

EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF THE ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on 27th June, 2012

- PRESENT:** Councillor R.Ll.Jones – Chairman
Councillor E.G.Davies - Vice-Chair
- Councillors W.J.Chorlton; Lewis Davies; R.Anthony Dew;
Jim Evans; K.Evans; C.Ll.Everett; D.R.Hughes;
Ff.M.Hughes, K.P.Hughes; T.Ll.Hughes; W.I.Hughes;
W.T.Hughes; Eric Jones; G.O.Jones; H.E.Jones; O.Glyn
Jones; Raymond Jones; R.Dylan Jones; Tom Jones;
Bryan Owen; R.L.Owen; J.V.Owen; G.O. Parry MBE;
R.G.Parry,OBE; Eric Roberts, J.Arwel Roberts, G.Winston
Roberts,OBE; P.S.Rogers, E.Schofield; H.W.Thomas;
Selwyn Williams.
- IN ATTENDANCE:** Chief Executive;
Deputy Chief Executive
Head of Function (Legal and Administration)
Head of Service (Finance)
Head of Service (Housing)
Central Support and Emergency Planning Manager (AKW)
Committee Services Manager.
Communications Officer.
- ALSO PRESENT:** Commissioner Gareth Jones
- APOLOGIES:** Commissioners Alex Aldridge, Byron Davies, M.Giannasi,
and M.Foster; Councillors R.Ll.Hughes, A.Morris Jones,
C.Mcgregor, Ieuan Williams.

The Chair extended a warm welcome to Mrs.Bethan Eleri Jones, newly appointed Deputy Chief Executive who was attending a meeting of the Council for the first time.

1. **DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

Councillors W.J.Chorlton, Ff.M.Hughes, T.Ll.Hughes, Bryan Owen, J.V.Owen, J.Arwel Roberts and G.W.Roberts, OBE declared an interest in Item 4 of these minutes and were not present at the meeting during any discussion or voting thereon.

The Chair declared an interest in Item 4 of these minutes, remained at the meeting as Chair but did not take part in any discussion or voting thereon.

Councillor Selwyn Williams declared an interest in Item 4 of these minutes, remained at the meeting but did not take part in any discussion or voting thereon.

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

The Chief Executive reminded members that an invitation had been extended by the Minister for Local Government and Communities for 30 elected members from each North Wales Authority to attend a regional seminar regarding a collaborative footprint for public service improvement at 12:30p.m. on Thursday 5th July, 2012 at Venue Cymru, Llandudno. He implored members to make every effort to attend.

3. APPOINTMENT OF LAY MEMBER(S) TO THE AUDIT COMMITTEE

Reported by the Head of Service (Finance) – That it was a legal requirement that at least one member of an Audit Committee be a lay member and the 2011 Measure required that lay members be appointed by 30 April, 2012. However, the membership of the Audit Committee on 24 May, 2012 did not include a lay member and therefore it had been unlawfully convened and its decisions deemed unlawful.

In order to regularise the situation, the Council was requested to confirm the draft minutes of the Audit Committee of 24th May, 2012. This would allow for the appointment of these lay members and allow them to attend the next scheduled Audit Committee on 24th July, 2012. Once that Committee had been lawfully convened with eligible lay member(s) appointed, the Committee could lawfully elect a Chair and Vice-Chair.

RESOLVED that in order to regularise the situation referred to within the report to Council today, to confirm the draft minutes of the Audit Committee held on 24th May, 2012.

4. MON COMMUNITIES FIRST DELIVERY PLAN

- (a) Reported – That the Board of Commissioners at their meeting on 18th June, 2012 had resolved inter alia *‘that the final Delivery Plan be confirmed at an extraordinary meeting of the County Council on 27th June, 2012.’*
- (b) Submitted for approval – A copy of the final Communities First Delivery Plan, prior to submission to the Welsh Government by 29th June, 2012.

Questions were asked by some of the members as regards the contents of the report and answers were provided by the Head of Service.

RESOLVED to confirm the contents of the Delivery Plan for submission to the Welsh Government.

5. REVIEW OF ELECTORAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL – BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR WALES REPORT AND PROPOSALS (MAY 2012)

- (a) Submitted – The report of the Chief Executive outlining the background and recommendations of the Members Task and Finish Panel with regard to the above. He mentioned that he was also in receipt of correspondence from Amlwch Town Council

and from Llanfihangel Esceifiog, Rhoscolyn and Trearddur Community Councils which had not been received in time for consideration by the Panel.

Councillor Keith Evans, Chair of the Electoral Review Panel was afforded the opportunity of addressing the Council upon the recommendations of the Panel.

He stated that the Panel had recommended to unanimously approve the concept of multi-member wards and also accept that the county could be run with a reduced number of 30 members but that there was perhaps a case for increasing that number to 32 which would make it easier to arrange effective scrutiny committees and better reflect the need to surmount geographical size problems in rural wards. However, it was recognised that such an increase would likely cause major problems with the timeframe. The remaining recommendations related to name changes and to the transfer of communities and wards.

Members of the Panel were also afforded the opportunity of conveying their views.

Some of the Members referred to the Boundary Commission proposals for Gwynedd which allowed for some single member wards.

Councillor G.O.Parry, MBE referred to the fact that he had received observations from a member who was unable to be present at today's meeting and who had asked him to convey those observations to Council.

It was proposed [the main motion], by Councillor J.Arwel Roberts (and seconded) that the Boundary Commission report be accepted, i.e. 30 members in 11 multi-member wards.

The following amendments to the main motion were proposed from the floor:-

- It was proposed by Councillor E.G.Davies that the name of Bro Rhosyr be retained (as opposed to Braint) and that the Cwm Cadnant ward should remain within the Beaumaris and Llangoed area and not be combined with Menai Bridge as mooted in the recommendations of the Panel. [The proposal was not seconded]

- It was proposed by Councillor G.W.Roberts, OBE (and seconded) that 14 single wards and 6 multi-member wards be created consisting of 30 members. The amendment was put to the vote but was not carried.
(Councillors D.R.Hughes, G.W.Roberts, OBE, H.W.Thomas and E.Schofield wished it to be recorded that they had voted in favour of the above amendment).

(The Leader wished it to be recorded that he had not voted on the matter as he had not been afforded the opportunity to speak by the Chair).

- It was proposed by Councillor T.LI.Hughes (and seconded) that recommendations 4.1 – 4.6 contained within the report of the Electoral Review Panel be accepted. The amendment was put to the vote but was not carried.

- It was proposed by Councillor G.O.Parry, MBE (and seconded) that there should be 32 members contained within 11 multi-member wards. The amendment was not carried.

Councillor W.I.Hughes wished it to be minuted that he had not been allowed to speak on the matter by the Chair.

Councillor J.V.Owen also wished it to be minuted that he had not voted on the matter as he had not been allowed to speak on the matter, which was contrary to the advice given to the Chair by the Monitoring Officer as regards allowing members to speak.

The main motion by Councillor J.Arwel Roberts referred to earlier was put to the vote and was carried.

(Councillors D.R.Hughes, W.T.Hughes, G.W.Roberts, OBE and H.W.Thomas wished it to be recorded that they had voted against the main motion).

The Chief Executive stated that the decision by Council today would be drafted and following consultation with the Leader, Chair of the Council and Chair of the Electoral Review Panel, forwarded to the Welsh Government by the 29th June deadline.

(b) Submitted for information– A copy of the Electoral Review : Council Size Policy Consultation Paper (May 2012).

RESOLVED to accept the recommendations contained within the Boundary Commission for Wales' Review of Electoral Arrangements Report and Proposals for the County of Isle of Anglesey (May 2012).

The meeting concluded at 1:15 p.m.

**COUNCILLOR R.LI.JONES
CHAIRMAN**