

MEETING OF THE ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on 10th May, 2012

PRESENT:

Councillor G.O.Jones – Chairman
Councillor R.LI.Jones - Vice-Chair (Chair)

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

IN ATTENDANCE:

Chief Executive;
Director of Sustainable Development
Interim Deputy Chief Executive
Head of Function Legal and Administration
Head of Service (Policy)
Head of Service (Planning and Public Protection)
Acting Head of Human Resources
Solicitor to the Monitoring Officer
Scrutiny Officer
Committee Services Manager.
Communications Officer.

Commissioners Alex Aldridge, Byron Davies, Margaret Foster,
and Gareth Jones

APOLOGIES:

Councillors K.Evans, D.R.Hughes, T.LI.Hughes, J.Arwel Roberts,
Ieuan Williams; Commissioner M.Giannasi.

1. MINUTES

Confirmed as a true record, the minutes of the meeting of the County Council held on 6th March, 2012.

Arising thereon –

Item 3 Announcements.

Councillor G.O.Parry, MBE enquired as to the latest position with regard to offering prayers at the beginning of meetings.

The Chief Executive said he was in receipt of a letter of 23rd April from the First Minister, who had stated that the Welsh Government and Welsh Local Authorities in these tough economic times should concentrate on the issues of safeguarding services and assisting our communities. Councils could always hold prayers before meetings and was a matter for local resolution. It was not therefore essential for the Welsh Government to legislate in this respect.

Councillor G.O.Parry, MBE, thanked the Chief Executive for the explanation but was disappointed with the response of the First Minister.

2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Councillor Rhian Medi declared an interest in Item 6 of these minutes, remained at the meeting, but did not take part in any discussion or voting thereon.

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

(i) At the request of Councillor J. Penri Williams, the Chair welcomed the 10 members of the Foster Carers' Forum. He went on to mention that an inspection was recently undertaken by CSSIW into the fostering service within this Authority. The Service received a very good report and the foster carers were appreciated by the Service and the foster carers had in return thanked the Social Services Department for their support.

The Council today wanted to express its appreciation to the foster carers for their work and for their enthusiasm. Tomorrow the Service would be launching a new campaign to raise awareness of fostering opportunities here on Anglesey. At present there was a shortage of foster carers and the Council naturally supported this important campaign.

(ii) Congratulations were extended to Bryn, the son of Mrs. Susan Jones who worked in the Chief Executive's Department. Bryn worked at Wylfa and had been awarded the following prizes at a ceremony held at Manchester on 22nd March, 2012:-

UK National Nuclear Skills Award – Winner.
Welsh Nuclear Apprentice of the Year.

Bryn was also one of the four people who went through to the UK Finalist Apprentice of the Year. The Council congratulated him and his family upon his outstanding achievements.

(iii) The Chair congratulated Commissioners Alex Aldridge and Gareth Jones upon their success in the local elections last Thursday.

(iv) At the request of Councillor G.O. Parry, MBE, the Chair stated that on 26th April of this year, the centenary of a journey undertaken in an aeroplane from Holyhead to Dublin by Vivian Hewitt was celebrated. He was the first person to succeed to fly and land safely having flown 73 miles, a longer journey than the one carried out by Louis Bleriot. Vivian Hewitt settled at Glan Aber, Cemlyn, and was responsible for establishing the lagoon and environmental arrangements there, which was today a world renowned nature reserve. Unfortunately, the sinking of the Titanic stole his thunder and because of that he did not receive the acclaim he deserved.

(v) Councillor Raymond Jones was afforded the opportunity of referring to the Anglesey Weightlifting and Fitness Centre at Millbank, Holyhead, and to the positive impact it was having upon the sporting community of Anglesey. Since opening 3 weeks ago, membership had reached 150 members and it was expected that membership would reach 200 by the end of June. The Centre catered for people between 7-73 years of age. He paid particular thanks to Councillors W.J. Chorlton, CL.L. Everett, P.S. Rogers and E. Schofield for their support and also to Mr. Ray Williams, Gold Medal winner at the Olympic Games for his determination and tenacity in setting up the Centre.

(vi) Best wishes for a speedy recovery were extended by the Chair to the wife of Councillor W.J. Chorlton following her recent hospitalisation.

(vii) Sympathy was extended to the family of Mr. David Chambers from Menai Bridge who passed away recently. He was the artist whose work in respect of drawings of Churches, Windmills and Anglesey Mansions was displayed on the first floor of the main Council building at Llangefnï.

(viii)The Chair also took the opportunity of sympathising with any Member or member of staff who had suffered bereavement. Members and officers stood in silent tribute as a mark of their respect.

(ix)The Chairman on behalf of the Council congratulated the following who had recently been appointed to posts within the Authority:-

Bethan Eleri Jones – Deputy Chief Executive
Arthur W.Owen – Sustainable Development Director
Dr.Gwynne Jones – Director of Lifelong Learning
Gwenan Carrington – Director of Community

In accordance with Section 100 4(b) of the Local Government Act, 1972, the Chairman of the meeting was of the opinion that the ratification of the post of Deputy Chief Executive should be considered at the meeting as a matter of urgency.

The Chief Executive requested the Council to confirm this particular appointment in accordance with the Council Constitution.

The Council welcomed the new appointments and confirmed the appointment of the Deputy Chief Executive.

Councillor Rhian Medi wished it to be minuted that she had not voted in favour of this appointment.

- - - - -

(x)The Chair, as local member for the Llanfair-yn-Neubwll Ward, took the opportunity of referring to the many remarkable artefacts discovered at Llyn Cerrig Bach near Valley on Anglesey 70 years ago which would be exhibited at Oriel Ynys Mon this summer and thanks to a partnership between Amgueddfa Cymru – National Museum Wales and the Council's Museums, Culture and Atrchives Service.

This would be a wonderful opportunity for local people as well as visitors to learn more about the Island's unique history through this remarkable discovery. The Chair was pleased that these treasures were returning to Anglesey as he had been a long time supporter of bringing these precious artefacts back to Anglesey. The exhibition would run between 14 July and 11 November and he encouraged the people of Anglesey to take this opportunity to gain an insight into the Island's fascinating ancient history.

4. MINUTES FOR INFORMATION – SUSTAINABILITY BOARD

Submitted for information, the minutes of the meetings of the Sustainability Board held on 22nd March, 2012.

RESOLVED to note the contents of the minutes of the meeting of the Sustainability Board of 22nd March, 2012.

5. PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS

The Chief Executive presented a petition(signed by 76 local persons) to the Chair of the Council on behalf of Christian Voice (Anglesey) who were opposed to the Beaumaris Leisure Centre being hired out by the Council as a venue for the Mardi Gras.

6. ARMED FORCES COMMUNITY COVENANT

The Chair extended a warm welcome to Wing Commander Alex South and to Flight Lieutenant Robb Pitt (Engagement and Communications Officer), RAF Valley.

Submitted - The following resolution of the Board of Commissioners at their meeting held on 23rd April 2012:-

RESOLVED:-

- *To endorse the Community Covenant between the County Council, Armed Forces Community and Medrwn Môn and recommend accordingly to the County Council;*
- *To confirm that an Officer in the Chief Executive's department will act as a single point of contact for Community Covenant information;*
- *To endorse the establishment of a Partnership Board to oversee the Covenant and that the Chairman of the Council act as Member Champion.*

Submitted – A presentation by Flight Lieutenant Rob Pitt outlining the work of the Armed Forces Community Covenant. Bids for funding under a community covenant may be submitted to the MOD for consideration only from areas which had already established a community covenant in their area and bids could be submitted by any part of the community, including volunteer groups, charities, public bodies such as schools, etc.

It was proposed and seconded, that in view of the fact that the Leader had been actively involved in progressing the Armed Forces Community Covenant, that it should be he and not the Chair of the Council that should act as the Member Champion.

RESOLVED to endorse the recommendations of the Commissioners as referred to above, together with the amendment proposed at today's meeting.

7. ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHAIR OF THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE

Mr. Michael Wilson, Chair of the Standards Committee presented the annual report of the Standards Committee.

RESOLVED to note the contents of the report and to endorse the Standards Committee's work programme for 2012-13.

8. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY ANNUAL REPORT 2011-12

Submitted - The report of the Chair of the Corporate Scrutiny Committee on the work of the Overview and Scrutiny Committees for 2011-12.

RESOLVED

- **To note and approve the Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report for 2011-12;**
- **That Councillor Ieuan Williams be appointed to serve as Scrutiny Champion from May 2012 to May 2013.**

9. ANNUAL REPORT OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE 2011-12

Councillor Tom Jones, Chair of the Audit Committee, presented the annual report of the Audit Committee.

RESOLVED to accept the contents of the report.

10. NORTH WALES FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY

Submitted - A report by Councillor Aled Morris Jones, Vice-Chair of the North Wales Fire and Rescue Authority, on meetings held by that Authority between 6th March, 2012 and 30th April, 2012.

RESOLVED to note the contents of the report and to note that under the revised Constitution to be considered by Council today, such reports will in future be presented to the Corporate Scrutiny Committee for consideration.

11. NORTH WALES POLICE AUTHORITY

Submitted - A report by Councillor P.S.Rogers, this Council's representative on the North Wales Police Authority, on meetings held by that Authority between 6th March and 30th April, 2012.

RESOLVED to note the contents of the report and to note that under the revised Constitution to be considered by Council today, such reports will in future be presented to the Corporate Scrutiny Committee for consideration.

12. REVIEW OF THE AUTHORITY'S LICENSING POLICY DOCUMENT

Submitted - The report of the Chief Trading Standards Officer on a review of the Authority's Licensing Policy Document.

RESOLVED to accept the contents of the report.

13. JOINT LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN MON A GWYNEDD.

Reported - That the Board of Commissioners at their meeting on 19th March 2012 had resolved to recommend to the County Council that it endorses the following:-

“the schedule of key issues detailed at Appendix 2 of the report;

the vision presented in paragraph 1.12 of the report;

the schedule of strategic objectives presented in Appendix 3 of the report;

the housing growth option presented in paragraph 1.14 of the report, i.e. 511 housing units per annum in the Plan area over the Plan period;

the distribution option presented in paragraph 1.16 of the report.”

Councillor Aled Morris Jones felt it important with regard to the SPG on windfarms that the policy expressed the concerns of the communities. He requested that a map be displayed in the Council buildings and on the Council website showing the location of proposed wind turbine sites and in the Papurau Bro and local newspapers. He had written a letter to this effect to the Commissioner but to date had not received a response.

The Chair stated that he would ensure that Councillor Jones received a reply in this respect.

(Councillor Rhian Medi wished it to be recorded that she had not voted on this particular item).

RESOLVED to endorse the Commissioners recommendations in this respect.

14. CHANGES TO THE COUNCIL CONSTITUTION

Submitted – Changes detailed in the report to Council as proposed by the Constitution Working Group to the Council Constitution, as submitted and accepted by the Board of Commissioners on 30th April, 2012.

RESOLVED

- **To endorse the changes recommended by the Board of Commissioners in this respect and to authorise Officers to make any consequential amendments to the Constitution and to request the Commissioners pursuant to the Minister's Direction dated 26th February, 2012 to so approve;**
- **That Council accepts the following additional change in respect of the composition of the Scrutiny Committees (as detailed at Paragraph 2.6.1 of the Council Constitution at Para 14.5 above), namely that:-**

Nominations to any and all posts held by opposition groups will be made by those individual groups and will be recognised by all members and will not be influenced by other groups or other members.

15. ELECTORAL REVIEW.

The Chief Executive reported that he was aware that the Boundary Commission had completed its work and had formulated its recommendations to the Minister. Once the Minister had made his decision there would be a statutory 6 week consultation period. The Chief Executive therefore suggested that the Council's Electoral Review Panel be tasked with drafting the Council's response and that its recommendations be reported to Council in June for consideration prior to a formal response to the Minister.

An amendment was proposed and seconded that a Seminar be held for Members to discuss the document prior to it being considered by the Electoral Review Panel.

RESOLVED to agree to the proposal to convene a Seminar for Members prior to consideration of the consultation document by the Electoral Review Panel and the County Council.

16. ANGLESEY LEADER'S ANNUAL REVIEW REPORT.

Submitted – A verbal report by the Leader of the Council reviewing the work undertaken by the Council during the past twelve months.

RESOLVED to note the contents of the report.

17. PUPIL PREMIUM

Submitted - A verbal report by the Chief Executive in respect of the Council's request of 6th March, 2012, for information on the distribution of the Pupil Deprivation Grant allocated by the Welsh Government.

The Chief Executive reported that he had recently provided members with information from the Welsh Government outlining the grant conditions and that the sum for Anglesey was £643,050 together with

details of the sum allocated to each individual school on the Island. None of this grant had been centrally retained and the local authority had no discretion regarding the actual sum allocated to individual schools.

RESOLVED to note the contents of the verbal update provided by the Chief Executive.

18. COMMISSIONERS 4th QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT (Dealt with as a confidential item under Para 4.2.10.4 of the Constitution).

Commissioner Margaret Foster presented the Commissioners 4th Quarterly report which provided a summary of the progress which the Commissioners had made during that time and set out what further work needed to be done going forward to sustain the recovery process.

RESOLVED to accept the contents of the report.

19. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, to exclude the press and public from meeting during discussion on the following item on the grounds that it may involve the disclosure of exempt information as defined in Schedule 12A of the said Act and in the attached Public Interest Test.

20. INVESTIGATION PANEL

Submitted for information - The minutes of the Investigation Panel meeting held on 18 April 2012.

RESOLVED to accept the contents of the minutes.

The meeting concluded at 12:50p.m.

**COUNCILLOR G.O.JONES
CHAIR**