applicable

<p>Directorate</p> <p>Name of Head of Service: Linda Rees Jones</p> <p>Report Author: Robert Edgecombe</p>	<p>Designations: Head of Administration and Law</p> <p>Legal Services Manager</p>	<p>Tel Nos. 01267 224012 LRJones@carmarthenshire.gov.uk</p> <p>01267 224018 rjedgeco@carmarthenshire.gov.uk</p>
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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
STANDARDS COMMITTEE
03/04/2023**

Dispensation Application by Cllr Christoph Fischer

Llandeilo Town Councillor Christoph Fischer has submitted a dispensation request 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 is part of the Bute Energy Towy Usk Grid connection scheme.

Councillor Fischer would have a personal and prejudicial interest in such business as his property would potentially be affected by the proposals put forward by Bute Energy.

Councillor Fischer seeks dispensation to speak and vote and make written representations, 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.

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

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 Jones's request it will need to determine the duration of that dispensation

Given the volume of dispensation requests being received in relation to this issue, the committee may wish to consider granting delegated authority to the Monitoring Officer to grant dispensations in the event that further requests are received.

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: Christoph Florian Fischer

Name of your Council: Llandeilo Town Council

Your address and postcode: Gurrey Manor, Gurrey Banc, Llandeilo SA19 6AJ

Contact telephone number(s): 07747613617

Email address: ChristophFfischer@googlemail.com

2. DETAILS OF YOUR INTEREST

What is the matter under consideration?
Proposed Pylon project by BUTE Energy

What is your interest in the above matter?
I received a generic letter at my house to the homeowner informing said homeowner of potential interest by the company in accessing and surveying our grounds.

When will the above matter be considered?
No date was given, the project is in the public consultation stage, no planning application has yet been made

Are you applying for dispensation to:

Speak only: ☐

Speak and vote: x ☐

Make written
Representations ☐ x

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	x <input type="checkbox"/>
• the interest is common to me and a significant proportion of the general public;	x <input type="checkbox"/>
• my participation in the business is justified by my particular role or expertise;	x <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)

The pylons as planned at present do not run over my property and since the first generic letter we have not received further mail nor have we been contacted in person. I do not oppose the section of pylons that could possibly be running near my property as they are well hidden from tourist attractions and run over grazing fields.

I oppose the project on behalf of the crop farming and tourism industry and for the preservation of the Tywi valley, in particular where pylon chains would run past Dryslwyn Castle, Paxton Tower, The Plough Hotel and other tourism strategically important landmarks and businesses. As councillor I have been approached by many residents to fight this and I represent them to my best ability. Being well informed on the project and having attended several meetings about this and having joined a local response group I have a lot of information to share with the council and being unable to speak on the matter or act in the matter would affect the council's ability to assess and discuss the matter effectively on behalf of the residents.

(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: Christoph Fischer

Date: 11 /13 /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)(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.