

15 April, 2009.

LLANELLI RURAL COUNCIL

Minute Nos: 538 – 551

At a **COUNCIL** Meeting of the Llanelli Rural Council held at the Council Chamber, Vauxhall Buildings, Vauxhall, Llanelli, on Wednesday, 15 April, 2009, at 6.00 p.m.

Present: Cllr. M. L. Davies (Chairman)

Cllrs.

T. D. Bowen	M. L. Evans
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	C. A. Rees
S. M. Donoghue	B. C. M. Reynolds
H. J. Evans	A. C. Thomas

G. H. Wooldridge

538. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. S. M. Caiach, A. G. Morgan and V. R. Thomas.

539. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENT

The Chairman referred to the recent demise of Mrs. C. J. Bowen, wife of Cllr. T. D. Bowen. Members and Officers thereupon stood in silent tribute.

The Chairman also referred to the recent birth of Dylan Jay Evans, the son of Ms. E. Bowen, Field Officer, Training Department. Members conveyed their best wishes to the family.

In referring to Comic Relief's Red Nose Day', the Chairman informed that an amount of £82 had been raised and stated that she would welcome further contributions for the cause.

540. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

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541. 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	10 March, 2009
Planning and Liaison Committee	16 March, 2009
Civic and Ceremonial Committee	17 March, 2009
Recreation and Welfare Committee	17 March, 2009
Community Development Grant Panel	26 March, 2009
Planning and Liaison Committee	6 April, 2009

542. MATTERS ARISING

**(1) CARMARTHENSHIRE LOCAL DEVELOPMENT
PLAN SETTLEMENT FACILITIES AND
SERVICES SURVEY**

Pursuant to Minute No. 505, and in reply to a request for copies of the above survey, the Clerk suggested that interested Members contact the office.

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

(2) FORMER DURA FACTORY, BYNEA, LLANELLI

Further to Minute No. 504, the Clerk, in reply as to whether a response had been received regarding the resolutions made, stated in the negative as the appropriate committee of Carmarthenshire County Council would be imminently discussing same.

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

**(3) FELINFOEL POST OFFICE –
TEMPORARY CLOSURE**

Pursuant to Minute No. 506, Members were informed that a meeting had been held whereby several individuals had shown an interest in maintaining the above service.

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

(4) PLAYGROUND INSPECTION REPORTS

Further to Minute No. 516, it was reported that a protrusion was still evident at Trallwm Play Area.

RESOLVED that the matter be referred to the Technical Services Officer.

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**543. SELECTION OF CHAIRMAN ELECT
AND VICE-CHAIRMAN ELECT**

Further to Minute No. 512, it was

RESOLVED that the following Civic and Ceremonial Committee's recommendation be accepted:-

“RECOMMENDED that the selection of the following be endorsed:-

- (1) Cllr. C. A. Rees and her Consort, Mr. D. Rees as Chairman Elect and Consort of Council for 2009/10;
- (2) Cllr. S. L. Davies and her Consort, Mr. P. Hunt-Davies as Vice-Chairman Elect and Consort of Council for 2009/10.”

**544. LLANELLI & DISTRICT SHOPMOBILITY –
SHOPMOBILITY SCHEME**

Members considered a letter received from the Secretary, Llanelli and District Shopmobility, informing that the Committee was to hold an inaugural meeting and sought nominations from local Community Councils in the Llanelli area for representatives on the Management Committee and to possibly act as trustees when charitable status was achieved.

RESOLVED that Cllr. B. C. M. Reynolds be nominated to represent this Authority.

545. EXTERNAL EVENTS

Members having considered an invitation received from the Visitor Services Manager, National Assembly for Wales, to tour the Senedd, Cardiff Bay, it was

RESOLVED that interested Members make arrangements directly.

546. MATTERS REPORTED

RESOLVED that the schedule of matters reported be noted.

**547. 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 14 January, 2009:-

“At a Meeting of the SENIOR CITIZENS' DAY CENTRE JOINT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE held at The Town Hall, Llanelli on Wednesday, 14th January 2009 at 6.00 p.m.

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PRESENT: Councillors Mrs. P.J. Edmunds (Chairman), Mrs. L.J. Butler, M.L. Evans, Mrs. S.N. Lewis, D.H. Skivington and G.H. Wooldridge (Vice-Chairman).

27. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENT

The Chairman (Councillor Mrs. P.J. Edmunds) welcomed members to the first meeting of 2009, and wished them all a happy new year.

28. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the previous meeting held on 12th November 2008 be received, verified and confirmed.

29. FINANCIAL REPORTS

(1) INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

RESOLVED – that the financial report giving details of cumulative income and expenditure for the period 1st April to 31st December 2008 in the sums of £41,087 and £39,267 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 13th November 2008 – 14th January 2009 in respect of Direct Debits, reimbursements, BACS payments and vouchers no. 4144 – 4154 (inclusive) amounted to the sum of £9,826.25.

RESOLVED – that payment of the aforementioned accounts be approved.

30. HIRINGS

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

RESOLVED – that the report be noted and approved.

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

Further to Minute No. 24 of the Committee meeting held on 12th November 2008, the Secretary reported that very little had changed since his report to the previous meeting. The search for suitable alternative temporary accommodation had not produced any positive result, although a decision by the County Council on the temporary use of the Coleshill Centre was still awaited.

It was disappointing to report that, in spite of requests made during the intervening period, no further information had been received from the Y.M.C.A. Wales Project Officer. However,

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more information had been provided by the County Council's Head of Corporate Property, and indeed the Secretary had met the officer prior to the Christmas holiday to discuss the latest position, particularly the stance taken by Y.M.C.A. Wales regarding the issue of dilapidations.

It now appeared to the County Council that Y.M.C.A. Wales were looking to abandon their business plan due to a lack of funding support. The County Council would, therefore, continue to try to reach agreement on the issues surrounding the head lease with Y.M.C.A. Wales and, thereafter, to determine whether to take forward a different scheme which might better suit the Town and Rural Councils.

In view of the continuing uncertainty, it was difficult to make concrete plans for the future, and in particular to assess what future rent might be payable for the continued use of part of the ground floor by the Day Centre. This would need to be borne in mind when considering the draft Estimates for 2009/2010, which would be the next item on the Agenda.

Members considered the position in the light of the report presented, and expressed their concern at the continuing uncertainty regarding the future of the building. It was, therefore, ultimately

RESOLVED – that the report be noted, and that further developments be awaited.

32. ANNUAL ESTIMATES 2009/2010

Members gave detailed consideration to the draft Estimates prepared for the forthcoming financial year by the Finance Officer (copies having been previously circulated to members). Budget head figures were analysed for the benefit of members, in particular the proposed rent figure of £5,000 (being the amount currently payable), which was recommended for acceptance as it was not possible to predict what other amount might be payable during the forthcoming financial year.

After a full discussion, and with due note taken of the information provided regarding the rent figure, it was

RESOLVED – that the draft Estimates be approved.

The Meeting concluded at 6.40 p.m.”

RESOLVED that the Minutes be accepted.

548. LLANELLI JOINT BURIAL AUTHORITY

Members received the following Minutes of meetings of the Llanelli Joint Burial Authority held on 11 February, 2009:-

“At the Meeting of the Llanelli Joint Burial Authority held at Vauxhall Buildings, Vauxhall, Llanelli, on Wednesday, 11 February 2009 at 4:00 pm.

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

Cllrs.

S. L. Davies A. G. Morgan
C. C. Lucas K. D. Rees

87. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs T. D. Bowen, D. J. Davies and W. G. Thomas.

88. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

89. 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	-	14 January 2009
Special Meeting	-	27 January 2009

90. INCOME AND EXPENDITURE REPORTS

RESOLVED that the income and expenditure report for December 2008 and the provisional report for January 2009 be noted.

91. SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS

Consideration was given to the schedule of payments for January 2009, which revealed expenditure for the month amounted to £20,110.04.

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

92. MEMORIAL TESTING FIGURES

Consideration was given to the memorial testing figures for January, which revealed that no memorials had been tested. The Secretary reported that due to a member of staff being on sick leave and the large number of funeral services conducted during the month there had been no opportunity to proceed with the testing programme.

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

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93. MANAGEMENT OF RISK

The Secretary provided Members with a detailed report on the management of risk, covering 11 areas and functions requiring risk evaluation. The accompanying action plan identified the existing controls in place for managing the risk areas, all of which were deemed satisfactory. The only slight area of concern was vandalism, which was a bit of an unknown quantity. However, the control measures introduced last year seemed to suggest a positive improvement. During discussion a question was raised over the number of items that were deemed a medium risk level (level 3 scores). Members were keen to know what preventative measures were in place so that these did not escalate to a higher risk level where action would be needed (level 4 scores). The Secretary confirmed that all hazards were being monitored by the Technical Services Officer and that existing control measures appeared satisfactory.

RESOLVED that the report be endorsed.

94. 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.

95. DOCUMENTARY FILM

Members considered a letter from Mr H requesting permission to film a documentary in the cemetery grounds. After a brief discussion it was

RESOLVED that the request be approved provided that out of respect for the bereaved no names on memorials be filmed.

96. STAFFING MATTERS

Consideration was given to the Secretary’s report on staffing matters. After a lengthy discussion it was

RESOLVED that the recommendations contained in the report be accepted and the Secretary be authorised to proceed with the job advertisement for the new post of Cemetery Manager.

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Secretary conduct the interviews with the outcome being reported to Committee in due course.

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The Meeting concluded at 4:40pm”
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RESOLVED that the Minutes be accepted.

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549. LETTERS OF APPRECIATION

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

- (1) Bynea Cycling Club;
- (2) Bynea Primary School;
- (3) Felinfoel Youth Club;
- (4) Halfway Primary School;
- (5) Libanus Church, Pwll;
- (6) Llanelli Woodturning Club;
- (7) Llwynhendy Senior Citizens;
- (8) Pwll Action Committee;
- (9) Pwll Cricket Club;
- (10) Pwll Primary School.

550. PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT, 1960

RESOLVED that in view of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted the following matter 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.

551. VAUXHALL BUILDINGS, LLANELLI

Members having considered the Clerk’s verbal report upon current developments, it was

RESOLVED that:-

- (1) the information regarding the surrender of tenancy received from Carmarthenshire Association of Voluntary Services, be noted and reported to the Finance and General Purposes Committee; and that
- (2) a payment of £500 be made to Lambert Smith Hamton for a market appraisal.

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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 14 May, 2009, adopted by the Council.