

19 December, 2006.

LLANELLI RURAL COUNCIL

Minute Nos: 303 – 313

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, 19 December, 2006, at 4.45 p.m.

Present: Cllr. A. S. Peters (Chairman)

Cllrs.

M. Davies	R. E. Evans
S. L. Davies	T. J. Jones
C. Edwards	R. G. Thorne

303. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. T. D. Bowen and M. L. Evans.

304. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENT

The Chairman referred to the recent indisposition of Mrs. J. Bowen, wife of the Chairman of Council, Cllr. T. D. Bowen. Reference was also made to the son of Cllr. M. Davies, who had been involved in a recent motor accident. Best wishes were conveyed to both parties.

305. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

306. PROGRESS REPORT

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

307. FELINFOEL CHANGING ROOMS

Further to Minute No. 261, Members were circulated with the Technical Services Officer's report which informed of recent progress made and of recommended options for the possible reconfiguration of the hot and cold water system.

During a meeting with an inspector from Dŵr Cymru, a pressure test of the water supply resulted with a half a bar pressure reading, which concluded that the pressure was poor. Upon examining the incoming water supply, the incoming stopcock and water pressure of the sink

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unit, the pressure was found to be reasonable. The valve situated in the public highway was set in the fully open position, with the 75 mm highway main reducing to a 25mm supply entering the park. This was deemed sufficient for present purposes however, the low water pressure in the showers was due to poor plumbing practice and the design of the system. When the showers were operated, water was extracted from only the last cold water tank of a series of five and the system was unable to refill as quickly as the water was drawn off, and, owing to the fact that the tanks were plumbed in series, there was no cold water storage capacity.

Following a lengthy discussion, during which Members thanked the Technical Services Officer for his diligence and, in order to overcome the continual and expensive problems, it was

RESOLVED that plenary powers be given to the Recreation and Welfare Sub-Committee to agree on proposals for the changing rooms as follows:-

- (1) the installation of an instantaneous water heating system, e.g. Andrews water heaters, to be housed in a new concrete block and sheeted roof plant room, the heaters to be re-used in the proposed new changing room facilities; together with
- (2) to inform the Felinfoel Recreation Management Committee of the above and to discuss the continuation of the service in its present form; and to
- (3) obtaining statutory consents, utility supplies and tendering for the building and plumbing works.

308. SENIOR CITIZENS' HOLIDAY

Pursuant to Minute No. 262, Members received the following Minutes of Sub-Committee meetings held on Wednesday, 22 and Thursday, 23 November, 2006, respectively:-

“At a Joint Meeting of the RECREATION AND WELFARE SUB-COMMITTEE with representatives of the Llanelli Rural Council and Llanelli Town Council held at the The Old Vicarage, Town Hall Square, Llanelli, on Wednesday, 22 November, 2006, at 4.00 p.m.

Present:	Cllrs.	
Representing Llanelli Rural Council:	T. D. Bowen	D. J. Davies
	T. J. Jones	
Representing Llanelli Town Council:	N. D. Bevan	W. E. Skinner
	C. C. Lucas	W. G. Thomas

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

An apology for absence was received from Cllr. A. S. Peters.

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2. SENIOR CITIZENS' HOLIDAY 2007

Further to Minute No. 262 of the Recreation and Welfare Committee meeting held on 21 November, 2006, Members met with representatives of Llanelli Town Council to discuss the servicing of the Senior Citizens' holiday in 2007.

The views of Llanelli Town Council were:-

- The increase levied by the Eastbourne Centre should not be borne entirely by the senior citizens participating in the holiday;
- The Town Council Members proposed a £10 increase to the subsidy, i.e. £60 per person, to continue the partnership with Llanelli Rural Council;
- Should the Rural Council not agree to the increased level of subsidy, then the Town Council would introduce a subsidy of £75 per person, i.e. £50 subsidy plus the increased cost of the holiday.

The views of Llanelli Rural Council were:-

- To increase the subsidy of £50 per person for the 2006 holiday by inflation and, ultimately, by 5%.

Following a discussion on the above, during which Cllr. T. J. Jones stated that the Chairman of the Recreation and Welfare Committee would be consulted prior to a decision being made by Llanelli Rural Council, it was

RESOLVED to defer a decision on the Senior Citizens' Holiday 2007 until the matter was discussed further by the Recreation and Welfare Sub-Committee.

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The meeting concluded at 4.30 p.m.”
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“At a Meeting of the RECREATION AND WELFARE SUB-COMMITTEE of Llanelli Rural Council held at the Clerk's Office, Vauxhall Buildings, Vauxhall, Llanelli, on Thursday, 23 November, 2006, at 4.15 p.m.

Present: Cllr. A. S. Peters (Chairman)

Cllrs.
T. D. Bowen D. J. Davies
 T. J. Jones

3. SENIOR CITIZENS' HOLIDAY 2007

Further to Minute No. 2 of the Recreation and Welfare Committee meeting held on 22 November, 2006.

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Members discussed at length the proposals of Llanelli Town Council. Reference was made to questionnaires completed by patrons of the 2006 holiday which resulted in 50% indicating that they would not support the holiday if financial support was withdrawn.

A lengthy discussion ensued during which Members expressed concern that the level of subsidy proposed by the Town Council was unsustainable and would have an impact on the Council's budgets; it would set a precedent for sponsoring the holiday in future years. Also, there was no rationale to the new subsidy being proposed by the Town Council.

RESOLVED that

- (1) the Council discontinue with the provision of the senior citizens' holiday to Eastbourne;
- (2) the savings achieved be used in other service areas;
- (3) a press release be issued to inform the public of the decision.

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 The meeting concluded at 5.00 p.m."

RESOLVED that the Minutes be noted.

309. PONTHENRI COMMUNITY HALL – ENHANCEMENT OF FACILITIES

Further to Minute No. 238 (1), the report of the Deputy Clerk (Administration) was circulated updating Members on the withdrawal of funding under the 1Fund for works to community halls.

Information had been received that, due to the demand for funding, future grants would be prioritised to cover value for money community environmental projects and revenue projects that created jobs to meet European outputs.

There were no other organisations which could provide support for the works proposed to the community hall. Information had been received from Menter Cwm Gwendraeth, the area ambassadors for the 1Fund, of other grant funding bodies, however, they would only fund community/voluntary groups and not community councils.

Members having conveyed their disappointment, it was

RESOLVED that the information be noted but hold the application in abeyance should slippage in the 1Fund occur.

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**310. TRALLWM COMMUNITY HALL –
STORAGE CONTAINER**

A request was received from the Community Development Officer (Outreach/Youth), Communities First Llwynhendy, for permission to site an equipment storage container to the rear of Trallwm Community Hall. Should the proposal be acceded to, a submission from this Authority on the organisation's behalf for planning permission would be required.

During discussion, Members were concerned at the amount of anti-social behaviour and vandalism the hall had experienced in the past and felt that the positioning of the container at the rear of the hall would not be appropriate. More information regarding the proposal was also requested.

RESOLVED that an invitation be extended to the Community Development Officer (Outreach/Youth), Communities First Llwynhendy, to attend the next meeting of the Recreation and Welfare Committee to further discuss the matter.

**311. TIR EINON PLAY AREA –
SOFT ASTRO TURF/BALL COURT AREA**

Members were circulated with a letter received from the Community Development Officer (Outreach/Youth), Communities First Llwynhendy, informing of the Llwynhendy Youth Group's recent funding success for various projects within the Llwynhendy area.

Funding was now being sought for a soft astro turf/ball court area within Tir Einon play area and, should the proposal be successful, permission was requested for the establishment of the facility in the play area.

RESOLVED that the matter be included for discussion with the Community Development Officer (Outreach/Youth), Communities First Llwynhendy, at the next meeting of the Recreation and Welfare Committee as per the preceding Minute.

312. FELINFOEL RECREATION GROUND

Consideration was given to correspondence received from the Co-ordinator, Felinfoel Communities First, informing of a proposal in relation to the environmental enhancement of the recreation ground at Felinfoel.

Reference was made to a local community need to improve the park facilities and, with this in mind, an approach had been made to 1Fund. The proposal would be eligible if it could be integrated into an environmental enhancement of the area and, therefore, the play park facilities would be a smaller part of a bigger project.

To progress the proposal, 1Fund had requested a two phase approach. Firstly, the recruitment of a community consultant was required to create a landscape design and business plan to identify future maintenance requirements. The second phase would be the actual capital development and an application built around the findings from the feasibility study.

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The organisation was now in a position to begin developing the project and recognised the importance of this Authority being involved as a main partner and a request was made therefore, as to whether the Council would agree to act as a joint partner on the project application. In terms of administrating the first phase, the finance section of the Communities First Felinfoel organisation would be prepared to administer the funds and carry out the required 'leg work' in order to progress the project.

Following discussion, it was

RESOLVED that an invitation be extended to the Co-ordinator, Felinfoel Communities First, to attend a Special meeting of the Recreation and Welfare Committee in January 2007, in order to discuss the matter further.

313. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENT

The Chairman wished Members and Staff a merry Christmas and happy New Year.

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The Meeting concluded at 5.20 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 9 January, 2007, adopted by the Council.