

21 May, 2013.

LLANELLI RURAL COUNCIL

Minute Nos: 47 – 57

At a Meeting of the **RECREATION AND WELFARE COMMITTEE** of the Llanelli Rural Council held at the Council Chamber, Vauxhall Buildings, Vauxhall, Llanelli, on Tuesday, 21 May, 2013, at 4.45 p.m.

Present: Cllr. R. E. Evans (Chairman)

Cllrs.

L. A. Beer	G. N. R. Edwards
T. Bowen	T. J. Jones
D. M. Cundy	A. G. Morgan
M. V. Davies	C. A. Rees
A. J. Rogers	

47. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

An apology for absence was received from Cllr. S. L. Davies.

48. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

49. APPOINTMENT OF SUB-COMMITTEE

RESOLVED that a Sub-committee, comprising the Chairman and Vice Chairman of Committee, Chairman of Council, Leader and Local Ward Members be appointed.

50. PROGRESS REPORT

Cllr. M. V. Davies joined the meeting.

RESOLVED that the report of the Technical Services Officer on work undertaken be noted.

Arising out of the above, the Clerk give a short report of a meeting held with Richard Workman, Director of Technical Services and Paul Murray, Street Scene, Carmarthenshire County Council, regarding the potential transfer of various County Council play areas to the Council. It was intended to provide a detailed report to the Recreation and Welfare Committee on 18 June, 2013, subject to the receipt of further information about maintenance regimes and general costings from Carmarthenshire County Council.

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51. LUNCHEON CLUBS – INCREASE IN MEAL PRICES

Further to Minute No. 414, (13 February, 2013), Members considered a letter dated 24 April, 2013, received from Head of Hotel Services, Hywel Dda Health Board informing of the price increase for the meals supplied to the Council's luncheon club service. It was proposed that the cost of meals supplied to the Senior Citizens' Luncheon Clubs be increased from £3.24 to £3.29 excluding VAT.

The Deputy Clerk (Administration) informed Members that enquiries had been made with various organisations to source an alternative supplier but to date this had been unsuccessful. There had been a decrease in patrons attending the luncheon club since the price increase.

RESOLVED that:

- (1) the price increase for meals be accepted and that the cost be increased to £3.95 per person (inclusive of VAT);
- (2) Attendances of patrons at the luncheon clubs be monitored and a report on attendances be reported to a future meeting of the Recreation and Welfare Committee;
- (3) Appropriate publicity promoting the service be taken out with a feature in the Llanelli Star newspaper in a bid to improve general attendance levels and to support the monitoring exercise in (2) above.

**52. RAILWAY CROSSING AND BOUNDARY WALL
PONTYATES**

Further to Minute No. 459, (19 March, 2013), Members considered the report of the Deputy Clerk (Administration) informing of a site meeting held with representatives of Llangyndeyrn Community Council (LCC) on 1 May, 2013, to consider whether to engage in a programme of works with LCC to enhance the area adjacent to the former railway crossing.

The proposal of LCC was to discuss a programme of remedial work on the area surrounding the railway gates and the old station site. The location of the railway gates was the focal point of the village of Pontyates. The area was unkempt and neglected. The parcel of land required a lot of work to enhance the area and was owned by Network Rail.

LCC suggested a pooling of resources to:

- Carry out maintenance work to the stone wall;
- Cut back the overgrowth and maintain the grassed and platform areas on an on-going basis;
- Service the crossing gates and railings or replace with suitable fencing;
- Remove straining wire fencing and replace with suitable fencing and a wicket gate for entry to the footpath;
- Ascertain whether funding was available to finance the project.

Members were informed the administrative boundaries of both councils ran parallel to the former railway line. The Council maintained the public right of way, adjacent to the railway line.

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LCC had met with a representative from Network Rail who had no objection to the council(s) undertaking the above work and had verbally stated that liability for the area would remain with Network Rail.

LCC did not have a workforce to contribute to the manual work required to carry out the work.

Following a lengthy discussion, during which it was revealed that no budget had been set aside for any potential land improvement works at the location. Furthermore, Members expressed concern over setting a precedent by carrying out improvements to land not owned by the Council, it was

RESOLVED that:

- (1) the Council decline the offer to work in partnership with Llangyndeyrn Community Council on this occasion;
- (2) a letter be sent to Network Rail encouraging it to maintain its asset in a better state of repair given its prominent location in the village.

53. FOOTWAY LIGHTING

Members considered the report of the Deputy Clerk (Administration) informing of site meetings held between local Members and the Street Lighting Engineer, Carmarthenshire County Council following concerns expressed at the on-going vandalism and maintenance issues with the footway lighting fixtures at the following locations:

(1) PLEASANT VIEW, FELINFOEL

The light fitting on column number 2-248 had been vandalised after many instances of repair. The fitting was obscured by foliage from private hedging.

RESOLVED that no further repairs be undertaken and to disconnect the supply to the column.

(2) PENYGRAIG, BYNEA

The light fittings on column numbers 2-258 to 2-261 had a problem with on-going vandalism. Maintenance of the equipment was very problematic due to the terrain and conformity with health and safety requirements.

Furthermore, column number 2-262 was located within a private property and the lantern was obscured by foliage. It had not been possible to gain access to undertake repairs.

The lanterns on column number 2-252 and 257 also required uprating and it was

RESOLVED that

- (1) no further repairs be undertaken to column numbers 2-258 to 2-262 for the time being and the retention of the columns be reviewed in 12 months time;

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- (2) that the existing 26 watt lanterns on column numbers 2-252 and 2-257 be replaced with new 42 watt lanterns to improve lighting levels at a cost increase of £6.16 per lamp per annum in energy costs.

54. PARC HOWARD ASSOCIATION

Members received a letter from the Secretary, Parc Howard Association requesting a letter of support from the Council to enable the association to demonstrate to the Heritage Lottery Fund support from the local community.

Parc Howard Association was seeking financial assistance to repair, replace and replenish Parc Howard. They were preparing a multi million pound bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund.

RESOLVED that a letter of support be sent to the Secretary, Parc Howard Association.

55. 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.

56. FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

- (1) PWLL AFC;
- (2) PWLL CRICKET CLUB;
- (3) PWLL PAVILION;
- (4) TRALLWM AFC.

Members considered applications for financial assistance from the above sports clubs.

RESOLVED that a grant of £600 be awarded to each club on receiving receipts from the club.

57. FINANCIAL SUMMARY REPORT

Members were circulated with a Statement of Accounts received from Furnace Community Hall Management Committee.

RESOLVED that the annual grant of £300 be made to Furnace Community Hall for the years ending 31 December, 2011 and 31 December, 2012 respectively.

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The Meeting concluded at 5.50 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 June, 2013, adopted by the Council.