



**Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru
The National Assembly for Wales**

**Yr Is-bwyllgor Datblygu Gwledig
The Rural Development Sub-committee**

**Dydd Iau, 12 Gorffennaf 2007
Thursday, 12 July 2007**

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Cofnodir y trafodion hyn yn yr iaith y llefarwyd hwy ynddi yn y pwyllgor. Yn ogystal, cynhwysir cyfieithiad Saesneg o gyfraniadau yn y Gymraeg.

These proceedings are reported in the language in which they were spoken in the committee.
In addition, an English translation of Welsh speeches is included.

Aelodau'r pwyllgor yn bresennol
Committee members in attendance

Alun Davies	Llafur (Cadeirydd) Labour (Chair)
Mick Bates	Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru Welsh Liberal Democrats
Brynle Williams	Ceidwadwyr Cymreig Welsh Conservatives

Swyddogion Gwasanaeth Seneddol y Cynulliad yn bresennol
Assembly Parliamentary Service officials in attendance

Claire Griffiths	Dirprwy Glerc Deputy Clerk
Dr Virginia Hawkins	Clerc Clerk

Dechreuodd y cyfarfod am 9.10 a.m.
The meeting began at 9.10 a.m.

Ethol Cadeirydd y Pwyllgor
Election of Committee Chair

[1] **Dr Hawkins:** Good morning, ladies and gentlemen, and welcome to the first meeting of the Rural Development Sub-committee. The first item on our agenda is the election of the Chair. Under Standing Order No. 10.18, I invite nominations for the Chair.

[2] **Brynle Williams:** I nominate Mr Alun Davies.

[3] **Dr Hawkins:** Thank you. Are there any other nominations?

[4] **Mick Bates:** I second the nomination.

[5] **Dr Hawkins:** Thank you. I therefore declare that Alun Davies has been elected Chair of the committee.

[6] **Alun Davies:** That is an example of democracy in action, and I am pleased with that. Thank you for that. I will not run through the housekeeping rules, as Mick did so ably in an earlier committee.

9.10 a.m.

Cynnig i Gytuno ar Bwnc a Chynllun Prosiect ar gyfer Ymchwiliad Craffu
Cyntaf yr Is-bwyllgor
Proposal to Agree the Subject and Project Plan for the Sub-committee's First
Scrutiny Inquiry

[7] **Alun Davies:** We have agreed that this inquiry will be into bovine TB. After Brynle's sterling performance on Radio Wales this morning, I think that we have little choice but to continue with this. It was first class. We have agreed in principle that we would start this inquiry at the Royal Welsh Show on 25 July, where we will hold a hearing, to which the Farmers Union of Wales, the National Farmers' Union, the Wales Young Farmers' Clubs and

the Country Land and Business Association will be invited. I assume that we are agreed on that. I see that we are.

[8] We will then seek to hold another hearing, possibly in recess—we will check dates—with other organisations such as the badger groups and the Royal Society for the Protection of Animals and any other organisations that we agree to invite, before we have a formal meeting with the Chief Veterinary Officer for Wales and the Minister in the first part of the autumn term.

[9] It is my intention to be able to produce a report by the end of September.

[10] **Mick Bates:** Would the intention be to scrutinise the recent report from the independent scientific group?

[11] **Alun Davies:** Yes.

[12] **Brynle Williams:** Will we have an opportunity—it was mentioned last time—to get officials from Ireland, or for us to go over there to gather evidence? I have been once, but I do not think that anybody else has. It would be advantageous to do that, especially given some of the remarks made publicly this morning, so that we can get a handle on this problem.

[13] **Alun Davies:** I think that you are right. I will ask the clerk to investigate that possibility and come back to us with some proposals. I am thinking of a visit sometime in the first two weeks of September to meet the relevant people and come straight back, so to do that reasonably quickly. Are you happy with that as an overall plan? I see that you are. As there is no other business, this meeting is concluded. Thank you very much.

*Daeth y cyfarfod i ben am 9.13 a.m.
The meeting ended at 9.13 a.m.*