

8 October 2008

LLANELLI JOINT BURIAL AUTHORITY

Minute Nos. 37 - 45

At the **Meeting** of the **Llanelli Joint Burial Authority** held at Vauxhall Buildings, Vauxhall, Llanelli, on Wednesday, 8 October 2008 at 4:00 pm.

Present: Cllr. T. J. Jones (Chairman)

Cllrs.

M. J. P. Burns
S. L. Davies
W. J. Lemon

A. G. Morgan
K. D. Rees
W. G. Thomas

37. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs T. D. Bowen, D. J. Davies, and C. C. Lucas.

38. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

39. 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 - 11 September 2008

40. INCOME AND EXPENDITURE REPORTS

RESOLVED that the income and expenditure reports for August 2008 and the provisional report for September 2008 be noted.

41. SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS

Consideration was given to the schedule of payments for September 2008, which revealed expenditure for the month amounted to £13,992.60.

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

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42. INSTITUTE OF CEMETERY AND CREMATORIUM MANAGEMENT (ICCM) - ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Secretary reported the receipt of an invitation to attend the ICCM's annual general meeting (AGM) to be held on 12 November, 2008. The AGM was normally held at the same time as the ICCM's annual national conference. However, an announcement was made at this year's conference that the accounts had not been formerly prepared in time to be circulated to the membership in accordance with company law.

Members were also informed that some dissenting members of the Institute had called for an extraordinary general meeting (EGM) regarding concerns over the way the present Board of Directors had managed the affairs of the ICCM over the last four years. Rather than rely on the membership to support the call for the meeting, the Board of Directors had decided to take the initiative and it was confirmed at conference that the Board would be calling the EGM in any event. However, prior to convening the meeting the Board revealed that given the nature of the concerns, it had decided to commission its own independent investigation into all its decisions over the last four years and a report would be subsequently presented to the EGM for consideration.

Having attended this year's conference both the Chairman and Secretary confirmed that it was noticeable that all was not well and the number of delegates attending the event was well down on previous years' attendances. They also felt the event itself did not provide value for money in terms of the quality and limited extent of discussion topics included in the programme. Furthermore the hotel catering arrangements were deemed sub standard, and therefore the increase in fees to attend the event could not be justified.

The Secretary confirmed that the ICCM had booked the same venue for the 2009 conference and recommended that prior to making a commitment to attend it would be prudent to await the outcome of the EGM, and also the publication of next year's conference programme. The Burial Authority could then decide how best to proceed.

In response to a suggestion as to whether the Burial Authority should submit a formal notice of motion to the EGM, the Secretary suggested that members await the findings of the investigatory report prior to deciding whether to submit a formal motion for inclusion on the agenda.

RESOLVED that the invitation to attend the AGM be noted and to await further developments regarding the arrangements for the EGM and the 2009 national conference.

43. 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.

44. MEMORIAL TYPES - BABY SECTION

The Secretary reported that an application for a headstone with a small kerb surround had been submitted for a grave in the baby section. Previously more latitude had been afforded to satisfy

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customer choice with both lawn and kerb graves being integrated within the section. The new design would incorporate a mix of both lawn and kerb within the one plot. After a brief discussion it was

RESOLVED that the new memorial design be accepted.

45. LLANELLI CREMETORIUM LIMITED – RENT REVIEW

Members considered the Secretary’s report regarding the impending rent review with Llanelli Crematorium Limited. The Secretary confirmed that the company started paying rent in December 2003. The rent had risen incrementally over a five year period and the arrangement would end in December 2008, after which time the current rent would rise annually in accordance with the provisions of the Lease agreement and based on the ‘All Index rate of inflation’.

A small amount of legal work was necessary to aid preparations for the calculation of the revised rent, and it was proposed that Jennings Solicitors (who drew up the original Lease for the Burial Authority) be engaged to undertake the necessary work. After a brief discussion it was

RESOLVED that Jennings Solicitors be engaged to undertake the work and a cost for the work be obtained beforehand.

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The Meeting concluded at 4:30pm
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