

27 November, 2013.

LLANELLI RURAL COUNCIL

Minute Nos: 310 – 317

At a Meeting of the **FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE** of the Llanelli Rural Council held at the Council Chamber, Vauxhall Buildings, Vauxhall, Llanelli, on Wednesday, 27 November, 2013, at 4.45 p.m.

Present: Cllr. T. Bowen (Vice Chairman (in the Chair))

Cllrs

G. N. R. Edwards S. N. Lewis
R. E. Evans A. G. Morgan
W. V. Thomas

310. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. T. Devichand and T. J. Jones

311. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr. T. Bowen declared a person interest in Minute No. 316(2) as she was a personal friend of the applicant.

312. ANNUAL AUDIT LETTER 2013

Members received a letter from Mazars LLP, Appointed Auditors summarising the key issues arising from the work that they had carried out for the Council during the year. The letter confirmed that an unqualified opinion had been issued on the Council's accounting statement, confirming it presented a true and fair view of the Council's financial position and its income and expenditure for the year.

The writer stated that during the course of the audit, considerable support and assistance was received from the Council's employees and wanted to take the opportunity to thank them for the time they made available to help complete the work.

RESOLVED that the letter be noted.

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**313. INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT (FIRST INTERIM)
2013/14**

Members considered the Internal Audit Report (First Interim) 2013/14 received from the Director, Auditing Solutions Ltd which concluded that the Council continued to operate effective financial controls systems and consequently, there were no significant matters arising at present.

RESOLVED that the report be noted and that Members' thanks to Officers be formally recorded.

314. FINANCIAL REPORTS

RESOLVED that the committee reports for the Administration and Training Departments to 31 October 2013, be noted.

315. SCHEDULES OF PAYMENTS

Consideration was given to the Schedules of Payments for the Administration and Training Departments for October 2013, (copies of which had been previously circulated) which revealed that the expenditure amounted to £60,671.16 and £101,534.80 respectively.

RESOLVED that the reports be noted.

Arising out of discussion of the above, it was

FURTHER RESOLVED that a future committee report be prepared on the Council's I.T. support service arrangements detailing contract costs.

316. FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Cllr. T. Bowen declared a personal interest in item (2) below as she was a personal friend of the applicant.

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

RESOLVED that:

- (1) Mr R J Goodridge – that a contribution of £10 be made.
- (2) Llanelli & District League of Hospital Friends – that a contribution of £250 be made.

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317. WHITE LION – STRUCTURAL SURVEY

Further to Minute No. 401(3) (11 February, 2013), Members considered the report of the Technical Services Officer together with the Structural Engineer’s report on the White Lion Depot.

Prior to any remedial worked being considered at the depot, Members agreed to the commissioning of a Structural Engineer’s report to provide an opinion on the present structure.

Members were informed that the lease on the depot was due to expiry in 2023. The Council was obliged to leave the building in an acceptable standard for immediate let at the end of the lease. Also, if the landlord or Council gave notice, the building should be vacated and available to let.

The report produced by the Structural Engineer, following an inspection at the property, found the building to be dilapidated but not in a dangerous condition and made suggestions on the remedial work to be considered. There were a number of areas where the Structural Engineer considered that there was a risk of further deterioration in the short-term and hence the need to undertake remedial work to address the deterioration and make good as necessary.

Following a lengthy discussion, it was

RESOLVED that a detailed report on costings be presented to a future committee meeting along with further information about the lease arrangements including the cost of a replacement building. Furthermore that a full options appraisal of the site and alternative sites be presented as part of the report.

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The Meeting concluded at 5.25 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 10 December, 2013, adopted by the Council.