

**15 March, 2011.**

**LLANELLI RURAL COUNCIL**

**Minute Nos: 473 – 484**

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, 15 March, 2011, at 4.45 p.m.

**Present:** Cllr. C. A. Rees (Chairman)

**Cllrs.**

L. J. Butler	T. Rh. Ifan
D. J. Davies	M. J. Lewis
M. L. Davies	S. N. Lewis
S. L. Davies	A. G. Morgan
S. M. Donoghue	G. H. Wooldridge

Together with Cllr. T. J. Jones.

**473. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENT**

The Chairman referred to the recent natural disaster in Japan. As a mark of respect, Members and Officers thereupon stood in silent tribute.

**474. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

An apology for absence was received from Cllr. M. L. Evans.

**475. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

<i>Minute No.</i>	<i>Councillor</i>	<i>Interest</i>
478	D. J. Davies	Personal and prejudicial – Chairman, Licensing Committee, Carmarthenshire County Council
484	C. A. Rees	Personal and prejudicial – fund raiser, Pontyates Welfare Association
484	G. H. Wooldridge	Personal and prejudicial – Executive Member, Carmarthenshire County Council

**476. PROGRESS REPORT**

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

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**477. FELINFOEL RECREATION GROUND –  
CAPITAL SCHEME**

Further to Minute No. 444, Members were circulated with the Technical Services Officer's progress report.

The Technical Services Officer informed Members that due to the inclement weather the contractors had stated the project was 5½ weeks behind schedule. The contractors had been asked to review the programme of works and to give a new projected completion date.

Furthermore, enquiries had been made with Wildwood Ecology Ltd regarding the dawn to dusk bat survey and a quotation was expected shortly.

**RESOLVED** that the progress report be noted.

**478. LICENSING ACT 2003  
NOTIFICATION OF LICENCE APPLICATIONS**

Cllr. D. J. Davies declared a personal and prejudicial interest in the following matter as he was Chairman of the Licensing Committee, Carmarthenshire County Council. Cllr. Davies withdrew from the meeting before discussion commenced.

Members were circulated with correspondence from the Principal Licensing Officer, Carmarthenshire County Council stating the Authority had adopted a revised Licensing policy on the 6 January, 2011.

The writer informed the revised policy contained an undertaking to establish an electronic system for notifying Clerks to Town and Community Councils of applications to grant or vary premises licences and club certificates in the county. Those Councils subscribing to the service would receive a brief notification of every application received, detailing the premises, the type of application and the consultation period. Further information would then be obtained by contacting the Licensing Section.

Councils wishing to subscribe to the service were requested to contact the Licensing Section, providing a nominated email address for the notifications.

**RESOLVED** that the Council subscribe to the service and a review be undertaken in six months time to assess its effectiveness and the impact of it on staff resources in having to search through and subsequently report upon the applications.

Cllr. Davies returned to the meeting.

**479. LUNCHEON CLUB - TRANSPORT**

Further to Minute No. 418, Members considered email correspondence exchanged between the Deputy Clerk (Administration) and Ann Phillip, Carmarthenshire County Council.

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The email correspondence outlined the travel problems being experienced at the Dafen Luncheon Club with the termination of the bus service provided by Carmarthenshire County Council.

Despite looking at various transport options and having trialled using taxis it was advocated in the correspondence the most viable option was to buy-in transport support from the County Council's Transport Unit. The cost of which was £28.00 per hour at 2 hours per day totalling £56.00. Members were informed clients were prepared to contribute £2.00 per person towards off setting the cost with the shortfall being met from elsewhere.

Members then discussed the implications of this Council possibly setting up the transport contract with the County Council. They recognised that should this be the case, then a precedent would be set, if the Council's other luncheon club services required similar transport arrangements in the future. Potential difficulties in administering the scheme were highlighted and the question of 'duty of care' was raised and who would be responsible for ensuring patrons safe passage to and from the vehicle when attending at the hall.

Given the number of questions raised and the potential impact on the Council's budget and staff resources, Members asked Officers to make further enquiries as to how:

- Patrons of other Council run luncheon club services managed travel arrangements;
- whether there were any additional insurance implications by taking on the transport arrangements;
- the impact on the budget for Dafen and the service as a whole and the capacity to serve all luncheon clubs if required; and
- County Council staff roles and responsibilities in relation to the issue of duty of care.

Following which it was

**RESOLVED** that a further report addressing the above points be presented to committee in due course.

#### **480. TIR EINON PARK**

Members were presented with email correspondence from the Director of Regeneration, Carmarthenshire County Council regarding the funding available for the capital scheme at Tir Einon Park, following a meeting held with the Clerk at County Hall, Carmarthen.

The Director stated the County Council had indicated there was a £10,000 grant available with the potential to bid for a further £25,000, from the County Council's Collaborative Fund. Furthermore the County Council would provide assistance with the detailed design and scheme layout if required. It would also explore whether the Carmarthenshire Homes Standard Environmental Works Project would be able to form part of the wider scheme.

Cllr. Butler informed Members that Communities First Llwynhendy were holding public consultation meetings in April for the design drawings of Tir Einon Park. When the final drawings had been chosen they would be submitted to the Planning Department, Carmarthenshire County Council. On approval, Communities First Llwynhendy would source additional funding from other organisations.

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**RESOLVED** that the information be noted.

**481. PART TIME NIGHT LIGHTING**

The matter having been requested for inclusion on the Agenda by Cllr. T. J. Jones, the Chairman thereupon invited Cllr. Jones to address Members.

Cllr. Jones, confirmed he was addressing the committee in his capacity as Chairman of the Environment Scrutiny Committee, Carmarthenshire County Council and enquired whether this Council would consider introducing part time night lighting through out its administrative area in order to save on costs and the carbon footprint.

In making the request, Cllr. Jones asked Members to consider the possibility of switching off one in every three lighting columns between the hours of midnight and 5.30 am on a daily basis.

Following discussion, it was

**RESOLVED** that:

1. The request to introduce part time night lighting throughout the Council's area be agreed in principle;
2. street maps identifying the location of the Council's lighting columns be obtained from the Public Lighting Section, Carmarthenshire County Council; and
3. local ward members be consulted and asked to identify and plot on the street maps which lighting columns could be switched off.

**482. PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT, 1960**

**RESOLVED** that in view of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, the following matter referred to in Minute No. 483 below 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.

**483. FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**

Consideration was given to applications received for financial assistance and, it was

**RESOLVED** that the annual grant be made to Ponthenri A.F.C. for the year ending May 2009 and May 2010 respectively and to Trallwm Community Hall for the year ending December 2010.

The Vice-Chairman, Cllr. L. J. Butler chaired the meeting for the following item.

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**484. PONTYATES WELFARE HALL  
CLOSURE OF LIBRARY**

Cllrs C. A. Rees and G. H. Wooldridge declared a personal and prejudicial interest in the following matter and withdrew from the meeting before discussion commenced. Cllr. Rees was a fund raiser and member of Pontyates Welfare Association whereas Cllr. Wooldridge had portfolio over library services in his capacity as Executive Member for Carmarthenshire County Council.

Members considered a letter from the Chairman of Pontyates Welfare Association requesting on going financial support from the Council to safeguard the library at Pontyates Welfare Hall.

The writer informed the closure of the library had been confirmed by Carmarthenshire County Council. In view of this, the Association requested the Council’s assistance to help keep the library and computer suite open possibly in partnership with Llangyndeyrn Community Council.

Keeping the service open would entail local volunteers carrying out the administration duties with books etc being stocked and changed by the library service. Rental income received from the County Council for running the service from the hall would cease and amounted to £66.50 per week. It was claimed the income was vital to the hall’s future sustainability and the writer requested the Council to consider meeting this cost and the cost of the internet service provision.

Members noted the cost of the internet service provision had not been identified. Furthermore it was pointed out by the Clerk a similar situation was developing in the village of Dafen and so this request could not be looked at in isolation. The fate of other branch libraries in the Rural Council area was also unknown.

During discussion Cllrs. S. L. Davies and S. N. Lewis left the meeting.

**RESOLVED** that the application be deferred for enquiries to be made with Carmarthenshire County Council’s library service over the closures and in order to obtain further information from Pontyates Welfare Association and Dafen Library on associated service costs.

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The Meeting concluded at 6.05 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, 2011, adopted by the Council.