

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



**MID AND WEST WALES FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY**

**COFNODION  
CYFARFOD CYFFREDINOL BLNYDDOL YR AWDURDOD**

**GANOLFAN GYNADLEDDA  
PENCADLYS Y GWASANAETH TÂN AC ACHUB,  
CAERFYRDDIN**

Dydd Mercher 3 Mehefin 2009

**MINUTES  
OF THE AUTHORITY ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**THE CONFERENCE CENTRE  
FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE HEADQUARTERS,  
CARMARTHEN**

**Wednesday 3 June 2009**

11.30am – 12.20pm

**PRESENOLDEB/ATTENDANCE**

Presennol yn y Cyfarfod/Present at Meeting:

<b>CADEIRYDD/CHAIRMAN:</b>	T E Evans
<b>IS-GADEIRYDD/VICE CHAIRMAN:</b>	C Philpott
<b>AELODAU/MEMBERS:</b>	Cyng/Cllrs: A Woolcock, G Phillips, G Seabourne, R Smith, F A Torrens, M Williams, R Lewis, G Thomas, J Holmes, J Dinham, P Llewellyn, D Fellows, D Davies, J J J Davies, R Llewellyn, P James, S Lloyd-Janes
<b>YMDDIHEURIADAU/APOLOGIES:</b>	A Davies, J Newbury, D Thomas, T Tudor, A Jopling
<b>YN BRESENNOL /IN ATTENDANCE:</b>	R Smith, P Coleman, E Aitken, A Howells, K Jones W Edwards, P Bates, C Davies, Cllr C Crowley, Cllr T Devichand

## 1 DECLARATION BY MEMBERS OF ANY PERSONAL INTERESTS

None were declared.

## 2 PERSONAL MATTERS/CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councillor Evans extended a very warm welcome to the new Members of the Fire Authority.

Chief Fire Officer R Smith welcomed former Chairman of the Fire Authority, Councillor C.J. Crowley, to the meeting and took the opportunity to formally recognise the contribution he made during the past 12 years as a Fire Authority Member and the last two years as Chairman. In response, Councillor Crowley stated that it had been a privilege to have served as Chair of the Fire Authority for the past two years. He thanked everyone for their support during what was, at times, a difficult period and wished fellow Members and Officers every success for the future.

Members commended Councillor Crowley's professionalism and expressed their gratitude for his contribution to the Authority.

Former Fire Authority Member Councillor T Devichand was welcomed to the meeting and tribute was paid to her involvement over the last 5 years in contributing to making communities in Mid and West Wales safer. Members also extended their best wishes for her new position as Vice Chair of Carmarthenshire County Council.

## 3 ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR 2009/2010

Councillor T E Evans was proposed and duly seconded. There were no other nominations.

Upon being put to the vote,

***It was RESOLVED that Councillor T E Evans be elected Chairman of the Fire and Rescue Authority for the ensuing year 2009/2010.***

In response, Councillor Evans thanked Members for their support and for all the confidence shown in him.

## 4 ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRPERSON FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR 2009/2010

Councillor C Philpott was nominated and duly seconded. There were no other nominations.

Upon being put to a vote,

***It was RESOLVED that Councillor C Philpott be elected Vice Chairperson of the Fire and Rescue Authority for the ensuing year 2009/2010.***

In response, Councillor Philpott thanked Members for showing confidence in her and offered the Chairman her full support during his term of office. Councillor Philpott noted that she was delighted at being elected as Vice Chair and stated that she would endeavour to support all Members over the coming months.

## **5 TO APPROVE THE COMPOSITION OF THE AUTHORITY'S COMMITTEES AND TO APPOINT MEMBERS TO SERVE UPON THEM**

The Fire Authority were requested to approve the composition and appointment of Members to Committees and Working Groups for the 2009/2010 Municipal Year, ensuring that all seats on the Authority's Standing Committees were allocated in a manner that reflected the overall political composition of the Authority.

### **RESOLUTION**

***It was RESOLVED that the Membership and composition of the Authority's Committees and Working Groups be agreed as follows:***

#### **Performance, Review and Audit (10)**

Councillors: R Lewis, G Seabourne, P Llewellyn, T Tudor, G Phillips, C Philpott, J Holmes, J J J Davies, P James, J Dudley

#### **People and Organisational Development (10)**

Councillors: A Davies, P Llewellyn, A Jopling, R Smith, G Phillips, C Philpott, J Holmes, R Llewellyn, M Williams, P James

#### **Resources (15)**

Councillors: F Torrens, D Davies, JJJ Davies, D Fellows, G Thomas, M Williams, S Lloyd-Janes, G Phillips, G Seabourne, R LI. Smith, TE Evans, J Newbury, J Dudley, D Thomas, J Dinham

#### **Modernisation Working Group (8)**

Councillor T E Evans (Chair of the Authority)  
Councillor C Philpott (Vice Chair of the Authority)  
Councillor R Llewellyn (Carmarthenshire)  
Councillor P James (Ceredigion)  
Councillor R Lewis (Swansea)  
Councillor J Dudley (Neath Port Talbot)  
Councillor P Llewellyn (Pembrokeshire)  
Councillor G Thomas (Powys)

## Standards Committee

Members noted that Councillor JJJ Davies was currently serving his second term which ran to the 9<sup>th</sup> December 2009, whilst both Councillor G Seabourne and P James' current term of appointment ran to the 7<sup>th</sup> July 2012. It was further noted that the appointment of Members to serve on the Standards Committee did not need to be politically balanced.

It was *RESOLVED* that:-

1. *Councillor J Holmes to replace Councillor P James for a 4 year term of office running to 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2013.*
2. *Councillor G Seabourne's term of office continue to the 7<sup>th</sup> July 2012.*
3. *Councillor JJJ Davies' term of office continue to 9<sup>th</sup> December 2009.*

## RRP Working Group (6)

Councillor J J J Davies (Carmarthenshire)  
Councillor P James (Ceredigion)  
Councillor R Smith (Swansea)  
Councillor A Woolcock (Neath Port Talbot)  
Councillor P Llewellyn (Pembrokeshire)  
Councillor M Williams (Powys)

It was noted that two new Members would be nominated to serve on the Joint Consultative Committee at the next meeting of the People and Organisational Development Committee on 15<sup>th</sup> June 2009.

## **6 TO APPROVE THE FIRE AUTHORITY'S STANDING CONFERENCES, AND AGREE THE REPRESENTATION AT, AND NOMINATION FOR EACH CONFERENCE**

As part of last year's Efficiency Exercise it had been determined to monitor and review Member attendance at Conferences and Seminars. Consideration was therefore given to an amended schedule of Authority Standing Conferences whereby Members were asked to deliberate or reaffirm the policy in respect of representation. The Clerk stated that acceptance of the revised schedule would result in financial savings which could be redirected towards Member training and development. It was further noted that attendance at conferences should be determined in accordance with their relevance to the Fire Authority.

### **RESOLUTION**

*It was RESOLVED that*

1. *Members reduce representation to the Fire Conference from 4 to 2 Members.*

2. *Members maintain representation at the WLGA Conference for up to 4 Members.*
3. *Members maintain representation of 4 Members to attend the Armistice Remembrance Ypres and that representation would be re-assessed at a later date, once all Members had an opportunity to attend.*
4. *Members maintain representation at the Irish CFO Conference with the proviso that an assessment would be made each year to determine the relevance to the Fire Authority and attendance levels would be established accordingly.*

## 7 TO CONFIRM APPOINTMENTS OF MEMBERS TO OUTSIDE BODIES

Members were aware that the Authority was represented on a variety of outside bodies which demonstrated the Authority's commitment to collaboration and partnership working. Members were asked to confirm or otherwise representation for the following committees for 2009/2010:

- **WLGA Council** (Chair or Vice Chair)
- **WLGA Fire & Rescue Panel** (Chair and Vice Chair)
- **The Chairs & Chiefs Ministerial Fire & Rescue Liaison Group** (Chair or Vice Chair)
- **LGA Fire Services Forum** (One representative to be decided from the three Welsh Fire & Rescue Authorities)
- **WLGA Co-ordinating Committee** (One representative to be decided from the three Welsh Fire & Rescue Authorities)
- **Joint Council for Wales** (Chair of People & Organisational Development Committee)
- **Ceredigion Community Safety Partnership** (Cllr P James)
- **Firebrake Trustees Meeting** (Chair)

Members were informed that they would be notified of the membership to both the LGA Fire Services Forum and WLGA Co-ordinating committee once the three Welsh Fire Authorities had agreed on representation.

Councillor P James emphasised that, given the current financial climate, strengthening joint working across all public services in Wales would be of benefit to the Fire Authority and highlighted the importance of having Authority representation on both Community Safety Partnerships and Local Service Boards. Chief Fire Officer Richard Smith confirmed that the Authority was represented on all Community Safety Partnerships within each Constituent Authority but could not be represented on Local Service Boards (LSBs) unless it had been invited to do so. Members were assured that the Fire Authority would continue to lobby with the Chief Executives of the constituent authorities to gain representation onto the LSBs.

## **RESOLUTION**

*It was RESOLVED that:*

*The above nominations be approved.*

### **8 TO APPROVE THE SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS FOR 2009-2010**

Consideration was given to the schedule of meetings for 2009-2010 which set out the dates for the Fire and Rescue Authority and its Committees:

## **RESOLUTION**

*It was RESOLVED that the following list of meetings for 2009-2010 be approved:*

### **SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS 2009-2010**

<b>FIRE AUTHORITY</b>	3 June 2009 (AGM) 29 June 2009 27 July 2009 (Special Meeting) 28 September 2009 26 October 2009 14 December 2009 8 February 2010 10 May 2010
<b>RESOURCES</b>	13 July 2009 16 November 2009 11 January 2010 29 March 2010
<b>PEOPLE &amp; ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT</b>	15 June 2009 14 September 2009 2 November 2009 18 January 2010 15 March 2010
<b>PERFORMANCE, REVIEW AND AUDIT COMMITTEE</b>	20 July 2009 12 October 2009 30 November 2009 25 January 2010 19 April 2010
<b>STANDARDS</b>	19 October 2009 12 April 2010

Reference was made to the Graduation Ceremony for new Firefighter Recruits and it was confirmed that the ceremony would be held on the afternoon of the 14<sup>th</sup> September 2009 following the meeting of the People and Organisational Development Committee.

Members were also presented with a schedule of training events and seminars for 2009/10 and were informed that subject areas in the main had been identified as areas by members themselves where specific training would be beneficial in terms of Member Development.

## **9 Any Other Items of Business**

Councillor Paul James highlighted that both Neath Port Talbot County Command and Ceredigion County Command had achieved significant reductions in the number of Automatic Fire Alarms (AFAs) over recent months. It was suggested that a presentation be given at the next Fire Authority meeting on 29<sup>th</sup> June 2009 to share best practice.

### ***RESOLUTION***

***It was RESOLVED that the County Commanders for Ceredigion and Neath & Port Talbot be invited to the next Fire Authority meeting to give a presentation on Automatic Fire Alarm reduction initiatives.***