

13 October, 2009.

LLANELLI RURAL COUNCIL

Minute Nos: 259 – 271

At a **COUNCIL** Meeting of the Llanelli Rural Council held at the Council Chamber, Vauxhall Buildings, Vauxhall, Llanelli, on Tuesday, 13 October, 2009, at 6.00 p.m.

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

Cllrs.

T. D. Bowen	T. J. Jones
D. J. Davies	M. J. Lewis
H. J. Evans	A. G. Morgan
M. L. Evans	B. C. M. Reynolds
T. Rh. Ifan	A. C. Thomas
G. H. Wooldridge	

Together with Mr Gethin Davies, County Commander for Carmarthenshire and Ms Karen Jones, Group Manager, Planning and Performance Officer, Mid & West Wales Fire Brigade.

259. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. L. J. Butler, S. M. Caiach, M. L. Davies, M. V. Davies, S. L. Davies, T. Devichand, S. M. Donoghue, S. N. Lewis and V. R. Thomas.

260. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following declaration of interest was made:-

<i>Minute No.</i>	<i>Councillor</i>	<i>Interest</i>
261	D. J. Davies	Member, Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Authority

261. MID AND WEST WALES FIRE BRIGADE

Cllr. D. J. Davies declared a personal interest in the following item as he was a member of the Mid & West Wales Fire and Rescue Authority.

The Chairman welcomed Mr Gethin Davies, County Commander for Carmarthenshire and Ms Karen Jones, Group Manager, Planning and Performance Officer, Mid & West Wales Fire Brigade to the meeting and invited them to make their presentation to Members.

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Ms Jones informed Members via the aid of a Powerpoint presentation of the risk reduction planning programme in place for the Mid and West Wales Fire Rescue Authority.

The presentation covered the following subject areas:

Fire Service Modernisation;
The Welsh Assembly Government's role and stance over risk reduction planning;
How risk was considered and assessed;
Safer public buildings and businesses;
Reducing risk on the road;
Reducing the risk from arson;
Youth work and education;
Response, staff safety and resilience;
Strategic Plan elements covering the period 2010-2015;
Community Consultation; and
The annual action plan priorities for 2010 – 2011.

There then followed a question and answer session on the points raised during the presentation and Members congratulated the Fire and Rescue Authority for the important work that it did in the local community.

Thereupon, the Chairman thanked Mr Gethin Davies, County Commander for Carmarthenshire and Ms Karen Jones, Group Manager, Planning and Performance Officer, Mid & West Wales Fire Brigade for attending and they thereupon withdrew from the meeting.

262. 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	8 September, 2009
Recreation and Welfare Committee	15 September, 2009
Policy and Resources Committee	16 September, 2009
Planning and Liaison Committee	21 September, 2009
Finance and General Purposes Committee	23 September, 2009
Community Development Grants Panel	24 September, 2009
Planning and Liaison Committee	12 October, 2009

263. LLANELLITOWN.COM - MEMBERSHIP

Further to Minute No. 247, it was

RESOLVED that the following Finance and General Purposes Committee's recommendation be accepted:-

“RECOMMENDED that the Council become a member of Llanellitown.com”.

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264. NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILLORS (NAC)

Further to Minute No. 447 (10 February, 2009), correspondence was received from the General Secretary, NAC stating that the NAC, in response to this Council's request to reduce member councils' budget costs by not having to repeatedly send delegates to numerous conferences throughout the year, was prepared to examine different ways of delivery and disseminating conference topics and information.

The writer stated that the NAC's Executive Committee had agreed to look at a method suggested by this Council for the NAC's conference programme for 2009 – 2010 that would include multi topics and putting presentations on the NAC's website and that this would take effect from the Annual General Meeting to be held on 13 – 15 November in Glasgow.

RESOLVED that the information be noted with pleasure.

265. COUNCIL STANDING ORDERS AND FINANCIAL REGULATIONS

Further to Minute No. 206, Members considered the Clerk's report on standing orders and financial regulations (copies of which had been previously circulated). Appended to the report were new and revised copies of standing orders and financial regulations based on model sets provided by the Society of Local Council Clerks.

Following discussion, it was

RESOLVED that the Clerk's report be accepted and that the standing orders and financial regulations be received and adopted.

266. SEALING OF DOCUMENTS

RESOLVED that the Chairman and Clerk be authorised to affix the Council's seal in order to engross the Deed of Assignment prepared to facilitate the novation of the Training Department's Workbased Learning contact to Neath Port Talbot College.

267. EXTERNAL EVENTS

Members having received invitations for the Council to be represented at the following, it was

RESOLVED that

- (1) Carmarthenshire County Council – Annual Standards Committees Conference, Cardiff – 14 – 15 October, 2009 – that the information be noted;
- (2) Llanelli Town Council – Joint Meeting – 'Water Quality Problems – Carmarthen Bay, Loughor and Three Rivers Estuaries' – Town Hall, Llanelli – 15 October, 2009 – that respective authorisation be given to Cllrs. T. D. Bowen, H. J. Evans, B. C. M. Reynolds and the Clerk to attend;

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- (3) Carmarthenshire County Council – Second Key Stakeholder Forum – Drop-in Session – Swansea Bay and Carmarthen Bay (Lavernock Point to St. Ann’s Head) Shoreline Management Plan Review (SMP2) – National Botanic Garden of Wales – 3 November, 2009 – that the Clerk be authorised to attend;
- (4) National Association of Councillors – Annual Conference – ‘Local Government – The Recession and Beyond’ – Menzies Hotel, Glasgow – 13 – 15 November, 2009 – that Cllr. T. D. Bowen be authorised to attend;
- (5) Carmarthenshire County Council/One Voice Wales – ‘Working Together Enhancing our Communities’ – Ffos Las Racecourse – 19 November, 2009 – that authorisation be given to one member from the Plaid Cymru group of councillors and the Clerk to attend, with the name of the member to be forwarded to the Clerk in due course.

268. MATTERS REPORTED

RESOLVED that the schedule of matters reported be noted.

269. LLANELLI JOINT BURIAL AUTHORITY

Members received the following Minutes of a meeting of the Llanelli Joint Burial Authority held on 8 July, 2009:-

At the Meeting of the Llanelli Joint Burial Authority held at Vauxhall Buildings, Vauxhall, Llanelli, on Wednesday, 8 July 2009 at 4:00 pm.

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

Cllrs.

T. D. Bowen
M. J. P. Burns
S. M. Donoghue

T. J. Jones
A. G. Morgan
K. D. Rees

J. Williams

16. CHAIRMAN’S ANNOUNCEMENT

It was with sadness that the Chairman referred to the death of Lance Corporal David Dennis from the Light Dragoons who was killed on 4 July 2009 whilst serving his country in Afghanistan. The Chairman remarked that Lance Corporal Dennis was a resident of Dafen but no doubt his death would be felt throughout Llanelli.

17. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs S. L. Davies and W. J. Lemon.

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18. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

19. 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.

Annual Meeting - 10 June 2009

20. INCOME AND EXPENDITURE REPORTS

RESOLVED that the income and expenditure report for May 2009 and the provisional report for June 2009 be noted.

21. SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS

Consideration was given to the schedule of payments for June 2009, which revealed expenditure for the month amounted to £23,933.69.

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

22. AUDIT ANNUAL RETURN FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 MARCH 2009

Members considered the Audit Annual Return document for the financial year ending 31 March 2009, and it was

RESOLVED that the general preparation of the document which included a summary of the Statement of Accounts in Section 1 and the Annual Governance Statement provided in Section 2 be approved accordingly.

23. ICCM CONFERENCE, KENILWORTH – 28 – 30 SEPTEMBER 2009

RESOLVED that the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Cemetery Manager be authorised to attend the conference.

24. CEMETERY SIGNAGE

Members considered the Cemetery Manager's report regarding a proposal to introduce new signage throughout the cemetery grounds as the current signage was considered to be

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inadequate. Members were presented with themed illustrative designs and following discussion it was

RESOLVED that the report be accepted and that the Cemetery Manager present a final draft of the new signage for further consideration at a future meeting, based upon the general theme and illustrative designs set out in the report.

25. 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.

26. STAFFING MATTERS

Members considered a letter from DG requesting an increase in the daily payment received for gate closing duties. Following discussion, it was

RESOLVED that the request be approved and that the daily payment rate be uplifted so that it is commensurate to half an hours overtime payment per evening.

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The Meeting concluded at 4:25 pm
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RESOLVED that the Minutes be noted.

**270. 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 8 July, 2009:-

“At a Meeting of the SENIOR CITIZENS' DAY CENTRE JOINT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE held at The Town Hall, Llanelli on Wednesday, 8th July 2009 at 6.00 p.m.

PRESENT: Councillors G.H. Wooldridge (Chairman), H.J. Evans, J. Roberts (Vice-Chairman) and Mrs. L.J. Stedman.

APOLOGIES: Councillors Mrs. P.J. Edmunds, M.L. Evans and D.H. Skivington.

7. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENT

The Chairman (Councillor G. H. Wooldridge) welcomed members to the meeting and extended a warm welcome to Councillor H.J. Evans, who was attending his first meeting of the Committee.

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8. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the previous meeting held on 13th May 2009 be received, verified and confirmed.

9. FINANCIAL REPORTS

(1) INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

RESOLVED – that the financial report giving details of cumulative income and expenditure for the period 1st April – 30th June 2009 in the sums of £12,323 and £10,990 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 14th May – 8th July 2009 in respect of Direct Debits, reimbursements, BACS payments and Voucher Nos. 4171 – 4179 (inclusive) amounted to £10,040.42.

RESOLVED – that payment of the aforementioned accounts be approved.

10. HIRINGS

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

RESOLVED – that the report be noted and approved.

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

Further to Minute No. 6 of the Committee meeting held on 13th May 2009, the Town Clerk advised members of the up-to-date position.

He referred to the following matters –

- (1) A meeting on 10th June 2009 where he and Mr. Mark Galbraith, Clerk to the Llanelli Rural Council had met representatives of Carmarthenshire County Council and Family Housing Association to discuss the possible future refurbishment and redevelopment of the building.
- (2) Correspondence which had passed between the Chief Executive Officer of Y.M.C.A. Wales and himself.
- (3) A request for Counsel's Opinion which had been sent to Counsel on 11th June 2009.
- (4) Details of the verbal response given by Counsel by telephone on 6th July 2009.

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In the light of the verbal confirmation received from Counsel regarding the trusteeship, and following a lengthy discussion, it was

RESOLVED as follows –

- (1) That the verbal report presented by the Secretary be noted.
- (2) That the Secretary pursue the future of the building and all ancillary issues with the Trustees.

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The Meeting concluded at 7.00 p.m.

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RESOLVED that the Minutes be noted.

271. LETTERS OF APPRECIATION

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

- (1) Girls’ Friendly Society – Felinfoel;
- (2) Pontyates RFC.

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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 10 November, 2009, adopted by the Council.