

11 May, 2006.

LLANELLI RURAL COUNCIL

Minute Nos: 8 – 11

At the **ADJOURNED ANNUAL MEETING** of the Llanelli Rural Council held at the Council Chamber, Vauxhall Buildings, Vauxhall, Llanelli, on Thursday, 11 May, 2006, at 6.00 p.m.

Present: Cllr. T. D. Bowen (Chairman)

Cllrs.

D. V. Darby	M. Howells
D. J. Davies	M. B. Hughes
M. Davies	M. P. Jones
S. L. Davies	T. J. Jones
T. Devichand	A. G. Morgan
C. Edwards	C. A. Rees
M. L. Evans	R. G. Thorne
R. E. Evans	G. H. Wooldridge

Apologies: Cllrs. S. M. Caiach, S. N. Lewis, A. S. Peters.

8. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENT

The Chairman welcomed Cllr. D. J. Davies to the meeting following his recent indisposition.

9. APPOINTMENT OF STANDING COMMITTEES

RESOLVED that the following Members be appointed to the under-mentioned Committees:-

<u>Committee:</u>	<u>Members:</u>
<u>Finance and General Purposes:</u>	T. D. Bowen S. M. Caiach D. V. Darby D. J. Davies T. Devichand M. Howells M. B. Hughes M. P. Jones T. J. Jones S. N. Lewis C. A. Rees
	Pemberton Hengoed Pemberton Pemberton Dafen Bynea Hengoed Bynea Leader of Council Dafen Glyn

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Committee:

Members:

Recreation and Welfare:

T. D. Bowen	Chairman of Council
D. J. Davies	Pemberton
M. Davies	Hengoed
S. L. Davies	Dafen
C. Edwards	Felinfoel
M. L. Evans	Hengoed
R. E. Evans	Felinfoel
T. J. Jones	Glyn
A. G. Morgan	Swiss Valley
A. S. Peters	Swiss Valley
R. G. Thorne	Dafen

Planning and Liaison:

T. D. Bowen	Chairman of Council
M. Davies	Hengoed
S. L. Davies	Dafen
M. L. Evans	Hengoed
R. E. Evans	Felinfoel
T. J. Jones	Leader of Council
S. N. Lewis	Dafen
A. G. Morgan	Swiss Valley
C. A. Rees	Glyn
R. G. Thorne	Dafen
G. H. Wooldridge	Bynea

Policy and Resources:

T. D. Bowen	Pemberton
S. M. Caiach	Hengoed
D. V. Darby	Pemberton
T. Devichand	Dafen
C. Edwards	Felinfoel
M. Howells	Bynea
M. B. Hughes	Hengoed
M. P. Jones	Bynea
T. J. Jones	Glyn
A. S. Peters	Swiss Valley
G. H. Wooldridge	Bynea

Civic and Ceremonial:

T. D. Bowen
D. V. Darby
C. Edwards
M. Howells
T. J. Jones

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<u>Committee:</u>	<u>Members:</u>	
<u>Best Value Working Group:</u>	T. D. Bowen	Chairman of Council
	S. M. Caiach	
	M. Davies	
	R. E. Evans	
	M. B. Hughes	
	T. J. Jones	Leader of Council
	A. S. Peters	
	C. A. Rees	
<u>Community Development Grants Panel:</u>	T. D. Bowen	Chairman of Council
	D. V. Darby	Pemberton
	T. Devichand	Dafen
	R. E. Evans	Felinfoel
	M. B. Hughes	Hengoed
	T. J. Jones	Leader of Council
	A. S. Peters	Swiss Valley
	C. A. Rees	Glyn
	G. H. Wooldridge	Bynea

In accordance with Standing Order No. 65, Members serving on any of the Council's Committees are given discretionary powers to appoint a deputy to attend in their stead.

10. REPRESENTATIVES ON VARIOUS ORGANISATIONS

RESOLVED that the following Members be appointed to represent the Council on the under-mentioned Committees, Bodies or Organisations:-

	<u>Members:</u>
Association of Larger Local Councils	C. Edwards G. H. Wooldridge Officer
Association of Larger Local Councils – Executive Committee	G. H. Wooldridge
Carmarthenshire Tourism Association	M. B. Hughes
Carmarthenshire Youth and Childrens' Association	R. E. Evans A. S. Peters
C.A.T.C.H. U.P. Ltd	M. Howells

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Members

Citizens Advice Bureau	R. G. Thorne
Committee for the Improvement of Hospital Services	R. E. Evans
Crossroads Care Attendant Scheme	C. A. Rees
Friends of Llanelli Museum	M. Davies

Governing Bodies:

Primary Schools:

Bryn	Llangennech Community Council
Brynsierfel	S. M. Caiach
Bynea	M. Howells
Dafen	S. L. Davies
Felinfoel Junior	R. E. Evans
Five Roads	M. L. Evans
Furnace	M. L. Evans
Halfway	R. G. Thorne
Ponthenri	C. A. Rees
Pontyates	C. A. Rees
Pwll	M. Davies
Swiss Valley	A. S. Peters
Ysgol y Babanod	R. E. Evans
Ysgol Brynteg	D. V. Darby

Further Education Centres:

Felinfoel/Llwynhendy	D. J. Davies
	R. E. Evans
Pwll/Pembrey	S. M. Caiach
Gwendraeth Area Forum	T. J. Jones
	C. A. Rees
Heart of Wales Line Forum	M. L. Evans
Llanelli and District Shopmobility	R. E. Evans
Llanelli and District Twinning Association	M. B. Hughes
Llanelli Chamber of Trade and Commerce	A. G. Morgan

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Members

Llanelli Committee for the Disabled	C. A. Rees
Llanelli Community Consultative Committee	M. L. Evans
Llanelli Guide Dogs for the Blind	S. N. Lewis
Llanelli Joint Burial Authority	D. J. Davies C. Edwards M. Howells T. J. Jones A. S. Peters
National Association of Councillors – Welsh Region	D. V. Darby D. J. Davies
Senior Citizens Day Centre Joint Management	R. E. Evans M. P. Jones A. G. Morgan G. H. Wooldridge
Ty Bryngwyn Hospice Fundraising Committee	S. L. Davies M. Howells G. H. Wooldridge

In the event of apologies, deputies to attend the above if appropriate.

11. STANDING COMMITTEES

Arising out of Minute No. 10, it was

RESOLVED that attendance at any Meeting of the above Committees, Bodies or Organisations, shall be deemed as approved duties within the meaning of the Local Government Act 1972.

.....
The Meeting concluded at 6. 10 p.m.
.....

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 June, 2006, adopted by the Council.

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LLANELLI RURAL COUNCIL

Minute Nos: 12 – 13

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 Thursday, 11 May, 2006, at 6.03 p.m.

Present:

Cllrs.

- | | |
|--------------|--------------|
| T. D. Bowen | M. Howells |
| D. V. Darby | M. B. Hughes |
| D. J. Davies | M. P. Jones |
| T. Devichand | T. J. Jones |
| C. A. Rees | |

Apologies: Cllrs. S. M. Caiach, S. N. Lewis.

12. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN

It was

RESOLVED that Cllr. C. A. Rees be appointed Chairman of Committee for the ensuing year.

13. APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIRMAN

It was

RESOLVED that Cllr. S. N. Lewis be appointed Vice Chairman of Committee for the ensuing year.

.....

The Meeting concluded at 6.04 p.m.

.....

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 June, 2006, adopted by the Council.

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LLANELLI RURAL COUNCIL

Minute Nos: 14 – 15

At a Meeting of the **RECREATION AND WELFARE COMMITTEE** of the Llanelli Rural Council held at the Council Chamber, Vauxhall Buildings, Vauxhall, Llanelli, on Thursday, 11 May, 2006, at 6.04 p.m.

Present:

Cllrs.

T. D. Bowen	M. L. Evans
D. J. Davies	R. E. Evans
M. Davies	T. J. Jones
S. L. Davies	A. G. Morgan
C. Edwards	R. G. Thorne

Apologies: Cllr. A. S. Peters.

14. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN

It was

RESOLVED that Cllr. A. S. Peters be appointed Chairman of Committee for the ensuing year.

15. APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIRMAN

It was

RESOLVED that Cllr. D. J. Davies be appointed Vice Chairman of Committee for the ensuing year.

.....

The Meeting concluded at 6.05 p.m.

.....

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 June, 2006, adopted by the Council.

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LLANELLI RURAL COUNCIL

Minute Nos: 16 – 17

At a Meeting of the **PLANNING AND LIAISON COMMITTEE** of the Llanelli Rural Council held at the Council Chamber, Vauxhall Buildings, Vauxhall, Llanelli, on Thursday, 11 May, 2006, at 6.05 p.m.

Present:

Cllrs.

T. D. Bowen	T. J. Jones
M. Davies	A. G. Morgan
S. L. Davies	C. A. Rees
M. L. Evans	R. G. Thorne
R. E. Evans	G. H. Wooldridge

Apologies: Cllr. S. N. Lewis.

16. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN

It was

RESOLVED that Cllr. G. H. Wooldridge be appointed Chairman of Committee for the ensuing year.

17. APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIRMAN

It was

RESOLVED that Cllr. S. L. Davies be appointed Vice Chairman of Committee for the ensuing year.

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The Meeting concluded at 6.06 p.m.

.....

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 June, 2006, adopted by the Council.

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LLANELLI RURAL COUNCIL

Minute Nos: 18 – 19

At a Meeting of the **POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE** of the Llanelli Rural Council held at the Council Chamber, Vauxhall Buildings, Vauxhall, Llanelli, on Thursday, 11 May, 2006, at 6.06 p.m.

Present:

Cllrs.

T. D. Bowen	M. Howells
D. V. Darby	M. B. Hughes
T. Devichand	M. P. Jones
C. Edwards	T. J. Jones
G. H. Wooldridge	

Apologies: Cllrs. S. M. Caiach, A. S. Peters.

18. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN

It was

RESOLVED that Cllr. C. Edwards be appointed Chairman of Committee for the ensuing year.

19. APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIRMAN

It was

RESOLVED that Cllr. M. P. Jones be appointed Vice Chairman of Committee for the ensuing year.

.....

The Meeting concluded at 6.07 p.m.

.....

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 June, 2006, adopted by the Council.

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LLANELLI RURAL COUNCIL

Minute Nos: 20 – 21

At a Meeting of the **CIVIC AND CEREMONIAL COMMITTEE** of the Llanelli Rural Council held at the Council Chamber, Vauxhall Buildings, Vauxhall, Llanelli, on Thursday, 11 May, 2006, at 6.07 p.m.

Present:

Cllrs.

T. D. Bowen	C. Edwards
D. V. Darby	M. Howells
	T. J. Jones

20. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN

It was

RESOLVED that Cllr. D. V. Darby be appointed Chairman of Committee for the ensuing year.

21. APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIRMAN

It was

RESOLVED that Cllr. C. Edwards be appointed Vice Chairman of Committee for the ensuing year.

.....

The Meeting concluded at 6.08 p.m.

.....

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 June, 2006, adopted by the Council.

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LLANELLI RURAL COUNCIL

Minute Nos: 22 – 23

At a Meeting of the **BEST VALUE WORKING GROUP** of the Llanelli Rural Council held at the Council Chamber, Vauxhall Buildings, Vauxhall, Llanelli, on Thursday, 11 May, 2006, at 6.08 p.m.

Present:

Cllrs.

T. D. Bowen	M. B. Hughes
M. Davies	T. J. Jones
R. E. Evans	C. A. Rees

Apologies: Cllrs. S. M. Caiach, A. S. Peters.

22. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN

It was

RESOLVED that Cllr. T. J. Jones be appointed Chairman of Committee for the ensuing year.

23. APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIRMAN

It was

RESOLVED that Cllr. R. E. Evans be appointed Vice Chairman of Committee for the ensuing year.

.....

The Meeting concluded at 6.09 p.m.

.....

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 June, 2006, adopted by the Council.

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LLANELLI RURAL COUNCIL

Minute Nos: 24 – 25

At a Meeting of the **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT GRANTS PANEL** of the Llanelli Rural Council held at the Council Chamber, Vauxhall Buildings, Vauxhall, Llanelli, on Thursday, 11 May, 2006, at 6.09 p.m.

Present:

Cllrs.

T. D. Bowen	M. B. Hughes
D. V. Darby	T. J. Jones
T. Devichand	C. A. Rees
R. E. Evans	G. H. Wooldridge

Apologies: Cllr. A. S. Peters.

24. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN

It was

RESOLVED that Cllr. T. D. Bowen be appointed Chairman of Committee for the ensuing year.

25. APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIRMAN

It was

RESOLVED that Cllr. T. J. Jones be appointed Vice Chairman of Committee for the ensuing year.

.....

The Meeting concluded at 6.10 p.m.

.....

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 June, 2006, adopted by the Council.

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LLANELLI RURAL COUNCIL

Minute Nos: 26 – 34

At a **COUNCIL** Meeting of the Llanelli Rural Council held at the Council Chamber, Vauxhall Buildings, Vauxhall, Llanelli, on Thursday, 11 May, 2006, at 6.10 p.m.

Present: Cllr. T. D. Bowen (Chairman)

Cllrs.

D. V. Darby	M. Howells
D. J. Davies	M. B. Hughes
M. Davies	M. P. Jones
S. L. Davies	T. J. Jones
T. Devichand	A. G. Morgan
C. Edwards	C. A. Rees
M. L. Evans	R. G. Thorne
R. E. Evans	G. H. Wooldridge

Apologies: Cllrs. S. M. Caiach, S. N. Lewis, A. S. Peters.

26. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Cllr. T. Devichand declared an interest in Minute No.29 as she was Vice Chairman of the Carmarthenshire Health, Social Care and Well-Being Committee and a member of the Community Health Council.

27. VERIFICATION AND CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RESOLVED that the following Minutes (copies of which had been previously circulated to Members) be taken as read and the same verified respectively:-

Council	11 April, 2006.
Policy and Resources Committee	19 April, 2006.
Recreation and Welfare Committee	20 April, 2006.
Planning and Liaison Committee	24 April, 2006.
(Subject to Minute No. 438 being amended to read “ ... that an objection be made to the Planning Inspectorate in respect of planning application no.(1) above ...” and not “ that an objection be made to the Planning Inspectorate in respect of planning application no.(2) above ...” as referred to therein)	
Finance and General Purposes Committee	26 April, 2006.

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**28. DYFED-POWYS POLICE AUTHORITY –
FUNDING**

Pursuant to Minute No. 387 (14 March, 2006), a letter was received from the Rt. Hon. Hazel Blears, MP, assuring that everything possible had been done to maximise the increase in grant for all police authorities in England and Wales for the next year and that full account had been taken of representations received from Dyfed-Powys in making the final decisions on the funding settlement.

The transition from the old pensions' scheme to the new had been made as fairly as possible, however, grant changes inevitably involved differential costs, particularly during transition. It was stated that authorities would 'win' or 'lose' from year to year depending upon local pensions' circumstances. However, Dyfed-Powys would 'win' in both years and that the change to police pensions' arrangements next year would benefit all police authorities in the long run.

In view of the substantial investment in policing next year, it was made clear that there would be no excuse for excessive increases in police precepts on council tax in England. The Welsh Assembly Government was responsible for exercising reserve powers in respect of council tax in Wales.

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

**29. GENERAL SURGICAL SERVICES IN CARMARTHENSHIRE –
CONSULTATION ON THE REVIEW**

Cllr. T. Devichand declared an interest in the following Minute as she was Vice Chairman of the Carmarthenshire Health, Social Care and Well-Being Committee and a member of the Community Health Council.

Members were circulated with the above document received from the Chief Executive, Local Health Board Carmarthenshire.

It was stated that, in developing the proposals, views of the stakeholders and particularly clinicians, had been taken into account and that the consultation document set out proposals for changes in the delivery of general surgical services in Carmarthenshire and also identified the organisational changes needed to support same.

During the ensuing lengthy discussion, Members, although pleased to learn that Prince Philip Hospital was being considered for major capital investment should the Local Health Board proceed with the reconfiguration of surgical services, voiced deep concern regarding various issues and did not support any of the three options presented in the report, however it was suggested that the full reinstatement of emergency surgical services at Prince Philip Hospital on a 24/7 basis be presented as a fourth option which would, in turn, ease the burden and case load of neighbouring hospitals, particularly West Wales General Hospital in Carmarthen and Morriston and Singleton hospitals in Swansea.

Members were disappointed that no sound business case had been put forward and, more importantly, that a risk assessment had not been included. Further, should emergency

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surgical services be switched to West Wales General Hospital, Members believed this would seriously put the lives of Llanelli people at risk. It was understood that at least twelve dire emergencies occurred in the Llanelli area each year and concern was raised that the report did not inform of how these emergencies would be dealt with, should the recommendations proceed.

Members referred to the issue of emergency and elective surgery being split between hospitals and enquired as to how provision would be made for the possibility of medical cases usurping surgical beds and whether safeguards would be put in place to ensure that enough beds were available. Concern was also voiced as to the effect of delayed transfer of care and to the necessary provision for complications arising from elective surgery and the catering of inpatients who may require emergency surgery at Prince Philip. Concern for patient safety was also raised should they have to be transferred to the West Wales General Hospital and to the additional burden placed on the local ambulance service which was already overstretched.

Reference was made to the fact that Prince Philip Hospital served a population of 110,000 out of a total of 175,000 for Carmarthenshire. The Llanelli area had some of the most deprived electoral wards in Wales however, under current proposals these areas stood to lose out and receive the poorest access to emergency surgery. Therefore, Members felt that, as Prince Philip served the majority of the county population and was located in an urban area where health demands were at their greatest, retaining emergency surgery at the hospital was a critical factor.

An MRI scanner was available at Prince Philip Hospital but not at the West Wales General Hospital and Members felt that this must strengthen the case for full reinstatement of emergency surgery at Prince Philip hospital.

It was noted that mention was made in the report regarding staff such as junior doctors not working the very long hours that they have in the past which was good for patient safety. However, these changes would have an effect on how health services were organised. It was understood that the Royal College of Surgeons was writing to the Government regarding the European Union Working Time Directive as it was too restrictive and Members enquired whether this would ultimately have any bearing on the reconfiguration of services.

With Prince Philip Hospital being permitted to perform elective surgery, Members enquired as to how staffing levels would be affected and indeed, whether the consultation exercise had been extended to staff at both hospitals. Concern was also raised regarding the financial status of the Carmarthenshire NHS Trust.

Members voiced their concern that, should Prince Philip Hospital lose the emergency surgery altogether, then it was only going to be a matter of time before other essential services were gradually withdrawn and consequently the Accident and Emergency service would be seriously undermined and Members were firmly of the opinion that, before any reconfiguration of general surgery in Carmarthenshire occurred, knowledge of the outcome of the review into 'Acute Health Service provision in Mid and West Wales' should be sought.

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Cllr. T. J. Jones withdrew from the meeting.

RESOLVED that Members' views, comments and concerns be forwarded to the Chief Executive, Local Health Board Carmarthenshire and to local media in the form of a press release.

30. MINOR AUTHORITY REPRESENTATIVES ON SCHOOL GOVERNING BODIES –

(1) PONTYATES PRIMARY SCHOOL

(2) PONTHENRI PRIMARY SCHOOL

RESOLVED that Cllr. C. A. Rees be re-affirmed as the Council's representative on the Pontyates and Ponthenri Primary Schools.

31. EXTERNAL EVENTS

Members received an invitation from the Association of Larger Local Councils for the Council to be represented at an Executive Meeting in London to be held on 16 June, 2006.

RESOLVED that the Council's delegate be authorised to attend.

32. MATTERS REPORTED

RESOLVED that the schedule of matters reported be noted.

33. LLANELLI JOINT BURIAL AUTHORITY

Members received the following Minutes of meetings of the Llanelli Joint Burial Authority held on 8 March, 2006:-

“At a Meeting of the Llanelli Joint Burial Authority held at Vauxhall Buildings, Vauxhall, Llanelli, on Wednesday, 8 March 2006 at 4:00 pm.

Present: Cllr. C. E. Richards (Chairman)

Cllrs.

T. D. Bowen

M. Davies

D. J. Harries

M. Howells

C. C. Lucas

M. E. Prothero

Apologies: Cllrs. D. J. Davies, T. J. Jones and E. Smith.

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78. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RESOLVED that the following minutes (copies of which had been previously circulated) be confirmed:

Ordinary Meeting - 8 February 2006

79. INCOME AND EXPENDITURE REPORTS

RESOLVED that the income and expenditure report for January 2006 and the provisional report for February 2006 be noted.

80. SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS

Consideration was given to the schedule of payments for February 2006, which revealed expenditure for the month amounted to £18,513.64.

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

81. CEMETERY CAR PARK – REAR OF BRYNELLI

Further to Minute No. 74, the Secretary reported that the he had received written confirmation from Mr P. Roberts, Planning Department, Carmarthenshire County Council, that the revised plans had been lodged with the Council by the Gwalia Group. The writer enquired whether the Burial Authority had any observations and after a brief discussion it was

RESOLVED that the Secretary respond to the letter confirming that the Burial Authority had no objection to the amended plans.

82. TREE PLANTING SCHEME

Further to Minute No. 50, the Secretary reported that the tree planting scheme had commenced and to date 25 trees had been planted in the cemetery grounds and that a further 25 trees would be planted within the next week.

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

83. 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.

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84. LLANELLI CREMATORIUM LTD

Members considered correspondence received from Jennings Solicitors dated 24 February 2006. After a brief discussion it was

RESOLVED that the Secretary be authorised to take the matter forward with Jennings Solicitors and to take whatever action was deemed necessary in order to expedite Members' wishes without first having to seek committee approval, and to await further developments.

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The meeting concluded at 4.15 pm”
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RESOLVED that the Minutes be accepted.

34. LETTERS OF APPRECIATION

RESOLVED that the letters of appreciation for the Council's assistance be accepted with pleasure.

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The Meeting concluded at 7.00 p.m.
.....

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 June, 2006, adopted by the Council.