

17 July, 2018

**LLANELLI RURAL COUNCIL**

**Minute Nos: 125 – 135**

At a Meeting of the **RECREATION AND WELFARE COMMITTEE** of the Llanelli Rural Council held at the Council Chamber, Vauxhall Buildings, Vauxhall, Llanelli, on Tuesday, 17 July, 2018, at 4.45 p.m.

**Present:**

**Cllrs.**

S. M. Caiach	A. G. Morgan
T. Devichand	A. J. Rogers
T. M. Donoghue	W. V. Thomas
I. G. Wooldridge	

**125. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN PRO-TEMPORE**

**RESOLVED** that Cllr. T. M. Donoghue be appointed Chairman pro-tempore.

**126. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUCEMENT**

The Chairman informed Members of the recent demise of Cllr. F. Akhtar's father and as a mark of respect Members and Officers stood in silent tribute.

**127. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. M. V. Davies, P. M. Edwards, J. P. Hart, S. N. Lewis (Cllr. A. J. Rogers deputising), C. A. Rees and E. Simmons.

**128. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

The following Members declared an interest in the following matters:

<i>Minute No.</i>	<i>Councillor</i>	<i>Interest</i>
133	T. Devichand	Personal interest – Chairman of the Dafen Welfare Committee
133	A. J. Rogers	Personal interest – Secretary of the Dafen Welfare Committee

**129. COMMUNITY FACILITIES – MAINTENANCE WORKS**

**RESOLVED** that the report of the Technical and Burial Services Manager on work undertaken be noted.

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**FURTHER RESOLVED** that an information alert be published on the Council website and its social media outlets about the adverse impact the current heatwave was having on pre-season grounds maintenance preparations with the prospect of delays on pitch usage being encountered at the start of the football and rugby seasons if there was no break in the current spell of hot weather.

**130. LLANELLI MYNYDD MAWR RAILWAY  
GARFIELD WESTON MEMORIAL FUND**

Members noted correspondence that had been received from Llanelli Mynydd Mawr Railway requesting a letter of support from the Council for its application for funding for an extension to a railway shed to the Garfield Weston Memorial Fund.

Members were informed that because of the time constraints, the Clerk, after discussion with the Chairman of Council and Council Leader sent a letter of support using delegated powers to Llanelli Mynydd Mawr Railway. A copy of the letter had been circulated with the agenda for information.

**RESOLVED** that the action taken be endorsed.

**131. PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT, 1960**

**RESOLVED** that in view of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, the following matters 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.

**132. SWISS VALLEY RESERVOIR**

The Clerk informed Members that meetings had taken place with Welsh Water and Council representatives regarding the maintenance of the local environs surrounding Swiss Valley Reservoir.

Dialogue had taken place with the Head of Visitor Attraction Strategy, Welsh Water together with Officers and local Ward Members of the Council to discuss working in partnership with Welsh Water to maintain footpaths and the car park at the lower Swiss Valley Reservoir with the possibility of also opening up the lower reservoir for some form of public use such as fishing or canoeing activities. Welsh Water had £150,000 available until 2020 for this project which could be fully utilised by the Council or other community partners as it saw fit if ultimately a community adoption scheme or similar was entered into by Welsh Water and the Council.

Following a lengthy discussion, whereby Members agreed that it was a magnificent opportunity for the Council, it was

**RESOLVED** that the proposal be supported in principle and to await further developments.

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**133. DAFEN PARK  
ASTRO TURF FACILITY**

*Cllr. T. Devichand declared a personal interest in the following matter as she was the Chairman of the Dafen Welfare Committee. Cllr. A. J. Rogers declared a personal interest in the following matter as he was the Secretary of the Dafen Welfare Committee.*

Further to Minute No. 56, Members considered the report of the Technical and Burial Services Manager informing of the redevelopment of the astro turf facility at Dafen park.

The astro turf at Dafen park was no longer fit for purpose, it was waterlogged, severely worn and damaged.

Dafen AFC had submitted an email stating the range of works and the type of artificial surface the club would like at the facility. The club had also provided a quotation for this work.

The Technical and Burial Services Manager and the Community Development Officer had met with representatives from Sports Wales (SW), Welsh Rugby Union (WRU) and the Football Association Wales (FAW) on 4 June to discuss funding opportunities and the associated criteria to re-develop the facility at Dafen.

Financial assistance would only be considered by SW, WRU and FAW to install a 3G standard artificial sports turf surface. The SW, WRU and FAW would require that a survey was undertaken by their preferred provider who would recommend the most suitable type of 3G surface and the appropriate installation method for the site.

There would be a requirement via the sport grants awarded by SW, WRU and FAW to provide access to rugby teams and other sports teams outside of Dafen. Demonstrating consultations with sport teams and local community was also needed.

The other funders identified would expect the facility to be made available for wider community use and not restricted to sports clubs. All projects would need to demonstrate through their application how the project would benefit the community within the eligible area. Community engagement, involvement and support should be demonstrated. This could be by survey results, letters of support, quotes from community members, the involvement of the community in project delivery, etc. Although there was no allotted time that should be given to the community on the guidance, applications/plans submitted should have times when the area was open/closed to public working around the times when only available for hire by sporting teams.

To be considered for financial support from SW, WRU and FAW applicants should first consider the All Wales Artificial Turf Pitch Vision and Guidance document that was prepared for the Welsh Rugby Union, Hockey Wales & Football Association of Wales by a consultant in January 2015. The document set out the vision and evidence based rationale and principles supporting the case for appropriately designed and located artificial turf pitches.

Accessing financial support from Sports Wales, WRU and FAW would dictate the standard of the turf surface installed. A 3G surface would have higher initial capital cost and greater

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impact on the Council to support the ongoing maintenance requirements. The funding would also influence the parameters for the use and management of the facility.

Similarly, accessing funding from Landfill Community Scheme, Communities Facilities Programme, Millennium Trust Fund, Tesco Bags for Life and Peoples Post Code would require the facility was available for wider community use.

Following discussion, it was

**RESOLVED** that the Dafen Welfare Committee, the local sporting groups and the general community shall be consulted before contemplating any further preliminary work on the potential refurbishment and future design of the facility.

**134. PROVISION OF A BUS SHELTER AT GORSFACH, DAFEN**

Further to Minute No. 427 (14 February, 2018), the Community Development Officer informed Members that a consultation exercise had taken place with the community regarding the provision of a new bus shelter at Gorsfach.

The residents living in the close vicinity of the proposed bus shelter supported the idea. The Technical and Burial Services Manager had contacted Carmarthenshire County Council but to date no information had been received regarding the annual costs to maintain the bus shelter and any associated costs for replacement panels. There was also a requirement to submit a planning application to the County Council assuming the associated maintenance costs were deemed acceptable to the Council.

Following discussion, it was

**RESOLVED** that the information on the positive neighbourhood consultation be noted and the maintenance costs and the like for the bus shelter be further pursued with the County Council and reported to a future Recreation and Welfare Committee meeting.

**135. TRANSFER OF ASSETS  
LLWYNHENDY FURTHER EDUCATION CENTRE**

Further to Minute No. 89, Members received a verbal progress report from the Technical and Burial Services Manager and the Community Development Officer.

The Technical and Burial Services Manager informed Members that he had been in contact with the Council's appointed Quantity Surveyor and an estimated cost for the invasive survey assessment for the building was quoted at £13,215 plus VAT.

Carmarthenshire County Council (CCC) had been contacted to enquire as to whether it had any survey reports held on file that could help evaluate a more precise repair cost but this was all to no avail. It was also hoped to ascertain whether CCC was in favour of the Council performing a more invasive survey of the building. Members were informed the County Council did not possess any building condition reports or similar surveys held on file.

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Furthermore, email correspondence confirmed the County Council now expected to receive a business case from the community in order to progress matters further. It was suggested that any invasive survey work be included in a provisional sum and addressed later.

Thereupon, the Community Development Officer reported to Members about the range of different grants available to the Council for capital and revenue projects.

Following a lengthy discussion, whereby Members main concern was providing a community hall building for the residents for the Pemberton ward or acquiring land for such purpose, it was

**RESOLVED** that:

1. The information provided by the Technical and Burial Services Manager and Community Development Officer be noted.
2. Carmarthenshire County Council be contacted to ascertain if it had other buildings or land available which could be transferred for community facility purposes.
3. A feasibility study be commissioned and co-produced with the local community to help scope the potential project with various sources of grant funding being identified including any funding support to be provided from Invest Local Llwynhendy in support of providing a community building.
4. A further report be presented to the Recreation and Welfare Committee meeting in due course.

*During discussion of the above, Cllr. W. V. Thomas left the meeting.*

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The Meeting concluded at 6.20 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 11 September, 2018, adopted by the Council.