

MEETING OF THE ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on 13th September, 2011

PRESENT: Councillor G.O Jones - Chair
Councillor R.L.I.Jones - Vice-Chair

Councillors W.J.Chorlton, E.G.Davies; Lewis Davies; R.Anthony Dew; B.Durkin; Ff.M.Hughes; R.L.I.Hughes; T.L.I.Hughes; W.I.Hughes; W.T.Hughes; K.P.Hughes; Aled M Jones; Eric Jones;H.Eifion Jones; O.Glyn Jones; Raymond Jones; R.Dylan Jones; T.H.Jones; C.McGregor; Bryan Owen; J.V.Owen; R.L.Owen; Bob Parry OBE; G.O. Parry MBE; Eric Roberts;J. Arwel Roberts;P.S. Rogers; E Schofield, Ieuan Williams; J.P. Williams.

IN ATTENDANCE: Chief Executive;
Corporate Director (Housing and Social Services)
Director of Legal Services/Monitoring Officer
Head of Service (Policy)
Head of Service(Leisure and Community)
Head of Service(Planning and Public Protection)
Head of Service(Housing)
Solicitor to the Monitoring Officer
Housing Services Manager (HR) (Item 12 only)
Committee Services Manager.
Communications Officer.

ALSO PRESENT: Commissioners Alex Aldridge, Margaret Foster and Gareth Jones

APOLOGY: Councillors Jim Evans, K.Evans, G.W.Roberts, OBE, S.Williams.

The meeting was opened by a prayer offered by Councillor E G Davies

PRESENTATIONS

(i) The Chair on behalf of the Council extended a warm welcome to Alderman Mrs.M.A.Edwards, MBE, former member of the Aethwy Rural District Council and the Isle of Anglesey Borough Council on the occasion of celebrating her 100th birthday on 2nd August, 2011.

The Chair gave a brief synopsis of the local government career of Mrs. Edwards and Councillors W.J.Chorlton, R.G.Parry, J.V.Owen and E.Schofield were given the opportunity of paying their own tributes. Mrs. Edwards thanked the Council for their kind words and wished everyone well for the future. The Head of Service (Policy) presented Mrs.Edwards with a bouquet of flowers. Mrs.Edwards was invited to remain in the Chamber for the remaining items on the agenda.

(ii)The Chair presented awards to the following successful Ynys Môn team Members who attended the recent Island Games on the Isle of Wight :-

- Brea Leung – Silver Medal Women’s Discus.
- Michael Thorne and Robyn Cox – Gold Medal Sailing Team Event.

Two other members of the Sailing Team, Michael Thorne and Robyn Cox were unable to be present today and on their behalf their awards were received by Dave Tommis and Dawn Russell of the Ynys Môn Island Games Association.

(iii) Submitted - A presentation by Mr.Howard Davies Chief Executive, National Association of Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty. He provided the Council with a brief introduction of the work of the A.O.N.B.'s, their history and the issues that they were facing in Wales today.

Members were afforded the opportunity of a question and answer session following the presentation.

1. MINUTES

Submitted and confirmed as a true record, the minutes of the meetings of the County Council held on the following dates :-

- 12th May, 2011
- 12th May, 2011 (AGM)
- 9th June, 2011 (Extraordinary)
- 13th July, 2011 (Extraordinary)
- 8th August, 2011 (Extraordinary)

Arising thereon –

Item 4 - Investigation Panel

(a) It was RESOLVED to amend the 6th resolution to read as follows:-

“Any further action to be entirely dependent on the Investigation Committee deciding that a DIP should be appointed and, if so, upon the DIP recommending that disciplinary action is appropriate. If those occur, however, then a Disciplinary Committee would have to be established to consider the action to be taken. In these circumstances, authority be delegated to the Chief Executive to appoint a Disciplinary Committee, the number and rules as to whose membership shall be the same as for the Investigation Committee, and the appointment of Members to the Disciplinary Committee in consultation with the political group leaders”.

- (b) At the request of Councillor A. Morris Jones, reference was made that the word ‘draft’ should be included before the words ‘Wales Audit Office recommendation’ in the third line of the last but one paragraph of the minute..
- (c) The Council agreed to the Chief Executive’s request that a private session be held at the end of today’s meeting so that he may report to the Council on the actions taken since the meeting of the Council on 8th August, 2011.

2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

None to declare.

3. TO RECEIVE ANY ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CHAIRPERSON, LEADER OF THE COUNCIL, BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OR THE HEAD OF PAID SERVICE.

The Chair congratulated all from the Island who had been successful in the National Eisteddfod in Wrexham and also the Agricultural Shows over the summer.

Congratulations were also extended to the pupils of the Island's Secondary Schools who succeeded in their GCSE and A Level examinations. Best wishes to them all for the future and every success to those who would be going to College for the first time.

The Council were extremely proud that a former pupil of Ysgol Uwchradd Bodedern, George North had been selected as part of the Wales Rugby Team to play in the Rugby World Cup in New Zealand. He and the team were wished every success in the competition.

Information had been received from Ray Williams, Wales Weightlifting Federation, complimenting Gareth Evans on his success in a number of weightlifting competitions recently. Gareth would be the only competitor representing Anglesey in the 2012 Olympic Games in London – the first in the history of the Holyhead Weightlifting Club since it was established 40 years ago.

The Chair congratulated him and wished him every success in the Olympic Games next summer.

The Council's deepest sympathy was extended to the family, friends and colleagues of Siân Crewdson, who passed away on 27 August, 2011. Sian had worked for the Council for 21 years and was currently working in the Translation Section as the Bilingual Support Officer. Sian was a quiet, conscientious worker who would be sadly missed.

Sympathy was also extended to the families of the two young men who drowned in Cable Bay recently- Lewis Darroch from Valley and Callum Mackay from Llanfairpwll and the Council prayed for them all in their sad loss.

Councillor Aled Morris Jones was afforded the opportunity of saying a few words as regards the 10th Anniversary of the 9/11 tragedy. He thanked the Council for flying the flags at half-mast to remember that terrible day. Equally, during the last 10 years this Authority had hosted firemen from New York City here. It was very sobering to remember that nearly 3,000 people died on that day, 67 of them citizens of the United Kingdom, over a thousand people who perished that day did not have a known grave. The words of Virgil were very appropriate "*No day shall erase you from the memory of time*". He asked the Chair to write to the American Ambassador to pass on this Island's sympathy for what happened that day.

The Chair also sympathised with any other Member of the Council or staff who had lost a relative.

Members and officers stood in silent tribute as a mark of their respect.

4. COMMISSIONERS 1ST QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT

(a) Submitted - A presentation by Commissioner Alex Aldridge.

(b) Submitted for information, the response of Carl Sargeant AM, Welsh Government Minister for Local Government and Communities to the quarterly report.

Commissioner Aldridge stated that he had no intention of going through the document page by page and pointed out that the Commissioners were already working on Quarter 2, and that it would be more definitive in it's content. That report would have more objectives for the Members to examine and would enable the Minister to see exactly what achievements had been, and would be made, during that 2nd Quarter.

Councillor Aled Morris Jones requested an explanation on certain points within the report. The first was Point 70 and Point 103 which referred to the first Executive and to the rules of speaking at meetings. He thought those rules already existed under the Council Constitution, which made reference that Members of the Shadow Exec were allowed to speak before the Board. Other Members of Council also chose to exercise their rights. He requested an explanation on those two points to begin with.

Commissioner Alex Aldridge in reply stated that his clear understanding was that Members should give prior notice in writing of any matters they wished to raise at the Board. Protocol required a 24 hour notice to be given prior to the date of the meeting if an elected member wished to speak on an item. The point of the matter was that it needed to be in writing.

Councillor Aled Morris Jones agreed with the Commissioner, in that members already had that right under the Constitution and he had always exercised that right according to the Constitution. His point was that Commissioners were giving us something that members already had under the Constitution. It was just a minor point, but he felt that it needed to be noted.

Point 103 – referred to the first Executive meeting that was held. He felt it important that the historical record showed that there were only two Commissioners present that day and that they were passing Policies that had been previously put together by Officers and Councillors. He remembered that the Commissioners praised them at the time. He was slightly concerned with the comments in the report that they wouldn't have gone through, if it hadn't been for the Commissioners. That was the query he had, because it was contrary to the spirit of what the Commissioners said on the day.

Commissioner Alex Aldridge stated that the Councillor could go over this, time and time again but he was here to move forward. He recognised that he was raising an issue, but at the end of the day, was that all he was extrapolating out of this significant piece of work?

Councillor Aled Morris Jones – The point was, whatever happened here must be based on facts. Things that had happened here in the past had been based on fantasy far too often, and that was no reference to the Commissioners with due respect, but he felt the historical record must be correct. That was the point he was trying to make here. It did not do any Members any favours but, he was trying to report the accurate facts.

The other two points, Point 43 – Social Services; no mention was made of the political fact that this Authority gave money to the Department less than a year ago in support. It was not a fair comment in the report since it did not take into account that the whole Authority was behind the Department at the time. There was a recognised Portfolio Holder who had achieved a great deal in the Department. Again the report did not do this Authority justice again, and equally in the same vain, Point 84 to do with Wylfa was crucial. He did realise that the Minister used Wylfa as part of the development of Energy Island as a reason for this intervention. That was historical. The word 'stalled' was used here. During their first meeting, Commissioners were having policies that Members were supporting regarding accommodation, again his point was, the Authority were moving forward, but in doing so it must be based on fact, that the foundations were sound. This Authority had supported the development of Wylfa B. Horizon would not be here if it had anything to do with the Assembly, however, members welcomed everything the Assembly was now doing, but he felt sad that these comments should be contained in such an excellent piece of work.

Councillor Aled Morris Jones requested a response to the points raised.

The Chair stated that there would be no more discussion on the matter.

5. PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS

None received

6. CHANGES TO THE COUNCIL CONSTITUTION

(Note: The function of approving changes to the Council's Constitution was exercisable by the Welsh Ministers whose approval to these changes would be sought but the Council was requested to endorse the recommendations referred to at 6.1 and 6.2 below).

6.1 BUDGET PROCEDURE RULES

(a) Reported - That the Board of Commissioners at their meeting on 25th July, 2011 had resolved as follows:-

"To recommend to the County Council and the Welsh Ministers that they accept the changes in Appendix 4 of the Budget procedure rules and to approve their addition to the Council's Constitution at 4.3 and to authorise Officers to make any consequential amendments to the Constitution;"

Submitted - Appendix 4 of the report of the Corporate Director (Finance) as submitted to the Board of Commissioners on 25th July, 2011.

Councillor G.O. Parry MBE, requested clarification as to the recommendation that *"authority be given to Officers to make any consequential amendments to the Constitution."*

The Director of Legal Services/Monitoring Officer provided an explanation in that sometimes when one changed a part of the Constitution, that change needed to be reflected in other parts of the Constitution.

RESOLVED to endorse the above recommendation of the Commissioners to the Welsh Ministers.

6.2 LOCAL GOVERNMENT MEASURE 2011 AND CO-OPTION OF LAY MEMBERS

(a) Reported- That the Board of Commissioners at their meeting on 5th September, 2011, had resolved to recommend to the County Council and the Welsh Ministers as follows:-

- *"That they approve the changes to the Constitution as documented in the Appendix to the report with the saving that the existing delegation under 3.4.8.1(xi) remains effective throughout 2011, and to authorise Officers to make any consequential amendments to the Constitution;
[This was the change to the Council Constitution].*

- *That it delegates the appointment of Lay Members to the Councillor members of the Audit Committee.*

- *That the advertisement and long listing for the lay member applications be arranged by Human Resources and the process be aligned with good practice recruitment processes so that Finance and Human Resources can provide an agreed short-list to the Audit Committee of candidates that are suitable for appointment."*

RESOLVED to endorse the recommendation of the Commissioners to the Welsh Ministers at the first bullet point referred to above.

7. INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL FOR WALES DRAFT ANNUAL REPORT 2011-12.

(a) Reported - That the Board of Commissioners at their meeting on 5th September, 2011 upon consideration of the above had resolved *"that the matter be referred to the County Council for consideration and that in the meantime authority be given to the Chief Executive and the Corporate*

Director (Finance) to consult further with group leaders as regards preparing a response to the consultation".

(b) Submitted - The report of the Corporate Director (Finance) as submitted to the Board of Commissioners meeting on 5th September, 2011.

RESOLVED –

(a) To welcome that the IRP will set Councillor salaries in future and thereby take the decisions out of the political arena;

(b) To oppose strongly restricting the number of senior salaries to 15, this also to include the Civic Heads, as this number will not allow the range of responsibilities within the Authority to be properly recognised. It also unduly restricts the statutory provisions which allow flexibility for up to ten Executive members and require certain committees, all of which will have chairs;

(c) To express the view that the Committee chairs and Leader of the Opposition allowances have been set too high when compared with Executive members if these are meant to be full-time;

(ch) To regret the emphasis given by the IRP to Executive councillors being full-timers, because this may deter people with other commitments, business or caring, from standing for election;

(d) To support Executive members not being allowed additional remuneration for roles on outside bodies;

(dd) To welcome the change to debar claiming subsistence allowances within the Authority's area, as this has long been a feature of Anglesey's allowance scheme;

(e) Not to support a mandatory allowance (other than travelling and subsistence) for co-opted members, as this Authority has not needed to pay such allowances in order to recruit to these roles;

(f) To draw attention to the IRP's omission of Audit Committee co-optees, when these will become mandatory under the 2011 Local Government Measure, while supporting the Audit Committee's view that no remuneration (other than travelling and subsistence) need to be paid for these co-optees. The IRP needs also to address the possibility that a co-optee may chair the Audit Committee;

(ff) To point out that this Authority already has job descriptions and personal development reviews for Councillors that will support the IRP's observations on accountability.

8. EXCEPTION TO CONTRACT PROCEDURE RULES RELATED TO PROPOSED WORKS TO HOLYHEAD CENOTAPH.

Submitted for information, in accordance with paragraph 4.5.16.10 of the Council Constitution, the report of the Head of Service (Planning and Public Protection).

[Note: This matter was treated as an urgent matter at the meeting of the Board of Commissioners on 25th July, 2011. The Constitution stated that decisions taken as a matter of urgency must be reported to the next available meeting of the Council with the reasons for urgency].

RESOLVED to note the contents of the report.

(Councillors W.J.Chorlton, Raymond Jones, T.LL.Hughes, J.V.Owen and J.A.Roberts wished it to be minuted that they did not take part in any discussion or voting on the matter).

9. ANNUAL TREASURY MANAGEMENT REPORT 2010/11

Reported– That the Council was required through regulations issued under the Local Government Act 2003 to produce an annual treasury report reviewing treasury management activities and the actual prudential and treasury indicators for 2010/11. This report met the requirements of both the CIPFA Code of Practice on Treasury Management (the Code) and the CIPFA Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities (the Prudential Code).

The report also included borrowing and investment performance during the year.

RESOLVED

- **To note the actual 2010/11 prudential and treasury indicators in the report.**
- **To note the annual treasury management report for 2010/11.**

10. JOINT LDP DELIVERY AGREEMENT

Reported by the Head of Service (Planning and Public Protection) – That this Council and Gwynedd Council had begun the work of preparing a Joint Local Development Plan (Joint LDP) for the Anglesey and Gwynedd Planning Authority areas. In accordance with the Regulations dealing with the preparation of joint LDP's, the first step in the process was to prepare a Delivery Agreement.

The report provided information on:

- the function of the Delivery Agreement;
- the process of preparing the Delivery Agreement so far;
- the next steps.

The report also presented the 'Delivery Agreement' document (Appendix 1), the Self-Assessment document (Appendix 2) and the Equality Impact Assessment (Appendix 3). The Regulations stated that the Delivery Agreement must be adopted through resolution by the Isle of Anglesey County Council and Gwynedd Council before seeking the approval of the Welsh Government.

Councillor G.O. Parry, MBE proposed an amendment (which was seconded) that the matter be deferred and that a Seminar be held with Members to go through the mass of information before Council today and in order to discuss important local issues.

Councillor W.J. Chorlton advised against such course of action as this was not a policy change but a delivery agreement to be agreed with WAG. Convening a Seminar would delay the process of getting the delivery agreement in place.

Councillor A. Morris Jones was of the opinion that the Council should move ahead today and accept the report with the caveat that a Seminar be held to discuss the concerns raised at today's meeting.

The amendment by Councillor G.O.Parry, MBE was not carried and the original recommendation was voted upon.

RESOLVED

- **To adopt the Delivery Agreement in Appendix 1 of the report so that it can be forwarded for agreement by the Welsh Government.**

●To authorise the Head of Service (Planning and Public Protection) to make minor amendments to the Delivery Agreement should they be required following receipt of the Welsh Government's comments.

11. GRANTING OF FREEDOM STATUS TO THE ROYAL WELSH REGIMENT

Reported - That on 8 March, 2011, the County Council supported a Notice of Motion by Councillor Aled Morris Jones and resolved :-

“that the Managing Director should commence the process of consultation, with the relevant parties, on the granting of the Freedom of the County Council of Anglesey to the Royal Welsh Regiment. This is in recognition of their service to the nation”.

Pursuant to the above, initial discussions had been held with Major (Ret'd.) T.P.Wheadon, Assistant Regimental Secretary – The Royal Welsh, on arrangements.

To confer the Freedom of the County Council required particular protocols and procedures and a ceremonial occasion organised to meet certain criteria, details of which were provided at Paragraph 2.3 of the report. The average cost of holding such an event was estimated at approximately £6,000 and as there were insufficient funds available in the civic budget, provision from the special events fund would be necessary.

Due to operational duties in Afghanistan next year. Major Wheadon had advised that a date could not be arranged until after their return and the possibility was that a parade, if granted, would be arranged for the Spring of 2013. The 27th April, 2013, had been earmarked for such an event. Holyhead had a close affinity with the Armed Forces over the years and in return it was recommended that the Freedom Ceremony and Parade be held in the town on that date. Involvement of the Holyhead Town Council would therefore be necessary on the project team.

Councillor A. Morris Jones mentioned that the Royal Welsh Regiment was the successor regiment to the Royal Welsh Fusiliers. What was being proposed was not about war but about showing respect and thanks to those who served in the Royal Welsh Fusiliers. There was a couplet written by a soldier in Palestine in 1917 :-

“Yn y dwyreiniol barth o'r byd,
y 'rwyf fi heno yn canu,
pe byddai modd fe roddwn naid,
a disgyn draw yng Nghymru.”

That fusilier was his grandfather when he was serving in Palestine.

RESOLVED that the Council requests a special meeting of Group Leaders before the next ordinary Council meeting to discuss the granting of the Freedom of the County to The Royal Welsh Regiment.

12. REPORT BY THE PUBLIC SERVICE OMBUDSMAN FOR WALES

Reported by the Chief Executive – That on 15th June, 2011 the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales issued a report pursuant to section 16 of the Public Services Ombudsman (Wales) Act 2005 in respect of his investigation into a complaint made against the Council (Ombudsman Case Reference 2009 002 138).

In the Report the Ombudsman made both a finding of maladministration against the Council and recommendations to the Council. The Report had been made public and required the Council to give consideration to the Report, it's findings and it's recommendations within three months of the date of

the Report. The Report was presented to this meeting so that full Council may consider the requirements of the Report and respond accordingly to the Ombudsman.

The Ombudsman concluded that the Council was guilty of systemic maladministration as follows:-

- The absence of appropriate procedures and robust record keeping coupled with the lack of IT support to facilitate the effective management and prioritisation of homelessness cases meant that Ms A's applications to the Council were not always dealt with as they should have been (paragraph 151 at pages 40 and 41 of the of the Report);
- The Council repeatedly failed to consider all of the available information that was relevant to Ms A's applications in accordance with the Policy and failed to properly assess Ms A's award of housing need points. This in turn, deprived Ms A of an offer of secure Council accommodation in an area of her choice in September 2005 (paragraph 160 at page 43 of the Report);
- A failure to make any offer of temporary accommodation, the misfiling to Ms A's application and subsequent failure to prioritise her case for urgent re-housing in the face of continuing risk of violence resulted in Ms A not receiving an offer of suitable temporary accommodation for a further period of four and half years (paragraph 161 at pages 43 and 44 of the Report).

Officers accepted the Ombudsman's findings of maladministration and recommended that members resolved to accept those findings also. However, they wished it to be noted that although they did accept that there were administrative errors in pointing Ms A's applications, they did not accept that this would have prejudiced the offer of permanent accommodation that was made in September 2005. They did accept however, that there was insufficient documentary evidence to support this view.

Officers also accepted the Ombudsman's recommendation as to compensation and recommended that Council did likewise. The Chief Executive took the opportunity of apologising to Council for the maladministration that had taken place.

Councillor J.P. Williams made reference to the failure of a system. This was not the only time that reference had been made to such a failure within this Council. He sought assurance that no further system failure would take place in future?

The Chief Executive in reply stated that everything reasonably possible would be done to ensure no systemic failures. However, he could not give a cast iron guarantee that every system would be foolproof for the future.

RESOLVED

- To accept and agree with the Ombudsman's Report, his findings and his recommendations.**
- To adopt the recommendations set out in paragraphs 171 and 172 of the Report (pages 47 and 48) and to authorise Officers to implement those recommendations within the timescales stated by the Ombudsman.**
- To authorise the Chief Executive to offer a written apology to Ms A and her family for the maladministration.**

13. DELEGATIONS

Submitted for information, details setting out any changes to the scheme of delegation relating to Executive functions made by the Commissioners since the last Ordinary meeting (Rule 4.4.1.4 of the Executive Procedure Rules of the Constitution refers).

RESOLVED to note the contents of the report.

14. NORTH WALES FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY

Submitted - A verbal report from Councillor Aled Morris Jones, one of this Council's representatives on the North Wales Fire and Rescue Authority, on meetings held by that Authority between 1st May, 2011 and 31st August, 2011.

Reported – That the last quarter had been a very busy period for the Authority with over 30,000 fire safety checks undertaken throughout North Wales. He mentioned that such checks were free of charge to the public and he encouraged Members to convey that message back to their electorate. He also paid tribute to the work done by the Holyhead Fire Brigade with the Young Firefighters Association. There was a passing out parade recently and it was inspirational to see the work being carried out with these youngsters.

RESOLVED to note the contents of the report.

15. NORTH WALES POLICE AUTHORITY

Submitted - A verbal report from the Councillor P.S.Rogers, this Council's representative on the North Wales Police Authority, on meetings held by that Authority between 1st May and 31st August, 2011.

Councillor Rogers wished to express his thanks for the support and help he had received from this Authority in respect of his own case against the North Wales Police Authority. He also referred to the fact that some Members had written testimonials for him without even being asked. He was humbled by all the support he had received.

That matter had not affected his role as this Council's representative on the N.W.P.A. There had been massive changes to the Organisation and the cuts that had occurred had gone down as well as could be expected. He mentioned that he also sat on the Committee with regard to the new build at Wylfa and that updates were being received by Officers who had travelled to Europe to see how they dealt with some of the issues that needed to be resolved with regard to new build.

He also sat on the Crime Services Member Review Group and could be visiting Holyhead docks in the near future. He would report back on the outcome of that meeting to the next meeting of the Council.

Councillor Raymond Jones expressed concern, that although Police could be seen patrolling the Holyhead dock area, there were none to be seen patrolling the streets of Holyhead. One W.P.C.O had been moved from Holyhead to Amlwch. He was also finding it difficult in getting the Police to attend call-outs.

Councillor P.S.Rogers in reply stated that he would take the matter up with Councillor Jones after this meeting with a view to following up his concerns. He mentioned that the Port Police were a dedicated Ports Policing Unit separate to frontline policing.

Councillor T.Li.Hughes queried as to why the Police cells at Holyhead were closed between Monday to Friday and why those in custody were being transferred by car with two officers to cells in Caernarfon?

Councillor P.S.Rogers in reply stated that he would discuss the matter with Councillor Hughes and pass those comments on. He encouraged members to attend local community engagement meetings to make their concerns known.

Councillor H.E.Jones referred to the appointment of an elected Police Commissioner for North Wales. What preparation plans were in place to work with the Commissioners and would this Authority have a representative in future on the NWPA?

Councillor P.S.Rogers in reply stated that any handover in this respect needed to take place as seamlessly as possible. Representation by local authorities were far from being finalised and he believed that there were quite a few contentious issues that needed to be sorted out.

RESOLVED to note the contents of the report.

The meeting concluded at 3:10pm

**COUNCILLOR G.O.JONES
CHAIR**

Draft