

**AWDURDOD TÂN AC ACHUB CANOLBARTH A GORLLEWIN
CYMRU**



MID AND WEST WALES FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY

**NOTE: THESE MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO CONFIRMATION BY THE FIRE AUTHORITY AT ITS
NEXT MEETING ON 25 OCTOBER 2010**

**COFNODION
CYFARFOD YR AWDURDOD**

Ganolfan Gynadledda,
Pencadlys Y Gwasanaeth Tân Ac Achub, Caerfyrddin
27 MEDI 2010

**MINUTES
OF THE AUTHORITY MEETING**

The Conference Centre,
Fire and Rescue Service Headquarters, Carmarthen
27 SEPTEMBER 2010

11.00 – 1.15PM

92% PRESENOLDEB/ATTENDANCE

Presennol yn y Cyfarfod/Present at Meeting:

GADEIRYDD/ CHAIRMAN:
IS-GADEIRYDD/VICE CHAIRMAN:

T E Evans
C Philpott

AELODAU/MEMBERS:

Cyng/Cllrs: A Davies, D Davies,
J Dinham, J Dudley, R Llewellyn, Dyfrig
Thomas, F Torrens, T Tudor, S Lloyd-
Janes, M Williams, D Howells, J Newbury
J Holmes, G Thomas, A Woolcock, P
James, P Llewellyn, P Smith, H Morris,
Des Thomas, M Pepper

YMDDIHEURIADAU/APOLOGIES:

Cyng/Cllrs: J J J Davies, N Holley

YN BRESENNOL /IN ATTENDANCE:

R Smith, P Coleman, E Aitken, P Bates,
D Masson, J Cameron, J Maunder, S
Flather, G Davies, K Jones, C Davies

1 CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS/PERSONAL MATTERS

The Chair welcomed Councillor Des Thomas to his first meeting of the Fire Authority and was pleased to inform Members that both Councillors Jim Davies and Nicola Holley were recovering well following a period of ill health. Tribute was paid to the work carried out over the past few years by Gilbert Lloyd of the Authority's Auditor's KPMG who was attending what would be his last meeting, and Members wished him well on his forthcoming retirement. Congratulations were extended to the Clerk, Dave Daycock, who had become the proud father of twins and best wishes were extended to the family.

The Chair reported that he had the list of those members who had expressed an interest in attending the Authority's Standing Conferences for 2010/2011 and consideration would be given to these during the course of the next two weeks. He reminded Members that all Conference agendas would be subject to scrutiny by the Chief Fire Officer before a final decision to attend was made.

Due to the date of the announcement of the Comprehensive Spending Review and in order to allow time for the draft budget to be prepared for Members consideration, it was proposed to move the next date of the Resources Committee from the 15th November 2010 to 6th December 2010. The Fire Authority meeting would then be held on 20th December 2010.

RESOLUTION

It was RESOLVED that the date of the next Resources Committee be moved to 6th December 2010 and the December Fire Authority meeting to be held on 20th December 2010.

2 DECLARATIONS BY MEMBERS OF ANY PERSONAL AND PREJUDICIAL INTERESTS

All Members present declared that they were a member of their own Constituent Authority

3 TO CONFIRM AS A TRUE RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE FIRE AUTHORITY MEETING HELD ON 2ND JUNE 2010

The minutes of the Fire Authority meeting held on 2ND June 2010 were confirmed and approved as a true record.

4 TO CONSIDER MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

6 – Composition of the Authority's Committees and to Appoint Members to Serve on them

RESOLUTION

It was RESOLVED that Councillor Des Thomas replace Councillor Arwyn Woolcock on the People and Organisational Development Committee and as that Committee's representative on the Scrutiny Committee.

5 TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER THE MINUTES OF THE PEOPLE & ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON 14TH JUNE 2010 AND 13TH SEPTEMBER 2010

The Chair of the People and Organisational Development Committee commended the minutes of the meetings held on 14th June 2010 and 13th September 2010 as being a true and accurate record of the proceedings.

Councillor Mike Williams thanked all those involved in the organisation and facilitating of the visit to Earlswood on 13th September and indicated that a letter had been sent congratulating all staff for such an excellent day.

RESOLUTION

It was RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting of the People and Organisational Committee held on 14TH June 2010 and 13th September 2010 be received and noted

6 TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER THE MINUTES OF THE RESOURCES COMMITTEE HELD ON 12TH JULY 2010

The Chair of Resources commended the minutes of the Resources Committee held on 12th July 2010 as being a true and accurate record of the proceedings

RESOLUTION

It was RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Resources Committee held on 12th July 2010 be received and noted

7 TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER THE MINUTES OF THE PERFORMANCE REVIEW AND AUDIT COMMITTEE HELD ON 26TH JULY 2010

The Vice Chair of the Performance Review and Audit Committee commended the minutes of the Performance Review and Audit Committee held on 26th July 2010 as being a true and accurate record of the proceedings

RESOLUTION

It was RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting of the Performance Review and Audit Committee held on 26th July 2010 be received and noted

8 TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER THE MINUTES OF THE JOINT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE HELD ON 14TH JUNE 2010

The Vice Chair of the Joint Consultative Committee commended the minutes of the Joint Consultative Committee held on 14th June 2010 as being a true and accurate record of the proceedings

RESOLUTION

It was RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Joint Consultative Committee held on 14th June 2010 be received and noted

9 TO RECEIVE A REPORT ON THE DOMESTIC FIRE SAFETY (WALES) MEASURE AND SPRINKLER UPDATE

Assistant Chief Fire Officer Paul Bates reminded Members of the long running and extensive lobbying that the Fire & Rescue Service had carried out over many years in relation to the promotion of the benefits of sprinklers.

The Fire & Rescue Services in Wales had lobbied for a change in legislation requiring the installation of simple residential sprinkler systems in domestic properties and in 2007, the Fire & Rescue Services in Wales worked with Anne Jones AM to introduce a Legislative Competence Order (LCO) under the Assembly process to propose the requirement to install Automatic Fire Suppression Systems (domestic sprinklers) in all new residential premises.

The LCO had been successful and had resulted in endorsement from the Privy Council in Westminster earlier this year which paved the way for an Assembly Measure, which would if successful, result in the necessary changes to legislation.

The Assembly released the draft measure for public consultation in July and as Members would expect, the Fire and Rescue Services response to the consultation had been overwhelmingly supportive of the measure and the legislative changes it sought to bring about.

Committee were greatly supportive of the Measure and ACFO Bates provided clarification on a number of questions posed by Members. He indicated that, along with representatives from North and South Wales Fire Services, he would be giving evidence to the Assembly Legislation Committee who were undertaking scrutiny of the proposed Measure on 30th September 2010 and Members would be kept informed of progress in due course.

RESOLUTION

It was RESOLVED that the report be noted and that Members continue to support the lobbying for legislative changes and the general promotion of sprinklers

10 TO APPROVE THE STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 2009/10

The Director of Resources and Procurement, Liz Aitken, reported that in previous years the Annual Statement of Accounts had to be presented, subject to audit, to the Fire Authority by 30th June. After completion of the audit the Authority were required to approve any amendments to the Statement of Accounts by 30th September. Due to a change in Regulations this year, formal approval of the pre audit accounts by Members was no longer required, although they did have to be signed by the Director of Resources by 30th June 2010. The un audited accounts had therefore been signed by the due date and presented to the Resources Committee on 12th July 2010 for

information.

Under the new Regulations the final audited Annual Statement of Accounts had to be approved by the Authority by 30th September and therefore the final annual statement of accounts for the year ended 31st March 2010 was presented for Members' approval.

RESOLUTION

It was RESOLVED that the final annual Statement of Accounts for the year ended 31st March 2010 be approved

11 TO APPROVE THE LETTER OF REPRESENTATION REGARDING THE 2009/10 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The Director of Resources and Procurement reported that the Wales Audit Office required a letter of representation regarding the 2009/10 Statement of Accounts before the audit of the Financial Statements could be completed. The letter had to be considered by the Authority and then be signed by both the Director of Resources and the Chair of the meeting considering the letter.

RESOLUTION

It was RESOLVED that the Statement of Assurance be approved for signature by the Chair of the Authority and the Chief Fire Officer and for inclusion in the Statement of Accounts.

12 TO RECEIVE THE ISA 260 REPORT FOR 2009/10: AUDIT OF ACCOUNTING STATEMENTS – REPORT TO THOSE CHARGED WITH GOVERNANCE

Gilbert Lloyd of the Authority's Auditors KPMG presented the Audit of Accounting Statements to the Authority and reported that apart from two amendments which had been corrected by the Authority, he had no concerns about the Accounts and paid tribute to the Director of Resources and her team for the excellent work they had carried out over the past accounting year.

Thanks were extended to Mr Lloyd for his professional help and advice over the past few years and Members again wished him well in his retirement.

RESOLUTION

It was RESOLVED that the Audit of Accounting Statements be received and approved.

13 TO RECEIVE A REPORT ON THE WELSH LANGUAGE BOARD'S RESPONSES TO MWWFRS ANNUAL MONITORING REPORT

The Head of Corporate Communication and Member Support, Jacqui Maunder, reported that the Authority had submitted their annual Welsh Language report on 18th May 2010 to the Welsh Language Board and feedback received had indicated the

Authority's excellent progress in their drive towards improving the bilingual services they delivered and how much the profile of the Welsh language within the Service had been raised.

The Welsh language Board had visited the Service on 21st September where the feedback from the Report had been discussed in detail and both Jacqui Maunder and the Temporary Welsh Language and Governance Officer, Julie Owens, had been complimented on their commitment and hard work in driving the use of the Welsh language forward within the Authority.

Members noted that a Welsh Language Forum 'Grŵp Iaith' would be introduced within the Service in January 2011 consisting of key members of staff who were representatives of the Service as a whole. Included in the Forum would be the Fire Authority's Welsh Language sponsor Councillor Eurfyl Evans and Policy Board Sponsor ACFO Paul Bates.

Members were delighted with the success of the Welsh language report and Councillor Dyfrig Thomas requested that a press release be sent out publishing the Authority's achievements in the promotion of the Welsh Language.

RESOLUTION

It was RESOLVED that

- i) the report on the Authority's Welsh Language Scheme be noted*
- ii) a press release be sent out publishing the Authority's achievements in the promotion of the Welsh Language.*

14 TO RECEIVE A REPORT ON ATTENDANCE AT THE WLGA CONFERENCE IN LLANDUDNO

The WLGA Conference was held on 17th June 2010 in Llandudno and was attended by Councillors Andrea Davies, Jeff Holmes and Thomas Tudor.

RESOLUTION

It was RESOLVED that the report be received for information

15 TO RECEIVE THE SERVICE DELIVERY REPORT

The Service Delivery Report was received for information

