

**16 September, 2015.**

**LLANELLI RURAL COUNCIL**

**Minute Nos: 176 – 183**

At a Meeting of the **POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE** of the Llanelli Rural Council held at the Council Chamber, Vauxhall Buildings, Vauxhall, Llanelli, on Wednesday, 16 September, 2015 at 4.45 p.m.

**Present:** Cllr. S. M. Donoghue (Vice Chairman in the (Chair))

**Cllrs**

D. M. Cundy                      T. J. Jones  
S. L. Davies                      S. N. Lewis  
H. J. Evans                      A. G. Morgan  
J. S. Phillips

**Absent:** L. J. Butler

**176. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. F. Akhtar, M. V. Davies, T. Devichand (Cllr. S. L. Davies deputising), C. A. Rees and A. J. Rogers (Cllr. S. N. Lewis deputising).

**177. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

The following Members declared and interest in the under-mentioned matters:-

<i>Minute No.</i>	<i>Councillor</i>	<i>Interest</i>
181	S. L. Davies	Personal interest - she was a friend of the writer
183	S. L. Davies	Personal interest – she was a member of Dafen Welfare Committee
183	S. N. Lewis	Personal and prejudicial - she was a committee member of Dafen Cricket Club

**178. DAFEN POST OFFICE**

Members received a consultation document from the Regional Network Manager, Post Office on the proposed move to new premises and branch modernisation for Dafen Post Office. The post office branch was re-locating to Dafen Stores, 3 Maescanner Road, Llanelli.

The change was part of a major programme of modernisation taking place across the Post Office network. For customers this would mean Post Office services would be offered from

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an open plan counter and a till on the retail counter in a modern open plan branch. Longer opening hours and the majority of Post Office products and services would still be available. Following discussion, it was

**RESOLVED** that the proposal be supported and the Clerk completes the questionnaire highlighting Members views about the need for general external access/egress improvements outside the store and dedicated car parking provision potentially being made available in the nearby car park.

**179. DRAFT DIRECTIONS TO THE LOCAL DEMOCRACY AND BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR WALES**

Members considered a consultation document on the Draft Directions to the Local Democracy and Boundary Commission for Wales received from the Minister for Public Services, Welsh Government.

The Draft Directions were based on the Welsh Government's preferred configuration for the future of local authorities in Wales. It was proposed to remove the cap on the maximum number of councillors per authority in recognition of the larger populations and geographical areas which the new council would cover. It was proposed that the Draft Directions specify that the number of councillors elected to serve on the new local authorities should be no smaller than the number produced by a councillor to elector ratio of one councillor to every 4,000 electors.

Following discussion, Members disagreed with the member elector ratio being set so high and also disagreed with some other related questions set out in the consultation proposal primarily due to the geographic size of the new local authority areas and the likelihood that the level of electoral representation would be reduced if the ratio was applied. The proposals would weaken local democracy and would not provide effective and convenient local government and it was

**RESOLVED** that the Clerk responds to the consultation document highlighting Members views and concerns.

**180. THE PLAYING FIELDS (COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT IN DISPOSAL DECISIONS)(WALES) REGULATIONS 2015**

Members received the Statutory Guidance relating to The Playing Fields (Community Involvement in Disposal Decisions) (Wales) Regulations 2015, from the Local Government Democracy Division, Welsh Government.

The regulations would come into force from 1 October, 2015. After this date Local Authorities (County and County Borough Councils; Community and Town Councils and National Park Authorities) must have regard to this guidance when considering the potential disposal of a playing field.

**RESOLVED** that the information be noted.

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**181. C.A.T.C.H. U.P**

*Cllr. S. L. Davies declared a personal interest in the following matter as she was a personal friend of the writer.*

Members considered a letter from a Trustee at C.A.T.C.H. U.P. requesting a meeting with Members of the Authority. It was proposed that Llanelli Rural and Llanelli Town Councils would jointly contribute to the service C.A.T.C.H. U.P provided.

Following discussion, it was

**RESOLVED** that as a precursor to extending an invitation to the representative of C.A.T.C.H. U.P. to attend a future meeting to discuss potential support from the Council, that the Clerk meet with the representative in the first instance.

**182. PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT, 1960**

**RESOLVED** that in view of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, the following matter 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.

**183. CARMARTHENSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL  
PITCH HIRE FEES**

*Cllr. S. L. Davies declared a personal interest in the matter because she was a member of the Dafen Welfare Committee. Cllr. S. N. Lewis declared a personal and prejudicial interest in the following matter as she was a committee member of Dafen Cricket Club and left the meeting before discussion commenced.*

Members considered the report of the Deputy Clerk (Administration) requesting Members to re-evaluate the Council's grant policy to sporting organisations within its area which were charged for playing on County Council facilities, i.e Dafen bowls, cricket and football clubs, Pwll cricket and football clubs and Trallwm football club.

Carmarthenshire County Council determined on 13 July, 2015, the fees to be charged to sporting organisations to play on its facilities from 2015/16 to options for self-funding by 2017/18.

Following discussion, it was

**RESOLVED** that henceforth the following grant awards be allocated to the sporting clubs referred to above as follows:

1. Bowls – a grant of £1,250 per club per annum towards the maintenance of the bowling green and perimeter but excluding infrastructures. The grant be paid on submission of an invoice from the Carmarthenshire Greens Bowling Association.
2. Cricket – a grant of £1,500 per club per annum to cover the cost of the maintenance of the outfield by Carmarthenshire County Council and expenditure incurred with the cricket

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square. Grants would be paid upon receipt of invoices from the County Council, contractor engagement and/or supplies such as grass seed etc.

3. Football – a grant of £1,500 per annum per club irrespective of the number of pitches played on. Grants would be paid upon receipt of invoices from the Carmarthenshire Association Football League.

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The meeting concluded at 5.30 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 13 October, 2015, adopted by the Council.