

**BUSINESS PAPERS**

**PART 2 – SECTION H**

**VOTES & PROCEEDINGS FOR THURSDAY, 19<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2000**

**The Session commenced at 9.05am**

**Election of the Deputy Presiding Officer**

The Presiding Officer asked for nominations:

Karen Sinclair proposed the nomination of Rosemary Butler as Deputy Presiding Officer

Peter Black seconded the proposal

David Melding proposed the nomination of Dr John Marek as Deputy Presiding Officer

Jocelyn Davies seconded the nomination

Both candidates signified that they were content to be nominated

**9.11am**

The Assembly adjourned for 10minutes whilst preparations were made for a secret ballot in accordance with the standing orders.

A secret ballot was conducted in Committee Room 3.

The result of the secret ballot was as follows:

Rosemary Butler 27 Votes

John Marek 28 Votes

Total votes cast 55

**The Presiding Officer therefore declared John Marek elected as Deputy Presiding Officer.**

John Marek gave a short speech of thanks.

**9.43am**

**Questions to Edwina Hart, Minister for Finance and Communities**

The first 8 questions were reached (Mike German withdrew question 3; and Christine Humphreys was not present to ask question 5)

**9.59am**

**Questions to Sue Essex, Minister for Environment, Transport & Planning**

The first 6 questions were reached

**10.16am**

**Points of Order :**

**Dr Richard Edwards** regarding the election of the Deputy Presiding Officer which has breached an agreement for gender balance as between the Presiding and Deputy Presiding Officer.

**Brian Gibbons** asked if guidance could be produced on the timing of the taking of points of order.

**The Presiding Officer** noted that the standing orders made no mention of gender balance - it was for Members to bring forward proposals to change the standing orders. On timing he said that it was not his intention to interrupt proceedings to take points of order; and he would not take points of order during an election.

**Cynog Dafis:** Asked whether the Presiding Officer had received a request to make a statement from the Deputy First Minister on recent allegations.

**The Presiding Officer** confirmed that he had received no such request.

**10.25am**

**Statement: The Minister for Rural Affairs** advised the Assembly that there had been an error in the explanatory memorandum of The Specified Risk Material (Amendment) (Wales) Order 2000 (approved on 17<sup>th</sup> October 2000) which had been recently approved by the Assembly. It was not part of the Order and therefore did not affect the legality of the Order.

**10.25am**

**Approval of the Local Government Commencement Order**

*To propose that the National Assembly:*

Considers the principle of the Local Government Act 2000 (Commencement) (Wales) Order 2000 laid in the Table Office on 4 October 2000

### **A vote was taken on the principle of the Order:**

For 48; Abstain 0; Against 0; Total 48

### **The principle of the Order was agreed**

*To propose that the National Assembly:*

(a) considers the report of the Legislation Committee relating to the draft Order, The Local Government Act 2000 (Commencement) (Wales) Order 2000 laid in the Table Office on 11 October 2000.

(b) approves that the Order is made in accordance with the draft laid in the Table Office on 4 October 2000

### **A vote was taken on the Order:**

For 46 ; Abstain 0 ; Against 0; Total 46

### **The Order was agreed**

**10.36am**

### **Approval of The Seeds (National List of Varieties) Regulations 2000**

To propose that the National Assembly, acting in accordance with Standing Order No 22.33 approves the draft of the Seeds (National List of Varieties) Regulations 2000, a copy of which was laid in the Table Office on 12 October 2000

### **A vote was taken:**

For 10 ; Abstain 0 ; Against 42; Total 52

### **The Order was not approved.**

**11.24am**

### **Debate on the National Library**

To propose that the National Assembly:

- welcomes the National Library's plans to open up its collections and services to a larger number of users and a wider range of users, with a special emphasis on reaching those engaged in learning; and to co-operate with other cultural and educational organisations in order to make best use of the resources that are available;
- supports the National Library's proposal to undertake a large scale extension in the collections and services which it provides remotely, mainly in digital form over the Internet, to users in Wales and around the world;

- endorses the policy of the New Opportunities Fund to provide financial assistance to enable all public libraries, where practicable, to be on-line and linked to the National Grid for Learning by the end of 2002;
- encourages all public library authorities, and the National Library, to consolidate and develop their role in tackling social disadvantage and providing opportunities for learning

*The following amendments were selected*

**1. Owen John Thomas (South Wales Central);**

Add at the end of bullet point 3 'and will monitor the process thoroughly.'

**2. Owen John Thomas (South Wales Central);**

Add new bullet point 5 'Will ensure the provision of sufficient appropriate broadband networks throughout Wales so that these National Library and Local Government projects can be undertaken.'

**A vote was taken:**

**Amendment 1**

For 49; Abstain 0; Against 0; Total 49

**Amendment 1 was carried**

**Amendment 2**

For 14; Abstain 6; Against 29; Total 49

**Amendment 2 fell**

**The motion, as amended**

For 49; Abstain 0; Against 0; Total 49

**The motion, as amended, was carried**

**12.20pm**

**The Minister for Assembly Business moved a Procedural Motion under Standing Order 6.16 to extend the Plenary Session by 30 minutes**

**A vote was taken:**

For 45; Abstain 0; Against 1; Total 45

**The Procedural Motion was carried**

**12.21pm**

**Short Debate: Glyn Davies (Mid and West Wales); The implications for the National Assembly of a coalition of the Labour and Liberal Democrat groups**

**The session concluded at 12.40pm**

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**The Assembly will sit again in Plenary at**

**2.00 pm on Tuesday, 24<sup>th</sup> October 2000**

**J W Lloyd**

**Clerk to the Assembly**

**DOCUMENTS LAID SINCE THE ASSEMBLY LAST MET  
DOCUMENTS LAID ON 17 OCTOBER 2000**

Cost Benefit Analysis for Subordinate Legislation Proposed by Brian Hancock, AM  
General Report of the Auditor General for Wales: Financial Audit of 1998-99 Accounts. Response to the Report of the Audit Committee  
LC125 - Legislation Committee Report - Education (Exclusion from School) (Prescribed Periods) (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2000  
LC126 - Legislation Committee Report - The School Government (Terms of Reference) (Wales) Regulations 2000  
LC127 - Legislation Committee Report - The Health Act 1999 (Commencement No.3) (Wales) Order 2000  
LC128 - Legislation Committee Report - The National Health Service Bodies and Local Authorities Partnership Arrangements (Wales) Regulations 2000  
Qualifications, Curriculum & Assessment Authority for Wales - Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2000  
The National Library of Wales - Annual Accounts 1999/2000

