

12 June, 2007.

LLANELLI RURAL COUNCIL

Minute Nos: 79 - 86

At a **COUNCIL** Meeting of the Llanelli Rural Council held at the Council Chamber, Vauxhall Buildings, Vauxhall, Llanelli, on Tuesday, 12 June, 2007, at 6.00 p.m.

Present: Cllr. D. J. Davies (Chairman)

Cllrs.

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

79. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. T. Devichand and A. S. Peters.

80. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

81. 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:-

Annual Meeting	8 May, 2007.
Adjourned Annual Meeting	10 May, 2007.
Council	10 May, 2007.
Finance and General Purposes Committee	10 May, 2007.
Recreation and Welfare Committee	10 May, 2007.
Planning and Liaison Committee	10 May, 2007.
Policy and Resources Committee	10 May, 2007.
Civic and Ceremonial Committee	10 May, 2007.
Community Development Grants Panel	10 May, 2007.
Learning and Development Consultative Committee	10 May, 2007.

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Recreation and Welfare Committee	15 May, 2007.
Policy and Resources Committee	16 May, 2007.
Planning and Liaison Committee	21 May, 2007.
Finance and General Purposes Committee	30 May, 2007.

82. MATTERS ARISING

**(1) SEALING OF DOCUMENTS – TRANSFER OF LAND –
SHOPPING PRECINCT, HEOL NANT, SWISS VALLEY**

Pursuant to Minute No. 20, Cllr. A. G. Morgan reiterated his thanks to Members regarding the above matter. The Clerk informed that the Council now legally owned the land.

RESOLVED that Cllr. Morgan's comments and the Clerk's information, be noted.

**(2) DYFED-POWYS POLICE –
BLUE LIGHT DISCO, TRALLWM**

Cllr. T. D. Bowen informed Members that he had recently attended a Blue Light Disco held at Trallwm Hall and wished to thank and congratulate the personnel involved in the event.

RESOLVED that a letter be forwarded accordingly.

83. EXTERNAL EVENTS

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

RESOLVED that

- (1) National Association of Councillors – Conference – European Confederation of Locally Elected Representation – The Sage Gateshead, Gateshead – 13-14 June, 2007 – that the invitation be noted;
- (2) The Carmarthenshire Partnership – Community Network Meeting – Lliedi Suite, Selwyn Samuel Centre, Llanelli – 14 June, 2007 – that interested Members attend;
- (3) The Carmarthenshire Partnership – Annual Forum 2007 – Selwyn Samuel Centre, Llanelli – 15 June, 2007 – that Cllr. T. D. Bowen be authorised to attend;
- (4) National Association of Councillors – ‘Breaking Down The Barriers to Local Government Equality and Opportunity Conference’ – Crown Spa Hotel, Scarborough – 29 June - 1 July, 2007 – that the invitation be noted.

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**84. 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 March, 2007:-

“At a Meeting of the SENIOR CITIZENS' DAY CENTRE JOINT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE held at The Old Vicarage, Town Hall Square, Llanelli on Wednesday, 14th March 2007 at 6.00 p.m.

PRESENT: Councillors G.K. Thomas (Chairman), R. Brown, R.E. Evans (Vice-Chairman), A.G. Morgan and G.H. Wooldridge.

APOLOGY: Councillor N. Bevan and R.P. Neil.

28. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the previous meeting held on 10th January 2007 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 2006 to 28th February 2007 in the sums of £58,981 and £52,895 respectively be 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 11th January 2007 – 14th March 2007 in respect of Direct Debits, cash reimbursements, BACS payments and vouchers no. 3976 – 4001 (inclusive) amounted to the sum of £11,086.88.

RESOLVED – that payment of the aforementioned accounts be approved.

30 HIRINGS

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

January

2 nd , Tuesday	-	Camford O.A.P.
3 rd , Wednesday	-	Llanelli Photographic Society.

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10 th , Wednesday	-	Llanelli Photographic Society.
13 th , Saturday	-	Mr. Graham Harries, 7 Heol Goffa, Llanelli.
17 th , Wednesday	-	Co-operative Party.
		Llanelli Photographic Society.
24 th , Wednesday	-	Llanelli Photographic Society.
25 th , Thursday	-	Co-operative Party.
26 th , Friday	-	Co-operative Party.
31 st , Wednesday	-	Llanelli Photographic Society.

February

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

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

Further to Minute No. 22 of the Committee meeting held on 10th January 2007, consideration was given to the written report of the Secretary (copies having been previously circulated to members).

Members were extremely disappointed to note that no reply had been sent by the Chief Executive of Y.M.C.A. Wales to the Secretary's letter of 17th January 2007. However, they were appraised of the contacts made by the Secretary with officers of Carmarthenshire County Council, both to make them aware of the current position and to seek support for the future operation of the Day Centre at its current location.

Members took careful note of the exercise undertaken by the Secretary into the availability of alternative town centre premises, and agreed that, if the Day Centre was to continue as a town centre facility, all the Committee's efforts needed to be concentrated on seeking to ensure that it remained at its current location.

At the conclusion of the discussion, it was

RESOLVED – as follows

- (1) That the Secretary's report be noted.
- (2) That an invitation be extended to the newly-appointed Y.M.C.A. Wales Development Officer to attend the meeting of the Committee as soon as practicable following the commencement of her employment on 2nd April 2007.

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**32. RE-CHARGE OF LLANELLI TOWN COUNCIL
ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS**

Consideration was given to the written report of the Finance Officer (copies having been previously circulated to members). The report drew members' attention to the fact that, although the Town and Rural Councils jointly funded both the Senior Citizens' Day Centre and Llanelli Joint Burial Authority, whilst the budget of the Burial Authority included provision for the Rural Council's administrative and office costs, the Day Centre budget did not. In contrast to the Burial Authority, the day-to-day administrative cost of the Day Centre, including staff time and office costs, had never been re-charged by the Town Council since the centre was opened in April 1977.

Details of the total running costs for the previous three financial years were given by way of illustration.

It was, therefore, suggested that, in order to fully reflect the true running costs of the Day Centre, the administrative costs of the Town Council needed to be properly accounted for, and should be included within the Day Centre Annual Estimates for 2006/07 and for each succeeding financial year. If the suggestion was accepted, it would be possible for the 2006/07 costs to be paid out of the Day Centre balances, with the costs for 2007/08 being dealt with during the 2008/09 Estimates meeting in January 2008.

Following a discussion, it was

RESOLVED – that the Finance Officer's suggestion be accepted and that, with effect from the current financial year 2006/07 the administrative costs incurred by the Town Council in running the Senior Citizens' Day Centre be re-charged annually to the Day Centre budget.

33. MENU PRICE LIST

Further to Minute No. 42 of the Committee meeting held on 8th March 2006, members were invited to consider a modest increase in the price of some of the foods and beverages provided at the Day Centre, as set out in the schedule prepared by the Finance Office (copies having been previously circulated to members).

RESOLVED – that the recommended increases be approved with effect from 1st April 2007.

The Meeting concluded at 6.35 p.m.”

RESOLVED that the Minutes be noted.

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85. LLANELLI JOINT BURIAL AUTHORITY

Members received the following Minutes of a meeting of the Llanelli Joint Burial Authority held on 11 April, 2007:-

“At the Meeting of the Llanelli Joint Burial Authority held at Vauxhall Buildings, Vauxhall, Llanelli, on Wednesday, 11 April 2007 at 4:00 pm.

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

Cllrs.

D. J. Harries

C. E. Richards

M. Howells

E. Smith

98. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs D. J. Davies, C. C. Lucas, A. S. Peters and M. E. Prothero.

99. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

100. 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 March 2007

101. MATTERS ARISING

SECTION 11 – EASEMENT OVER COUNTY COUNCIL LAND

Further to Minute No. 92, the Secretary reported the receipt of a letter from Mr Rhys Davies, Corporate Property, Carmarthenshire County Council, dated 3 April 2007, informing that the land at Bryngolau had been disposed of to the Gwalia Group, Swansea.

The writer apologised for the oversight and for not relaying the information sooner, and advised that enquiries regarding the Easement should now be directed to the Gwalia Group as the new landowners.

The Secretary stated that since receipt of the letter he had telephoned Mr Davies for an explanation whilst enquiring about the terms agreed with the County Council for granting the Easement and how matters might be taken forward with the new landowners.

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Mr Davies recognised that negotiations had been on going for quite sometime and confirmed that he would be happy to assist and support the Burial Authority's position when negotiating with the Gwalia Group by forwarding the original terms and also setting out the background to the negotiations.

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

102. INCOME AND EXPENDITURE REPORTS

RESOLVED that the income and expenditure report for February 2007 and the provisional report for March 2007 be noted.

103. SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS

Consideration was given to the schedule of payments for March 2007, which revealed expenditure for the month amounted to £16,719.74.

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

104. NO SMOKING POLICY

Members were circulated with a No Smoking Policy. The Secretary informed that the Policy was to ensure the Burial Authority complied with the relevant legislation including the Smoke-Free Premises etc (Wales) Regulations 2007, which had come into force on 2 April 2007.

The policy had been developed to protect all employees, service users, elected Members and visitors from exposure to second-hand smoke and to assist compliance with the smoke-free provisions of the Health Act 2006 and the Smoke-Free Premises etc (Wales) Regulations 2007.

RESOLVED that the No Smoking Policy be accepted and adopted by the Burial Authority.

105. GARDEN OF REMEMBRANCE – LIBANUS CHAPEL

The Secretary reported the receipt of a letter dated 19 March 2007, from the Secretary of Libanus Chapel, Pwll, seeking grant assistance from the Burial Authority for the construction of a garden of remembrance in the chapel grounds.
Following discussion it was

RESOLVED that the letter be noted and that the Secretary notify the chapel that the Burial Authority does not have the power to provide grant assistance to outside bodies.

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106. STONECRAFT MEMORIALS

The Secretary reported that he had received a verbal request from Graham Williams proprietor of Stonecraft Memorials to extend the variety of merchandise sold in the unit within the cemetery grounds. He requested that he be allowed to sell fresh and artificial flowers in addition to the memorials already stocked in the unit. Members felt that it would be a valuable service enhancement for the cemetery and so it was

RESOLVED that the request be approved.

107. MEMORIAL BENCH

Members considered a letter from Mr & Mrs Morris requesting permission to install a bench close to the grave of their son. After a brief discussion, it was

RESOLVED that:

- (1) The request be approved in principle, subject to both parties being able to agree upon a suitable location for the bench;
- (2) Permission is given on the understanding that Mr & Mrs Morris would install the bench at their own expense and would be responsible for its future maintenance;
- (3) As a gesture of good will, the Burial Authority would install a 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.

108. 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.

109. LEGAL ADVICE AND SUPPORT

Further to Minute No. 96, the Secretary informed Members that correspondence had been received from the Burial Authority's solicitors dated 15 March 2007 regarding the recovery of court costs following the recovery of rent arrears, from Llanelli Crematorium Ltd. Following a lengthy discussion it was

RESOLVED that:

- (1) The amount of £480.50 which had been used from a payment received to cover costs be transferred back into the rent account; and

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- (2) The Secretary seek urgent clarification from the Authority’s solicitors regarding the latest position on the option deed enquiry made by Llanelli Crematorium Ltd. Furthermore the firm of solicitors be notified of the Burial Authority’s intention to seek formal redress against them for failure to act in a timely and responsive manner particularly when in receipt of formal instruction from the Authority, unless positive action is taken to progress the enquiry.

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 The meeting concluded at 4:50 pm”

RESOLVED that the Minutes be noted.

86. LETTERS OF APPRECIATION

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

- (1) Bethel Presbyterian Church;
- (2) Furnace WI;
- (3) Llanelli Woodturning Club;
- (4) Swiss Valley Senior Citizens’ Group;
- (5) Trallwm Community Playgroup.

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 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 10 July, 2007, adopted by the Council.