

16 December, 2008.

LLANELLI RURAL COUNCIL

Minute Nos: 349 – 362

At a Meeting of the **RECREATION AND WELFARE COMMITTEE** of the Llanelli Rural Council held at the Conference Room, Vauxhall Buildings, Vauxhall, Llanelli, on Tuesday, 16 December, 2008, at 4.45 p.m.

Present: Cllr. A. G. Morgan (Chairman)

Cllrs.

L. J. Butler	M. J. Lewis
M. L. Davies	S. N. Lewis
S. L. Davies	B. C. M. Reynolds
S. M. Donoghue	A. C. Thomas
T. Rh. Ifan	G. H. Wooldridge

349. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENT

The Chairman referred to Cllr. D. J. Davies' indisposition and Members conveyed their good wishes.

350. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. M. L. Evans (Cllr. T. Rh. Ifan deputising), T. J. Jones (Cllr. B. C. M. Reynolds deputising) and C. A. Rees.

351. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

352. PROGRESS REPORT

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

353. FELINFOEL CHANGING ROOMS AND RECREATION GROUND

Further to Minute No. 267, Members were circulated with the Clerk's report, which informed Members of progress with preliminary work associated with the new capital scheme.

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During the ensuing discussion Members were keen to emphasise the need for community ownership of the project, especially from the sports clubs looking to use the new facilities and the community groups looking to make use of the proposed office and meeting facilities. It was felt that they should make a financial contribution towards project costs.

Future sustainability of the new building was paramount, so the final design brief needed to be robust yet flexible in order to maximise the full potential of the building. Drawing down sustained levels of income was vitally important to guarantee the upkeep of the building. Specific reference was made to the condition of the existing changing facilities and whether the sports clubs should hand over a financial bond to the Council as a form of financial protection to ensure the clubs took better care of the changing rooms.

Reference was also made to the Welsh Assembly Government's (WAG) funding mechanism for the Communities First programme and the importance of monies being flagged up and allocated to the Communities First Felinfoel revenue budget to help sustain its presence in the proposed office space. The Communities First Programme was due to cease in March 2012.

The Clerk informed Members that the projected costs for providing the new building ranged between £570,000 and £680,000 excluding professional fees. This was based on a total floor area of 670 square metres split over two storeys. Every endeavour would be made to keep costs to an absolute minimum and Members were appraised of the different options available to the Council to help finance the anticipated shortfall having subtracted the capital allocation promised from Communities First Felinfoel together with the Council's ear marked reserves.

The Clerk stated that an initial funding meeting had been held with Communities First Felinfoel with a further meeting scheduled for January 2009. It was envisaged that sources of funding would be more easily identified following the rolling out of the Convergence funding programme and after enquiries had been lodged with the Big Lottery fund and the Community Facilities and Activities Programme (CFAP). However, if funding bids were to be placed to the latter two funding bodies the Council was advised not to stipulate a start date for construction. Funding bids took up to six months to process and if an early date was set towards construction this would send the wrong message to the funders. It would be assumed that the project would commence regardless of whether the bid was successful and the project would be declined funding.

Members were then appraised of the next steps associated with the preliminary work and the need to submit a loan sanction request to WAG in the New Year. However, prior to submitting an application request to WAG, total project costs needed to be confirmed, and it was

RESOLVED that

- (1) the Clerk's progress report be noted;
- (2) Members' views and observations be reported to the project Steering Group;
- (3) the start date for constructing the new building be left open in order to apply for grant funding; and
- (4) a loan sanction request be made to the Welsh Assembly Government in the New Year once project costs had been confirmed and agreed by the Council.

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354. FURNACE COMMUNITY HALL

Further to Minute No. 199, Members were circulated with a progress report received from the Technical Services Officer regarding the progress work in the new hall.

RESOLVED that the information be noted and to await further developments in respect of the hydrologist's report.

**355. CARMARTHENSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL -
NEW RECYCLING SCHEME**

Correspondence was received from the Head of Street Scene, Carmarthenshire County Council enquiring if this Authority would be able to identify any suitable locations in the community for additional recycling/bring banks to accommodate recycling banks for glass bottles and jars etc.

Members were generally supportive of the scheme but required further information to establish whether there were different types of bottle banks to suit particular locations and or environments.

RESOLVED that the matter be deferred while further information is obtained from the Head of Street Scene, Carmarthenshire County Council.

356. PROPOSED STRADEY FESTIVAL

Members received correspondence from the Leader of Carmarthenshire County Council requesting sponsorship from this Authority for the 'Stradey Festival'. The festival would be organised by John Owen-Jones, a West End and Broadway performer and native of Burry Port who was keen to organise a musical event at the Festivals Fields at the Millennium Coastal Park. It was the organiser's vision to create a performing arts festival over a period of five years.

Following discussion on the merits of the proposals it was

RESOLVED that

- (1) the proposal be supported in principle on the understanding that the amount of sponsorship will not exceed £2,000;
- (2) further information on the overall package and the general delivery arrangements for the event be the subject of a further report to Committee in due course; and
- (3) it be emphasised to event organisers that showcasing local talent was as equally important as showcasing international performers and furthermore ticket prices should be priced so that the event is inclusive and affordable to local people.

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**357. SWISS VALLEY COMMUNITY HALL -
INSTALLATION OF CCTV**

Members considered a request from Cllr. A. G. Morgan to perform a feasibility study on the merits of installing CCTV at Swiss Valley Community Hall. Cllr. Morgan stated that if successful it might serve as a pilot for installing CCTV at other Council venues.

Cllr. Morgan felt that over the years there had been a lot of vandalism to the community hall. If CCTV was installed it was hoped that it would deter vandals and the cost of repair works would decrease.

Members were happy to support the request in principle and emphasised the need for dialogue with the Police and it was

RESOLVED that a feasibility study be initiated and that Cllr. Morgan liaise with the Clerk regarding the general arrangements.

**358. FELINFOEL RECREATION GROUND -
NOTICEBOARD**

Correspondence was received from the Communities First Development Officer, Communities First Felinfoel requesting this Authority's permission to erect a notice board on the land by the entrance to the recreation ground, in anticipation of the new building project (to which Minute No. 353 refers).

RESOLVED that the request be approved.

359. DAFEN WELFARE BOWLS CLUB

Consideration having been given to the above retrospective application for financial assistance, it was

RESOLVED that a contribution of £300 be made to the Dafen Welfare Bowls Club.

360. 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.

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361. PLAY AREAS – SECTION 106 FUNDING

Pursuant to Minute No 153, Members received the report of the Deputy Clerk (Administration), informing of the process undertaken in obtaining quotations for equipment and associated works to the play areas for which Section 106 Agreements had been secured.

Members were informed that consultation exercises had been undertaken with children from Five Roads, Ponthenri and Bynea schools with the respective County Councillors in attendance. Four different scheme illustrations were presented to the children, all of which were similarly priced. The most popular scheme selected by pupils in all three schools was submitted by Record RSS, and it was

RESOLVED that

- (1) the quotation submitted by Record RSS, Ltd, Waterfront Complex, Selby, for Bynea, Five Roads and Ponthenri play areas in the sums of £53,000, £36,000 and £47,000, respectively, be accepted; and
- (2) Carmarthenshire County Council be notified of the conclusion of the tendering and consultation exercise in order that the money secured via the Section 106 Agreements can be transferred to the Council in order to proceed with the installation of the new play areas.

**362. HEATING ADAPTATIONS FOR LEGIONELLA
DAFEN AND SANDY & STRADEY COMMUNITY HALLS**

The report of the Technical Services Officer was circulated to Members informing of the tenders received for the improvement works to the heating and hotwater services at Dafen and Sandy & Stradey community halls.

Following discussion the lowest tenderer’s bid was accepted, and it was

RESOLVED that the tender received from Narbeth Mechanical Services Ltd, Sandringham House, Australian Terrace, Bridgend, CF31 1LY, to the value of £10,277 plus VAT, be accepted.

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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 13 January, 2009, adopted by the Council.