

16 June, 2015.

LLANELLI RURAL COUNCIL

Minute Nos: 82 – 88

At a Meeting of the **RECREATION AND WELFARE COMMITTEE** of the Llanelli Rural Council held at the Council Chamber, Vauxhall Buildings, Vauxhall, Llanelli, on Tuesday, 16 June, 2015, at 4.45 p.m.

Present: Cllr. A. G. Morgan (Chairman)

Cllrs.

M. V. Davies	R. E. Evans
S. L. Davies	S. N. Lewis
S. M. Donoghue	J. S. Phillips
M. L. Evans	C. A. Rees

82. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. L. A. Beer, T. Bowen and G. H. Wooldridge.

83. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following Members declared an interest in the under-mentioned matters:-

<i>Minute No.</i>	<i>Councillor</i>	<i>Interest</i>
86	S. L. Davies	Personal – Secretary, Dafen Welfare Committee
88	S. L. Davies	Personal and prejudicial – Secretary, Dafen Welfare Committee
86	S. N. Lewis	Personal – committee member, Dafen Welfare Committee
88	S. N. Lewis	Personal – committee member, Dafen Welfare Committee

84. FOOTPATH MAINTENANCE PROGRAMME

Further to Minute No. 50, the Chairman welcomed to the meeting Mr A Warner, Countryside Operations Manager and Mr N Powell, Countryside Recreation and Access Unit, Carmarthenshire County Council to discuss the footpath maintenance programme.

Carmarthenshire County Council was currently overhauling the entire management of footpath maintenance so that the level of grant support allocated to town and community councils was clearer and more equitable. Currently, the Rural Council received an annual

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grant amount from Carmarthenshire County Council to maintain public footpaths in its administrative area. Mr Warner explained that the County Council was changing the criteria for allocating grant payments. From now on it would like the Rural Council to prioritise ten footpaths in the community. He explained under the new scheme the Rural Council would maintain the ten footpaths by providing them with three cuts per year with the County Council paying a fixed rate per metre for the total meterage of three cuts. It would then be the decision of the Rural Council whether it still maintained the other routes in its area but no grant would be received from the County Council if this was the case.

Discussion followed about the ramifications of the scheme and the impact on the Rural Council's footpath maintenance budget. It was likely that the Council would receive less income from the County Council meaning there would be less money to offset total expenditure.

It was explained to Mr Warner that the Council had already set its budget for the current year based on receiving the same amount of grant received last year so from a point of reasonableness any changes contemplated should not take effect until the start of the next financial year (April 2016).

The Clerk explained that a further report would need to be presented to committee setting out options on the ten preferred nominated footpaths. This information would then be communicated to the County Council for consideration and in return it would then need to provide the Rural Council with the financial details of the new grant based on three cuts to the selected ten footpaths. This could then be considered when determining its budget for next year and it was

RESOLVED that:

1. Carmarthenshire County Council be requested not to introduce the new grant scheme for the time being because the Council had already set its budget. Furthermore, any changes to the Rural Council's grant allocation should be determined from 1 April, 2016.
2. A further committee report shall be presented for Members' consideration setting out details of the Council's footpath maintenance programme and the ten potential footpaths to be put forward to receive grant support with the information then being relayed to the County Council for appropriate consideration.

85. PROGRESS REPORT

RESOLVED that the report of the Technical Services Officer on work undertaken be noted.

86. FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE
(1) DAFEN WELFARE AFC
(2) PWLL CRICKET CLUB

Cllr. S. L. Davies declared a personal interest in the following matter as she was Secretary, Dafen Welfare Committee. Cllr. S. N. Lewis declared a personal interest in the following matter as she was a committee member, Dafen Welfare Committee.

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Members considered an application for financial assistance from Dafen Welfare AFC and Pwll Cricket Club and it was

RESOLVED that:

1. A grant of £600 be awarded to Dafen Welfare AFC;
2. A grant of £500 be awarded to Pwll Cricket Club with the remaining £100 to be paid upon receipts being received.

87. 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.

**88. FINANCIAL SUMMARY REPORTS
DAFEN COMMUNITY HALL**

Cllr. S. L. Davies declared a personal and prejudicial interest in the following matter as she was Secretary, Dafen Welfare Committee and withdrew from the meeting before discussion commenced. Cllr. S. N. Lewis declared a personal interest in the following matter as she was a committee member, Dafen Welfare Committee.

Members were circulated with Statement of Accounts received from the above Management Committee.

RESOLVED that the annual grant of £400 be made to Dafen Community Hall for the year ending 30 April, 2015.

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The Meeting concluded at 5.10 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 14 July, 2015, adopted by the Council.