

**14 October, 2008.**

**LLANELLI RURAL COUNCIL**

**Minute Nos: 237 - 248**

At a **COUNCIL** Meeting of the Llanelli Rural Council held at the Council Chamber, Vauxhall Buildings, Vauxhall, Llanelli, on Tuesday, 14 October, 2008, at 6.00 p.m.

**Present:** Cllr. S. M. Caiach (Vice Chairman (in the Chair))

**Cllrs.**

L. J. Butler	T. Rh. Ifan
D. J. Davies	T. J. Jones
M. V. Davies	M. J. Lewis
S. L. Davies	S. N. Lewis
T. Devichand	B. C. M. Reynolds
S. M. Donoghue	A. C. Thomas
H. J. Evans	V. R. Thomas

G. H. Wooldridge

**237. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. T. D. Bowen, M. L. Davies, M. L. Evans, A. G. Morgan and C. A. Rees.

**238. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations of interest were made.

**239. 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	9 September, 2008
Recreation and Welfare Committee	16 September, 2008
Policy and Resources Committee	17 September, 2008
Finance and General Purposes Committee	24 September, 2008
Community Development Grants Panel	25 September, 2008
Planning and Liaison Committee	29 September, 2008

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**240. MATTERS ARISING**

**(1) CARMARTHENSHIRE TOURIST ASSOCIATION**

Pursuant to Minute No. 188, Cllr. D. J. Davies enquired as to whether a reply had been received from the Carmarthenshire Tourist Association. The Clerk having replied in the negative, it was

**RESOLVED** that the information be noted.

**(2) FELINFOEL CHANGING ROOMS AND RECREATION GROUND**

Further to Minute No. 196, Cllr. H. J. Evans conveyed his appreciation of recent developments and welcomed the regeneration of the facilities.

**RESOLVED** that Cllr. Evans' comments be noted.

**(3) FURNACE COMMUNITY HALL**

Pursuant to Minute No. 199, enquiries were made as to the future of the old community hall and to the timescale for the opening of the new facilities. The Clerk informed that various possibilities would be investigated regarding the old premises and that a date had not been set for the official opening of the new hall.

**RESOLVED** that the information be noted.

**(4) VAUXHALL BUILDINGS – ASBESTOS REMOVAL**

In reference to Minute No. 222, the Clerk stated that relevant information would be forwarded regarding the above works.

**RESOLVED** that the information be noted.

**(5) COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT GRANTS**

Pursuant to Minute No. 230, the Chairman informed Members that grant funding was still available and suggested that organisations be requested to forward applications.

**RESOLVED** that the information be noted.

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**241. PONTHENRI COMMUNITY HALL –  
REFURBISHMENT WORKS**

Further to Minute No. 221, Members considered the recommendation of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on Wednesday, 24 September, 2008, and it was

**RESOLVED** that the following recommendation be approved:-

“that the Council authorise the transfer of £25,000 from General Reserves to enable the refurbishment works at Ponthenri Community Hall to proceed in its entirety with the tender submitted by Enzo’s Construction Ltd., Clos Gelliwerdd, Cross Hands Business Park, Cross Hands, Llanelli, SA14 6RX, in the sum of £59,089 plus VAT being accepted”.

**242. FELINFOEL RECREATION GROUND –  
PROPOSED CHANGING ROOMS**

Pursuant to Minute No. 240 (2), Members were circulated with a report from the Technical Services Officer requesting consent to invite tenders for consultancy services to enable a design to be prepared for the new changing rooms.

The project programme sought to submit a planning application in December 2008. Drawings would be required for the application and the services of an Architect would be required to prepare the submission.

The Clerk informed that a Special Recreation and Welfare Committee meeting would be convened to determine the tenders.

During discussion, reference was made to the Welsh Assembly Government’s directive for sustainable environments and to a request for the installation of a cost effective ground heat pump. The Clerk stated that an investigation and cost analysis would be made and that other avenues of energy efficient equipment would be investigated.

**RESOLVED** that six Architectural practices be invited to submit a tender fee bid, which would be inclusive of other disciplines and based on a design brief prepared by officers.

**243. WEST WALES SOUTH EAST PIGEON FEDERATION**

A letter was received from the Treasurer, West Wales South East Pigeon Federation, requesting a letter of support to assist the organisation’s grant bid to the Community Facilities and Activities Programme which was administered by the Welsh Assembly Government.

**RESOLVED** that the Clerk forward a letter of support to the Pigeon Federation.

**244. MATTERS REPORTED**

**RESOLVED** that the schedule of matters reported be noted.

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**245. LLANELLI JOINT BURIAL AUTHORITY**

Members received the following Minutes of a meeting of the Llanelli Joint Burial Authority held on 9 July, 2008:-

“At the Meeting of the Llanelli Joint Burial Authority held at Vauxhall Buildings, Vauxhall, Llanelli, on Wednesday, 9 July 2008 at 4:00 pm.

Present: Cllr. T. D. Bowen (in the Chair)

Cllrs.

M. J. P. Burns

W. J. Lemon

A. G. Morgan

**13. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN PRO TEMPORE**

RESOLVED that Cllr T.D. Bowen be appointed Chairman pro tempore.

**14. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs C.C. Lucas, D.J. Davies, S.L. Davies, T.J. Jones and K.D. Rees.

**15. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations of interest were made.

**16. 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.

Annual Meeting - 11 June 2008

**17. MATTERS ARISING**

Arising out of Minute No. 12, Members were provided with a progress report on staffing matters as well as cemetery ground maintenance and the Secretary enquired when it would be suitable to convene the cemetery site inspection.

RESOLVED that the site inspection be arranged at the Secretary's discretion.

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18. INCOME AND EXPENDITURE REPORT

RESOLVED that the income and expenditure report for May 2008 and the provisional report for June 2008 be noted.

19. SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS

Consideration was given to the schedule of payments for June 2008, which revealed expenditure for the month amounted to £21,074.21.

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

20. INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT 2007/2008 – FINAL REPORT

Further to Minute No. 97 (20 February 2008), Members considered the final internal audit report, compiled by Auditing Solutions Ltd.

The report did not differ from the interim report (to which Minute No. 97 refers) and no matters needed addressing other than Members considering the status of extant Standing Orders and Financial Regulations and if appropriate updating them to reflect any recent legislative changes.

The Report author commented that as no significant issues arose no action plan was necessary.

RESOLVED that the report be accepted.

21. STATEMENTS OF ACCOUNTS FOR YEAR  
ENDING 31 MARCH 2008

Consideration was given to the Statement of Accounts for the financial year 2007/2008, (copies of which had been previously circulated) and it was

RESOLVED that the Statement of Accounts be accepted.

22. AUDIT ANNUAL RETURN FOR THE YEAR  
ENDING 31 MARCH 2008

Members considered the Audit Annual Return document for the financial year ending 31 March 2008, and it was

RESOLVED that the general preparation of the document which included a summary of the Statement of Accounts in Section 1 and the Annual Governance Statement provided in Section 2 be approved accordingly.

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23. 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.

24. SECTION 11 – EASMENT OVER LAND OWNED BY GRWP GWALIA CYF

Further to Minute No. 101 (11 April 2007), the Secretary reported the receipt of correspondence from Jennings Solicitors dated 20 June 2008. The correspondence included a draft easement agreement prepared by Grwp Gwalia Cyf for the Burial Authority’s consideration.

Having briefly explained the nature and need for the easement, the Secretary confirmed that a ear marked reserve of £1500 had been set aside in the budget to provide for its completion (this sum did not cover the Burial Authority’s legal costs) and it was

RESOLVED that Jennings solicitors be instructed to complete the easement with Grwp Gwalia Cyf in consideration of the sum of £1500, provided the agreement is deemed appropriate to meet the Authority’s needs.

25. REQUEST TO INSTALL MEMORIAL BENCH

Members considered a letter from Mrs D L requesting permission to install a memorial bench in the cemetery grounds. A brief discussion then ensued regarding an identified location for the bench and whether it was deemed a practical location.

RESOLVED that:

- (1) The request be approved;
- (2) Permission is given on the understanding that Mrs D L would install the bench at her own expense and would be responsible for future maintenance;
- (3) As a gesture of good will, the Burial Authority would install, the concrete foundation to receive the bench; and
- (4) The request would not prejudice similar requests in the future, with each request being considered on its own merits.

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The Meeting concluded at 4:25pm”  
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**RESOLVED** that the Minutes be noted.

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**246. SENIOR CITIZENS' DAY CENTRE  
JOINT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

Members received the following Minutes of a meeting of the Senior Citizens' Day Centre Joint Management Committee held on 9 July, 2008:-

“At a Meeting of the SENIOR CITIZENS' DAY CENTRE JOINT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE held at The Old Vicarage, Town Hall Square, Llanelli on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> July 2008 at 6.00 p.m.

PRESENT: Councillors Mrs. P.J. Edmunds (Chairman), J. Roberts, D.H. Skivington and G.H. Wooldridge (Vice-Chairman).

APOLOGIES: Councillors M.L. Evans, Mrs. S.N. Lewis and Mrs. L.J. Stedman.

**7. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the previous meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> May 2008 be received, verified and confirmed.

**8. FINANCIAL REPORTS**

**(1) INCOME AND EXPENDITURE**

RESOLVED – that the Financial Report giving details of cumulative income and expenditure for the period 1<sup>st</sup> April to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2008 in the sums of £12,761 and £13,550 respectively be approved (copies having been previously circulated to members).

**(2) ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

Consideration was given to the written report of the Finance Officer relating to accounts for payment (copies having been previously circulated to members). The report disclosed that payments made for the period 22<sup>nd</sup> May – 9<sup>th</sup> July 2008 in respect of Direct Debits, reimbursements, BACS payments and Vouchers No. 4109 – 4120 (inclusive) amounted to the sum of £8,372.55.

RESOLVED – that payment of the aforementioned accounts be approved.

**9. HIRINGS**

Consideration was given to a written schedule of hirings of the Day Centre for the months of May and June 2008 (copies having been previously circulated to members).

RESOLVED – that the report be noted and approved.

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10. FUTURE OF LLANELLI Y.M.C.A.

Further to Minute No. 6 of the Committee meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> May 2008, the Secretary reported the receipt of the following correspondence (copies having been previously circulated to members):

- (1) A letter dated 19<sup>th</sup> June 2008 from the Secretary of Llanelli Presbyterian Church confirming that, as the Church was now in a position to call an overseas Minister, the Church Elders felt they were unable to accommodate the Senior Citizens' Day Centre in their vestry whilst the Y.M.C.A. refurbishment works were underway.
- (2) A letter dated 25<sup>th</sup> June 2008 from Y.M.C.A. Wales' Project Development Officer confirming the grant of an extension of the Day Centre's existing tenancy until no later than 27<sup>th</sup> March 2009 on existing terms. The letter also confirmed that, as negotiations with Carmarthenshire County Council regarding a new Head Lease were still not concluded, it was not possible to provide terms of the proposed new underlease of the Day Centre.

Members welcomed the extension confirmed by Y.M.C.A. Wales, although it was disappointing to note that they were still unable to confirm the terms of the proposed new underlease.

Members expressed their acute disappointment at the decision taken by the Elders of Llanelli Presbyterian Church not to accommodate the Day Centre during the refurbishment works contract at the Y.M.C.A. The decision meant that the search for alternative temporary accommodation for the Day Centre needed to start afresh.

Members were reminded by the Secretary of the prohibitive levels of rent currently being charged on vacant town centre properties, and of the result of previous enquiries which had been made regarding the availability of the vacant part of the Coleshill Social Centre complex. Members were also informed that, in the light of the Elders' decision, he had renewed his enquiries with Carmarthenshire County Council's Head of Corporate Property regarding Coleshill, the result of which was still awaited. In the ensuing discussion other premises were suggested as other alternatives to pursue.

At the conclusion of the discussion, it was

RESOLVED as follows –

- (1) That the letter from Y.M.C.A. Wales be noted, and that the terms of the proposed new underlease be awaited.
- (2) That a reply be sent to Llanelli Presbyterian Church Secretary expressing the Committee's acute disappointment at the decision taken by the Church Elders not to accommodate the Day Centre at the Church vestry.
- (3) That the Secretary pursue enquiries regarding the availability of the Coleshill Centre, the Blind Society Hall, Vaughan Street, Greenfield Church vestry and Park Church vestry, and that the outcome of his enquiries be reported to a future Committee meeting.



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**11. HEALTH AND SAFETY INSPECTION**

Further to Minute No. 12 of the Committee meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> July 2007 the Secretary reported that the annual inspection had been undertaken by the Town Council’s Health and Safety Consultant (copies of a summary of his recommendations, together with the action taken in the light thereof, having been previously circulated to members).

**RESOLVED** – that the recommendations of the Consultant be duly noted, and that all the items identified in the report be actioned and completed as soon as possible.

The Meeting concluded at 6.30 p.m”.

**RESOLVED** that the Minutes be noted.

**247. LETTERS OF APPRECIATION**

**RESOLVED** that the following letters of appreciation for the Council’s assistance be noted with pleasure:-

- (1) Pontyates Rugby Football Club;
- (2) Pwll Cricket Club.

**248. CHAIRMAN’S ANNOUNCEMENT**

The Chairman, having referred to the events of the day held by Council staff in aid of Breast Cancer Awareness led by Tenovus, thanked Members for their support.

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The Meeting concluded at 6.20 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 11 November, 2008, adopted by the Council.