

24 September, 2008.

LLANELLI RURAL COUNCIL

Minute Nos: 214 – 226

At a Meeting of the **FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE** of the Llanelli Rural Council held at the Conference Room, Vauxhall Buildings, Vauxhall, Llanelli, on Wednesday, 24 September, 2008, at 4.45 p.m.

Present: Cllr. B. C. M. Reynolds (Chairman)

Cllrs.

| | |
|--------------|--------------|
| T. D. Bowen | T. Devichand |
| S. M. Caiach | H. J. Evans |
| D. J. Davies | T. Rh. Ifan |
| M. L. Davies | T. J. Jones |
| M. V. Davies | V. R. Thomas |

214. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

An apology for absence was received from Cllr. L. J. Butler (Cllr. T. D. Bowen deputising).

215. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following Members declared an interest in the under-mentioned matters:-

| <i>Minute No.</i> | <i>Councillor</i> | <i>Interest</i> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---|
| 218 (c) | Cllr. S. M. Caiach | Appointee for Carmarthenshire County Council, Llanelli Citizens Advice Bureau |
| 218 (c) | Cllr. T. Devichand | Trustee, Llanelli Citizens Advice Bureau |
| 218 (p) | Cllr. T. Devichand | Co-ordinator, Llanelli Neighbourhood Watch |
| 218 (c) | Cllr. B. C. M. Reynolds | Council's Representative, Llanelli Citizens Advice Bureau |
| 218 (o) | Cllr. B. C. M. Reynolds | Trustee, Llanelli Disabled Access Group |
| 218 (p) | Cllr. B. C. M. Reynolds | Related to applicant, Llanelli Neighbourhood Watch |
| 218 (r) | Cllr. B. C. M. Reynolds | Trustee, C.A.T.C.H. U.P. Ltd. |

216. FINANCIAL REPORTS

RESOLVED that the Committee Reports for the Administration and Training Departments for August 2008, be noted.

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217. SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS

Consideration was given to the Schedule of Payments for July and August, 2008, for the Administration and Training Departments (copies of which had been previously circulated to Members) which revealed that the expenditure amounted to £175,811.98, £127,663.39, £63,304.40 and £59,954.04, respectively.

RESOLVED that the reports be noted.

218. APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Cllrs. S. M. Caiach, T. Devichand and B. C. M. Reynolds withdrew from the meeting whilst the following applications were considered and did not speak or vote on the matters:-

- (c) Llanelli Citizens Advice Bureau
- (o) Llanelli Disabled Access Group
- (p) Llanelli Neighbourhood Watch
- (r) C.A.T.C.H. U.P. Ltd.

The Chairman of Council, Cllr. M. L. Davies chaired the meeting whilst Cllr. Reynolds was absent.

Consideration was given to the report of the Deputy Clerk (Administration) and applications received for financial assistance, and it was

RESOLVED as follows:-

- (a) Macmillan Cancer Support – that a contribution of £100 be made;
- (b) Eisteddfod Genedlaethol Cymru – Cardiff and District – that a contribution of £25 be made;
- (c) Llanelli Citizens Advice Bureau – that a contribution of £75 be made;
- (d) Llanelli & District Association of Cricket Umpires and Scorers – that a contribution of £75 be made;
- (e) Cruse Bereavement Care – that a contribution of £100 be made;
- (f) Llanelli Air Raise – that a contribution of £100 be made;
- (g) Ysgol Heol Goffa – World Games in America 2009 - that a contribution of £75 be made;
- (h) Llanelli Historical Society – that a contribution of £75 be made;
- (i) Retired Friends United – that a contribution of £75 be made;
- (j) Cerebra – ‘Vallecchia’ – that the application be noted;
- (k) Urdd Gobaith Cymru – that a contribution of £100 be made;
- (l) Age Concern Sir Gâr – that a contribution of £75 be made;
- (m) SA15 Theatre Company – that the application be noted;
- (n) Shelter Cymru – that a contribution of £100 be made;
- (o) Llanelli Disabled Access Group – that a contribution of £100 be made;
- (p) Llanelli Neighbourhood Watch – that a contribution of £75 be made;
- (q) St. John Ambulance Brigade Cymru – Llanelli Division – that a contribution of £100 be made;
- (r) C.A.T.C.H. U.P. Ltd. – that a contribution of £100 be made;

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- (s) Marie Curie Cancer Care – that a contribution of £500 be made;
- (t) Guide Dogs – Llanelli & District Branch – that a contribution of £75 be made;
- (u) Wales Air Ambulance – that a contribution of £100 be made;
- (v) Cllr. H. Richards, OBE – Hanging Baskets within Felinfoel – that the application be noted;
- (w) Crossroads Caring for Carers Sir Gâr – Website – that the application be noted;
- (x) 1st Llanelli Scout Group – that a contribution of £75 be made.

219. LLANELLI CHRISTMAS CARNIVAL

Further to Minute No. 443 (19 February, 2008), Members were circulated with a report received from the Clerk.

With reference to a recent committee meeting to discuss this year's Carnival, Members were informed that, owing to the Scarlets staging its first home game in the new stadium on Friday, 28 November, 2008, and therefore conflicting with the traditional date for the Christmas Carnival, a decision had been made to change the date of this year's Carnival. A large fireworks display and various entertainments were to mark the occasion and, as the Rugby Club's fixture list was influenced by television rights and could not be changed, it was deemed that the date of the Carnival be brought forward to Friday, 21 November.

Furthermore, in a bid to encourage shoppers to visit the town centre, the Carnival Committee agreed that the Christmas street lighting would be switched on at the same time as the St. Elli Centre's reindeer event to be held on Wednesday, 12 November, 2008. The lights would be switched on for one night only, excluding the Christmas lights in the Spring Gardens, which were to be illuminated on the night of the Carnival.

During discussion, reference was made to the previous year's lack of advertising and the low number of float entrants.

RESOLVED that support be given to the Christmas Carnival's revised date of Friday, 21 November, 2008.

220. 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.

**221. PONTHENRI COMMUNITY HALL –
REFURBISHMENT WORKS**

Pursuant to Minute No. 206, Members were circulated with a report from the Deputy Clerk (Administration), which presented the following recommendation of the Recreation and Welfare Committee meeting held on 16 September, 2008:-

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Following discussion, it was

RECOMMENDED that the Council authorise the transfer of £25,000 from General Reserves to enable the refurbishment works at Ponthenri Community Hall to proceed in its entirety with the tender submitted by Enzo's Construction Ltd., Clos Gelliwerdd, Cross Hands Business Park, Cross Hands, Llanelli, SA14 6RX, in the sum of £59,089 plus VAT being accepted.

222. VAUXHALL BUILDINGS – ASBESTOS REMOVAL

Members received a report from the Technical Services Officer informing of quotations received for the removal of asbestos from the attic void at Vauxhall Buildings, together with the report of Resource and Environmental Consultants (Asbestos) Ltd. regarding said quotations.

The following quotations were received:-

| | £ |
|-----|-----------|
| (1) | 9,679.00 |
| (2) | 11,288.00 |
| (3) | 11,362.00 |

Resource and Environmental Consultants (Asbestos) Ltd., recommended that quotation number (2) be accepted as there were many conditions included in quotation number (1) and, also, it was a company with greater resources should problems arise on site.

RESOLVED that the quotation received from Caswell Environmental Services Ltd., 7 Endeavour Close, Purcell Avenue Industrial Estate, Sandfields, Port Talbot, SA13 2PE, in the sum of £11,288.00 plus VAT, be accepted.

223. LIFT TRUCK TRAINING CENTRE

Members were presented with a report received from the Training Manager, informing of the proposed re-location of the Training Department's Lift Truck Training Centre and to request agreement to proceed with the rental of an unit at Trostre, Llanelli, at £10,800 per annum, together with office rental of £130 per month, i.e. £12,360 per annum.

RESOLVED that the report of the Training Manager be received and adopted.

**224. WHITE LION DEPOT –
RENT REVIEW**

Members were circulated with a letter received from the Director, Lambert Smith Hampton Property Solutions, informing of an agreement having been reached regarding a rent review for the White Lion Depot, Llwynhendy, in the sum of £4,100 per annum, to be backdated to 25 March, 2008, for a term of 3 years.

RESOLVED that the proposed rent of £4,100 be accepted.

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225. AUDIT OF ACCOUNTS 2007/08

Members were circulated with ‘the report to those charged with governance’ 2007/08, which gave an opinion on the accuracy and fairness of the accounting statements and related notes. A letter of representation to be signed by the Responsible Financial Officer (Deputy Clerk (Administration)) was also circulated for approval.

The Deputy Clerk (Administration) reported that minor amendments would be made to the accounts, i.e. provision for prepayments, accruals and writing off sales invoices, which would reduce the balance of General Reserves by £5,000.

The Members and the Clerk complimented the Deputy Clerk (Administration) and associated officers in their diligence and it was

RESOLVED that the report be accepted and that the Deputy Clerk (Administration) be authorised to sign the letter of representation.

226. INTERNAL AUDIT SERVICE

A quotation had been received from Auditing Solutions Ltd., for the provision of internal audit services.

The Deputy Clerk (Administration) having informed Members that the service was a necessary requirement, under the Accounts and Audit (Wales) Regulations 2005.

RESOLVED the quotation in the sum of £1,750 plus VAT for 2008/09 be accepted.

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The Meeting concluded at 6.10 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 14 October, 2008, adopted by the Council.