

12 June, 2012.

LLANELLI RURAL COUNCIL

Minute Nos: 78 – 86

At a **COUNCIL** Meeting of the Llanelli Rural Council held at the Council Chamber, Vauxhall Buildings, Vauxhall, Llanelli, on Tuesday, 12 June, 2012, at 6.00 p.m.

Present: Cllr. T. Devichand (Chairman)

Cllrs.

F. Akhtar	G. N. R. Edwards
L. A. Beer	H. J. Evans
T. Bowen	M. L. Evans
S. M. Caiach	R. E. Evans
D. M. Cundy	T. J. Jones
M. V. Davies	S. N. Lewis
S. L Davies	A. G. Morgan
G. H. Wooldridge	

78. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. L. J. Butler, S. M. Donoghue, C. A. Rees, A. Rogers, and W. V. Thomas.

79. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

80. DYFED POWYS POLICE

The Chairman welcomed Inspector P. Lewis, Llanelli Rural NPT & Response, Dyfed Powys Police to the meeting.

Inspector Lewis having given a brief address, referred to changes in the Police hierarchy generally across Carmarthenshire. He informed Members that he had taken over from Inspector J. Davies about six weeks ago and was based in Llwynhendy Police station. He was pleased to report that local policing was going well and that crime detection and crime prevention rates were increasing with particular priority given to the stamping out of drug related crime.

In response to various questions, Inspector Lewis commented on the following matters:

- (1) He was not aware of any plans to relocate Llanelli Police station to the Technium building in Dafen industrial estate. However, the Police were looking at the

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- possibility of having a new custody block in the Dafen area because of insufficient capacity at Llanelli Police station.
- (2) Defibrillators were no longer provided in Police vehicles owing to resource implications and also the need for on-going training/refresher training. Inspector Lewis also commented in respect of a proposed initiative in the Felinfoel area and whether the Police would support the creation of a local responder unit headed up by the Ambulance Service to deal with local health issues/emergencies. Inspector Lewis stated whilst the initiative was laudable it was unlikely the Police would proactively participate because of resource implications and nor was it likely for local PCSO's to get involved as care was needed not to blur roles or for them to take on extra duties.
 - (3) In response to the Police using Felinfoel Community Resource Centre, Inspector Lewis was not aware of the latest position but he confirmed that there would be no loss in local policing levels as a consequence of the Police operating from Llwynhendy Police station. Thereupon the Clerk confirmed the Police did intend to use the facility to aid its community functions and confirmation had been received from senior officers from Dyfed Powys Police Estates Department. A draft heads of agreement was to be forwarded from the department to the Council to enable the Police to use the facilities as previously agreed.
 - (4) Inspector Lewis was not aware of the Blue Light Discos (which the Police had successfully organised) being scrapped but perhaps their frequency would be reviewed to reflect the impact on Police resources. Inspector Lewis concurred the discos were a valuable tool in preventing crime and for building relations with the younger generations of the community and he generally supported their continuation.
 - (5) In response to a request for more effective traffic control measures being put in place to improve highway safety at the mini roundabout near the Co-operative store in Felinfoel; Inspector Lewis commented that the demand for same would be governed by accident statistics with each case being based on its individual merits.

Members having conveyed their support for the Police Authority, the Chairman thanked Inspector Lewis for attending and he withdrew from the meeting.

81. 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:-

Annual Meeting	15 May, 2012
Adjourned Annual Meeting	17 May, 2012
Council	17 May, 2012
Finance and General Purposes Committee	17 May, 2012
Recreation and Welfare Committee	17 May, 2012
Planning and Liaison Committee	17 May, 2012
Policy and Resources Committee	17 May, 2012
Civic and Ceremonial Committee	17 May, 2012
Community Development Grants Panel	17 May, 2012
Learning and Development Consultative Committee	17 May, 2012
Recreation and Welfare Committee	22 May, 2012
Planning and Liaison Committee	22 May, 2012
Policy and Resources Committee	23 May, 2012

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Finance and General Purposes Committee
Planning and Liaison Committee

30 May, 2012
11 June, 2012

82. MATTERS ARISING

(1) REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

Further to Minute No. 15, the Clerk reported upon the status of the following outside bodies and organisations:

(i) Carmarthenshire Youth and Children's Association

Email correspondence had been received from the Association Manager advising that the makeup of the Board of representatives had been changed to reflect Trustees possessing relative expertise in particular subject matters such as policing and criminal justice in order to benefit the Charity. The Clerk advised that in view of such there were no vacancies available at the present time to accommodate Cllrs T. Bowen and A. Rogers as the Council's nominated representatives, and following discussion it was

RESOLVED that a letter be sent to the Association Manager respectfully requesting the matter be reconsidered in view of the Council's long standing association and support for the organisation.

(ii) Citizens' Advice Bureau (CAB)

Members were informed that Ms S. Gainard (CAB Officer) had contacted the office in response to the Council's letter nominating Cllr. F. Akhtar to serve on the CAB committee. CAB was in the process of merging the Llanelli, Ammanford and Carmarthen branches to form one new umbrella body and as such a new Board of Trustees would be established but it was premature to appoint representatives to the new board at the present time. Ms Gainard explained she would keep the Council informed of developments and hoped the matter of appointing representatives to serve on the new board would be resolved within the next 12 months.

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

(iii) Llanelli Fair Trade Group

The Clerk advised that the Llanelli Fair Trade Group still had a committee and former Llanelli Town Councillor, Mr R. Neil served as its Secretary. Furthermore Cllr. H. J. Evans' nomination details had been forwarded to Mr Neil.

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

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(iv) Llanelli Railway Strike Riots 1911 Committee

Cllr Caiach informed Members the committee intended to continue with its work by organising a small annual commemorative service. Therefore the nomination of Cllr. A. Rogers as the Council's representative remained valid. The Clerk advised that Cllr Rogers' nomination details had been forwarded to Mr J. Willock, Secretary to the committee.

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

(v) Water Quality Problems Joint Committee

The Clerk informed Members the committee no longer met and its work remit had now reverted to the Llanelli Flood Forum. The forum met on a monthly basis and was supported by Nia Griffith MP. It was confirmed that Cllr D. M. Cundy was already a member of the Flood Forum and as such was able to attend meetings. However Members felt the nominations of Cllr G. N. R. Edwards and H. J. Evans needed to be flagged up with the forum in the hope they could attend future meetings as the Council's nominated representatives and it was

RESOLVED that a letter be forwarded to the Secretary of Llanelli Flood Forum in support of the said Councillors participating in future meetings.

(2) SERVICE PLANS 2012/13

In response to a query raised by Cllr R. E. Evans, the Clerk confirmed the matter of highlighting 'Food Banks' as a key objective for future investigation and inclusion in the service plans had been duly noted and would appear on the relevant service plan when the plans were to be generally reviewed in six months time.

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

83. YOUR HEALTH YOUR FUTURE – PRINCE PHILIP HOSPITAL

(1) WELSH GOVERNMENT CORRESPONDENCE

Further to Minute 20, Members considered a letter dated 24 May 2012, from the Government Business Team, Department for Health, Social Services and Children, Welsh Government sent on behalf of the Health Minister in response to Council correspondence dated 24 April 2012.

The writer confirmed the Minister was in regular communication with the Chairman of Hywel Dda Health Board and had been assured that any future changes would not impact upon urgent care being available at Prince Philip Hospital.

In response to the Council's point in respect of local engagement and the consultation process, the writer confirmed local engagement was particularly important where major service changes were an issue and guidance set out clear requirements on handling such cases

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and, where necessary, the organisation of formal consultation. Reference was made to the Community Health Council 'CHC' and if it was not satisfied with proposals for substantial changes to services were in the interests of health services in its area, or it believed the consultation on any such proposal had not been adequate, it had power of referral to the Minister.

Furthermore, the writer encouraged the Council to submit its comments to the Health Board during the public consultation stage when it was due to take place. The writer stated the National Clinical Forum would provide Health Boards with clinical advice to provide assurance any new arrangements were clinically safe and lead to the best possible health outcomes for local populations.

Following general discussion of the Council's plans to produce clinical counter proposals during the consultation process it was

RESOLVED that the letter be noted for the time being and referred to (if necessary) when the formal consultation process commences.

(2) PROGRESS REPORT

Further to Minutes No. 20, the Clerk gave a verbal progress report on recent developments concerning the fight to retain key services at Prince Philip Hospital (PPH).

Members were informed that the Clerk, Leader of Council and nominated council representative serving on the SOSPPAN Campaign Committee (formerly Committee for the Improvement of Hospital Services) met with their Llanelli Town Council counterparts to discuss the collaborative approach in opposing Hywel Dda Health Board plans for PPH, going forward.

The meeting proved to be very productive and as a result a further meeting was planned for sometime in July 2012 and a number of action points were put forward for both Councils to pursue.

Furthermore, the Clerk confirmed that as a result of the meeting Llanelli Town Council was prepared in principle to help share costs in engaging management consultants to come up with clinical counter proposals to safeguard the status of PPH. However, the matter of support would need to be formally confirmed at one of the Town Council's up and coming meetings. The Clerk also confirmed that other neighbouring town and community councils had been in touch about offering one off financial donations. To date Llannon Community Council had agreed to pledge its support but hadn't confirmed the donation amount whereas Pembrey and Burry Port Town Council and Llanedi and Pontyberem Community Councils had requested further information prior to making any decision on whether or not to offer any help.

The Clerk then elaborated upon the action points discussed with the Town Council and stated the proposed meeting with local GPs was being organised by the Town Council. Following discussion of the action points specific to the Rural Council, it was

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RESOLVED that:

- (1) A further letter be sent to the Chief Executive, Hywel Dda Health Board addressing the following matters:
 - The supply of patient data to enable the Council to press ahead with clinical counter proposals to those advocated by the Health Board for PPH.
 - An update and further clarification on the status of Ward 5, PPH, going forward and why it was destined for closure.
 - An explanation as to why Post Mortem services had been relocated to Glangwili Hospital from PPH.
- (2) An informative request be sent to the Welsh Ambulance Service NHS Trust (WAST) seeking answers to questions originally posed to Hywel Dda Health Board (which the Health Board suggested be referred to WAST) regarding the Ambulance Service and its general servicing arrangements, related risk assessments and service costs in connection with the Health Board's potential options for PPH.
- (3) To support the Town Council in seeking to hold a future meeting with the Health Minister, to be facilitated by Keith Davies AM, clarifying with Mr Davies whether the meeting could be a joint meeting of cross party representatives from both Council's together with SOSPPAN Campaign Committee representatives; and
- (4) In anticipation of a favourable response for a joint meeting with the Minister, the matter of the Council's cross party representatives be confirmed at a future Council Meeting.

84. MATTERS REPORTED

RESOLVED that the schedule of matters reported be noted.

85. LLANELLI JOINT BURIAL AUTHORITY

Members received the following Minutes of a meeting of the Llanelli Joint Burial Authority held on 11 April, 2012:-

“At the Meeting of the Llanelli Joint Burial Authority held at Vauxhall Buildings, Vauxhall, Llanelli, on Wednesday, 11 April, 2012 at 4:00 pm.

Present:

Cllr L. Butler (Vice-Chairman)

Cllrs.

M. V. Davies
S. M. Donoghue

A. G. Morgan
C. A. Rees

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C. C. Lucas

K. D. Rees

96. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs M. J. P. Burns, and J. Williams.

97. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

98. 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 March 2012

99. INCOME AND EXPENDITURE REPORTS

RESOLVED that the income and expenditure reports for February 2012 and the provisional report for March 2012 be noted.

100. SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS

Consideration was given to the schedule of payments for March 2012, which revealed expenditure for the month, amounted to £54,995.65.

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

101. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Members were informed that due to the timing of the local government elections and the subsequent annual meetings of Llanelli Rural and Town Councils, the next committee meeting would take place on Thursday 24 May 2012 at 4.00pm.

RESOLVED that the revised date be noted.

102. 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.

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103. COLUMBARIA VAULTS

Further to Minute No. 95, the Cemetery Manager reported that the columbaria supplier had now proposed the following terms:-

- (1) 20 columbaria units would be installed in Garden Remembrance 4.
- (2) Payment for each unit would be on a sale only basis. The Columbaria Company would have sole procurement of the lettering and artwork on the columbaria memorials, and no competitor would be allowed to install similar products in the same area until all units had been sold.
- (3) Once all the units had been purchased there would be no continued obligation of sale.

Members were informed that the Columbaria Company had a very high standard of work and its engraving was consistent with that of local masons. Following discussion it was

RESOLVED that the offer terms be accepted.

104. FILMING WITHIN THE CEMETERY GROUNDS

Members were informed that a request had been received from the BBC to film within the cemetery grounds. Due to the location of the filming the main gates would be closed to vehicles but the public would be able to access the cemetery via the Brynelli entrance. After a brief discussion it was

RESOLVED that permission for filming be granted.

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The meeting concluded at 4.25pm”
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RESOLVED that the Minutes be accepted.

86. LETTERS OF APPRECIATION

RESOLVED that the letters of appreciation for the Council’s assistance received from the following, be noted with pleasure:

- (1) Cylch Meithrin, Pontyates;
- (2) Pwll Action Committee.

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The Meeting concluded at 6.40 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 10 July, 2012, adopted by the Council.