



**Cyfarfod Fforwm Cyswilt Cyngorau
Tref a Chymuned**

Nos Fercher, 22 Ionawr 2020
7.00 yh

Siambur y Cyngor
Swyddfeydd y Cyngor
Llangefni
LL77 7TW

Rhaglen

1. Croeso ac Ymddiheuriadau

2. Cofnodion - Cadarnhau cofnodion y cyfarfod a gynhaliwyd ar 18 Gorffennaf 2019 – ynghlwm.

**3. Cynigion cychwynnol ar gyfer
Cyllideb 2020/21**

Noder: Estynnwyd gwahoddiad i bartneriaid a rhanddeiliaid eraill i fod yn bresennol ar gyfer yr eitem yma.

Ystyried cynigion cychwynnol y Pwyllgor Gwaith – mae'r adroddiad a gyflwynwyd i gyfarfod y Pwyllgor Gwaith ar 13 Ionawr 2020 ar gael drwy'r ddolen isod:

Cyllideb Refeniw Ddrafft 2020/21 Draft Revenue Budget:

<http://democratiaeth.ynysmon.gov.uk/documents/s15198/Cyllideb%20Refeniw%20Ddrafft%202021.pdf?LLL=1>

<http://democracy.anglesey.gov.uk/documents/s15198/Draft%20Revenue%20Budget%202021.pdf?LLL=0>

Cyllideb Gyfalaf Ddrafft 2020/21 Draft Capital Budget:

<http://democratiaeth.ynysmon.gov.uk/documents/s15199/Cyllideb%20Cyfalaf%202021.pdf?LLL=1>

<http://democracy.anglesey.gov.uk/documents/s15199/Capital%20Budget%202021.pdf?LLL=0>

**Town and Community Councils
Liaison Forum Meeting**

Wednesday, 22 January 2020
7.00 pm

Council Chamber
Council Offices
Llangefni
LL77 7TW

Agenda

1. Welcome and Apologies

2. Minutes - Confirmation of the minutes of the meeting held on 18 July 2019 – attached.

**3. Initial Budget Proposals for
2020/21**

Note: An invitation has been extended to other partners and stakeholders to attend for this item.

To consider the Executive's initial budget proposals – the report presented to the Executive meeting on 13 January 2020 is available on the link below:



4. Pencampwyr Iaith Gymraeg

Cyflwyniad a diweddariad.

5. Gwasanaeth Gwarchod y Gymdogaeth OWL Cymru

Tynnu sylw'r Fforwm at y ffaith bod OWL Cymru wedi cylchredeg neges yn uniongyrchol at yr holl gynghorau tref a chymuned ar 18 Rhagfyr 2019. Mae OWL Cymru yn gofyn am gefnogaeth ariannol gan y cymunedau i ddarparu'r gwasanaeth yn y dyfodol, gan nodi gwahanol opsiynau er mwyn cyflawni hyn.

6. Cyfarfod nesaf y Forwm

Nodi y cynhelir cyfarfod nesaf y Fforwm ar nos Iau, **30 Ebrill 2020 am 7.00 yh.**

7. Unrhyw fater arall

4. Welsh Language Champions

Presentation and update.

5. OWL Cymru Neighbourhood Watch Service

To draw the attention of the Forum to the fact that OWL Cymru has circulated an email directly to all town and community councils on 18 December 2019. OWL Cymru are seeking financial support from communities for providing the service in the future, and have noted different options to achieve this.

6. Next meeting of the Forum

To note that the next meeting of the Forum will be held on **Thursday, 30 April 2020 at 7.00 pm.**

7. Any other business

Town and Community Councils Liaison Forum

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, 18 July 2019
In the Council Chamber, Llangefni at 7.00 pm.

Present:

Town and Community Councils

Cllr John H Owens	Aberffraw
Menna Evans (Clerk)	Aberffraw
Cllr Gordon Warren	Amlwch
Cllr Rhian Jones	Beaumaris
Cllr Alan Williams	Holyhead
Robert Henderson (Clerk)	Holyhead
Cllr I N Evans	Llaneilian
Cllr Dafydd Griffiths	Llaneilian
Cllr Delyth Owen	Llanfaelog
Cllr Einion Williams	Llanfihangel Ysgeifiog
Cllr Dafydd Humphreys	Llanfair ME
Cllr Hanna Huws	Llanfairpwll
Cllr Gareth Cemlyn Jones	Llanfairpwll
Cllr J E Lewis	Llangefni / Bodffordd
Cllr Margaret Thomas	Llangefni
Cllr Sandra Thomas	Llanidan
Sydna Roberts (Clerk)	Llannerch-y-medd
Cllr Angela Gliddon	Pentraeth
Cllr Jacqueline Jones	Menai Bridge
Cllr Eryl Lewis	Menai Bridge
Cllr Bill Rowlands	Trearddur
Cllr Edna M Jones	Trewalchmai
Margaret Price (Clerk)	Trewalchmai
Cllr Celfyn Furlong	Valley
Cllr Ken Taylor	Valley

Isle of Anglesey County Council

Cllr Llinos Medi	Leader of the Council (Chair)
Cllr Ieuan Williams	Deputy Leader of the Council / Llanfair ME
Cllr Eric Wyn Jones	Bro Rhosyr
Dr Gwynne Jones	Chief Executive
Annwen Morgan	Assistant Chief Executive – Improving Partnerships, Communities and Services
Fôn Roberts	Head of Service – Children and Families
Huw Jones	Head of Democratic Services
Elliw Llyr	Service Manager, Housing Strategy, Commissioning and Policy (for item 3)
Caron Jones	Housing Strategy Officer (for item 3)
Rhian Wyn Jones	Policy Officer

Also present:

Local Democracy and Boundary Commission for Wales (for item 4)

Julie May	Lead Commissioner
Matthew Redmond	Deputy Chief Executive
Huw Blacker	Review Officer

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from the following:

Town and Community Councils:

Cllr Stan Zalot, Beaumaris
Cllr Brian Potter, Llanbadrig
Cllr Cerys Jones, Llanddyfnan
Cllr A W Jones, Mechell
Eifion H Jones (Clerk), Pentraeth
Cllr Keith Roberts, Trearddur

Isle of Anglesey County Council:

Councillors Richard Dew; Trefor Lloyd Hughes; Meirion Jones;
Richard Owain Jones; Robin Williams.

2. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 14 March 2019 were confirmed as a correct record.

Matters arising:

2.1 Financial Challenges

Submitted, for information, a copy of the response by Julie James AM, the Housing and Local Government Minister, to the further invitation extended to Ministers to meet the Forum.

It was noted that the Minister was unable to accept the invitation due to other commitments, but that she was pleased to see the County Council and the town and community councils working together through the Forum to discuss budgets and local service provision.

In addition, the Leader referred to the fact that the UK Government had postponed the spending review for 2020/21 and that the Council's timetable for setting its budget would be delayed as a result of this.

2.2 Public Toilets – Business Rates

The Leader referred to a recent announcement by the Welsh Government that stand alone public toilets in Wales will be exempt from paying business rates as from 1 April 2020.

It was agreed that the Head of Function – Resources / Section 151 Officer would prepare an explanatory note for circulation to all clerks – please see Appendix 1 to these minutes.

3. Common Housing Allocations Policy (Local Connection)

A presentation was given by gan Eiliw Llyr and Caron Jones from the Housing Service on a consultation currently taking place to identify whether community connection should be included within the Council's Common Housing Allocations Policy.

The Council's current policy is in force since July 2016, when it was amended from a points system to a banding system. The system is based on the following banding:

Urgent – Local connection and urgent housing need.
Band 1 – Housing need and local connection.
Band 2 – Urgent housing need but no local connection.
Band 3 – Housing need but no local connection.

In the current policy, 'local need' is defined as a connection with Anglesey. The Housing Act 1996 and 2014 states that if there is a desire to have a lower level of local connection, eg connection with a specific community or town, there would be a need to re-introduce the Common Housing Allocations Policy.

Data for April – November 2018 shows that 167 of Properties were allocated. Of these successful applicants, 93 of them did not have a connection with the Community, but 89% did have a connection with Anglesey.

It was explained that 87 responses to the consultation had been received to date, with 85% of the respondents of the opinion that Community connection should be given more priority. The following points were made during the discussion that followed:

Concern regarding the shortage of one-bedroom flats (Valley). The Leader responded that this had already been identified as a county-wide issue and was being addressed.

Giving priority to those with community connections would benefit those needing to make arrangements for childcare and the care of vulnerable people (Llanfairpwll)

Giving priority to those with a connection to the community is essential (Bodffordd)

Prioritisation should also be based on the linguistic needs of communities (Aberffraw). It was explained that the legislation did not permit language considerations when allocating housing. However, the Leader added that giving priority to those with a connection to the community could help to support this.

It was agreed to Support the inclusion of Community connection in the Common Housing Allocations Policy.

Councils were encouraged to respond individually to the consultation by 5 August.

4. Electoral Review - Anglesey – 2019

On 23 June 2016, the Local Democracy and Boundary Commission for Wales was asked by the Welsh Government to start a new programme of electoral reviews across Wales, with an expectation that all reviews be completed in time for the new arrangements to be put in place for the 2022 local government elections. A presentation was given by Julie May (Lead Commissioner), Matt Redmond (Deputy Chief Executive) and Huw Blacker (Review Officer) of the Commission, explaining the process and timetable for Anglesey.

The timetable for completion of the review is outlined below:

Stage 1 – Official Start – 12 week initial consultation period, starting on 19 July until 10 October 2019.

Stage 2 – Draft Proposals – Commission develops and publishes draft proposals. 12 week consultation period - Spring 2020.

Stage 3 – Final Proposals – Commission formulates Final Proposals Report and submits to Welsh Government - Winter 2020.

Stage 4 – Welsh Government Consideration – After 6 weeks, Welsh Government may make an Order (an opportunity to write to Welsh Government).

Stage 5 – Wards into Force – New wards come into force for 2022 local government election.

The Commission's booklet '*Electoral Reviews: Policy and Practice 2016*', which was updated for the new programme of electoral reviews, was distributed at the meeting. A map and table showing the existing variance from the county average was also distributed.

Having considered the statutory criteria, together with the relevant policies and constraints in terms of council size, the aim for this review is 33 members, ie a ratio of one councillor to 1,549 electors.

The Commission will consider the following matters when developing Draft Proposals:

- Variance – ideally as close as possible to 1,549 per councillor.
- Community tie arguments that justify atypical levels of electoral equality
- Natural boundaries (topography, hills, rivers etc)
- Man-made boundaries (major roads, motorways, railways, rural/urban divides etc)

With regard to responding to the consultation, it was noted:

- that representations would be judged on the quality of the evidence presented
- that representations which support are as important as those which oppose
- that effective representations will
 - Take account of statutory requirements and Commission policies
 - Suggest an alternative as well as setting out an objection
 - Consider the consequences of the alternative across the widest possible area

In response to question as to the need to consider the size of rural wards and how this affects accessibility (Llanfairpwll), it was explained that distance is not a consideration here as the aim of the review is to ensure electoral parity in terms of the number of electors in each ward.

It was noted that the County Council had established a cross-party Panel to consider various options. The Panel's membership consists of Councillors Richard Dew, Gwilym O Jones, Llinos Medi, Bryan Owen, R G Parry OBE, Alun Roberts, J Arwel Roberts, Kenneth P Hughes.

Individual councils were encouraged to discuss with their local County Council members, as well as to respond directly to the consultation which closes on 10 October 2019, and is available on the following link:

<https://ldbc.gov.wales/reviews/07-19/anglesey-electoral-review>

5. Any other business

5.1 Provision of Accessible Parking Spaces – Beaumaris

In response to an enquiry by Cllr Gareth Cemlyn Jones (Llanfairpwll) regarding the lack of accessible parking spaces on the Green, Beaumaris, it was explained that Beaumaris Town Council owns the car park. Cllr Rhian Jones (Beaumaris) stated that the Town Council had already been made aware of this and that the matter was being addressed.

5.2 Venue of the Forum's next meeting

In accordance with a suggestion made by the Leader, it was agreed that the next meeting should be held at Ysgol Santes Dwynwen, Newborough – date to be confirmed in due course.

The meeting ended at 8.10 pm.

Public Toilets and Business Rates – Explanatory Note

The Town and Community Councils Liaison Forum has had several discussions in the past about the transfer of public toilets to communities, in particular the rules for claiming small business rate relief. At the Forum's last meeting on 18 July 2019, I was requested to produce a brief explanatory note to set out the latest position, which is outlined below:

Currently, town and community councils are not eligible to receive small business rate relief. As they are precepting authorities, they must pay the non-domestic rates on public toilets in full.

At a meeting of the Forum on 28 November 2018, I referred to a statement made by the Chancellor in October 2018 that public toilets in England would receive 100% business rates relief. I also explained that we would need to wait to hear whether or not this will be implemented in Wales, as the Welsh Government is free to decide how to allocate the funding it receives.

On 26 June 2019, the Welsh Government's Finance Minister, Rebecca Evans AM, announced that stand-alone public toilet buildings in Wales will be exempt from paying non-domestic rates from 1 April 2020. The Finance Minister stated in the Welsh Government's press release that "*This announcement forms part of the UK Government's Non-Domestic Rating (Public Lavatories) Bill that was introduced earlier this month (June) and helps us deliver our commitment to provide 'access to toilets for public use' under Part 8 of the Public Health (Wales) Act 2017.*"

In summary, therefore, from the start of the next financial year (2020/21), all providers of stand-alone public toilets will receive 100% business rates relief.

Marc Jones
Head of Resources and Section 151 Officer
Isle of Anglesey County Council

July 2019