

9 September, 2014

LLANELLI RURAL COUNCIL

Minute Nos: 172 – 181

At a **COUNCIL** Meeting of the Llanelli Rural Council held at the Council Chamber, Vauxhall Buildings, Vauxhall, Llanelli, on Tuesday, 9 September, 2014, at 6.00 p.m.

Present: Cllr. L. J. Butler (Chairman)

Cllrs.

L. A. Beer	H. J. Evans
S. M. Caiach	M. L. Evans
S. L. Davies	R. E. Evans
T. Devichand	S. N. Lewis
A. G. Morgan	

172. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. F. Akhtar, T. Bowen, D. M. Cundy, M. V. Davies, S. M. Donoghue, G. N. R. Edwards, T. J. Jones, C. A. Rees, A. J. Rogers, W. V. Thomas and G. H. Wooldridge.

173. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

174. DYFED POWYS POLICE

Further to Minute No. 106, the Chairman welcomed Mr Christopher Salmon, Dyfed Powys Police and Crime Commissioner to the meeting and invited him to address Members.

Mr Salmon began by explaining what the 'Be a Judge' consultation exercise entailed. The Community Remedy was a way in which victims of minor crime and anti-social behaviour could have a say in the punishment of their offender in an out of court setting. The remedy was a list of options on how an offender could be dealt with when they committed a minor crime or anti-social behaviour. A police officer would present a list of options to the victim and ask them to choose how they wanted the offender to be dealt with.

Mr Salmon gave examples of the types of offences where it was appropriate to offer a Community Remedy which included low-level criminal damage, children making a noise late at night and low value theft.

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The remedy was aimed at first time offenders and the list of options available must be appropriate and proportionate to the type of offence committed. It should have a positive effect on the offender and be aimed at reducing the likelihood of re-offending.

Mr Salmon explained the options should either be:

- Punitive – acts as a punishment to the offender;
- Restorative – repair the damage that has been caused; or
- Rehabilitative – address the behaviour that has led to the offence being committed; or a combination of these.

Members were informed the police officer must have evidence that the offender had committed the offence/incident and it was sufficient to take more formal proceedings. The police would then need an admission of guilt from the offender. The police officer would invite the victim to choose how they wanted the offender to be dealt with from the range of options.

In support of pursuing one of the said options the offender signed a form agreeing to commit to the agreed action. The fulfilment of the action was not legally enforceable, however, failure to meet the agreed actions forming part of a youth or adult conditional caution could result in the offender facing court action.

The Community Remedy was designed to give victims more say in the punishment of offenders out of court. It allowed for swift justice to be delivered and for first time low level offending to be nipped in the bud.

Mr Salmon then responded to questions put by Members. He addressed more serious offences such as substance misuse and agreed it was vital to have qualified staff readily available to handle these types of situations. Mr Salmon concurred with Members that counselling and support programmes were not universally available. Mr Salmon then turned his attention to the latest plans for Dyfed-Powys estates and the strategy produced on a county basis, a copy of the strategy had previously been circulated to Members. The Chief Constable and Mr Salmon were determined to deliver the best possible service to meet modern public needs.

The strategy followed a review of all properties used by the police. The strategy would:

- Prioritise bobbies over bricks. They were focusing all their efforts on delivering frontline officers.
- Prioritise shared police locations with partners such as councils, libraries, leisure centres etc.
- Refurbish and upgrade key locations to support officers who spent more time out of stations with better IT.
- Ensure that alternative arrangements were in place before any decision to move or close buildings were made.

It was hoped that much of the existing properties would be retained. The services provided from some other buildings would be relocated to nearby premises in the same community. In

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some areas they would seek to make alternative arrangements for local officers, after which existing police buildings would close.

Mr Salmon stated that money was tight with technology changing, officers needed to be more accessible with community relations. Dyfed Powys Police required to prioritise money. Some of the estates required money being put into buildings whereas other estates were fine. There needed to be investment in officers, this would enable them to be out in the community for longer.

Mr Salmon informed Members that Llanelli Police Station was having a £7 million re-build. Following on from this Llwynhendy Police Station was awaiting a decision on the fate of the building, but the decision wouldn't be decided until the Llanelli Police Station re-build had been completed in a few years time.

The police officers would not be withdrawn from the Llwynhendy area, there could possibly be a police base at Llwynhendy Library. Mr Salmon emphasized that no decision would be made until the Llanelli Police Station re-build was complete and a consultation exercise had been completed.

Members informed Mr Salmon that Llwynhendy police officers and PCSOs covered a large catchment area, up to Loughor bridge. Removing the station could be detrimental to the community. The PCSOs knew where the problems were and had local intelligence.

Members explained the importance of having a police presence in Llwynhendy. Perceptions of crime, anti-social behaviour and feeling safe all correlated to having the police locally available. Members also touched upon the closure of Burry Port police station and the same issues were put forward. Indeed comment was made that instead of relocating resources to Kidwelly police station, that the resources were transferred to Llanelli police station. This would be a better arrangement for the residents of Pwll but not necessarily for residents of Burry Port and Pembrey.

Mr Salmon acknowledged the points made during the meeting whereupon the Chairman thanked him for attending and he withdrew from the meeting.

During discussion of the above, Cllrs R. E. Evans and S. N. Lewis withdrew from the meeting.

175. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RESOLVED that the following Minutes (copies of which had been previously circulated to Members) be confirmed and signed as a true record of proceedings:

Council	8 July, 2014
Recreation and Welfare Committee	15 July, 2014
Policy and Resources Committee	16 July, 2014
Planning and Liaison Committee	21 July, 2014
Finance and General Purposes Committee	30 July, 2014
Planning and Liaison Committee	11 August, 2014
Planning and Liaison Committee	1 September, 2014

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176. MATTERS ARISING

**(1) SEALING OF DOCUMENTS
BRYNGOLAU PLAYGROUND, DAFEN**

Further to Minute No. 131, and in response to a query from Cllr. T. Devichand as to whether the Lease for Bryngolau, Dafen had been completed, the Clerk informed Members that everything had been finalised and the Lease had been formally engrossed.

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

(2) NOTIFICATION OF BALLOT RESULT

Further to Minute No. 148, the Clerk informed Members that a notification had been received from the Branch Secretary, Carmarthenshire County Branch UNISON confirming strike action was planned for Tuesday, 14 October, 2014. As a result of receiving the notification, the Council meeting scheduled for that day had been moved to Wednesday, 15 October, 2014. Furthermore, the Policy and Resources Committee meeting had been re-scheduled to Wednesday, 22 October, 2014.

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

(3) DISCLOSURE AND BARRING SERVICE (DBS)

Further to Minute No. 149 and in reply to a question over progress with this matter, the Clerk stated that he had received replies to his letters from Lesley Griffiths AM Minister for Local Government and Government Business, Welsh Government, and the Disclosure and Barring Service which would be presented to the next Policy and Resources Committee meeting to be held on 17 September, 2014.

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

**177. COAL INDUSTRY SOCIAL WELFARE
ORGANISATION**

Members received correspondence from the Regional Manager, Coal Industry Social Welfare Organisation (CISWO).

CISWO was a service providing Charity with an emphasis on assisting mining beneficiaries in times of need, whether those needs were financial, practical or emotional. CISWO South Wales also promoted social inclusion opportunities and currently facilitated regular activities and day trips for fifteen social groups through the former coalfield. In the next few months the CISWO was going to appoint an additional member of staff to expand the initiative which currently benefited 400 mining beneficiaries, into twice as many communities based on need.

Over the past few years e-newsletters had been sent to all known County Borough Ward Councillors, serving the former coalfield electorate on current issues and topics affecting

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mining beneficiaries and residents. The writer enquired whether the organisation could have access to Members' email addresses to allow it to communicate directly with Members over the organisation's affairs and it was

RESOLVED that the information be noted and for interested Members to contact CISWO with their email details if they so wished.

**178. MINOR AUTHORITY REPRESENTATION ON
SCHOOL GOVERNING BODIES
FIVE ROADS PRIMARY SCHOOL**

RESOLVED that Cllr. M. L. Evans be re-affirmed as this Authority's representative on the Governing Body of Five Roads Primary School.

179. MATTERS REPORTED

RESOLVED that the schedule of matters reported be noted.

180. LLANELLI JOINT BURIAL AUTHORITY

Members received the following Minutes of a meeting of the Llanelli Joint Burial Authority held on 11 June, 2014:

“At the Annual Meeting of the Llanelli Joint Burial Authority held at Vauxhall Buildings, Vauxhall, Llanelli, on Wednesday, 11 June 2014 at 4:00 pm.

Present: P. J. Edmunds (Chairman)

Cllrs.

F. Akhtar	M. J. P. Burns
T. Bowen	M.V. Davies
L. J. Butler	C. J. Reed MBE

1. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN

Members proceeded to appoint a Chairman and following the motion of Cllr. L. J. Butler, seconded by Cllr. T. Bowen, it was

RESOLVED that Cllr. M. V. Davies be appointed Chairman.

2. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENT

Cllr. M. V. Davies thanked Members for appointing him as Chairman for the ensuing year.

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3. APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIRMAN

Following the motion of Cllr. P. J. Edmunds, seconded by Cllr. C. J. Reed MBE, it was RESOLVED that Cllr. M. J. P. Burns be appointed Vice Chairman.

4. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. R. M. Davies and V. J. Johns.

5. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

6. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RESOLVED that the following minutes (copies of which had been previously circulated) be confirmed and signed as a true record of proceedings.

Ordinary Meeting - 14 May 2014

7. INCOME AND EXPENDITURE REPORTS

RESOLVED that the income and expenditure report for April 2014 and the provisional report for May 2014 be noted.

8. SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS

Consideration was given to the schedule of payments for May 2014, which revealed expenditure for the month, amounted to £21,365.40.

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

9. AUDIT ANNUAL RETURN FOR THE YEAR ENDING
31 MARCH 2014

Members considered the Audit Annual Return document for the financial year ending 31 March 2014 and it was

RESOLVED that the general preparation of the document which included a summary of the Statement of Accounts in Section 1 and the Annual Governance Statement provided in Section 2 be approved accordingly.

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10. PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT, 1960

RESOLVED that in view of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted the following matters be considered in private and that the power of exclusion of the public under Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act, 1960 be exercised.

11. LOCAL GOVERNMENT PENSION SCHEME REGULATIONS 2013

Members were circulated with a draft policy in respect of the Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations 2013, which introduced the Career Average Revalued Earnings (CARE) scheme which commenced on 1 April 2014. Following discussion it was

RESOLVED that the draft policy be approved and adopted.

12. WORKSHOP DOORS

Members considered the Cemetery Manager's report which provided three quotations for replacing the cemetery workshop doors. The existing door frame had deteriorated beyond the state of economic repair and so it was necessary to have a new frame and doors fitted made from galvanised steel. Members were informed no budget provision had been identified in the current budget and so the cost of funding the work would have to be met from general reserve balances if the work was approved. Following discussion it was

RESOLVED that the Cemetery Manager's report be accepted and the cheapest quotation received from Burry Port Forge, Unit 1.1, Dyfatty Business Park, Burry Port, in the sum of £3000 (exclusive of VAT) be approved and met from general reserves.

13. FREEHOLD INTEREST – LAND AT LLANELLI CREMATORIUM

Further to Minute No. 51(2) (13 November 2013) Members considered a valuation report received from Lambert Smith Hampton. The Secretary guided Members through the valuation report and following which it was

RESOLVED that the valuation report be accepted and forwarded to Llanelli Crematorium Ltd for its attention together with an invoice in the sum of £750 (exclusive of VAT) being the recharge fee for producing the report.

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The meeting concluded at 4:50 pm”
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RESOLVED that the Minutes be noted.

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181. LETTERS OF APPRECIATION

RESOLVED that the letter of appreciation for the Council's assistance received from the Llanelli Ramblers Festival of Walks be noted.

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The Meeting concluded at 7.15 p.m.

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The afore-mentioned Minutes were declared to be a true record of the proceedings and signed by the Chairman presiding thereat and were, on 15 October, 2014, adopted by the Council.