

18 June, 2013.

LLANELLI RURAL COUNCIL

Minute Nos: 94 – 103

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, 18 June, 2013, at 4.45 p.m.

Present: Cllr. R. E. Evans (Chairman)

Cllrs.

F. Akhtar	S. L. Davies
L. A. Beer	G. N. R. Edwards
T. Bowen	M. L. Evans
D. M. Cundy	A. G. Morgan
M. V. Davies	C. A. Rees
A. J. Rogers	

94. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. T. J. Jones (Cllr. F. Akhtar deputising) and G. H. Wooldridge (Cllr. M. L. Evans deputising).

95. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr. S. L. Davies declared a personal and prejudicial interest in Minute No. 103 as she was the Secretary of Dafen Welfare Committee.

96. PROGRESS REPORT

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

97. PARKS, PLAY AREAS AND OTHER COMMUNITY ASSETS

Further to Minute No. 50, Members considered the Clerk's report in respect of the following:

- a mapping exercise of Council owned play facilities including Carmarthenshire County Council owned facilities within the Council's area in order to formulate a strategy going forward;
- an assessment of the formal transfer and upkeep of several County Council owned assets namely Pontyates Park at Heol Llanelli, Bryngolau and Cilsaig play areas, Dafen, the play

18 June, 2013.

area at Heol Nant, Swiss Valley and Pwll Pavilion (including some adjoining parcels of land) at the recreation ground, Pwll;

- the potential enhancement of the said assets under the Council's on-going capital works programme; and
- an assessment on Council resources including the capacity to sustain the assets going forward and the affect of same on the Council's revenue budget.

Following detailed discussion of the report, it was

RESOLVED that the report be accepted and the following recommendations be put forward for Council consideration and approval:

1. The information relating to Communities First Carmarthenshire leading a funding bid for the creation of a new play area at Felinfoel Recreation Ground for a capital sum in the region of £120,000 be noted for the time being on the basis that the matter may need to be revisited by the Council if the funding bid proves unsuccessful with the project then possibly being included on the Council's capital programme list instead;
2. The information relating to the transfer of Bryngolau play area and the small amount of remedial work required before the transfer can be formally completed be noted;
3. The transfer of the other play areas documented in the report be accepted in principle but subject to Carmarthenshire County Council handing over the assets to the Council in a good state of repair. This will require some form of capital investment by the County Council to bring them up to an acceptable standard;
4. Depending on the sequence and timing of the said transfers the Council is recommended to prioritize its own capital programme to further enhance the facilities as suggested in the report. In this regard due deference be given to the acquisition and improvement of Pwll Pavilion as a priority but without prejudice to the transfer of the other assets identified in the report;
5. The terms for the transfer of Pwll Pavilion shall take the form of a draft lease covering a term of 99 years at a peppercorn ground rent. Such lease to allow for the sub-letting of the pavilion to the Recreation Ground Management Committee with a licence being incorporated to permit the café proprietor to continue to run the café franchise. Furthermore, the rear car parking area shall be tarmacaded and marked out and general improvements be made including fencing and other boundary work to form part of the scheme as well as attention to the access road from the main highway on Pwll Road and also the provision of new footway lighting. It is recommended that a budget estimate of £120,000 is earmarked by the Council for the suggested capital works;
6. As part of a wider scheme concerning the transfer of Pwll Pavilion, the two tennis courts immediately located to the south of the pavilion be incorporated into the land transfer and included in the lease. The express intention being to convert one of the tennis courts into a play area and retaining the other court for public use;

18 June, 2013.

7. The creation of the new play area at Pwll Pavilion shall be considered alongside the potential capital enhancement of the other play areas identified in the report as part of a phased programme of works. It is also recommended that a budget estimate of £80,000 is earmarked for the creation of the new play area;

8. The Council approves the spending of £100,000 from its capital budget to provide the anticipated capital expenditure associated with the transfer of the three County Council play areas namely:

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Cilsaig play area, Dafen	- 20,000
Pontyates play area, Pontyates Park	- 60,000
Swiss Valley play area, Heol Nant, Swiss Valley	- 20,000

In the case of Cilsaig play area, this is subject to the successful completion of the third party land transfer to Carmarthenshire County Council from the private housing developer in order for the said play area to then be transferred to the Council.

9. The Council also approves a capital budget estimate of £53,580 for the anticipated shortfall in capital expenditure identified in the report to provide further works to the Cilsaig play area (£1,520) and the play area at Pontyates Park (£52,020).

10. To promote the principles of sustainability and to aid the Council's capacity to maintain resources the Council approves the inclusion of the additional annual revenue expenditure of £22,860 into its budget for the financial year 2014/15 onwards with any expenditure undertaken during 2013/14 being absorbed.

11. The potential procurement of a second hand front rotary mower from Carmarthenshire County Council to maintain the grassed area at Pontyates Park be investigated otherwise it is recommended that the Council provides a budget estimate of £20,000 to purchase a brand new machine.

98. TIR EINION PARK – FENCING WORK

Further to Minute No. 180(1) (18 September, 2012), Members considered the report of the Technical Services Officer regarding the fencing proposals at Tir Einon Park. A budget and scheme had been prepared to install palisade fencing and roll top fence along the boundary to replace the chain link fence.

Members were informed that since the September 2012 meeting, an objection had been received from a local resident over the original proposal, which at the time was agreed upon by the same local resident now lodging the objection. As a result of this development a further site meeting was held with the local resident recently to establish the grounds for the objection and to agree a way forward.

Following discussion of the options now available and based on the feedback received from the local resident, it was

18 June, 2013.

RESOLVED that option 'C' as set in the report be approved namely, to proceed with the provision of a new fence at the boundary between the play area and the property boundaries on Heol Hen whereby the existing fence would be left in-situ with the new section of palisade fence running parallel to it but positioned closer to the play equipment area and not on the immediate property boundary as originally proposed. The overgrowth between the existing boundary fence and the new palisade fence shall be retained to provide natural screening and an access gate shall also be provided to the parcel of land forming the buffer zone between the park and the rear property boundaries on Heol Hen.

FURTHER RESOLVED that before proceeding with the revised proposals the local resident's agreement be obtained in writing so as to confirm acceptance and to remove any doubt going forward.

99. PARKOUR WALES PROJECT

Members received a letter from the Project Manager, Academy of Creative Arts Ltd requesting permission to use the Parkour play equipment at Tir Einon play area to deliver 13 outdoor Parkour Workshops for the community of Llwynhendy and the surrounding areas.

Parkour Wales Project was to actively engage children and young adults (8 – 25 year olds) at grass roots levels in Parkour play equipment by providing professional tuition from qualified coaches in an environment that was both challenging and safe.

RESOLVED that permission be granted to the Academy of Creative Arts Ltd to use Tir Einon play area to deliver Parkour Workshops from 1 July, 2013, for a period of 14 weeks.

100. PROVISION OF COMMUNITY HALL AT CEFNCAEAU

Members considered a request from Cllr. T. Bowen to provide a community hall at Cefncaeau. The principle of providing a hall was discussed but it was clear from the contributions made at the meeting that further information was required from external sources. Reference was made to previous feasibility studies commissioned by the former Communities First Llwynhendy group as well as the desire that enquiries be made with Carmarthenshire County Council and also the recently established Communities First Carmarthenshire cluster group to ascertain what might be being planned in the local community going forward, and it was

RESOLVED that Officers make appropriate enquiries and that an information report be presented to a future meeting for further discussion.

Cllr. S. L. Davies withdrew from the meeting midway through discussion of Minute No. 100 above.

18 June, 2013.

101. 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.

**102. FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE
DAFEN WELFARE AFC**

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

RESOLVED that a grant of £600 be awarded to Dafen Welfare AFC on receiving receipts from the club.

**103. FINANCIAL SUMMARY REPORT
DAFEN COMMUNITY HALL**

Cllr. S. L. Davies had declared a personal and prejudicial interest in the following matter as she was the Secretary of Dafen Welfare Committee. However, Cllr. Davies had already withdrawn from the meeting before discussion commenced.

Members were circulated with a Statement of Accounts received from Dafen Community Hall Management Committee and it was

RESOLVED that the annual grant of £400 be made to Dafen Community Hall for the year ending 30 April, 2013.

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The Meeting concluded at 6.15 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 July, 2013, adopted by the Council.