

Sustainability Committee

Minutes (SC(3)-22-08)

Date: 13 November 2008

Time: 9:00 - 11:15

Venue: Committee Room 3, Senedd

Assembly Members in Attendance

Mick Bates (Chair), Montgomeryshire

Lorraine Barrett, Cardiff South and Penarth

Lesley Griffiths, Wrexham

Darren Millar, Clwyd West

Rhodri Glyn Thomas, Carmarthen East and Dinefwr

Brynle Williams, North Wales

Leanne Wood, South Wales Central

Committee Service

Virginia Hawkins, Clerk

Meriel Singleton, Deputy Clerk

Others in Attendance

Peter Davies, Sustainable Development Commission

Ketih Davies, Countryside Council for Wales (by video conference)

John Hamer, Countryside Council for Wales (by video conference)

Bettina Bockelmann-Evans, Cardiff University

Ian Masters, Swansea University

Peter Jones, RSPB

Ruth Lovell, RSPB

Roger Wade, Environment Agency

Mike Evans, Environment Agency

Item 1: Introduction, Apologies and Substitutions

1.1 The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were received from Alun Davies and Karen Sinclair.

Item 2 : Inquiry into Carbon Reduction. Evidence Session on Energy Production

2.1 The Chair welcomed Peter Davies, Keith Davies and John Hamer to the meeting and invited them to make some opening remarks on large scale renewables. Members questioned the witnesses.

2.2 Peter Davies agreed to provide the Committee with further information on the Sustainable Development Commission's views on connection to the power distribution grid in Wales.

2.3 Keith Davies undertook to provide the Committee with further information on Countryside Council for Wales' involvement with Marine Renewable Technologies.

Item 3 : Inquiry into Carbon Reduction. Evidence Session on Energy Production

3.1 The Chair welcomed Bettina Bockelmann-Evans, Ian Masters, Ruth Lovell, Peter Jones, Roger Wade and Mike Evans to the meeting and invited them to make some opening remarks on Marine Renewable Technology. Members questioned the witnesses.

3.2 Ruth Lovell agreed to provide the committee with a copy of the engineering study on the proposed Severn Barrage Scheme commissioned by RSPB, and a copy of the report by Rupert Armstrong-Evans on tidal reefs.

3.3 Bettina Bockelmann-Evans agreed to provide the committee with figures on the impact of global warming on fish within the Severn Estuary.

Item 4: Motion under Rule 10.37 of Standing Orders to Resolve to Exclude the Public from the Meeting for Item 4

3.1 The Chair moved a motion, under Standing Order 10.37(ix), to resolve to exclude the public from the meeting for Items 5-7, to discuss matters relating to the internal business of the Committee.

3.2 The Committee agreed to the motion and went into private session.

Item 5: Consideration of Rural Development Sub-committee's report on Reorganisation of Rural Schools

5.1 This item was deferred to a future meeting

Item 6: Discussion on the relationship of the Committee with the Climate Change Commission

6.1 The Committee discussed ways of working with the Climate Change Commission.

Item 7: Discussion on the Committee Timetable

7.1 The Committee agreed to not to hold a meeting on 11 December

Item 8: Papers to Note

8.1 The Committee noted the papers