

13 March, 2012.

LLANELLI RURAL COUNCIL

Minute Nos: 420 – 425

At a **COUNCIL** Meeting of the Llanelli Rural Council held at the Council Chamber, Vauxhall Buildings, Vauxhall, Llanelli, on Tuesday, 13 March, 2012, at 6.00 p.m.

Present: Cllr. S. N. Lewis (Chairman)

Cllrs.

T. D. Bowen	H. J. Evans
L. J. Butler	M. L. Evans
S. M. Caiach	T. Rh. Ifan
D. J. Davies	A. G. Morgan
M. L. Davies	C. A. Rees
M. V. Davies	B. C. M. Reynolds
S. L. Davies	A. C. Thomas
T. Devichand	G. H. Wooldridge

420. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. S. M. Donoghue, T. J. Jones, M. J. Lewis and V. R. Thomas.

421. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

422. 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	14 February, 2012
Policy and Resources Committee	15 February, 2012
Planning and Liaison Committee	20 February, 2012
Special Council (subject to Cllrs. S. M. Caiach, S. L. Davies, T. Devichand, H. J. Evans, S. N. Lewis and A. C. Thomas objecting to the accuracy of Minute No. 411)	23 February, 2012
Planning and Liaison Committee	12 March, 2012

13 March, 2012.

**423. HYWEL DDA HEALTH BOARD
YOUR HEALTH YOUR FUTURE – DISCUSSION DOCUMENT**

Further to Minute No. 389(3), Members considered correspondence exchanged with the Hywel Dda Health Board since the last ordinary Council meeting held on 14 February, 2012.

In response to the set of questions posed by the Council which formed part of its formal response to the discussion document 'Your Health Your Future', the Health Board had confirmed it would try to answer the questions at the earliest opportunity.

However, Members attention was drawn to the way in which this commitment had been communicated to the Council. Instead of it forming part of the Health Board's formal acknowledgement the commitment had been written on the acknowledgement letter. The Clerk informed that in view of this a further letter had been sent to the Health Board to simply reconfirm the commitment formally so as to remove any uncertainty or doubt should the matter be referred to in the future for any particular reason.

It was important to have the appropriate assurance from the Health Board that it would comply with Council information requests and for it to provide more specific data promptly so as to facilitate Council plans to engage medical consultants to formulate counter proposals for the retention of A&E Services at Prince Philip Hospital, Llanelli.

During the ensuing discussion, Members extended their appreciation to the Clerk for the series of questions put to the Health Board (copies having been previously circulated) and for the way in which correspondence with the Health Board had been conducted thus far.

Members then generally discussed the next steps for raising further support for the public petition against hospital cuts and to generally working in partnership with the Town Council and the Committee for the Improvement of Hospital Services (CIHS) in taking matters forward.

Reference was made to organising petition signing in the town centre along similar lines to the action taken by the Council the last time hospital services were under threat back in 2006. The Council's HOOHF (Hands off our Hospital Forever) campaign was created as a direct result of the then reconfiguration proposals. Members felt petition signing in the town centre potentially in partnership with the Town Council, would be an ideal way of resurrecting the HOOHF campaign.

By way of response, the Clerk informed that it would be necessary to replenish supplies of the lapel stickers in support of the campaign and enquired whether Members would wish to have a new banner created. No budget existed for these items, the cost of which was estimated at £149 for 4000 lapel stickers and £60 for the banner, and it was

RESOLVED that:

- (1) the correspondence with the Health Board be noted;
- (2) the Clerk enquire with the Town Clerk about progress in arranging the joint meeting with Llanelli Town Council and the Chief Executive of the Health Board;

13 March, 2012.

- (3) the Clerk be authorised to liaise with the Town Clerk about plans and proposals for a joint initiative between the two Councils to gather signatures for the petition in the town centre; and
- (4) the cost estimate for the production of the lapel stickers and campaign banner be approved.

Cllrs. T. D. Bowen and M. L. Davies left the meeting.

The meeting was temporarily adjourned for 5 minutes at 6.35 pm and resumed at 6.40 pm.

424. EXTERNAL EVENTS

**(1) HYWEL DDA HEALTH BOARD –
PRE CONSULTATION ENGAGEMENT**

Members having received an invitation for the Council to be represented at the Pre Consultation Engagement event at St. Peters Hall, Carmarthen on 26 March, 2012, in support of Health Board plans to receive feedback from Town and Community Councils about potential options for the reconfiguration of hospital services, it was

RESOLVED that Cllr. A. G. Morgan and the Clerk be authorised to attend.

(2) LLANELLI MULTICULTURAL NETWORK

Members having received an invitation for the Council to attend two events in support of the Llanelli Multicultural Week namely ‘Wales Through Polish Eyes’ at the Diplomat Hotel, Llanelli on 21 March and culminating in the Multicultural Week Finale ‘Showcase’ Event on 24 March, 2012 at the Llanelli Leisure Centre, it was

RESOLVED that interested Members attend the said events.

425. MATTERS REPORTED

RESOLVED that the schedule of matters reported be noted.

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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 12 April, 2012, adopted by the Council.