

10 November, 2015

LLANELLI RURAL COUNCIL

Minute Nos: 245 – 258

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

Present: Cllr. M. V. Davies (Chairman)

Cllrs.

F. Akhtar	H. J. Evans
L. A. Beer	R. E. Evans
S. M. Caiach	S. N. Lewis
S. L. Davies	A. G. Morgan
T. Devichand	J. S. Phillips
S. M. Donoghue	C. A. Rees
A. J. Rogers	

245. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. T. Bowen, L. J. Butler, D. M. Cundy, M. L. Evans, T. J. Jones, W. V. Thomas and G. H. Wooldridge.

246. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

247. 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	13 October, 2015
Recreation and Welfare Committee	20 October, 2015
Policy and Resources Committee	21 October, 2015
Planning and Liaison Committee	26 October, 2015
Finance and General Purposes Committee	28 October, 2015
Learning and Development Consultative Committee	29 October, 2015
Community Development Grants Panel	29 October, 2015

10 November, 2015

248. MATTERS ARISING

(1) LUNCHEON CLUBS

Further to Minute No. 201(1) the Clerk in reply to a question about expressions of interest about the service, informed Members that, to date there had been no response to letters sent to potential suppliers and a report would be presented to the Recreation and Welfare Committee meeting in due course.

Members suggested issuing a press release to advertise the Council was looking for a potential supplier to provide meals to the luncheon clubs.

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

**(2) MID AND WEST WALES FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY
LLANELLI FIRE STATION**

Further to Minute No. 201(2), the Clerk informed Members that, he had received a telephone call from Mr A Nicholas, Llanelli Fire Station conveying his thanks to Members for attending the visit held on 21 October, 2015. Mr Nicholas also extended a further invitation to attend the station to any Member who was unable to attend during the initial visit.

RESOLVED that the information be noted with thanks.

(3) COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT GRANTS PANEL

Further to Minute No. 215, Cllr. T. Devichand commented that previously she had stated that Cllr. S. N. Lewis' suggestion to the Policy and Resources Committee was made without prejudice and for this to be recorded in the Minutes.

RESOLVED accordingly.

Arising out of general discussion, the timescale for performing the planned review was queried. Some Members believed it was necessary to conduct the review before setting next year's budget estimates. In reply the Clerk clarified the decision recorded in the Minutes and how this would be carried forward. There was no requirement to perform the review in this financial year because the budget provision wasn't the issue. The budget would be retained even if the parameters of the current scheme were likely to change under the process of review. The Clerk envisaged that the review would probably be conducted during the early part of the new financial year from April 2016. This would allow enough time to factor in any changes emanating from the review in good time before the grants panel was due to meet later on in the year.

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

10 November, 2015

(4) DAFEN POST OFFICE

Further to Minute No. 218, Members were informed that the new post office in Dafen was due to open in January 2016.

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

249. MENTAL HEALTH PROJECT GROUP

The Chairman welcomed to the meeting Julie Denley, Deputy Director Mental Health & Learning Disabilities and Liz Carrol, Head of Nursing, Mental Health and Learning Disabilities, Hywel Dda University Health Board and invited them to address Members.

Mrs Carrol informed Members that between September and December, 2015, the new Mental Health Project Group was engaging with the public to identify solutions for improving access to mental health services.

An opportunity had arisen with the existing mental health services to consider introducing a more innovative model of enhanced community based services. This would consider the mental health needs of the population across services, age groups and sectors and address historical barriers and boundaries to service delivery.

In order to achieve the vision to provide accessible and responsive community mental health services, there would need to be a different approach about the way the service provided inpatient hospital care and crisis care in an emergency. This might mean that the types of beds that were provided within the outlying areas might change from hospital to a different type of bed provision within community mental health centres. In some areas these were called crisis beds, hospitality beds or sanctuary beds. The notion was, the beds and the service provided a better alternative to hospital admission for people in an acute mental health crisis. Members were informed service users had stated that at times of their life they needed 'time out' and support but not necessarily hospital care; this would involve:

- Providing support in a homely community based environment;
- A non-judgemental, non-directive service that was able to flexibly meet the needs of a range of people;
- Supporting people to recognise and develop their own strategies for crisis prevention and management;
- Working in partnership with all services and the public sector to agree a support plan for people.

There were some key considerations to reflect upon before contemplating making changes:

- Transport and rurality;
- Supporting and developing staff;
- Ensuring equal access to services for all the population;
- Maintaining existing services during any period of transition.

10 November, 2015

Currently there was no out of hour's service but ideally resources would be made available for out of hours services under the new model. Furthermore, the project had a shared vision for a modern mental health service that should:

- Be assessable 24 hours a day – The persons who needed help, or their supporters, could walk into a mental health centre at any time and establish a safe relationship to discuss their needs and agree immediate support;
- Have no waiting lists – The first contact would take place within 24 hours after the request, with planned meetings to follow that agreed the support and treatment available taking into account individual choice;
- A move away from hospital admission and treatment to hospitality and time out – The service would provide night hospitality from one night to several weeks to address the crisis during periods when there was higher need for protection and/or to support the needs of the family. The enhanced community service would provide additional support, following a stay in hospital to help facilitate and earlier return home;
- Day time out and opportunities – Therapeutic day services would provide the individual with access to the care and support that they needed.

The Mental Health Project Group was seeking views from groups in the community; obtaining feedback from people with stories and experiences was a really important way for the group to understand what would work well and what was less effective in the new model. There would be an independent review from the Hywel Dda University Health Board to change the model and this would be a formal engagement process.

The Chairman then invited members to put forward any views or comments with the following points being flagged up for consideration:

- The long waiting periods between GP referrals and counselling services.
- Child and adolescent psychiatry services not having adequate staff resources.
- How is care and treatment provided to people with protected characteristics as defined under the Equality Act 2010.
- Reluctance of people to come forward because of the stigma attached to receiving treatment.
- The use of banned substances by some services users to help them cope with some mental health conditions.
- The notion of reconfiguring the service in a community setting was welcomed but perhaps there was a need to move away from day centres.
- To help tackle the issue of stigma associated with being identified as a service user could consideration be given to creating a confidential form for assessment purposes.
- How would the reconfigured service be financed.
- How was mental health defined – early intervention could prevent cases escalating. In some cases where people felt isolated perhaps the need was centred around extra support.
- It was important not to compartmentalise patient health conditions but to treat ailments in the round and not focus on one health issue before moving on to treat the next condition.
- The difficulties in third party advocates trying to make referrals within the current system was prohibitive. It was difficult to engage services unless the referral came from the GP. This was very frustrating.

10 November, 2015

The representatives thanked Members for their observations. However, on the point of financing the service they stated the new model was being financed by the Welsh Government. Moreover, the service had seen an increase in finance during the last 10 years. The new model would recruit staff not just doctors and nurses. The new model presented opportunities for staff to develop additional skills, work in new and extended roles and receive additional training. Furthermore, there would be no job losses.

Members agreed with early invention and supported the concept of the new service model with it moving away from hospital admission and treatment. Members stated this would require a range of solutions in relation to the provision of beds, including beds being provided in localities to address short term crises and providing intermediate bed provision for individuals discharged from more formal inpatient services.

The Chairman thanked the representatives for attending the meeting and encouraged Members to respond individually during the engagement period if they wished to add any further points for consideration by the Mental Health Group.

**250. BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT (BID)
LLANELLI TOWN CENTRE**

The Chairman welcomed Mr Jason Thomas, The Means Ltd and invited him to address Members about the plans to create a Business Improvement District (BID) for Llanelli town centre.

Mr Thomas started by giving a brief update on the concept of the BID more commonly known as Ymlaen Llanelli. Ymlaen Llanelli was a business led and business funded way of influencing the town centre to change its future for the better. Ymlaen Llanelli was seeking to develop a BID which would enable it to implement a five year programme of improvements to the town centre. A steering group of businesses was proposing that an investment pot of £500,000 over five years would be created through a 1.25% levy on the rateable value of eligible businesses within the BID boundary with a rateable value of £6,000 or more. Businesses with a rateable value below this threshold would be exempt from paying the BID levy. This together with funding from other sources would be spent on a targeted programme of improvements for the town centre. It was hoped that another £400,000 would be contributed by other sources for example, Carmarthenshire County Council, Welsh Government.

In order for Ymlaen Llanelli to be established, the BID must ballot those eligible businesses. In November, the businesses would receive a ballot paper and have an opportunity to decide whether the proposal would go ahead. Members were informed the ballot process was due to start on 12 November and would run until 10 December, 2015, with ballot papers being returned to Carmarthenshire County Council.

If the BID ballot was successful, Ymlaen Llanelli would be constituted as a new not-for-profit company limited by guarantee. This would continue to be led by the private sector by a board of directors who represent the businesses in Llanelli town centre and by theme groups also drawn from local businesses who would meet to oversee specific projects in the programme's three main strands.

10 November, 2015

The BID would drive improvement in the following areas:

- Access and attractions – Ymlaen Llanelli had been working with Carmarthenshire County Council to develop an effective strategy which catered to the parking needs of both long and short stay visitors.
- Boosting marketing – Ymlaen Llanelli would promote the town centre key assets and use these as an opportunity to encourage people to visit Llanelli.
- Enhancing experience – Ymlaen Llanelli would create a better experience for visitors by improving the appearance of the town centre. This would help change perceptions and encourage people to visit again.
- Prospering together – with a collective group of businesses driving and leading Ymlaen Llanelli forward, and resources behind it, the BID would be well placed to provide a strong business voice to public sector stakeholders on issues that mattered. This role had been successful for many BIDS across the UK.

The Chairman thanked Mr Thomas for addressing Members and then invited comments and questions from the floor.

Members felt that the car parking requirements needed to be fairer across the town with uniform car parking charges being adopted. They should not be different across each car park. Mr Thomas stated there was going to be parking enhancement which you pay when you leave the car park rather than before; this would encourage people to spend more time in the town centre rather than rushing back to the car before the time was up.

Members enquired about the status of the BID. Mr Thomas replied that Ymlaen Llanelli was not formally registered as a company until the ballot had been completed. If successful at ballot then the limited company would be established for five years and by law it would have to re-balloted after this period.

The Chairman thanked Mr Thomas for attending the meeting and he withdrew from proceedings following which it was

RESOLVED that:

1. The Council supports the creation of the BID.
2. Permission be given for reference to be made to the Council's financial contribution towards the Christmas Carnival event in the BID's business planning process and used as match funding to draw down additional funds from other third parties.

251. COUNCIL CONSTITUTION – GENERAL REVIEW

RESOLVED that in accordance with Standing Order No. 38.2, the proposed review shall stand adjourned until the next ordinary meeting of the Council.

10 November, 2015

252. DYFED POWYS LOCAL RESILIENCE FORUM CONFERENCE

Further to Minute No. 159, Members received the report of the Community Development Officer (CDO) about the forum conference held on 15 October, 2015, at Dyfed Powys Police Headquarters in Carmarthen.

Members were informed the event aimed to provide a setting for responder agencies and communities to share their experiences and learning following a serious event or major incident. The conference forum was split up into three sessions:

- Cardiff Bingo hall fire and management evacuation;
- Community impact and faith considerations in major incidents; and
- Community resilience and preparedness.

The forum conference was intended to engage interest and facilitate discussion between government agencies, emergency services, local authorities, voluntary sector bodies, elected members and community and faith groups.

Cllr. Caiach speaking in support of the forum conference commented that she had approached one of the speakers at the event to discuss the community flood group established in Talybont. There was a lot to be garnered from that experience in terms of setting up similar groups in the Rural Council's area as part of the interventions identified in the Council's whole place plan. With this in mind, Cllr. Caiach welcomed the opportunity to meet with the Clerk and CDO to discuss this further, prior to developing plans for the Council's flood warden scheme and it was

RESOLVED that the information report be noted and the experience and learning points garnered from the event be fed into the appropriate interventions identified in the whole place plan.

253. THE WELL-BEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS (WALES) ACT 2015 - COMPLIANCE MATTERS

(1) WELL-BEING STATEMENT

Members received the Council's draft Well-Being Statement which set out the Council's commitment to the principle of sustainable development to ensure that the needs of the present were met without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs and it was

RESOLVED that the draft Well-Being Statement be adopted and uploaded to the Council's website.

(2) STRATEGIC PLAN

Members were informed that the Council's strategic plan had been amended so as to include the draft Well-Being Statement at the heart of the document. The seven national well-being goals identified under the Act had also been incorporated into the strategic plan. The goals

10 November, 2015

had been cross referenced to the Council's core aims and values which had been realigned to correlate directly to the well-being goals, and it was

RESOLVED that the revised strategic plan be received and adopted.

(3) COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE FORMAL REPORTS

Members considered a new format for formal Council and committee reports. The purpose of the new format would ensure that the sustainable development principle would be embedded at the heart of the Council's business arrangements and decision making process by incorporating the five key ways of working when applying sustainable development to the Council's functions and activities.

RESOLVED that new format for formal reports be adopted.

254. SEALING OF DOCUMENTS GWILI FIELDS, HEOL GWILI, LLWYNHENDY

Cllr. S. L. Davies having expressed her thanks to the Clerk over the progress made in the matter also extended thanks to Councillors Akhtar, Beer and Devichand (former Executive Board member for Housing) for supporting the asset transfer of the multi-use games area (MUGA) from Carmarthenshire County Council to the Rural Council. Cllr. Davies enquired about the £10,000 one off capital payment to be received following the transfer and how this could be earmarked for the upkeep of the MUGA. In reply the Clerk confirmed the money would be set aside in a capital earmarked reserve, and it was

RESOLVED that the Chairman and Clerk be authorised in affixing the Council's Seal on the Lease of Gwili Fields, Heol Gwili, Llwynhendy, Llanelli.

Cllr. H. J. Evans withdrew from the meeting.

255. LLANELLI TOWN CENTRE TASK FORCE

Members received retrospective correspondence from the Leader, Carmarthenshire County Council inviting a representative to attend the Llanelli Town Centre Task Force meeting to be held on 14 October, 2015.

Members were informed the Deputy Clerk (Administration) attended the event and proceeded to consider the information report about the meeting. The meeting was chaired by the Leader of Carmarthenshire County Council, Cllr. E. Dole. Among the attendees at the meeting was the Chief Executive, Assistant Chief Executive, Directors and senior officers of various departments of the County Council. The Leader of the County Council outlined his aspiration for the Task Force – that it should be a forward thinking productive forum to regenerate the town centre.

10 November, 2015

During general discussion, Members also referred to a similar meeting held for the benefit of Councillors and to the various initiatives being developed to reinvigorate the town centre and it was

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

256. LET'S TALK HEALTH

Correspondence was received from the Director of Governance, Communications and Engagement (Interim), Hywel Dda University Health Board informing that Hywel Dda University Health Board and Hywel Dda Community Health Council were holding a series of events in communities across Carmarthenshire, Ceredigion and Pembrokeshire to provide information about local health services and to listen to the public to enable them to improve services.

Members attention was drawn to the two local public events in Felinfoel and Pontiets and were encouraged to attend if possible and to also let members of the public know about them, and it was

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

257. MATTERS REPORTED

RESOLVED that the schedule of matters reported be noted.

258. LETTERS OF APPRECIATION

RESOLVED that the letter of appreciation for the Council's assistance received from Llanelli Historical Society, be noted with pleasure.

.....

The Meeting concluded at 7.40 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 8 December, 2015, adopted by the Council.