

13 November, 2012.

LLANELLI RURAL COUNCIL

Minute Nos: 266 – 273

At a **COUNCIL** Meeting of the Llanelli Rural Council held at the Council Chamber, Vauxhall Buildings, Vauxhall, Llanelli, on Tuesday, 13 November, 2012, at 6.00 p.m.

Present: Cllr. T. Devichand (Chairman)

Cllrs.

L. A. Beer	H. J. Evans
L. J. Butler	R. E. Evans
S. M. Caiach	T. J. Jones
D. M. Cundy	S. N. Lewis
M. V. Davies	A. G. Morgan
S. L. Davies	C. A. Rees
G. N. R. Edwards	W. V. Thomas

266. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. F. Akhtar, T. Bowen, M. L. Evans, A. Rogers and G. H. Wooldridge.

267. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

268. 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	9 October, 2012
Planning and Liaison Committee	15 October, 2012
Recreation and Welfare Committee	16 October, 2012
Policy and Resources Committee	17 October, 2012
Special Council	22 October, 2012
Community Development Grants Panel	25 October, 2012
Learning and Development Consultative Committee	25 October, 2012
Finance and General Purposes Committee	31 October, 2012

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269. MATTERS ARISING

(1) CARMARTHENSHIRE YOUTH & CHILDREN'S ASSOCIATION (CYCA)

Further to Minute No. 219 the Clerk informed Members that the Council had been in touch with CYCA over its schedule of meetings potentially clashing with the Council's schedule of meetings. Whilst the date of CYCA's last meeting did clash with a Council meeting it had been confirmed by the Association's Manager, the meeting had been organised purely as a one off event.

The Clerk reminded Members that given the receipt of this clarification, the Council now needed to confirm to CYCA, the status of its two representatives going forward. The options available was to serve as full trustees or alternatively to serve as observers. Trustees were required to attend at least two out of the four scheduled meetings held annually whereas attending as observers would be less stringent. However, observers could not fully participate in meetings because they were not permitted to vote during proceedings.

The Leader referred to the Association's impending annual general meeting, scheduled for 29 November 2012. This would present an ideal opportunity for both Cllrs. S. N. Lewis and A. Rogers (the Council's nominated representatives) to start afresh by participating at future meetings as full trustees.

Following discussion over the importance of the Council's representatives attending future meetings of the Association it was

RESOLVED that the councillor nominations be reaffirmed to CYCA and their status confirmed as full trustees.

(2) CARMARTHENSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL – HOUSING SERVICES

Further to Minute No. 238, the Clerk informed Members that Mr Jonathan Morgan, Housing Services Manager, Carmarthenshire County Council had agreed to attend the Council meeting to be held on 12 February, 2013.

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

(3) YNNI DA – COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ACTION PLAN

Further to Minute No. 239, the Clerk informed Members that an invitation had been extended to Mr Aled Vaughan Owen, Ynni Da to attend at a future meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee to present a portfolio of his organisation's work in the field of community development.

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

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270. YOUR HEALTH YOUR FUTURE – PRINCE PHILIP HOSPITAL (PPH)

- (1) CORRESPONDENCE SENT TO HYWEL DDA HEALTH BOARD AND THE COMMUNITY HEALTH COUNCIL**
- (2) HYWEL DDA HEALTH BOARD BRIEFING REPORT**

Further to Minute No. 245, the Clerk gave a brief explanation of the Council's consultation response sent to the Hywel Dda Health Board and the Community Health Council; he also referred to the level of detail contained in the corresponding resolution in Minute No. 245 as being necessary to demonstrate the extent of the Council's actions and to serve as a full public record.

The Clerk then referred to health board officials attending future Council meetings on a periodic basis. In all likelihood Mrs Linda Williams, Carmarthenshire Director, Hywel Dda Health Board would be nominated to attend based on the feedback given by senior health board officials at the meeting held on 11 October 2012. In response to this news Members felt it was desirable to commence meetings on a quarterly basis hopefully starting in January 2013.

Discussion then turned to the health board's 'Developing our Clinical Services Strategy': briefing paper October 2012. During the discussion the Leader congratulated the Clerk on the quality of the Council's consultation response. Members also raised the issue of the role played by the SOSPPAN Campaign Committee during the engagement and consultation process and were keen to put on record their support and congratulations to it for all the good work achieved thus far.

Members then referred to the difficulties faced by the Wales Ambulance Service NHS Trust (WAST) in not hitting prescribed targets in respect of its ambulance response times when attending at incidents. It was felt this would only get worse in the future if the health board proceeded with its preferred option and downgraded the A&E service at PPH. In view of this it was still vitally important to garner the views of WAST in order to understand how any reconfiguration plans might impact upon its services. The role of the CHC was also touched upon; the health board's briefing paper referred to the CHC being involved in the process of assisting the health board to develop its response and decision which was expected to be presented to the health board's meeting in December 2012, and it was

RESOLVED that

- (1) a letter be sent to the SOSPPAN Campaign Committee acknowledging the Council's ongoing support for its endeavours;
- (2) a further invitation letter be sent to WAST inviting it to attend the Council's December Council meeting, with the letter being copied for information purposes to the Health Minister, Welsh Government; the five Assembly Members representing Llanelli and the Chief Officer of the CHC;
- (3) in the event of the Council's invitation being declined by WAST a formal complaint should be raised with the Health Minister, Welsh Government on the grounds of

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- unreasonableness owing to a failure to accept previous Council invitations to attend meetings and also not sharing important information with another public body; and
- (4) an invitation also be extended to the CHC to attend the Council's December meeting given its anticipated role and involvement in the health board's final decision regarding its consultations plans.

Cllr. S. M. Caiach withdrew from the meeting midway through the discussion of Minute No. 270 above.

271. NATIONAL EISTEDDFOD – 2014

Members received a letter from the National Eisteddfod organiser regarding the 2014 Eisteddfod. The writer revealed that the event was to be held in Llanelli; the last time it was held in Llanelli was in 2000.

The letter referred to the need for help and support from the local community. A meeting was recently held on 8 November at Stradey School to garner such support. A copy of the letter had been circulated to Members in advance of that meeting, extending a general invitation to attend.

Cllr. M. V. Davies and G. N. R. Edwards confirmed they had both attended the meeting. Cllr. Davies confirmed that a further meeting was being organised at the school on 17 November next. He stated that there were still a few seats left on the various committees being set up if other Members wanted to get directly involved.

Members referred to the 2000 National Eisteddfod and the demand placed on local services such as A&E at Prince Philip Hospital. Members also referred to the disappointing impact the event had on the local economy. Visitors were being brought in by bus via the park and ride scheme and so by passed the town centre, which resulted in very little trade for Llanelli Town Centre businesses, this needed to be addressed for the 2014 event.

In response to a question about the extent of previous financial support by the Council, the Clerk confirmed the Council had pledged £30,000 to the staging of the 2000 event. In view of this Members suggested that the Council needed to revisit the matter periodically in the run up to the 2014 event to help determine the extent of any future support. The National Eisteddfod was now being heralded as a county wide event for Carmarthenshire and this would have a bearing on any financial donation likely to be made by the Council.

Following discussion it was

RESOLVED that Members comments be noted and that Cllr. G. N. R. Edwards be nominated as the Council's official representative to serve on the local committees being set up in support of the 2014 National Eisteddfod.

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272. LLANELLI JOINT BURIAL AUTHORITY

Members received the following Minutes of a meeting of the Llanelli Joint Burial Authority held on 12 September, 2012:-

“At the Meeting of the Llanelli Joint Burial Authority held at Vauxhall Buildings, Vauxhall, Llanelli, on Wednesday, 12 September 2012 at 4:15 pm.

Present: L. A. Beer (Chairman)

Cllrs.

F. Akhtar

M. J. P. Burns

R. M. Davies

25. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. T. Bowen, S. L. Davies, P. J. Edmunds, S. N. Lewis, C. C. Lucas and J. Williams.

26. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

27. 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 - 11 July 2012

28. INCOME AND EXPENDITURE REPORTS

RESOLVED that the income and expenditure reports for June and July 2012 and the provisional report for August 2012 be noted.

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29. SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS

Consideration was given to the schedule of payments for July and August 2012, which revealed expenditure for the months, amounted to £29,728.53 and £21,298.17 respectively.

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

**30. ANNUAL RETURN FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 MARCH 2012
EXTERNAL AUDITOR'S OPINION**

Members considered the report letter received from Mazars LLP, stating its opinion on the Authority's Annual Return for the year ending 31 March 2012. No qualifying issues were identified.

RESOLVED that the Annual Return be approved and the Auditor's opinion be noted; furthermore that Section 3 of the Annual Return (Certification and Approval) be duly signed and the document returned to Mazars LLP so that the remainder of Section 3 (External Audit Certificate) may be completed in order to conclude the audit.

**31. ICCM CONFERENCE, NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE – 1 - 3 OCTOBER
2012**

Further to Minute No. 23, Members were informed that the Vice Chairman was unable to attend the conference. However, this development had presented a further opportunity to review the conference programme following the publication of more recent and up to date information by the Institute of Cemetery and Crematorium Management (ICCM). Members were provided with a full conference schedule and due to the lack of appropriate content, distance and cost involved it was

RESOLVED that the previous decision to attend the conference be rescinded and that this year's invitation be noted.

32. 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.

33. RIDE ON MOWER

Members considered the Cemetery Manager's report regarding the procurement of a new ride on mower. One of the Scagg mowers was now beyond economic repair and following a lengthy discussion about the quotations contained within the report it was

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RESOLVED that a Ferris IS2500Z be purchased from Powercut, Oaklands Mansion, Cwmffrwd, Carmarthen at a cost of £12,300 plus VAT and the amount be met from Ear Marked Reserves, cost code 330.

FURTHER RESOLVED that the trade-in price of £300 for the Scagg mower be accepted.

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The meeting concluded at 5:10 pm”

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RESOLVED that the Minutes be noted.

273. LETTERS OF APPRECIATION

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

- (1) Llanelli U3A – Table Tennis Group
- (2) Pontyates RFC

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The Meeting concluded at 6:50 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 11 December, 2012, adopted by the Council.