

8 November, 2016

LLANELLI RURAL COUNCIL

Minute Nos: 279 – 288

At a **COUNCIL** Meeting of the Llanelli Rural Council held at the Council Chamber, Vauxhall Buildings, Vauxhall, Llanelli, on Tuesday, 8 November, 2016, at 6.00 p.m.

Present: Cllr. S. M. Donoghue (Chairman)

Cllrs.

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| F. Akhtar | M. L. Evans |
| L. A. Beer | R. E. Evans |
| S. M. Caiach | A. G. Morgan |
| S. L. Davies | C. A. Rees |
| H. J. Evans | A. J. Rogers |
| W. V. Thomas | |

Absent: L. J. Butler

279. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. T. Bowen, D. M. Cundy, M. V. Davies, T. Devichand, T. J. Jones, S. N. Lewis, J. S. Phillips and G. H. Wooldridge.

280. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

281. 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:

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| Council | 11 October, 2016 |
| Recreation and Welfare Committee | 18 October, 2016 |
| Policy and Resources Committee | 19 October, 2016 |
| Finance and General Purposes Committee | 26 October, 2016 |
| Community Development Grants Panel | 26 October, 2016 |
| Learning and Development Consultative Committee | 27 October, 2016 |
| Planning and Liaison Committee | 31 October, 2016 |

8 November, 2016

282. MATTERS ARISING

**(1) DYFED – POWYS POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER
POLICE AND CRIME PLAN CONSULTATION**

Further to Minute No. 230(2), the Clerk informed Members that the Police and Crime Commissioner had replied to his letter this afternoon accepting the invitation to attend a future Council meeting.

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

(2) RAINSCAPE UPDATE SEPTEMBER 2016

Further to Minute No. 230(3), Members were informed that arrangements were being made for Carmarthenshire County Council and Natural Resources Wales to attend the next Planning and Liaison Committee to be held on 21 November, 2016.

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

**(3) TRANSFER OF COMMUNITY ASSETS FROM
CARMARTHENSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

Further to Minute No. 245, the Clerk informed Members that Llanelli Town Council had now entered into negotiations with Carmarthenshire County Council over the potential transfer of several parks and playing fields. The Clerk stated he and other Council officers had recently held informal discussions with the Town Clerk and Deputy Town Clerk to offer general advice on the preliminary steps taken thus far by the Rural Council. Part of the discussion centered around the possibility of entering into a collaboration agreement whereby the Rural Council might provide grounds maintenance support to the Town Council. A further report on this matter shall be presented to Members if the Town Council makes a formal request to pursue this further.

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

**(4) MID AND WEST WALES FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY
DRAFT CORPORATE PLAN 2017-2022**

Further to Minute No. 253, Members were informed that a letter had been sent to the Chairman of the Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Authority (FRA) extending an invitation to senior FRA personnel to attend a future Council meeting to discuss the potential impact the FRA's improvement objectives might have on the fire service in the Llanelli area but to date no response had been received.

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

8 November, 2016

**(5) INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL FOR WALES
DRAFT ANNUAL REPORT 2017**

Further to Minute No. 254, Members enquired if the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales (IRPW) had responded to the Council's suggestion to reconsider and revisit its decision to remove the determination which allowed community and town councils the ability to pay an attendance allowance to Members for attending approved duties outside the area of the Council.

The Clerk explained that it was most unlikely to receive a detailed direct response from the IRPW in respect of the points raised by the Council given the general nature of the consultation process. In all probability the IRPW would consider all consultation responses and would then arrive at a collective view as to whether the final report should be amended in any particular way to reflect the general feedback received during the consultation period.

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

(6) COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FUND

Further to Minute No. 269, Cllr. S. L. Davies expressed dissatisfaction with the determination of particular grant applications submitted for the Llwynhendy ward, where for example community benefit could be demonstrated but which also attracted third party engagement costs. It was felt the overriding factor should be the impact on community well-being instead of focussing on third party management costs.

General discussion ensued and there was broad consensus that having previously reviewed the scheme, the new arrangements generally worked well. The point regarding the treatment of third party engagement costs was duly noted for future grant applications. The Clerk also reported there were a few other matters which the Community Development Officer was keen to address and it was always intended to carry out a review of the new scheme once the panel had met and it was

RESOLVED that the points raised during discussion shall be presented to the working group originally tasked with reviewing the scheme, for appropriate consideration and inclusion within the revised set of guidance notes for grant applicants, along with other procedural matters identified by the Community Development Officer.

Arising out of the above discussion and with the benefit of hindsight given the general consensus to focus on community benefit, Members not serving on the grants panel expressed as a retrospective measure whether there was a possibility of using any of the unspent funds on the two particular applications referred to by Cllr. S. L. Davies. However, this was not permissible. The Clerk reminded Members that the Grants Panel had delegated authority to determine applications and to make grant allocations on the Council's behalf. The panel had already made its decision and Members attention was duly drawn to the resolution set out under Minute No. 269.

8 November, 2016

283. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENT

The Chairman remarked that he had received a suggestion from Cllr. M. L. Evans for Members to donate money to charity instead of giving and receiving Christmas cards from one another.

Following discussion, it was

RESOLVED that Members' donate money in lieu of Christmas cards and the amount raised shall be shared between the Chairman's nominated charities namely Ty Bryngwyn Hospice and the Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust – Llanelli.

284. HMS TRENCHANT

Further to Minute No. 41, Members considered correspondence from the Commanding Officer R Watts updating Members on the progress HMS Trenchant had made during the past year. HMS Trenchant was in its last few months of what had been a very long and complex maintenance period. It was noted that Ship's Company were willing to visit Llanelli and help in any planned activities during the month of November and it was

RESOLVED that the information be noted and that a reply letter be sent to acknowledge the gesture as well as to inform the Commanding Officer about Council activities in the run up to the ordinary elections in May 2017.

285. WALES AIR AMBULANCE

Members received an invitation from the Wales Air Ambulance to visit the new Dafen Airbase in the near future.

Following discussion, it was

RESOLVED that the invitation be accepted with pleasure and that arrangements be made with Wales Air Ambulance for interested Members to attend.

286. LLANELLI JOINT BURIAL AUTHORITY

Members received the following Minutes of a meeting of the Llanelli Joint Burial Authority held on 14 September, 2016:

“At the Meeting of the Llanelli Joint Burial Authority held at Vauxhall Buildings, Vauxhall, Llanelli, on Wednesday, 14 September 2016 at 4:00 pm.

Present: Cllr. C. J. Reed, MBE (Vice Chairman (in the Chair))

8 November, 2016

Cllrs.

M. J. P. Burns S. M. Donoghue
M. V. Davies J. S. Phillips
L. J. Stedman

25. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. P. J. Edmunds, R. E. Evans and R. F. Price.

26. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

27. LLANELLI CREMATORIUM

(1) GENERAL MATTERS

The Chairman welcomed Mr Richard Evans, Managing Director, Westerleigh Group Ltd and Mr Kevin Davies, Manager, Llanelli Crematorium who had been invited to the meeting to introduce themselves and to give a presentation on their future development plans for the crematorium. Mr Evans gave a brief overview of the Westerleigh Group as a whole and then proceeded to present Members with the company's plans for a new floral tribute canopy/rain shelter at the rear of the crematorium building together with new public toilets.

Members were very appreciative of the improvements planned at the crematorium and thanked Mr Evans and Mr Davies for attending the meeting.

RESOLVED that the information be noted and that the planned improvements be supported.

(2) REASSIGNMENT OF LEASE

Members considered correspondence from Evans, Powell & Co, about the reassignment of the lease from Llanelli Crematorium Ltd to Crematoria Management Ltd. The Cemetery Manager confirmed that both Llanelli Rural and Llanelli Town Councils had now signed the lease indicating their support for the reassignment.

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

28. 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.

8 November, 2016

Ordinary Meeting - 13 July 2016
29. INCOME AND EXPENDITURE REPORTS

RESOLVED that the income and expenditure reports for June and July 2016 and the provisional report for August 2016 be noted.

30. SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS

Consideration was given to the schedules of payments for July and August 2016, which revealed expenditure for the months amounted to £30,186.57 and £15,547.80 respectively.

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

31. AUDIT OF ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 MARCH 2016

Members received correspondence from Grant Thornton, enclosing the Burial Authority's certified Annual Return together with a copy of the Notice of Conclusion of Audit. The notice was required to be kept on public display for at least 14 days. The notice was dated 7 September 2016. Members were informed that all audit work had now been completed.

The Cemetery Manager informed Members that the Wales Audit Office had moved away from charging a fixed fee for the audit work and now the fee was based on the time spent on each audit which had resulted in a saving to the Burial Authority of £419.00.

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

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The meeting concluded at 4.20 pm”

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RESOLVED that the Minutes be noted.

287. MATTERS REPORTED

RESOLVED that the schedule of matters reported be noted.

8 November, 2016

288. LETTERS OF APPRECIATION

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

- (1) Guide Dogs – Llanelli Branch
- (2) Syria Sir Gâr
- (3) Urdd

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The Meeting concluded at 6.25 p.m.

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8 November, 2016

The afore-mentioned Minutes were declared to be a true record of the proceedings and signed by the Chairman presiding thereat and were, on 13 December, 2016, adopted by the Council.