

15 October, 2014

LLANELLI RURAL COUNCIL

Minute Nos: 217 – 226

At a **COUNCIL** Meeting of the Llanelli Rural Council held at the Council Chamber, Vauxhall Buildings, Vauxhall, Llanelli, on Wednesday, 15 October, 2014, at 6.00 p.m.

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

Cllrs.

F. Akhtar	G. N. R. Edwards
L. A. Beer	H. J. Evans
T. Bowen	M. L. Evans
S. M. Caiach	R. E. Evans
M. V. Davies	A. G. Morgan
S. L. Davies	C. A. Rees
T. Devichand	A. J. Rogers
S. M. Donoghue	W. V. Thomas

217. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. D. M. Cundy, T. J. Jones and G. H. Wooldridge.

218. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

219. COMMUNITY TRANSPORT

The Chairman welcomed Ms Sian Summers-Rees, Director for Wales and Mr David Brook, Development Officer for South West & Mid Wales, Community Transport Association (CTA) to the meeting and invited them to address Members.

Ms Summers-Rees began by explaining that Community Transport (CT) was a UK wide charity providing leadership, learning and support to member organisations who deliver innovative transport solutions to meeting the needs of their communities.

The CTA was a national membership association which leads and supports community transport to be successful and sustainable in England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland. It provided leadership by promoting community transport and influencing the development of better strategy, policy, regulations and investment at all levels of government.

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Community transport enabled people to live independently, participate in their community and to access education, employment, health and other services. It was safe, accessible, cost-effective, flexible transport run by the community for the community. It could meet the needs of those who did not have access to other forms of transport and could provide a lifeline in urban and rural areas.

Ms Summers-Rees explained that CT was different to other groups because the association would focus on individuals and their needs. It was a non-commercial and not for profit entity largely delivered and managed by the voluntary sector. It was generally small scale but local in the community. CT would use and adapt conventional vehicles to do exceptional things but always for a social purpose and for the community to benefit but never for a profit.

CT would use everything from mopeds to minibuses. There were seven types of service delivery, these were:

- Minibus Group Hire – used by third sector community groups on a not-for-profit basis for travel to recreational, sporting, religious activities.
- Dial-a-Ride – door to door, pre-booked demand responsive service for individuals. Mostly accessed by people with limited mobility or individuals living in hard to reach rural areas.
- Dial-a-Bus – door to door, pre-booked demand responsive service for individuals accessing essential services.
- Community Bus Service – local bus service, fixed or flexible routes which could be accessed by the public. Generally operated in deep rural areas or semi-rural where bus services were sporadic.
- Voluntary/Social Car Scheme – journeys provided by volunteers driving their own cars.
- Wheels to Work Schemes – transport solutions for individuals accessing training, employment and or educational opportunities.
- Public Service Vehicles – since the Local Transport Act 2008 CT groups could deliver local bus services under section 22 permits but still must be on a ‘not for profit’ basis. CT groups could deliver commercial services or contracts as social enterprises.

Ms Summers-Rees then informed Members of the Llanelli Transport Needs Forum. There was currently questionnaires in circulation to organisations but so far the response had been slow. The deadline had been extended to the end of October.

The findings would enable the group to gauge the level of demand for community transport services in Llanelli and help identify which type of CT services would best meet the needs. Some of the organisations that were currently working with CT were Carmarthenshire County Council, Communities First, Mind and Hywel Dda University Health Board.

In partnership with Hywel Dda University Health Board a new service was being provided. CT were providing transport for patients that were being discharged between the hours 2.00 pm and 10.00 pm. This was a new development and it was hoped that it could progress further.

Members welcomed the news about working in partnership with Hywel Dda University Health Board but concerns were made that the service provided needed to be extended past 10.00 pm. There were many stories of patients being discharged after 10.00 pm with no

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transport available to take them home particularly patients needing to travel from Glangwili Hospital back to the Llanelli area. Ms Summers-Rees responded by informing Members that she would take the matter to the next transport meeting.

Ms Summers-Rees and Mr Brook then responded to other general questions posed by Members covering potential training opportunities for the Council's Training Department; how could the Council and Members get more involved; working CT models in other parts of the UK; DBS checks for volunteer drivers; cuts to Welsh Government public transport subsidy coupled with an ageing population.

Ms Summers-Rees in concluding referred to the questionnaire being available for completion by Members to help inform the work of the Llanelli Transport Needs Forum. This could be used by Members as an initial step to become more involved in any potential local initiatives.

The Chairman thanked Ms Summers-Rees and Mr Brook for attending and they withdrew from the meeting.

RESOLVED that copies of the questionnaire be copied and forwarded to all Council Members for completion.

Cllr. T. Bowen withdrew from the meeting.

220. 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	9 September, 2014
Recreation and Welfare Committee	16 September, 2014
Policy and Resources Committee	17 September, 2014
Planning and Liaison Committee	22 September, 2014
Finance and General Purposes Committee	24 September, 2014
Civic and Ceremonial Committee	7 October, 2014
Planning and Liaison Committee	13 October, 2014

221. MATTERS ARISING

(1) DYFED POWYS POLICE

Arising out of Minute No. 174, Cllr. S. L. Davies referred to a recent inaccurate press article in the Llanelli Star newspaper. It referred to Cllr. T. Bowen speaking to Mr Salmon, Dyfed Powys Police and Crime Commissioner during the said Council meeting held on 9 September, 2014. It was pointed out that Cllr. Bowen was not present at the meeting.

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(2) BRYNMAEN COMMUNITY HALL

Further to Minute No. 187, Cllr. G. N. R. Edwards remarked he welcomed the re-opening of the hall.

(3) DISCLOSURE AND BARRING SERVICE (DBS)

Further to Minute No. 191, Cllr. S. L. Davies stated she would be personally taking this matter forward with Welsh Government given the importance of DBS checks. Cllr. Davies was of the opinion that all Members should be subject to a DBS check.

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

(4) BRYNTEG SOLAR FARM

Further to Minute No. 200, the Clerk informed that the Council had secured a community consideration in the sum of £60,000 from the project developers SunEdison. This was good news.

Members congratulated the Clerk for successfully leading the negotiations over the capital amount secured. There then followed a discussion on how the contribution was to be allocated within the Hengoed Ward, during which the Clerk reminded Members of the Council's previous decision on how the capital sum was to be used. The Clerk revealed that SunEdison had asked for a Council invoice to be raised and issued in order for the contribution to be included within its current set of accounts. The Clerk confirmed the invoice had been issued to the company and stated that the sum of money was likely to be received early in the New Year after the site became operational.

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

**222. YOUR HEALTH YOUR FUTURE - PRINCE PHILIP HOSPITAL
PROGRESS REPORT**

Further to Minute No. 18, Members received the report of the Clerk informing on the meetings attended and general progress at Prince Philip Hospital (PPH) regarding the development of the new 'Front of House' at the hospital.

The Clerk and Leader had attended two project meetings of the Front of House Project Board along with a bespoke meeting which had been arranged for the Council's benefit to provide a general project update. General communications had been good and the Council had been very well received on the project board.

The agenda for the meetings followed a set format whereby an overview of the revised service model was provided. An update was provided on workstreams and the clinical pathways being designed and developed. The doctors leading the different workstreams attended and provided an update on how services and resources were shaping. The Community Health Council (CHC) then scrutinised the actions and decisions taken.

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The Clerk informed Members that part of the agenda dealt with future planning and the way forward. The project board hoped to have everything completed by April 2015. To support this aim Dr Sian Lewis was stepping down as project chair because the service design was virtually complete. The project was now moving towards the implementation phase and so Mr Paul Hawkins would take over as the 'Operational Programme Chair' and meetings would in future be held on a monthly basis starting from November 2014.

The Council had a slot on the agenda under the heading of 'Communications'. This part of the meeting was split to cover staff meetings and information updates; CHC views comments; the Council's general views and also Welsh Ambulance Service NHS Trust (WAST) comments. The Clerk stated it was encouraging with the way the project board had gone about dealing with the reconfiguration plans. It was very much a hands on working group.

The Clerk commented the Council had made the point at previous meetings that whilst the reconfiguration plans for PPH were very encouraging; the service would ultimately be judged on the intra hospital transfer service and arranging for patients to be taken elsewhere. The importance of resolving public transport and the discharging of Llanelli patients from Glangwili during unsocial hours had been flagged up by both the Rural Council and the CHC. The project board recognised this and was working with WAST and other partners to deliver a solution to the problem.

Members reiterated the point about resolving public transport availability and the discharging of Llanelli patients during unsocial hours. Members felt it was important to keep up the pressure on both the Health Board and WAST and that they should perhaps be invited back to a future Council meeting. The Clerk in reply indicated that the Project Board team was happy to attend at a future meeting to discuss progress. The question about inviting senior Health Board officials and members of WAST was clearly a matter of timing. However, there appeared to be a willingness to meet with the Council in future given the comments made by the Chairman of WAST when he attended the Council meeting held on 30 June, 2014 (Minute No. 123 refers). The Clerk advised that a fresh invitation would be made to both the Chairman of WAST and the Health Board Chief Executive when the implementation phase had begun and it was

RESOLVED that the progress report be noted and to await further developments.

**223. LLANELLI AREA TOWN AND COMMUNITY COUNCILS
COLLABORATION OPPORTUNITIES**

Further to Minute No. 412 (10 February, 2014), Members considered the report of the Clerk about potential collaboration opportunities working as part of a group of Llanelli area Town and Community Councils going forward.

Two meetings had already been held with the neighbouring Town and Community Councils which make up the Llanelli Area. The Councils were Llanelli Town Council, Llangennech Community Council and Pembrey and Burry Port Town Council. The next meeting was scheduled for late November 2014. The Council representatives attending the meeting were the Clerk, Chairman of Council and Leader of Council.

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The agenda themes covered the following areas:

- The Williams Commission Report/Local Government Reform;
- Carmarthenshire County Council's community asset transfer programme;
- Collaboration opportunities.

Representatives at the last meeting agreed that there were a number of potential areas for collaboration. These included the implications of the Future Generations Bill; Cemetery Management and joint procurement opportunities. It was felt that there was a need for a mandate from Councils to authorise the group to continue discussing the issues as well as the potential of receiving further suggestions from each Council.

During general discussion, Members were keen for the Council to be proactive as much as possible and were happy to support the above suggestions in principle. However, in addition to the original themes suggested by the group two further areas of collaboration be explored namely, Emergency Planning and support for Llanelli Town Centre and it was

RESOLVED that the suggestions be reported back to the next group meeting to be held in November 2014.

Arising out of discussion of the above, the general reporting of attendance by Members at outside body meetings was raised and the receipt of feedback and information from the meetings. There were various ways whereby this could be achieved and Members then raised a general point about not having notice of meetings for these bodies. The Clerk stated that a review would be worthwhile and concurred with the notion that some groups had perhaps not met for quite sometime. He encouraged all Members to help the office by letting officers know about meetings or the fact that no information had been received. Officers could then follow up with the particular outside body to enquire about the status of future meetings and the like and it was

RESOLVED accordingly.

224. MATTERS REPORTED

RESOLVED that the schedule of matters reported be noted.

225. LLANELLI JOINT BURIAL AUTHORITY

Members received the following Minutes of a meeting of the Llanelli Joint Burial Authority held on 9 July, 2014:

“At the Meeting of the Llanelli Joint Burial Authority held at Vauxhall Buildings, Vauxhall, Llanelli, on Wednesday, 9 July 2014 at 4:00 pm.

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Present: M. V. Davies (Chairman)

Cllrs.

F. Akhtar
T. Bowen

L. J. Butler
A. G. Morgan

14. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs M. J. P. Burns, R. M. Davies, P. J. Edmunds, V. J. Johns and C. J. Reed, MBE.

15. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

16. 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:

Annual Meeting - 11 June 2014

17. INCOME AND EXPENDITURE REPORTS

RESOLVED that the income and expenditure report for May 2014 and the provisional report for June 2014 be noted.

18. SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS

Consideration was given to the schedule of payments for June 2014, which revealed expenditure for the month amounted to £26,543.47.

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

19. INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT 2013/2014 – FINAL REPORT

Further to Minute No. 59 (11 December 2013), Members considered the final internal audit report, compiled by Auditing Solutions Ltd.

The report did not differ from the interim report (to which Minute No. 59 refers) and no matters needed addressing.

RESOLVED that the report be accepted.

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20. 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.

21. CHAPEL REFURBISHMENT

Further to Minute No. 20 (10 July 2013), the Cemetery Manager presented Members with a condition of survey report and plans for the refurbishment work needed. After a lengthy discussion it was

RESOLVED that the plans be approved in principle and that the Cemetery Manager proceed with arranging the tender process, the results of which shall be reported to Members at a future meeting for consideration.

**22. FREEHOLD INTEREST –
LAND AT LLANELLI CREMATORIUM**

Further to Minute No. 13, Members considered correspondence received from the Director of Llanelli Crematorium. After a lengthy discussion it was

RESOLVED that the correspondence be noted and the offer declined.

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The meeting concluded at 4:40 pm”
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RESOLVED that the Minutes be noted.

226. LETTERS OF APPRECIATION

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

- (1) Halfway Primary School;
- (2) Parc Howard Association;
- (3) St Mary’s Catholic Primary School.

Arising out of discussion of (2) above, the Clerk informed Members that the Chairman had been invited to become a member of Parc Howard Association Committee. The meetings were held on the second Tuesday of each month at 6.30 pm.

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FURTHER RESOLVED that a letter be sent to Parc Howard Association Committee to clarify the status of the invitation and to query voting rights. Furthermore, and importantly to flag up the future scheduling of Association meetings because the current timetabling of meetings clashed with the convening of Council meetings.

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The Meeting concluded at 7.30 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 11 November, 2014, adopted by the Council.