

**14 July, 2009.**

**LLANELLI RURAL COUNCIL**

**Minute Nos: 125 – 138**

At a **COUNCIL** Meeting of the Llanelli Rural Council held at the Council Chamber, Vauxhall Buildings, Vauxhall, Llanelli, on Tuesday, 14 July, 2009, at 6.00 p.m.

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

**Cllrs.**

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

**125. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chairman referred to the recent demise in Central Helmand, Afghanistan, of Lance Corporal D. Dennis, Light Dragoon Regiment; and of Mrs. Z. Włodarczyk, mother of Mrs. J. Gandziarek. Members and Officers thereupon stood in silent tribute.

The Chairman congratulated Mr. and Mrs. M. Galbraith upon the recent birth of their son.

Best wishes were also conveyed to Cllr. V. R. Thomas upon her indisposition.

**RESOLVED** that a letter of condolence be forwarded to the family of Lance Corporal Dennis.

**126. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

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

**127. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Cllr. L. J. Butler declared an interest in Minute No. 132 as she was the Co-ordinator for Communities First Llwynhendy.

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**128. 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	9 June, 2009
Recreation and Welfare Committee	16 June, 2009
Policy and Resources Committee	17 June, 2009
Finance and General Purposes Committee	24 June, 2009
Planning and Liaison Committee	29 June, 2009

**129. MATTERS ARISING**

**LUNCHEON CLUBS – PATRONAGE**

Pursuant to Minute No. 100 (1), Cllr. M. L. Davies conveyed her appreciation of the quality of publicity leaflets and posters circulated in the Hengoed Ward.

**RESOLVED** that Cllr. Davies' comments be noted.

**130. LLANELLI CHRISTMAS CARNIVAL 2009**

Members were circulated with e-mail correspondence received from the Marketing and Tourism Manager, Carmarthenshire County Council, regarding the proposed date of Friday, 20 November, 2009, on which to hold the Christmas Carnival.

Following discussion, during which various suggestions were made to enhance the event, it was

**RESOLVED** that the proposal be supported.

**131. LLANELLI CHRISTMAS RADIO PROJECT**

E-mail correspondence was received from Mr. R. Lloyd informing of a proposed launch of a temporary radio station, provisionally entitled 'Santa FM', which aimed to boost Christmas business in Llanelli from the time of the annual carnival and broadcasting in the run-up to the festive holiday.

Members referred to the existing local radio station, 'Scarlet FM', and to the need for further information.

**RESOLVED** that the proposal be noted and to await further developments.

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**132. FOOTHOLD – LLWYNHENDY ENVIRONMENTAL SUB-GROUP**

Cllr. L. J. Butler declared a personal and prejudicial interest in the following item as she was the Co-ordinator for Communities First Llwynhendy. Cllr. Butler withdrew from the meeting before discussion commenced.

Correspondence was received from the Chairman, Llwynhendy Environmental Sub-Group, Foothold, requesting the nomination of a Member of the Llwynhendy (Pemberton) Ward to become a member of the Sub-Group.

**RESOLVED** that Cllr. T. D. Bowen be nominated to represent this Council on the Llwynhendy Environmental Sub-Group.

Cllr. Butler returned to the meeting.

**133. LLANELLI TOWN COUNCIL – JOINT MEETING -  
WATER QUALITY PROBLEMS – CARMARTHEN BAY,  
LOUGHOR AND THREE RIVERS ESTUARIES AND BURRY INLET**

Correspondence was received from the Clerk, Llanelli Town Council, enquiring as to whether this Council wished to be represented at the joint meeting of the above.

**RESOLVED** that it be confirmed that this Council wished to participate in the anticipated joint meeting; and to await further developments regarding the number of Council representatives to attend, together with the date, time and venue arrangements.

**134. EXTERNAL EVENTS**

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

**RESOLVED** that

- (1) National Association of Councillors – ‘Equality for All’ – Scarborough – 10-12 July, 2009, (retrospective) – that the Council’s delegate be authorised to attend;
- (2) Carmarthenshire County Council – Key Stakeholders Forum – ‘Swansea Bay and Carmarthen Bay (Lavernock Point to St Ann’s Head), Shoreline Management Plan Review (SMP2) – Key Stakeholder Group’ – Liberty Stadium, Swansea - 15 July, 2009 – that Cllr. M. J. Lewis be authorised to attend;
- (3) One Voice Wales – National Training Programme for Community and Town Councils in Wales – Training Schedule – that the invitation be noted.

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**135. CARMARTHENSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL –  
POINT OF CONTACT**

A letter was received from the Assistant Chief Executive (Customer Focus & Policy), Carmarthenshire County Council, informing that, in order to improve and monitor the Council's dealing of correspondence with Town and Community Councils, a central point of contact had been set up for all letters excluding planning matters.

**RESOLVED** that the information be noted.

**136. MATTERS REPORTED**

**RESOLVED** that

- (1) Cllr. L. J. Butler's information regarding Item 5 be amended and forwarded appropriately; and that
- (2) the schedule of matters reported be noted.

**137. LLANELLI JOINT BURIAL AUTHORITY**

Members received the following Minutes of a meeting of the Llanelli Joint Burial Authority held on 13 May, 2009:-

“At the Meeting of the Llanelli Joint Burial Authority held at Vauxhall Buildings, Vauxhall, Llanelli, on Wednesday, 13 May 2009 at 4:00 pm.

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

Cllrs.

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

**119. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs D. J. Davies, A. G. Morgan and W. G. Thomas.

**120. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations of interest were made.

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121. 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 April 2009

122. INCOME AND EXPENDITURE REPORTS

RESOLVED that the income and expenditure report for March 2009 and the provisional report for April 2009 be noted.

123. SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS

Consideration was given to the schedule of payments for April 2009, which revealed expenditure for the month amounted to £20,056.46.

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

124. TRAINING COURSES

The Secretary sought Members' approval to send the Cemetery Manager on the following training courses:-

- (1) Grey Water – 8 June 2009, Sandwell Training and Development Centre, West Bromwich;
- (2) A Grave Matter – 10 June 2009, Marriott Hotel, Swansea.

After a brief discussion it was

RESOLVED that the Cemetery Manager be authorised to attend the training courses.

125. 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.

126. CEMETERY INFRASTRUCTURE CHANGES AND IMPROVEMENTS

Members considered the Cemetery Manager's report on cemetery infrastructure changes and improvements. Despite the short time in post the Cemetery Manager had identified a number of issues that required attention, especially the control and eradication of Japanese knotweed and maintenance and drainage issues in section 11. With regard to the control of knotweed

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and maintenance issues, the Cemetery Manager presented two quotations for Member consideration. A further quotation was to be obtained prior to engaging the services of a grounds maintenance contractor.

Members were informed that remedial work to the drainage infrastructure in section 11 was also required and an element of the work was considered urgent as it had health and safety implications. Given the unforeseen circumstances no money had been identified within the budget to cover the associated costs. Therefore, the costs would have to be vired from the contingency budget head. Similarly, the costs for engaging a grounds maintenance contractor to deal with the Japanese knotweed infestation and maintenance of section 11 would also have to be vired from the contingency budget head.

Having considered the Cemetery Manager's report and following discussions it was

RESOLVED that the Cemetery Manager be authorised to:

- (1) Engage the services of Hortech Limited, Unit 16 Capel Hendre Estate, Capel Hendre, Carmarthenshire, SA18 3SJ, to provide assistance with the Japanese knotweed infestation and maintenance issues identified for section 11, unless a more competitive quotation is received in the meantime;
- (2) On the basis of Hortech Limited providing the most competitive quotation (once a further quotation had been obtained in the interest of best value), then the terms of engaging the company be accepted as follows:
  - A fee of £1975 plus VAT for maintenance assistance.
  - A fee of £375 plus VAT for the initial treatment of the Japanese knotweed, followed by a secondary course of treatment in September 2009 at a cost of £200 plus VAT.

Giving a total cost of £2550 plus VAT to be vired from the contingency budget head.

- (3) In view of the knotweed treatment programme extending over a three year period, comprising two treatments per annum at a cost of £200 plus VAT per treatment, appropriate expenditure provision be included in the budget estimates for 2010 and 2011 respectively to cover the costs;
- (4) The remedial drainage work identified for section 11 and which had health and safety implications, be commissioned as soon as practicable with an appropriate contractor and that the cost be vired from the contingency budget head and reported retrospectively to a future committee meeting; and in the meantime
- (5) Carmarthenshire County Council be contacted over the drainage issues (given that it had acted as the Burial Authority's agent in managing the construction and development of section 11), to seek general advice and assistance and to establish whether the costs referred to in (4) above could

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be reclaimed, if it was felt that the issues identified were caused by contractor error or omission.

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The Meeting concluded at 4:45pm”  
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**RESOLVED** that the Minutes be accepted.

**138. LETTERS OF APPRECIATION**

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

- (1) Bynea R.F.C.;
- (2) Cylch Meithrin Pum Heol;
- (3) Kidwelly Town Council.

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The Meeting concluded at 6.40 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 September, 2009, adopted by the Council.