

12 March, 2013.

LLANELLI RURAL COUNCIL

Minute Nos: 445 – 455

At a **COUNCIL** Meeting of the Llanelli Rural Council held at the Council Chamber, Vauxhall Buildings, Vauxhall, Llanelli, on Tuesday, 12 March, 2013, at 6.00 p.m.

Present: Cllr. T. Devichand (Chairman)

Cllrs.

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

445. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. F Akhtar, L. A. Beer and A. G. Morgan.

446. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr. D. M. Cundy declared a personal interest in Minute No. 450(2) as he was a Member of the SOSPPAN Campaign Committee.

447. CARMARTHENSHIRE COMMUNITY CHALLENGE

Pursuant to Minute No. 336, the Chairman welcomed Ms Eurgain Powell, Sustainability Officer and Ms Allison Thomas-Mears, Press and Communications Officer, Carmarthenshire County Council to the meeting.

Ms. Powell explained that Carmarthenshire County Council, in partnership with the Llanelli Star and Carmarthen Journal, had launched the Carmarthenshire Community Challenge campaign in September 2012 to encourage communities to reduce their carbon footprint. There was a need to consider the way in which people could reduce their impact on the planet by accepting responsibility for a more sustainable lifestyle including growing their own food, using less energy, biodiversity in the environment, recycling etc. Ms. Powell stated that the campaign had been successful with 25 organisations participating since its inception; such as food growing groups at Llandeilo, Carmarthen, Foodbank and regeneration projects in Llwynhendy and Llanelli. The self-funding campaign was family-friendly; groups joining would receive a welcome pack containing information and advice, there was a Facebook page

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and monthly e-newsletter, specialist support and shared information. It was hoped that more groups would join the campaign.

In response to queries raised by Members, Ms. Powell stated that:

- Media involvement would extend to the Ammanford area;
- Employers were not excluded but trade unions were not being targeted. However, contact could be made with regard to training being funded by the TUC upon receipt of information from Cllr. S. M. Donoghue;
- Concerns expressed at the increase in carbon footprint due to patients and support services travelling longer distances as a result of the re-structuring of health services would be raised with Hywel Dda Health Board;
- Schools in general were not being targeted as they already participated in the Eco-Schools programme although some platinum eco-schools had joined the campaign to extend their boundaries;
- The main aim was to raise awareness, enabling and supporting groups to make changes by using their knowledge of the local area.

Ms. Powell added that the Rural Council could participate in the campaign by signposting groups and distributing welcome packs to which specific information on measures individuals could take to reduce energy bills and carbon footprint, insulating their homes and renewable energy.

Thereupon, the Chairman thanked Ms Powell and Ms Thomas-Mears for attending and they both withdrew from the meeting.

RESOLVED that Members distribute the Carmarthenshire Community Challenge information to community groups in their Wards.

448. 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	12 February, 2013
Special Meeting of the Recreation and Welfare Committee	13 February, 2013
Planning and Liaison Committee	18 February, 2013
Policy and Resources Committee	20 February, 2013
Special Council	21 February, 2013
Finance and General Purposes Committee	27 February, 2013
Planning and Liaison Committee	11 March, 2013

449. CORRECTION OF MINUTES

RESOLVED the following amendments be made to the Members present at the meeting and apologies to be recorded under Minute No. 402:-

- Cllr. S. M. Donoghue present;

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- deletion of Cllrs. M. V. Davies, T. J. Jones and C. A. Rees in Members' present;
- apologies of Cllr. L. J. Butler listed.

**450. MATTERS ARISING
MID AND WEST WALES FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY
DRAFT ANNUAL ACTION PLAN 2013-14**

Further to Minute No 407, Members requested that a meeting be arranged with the Fire Brigade Union as soon as possible.

RESOLVED accordingly.

451. YOUR HEALTH YOUR FUTURE – PRINCE PHILIP HOSPITAL

(1) WELSH AMBULANCE SERVICES NHS TRUST

Further to Minute No. 408, a letter was received from the Chief Executive, Welsh Ambulance Service NHS Trust (WAST), dated 11 March, 2013, in response to the Council's correspondence to the Health Minister which had been forwarded via the Government Business Team.

The writer stated that WAST's response to Hywel Dda's strategic document "Your Health Your Future" was included on the Health Board's website. He reiterated, however, that WAST felt it premature to meet with the Council until such time as it had a full understanding of the implications of the proposals. WAST was fully committed to engaging with all stakeholders to ensure that any changes improved the quality of the service in a safe and sustainable way. He unreservedly apologized if the Council felt that WAST had been unintentionally discourteous and affirmed that he was fully committed to WAST engaging with the community at all levels.

As well as being disappointed with the content of the letter, Members expressed concern at the existing impact on the ambulance service due to the demands being placed on it with insufficient resources being provided.

Following a discussion, it was

RESOLVED that

1. the letter from the Chief Executive of WAST be noted;
2. an invitation be extended to WAST to attend a Council meeting to discuss the current situation and ascertain whether the Council would be able to assist in a positive way.

(2) PROGRESS REPORT

Cllr. D. M. Cundy declared a personal interest in the following item as he was a Member of the SOSPPAN Campaign Committee.

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Further to Minute No. 408, the Deputy Clerk (Administration) provided Members with the Clerk's progress report on events and matters since the last Council meeting.

The Clerk reported on a meeting with Community Health Council (CHC) representatives in Milford Haven on 14 February, 2013, where he presented a joint letter on behalf of Llanelli Rural and Town Councils as further evidence in support of the health board's recommendations being referred to the Health Minister. The meeting was very productive and fulfilled the purpose of submitting further evidence. The letter was received by the CHC's Chairman and Chief Officer and was subsequently emailed to all CHC members. A copy of the letter was also emailed to various Assembly Members across the Mid and West Wales area. Two Assembly Members replied commenting that the health board's recommendations should be referred to the Minister.

A joint meeting had been organised for 14 March, 2013, with Llanelli Rural and Town Council representatives and five Assembly Members including the Llanelli AM and four other regional AMs to discuss the health board's plans for healthcare services and to garner opinions.

The Clerk had also stated that he had attended two meetings organised by the SOSPPAN Campaign Committee on 14 and 28 February, 2013. The SOSPPAN Campaign Committee was looking to obtain Counsel's opinion on the merits of applying for Judicial Review and whether there was enough evidence to challenge how Hywel Dda Health Board's consultation phase was conducted. Counsel's fees for providing a definitive opinion was estimated to be in the region of £2,000 to £3,000 plus VAT. SOSPPAN had requested if this cost could be met by Llanelli Rural and Town Councils on a 50:50 basis.

RESOLVED that the information be noted and the Council agree in principle to funding SOSPPAN's fees in obtaining Counsel's opinion in conjunction with Llanelli Town Council as referred to above.

(3) CORRESPONDENCE

The following documents were considered by Members when considering the Clerk's progress report above:

- Email correspondence from the Managing Director, Opinion Research Services dated 22 February, 2013;
- Hywel Dda Community Health Council's referral document;
- Correspondence from the Chief Executive, Hywel Dda Health Board dated 1 March, 2013.

RESOLVED that the

1. information be noted; and
2. Council's appreciation be conveyed to the Hywel Dda Community Health Council for its actions in referring Hywel Dda Health Board's proposals to the Health Minister.

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452. REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

Correspondence had been received from the Co-ordinator, Links, inviting the Leader to serve on its management committee.

RESOLVED that the Leader of Council be confirmed as the Council's representative.

453. MATTERS REPORTED

RESOLVED that the schedule of matters reported be noted.

454. LLANELLI JOINT BURIAL AUTHORITY

Members received the following Minutes of a meeting of the Llanelli Joint Burial Authority held on 9 and 29 January, 2013:-

“At the Meeting of the Llanelli Joint Burial Authority held at Vauxhall Buildings, Vauxhall, Llanelli, on Wednesday, 9 January 2013 at 4:00 pm.

Present: L. A. Beer (Chairman)

Cllrs.

F. Akhtar	R. M. Davies
M. J. P. Burns	P. J. Edmunds
T. Bowen	C. Reed

66. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENT

The Chairman welcomed Cllr. C. Reed on to the committee. Cllr. Reed had been nominated by Llanelli Town Council as a replacement for Cllr. J. Williams who had resigned from the committee.

67. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. S. L. Davies, S. N. Lewis and C. C. Lucas.

68. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

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69. 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 December 2012

70. MATTERS ARISING

LLANELLI CREMATORIUM LTD – RENT REVIEW

The Secretary confirmed he met the Director, Llanelli Crematorium Ltd on 19 December 2012. As a result of the meeting all outstanding issues had now been resolved. For the benefit of new Members, the Secretary then described the Burial Authority's business relationship with Llanelli Crematorium Ltd and outlined the provisions in place which governed the lease arrangements over the property and it was

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

71. INCOME AND EXPENDITURE REPORTS

RESOLVED that the income and expenditure report for November 2012 and the provisional report for December 2012 be noted.

72. SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS

Consideration was given to the schedule of payments for December 2012, which revealed expenditure for the month, amounted to £17,664.61.

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

73. SPECIAL BUDGET MEETING

The Secretary informed Members that the special budget meeting would be held on Tuesday 29 January 2013, at 4.00pm in the Council Chamber, Vauxhall Buildings, Vauxhall, Llanelli.

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

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

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At a Special Meeting of the Llanelli Joint Burial Authority held at Vauxhall Buildings, Vauxhall, Llanelli, on Tuesday, 29 January 2012 at 4:00 pm.

Present: Cllr. L. A. Beer (Chairman)

Cllrs.

R. M. Davies
P. J. Edmunds

S. N. Lewis
C. C. Lucas

74. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

No apologies for absence were received.

75. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

76. 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.

77. SCALE OF FEES

(1) Exclusive Rights of Burial Fees

	£
Conventional grave - 30 year period	628.00
Conventional grave - 50 year period	1256.00
Cremated Remains - 30 year period	169.00
Cremated Remains - 50 year period	338.00
Cremated Remains Garden Plot – 15 year period	494.00
Cremated Remains Vault – 30 year period	927.00

(2) Cemetery Management Fees

The following charges would be levied where
Exclusive Rights of Burial was not applicable:

Cemetery management fee for a conventional grave	260.00
Cemetery management fee for a cremated remains plot	131.00

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(3) Interment Charges

Grave - Depth for 2	384.00
Grave - Depth for 3	603.00
Interment in existing grave	384.00
Interment of cremated remains	127.00
Interment of cremated remains in Vault	53.00
Interment of cremated remains in Garden Plot	62.00
Weekend Surcharge Interment Grave	348.00
Weekend Surcharge Interment Cremated Remains	50.00

(4) Natural Burial Area

Single Depth Grave with 30 year EROB	1012.00
Reservation Fee (10 Years)	50.00
Marker Post	100.00
Memorial Tree	100.00
Single Cremated Remains Plot with 30 year EROB	296.00
Reservation Fee (10 Years)	25.00
Marker Post	60.00
Scattering	35.00

(5) Other Charges

Hire of Chapel (including speaker)	40.00
Still Birth	15.00
Testing of Grave	96.00
Exhumation of Ashes	127.00
Exhumation of body (Actual & necessary costs)	
New memorial - headstone	109.00
New memorial - kerbset	132.00
Additional names cut on headstones	56.00
Memorials within Garden of Remembrance	76.00
Additional Excavation Fee for Bricked Grave	364.00
Family History Search (per individual name)	10.00
Memorial Bench	900.00

RESOLVED that the above fees be approved from 1 April 2013.

78. ESTIMATES OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

The Secretary presented Members with a detailed report in respect of the Estimates of Income and Expenditure for 2013 / 2014, and after a lengthy discussion it was

RESOLVED that a budget precept of £171,610 be set for the financial year 2013 / 2014, and that a contribution of £85,805 be requested from Llanelli Town and Rural Councils respectively.

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.....
The Meeting concluded at 4:20 pm ”
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RESOLVED that the Minutes be accepted.

455. LETTERS OF APPRECIATION

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

- (1) Bryn Primary School;
- (2) Llwynhendy W.I.,
- (3) Ponthenri AFC;
- (4) Ysgol Bryn Teg.

.....
The Meeting concluded at 6.45 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 9 April, 2013, adopted by the Council.