

PARTNERSHIP AND REGENERATION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held on 13 March 2014

PRESENT: Councillor Derlwyn Rees Hughes (Chair)
Councillor Alun Wyn Mummery (Vice-Chair)

Councillors Carwyn Jones, Raymond Jones, Richard Owain Jones,
R LI Jones and Dylan Rees

Councillor R A Dew - Portfolio Holder (Highways, Property & Waste
Management)

Other Members of the County Council invited to the Committee

Councillors Ann Griffith, K P Hughes, T Victor Hughes, Llinos M Huws,
Aled M Jones, R Meirion Jones, Bob Parry, OBE, Nicola Roberts

IN ATTENDANCE: Head of Service (Environmental & Technical),
Chief Waste Management Officer (ME),
Scrutiny Officer (GWR),
Committee Officer (MEH).

APOLOGIES: Councillors John Griffith, W T Hughes and Dafydd Rhys Thomas

ALSO PRESENT: Mr Steffan Owen (Project Manager),
Mr Jonathan Bebb - Amec (Technical Advisors),
Mr John Bruce - Pinsent Masons (Legal Advisors),
Mr Saefer Rehman – Great Thornton (Financial Advisor),
Mr Huw Roberts (Partnerships UK).

The Chair welcomed the representatives in attendance in respect of the North Wales Residual Waste Treatment Project to the meeting. He further welcomed all the other Members of the County Council who had been invited to attend this Committee.

1. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

No declaration of interest received.

2. MINUTES

The minutes of the following meetings were confirmed :-

- Minutes of the meeting held on 15 January, 2014.

Arising thereon

Communities First – Ynys Môn

The Scrutiny Officer stated that Communities First Ltd., have refused the request by this Committee to publishing their minutes of Board meetings on their website. Councillor Dylan Rees expressed his disappointment in respect of this matter.

- Minutes of the special meeting held on 4 February, 2014.

3. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED to adopt the following :-

“Under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, to exclude the press and public from the meeting during the discussion on the following item as it may involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 14 in Schedule 12 of the said Act and in the attached Public Interest Test”.

4. NORTH WALES REGIONAL WASTE TREATMENT PROJECT

Submitted – the report of the Head of Environment and Technical and the Chief Management Waste Officer.

The Chief Management Waste Officer gave a background presentation on the North Wales Residual Waste Treatment Project (NWRWTP) and the need to dispose of residual waste to meet Welsh Government waste disposal targets. He noted that 45% of the residual waste on Anglesey is transferred to landfill. The Welsh Government has stipulated that each local authority should aim to recycle waste by at least 70% by 2025. Authorities face potential fines of £200 per tonne for failure to meet this target. At present Anglesey recycles up to 55%. The Officer further stated that to comply with Welsh Governments legislation requires residual waste to be incinerated and to produce energy thereafter. 5 out of the 6 North Wales Authorities are within the Project.

The Project Manager stated NWRWTP procurement process commenced with the publication of the OJEU in July 2010. The Partnership advertised the contract on a technology and site-neutral basis, thereby giving the market the best opportunity of bringing forward the most environmental, economical and technologically viable solution for the Partnership. In December 2013, Company ‘X’ submitted a final tender for the new Energy from Waste facility at Deeside Industrial Estate which will be capable of processing 175,000 tonnes per annum. Mr. Owen and Mr. Jonathan Bebb from Amec (Technical Advisors) gave an indepth presentation on the background of the proposed facility and highlighted the key risks and Health and Safety issues to the Committee.

Mr. Rehamn from Grant Thornton (Financial Advisors) and Mr. John Bruce from Pinsent Masons (Legal Advisors) afforded the Committee with details of financial and legal obligations and the immense work that has been undertaken to achieve the best possible contract for the North Wales Residual Waste Treatment Project.

Listed below and the main issues raised by Members of the Committee :-

- Health and Safety Issue;
- Financial obligations;
- Legal obligations;
- Restrictions on waste materials that will be incinerated;
- Air Pollution issues;
- Health Protection;
- Community Benefits;
- Inter-authority benefits;

The Chair wished it to be recorded that the penalty clauses (as noted within the report) in respect of withdrawing from the project needed to be highlighted.

RESOLVED to accept the report and the recommendations contained therein.

ACTION : That the report and recommendations will be discuss by the Executive and the full Council in due course.

The meeting concluded at 4.00 pm

**COUNCILLOR D R HUGHES
CHAIR**