

11 September 2008

LLANELLI JOINT BURIAL AUTHORITY

Minute Nos. 26 - 36

At the **Meeting** of the **Llanelli Joint Burial Authority** held at Vauxhall Buildings, Vauxhall, Llanelli, on Thursday, 11 September 2008 at 4:00 pm.

Present: Cllr. T. J. Jones (Chairman)

Cllrs.

T. D. Bowen
D. J. Davies

S. L. Davies
C. C. Lucas

26. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

An apology for absence was received from Cllr K. D. Rees.

27. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

28. 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 July 2008

29. INCOME AND EXPENDITURE REPORT

RESOLVED that the income and expenditure reports for June and July 2008 and the provisional report for August 2008 be noted.

30. SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS

Consideration was given to the schedule of payments for July and August 2008, which revealed expenditure for the months amounted to £23,725.39 and £16,096.09 respectively.

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

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31. 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.

32. EXCLUSIVE RIGHTS OF BURIAL – BABY SECTION

The Secretary reported to Members that currently no Exclusive Rights of Burial was issued when a Baby Grave was opened. After a short discussion it was

RESOLVED that a grave deed be issued free of charge, for all existing and future baby graves for an exclusive rights period of 30 years.

33. UNAUTHORISED MEMORIALS

Further to Minute No. 136 (21 May 2008), the Secretary reported that he had met with the families concerned and subsequently they had applied for retrospective permission so that the kerb sets installed on the graves could remain insitu. He also informed Members that letters had been sent to families regarding mementos and trinkets placed on the lawned graves in the baby section, and to date only one family had not responded. Following discussion it was

RESOLVED that:

- (1) Having paid the appropriate memorial application fee and the quality of the unauthorised work being of an acceptable standard, the families be granted retrospective permission for the installation of the kerb sets in respect of grave reference numbers BS1-1-3 and BS1-1-5.

For the avoidance of doubt, all memorial work must be carried out by an approved memorial mason. However, in view of the baby section being relatively new, the Burial Authority recognises that parents and family need a degree of latitude to commemorate loved ones, provided of course, general cemetery standards are maintained. The fact that the unauthorised works were in keeping with general standards and did not involve erecting a memorial headstone and furthermore, the kerb sets dimensions were relatively small, mitigated the impact of the unauthorised work. Therefore, permission was granted on this basis. Had this not been the case, permission would have been refused, resulting in the families being instructed to immediately clear the grave surfaces, in accordance with general policy.

- (2) In respect of the unauthorised mementos and trinkets placed on the lawned grave BS1-1-2, given the Secretary had not received a reply to his initial letter and the family having received sufficient notice to remove the items from the grave surface, the Secretary be authorised to write once again to the family informing that the Burial Authority will now permanently remove the mementos and trinkets in order to carry out routine maintenance on the grave.

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34. TREE SURVEY

The Secretary reported that a number of complaints had been received about the condition and safety of large trees in the cemetery grounds. It was felt necessary to instigate a tree survey to assess their condition, however, no provision had been made for this in the budget. After a brief discussion it was

RESOLVED that the tree survey be commissioned and the cost of £640 be met from general reserves.

35. REQUEST TO INSTALL MEMORIAL BENCH

Members considered a letter from Mr & Mrs J L requesting permission to install a memorial bench in the cemetery grounds near the grave of their late son. Members were shown photographs of the area in question and the Secretary stated that the area was still being utilised for the access of machinery and a pedestrian walkway for current burials. After a short discussion it was

RESOLVED that:

- (1) The request be declined at this time; and that
- (2) The family be invited to resubmit the request once burials had been completed in Section 9 and the area had been levelled and reseeded. This would be in approximately 18 to 24 months.

36. REQUEST FOR DIFFERENT MEMORIAL HEADSTONE COLOUR

Members considered a letter received from T J Lloyd Monumental Mason requesting permission to install a green coloured memorial in Section 9 in memory of the late Lance Corporal Ryan Lee Francis. The colour symbolised Corporal Francis' regimental colours. After a brief discussion it was

RESOLVED that:

- (1) The request be approved; and
- (2) The request would not prejudice similar requests in the future, with each request being considered on its own merits.

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The Meeting concluded at 4:35pm

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