

**10 March, 2015**

**LLANELLI RURAL COUNCIL**

**Minute Nos: 424 – 432**

At a **COUNCIL** Meeting of the Llanelli Rural Council held at the Council Chamber, Vauxhall Buildings, Vauxhall, Llanelli, on Tuesday, 10 March, 2015, at 6.00 p.m.

**Present:** Cllr. L. J. Butler (Chairman)

**Cllrs.**

F. Akhtar	R. E. Evans
L. A. Beer	S. N. Lewis
D. M. Cundy	A. G. Morgan
S. L. Davies	J. S. Phillips
T. Devichand	A. J. Rogers
H. J. Evans	W. V. Thomas

**Absent:** T. Bowen

**424. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. S. M. Caiach, M. V. Davies, S. M. Donoghue, M. L. Evans, T. J. Jones, C. A. Rees and G. H. Wooldridge.

**425. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations of interest were made.

**426. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

Prior to confirming the accuracy of the Minutes as a true record of proceedings the content of the Planning and Liaison Committee Minutes of the meeting held on 23 February, 2015, were queried. Reference was made to a discussion held during the meeting about the Council's attendance at a Town and Community Council Seminar organised by Carmarthenshire County Council on 13 February, 2015, and to comments made by the Clerk to Planning Officers during that event about how the Council's recommendations in respect of planning applications were interpreted by the Planning Authority. During the committee meeting it was agreed that a letter be sent to the Planning Authority about the future interpretation of the Council's comments and yet there was no reference to the matter in the published Minutes.

By way of response the Clerk confirmed that a letter had been drafted under his delegated powers but it had yet to be sent out but this would follow imminently. The reason for there being no record in the Minutes of this action was straight forward. The issue had not been annotated as an item of business on the agenda; it was introduced when determining

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responses to particular planning applications. Technically this was unlawful because the Council could only legally determine matters annotated on the agenda despite the tenuous link to the subject matter.

However, in trying to expedite the views expressed at the time of the meeting and given the nature of the letter, the Clerk commented that he had taken on board the comments made during the meeting and was dealing with the matter in the way described in an attempt to be flexible while operating within the confines of lawful operating procedures governing the business transacted during meetings and it was

**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	10 February, 2015
Special meeting of the Recreation and Welfare Committee	11 February, 2015
Policy and Resources Committee	18 February, 2015
Planning and Liaison Committee	23 February, 2015
Special Council	23 February, 2015

**427. MATTERS ARISING**

**(1) MID AND WEST WALES FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY**

Further to Minute No. 393, the Clerk informed Members that no progress had been made thus far in extending an invitation to the Fire Brigade Union and Retained Fire Fighters Union to attend a future Council meeting. Invitations would be sent out in due course once an appropriate date could be determined having accommodated other speakers attending meetings in the near future.

The Clerk then sought further clarification over the exact purpose behind the invitation. Members confirmed they wanted to garner views about the new rostering pattern at Llanelli Fire Station in order to assess what impact the changes to the work pattern had on the general front line service to the public.

**(2) TRANSFER OF ASSETS PROGRAMME  
PARKS, PLAY AREAS AND OTHER COMMUNITY ASSETS**

Further to Minute No. 395(1), the Clerk informed Members that an officer meeting had been arranged for Friday, 13 March, 2015, with colleagues from Carmarthenshire County Council to discuss the asset transfer programme. Following this meeting, a Special Council meeting would then be arranged for a much broader discussion of the issues associated with the asset transfer programme. The sports groups using County run facilities in Dafen, Pwll and Trallwm would also be invited to participate in the meeting.

**RESOLVED** that the information be noted.

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**(3) CARMARTHENSHIRE YOUTH AND  
CHILDREN'S ASSOCIATION (CYCA)**

Further to Minute No. 409, Cllr. S. L. Davies conveyed her disappointment that the Policy and Resources Committee did not support the recommendation made by the Recreation and Welfare Committee regarding the reinstatement of the financial contribution of £1,000 to CYCA.

An explanation was then provided as to how the Policy and Resources Committee had deliberated over the matter having examined the organisation's balance sheet and supporting accounting statements. The decision not to support the reinstatement was unanimous.

General discussion ensued during which it was felt that in future all organisations submitting funding requests to the Council should submit up to date accounting statements for the Council to better assess financial circumstances and general need.

Arising out of proceedings advice was sought over the technical legality of making this decision given the issue was raised under 'Matters Arising' on the agenda. The Clerk acknowledged the point and in reply stated that generally speaking 'Matters Arising' was not to be used for revisiting Council or committee decisions nor should it be used to introduce new items of business not otherwise annotated on the agenda.

He continued by commenting that 'Matters Arising' was a useful mechanism for providing information updates and progress reports on items of business recorded in the minutes of previous meetings for information purposes only.

In this particular instance the Clerk confirmed it would be permissible to introduce this additional control measure as the decision to do so was more a matter of mitigating against risk and a means of strengthening existing policy; there was no material change being made to the grants policy itself. The budget allocation and award categories remained the same. In view of such Officers were happy to apply this additional measure with immediate effect and without further recourse to committee. He acknowledged however that if Members ultimately preferred to refer the matter to committee then this was also acceptable in terms of satisfying procedure and it was

**RESOLVED** that the additional control measure be introduced with immediate effect.

**428. SEALING OF DOCUMENTS**

The local members for Swiss Valley Ward having expressed their thanks and pleasure over the progress made in the matter, referred to plans for a new play area in Swiss Valley now being pursued in earnest and to this end a community consultation event had been organised for Friday, 27 March, 2015 and it was

**RESOLVED** that the Chairman and Clerk be authorised in affixing the Council's Seal on the Lease of Swiss Valley play area.

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**429. ONE VOICE WALES – MEMBERSHIP 2015-16**

Members considered correspondence received from the Chief Executive, One Voice Wales (OVW) inviting the Council to take out discounted membership for OVW for the financial year 2015/16.

Following discussion, it was

**RESOLVED** that the invitation be noted.

**430. COUNTY LIAISON FORUM**

Correspondence was received from Carmarthenshire County Council inviting the Council to nominate a representative to serve on the forum. The next meeting was to be scheduled for 26 May, 2015 at 6.30 pm.

**RESOLVED** that the Leader be nominated to attend future County Liaison Forum meetings as first preference but in the event that the Leader was unable to accept the nomination then the Clerk should continue to attend the meetings.

**FURTHER RESOLVED** that:

1. Suggested agenda topics for future meetings should include community asset transfers; Swansea Bay City Region.
2. Enquiries be made with Carmarthenshire County Council over the Council receiving a presentation about the Swansea Bay City Region.
3. Minutes of the County Liaison Forum be circulated to all Members for information.

**431. MATTERS REPORTED**

**RESOLVED** that the schedule of matters reported be noted.

**432. LLANELLI JOINT BURIAL AUTHORITY**

Members received the following Minutes of a meeting of the Llanelli Joint Burial Authority held on 14 January, 2015:

“At the Meeting of the Llanelli Joint Burial Authority held at Vauxhall Buildings, Vauxhall, Llanelli, on Wednesday, 14 January 2015 at 4:00 pm.

Present: M. V. Davies (Chairman)

Cllrs.

L. J. Butler	R. M. Davies
M. J. P. Burns	V. J. Johns
P. J. Edmunds	C. J. Reed, MBE

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66. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

An apology for absence was received from Cllr. T. Bowen.

67. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

68. 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 - 10 December 2014

69. MATTERS ARISING

CHAPEL REFURBISHMENT

Further to Minute No. 63, the Secretary confirmed that the tender received from Martin Taffetsauffer Building & Civil Engineering Contractor Ltd, had received a favourable report from the Burial Authority's consultant architect and that the contract had duly been awarded.

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

70. INCOME AND EXPENDITURE REPORTS

RESOLVED that the income and expenditure report for November 2014 and the provisional report for December 2014 be noted.

71. SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS

Consideration was given to the schedule of payments for December 2014, which revealed expenditure for the month amounted to £29,318.68.

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

72. SPECIAL BUDGET MEETING

The Secretary informed Members that the special budget meeting would be held on Tuesday, 27 January 2015, at 4.00pm in the Council Chamber, Vauxhall Buildings, Vauxhall, Llanelli.

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

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73. 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.

74. STAFFING MATTER

Consideration was given to the Secretary's report on a staffing matter.

RESOLVED that the report be accepted.

.....  
The meeting concluded at 4:20 pm”  
.....

**RESOLVED** that the Minutes be noted.

.....  
The Meeting concluded at 6.40 p.m.  
.....

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 April, 2015, adopted by the Council.