

11 December, 2012.

LLANELLI RURAL COUNCIL

Minute Nos: 305 – 314

At a **COUNCIL** Meeting of the Llanelli Rural Council held at the Council Chamber, Vauxhall Buildings, Vauxhall, Llanelli, on Tuesday, 11 December, 2012, at 6.00 p.m.

Present: Cllr. T. Devichand (Chairman)

Cllrs.

L. A. Beer	H. J. Evans
T. Bowen	M. L. Evans
L. J. Butler	R. E. Evans
D. M. Cundy	T. J. Jones
M. V. Davies	S. N. Lewis
S. L. Davies	A. Rogers
G. N. R. Edwards	W. V. Thomas

305. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman referred to the recent demise of Mr. L. S. Linsell (former council member) and Mrs. M. Evans, Mr. A. Harry and Mrs. A. Williams (former council employees). Members and staff stood in silent tribute.

Thereupon the Chairman welcomed Miss Victoria Allen to the meeting and to the Council and wished her every success in her new role as Administrative Assistant.

306. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. F. Akhtar, A. G. Morgan, C. A. Rees and G. H. Wooldridge.

307. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

308. 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:-

11 December, 2012.

Council	13 November, 2012
Recreation and Welfare Committee	20 November, 2012
Policy and Resources Committee	21 November, 2012
Planning and Liaison Committee	26 November, 2012
Finance and General Purposes Committee	28 November, 2012

309. MATTERS ARISING

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Arising out of Minute No. 303 (3), the Leader reaffirmed to Members that the Council would be looking to support the National Eisteddfod 2014 in Llanelli when preparing next year's budget.

310. YOUR HEALTH YOUR FUTURE – PRINCE PHILIP HOSPITAL (PPH)

- (1) PROGRESS REPORT**
- (2) HYWEL DDA COMMUNITY HEALTH COUNCIL – A RESPONSE TO THE HYWEL DDA LOCAL HEALTH BOARD'S CONSULTATION**
- (3) HYWEL DDA HEALTH BOARD BRIEFING REPORT**

Further to Minute No. 270, the Clerk provided Members with a brief progress report of events since the last Council meeting. He confirmed that a letter of support had been sent to the SOSPPAN Campaign Committee acknowledging the Council's ongoing support for its endeavours. He then confirmed further payments had been received from other local community councils in support of meeting the costs of the Council's management consultants; £1300 had been received thus far.

Members were informed that invitation letters had been sent to the Community Health Council (CHC) and the Wales Ambulance Service NHS Trust (WAST) to attend at tonight's Council meeting. The CHC was receptive to attending a meeting but was unable to attend this evening. However, no response had been received from WAST. This prompted a complaint letter being lodged with the Health Minister, Welsh Government along the lines as previously instructed (to which Minute No. 270 refers). Shortly after the complaint letter had been sent to the Health Minister, an email communication was received from a senior officer at WAST (copies of the complaint letter and the email communication had been tabled for Members information). Members were also informed that an invitation had been sent to Hywel Dda Health Board's Carmarthenshire Director to attend the Council's January 2013 meeting.

Members then proceeded to consider the correspondence received from the bodies referred to in items (2) and (3) above as well as the copy correspondence tabled during the meeting. It was noted in Hywel Dda Health Board's November 2012 briefing report that over 5000 questionnaires had been returned to the Health Board (via Opinion Research Services) in connection with its consultation exercise. Furthermore it was pleasing to note the CHC's

11 December, 2012.

response to the Health Board's consultation exercise. It supported the Council's concerns and was strongly opposed to any further diminution of emergency care services at PPH, Llanelli. It felt that more robust consultant/doctor A&E facilities should be reinstated at the hospital at the earliest opportunity given the town's large population, the wide catchment area, plus associated areas of deprivation. The CHC's accompanying report submission elaborated upon this in more detail and concluded by calling for equality of provision across the Health Board's entire region.

General discussion then ensued and Members expressed their dismay at the unhelpful stance adopted by WAST and its general lack of public accountability and it was

RESOLVED that

- (1) The email communication from WAST be released to the local press together with the Council's complaint letter sent to the Health Minister, Welsh Government to illustrate the unhelpful stance adopted by WAST and its general lack of public accountability.
- (2) The information received regarding the actions taken be noted for the time being and to await further developments in connection with same.

Cllr. M. V. Davies joined the meeting midway through the discussion of Minute No. 310 above.

311. MATTERS REPORTED

RESOLVED that the schedule of matters reported be noted.

312. LLANELLI JOINT BURIAL AUTHORITY

Members received the following Minutes of a meeting of the Llanelli Joint Burial Authority held on 10 October, 2012:-

“At the Meeting of the Llanelli Joint Burial Authority held at Vauxhall Buildings, Vauxhall, Llanelli, on Wednesday, 10 October 2012 at 4:00 pm.

Present: P. J. Edmunds (Vice Chairman (in the Chair))

Cllrs.

T. Bowen
S. L. Davies

M. J. P. Burns
S. N. Lewis

11 December, 2012.

34. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. F. Akhtar, L. A. Beer, R. M. Davies and J. Williams.

35. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

36. 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 - 12 September 2012

37. INCOME AND EXPENDITURE REPORTS

RESOLVED that the income and expenditure reports for August 2012 and the provisional report for September 2012 be noted.

38. SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS

Consideration was given to the schedule of payments for September 2012, which revealed expenditure for the month, amounted to £20,187.59.

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

39. AUDIT OF ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 MARCH 2012

Further to Minute No. 30 Members received correspondence from Mazars LLP, enclosing the Burial Authority's certified Annual Return. The writer confirmed that all audit work had been completed.

The Secretary confirmed the required public notice informing of the conclusion of the audit had been displayed.

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

40. NATURAL BURIAL AREA – SITE VISIT

Further to Minute No. 64 (14 December 2011) the Secretary and Cemetery Manager provided Members with an overview of preliminary work conducted thus far in respect of the potential creation of a natural burial area(s) in Llanelli District Cemetery having previously identified

11 December, 2012.

parcels of land for possible development. Reference was made to earlier site visits to other public cemeteries in South Wales where natural burial areas had been developed and to the different options available depending on the landscape setting.

Due to the relatively new composition of the committee it was proposed that Members visit a natural burial area at Oystermouth Cemetery, Swansea (being the closest) prior to any planned site visit to Llanelli District Cemetery. It was felt that Members would have a better appreciation and understanding of the issues prior to making any decision to develop a natural burial area(s) in the cemetery grounds.

Cllr S. L. Davies had to withdraw from the meeting prior to a decision being taken but was happy to give her support for the planned visit.

RESOLVED that the Cemetery Manager make the necessary arrangements for the site visits to Oystermouth Cemetery, Swansea and then subsequently Llanelli District Cemetery, the same day.

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

313. LETTER OF APPRECIATION

RESOLVED that a letter of appreciation for the Council’s assistance received from the Bynea & Llwynhendy History Society, be noted with pleasure.

314. SEASONAL GREETINGS

The Chairman wished Members and Staff a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

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The Meeting concluded at 6:20 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 8 January, 2013, adopted by the Council.