

Cynulliad National Cenedlaethol Assembly for **Cymru Wales**

Y Pwyllgor Deisebau

Adroddiad Cwblhau

Crynodeb o ystyriaeth y Pwyllgor Deisebau o P-03-185 Cynllun adfywio Llanilltud Fawr

Mehefin 2009

Cyflwynwyd yr e-ddeiseb

12 Medi 2008

Dyfarnwyd yn dderbyniadwy 1 Chwefror 2009 (ar ôl casglu llofnodion)

Ystyriaeth gychwynnol

10 Chwefror 2009

Ystyriodd y Pwyllgor y ddeiseb am y tro cyntaf, a chytunodd i ysgrifennu at y Dirprwy Weinidog dros Adfywio yn gofyn am ragor o wybodaeth am y cais am grant a'r rheswm pam y cafodd ei wrthod.

(Gweler Atodiad 1 ar gyfer y darn perthnasol o'r trawsgrifiad o'r cyfarfod ar 10 Chwefror 2009 ac Atodiad 2 ar gyfer y llythyr a anfonwyd at y Dirprwy Weinidog dros Adfywio)

Ystyriaeth bellach

5 Mai 2009

Trafododd y Pwyllgor ymateb gan y Gweinidog dros Faterion Gwledig, a chytunodd y Pwyllgor y byddai'n gofyn i'r prif ddeisebydd am sylwadau ysgrifenedig ynghylch yr ymateb i'w ddeiseb gan y Gweinidog dros Faterion Gwledig a'r cyngor a roddwyd ganddi ar gyfer gwneud ceisiadau pellach.

(Gweler Atodiad 1 ar gyfer y darn perthnasol o'r trawsgrifiad o'r cyfarfod ar 5 Mai 2009 ac Atodiad 2 ar gyfer yr ymateb a gafwyd gan y Gweinidog dros Faterion Gwledig)

9 Mehefin 2009

Trafododd y Pwyllgor ymateb y prif ddeisebydd i lythyr y Gweinidog dros Faterion Gwledig, a chytunodd y Pwyllgor nad oedd modd mynd â'r ddeiseb ymhellach, felly daeth ei ystyriaeth ohoni i ben.

(Gweler Atodiad 1 ar gyfer y darn perthnasol o'r trawsgrifiad o'r cyfarfod ar 9 Mehefin 2009)

Clerc y Pwyllgor Deisebau Mehefin 2009

Annex 1

Trawsgrifiadau o gyfarfodydd y Pwyllgor Deisebau

10 Chwefror 2009

Val Lloyd: The second new petition, P-03-185, is again raised by councillor Russell Downe, and it received 491 signatures. It is in relation to the regeneration of Llantwit Major and calls on the National Assembly for Wales,

'to support the appeal of the Boverton Road Regeneration Scheme for the historic town of Llantwit Major, Britain's earliest centre of learning'.

I have learned something today.

Andrew R.T. Davies: May I seek your guidance, Chair? I am a former chairman of Creative Rural Communities, which is the awarding body of the particular grant that the petition seeks to address, although I no longer have any contact with the organisation, other than on a constituency basis. Would it be appropriate for me to stand down on this matter, or, given that I no longer have contact with the organisation—

Michael German: It is not the awarding body; it is the receiving body. It made the bid.

Andrew R.T. Davies: Sorry, it is the facilitating body.

Val Lloyd: As long as you do not vote on it, it would be in line with what we have all done when we have an interest in a petition. Does anyone have any comments on the petition?

Michael German: This concerns the rejection of the grant, and I think that it would be sensible to find out from the Welsh Assembly Government why it rejected the grant first. Is it because it did not score highly or because it did not meet the criteria? We need to know that, so that we can make a judgment as to whether to take it further.

Val Lloyd: I am in agreement with that. Is everyone else? I see that you are, so we will take it forward on that basis.

5 Mai 2009

Val Lloyd: Moving on to petition P-03-185 on Llantwit Major regeneration, it is interesting, is it not? We have had a comprehensive letter from the Minister for Rural Affairs.

Andrew R.T. Davies: The petitioners have been afforded a comprehensive debrief in the hope that further funding might become available for future applications. It is always lamentable when an application does not succeed, but it is a fact of life that these things happen. In the Minister's response, she has indicated that detailed negotiations are ongoing, and the Vale of Glamorgan succeeded in 80 per cent of its applications, so I am not quite sure where this petition goes from here—other than for the petitioners to be

asked if they are happy with the level of response from the Minister in offering a debrief.

Val Lloyd: They have had quite a lot of money for the approved projects as well.

Michael German: Presumably, they can always put new applications in, having had the advice as to what went wrong, and how they can improve.

Val Lloyd: Shall we close it, or write to the petitioners?

Andrew R.T. Davies: It would be good to write to the petitioners in the first instance just to seek their opinion on the detailed letter that the Minister has sent us. I cannot see how much further we can take this.

Val Lloyd: Nor can I.

Andrew R.T. Davies: Applications for grants are in the gift of others.

Michael German: Given that advice has been offered on how a future application might be improved, that is something that the petitioners need to be aware of. I would always recommend taking that advice. If someone says that you could have improved your application—

Val Lloyd: It is pointing you in the right direction.

Michael German: Yes.

Val Lloyd: Okay. We will write to the petitioner regarding their views.

9 Mehefin 2009

Sandy Mewies: We will move on to P-03-185, which calls on the National Assembly for Wales to support the appeal of the Boverton road regeneration scheme for Llantwit Major. Are there any comments on that?

Michael German: There is no more that we can do.

Bethan Jenkins: The petitioners seem to be happy.

Sandy Mewies: Shall we close the petition? I see that you are in agreement; thank you.

Atodiad 2

Y Pwyllgor Deisebau

Petitions Committee

Leighton Andrews AM Deputy Minister for Regeneration Welsh Assembly Government Cardiff Bay Cardiff CF99 1NA Bae Caerdydd / Cardiff Bay Caerdydd / Cardiff CF99 1NA

Our ref: P-03-185

12 February 2009

Dear Leighton

Petition P-03-185 - Llantwit Major Regeneration

The Petitions Committee considered a new e-petition at its meeting on 10 February, which calls upon the National Assembly for Wales to:

"support the appeal of the Boverton Road Regeneration Scheme for the historic town of Llantwit Major, Britain's earliest centre of learning."

We understand from the petitioners that the scheme was submitted to the Welsh Assembly Government for funding by Creative Rural Communities, the rural regeneration section of the Vale of Glamorgan Council, as part of the Rural Development Plan 2007-13. Despite strong community support as a major flagship project, the application was rejected.

The Committee agreed that I write to you to ask for details of the rationale behind the decision to reject the project application.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter, and I look forward to your response.

Yours sincerely

Val Lloyd

Val Lloyd Chair, Petitions Committee

Elin Jones AM/AC Y Gweinidog dros Faterion Gwledig Minister for Rural Affairs		,	J.S.
			raeth Cynulliad Cymru Assembly Government
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Re: Petition P-03-185- Llantwit Major Regeneration (Boverton Road)

I refer to your letter dated 12th February 2009 addressed to my colleague Leighton Andrews, Deputy Minister for Regeneration, I am responding as the project you refer to was submitted under the Rural Development Plan for Wales 2007-13.

The Creative Rural Communities Partnership was awarded status to act as the Local Partnership for the rural areas of the Vale of Glamorgan, under the Rural Development Plan for Wales 2007-13. The Partnership submitted 14 project applications for consideration, 1 was withdrawn by the Partnership during the appraisal process, 11 were approved and 2 were rejected. The total budget for the approved projects is £2,601,026 with £2,024,890 investment coming from the Rural Development Plan for Wales 2007-13.

The Welsh Assembly Government wrote to the Vale of Glamorgan Council as Lead Body for the Creative Rural Communities Partnership on the 1st July setting out the reasons for rejection of the projects and offering to continue to work with the Partnership, perhaps with a view to a future submission under the second Business Plan period (1st March 2011-31st Dec 2013).

There is an appeals process and the Council, as lead body for the Partnership, did lodge an appeal against the decision on Boverton Road. The appeal has moved through the first 4 stages of the appeals process to date with the rejection currently still upheld. There are further stages to progress through, should the Partnership decide to continue with the appeal.

Alongside the appeals process Assembly Government officials have met with representatives of the Council, as the Lead Body of the Partnership (18th December 2008) to discuss the continuing reasons for rejection and also to look at how the project's

development can be furthered in the intervening period prior to any future submission under Business Plan 2.

One of the reasons given for rejection concerned the age of a study provided in support of the project, which was produced in 1996. The Creative Rural Communities Partnership intends to use around £8,000 of Rural Community Action funding from the current Action Plan year to update the study. The Welsh Assembly Government provides £148,908 funding to the Rural Community Action capacity building programme for 2008/09 in the rural Vale. This update to the study may aid future applications.

Another problem related to the necessity or otherwise of obtaining Planning Permission for the proposed capital works. After the end of the appraisal process the Council obtained a letter from their Planning department advising that planning is not required, which again may aid any future application.

Officials recently went on a site visit with Council staff and the Welsh Assembly Government's Rural Programmes team will continue to work with the Council and Partnership to look at available funding options including the possibility of a submission under Axis 3 of the Rural Development Plan for Wales under Business Plan 2.

Elin Jones AC/AM Y Gweinidog dros Faterion Gwledig Minister for Rural Affairs