

10 November, 2009.

LLANELLI RURAL COUNCIL

Minute Nos: 303 – 312

At a **COUNCIL** Meeting of the Llanelli Rural Council held at the Council Chamber, Vauxhall Buildings, Vauxhall, Llanelli, on Tuesday, 10 November, 2009, at 6.00 p.m.

Present: Cllr. C. A. Rees (Chairman)

Cllrs.

T. D. Bowen	H. J. Evans
L. J. Butler	T. Rh. Ifan
S. M. Caiach	T. J. Jones
M. L. Davies	M. J. Lewis
M. V. Davies	S. N. Lewis
S. L. Davies	A. G. Morgan
T. Devichand	B. C. M. Reynolds
S. M. Donoghue	A. C. Thomas
G. H. Wooldridge	

Together with Mr Phil Williams, Head of Street Scene and Mr David Hughes, Senior Manager, Technical Services Department, Carmarthenshire County Council.

303. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. D. J. Davies, M. L. Evans and V. R. Thomas.

Thereupon the Clerk referred to email correspondence received from Cllr. V. R. Thomas informing of her current indisposition and that her absence was likely to continue until February or March 2010.

Members were informed that given Cllr. Thomas' circumstances, her continued absence would take her beyond the automatic disqualification period as prescribed under Section 85 of the Local Government Act 1972, unless her failure to attend meetings (because of her current state of health) was approved by the Council prior to the expiry period of six consecutive months from the date of her last attendance at any meeting of the Council.

Following a brief discussion whereby Members expressed their support and extended their best wishes to Cllr. V. R. Thomas it was unanimously

RESOLVED that Cllr. Thomas' reason for absence from Council meetings be approved.

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304. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following declaration of interest was made:-

<i>Minute No.</i>	<i>Councillor</i>	<i>Interest</i>
308.	H. J. Evans	Member, Committee for the Improvement of Hospital Services.

305. NEW KERBSIDE RECYCLING SCHEME

Further to Minute No. 220, the Chairman welcomed Mr Phil Williams, Head of Street Scene, and Mr David Hughes, Senior Manager, Technical Services Department, Carmarthenshire County Council and invited them to make their presentation to Members.

Mr Williams stated that the new recycling scheme programme was due to be rolled out to some remaining households in Carmarthenshire. The scheme was already in place in the majority of households in the Carmarthenshire area and was proving to be a success. Members were informed that Welsh Assembly Government targets (imposed on all local authorities) were being attained by the County Council, which was encouraging.

Members were then guided through the presentation which covered the following subject areas:

- Why recycle at all;
- Why can't we keep throwing rubbish away;
- Welsh Assembly recycling targets for all local authorities;
- European Directive Landfill allowance targets for Biological Municipal Waste (BMW);
- Kerbside expansion scheme;
- Recycling/composting scheme;
- New recycling scheme – Reduce, Reuse, Recycle;
- Communications plan;
- School recycling and composting roadshows;
- Current recycling rates;
- Outcomes;
- Bring sites;
- Glass recycling;
- Collections – bulky waste, clinical waste, assisted lifts;
- Does recycling make a difference;
- Plastic; and
- Food waste.

There then followed a question and answer session on the points raised during the presentation and Members congratulated Mr Williams on the success of the recycling scheme.

Thereupon, the Chairman thanked Mr Williams and Mr Hughes for attending and they withdrew from the meeting.

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306. 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	13 October, 2009
Recreation and Welfare Committee	20 October, 2009
Policy and Resources Committee	21 October, 2009
Finance and General Purposes Committee	28 October, 2009
Learning and Development Consultative Committee	29 October, 2009
Planning and Liaison Committee	2 November, 2009

307. SEALING OF DOCUMENTS

RESOLVED that the Chairman and Clerk be authorised to affix the seal of the Council on the undermentioned contract and to sign the same:-

Provision of ramp for the disabled at Swiss Valley Community Hall – M. Hiorns Ltd.

308. CAR PARKING CHARGES AT HOSPITALS IN CARMARTHENSHIRE

Cllr. H. J. Evans declared a personal and prejudicial interest in the following item and took no part in proceedings as he was a member of the Committee for the Improvement of Hospital Services.

Members considered a letter dated 30 October, 2009 received from the Secretary, Committee for the Improvement of Hospital Services. The writer stated that the Committee had made a formal complaint to the Auditor General of Wales about the car parking charges at Prince Phillip Hospital.

During the ensuing discussion Members supported the endeavours of the Committee and felt that the car parking charge was grossly unfair and was seen as a tax on the sick and the vulnerable. However, Members were mindful of the legalities of Contract Law and felt that given the complications and issues surrounding the extant contract and as a means of lending the Council's support it was felt that the Council should send a letter to Carmarthenshire Community Health Council to garner its support for the removal of the car parking charge and it was

RESOLVED that the Clerk be authorised to send a letter to Carmarthenshire Community Health Council setting out the Council's concerns over this matter while seeking its support and help by it calling for the present contractual arrangements to be legally brought to an end as soon as possible.

309. MATTERS REPORTED

RESOLVED that the schedule of matters reported be noted.

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310. LLANELLI JOINT BURIAL AUTHORITY

Members received the following Minutes of meetings of the Llanelli Joint Burial Authority held on 9 and 17 September, 2009:-

“At the Meeting of the Llanelli Joint Burial Authority held at Vauxhall Buildings, Vauxhall, Llanelli, on Wednesday, 9 September 2009 at 4:00 pm.

Present:

Cllrs.

T. D. Bowen	S. M. Donoghue
M J. P. Burns	W. J. Lemon
S. L. Davies	K. D. Rees

27. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN PRO TEMPORE

RESOLVED that Cllr S. M. Donoghue be appointed Chairman pro tempore.

28. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs T.J. Jones, C.C. Lucas, A.G. Morgan and J. Williams.

29. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

30. 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 - 8 July 2009

31. INCOME AND EXPENDITURE REPORTS

RESOLVED that the income and expenditure reports for June and July 2009 and the provisional report for August 2009 be noted.

32. SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS

Consideration was given to the schedule of payments for July and August 2009, which revealed expenditure for the months amounted to £30,511.52 and £18,285.56 respectively.

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RESOLVED that the information be noted.

33. INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT 2008/2009 – FINAL REPORT

Further to Minute No. 103 (11 March 2009), Members considered the final internal audit report, compiled by Auditing Solutions Ltd.

The report did not differ from the interim report (to which Minute No. 103 refers) and no matters needed addressing other than Members considering the status of extant Standing Orders and Financial Regulations and if appropriate updating them to reflect any recent legislative changes.

The report author commented that as no significant issues arose no action plan was necessary.

RESOLVED that the Cemetery office staff be congratulated on their work and that the report be accepted.

34. REVIEW OF STANDING ORDERS AND FINANCIAL REGULATIONS

RESOLVED that in accordance with Standing Order No. 48, this matter be adjourned without further discussion, to the next ordinary meeting of the Burial Authority, scheduled for 14 October 2009.

35. BRITISH REGISTER OF ACCREDITED MEMORIAL MASONS (BRAMM)

Members considered correspondence received from BRAMM regarding the decision of the National Association of Memorial Mason’s (NAMM) decision to cease involvement with BRAMM. The Secretary gave a brief outline of the history of the two organisations to Members and stated that as the Burial Authority had its own list of registered masons authorised to work in the cemetery grounds then NAMM’s decision would not directly affect the Burial Authority.

RESOLVED that the correspondence be noted.

36. REGULATIONS FOR MEMORIAL MASONS

RESOLVED that this item be deferred to the next ordinary meeting of the Burial Authority, scheduled for 14 October 2009.

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The Meeting concluded at 4:30 pm
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“At the Special Meeting of the Llanelli Joint Burial Authority held at Vauxhall Buildings, Vauxhall, Llanelli, on Thursday, 17 September 2009 at 4:00 pm.

Present: Cllr C. C. Lucas (Chairman)

Cllrs.

T. D. Bowen	S. M. Donoghue
M. J. P. Burns	W. J. Lemon
S. L. Davies	K. D. Rees

37. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

An apology for absence was received from Cllr. A. G. Morgan.

38. MEMBERS’ DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

39. PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT, 1960

RESOLVED that in view of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted the following matter in Minute No. 41 below 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.

40. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN PRO-TEMPORE

RESOLVED that Cllr. K. D. Rees be appointed Chairman pro-tempore.

41. STAFFING MATTERS

Members considered a letter in respect of a staffing matter. Lengthy discussion ensued and following a full and detailed explanation which addressed the points covered in the letter it was

RESOLVED that the letter be noted and to await confirmation in respect of the matter being fully discharged.

Cllr. S. L. Davies abstained from voting.

.....”
The Meeting concluded at 5:00pm
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RESOLVED that the Minutes be noted.

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**311. 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 9 September, 2009:-

“At a Meeting of the SENIOR CITIZENS' DAY CENTRE JOINT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE held at The Town Hall, Llanelli on Wednesday, 9th September, 2009 at 6.00 p.m.

PRESENT: Councillors G.H. Wooldridge (Chairman), Mrs. L.J. Butler, M.L. Evans, Ms. J.C. Isaac, Ms. Ff.S. Larsen, J. Roberts (Vice-Chairman) and Mrs. L.J. Stedman.

12. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENT

The Chairman (Councillor G.H. Wooldridge) welcomed all members to the meeting, and in particular Councillors Isaac and Larsen, who were attending their first meeting of the Committee. He also extended a welcome to Mr. Mark Galbraith, Clerk to the Rural Council, who would be presenting a joint report with the Secretary on the current position regarding the Y.M.C.A. building.

13. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the previous meeting held on 8th July 2009 be received, verified and confirmed.

14. FINANCIAL REPORTS

(1) INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

RESOLVED – that the financial report giving details of cumulative income and expenditure for the period 1st April – 31st August 2009 in the sums of £14,772 and £19,149 respectively be approved (copies having been previously circulated to members).

(2) ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

Consideration was given to the written 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 9th July – 9th September 2009 in respect of Direct Debits, reimbursements, BACS payments and Voucher Nos. 4180 – 4186 (inclusive) amounted to £7,274.05.

RESOLVED – that the payment of the aforementioned accounts be approved.

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15. HIRINGS

Consideration was given to a written schedule of hirings of the Day Centre for the months of July and August 2009 (copies having been previously circulated to members).

RESOLVED – that the report be noted and approved.

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

Further to Minute No. 11 of the Committee meeting held on 8th July 2009, members were given a comprehensive report on the current situation by both the Secretary and Mr. Mark Galbraith. Details were given of the various matters that had been or were currently being attended to since the last meeting of the Committee. The officers also gave a resumé of matters discussed at the two meetings of the Trustees’ Management Committee held on 27th July and 20th August 2009 respectively, and which had culminated in the decision to temporarily close the building to safely deal with the hazards reported to them.

Following a detailed discussion and a range of questions put to the two officers, it was

RESOLVED as follows –

- (1) That the information be noted, and that the decision taken by the Trustees’ Management Committee to temporarily close the building be supported.
- (2) That the Trustees’ Management Committee be advised of the Committee’s wish to be consulted before any final decision was taken in regard to the Day Centre.

17. LLANELLI O.A.P. REPRESENTATIVES - DINNER

Further to Minute No. 19 of the Committee meeting held on 10th September 2008, members were asked to consider whether they wished for arrangements to be made for a dinner with O.A.P. organisation representatives in November, in accordance with past practice.

In the ensuing discussion, members felt that, in view of the fact that the Day Centre had been temporarily closed and the present uncertainty as to when it might re-open, it would be practically impossible for the necessary arrangements to be completed in time. Accordingly, it was

RESOLVED – that, in the circumstances, no arrangements be made for a dinner this year.

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The Meeting concluded at 7.30 p.m.
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RESOLVED that the Minutes be noted.

312. LETTERS OF APPRECIATION

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

10 November, 2009.

- (1) Age Concern;
- (2) Carmarthenshire Federation of Y. F. C's;
- (3) Llanelli & District Branch Guide Dogs;
- (4) Radio BGM.

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The Meeting concluded at 7.20 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 8 December, 2009, adopted by the Council.