

8 April, 2008.

LLANELLI RURAL COUNCIL

Minute Nos: 507 - 518

At a **COUNCIL** Meeting of the Llanelli Rural Council held at the Council Chamber, Vauxhall Buildings, Vauxhall, Llanelli, on Tuesday, 8 April, 2008, at 6.00 p.m.

Present: Cllr. D. J. Davies (Chairman)

Cllrs.

T. D. Bowen	M. B. Hughes
S. M. Caiach	M. P. Jones
D. V. Darby	T. J. Jones
M. Davies	S. N. Lewis
S. L. Davies	A. G. Morgan
C. Edwards	C. A. Rees
M. L. Evans	R. G. Thorne
M. Howells	G. H. Wooldridge

507. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. T. Devichand and R. E. Evans.

508. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

509. 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	11 March, 2008.
Recreation and Welfare Committee	18 March, 2008.
Policy and Resources Committee	19 March, 2008.
Finance and General Purposes Committee	26 March, 2008.
Planning and Liaison Committee	26 March, 2008.
(Subject to Minute No. 499 being amended to read "Cllr. C. A. Rees declared an interest in Minute No. 500, (S/18614) ..." and not as therein	
Community Development Grant Panel	27 March, 2008.

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510. MATTERS ARISING

(1) COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT GRANT PANEL

Further to Minute No. 506, Cllr. S. L. Davies referred to the need to minimise the level of risk in supporting some of the successful grant applications, by ensuring all necessary supporting documentation and paperwork was provided by the applicants prior to drawing down funding.

RESOLVED that Cllr. Davies' comments be noted.

511. CHANGES IN COUNCIL ELECTORAL ARRANGEMENTS AND THE IMPACT ON COUNCIL STANDING COMMITTEES

Pursuant to Minute No. 465, Members considered the variations on membership to two of the Council's Standing Committees, so as to accommodate the additional seat being created in the Pemberton Ward of the Council following the local elections in May 2008.

Members reiterated their concern regarding the lack of response to the request for additional portakabins as voting stations in the Pemberton area.

During discussion, Cllr. T. J. Jones informed of Cllr. C. Edwards' forthcoming retirement and conveyed the Council's appreciation of her contribution since her election in 1989. He also thanked Cllrs. R. E. Evans and A. S. Peters for their efforts in the community during their time as Members of this Authority. Members having concurred with Cllr. Jones' sentiments, it was

RESOLVED that an additional seat be made on the committees for Recreation and Welfare and Policy and Resources, respectively.

FURTHER RESOLVED that letters of appreciation be forwarded to Cllrs. C. Edwards, R. E. Evans and A. S. Peters.

512. COMMITTEE FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF HOSPITAL SERVICES

Members were circulated with correspondence received from the Secretary, Committee for the Improvement of Hospital Services, which outlined the current financial position and likely developments with respect to the NHS in Carmarthenshire.

The Committee was endeavouring to request a meeting with Ms. E. Hart, Health Minister, Welsh Assembly Government, to discuss matters appertaining to the Llanelli area and requested that this Authority support their action.

Following discussion, it was

RESOLVED that

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- (1) a letter supporting a request for a meeting with the Health Minister, Welsh Assembly Government, be forwarded; and that
- (2) an invitation also be forwarded to the new permanent Chief Executive, Hywel Dda NHS Trust, (once appointed), together with the local Assembly Member.

513. EXTERNAL EVENTS

Members having received an invitation from the Community Engagement Officer, The Carmarthenshire Partnership, for the Council to nominate two representatives to attend Llanelli Community Network Meetings to be held on 12 June and 7 October, 2008, respectively, it was

RESOLVED that the invitation be deferred to the Adjourned Meeting of Council to be held on Thursday, 15 May, 2008, in view of the forthcoming local elections.

514. MATTERS REPORTED

RESOLVED that the schedule of matters reported be noted.

**515. SENIOR CITIZENS' DAY CENTRE
JOINT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

Members received the following Minutes of a meeting of the Senior Citizens' Day Centre Joint Management Committee held on 16 January, 2008:-

“At a Meeting of the SENIOR CITIZENS' DAY CENTRE JOINT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE held at The Old Vicarage, Town Hall Square, Llanelli on Wednesday, 16th January 2008 at 6.00 p.m.

PRESENT: Councillors N. Bevan (Vice-Chairman)(Presiding), R. Brown, Mrs. M.P. Jones, R.P. Neil, G.K. Thomas and G.H. Wooldridge.

APOLOGY: Councillor R.E. Evans (Chairman).

29. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED – that the minutes of the previous meeting held on 14th November 2007 be received, verified and confirmed.

30. FINANCIAL REPORTS

(1) INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

RESOLVED – that the financial report giving details of cumulative income and expenditure for the period 1st April to 31st December 2007 in the sums of £46,318 and £45,485 respectively be approved (copies having been previously circulated to members).

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(2) ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

Consideration was given to the report of the Finance Officer relating to accounts for payment (copies having been previously circulated to members). The report disclosed that payments made for the period 15th November 2007 – 16th January 2008 in respect of direct debits, reimbursements, BACS payments and vouchers no. 4078 – 4088 (inclusive) amounted to the sum of £11,866.38.

RESOLVED – that payment of the aforementioned accounts be approved.

31. HIRINGS

Consideration was given to a written schedule of hirings of the Day Centre for the months of November and December 2007 (copies having been previously circulated to members).

RESOLVED – that the report be noted and approved.

32. ANNUAL ESTIMATES 2008/2009

Members gave detailed consideration to the draft Estimates prepared for the forthcoming financial year by the Finance Officer (copies having been previously circulated to members). Budget head figures were analysed for the benefit of members and after a full discussion it was

RESOLVED – that the draft Estimates be approved.

33. FUTURE OF LLANELLI Y.M.C.A.

Further to Minute No. 26 of the Committee meeting held on 14th November 2007, the Secretary reported on the correspondence between him and the Y.M.C.A. Wales Project Development Officer (copies having been previously circulated to members).

The correspondence from Y.M.C.A. Wales confirmed that, even though the estimated start date for the refurbishment works had now been put back to April 2009, until the new lease had been negotiated between them and Carmarthenshire County Council, confirmation could not be given that the Day Centre could remain in occupation beyond the ‘Notice to Quit’ date of June 2008.

Furthermore in view of the on-going negotiations for a new lease with the County Council, Y.M.C.A. Wales could not confirm the length of the new lease which they proposed to grant for the Day Centre. However, it was confirmed that the annual rent for the new Day Centre would be £10,000 per annum, with planned increases of 5% in year 2 and year 3 (the exact effect of which had yet to be established).

The Secretary advised that the Y.M.C.A. Wales correspondence did not give much concrete information on which the Committee members could base a reasoned decision, as it raised more questions than answers. It was obvious that everything depended on the successful conclusion of Y.M.C.A. Wales’ negotiations with the County Council for a new lease.

Following a detailed discussion, it was

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RESOLVED – that, in noting the exchange of correspondence, no decision be taken regarding the new lease of the proposed new Day Centre facility until the full terms were available.

FURTHER RESOLVED – that the Secretary further communicate with the Project Development Officer to obtain all the relevant information for members’ future consideration.

The Meeting concluded at 6.30 p.m.”

RESOLVED that the Minutes be noted.

516. LLANELLI JOINT BURIAL AUTHORITY

Members received the following Minutes of a meeting of the Llanelli Joint Burial Authority held on 20 February, 2008:-

“At the Meeting of the Llanelli Joint Burial Authority held at Vauxhall Buildings, Vauxhall, Llanelli, on Wednesday, 20 February at 4:00 pm.

Present: Cllr. C. C. Lucas (Chairman)

Cllrs.

S. L. Davies
D. J. Harries
M. Howells

T. J. Jones
A. G. Morgan
E. Smith

89. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs T.D. Bowen, M.E. Prothero and C.E. Richards.

90. MEMBERS’ DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

91. 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	-	9 January 2008
Special Meeting	-	29 January 2008

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92. MATTERS ARISING

(1) LANCE CORPORAL RYAN LEE FRANCIS

Arising out of Minute No.79 (1), the Secretary reported that he had met with the parents of the late Lance Corporal Francis. The family appreciated the Burial Authority's gesture to erect a memorial plaque in the cemetery chapel, in memory of their son and for agreeing to arrange a dedication service.

Members were informed that the family had expressed a wish for Rev David Jones, Minister, Greenfield Chapel, Llanelli to conduct the dedication service. The Secretary commented that the memorial plaque's inscription details had yet to be confirmed by the family, however, it was anticipated that this would be resolved fairly soon because the family, like the Burial Authority were keen to hold the dedication service by the end of March 2008, if possible.

The Secretary stated that the family had provided Army service contact details of the 2nd Battalion The Royal Welsh, so that Army representatives could be invited to the service.

RESOLVED that the information be noted and to await further developments.

(2) CEMETERY CAR PARK - BRYNGOLAU

Arising out of Minute No. 79 (3), and in reply to a question over on going problems associated with the quality of finish of the new parking strip, the Secretary reported that despite several phone calls and emails to Carmarthenshire County Council Officers, the issues had yet to be resolved.

RESOLVED that the matter be escalated with Senior Housing Officers in a bid to resolve the on going issues prior to the Easter holidays.

93. INCOME AND EXPENDITURE REPORTS

RESOLVED that the income and expenditure reports for December 2007 and the provisional report for January 2008 be noted.

94. SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS

Consideration was given to the schedule of payments for January 2008, which revealed expenditure for the month amounted to £27,638.23.

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

95. MEMORIAL TESTING FIGURES

Consideration was given to the memorial testing figures for January 2008, which revealed that 99 memorials had been tested at stage 1 level and that 4 had failed.

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RESOLVED that the information be noted.

96. FUEL TENDERS

The Secretary informed Members that following the suggestion of Cllr S.L. Davies to seek tenders for the supply of fuel for cemetery machinery, tenders were sent out to various petroleum companies but given the uncertainty with the current fuel market coupled with the recent escalation of fuel prices at the pumps no tenders had been returned.

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

97. INTERIM INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT FOR 2007/2008

Members considered correspondence received from Auditing Solutions Ltd, dated 1 February 2008 (copies having been previously circulated), in respect of the interim internal audit report. The writer confirmed that it was not necessary to submit a formal report because there were no issues arising that needed to be addressed by the Burial Authority at the present time.

RESOLVED that the correspondence be noted with pleasure and that the final report be awaited in due course.

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The Meeting concluded at 4:10 pm”
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RESOLVED that the Minutes be noted.

517. LETTERS OF APPRECIATION

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

- (1) Carmarthenshire Youth and Children's Association;
- (2) Bethlehem Chapel, Pwll;
- (3) Holy Trinity Church, Pwll;
- (4) Libanus Church, Pwll;
- (5) Llanelli Woodturning Club;
- (6) Pwll C.P. School;
- (7) 21st Century Church Saron.

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518. APPRECIATION OF SUPPORT

Cllr. T. J. Jones conveyed his appreciation to all Members for the support given to him during the last four years, which Members reciprocated. The Chairman also thanked Members and, in particular Cllr. M. Davies, for their support during his year as Chairman. Cllr. C. A. Rees stated that being the Chairman's Consort had been a privilege.

Cllr. C. Edwards conveyed her appreciation to all her fellow Councillors and members of staff for their support over the past years.

RESOLVED that all sentiments be noted.

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The Meeting concluded at 6.15 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 May, 2008, adopted by the Council.