

BUSINESS PAPERS

VOTES & PROCEEDINGS FOR TUESDAY, 20th MARCH 2001

PART 2 - SECTION H

The session commenced at 2pm

The Presiding Officer made a statement on the resignation of Christine Humphreys

2.01pm

Questions to the First Minister

The first 10 questions were answered. Questions 5 and 9 were withdrawn.

2.41pm

Debate on the Foot and Mouth Crisis

A procedural motion was proposed by the Minister for Assembly Business under Standing Order 6.16 to bring forward the following *No Named Day Motion* which was tabled on the 14th March 2001, to change the ordering of business listed in Standing Order 6.11 to allow the motion to be taken before statements and to defer Janice Gregory's short debate

A vote was taken on the procedural motion:

For 42; Abstain 0; Against 0; Total 42

The procedural motion was agreed

No Named Day Motion

To propose that the National Assembly, debate at the earliest opportunity, the Foot and Mouth Emergency and its effect on the Farming Industry and the wider economy of Wales.

The following amendments were tabled:

1. Jocelyn Davies (South East Wales)

Delete all after 'National Assembly' and replace with:

'recognises the enormous crisis facing agriculture and the wider rural economy in light of the Foot and Mouth outbreak.

2. Jocelyn Davies (South East Wales)

Insert at end of motion

Calls on the Minister for Agriculture and Rural Affairs to:

- Immediately commission an all -Wales Action Plan in conjunction with the Rural Partnership which will outline measures to alleviate the current income crisis facing the agricultural, leisure and tourism sectors in Wales and there after promote full recovery. The National Action Plan should be fully funded by the UK Treasury, over and above the Annual Barnett Block.

3. Jocelyn Davies (South East Wales)

Insert at end of motion

Calls on the Minister for Agriculture and Rural Affairs to:

- Recognise the shambolic handling of the setting up of Michael Meacher's Foot and Mouth Taskforce

4. Jocelyn Davies (South East Wales)

Insert at end of motion

Calls on the Minister for Agriculture and Rural Affairs to:

- Ensure that all decisions relating to livestock culls are based on scientific advice alone and are fully discussed with farmers in advance who are affected by such decisions

5. Jocelyn Davies (South East Wales)

Insert at end of motion:

Calls on the Minister for Agriculture and Rural Affairs to:

- Promote a longer term Agricultural Policy which would include the following elements:
- Rebuilding a network of small and medium sized abattoirs
- Promote local food supply chains
- A strategy to assist and develop the food processing industry
- The promotion of equity between retailer, supermarket, processor and farmer

A vote was taken:

Amendment 1

For 49; Abstain 0; Against 0; Total 49

Amendment 1 was carried

Amendment 2

For 13; Abstain 8; Against 28; Total 49

Amendment 2 was defeated

Amendment 3

For 21; Abstain 0; Against 28; Total 49

Amendment 3 was defeated

Amendment 4

For 21; Abstain 0; Against 28; Total 49

Amendment 4 was defeated

Amendment 5

For 48; Abstain 0; Against 0; Total 48

Amendment 5 was carried

A vote was taken on the motion, as amended:

For 49; Abstain 0; Against 0; Total 49

The motion, as amended, was approved

4.01pm

The First Minister made a statement on Progress of the Partnership Government

4.26pm

Business Statement: the Assembly Business Minister

The business statement was agreed

4.32pm

The Deputy Presiding Officer took the Chair

4.32pm

Point of Order - Ieuan Wyn Jones asked about the time available for the Plaid Cymru minority party debate.

4.33pm

Delegation of Functions of the Transport Act to the First Minister

To propose that the National Assembly for Wales, acting under sections 62(1)(b) of the Government of Wales Act 1998, resolves to delegate all the functions of the National Assembly contained in or under the Transport Act 2000 (available on the HMSO web site: <http://www.legislation.hmsso.gov.uk/acts/acts2000/20000038.htm> to the Assembly First Minister, save those which by law cannot be so delegated.

Nothing in this motion will have the effect of reducing the pre-eminence of the authority of the full Assembly or of reducing the role of the Assembly Committees in the exercise of the above functions.

A vote was taken on the motion:

For 37; Abstain 0; Against 6; Total 43

The motion was approved

4.51pm

Minority Party Debate: Plaid Cymru

This National Assembly:

- asserts its belief in the vital importance of a fully integrated transport policy to the economic and social development of Wales;
- deplores the current state of much of our transport infrastructure;
- expresses its concern at the National Assembly's lack of power over rail policy and the Strategic Rail Authority(SRA);
- and calls on the Cabinet to :

a. Negotiate with the UK Government as a matter of urgency additional representation for Wales on the SRA, and powers for the National Assembly to instruct the SRA

b. Advocate to the UK Government the bringing of Railtrack into public control

c. Establish a Passenger Transport Authority Wales to co-ordinate the provision of services.

The following amendments were tabled:

1. Andrew Davies (Swansea West)

Kirsty Williams (Brecon and Radnorshire);

Delete "asserts" in first line of first bullet point and replace with "Re-asserts".

2. Andrew Davies (Swansea West)

Kirsty Williams (Brecon and Radnorshire);

Add after "Wales" at the end of first bullet point:

"as set out in *Putting Wales First* and *betterwales.com*"

3. Andrew Davies (Swansea West)

Kirsty Williams (Brecon and Radnorshire);

Delete second bullet point and replace with:

"deplores the under-investment in transport infrastructure by successive Conservative governments from 1979-1997 and welcomes the increasing amount of funding announced by the Assembly"

4. David Davies (Monmouth);

Add at end of bullet point 2:

"and deplores the Governments decision to slash road building projects."

5. David Davies (Monmouth);

Insert as new bullet point 4:

"regrets high taxes on fuel paid by motorists in Wales."

6. Andrew Davies (Swansea West)

Kirsty Williams (Brecon and Radnorshire);

Add before "Negotiate" in first line of Bullet Point (a):

"Confirms the objective of the Partnership Government to"

7. Andrew Davies (Swansea West)

Kirsty Williams (Brecon and Radnorshire);

Add at the end of bullet (a):

"on matters affecting Wales"

8. David Davies (Monmouth);

Delete point (b) and replace with:

"recognise that a privatised rail system is the only way to ensure private sector funding for railways, but believes that a new safety authority is needed."

**9. Andrew Davies (Swansea West)
Kirsty Williams (Brecon and Radnorshire);**

Delete bullet point (b) and replace with:

"Promote with the UK Government means of delivering a safe and modern rail infra-structure based on enhanced levels of public control"

**10. Andrew Davies (Swansea West)
Kirsty Williams (Brecon and Radnorshire);**

Delete bullet point (c) and replace with:

"Co-operate with the Assembly's EPT Committee in exploring the case for the establishment of a Welsh Passenger Transport Authority or Authorities along with other models for securing integrated transport to co-ordinate provision of services; making the appropriate representations to the UK govt where necessary"

11. David Davies (Monmouth);

Add as new point (d) at end of motion:

"Implement practical measures to support different forms of public transport."

5.29pm

Procedural Motion

The Minister for Assembly Business moved a procedural motion under SO 6.18 to adjourn the minority party debate to another day.

A vote was taken on the procedural motion:

For 29; Abstain 0; Against 6; Total 35

The procedural motion was approved

The session concluded at 5.30pm

The Assembly will sit again in Plenary at

9.05 am on Thursday, 22nd March 2001

E P Silk

Clerk to the Assembly

DOCUMENTS LAID SINCE THE ASSEMBLY LAST MET

DOCUMENTS LAID ON 19 MARCH 2001

The European Social Fund (National Assembly for Wales) Regulations 2001(LD664)

DOCUMENTS LAID ON 15 MARCH 2001

Cabinet Response to the Audit Committee Report on Cardiff Bay Barage (Report 01-01) (LD663)

DOCUMENTS LAID ON 14 MARCH 2001

The South Wales Sea Fisheries District (Variation) Order 2001 (LD644)

The Local Government (Best Value Performance Indicators) (Wales) Order 2001 (LD645) - Please Note this document contains 120 pages

The National Health Service (Optical Charges and Payments) and (General Ophthalmic Services) (Amendment No.2) (Wales) Regulations 2001 (LD646)

The Meat (Hygiene and Inspection) (Charges) (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2001 (LD647)

The Ancient Monuments (Applications for Scheduled Monument Consent) (Welsh Forms and Particulars) Regulations 2001 (LD648)

National Health Service (Charges for Drugs and Appliances) (Wales) Regulations 2001 (LD649)

The Local Authorities (Capital Finance) (Rate of Discount for 2001/2002) (Wales) Regulations 2001 (LD650)

The General Teaching Council for Wales (Disciplinary Functions) Regulations 2001 (LD651)

The National Health Service (Pharmaceutical Services) (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2001 (LD652)

The National Health Service (Optical Charges and Payments) and (General Ophthalmic Services) (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2001 (LD653)

The National Health Service (General Dental Service) and (Dental Charges) (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2001 (LD654)

National Health Service (Travelling Expenses and Remission of Charges) (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2001 (LD655)

Memorandum of Corrections Pursuant to Standing Order 22.13 - The Restriction on Pithing (Wales) Regulations 2001 (LD656)

Memorandum of Corrections Pursuant to Standing Order 22.13 - The Smoke Control Areas (Exempted Fireplaces) (Wales) Order 2001 (LD657)

Debate on the Motion to approve budgetary transfers across main expendirure groups - Explanatory Note (LD658)

Debate on the Motion to approve in-year transfers within main expendirure groups - Table 1 Revised Budgets for 2000-01 (LD659)

Debate on the Motion to approve changes within main expendirure groups - Notes for Motion Changes (LD662)

Local Government Finance (Wales) Special Grant Report (No.6) (Wales) 2001 (LD660)

Local Government Finance (Wales) Special Grant Report (No.5) (Wales) 2001 (LD661)

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