

**21 December, 2006.**

**LLANELLI RURAL COUNCIL**

**Minute Nos: 323 – 331**

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 Thursday, 21 December, 2006, at 2.00 p.m.

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

**Cllrs.**

T. D. Bowen	M. Howells
D. V. Darby	M. B. Hughes
D. J. Davies	M. P. Jones
T. Devichand	T. J. Jones

**323. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. T. Devichand, M. B. Hughes and S. N. Lewis.

**324. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations of interest were made.

**325. FINANCIAL REPORTS**

**RESOLVED** that the Committee Reports of the Administration and Training Departments for November 2006, be noted.

**326. SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS**

Consideration was given to the Schedule of Payments for November 2006, for the Administration and Training Departments (copies of which had been previously circulated to Members) which revealed that the expenditure amounted to £66,555.03 and £51,739.62, respectively.

**RESOLVED** that the reports be noted.

**21 December, 2006.**

**327.           AUDIT OF ACCOUNTS 2005/06**

Members were circulated with the Audit of Financial Statements for 2005/06 which reported to those charged with governance from the Wales Audit Office.

The Deputy Clerk (Administration) having informed of the new document format being presented in compliance with the Accounts and Audit (Wales) Regulations 2005, it was

**RESOLVED** that the information, together with Members' compliments to the Deputy Clerk (Administration) and Administration Staff upon their diligence, be noted.

**328.           MENTER CWM GWENDRAETH**

Correspondence was received from Menter Cwm Gwendraeth informing of the Gwendraeth Identity which had been issued as a priority by the local community as one of the top five community regeneration projects for 2005. The project's progress was being monitored by the Local Authorities' Regeneration Action Team and was seen as a key component in regenerating the area and maximising its potential. The project group had already achieved success by upgrading the National Botanical Garden to be a designated Gwendraeth Tourist Information Outlet in conjunction with the Local Authority and were involved in a host of other projects across the Valley.

Following consultation, it had been noted that the best way to progress would be to devise an Identity Strategy for the Gwendraeth and that an officer be appointed to devise an identity which would link the communities together.

Therefore, for this project to succeed, it was vital that all Town and Community Councils agree to participate and it was requested that Members consider contributing towards the employment of a Marketing Officer. The level of contribution had been assessed on the population of the individual wards in the Gwendraeth valley; £205 had been attributed to the Glyn Ward.

**RESOLVED** that a contribution of £205 be made towards the employment of a Marketing Officer with Menter Cwm Gwendraeth.

**329.           LLANELLI YOUTH THEATRE –  
ANNUAL AWARDS CEREMONY 2007**

A letter was received from the Business Team, Llanelli Youth Theatre, informing of the Annual Awards Ceremony to be held on 19 January, 2007. It was also stated that, in 2007, the organisation would become a major part of the Foothold Arts Group which would aid the Group's development and expansion.

A request was made as to whether this Council wished to contribute towards sponsorship of an award for the sum of £25.

**RESOLVED** that an award be sponsored by this Council.

**21 December, 2006.**

**330. BANKING ARRANGEMENTS**

The Deputy Clerk (Administration) circulated a report requesting that Members' consider the withdrawal of issuing cheques and to broaden the use of the internet banking BACS system to encompass payments to all creditors and also, to extend the daily payments limit to £40,000.

Consideration was also requested that the Council obtain Commercial Cards in order to facilitate various transactions by the Officers who were authorised signatories on the bank mandate.

Members were also informed of the need to amend Standing Orders should the above proposals be accepted.

Following discussion, it was

**RECOMMENDED that**

- (1) the proposals contained within the report to adopt an electronic process for paying creditors and the introduction of the Commercial Card facility be accepted;
- (2) a motion be put to the Council meeting to be held on 9 January, 2007 to vary Standing Order No. 97 (a) to include the payment of creditors by BACS, HSBC Net and Commercial Card.

**331. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENT**

The Chairman wished Members and Staff a merry Christmas and a prosperous and happy New Year.

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The Meeting concluded at 2.10 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 9 January, 2007, adopted by the Council.