

12 December, 2006.

LLANELLI RURAL COUNCIL

Minute Nos: 290 – 302

At a **COUNCIL** Meeting of the Llanelli Rural Council held at the Council Chamber, Vauxhall Buildings, Vauxhall, Llanelli, on Tuesday, 12 December, 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	S. N. Lewis
C. Edwards	A. G. Morgan
M. L. Evans	A. S. Peters

G. H. Wooldridge

Together with Inspector E. Bailey, Dyfed Powys Police.

290. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. R. E. Evans, C. A. Rees and R. G. Thorne.

291. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr. T. Devichand declared an interest in Minute No. 295 as she was Vice Chairman of the Carmarthenshire Health, Social Care and Well-being Committee and also a member of the Community Health Council.

292. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RESOLVED that the following Minutes (copies of which had been previously circulated to Members) be confirmed as a true record of proceedings:-

Council	14 November, 2006.
Policy and Resources Committee	15 November, 2006.
Planning and Liaison Committee	20 November, 2006.
Recreation and Welfare Committee	21 November, 2006.
Finance and General Purposes Committee	29 November, 2006.
Learning and Development Consultative Committee	30 November, 2006.
Planning and Liaison Committee	11 December, 2006.

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**293. ANNUAL POLICING PLAN – 2007/08 –
UNDERAGE DRINKING AT FELINFOEL**

The Chairman welcomed Inspector E. Bailey, Dyfed-Powys Police, to the meeting.

Pursuant to Minute No. 248, a letter having been received from Inspector E. Bailey, Dyfed-Powys Police, which referred to a recent article printed in a local newspaper concerning alleged instances of youth misconduct in the Felinfoel area, together with comments made by Cllr. R. E. Evans, the Chairman invited Inspector Bailey to address Members.

Inspector Bailey sought to redress inaccuracies reported in the press article and responded to alleged comments made by Cllr. Evans. Inspector Bailey stated that there was no evidence to support the amount of underage drinking mentioned within the Felinfoel area and, indeed, the problem was no worse than that in other areas. Young offenders were known to the police authority, with alcohol being confiscated from those caught. Re-offenders were sent follow-up letters to parents, who, together with the offender, were invited to attend the police station for interview, however it was not police policy to seem heavy handed by taking court proceedings. All public houses and off-license premises were visited regularly by police officers.

Inspector Bailey reiterated that regular meetings were held for liaison purposes and that all Members were welcome to attend and that contact could be made with officers should problems occur.

Members having conveyed their support to the local police authority and Inspector Bailey and in his team in particular, the Chairman thanked Inspector Bailey for attending who thereupon withdrew from the meeting.

294. SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES BILL

Further to Minute No. 389 (15 March, 2006), correspondence was received from Nia Griffith, MP, informing that the writer had signed the Early Day Motion supporting the aims of the Sustainable Communities Bill and that she was committed to working for said aims through a number of channels. The author stated that she appreciated the need for input to decision making at a very local level and the frustration that town and community councillors sometimes felt when trying to convey their opinions and concerns.

The author also circulated details of the new Local Government Bill, with the caveat that there might be some differences in Wales. Ms. Griffiths also informed that she was an active member of the small shops group, which earlier in the year, had produced a report highlighting the difficulties of small local high street shops in the face of fierce competition from the big out-of-town supermarkets. Following which, the Competition Commission had been investigating the UK grocery market and an interim report was expected next year.

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

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**295. REMOVAL OF EMERGENCY SURGERY FROM
PRINCE PHILIP HOSPITAL**

Cllr. T. Devichand declared an interest in the following matter as she was Vice Chairman of the Carmarthenshire Health, Social Care and Well-being Committee and also a member of the Community Health Council. Cllr. Devichand abstained from voting on the matter.

Correspondence was received from the Secretary, Committee for the Improvement of Hospital Services, informing of the recent approval by a majority of one vote, by the Carmarthenshire Community Health Council, (CCHC) for the removal of emergency surgery from Prince Philip Hospital.

A request was made for this Council's views as to whether there were grounds for a formal Inquiry into the circumstances surrounding the consideration of the matter by CCHC and others in the health community. It was believed that the Assembly Member for Llanelli had called for an Inquiry, which the Committee supported.

The writer also requested that if the Council supported the call for an Inquiry, that a letter be sent to Dr. Gibbon, Minister for Health, Welsh Assembly Government confirming same.

During the ensuing discussion, Members fully supported the call for an Inquiry into the matter and, it was

RESOLVED that

- (1) a letter be forwarded to the Minister supporting the call for an Inquiry; and
- (2) legal opinion be sought about the possibility of seeking judicial review against the decision of the CCHC and the expenses incurred for such be vired.

**296. LLANELLI AND DISTRICT
TALKING NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION**

Members were circulated with a letter received from the above Association's Honorary Secretary, inviting this Council to appoint two representatives to serve on the Management Committee as regular meetings would be resumed in the near future.

RESOLVED that Cllrs. R. E. Evans and S. N. Lewis be nominated to serve on the above Management Committee.

297. EXTERNAL EVENTS

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

12 December, 2006.

RESOLVED that

- (1) Foothold – Steering Group Meeting – The Foothold Centre, Stebonheath, Llanelli – 4 December, 2006 (retrospective) – Cllr. M. P. Jones be re-nominated and authorised to attend;
- (2) Carmarthenshire County Council – The Carmarthenshire Partnership – Community Network Meetings – 8 February, 14 June and 11 October, 2007, respectively – that Cllrs. C. Edwards and M. P. Jones be authorised to attend.

298. MATTERS REPORTED

RESOLVED that the schedule of matters reported be noted.

**299. 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 13 September, 2006:-

“At a Meeting of the SENIOR CITIZENS' DAY CENTRE JOINT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE held at The Old Vicarage, Town Hall Square, Llanelli on Wednesday, 14th September 2005 at 6.00 p.m.

PRESENT: Councillors G.K. Thomas (Vice-Chairman) (In the Chair), R. Brown, M. Howells, R.P. Neil and G.H. Wooldridge.

APOLOGIES: Councillors N. Bevan, T.D. Bowen (Chairman) and R.E. Evans.

14. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the previous meeting held on 13th July 2005 be received, verified and confirmed.

15. MATTERS ARISING

ANNUAL RENT

With reference to Minute. No. 13, the Town Clerk reported that, although he had written to the Chief Executive of the National Council of Y.M.C.A's of Wales along the lines agreed by the Committee at its last meeting, a reply was still awaited.

RESOLVED – that the information be noted.

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16. FINANCIAL REPORTS

(1) INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

RESOLVED – that the Financial Report giving details of cumulative income and expenditure for the period 1st April 2005 to 31st August 2005 in the sums of £28,899 and £25,843 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 14th July 2005 – 14th September 2005 in respect of Direct Debits, cash reimbursements, BACS payments and Vouchers No. 3863 – 3871 (inclusive) amounted to the sum of £10,514.14.

RESOLVED – that payment of the aforementioned accounts be approved.

17. HIRINGS

RESOLVED – that the hirings of the Day Centre for the months of July and August 2005 be approved as follows:-

JULY

5 th , Tuesday	-	Camford O.A.P.
18 th , Monday		Mrs. P. Stores.
19 th , Tuesday	-	Llanelli Photographic Society.
20 th , Wednesday	-	Co-operative Party.
21 st , Thursday		Labour Women's Forum.

AUGUST

2 nd , Tuesday	-	Camford O.A.P.
3 rd , Wednesday	-	Llanelli Photographic Society.
10 th , Wednesday	-	Llanelli Photographic Society.
17 th , Wednesday	-	Llanelli Photographic Society.
21 st , Sunday	-	Mr. Wilding, 51 Heol Tregoning, Morfa, Llanelli.
24 th , Wednesday	-	Llanelli Photographic Society.
31 st , Wednesday	-	Llanelli Photographic Society.

18. LLANELLI PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

The Secretary reported the receipt of an e-mail message dated 31st May 2005 from the Secretary to Llanelli Photographic Society seeking permission to keep storage cupboards for the Society's equipment in the upper room of the Day Centre. The Society was currently using rooms on the upper floors of the Y.M.C.A. building, but was looking to move to more suitable accommodation in the Day Centre. This proposal had been approved by the Chairman and Vice-Chairman. However, in a subsequent e-mail message dated 30th July

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2005, the Society confirmed it was looking to construct a purpose-built cupboard in the corner of the upper room where the television currently sits, in place of the storage cupboards previously envisaged. Final details had yet to be established and agreed, and the Committee's instructions were requested.

Following a discussion, it was

RESOLVED – that the request by the Llanelli Photographic Society to build a purpose-built cupboard in the corner of the upper room of the Day Centre be approved, subject to final details being agreed by the Secretary and Finance Officer.

19. LLANELLI O.A.P. REPRESENTATIVES - DINNER

Further to Minute No. 14 of the Committee meeting held on 8th September 2004, members were asked to consider whether they wished to continue with last year's practice of an informal meeting with Llanelli O.A.P. representatives at the Day Centre on the last Monday of November, followed by a dinner.

In the ensuing discussion, members were unanimously of the view that the practice should continue, whereupon it was

RESOLVED – that the meeting and dinner be arranged for Monday, 28th November 2005, and that invitations be extended to the relevant Associations in accordance with the usual rota system.

The Meeting concluded at 6.20 p.m.”

RESOLVED that the Minutes be noted.

300. LLANELLI JOINT BURIAL AUTHORITY

Members received the following Minutes of a meeting of the Llanelli Joint Burial Authority held on 11 October, 2006:-

“At the Meeting of the Llanelli Joint Burial Authority held at Vauxhall Buildings, Vauxhall, Llanelli, on Wednesday, 11 October 2006 at 4:00 pm.

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

Cllrs.

D. J. Davies
D. J. Harries
M. Howells

M. E. Prothero
C. E. Richards
E. Smith

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Apologies: Cllrs C. Edwards, C. C. Lucas and A. S. Peters.

31. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENT

The Chairman referred to the recent demise of Cllr C. Edwards' father-in-law and as a mark of respect Members stood in silent tribute.

32. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RESOLVED that the following minutes (copies of which had been previously circulated) be confirmed as a true record of proceedings

Ordinary Meeting - 13 September 2006

33. INCOME AND EXPENDITURE REPORTS

RESOLVED that the income and expenditure report for August 2006 and the provisional report for September 2006 be noted.

34. SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS

Consideration was given to the schedule of payments for September 2006 which revealed expenditure for the month amounted to £18,161.23. The Secretary reported a probable overspend on the Health & Safety budget due to the amount of work involved in producing the latest memorial safety policy which was approved at the last meeting. A revised estimate for the cost centre would be provided to a future meeting along with a virement proposal if deemed necessary.

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

35. 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.

36. LLANELLI CREMATORIUM LTD

Further to Minute No. 30, Members considered two letters received from Jennings Solicitors dated 27 and 28 September 2006, together with a copy letter and enclosure received from Mrs Jopling, the Managing Director of Llanelli Crematorium Ltd, dated 22 September 2006. Members expressed their disappointment in the way that Mrs Jopling's letter had been framed and following lengthy discussion, it was

12 December, 2006.

RESOLVED that the correspondence be noted and that the Burial Authority's solicitors be authorised to proceed as previously instructed.

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The meeting concluded at 4:30 pm"
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RESOLVED that the Minutes be noted.

301. LETTERS OF APPRECIATION

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

- (1) Marie Curie Cancer Care;
- (2) Swiss Valley Community Centre Association;
- (3) Ysgol y Babanod, Felinfoel;
- (4) Childline Cymru/Wales.

302. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENT

The Chairman wished Members and Officers a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

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The Meeting concluded at 6.30 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 January, 2007, adopted by the Council.

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