

11 September, 2007.

LLANELLI RURAL COUNCIL

Minute Nos: 171 - 184

At a **COUNCIL** Meeting of the Llanelli Rural Council held at the Council Chamber, Vauxhall Buildings, Vauxhall, Llanelli, on Tuesday, 11 September, 2007, at 6.00 p.m.

Present: Cllr. M. Davies (Vice Chairman (in the Chair))

Cllrs.

T. D. Bowen	M. B. Hughes
D. V. Darby	M. P. Jones
S. L. Davies	T. J. Jones
R. E. Evans	S. N. Lewis
M. Howells	R. G. Thorne
G. H. Wooldridge	

171. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENT

The Chairman welcomed Members and Officers to the meeting following the August recess.

Cllr. Davies acknowledged Cllr. M. Howells' request that he, together with Cllrs. D. V. Darby and M. P. Jones, wished to withdraw from the meeting at 6.30 p.m. to attend another meeting.

172. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. D. J. Davies, T. Devichand, C. Edwards, M. L. Evans, A. G. Morgan, A. S. Peters and C. A. Rees.

173. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

174. 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 July, 2007.
Recreation and Welfare Committee	17 July, 2007.
Policy and Resources Committee	18 July, 2007.
Planning and Liaison Committee	23 July, 2007.

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Finance and General Purposes Committee	25 July, 2007.
Learning and Development Consultative Committee	26 July, 2007.
Special Council	9 August, 2007.

175. MATTERS ARISING

(1) ENVIRONMENTAL SCOPING REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED RE-DEVELOPMENT OF THE EXISTING TAYBRITE RECYCLING FACILITY AT BYNEA

Pursuant to Minute No. 151, Cllr. G. H. Wooldridge conveyed his appreciation of the letter forwarded to Hyder Consulting (UK) Ltd., objecting to the above re-development proposal.

RESOLVED that Cllr. Wooldridge's comments be noted.

(2) FURNACE COMMUNITY HALL (PROPOSED)

Further to Minute No. 170, Cllr. M. Davies enquired as to progress of the above. The Clerk in reply, stated that a pre-contract meeting had taken place earlier that day with representatives of Enzo's Construction Ltd. Construction was to begin on 1 October, 2007, with an anticipated completion date of July 2008.

The Chairman having congratulated the Clerk for his endeavours, it was

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

176. REVIEW OF POLLING DISTRICTS, POLLING PLACES AND POLLING STATIONS – CONSULTATION

The above consultation document was received from the Statutory Services Manager, Carmarthenshire County Council, which stated that, under Section 16 of the Electoral Administration Act 2006, the County Council must review its existing Polling Districts, Polling Places and Polling Stations and was therefore, inviting initial comments with regard to any proposed changes which should consider the allocation of electors to Polling Districts and Polling Places, accessibility, the needs of disabled persons and the suitability of Polling Stations.

During discussion, Members referred to postal voting as not always being a solution for those wishing to vote, particularly the older generation who wished to keep to tradition. Some routes were identified as being difficult for residents to traverse and the following areas were highlighted as requiring temporary mobile polling stations:-

Bynea	- the park at the top of Penllwynrhodyn Road, Penygraig
Dafen	- adjacent to Dafen and Halfway C. P. Schools
Felinfoel	- Church Hall, Ynyswen as an alternative to the Community Education Centre
Pemberton	- adjacent to Emmanuel Chapel to provide for residents of the Pemberton Park/Halfway area

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RESOLVED that Members' comments and observations be forwarded to the Statutory Services Manager, Carmarthenshire County Council.

**177. CARMARTHENSHIRE – COMMUNITY REVIEW -
DRAFT PROPOSALS**

Pursuant to Minute No. 316 (20 December, 2006), Draft Proposals of a Community Review for Carmarthenshire were received from the Statutory Services Manager, Carmarthenshire County Council.

Within the report, proposals for this Council's area were as follows:-

- (i) this Council proposed that the existing members representing the Pemberton Ward be increased from 3 to 4 Councillors. The Draft Proposals supported the proposal which would change the elector/councillor ratio from the present 1004 to 753;
- (ii) that the number of Councillors in the Dafen Ward be decreased from 4 to 3 (this was not a Council proposal). This would change the present elector/councillor ratio from 595 to 793 and give a more balanced representation;
- (iii) this Council proposed that properties at Brynteg, Five Roads be transferred from the Hengoed Ward to the Glyn Ward. It was felt that Brynteg had a closer affinity to the Glyn Ward and that the electoral boundary be amended to affect such a transfer. The Draft Proposals proposed that the existing boundary remained unchanged as this boundary provided the electorate with convenient and reasonable electoral arrangements;
- (iv) Mr. H. Jones, Heol Llanelli, Pontyates submitted a representation endorsed with the signatures of 103 residents living in the Heol Llanelli area of the Glyn Ward. It was requested that the aforementioned area of the Glyn Ward should either become part of a new Pontyates Community Council or be amalgamated within the present community area of Llangyndeyrne Community Council. The Draft Proposals proposed that no changes be made and the existing arrangements remain in the Glyn Ward as it was felt that these provided the opportunity for convenient and effective local government.

Following a lengthy discussion, during which Cllrs. D. V. Darby, M. Howells and M. P. Jones withdrew from the meeting, it was

RESOLVED

- (1) to agree that the number of existing members in the Pemberton Ward be increased from 3 to 4;
- (2) that the number of Councillors in the Dafen Ward be retained at 4;
- (3) to ensure that properties at Brynteg, Five Roads be transferred to the Glyn Ward; and

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- (4) to agree that Heol Llanelli remain in the Glyn Ward, particularly as this Council had contributed large amounts of financial assistance to parts of Pontyates within the Glyn Ward over previous years as well as having maintained footpaths and the rugby pitch.

**178. SAFER COUNTIES NEIGHBOURHOOD PROJECT –
BLUE LIGHT DISCO – FELINFOEL**

A letter was received from Felinfoel Neighbourhood Policing Team, informing of a proposed mini Blue Light Disco being held in Felinfoel on Thursday, 13 September, 2007. Enquiries were made as to possible item suggestions and as to whether this Council would support the event with financial assistance.

RESOLVED that a contribution of £100 be made.

179. LLANELLY HOUSE, LLANELLI

Members were circulated with email correspondence received from the Clerk, Llanelli Town Council, requesting support for the restoration of Llanelly House. A recent application had been submitted to the Heritage Lottery Fund for approximately £4.95m to meet the cost of restoring the interior and exterior of the whole house.

RESOLVED that a letter fully supporting the project be forwarded to the Trustees of the Heritage Lottery Fund.

180. EXTERNAL EVENTS

Members having received invitations for the Council to be represented at the following, it was

RESOLVED

- (1) Nia Griffith M.P. – Meeting – The Future of Sub-Post Offices – Committee Room 1, Town Hall, Llanelli – 11 September, 2007 – that the Clerk be authorised to attend;
- (2) Menter Cwm Gwendraeth – Steering Group Meeting – Ysgol y Strade, Llanelli – 12 September, 2007 – that the Vice Chairman be authorised to attend;
- (3) Carmarthenshire Local Health Board – Health Panel Meeting – Town Hall, Llanelli - 20 September, 2007 – that all interested Members attend;
- (4) Society of Local Council Clerks – National Conference ‘Building Successful Communities’ – Royal Court Hotel, Keresley, Coventry – 26-28 October, 2007 – that the Clerk be authorised to attend.

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181. MATTERS REPORTED

RESOLVED that the schedule of matters reported be noted.

**182. 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 May, 2007:-

“At a Meeting of the SENIOR CITIZENS' DAY CENTRE JOINT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE held at The Old Vicarage, Town Hall Square, Llanelli on Wednesday, 9th May 2007 at 6.00 p.m.

PRESENT: Councillors G.K. Thomas (Chairman), N. Bevan, R. Brown, R.E. Evans (Vice-Chairman), Mrs. M.P. Jones, R.P. Neil and G.H. Wooldridge.

APOLOGY: Councillor A.G. Morgan.

1. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN

RESOLVED – that Councillor R.E. Evans be appointed Chairman of the Joint Committee for the ensuing year, whereupon he took the chair in that capacity.

Councillor Evans thanked members for the honour bestowed upon him, and took the opportunity to express his appreciation to the retiring Chairman (Councillor G.K. Thomas) and to all members of the Committee for their hard work during the previous year.

2. APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

RESOLVED – that Councillor N. Bevan be appointed Vice-Chairman of the Joint Committee for the ensuing year.

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

Further to Minute No. 31 of the Committee meeting held on 14th March 2007, the Chairman (Councillor R.E. Evans) welcomed Ms. Lyndsey Davies, Y.M.C.A. Development Officer, to the meeting, and invited her to update members on the current position.

Ms. Davies began by reminding members of the Committee that the current Head Lease granted to the Y.M.C.A. expired in June 2008, which meant that the Y.M.C.A. needed to move quickly forward with its proposals for the renovated building.

To remedy the previous lack of consultation, she had discussed the proposals with a number of organisations, particularly youth organisations, and had organised an Open Day on Thursday, 3rd May 2007 at the St. Elli Centre, when the proposals were displayed and questionnaires were available for people to express their views.

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Members were assured that her intention was to seek to make suitable provision for the needs of the local community, both young and old, and hoped that the consultation exercise would help in the process. She confirmed that the deadline for the return of questionnaires was Friday, 18th May and that, following a full analysis of the responses obtained, she proposed to complete a draft Business Plan by the middle of June.

Reference was made to recent letters sent by Y.M.C.A. Wales to all the other occupiers of the building giving them notice to quit their premises by 22nd June 2008, the day prior to the expiration of the Y.M.C.A.'s lease. Ms. Davies confirmed that a similar notice would also need to be served in respect of the Day Centre, as the building would have to be completely vacated in order for renovation works to be undertaken over at least a twelve-month period. A decision had yet to be made as to whether the Day Centre would be able to move back in following the completion of the works.

In the ensuing discussion and question and answer session, members expressed their concerns regarding the way in which the project had been commenced prior to Ms. Davies' appointment, and the clear need for a Day Centre facility to continue at the property. Although it was theoretically possible for a shared operation between the Day Centre and a Youth Organisation at the proposed new café/bar facility, members felt that the arrangement might prove very difficult to operate in practice, and that it was preferable for the two operations to be run independently in separate designated parts of the building.

It was also stressed that, apart from the urgent need to know whether the Day Centre would be accommodated within the restored building, two key issues that would determine whether the Day Centre had a long-term future in the building would be the rent to be charged under a new Underlease and the exact nature of the operation, i.e. whether an independent day centre operation or a shared user. An early indication from Y.M.C.A. Wales on all these matters was, therefore, vital.

It was ultimately

RESOLVED – that the matter be further discussed following the receipt of the draft Business Plan in mid-June.

The Chairman then thanked Ms. Davies for her attendance and contribution to the meeting, whereupon she withdrew.

4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the previous meeting held on 14th March 2007 be received, verified and confirmed.

5. FINANCIAL REPORTS

(1) INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

RESOLVED – (i) that the financial report giving details of cumulative income and expenditure for the full financial year 1st April 2006 to 31st March 2007 in the sums of £75,222 and £73,841 respectively be approved (copies having been previously circulated to members).

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- (ii) that the income and expenditure account for the financial year ended 31st March 2007 be noted and approved (copies having been previously circulated to members).
- (iii) that the balance sheet as at 31st March 2007 be noted and approved (copies having been previously circulated to members).

(2) ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

Consideration was given to the 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 15th March 2007 – 9th May 2007 in respect of Direct Debits, cash reimbursements, BACS payments and vouchers no. 4002 – 4018 (inclusive) amounted to the sum of £12,104.47.

RESOLVED – that payment of the aforementioned accounts be approved.

6. HIRINGS

RESOLVED – that the hirings of the Day Centre for the months of March and April 2007 be approved as follows:-

March

2 nd , Tuesday	-	Camford O.A.P.
3 rd , Wednesday	-	Llanelli Photographic Society.
4 th , Sunday	-	Mr. Wilding, 51 Heol Tregonning, Llanelli
6 th , Tuesday	-	Camford O.A.P.
7 th , Wednesday	-	Llanelli Photographic Society.
14 th , Wednesday	-	Llanelli Photographic Society.
21 st , Wednesday	-	Llanelli Photographic Society.
22 nd , Thursday	-	Co-operative Party.
28 th , Wednesday	-	Llanelli Photographic Society.
29 th , Thursday	-	Co-operative Party.

April

3 rd , Tuesday	-	Camford O.A.P.
4 th , Wednesday	-	Llanelli Photographic Society.
11 th , Wednesday	-	Llanelli Photographic Society.
16 th , Monday	-	Co-operative Party.
18 th , Wednesday	-	Llanelli Photographic Society.
25 th , Wednesday	-	Llanelli Photographic Society.
26 th , Thursday	-	Co-operative Party.

7. FOOD HYGEINE INSPECTION

The Secretary reported the receipt of a letter dated 22nd March 2007 from Carmarthenshire County Council's Principal Environmental Health Practitioner (Commercial Services) setting

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out the result of an inspection undertaken on 2nd March 2007, with two schedules attached detailing items requiring attention (copies having been previously circulated to members).

As a result of the inspection, the premises had been given a 'C' category rating, which meant that the next routine inspection would occur in approximately 18 months.

Members were informed that the matter requiring immediate attention had been dealt with, and that the other matter would be dealt with shortly.

With regard to the staff training issue raised in the report, members were referred to a list of training providers supplied by the County Council (copies having been previously circulated to them). They were also advised of a subsequent conversation between the Secretary and the Principal Environmental Health Practitioner concerned.

Following a discussion, it was

RESOLVED – that the inspection report be noted, and that the Secretary be authorised to arrange for suitable training to be provided to all current members of staff.

The Meeting concluded at 7.00 p.m.”

RESOLVED that the Minutes be noted.

183. LLANELLI JOINT BURIAL AUTHORITY

Members received the following Minutes of a meeting of the Llanelli Joint Burial Authority held on 13 June, 2007:-

“At the Annual Meeting of the Llanelli Joint Burial Authority held at Vauxhall Buildings, Vauxhall, Llanelli, on Wednesday, 13 June 2007 at 4:00 pm.

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

Cllrs.

D. J. Harries
M. Howells

A. G. Morgan
M. E. Prothero

C. E. Richards

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs T. D. Bowen, S. L. Davies, C. C. Lucas and E. Smith.

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2. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

3. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN

Prior to appointing a Chairman, Cllr. T. J. Jones welcomed Cllr. A. G. Morgan on to the committee and then thanked Members for their support during his term of office. The committee thereupon proceeded to appoint a Chairman, and following the motion of Cllr. D. J. Harries, seconded by Cllr. M. Howells, it was

RESOLVED that Cllr. C. C. Lucas be appointed Chairman for the ensuing year.

4. APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

Following the motion of Cllr. A. G. Morgan, seconded by Cllr. C. E. Richards, it was

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

5. 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 - 9 May 2007

6. INCOME AND EXPENDITURE REPORTS

RESOLVED that the income and expenditure report for April 2007 and the provisional report for May 2007 be noted.

7. SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS

Consideration was given to the schedule of payments for May 2007, which revealed expenditure for the month amounted to £15,736.99.

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

8. MEMORIAL TESTING FIGURES

Consideration was given to the memorial testing figures for May 2007, which revealed that 178 memorials had been tested at Stage 1 level and that 6 had failed.

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

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9. CHAIRMAN’S ANNOUNCEMENT

Cllr. T. J. Jones reported that Mr K. Jenkins of Thomas Morgan funeral directors had recently been admitted to hospital.

RESOLVED that a card be sent to Mr K. Jenkins on behalf of the Burial Authority extending best wishes for a speedy recovery.

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The meeting concluded at 4:15pm”
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RESOLVED that the Minutes be noted.

184. LETTERS OF APPRECIATION

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

- (1) Alzheimer’s Society;
- (2) Cancer Research UK Cymru – Llanelli Branch;
- (3) Crossroads Sir Gâr Caring for Carers;
- (4) Dyfed-Powys Police – Bobby Busters;
- (5) Furnace Gardening Club;
- (6) Hywel Girls’ Choir & Hywel Boy Singers;
- (7) Llanelli Festival of Walks;
- (8) Macmillan Cancer Support;
- (9) Nations – Celebration for the Nations;
- (10) Swiss Valley Community Centre;
- (11) Tŷ Bryngwyn Hospice Trust – Mr. D. Evans.

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The Meeting concluded at 6.35 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 9 October, 2007, adopted by the Council.