# LLANELLI RURAL COUNCIL

#### **Minute Nos: 68 – 86**

At a **COUNCIL** Meeting of the Llanelli Rural Council hosted at the Council Chamber, Vauxhall Buildings, Vauxhall, Llanelli, and via remote attendance on Wednesday, 27 January, 2021 at 2.00 p.m.

**Present:** 

Cllr. S. L. Davies (Chairman)

#### Cllrs.

| S. M. Caiach   | J. P. Hart     |
|----------------|----------------|
| M. V. Davies   | S. N. Lewis    |
| T. Devichand   | A. G. Morgan   |
| S. M. Donoghue | J. S. Phillips |
| H. J. Evans    | A. J. Rogers   |
| W. V. Thomas   |                |

Absent:

F. Akhtar, J. S. Randall

#### 68. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. T. M. Donoghue, P. M. Edwards, T. J. Jones, C. A. Rees and I. G. Wooldridge.

The Clerk referred to the current indisposition of Cllrs. T. J. Jones and I. G. Wooldridge and their subsequent non-attendance at meetings. Both councillors were making good and steady progress and it was their intention to resume their public duties as soon as time permitted. However, their respective illnesses had prevented them from attending council meetings since 29 July 2020. In view of such, the Clerk requested members to consider whether the council would accept and approve their reasons for absence on ill health grounds. This would avoid the likelihood of casual vacancies occurring on the council, because of their non-attendance at meetings for a period of six consecutive months.

**RESOLVED** that Cllrs. Jones' and Wooldridge's respective apologies and reasons for absence and their subsequent non-attendance at council meetings be accepted and approved.

#### **69.** CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENT

The Chairman extended best wishes to Cllr. P. M. Edwards concerning her current indisposition.

#### 70. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following members declared an interest in the following matters:

| Minute No.                             | Councillor     | Interest   |
|--|----------------|--|
| 73<br>PL/00903<br>PL/01094<br>PL/01100 | S. L. Davies   | Personal interest – responded to the three planning applications in her capacity as a county councillor.   |
| 76                                     | S. L. Davies   | Personal interest – member of the Llwynhendy<br>and Pemberton Forum, which operated a<br>foodbank service. |
| 82                                     | S. L. Davies   | Personal interest – involvement with the scheme.   |
| 83                                     | S. L. Davies   | Personal interest – member, Dafen Welfare<br>Management Committee.   |
| 76                                     | T. Devichand   | Personal interest – member of the Llwynhendy<br>and Pemberton Forum, which operated a<br>foodbank service. |
| 83                                     | T. Devichand   | Personal interest – Chairman, Dafen Welfare<br>Management Committee.                                       |
| 73<br>PL/01094                         | S. M. Donoghue | Personal interest – applicant was a neighbour.   |
| 76                                     | J. P. Hart     | Personal interest – member of the Llwynhendy<br>and Pemberton Forum, which operated a<br>foodbank service. |
| 82                                     | J. P. Hart     | Personal interest – involvement with the scheme.   |
| 83                                     | S. N. Lewis    | Personal interest – member, Dafen Welfare<br>Management Committee.   |
| 83                                     | A. G. Rogers   | Personal interest – member, Dafen Welfare<br>Management Committee.   |

#### 71. 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

16 December, 2020

# 72. MATTERS ARISING (1) COVID MEASURES - COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES PEMBERTON WARD – BY-ELECTION

Further to Minute Nos. 11, 51, and arising out of discussion of the impact the present Covid-19 lockdown restrictions were having on society generally, members commented as to whether the election planned for early March 2021, to fill the two casual vacancies for the

council's Pemberton Ward would be postponed. If this proved to be the case, was there then a possibility of holding the election at the same time as the Senedd election, currently scheduled to go ahead on 6 May 2021, assuming this election was not postponed until later in the year. By combining the elections this would realise a cost saving to the council.

Members recognised it was a matter for the Returning Officer to determine the election date, but felt there was merit in seeking a view from the Electoral Services Office at Carmarthenshire County Council and it was

**RESOLVED** that an enquiry be made to the Returning Officer, Electoral Services Office, Carmarthenshire County Council to ascertain whether it was feasible to combine the two sets of elections on 6 May 2021.

# (2) COVID MEASURES - COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES BYNEA WARD

Arising out of Minute No. 51, the local member for the Bynea Ward informed the meeting that concerns had been expressed to him about the number of people parking their vehicles at the East Gateway car park, Bynea, and using the coastal path for their daily exercise. The member enquired whether Carmarthenshire County Council would consider temporarily closing the car park to discourage people from using the facility during the current lockdown.

The Clerk provided the meeting with a very brief overview of what was permissible in terms of local travel to exercise but suggested that the member refer the matter to the local neighbourhood policing team for its attention. The police force was responsible for educating the public about what was permissible and for carrying out enforcement action for a breach of the rules. The local neighbourhood policing team's next online meeting would take place on 28 January and this presented a timely opportunity to raise the issue directly with the police.

Following discussion, it was

**RESOLVED** that the information be noted and that the local councillor contact the local neighbourhood policing team about participating in the meeting.

# 73. PLANNING MATTERS (1) PRE-PLANNING APPLICATION CONSULTATION – PROPOSED MOBILE BASE STATION UPGRADE AT TELECOMMUNICATIONS SITE 252302 – SANDY ROAD, SANDY, LLANELLI

Members retrospectively noted correspondence received from Steven Peck, Planner, on behalf of Cellnex, EE Ltd, regarding a pre-planning application consultation about a proposal to upgrade the mobile telecommunications base station at Sandy Road, Sandy, Llanelli. The matter had been determined under the Clerk's scheme of delegated powers, following council wide consultation with members because a response was required by the 18 January 2021.

The intention was to upgrade the existing electronic communication installation to provide 5G coverage to local EE customers.

The application was supported by an ICNIRP declaration to demonstrate compliance with ICNIRP (International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection) guidelines. Following discussion, it was

**RESOLVED** that the council's pre-application consultation response determined under the Clerk's delegated powers be noted in that the council had no objection in principle to the proposal.

#### (2) PLANNING APPLICATIONS TOWN AND COUNTRY GENERAL DEVELOPMENT PROCEDURE ORDER 1995

Consideration having been given to planning applications received, it was

**RESOLVED** as follows:-

| Application No. | Location | Development |
|-----------------|----------|-------------|
|                 |          |             |

*Cllr. S. L. Davies declared a personal interest in application number PL/00903 below because she had responded to the application in her capacity as a county councillor.* 

| the former Avon<br>Unit to an elite |
|-------------------------------------|
| ng centre (Class D2                 |
|                                     |

Recommendation – no objection.

 PL/01038
 Llanelli Rural Council
 Proposed refurbishment of

 Toilet Block
 existing workshop and toilet

 Swiss Valley Reservoir
 block. New disabled WC and

 Llanelli
 changing places shower

 room/disabled WC.
 New

 office and reception area
 change of use to D2. External

change of use to D2. External works to include a patio area and new railings to existing retaining wall. Existing workshop to be retained. New external washdown area.

Recommendation – that the application be noted for information.

| Application No.           | Location   | Development   |
|---------------------------|--|---|
| PL/01039                  | Llanelli Rural<br>Council<br>Cwm Lliedi<br>Reservoir<br>Llannon Road<br>Llanelli | Proposed ramp and new<br>pontoon along the bank of the<br>Swiss Valley Reservoir.         |
| Recommendation – that the | application be noted for information   | tion.   |
| PL/01041                  | Llanelli Rural Council<br>Cwm Lliedi Reservoir<br>Llannon Road<br>Llanelli       | Proposed 1 in 20 ramp and<br>new pontoon along the bank of<br>the Swiss Valley Reservoir. |
| Recommendation – that the | application be noted for information   | tion.   |
| PL/01051                  | Mr A D & WA<br>Bowler<br>Land at Stradey Hill                                    | Outline application for<br>residential development of up<br>to four dwellings and         |

Recommendation – objection on the following grounds:

Pwll

Llanelli

1. Stradey Hill and the immediate surrounding area had been over developed and the proposal was considered detrimental to the public sewer system with it also having a negative impact on the general amenity of the area. It also would have a detrimental impact on the existing over developed built environment and would have an overbearing effect on the immediate street scene and surrounding properties. Overall, this development was likely to have a negative impact on local biodiversity despite the intention of replanting certain boundary hedgerows; most of the green space would be lost. Moreover, there had been several sightings of Dormice in the vicinity, which was an endangered species, and any development in the area would be detrimental to its local habitat.

associated works

matters reserved.

with all

2. There was concern over the access arrangements leading to the site from Stradey Hill, particularly the number of additional traffic movements likely to be generated on a daily basis (potentially anything between 8 to 12 cars needing access to the properties). Stradey Hill was effectively a single carriageway, which already suffered from a high volume of traffic movements, and the proposal to add four further dwellings would be detrimental to highway safety standards with it having a negative impact on current traffic flow and general congestion for existing road users living in the immediate area. Local access arrangements would be undermined.

| Application No. | Location  | Development  |
|-----------------|---|--|
| PL/01077        | Mr & Mrs K Morgans<br>Tabernacle Chapel<br>Heol Carway<br>Pontyates | Conversion of existing vacant<br>chapel into a single domestic<br>dwelling by demolishing rear<br>single storey lean-to extension<br>and constructing a larger two-<br>storey replacement rear<br>extension. Chapel main<br>building to have an intermediate<br>floor installed to create two<br>storeys. Sill levels to some<br>existing windows to be lowered.<br>Change of use of land to<br>associated residential curtilage;<br>reconfigure access and parking<br>arrangement and boundary<br>treatments. |

Recommendation – no objection provided the recommendations set out in the coal mining risk assessment report and bat survey report were complied with in full.

Cllr. S. L. Davies declared a personal interest in application number PL/01094 below because she had responded to the application in her capacity as a county councillor. Cllr. S. M. Donoghue also declared a personal interest in application number PL/01094 as the applicant was a neighbour.

| Mr S Davies | Replacement of existing side         |
|-------------|--------------------------------------|
| 27 Nantwen  | garage and first floor extension.    |
| Llwynhendy  | Conversion of existing coal store to |
| Llanelli    | home office.                         |

Recommendation – no objection.

*Cllr. S. L. Davies declared a personal interest in application number PL/01100 below because she had responded to the application in her capacity as a county councillor.* 

PL/01100

PL/01094

Mr S Owens 4 Nant y Gro Dafen Llanelli Two-storey kitchen and bedroom extension to rear of property.

Recommendation - no objection provided:

1. The extension was subordinate to the main dwelling in terms of scale, massing and design.

2. There was no detrimental impact on the amenity and privacy of neighbouring dwellings.

# (3) PLANNING APPLICATIONS DETERMINED UNDER THE CLERK'S DELEGATED POWERS

Members were informed that the Clerk had dealt with the following planning applications under the scheme of delegated powers and which had been determined following council wide consultation with members.

| Application No.   | Location   | Development  |
|---|--|--|
| The following applications had been determined under the Clerk's delegated powers from 17 December 2020 to 18 January 2021. |  |  |
| PL/00923<br>(17/12/2020)  | Mr P Mansel-Lewis<br>Stradey Castle<br>Cwmbach Road<br>Llanelli                          | Discharge of condition No. 4 (stone sample) and condition No. 5 (chimney cap sample) on S/39739. |
| Recommendation – no obje  | ction.   |  |
| PL/00932  | Mr & Mrs Gower<br>Land at rear of<br>61 Pwll Road<br>Pwll                                | Variation condition No. 2 (approved plans) of reserved matters consent S/39156.                  |
|   | on unless:<br>it the property using forward gear.<br>osals did not have a detrimental in |  |

of neighbouring dwellings.

| Application No.          | Location                                       | Development   |
|--------------------------|--|---|
| PL/00892<br>(22/12/2020) | Mr D Daniel<br>Ystad Aur<br>Carway<br>Kidwelly | Demolition of detached<br>dwelling house and<br>domestic outbuildings and<br>construction of a<br>replacement dwelling. |

Recommendation – no objection provided:

- 1. The scale of the replacement dwelling was not disproportionate in size to the existing dwelling.
- 2. The design of the dwelling was sympathetic to the character and appearance of the surrounding area.
- 3. There was no detrimental impact on access, the provision of utility services and local amenity.
- 4. The original dwelling should be demolished upon completion of the new dwelling and that this should be stipulated in the planning permission, if granted.
- 5. There was no detrimental impact on local ecology with measures incorporated to relandscape the site of the original dwelling, to safeguard biodiversity immediately upon the demolition of the original dwelling and that this was stipulated in the planning permission, if granted.
- 6. The recommendations set out in the accompanying bat survey report were complied with in full.

#### PL/00898

Mr P Jeffreys Plot adjacent to Hazeldene Heol Hen Five Roads Erection of single storey 3/4 bedroom bungalow.

Recommendation - no objection provided:

- 1. There was no detrimental impact on highway safety.
- 2. There was no detrimental impact on the amenity and privacy of neighbouring dwellings.
- 3. There was no detrimental impact on the public sewer crossing the site.

#### PL/00967

Mr A Griffiths Blaenlliedi Farm Pontyberem Earth banked slurry lagoon to be placed adjacent to the agricultural buildings.

Recommendation – no objection.

| Application No. | Location                                 | Development  |
|-----------------|--|--|
| PL/00977        | Mr C Morgan<br>Myrtle Hill<br>Five Roads | Variation of condition 3 on<br>S/40401 (rebuilding of<br>storm damaged barn<br>(retrospective)). |

Recommendation – objection on the grounds that the current business use of the barn contravened condition no. 3 of planning permission S/40401 wherein it stated 'the building is approved for agricultural purposes only'.

| PL/00987 | Mr & Mrs D Wells | Proposed two storey rear  |
|----------|------------------|---------------------------|
|          | 34 Dan y Lan     | and side extension, first |
|          | Swiss Valley     | floor side extension and  |
|          |                  | rear raised balcony.      |

Recommendation – no objection provided there was no detrimental impact on the amenity and privacy of neighbouring dwellings.

| PL/00505     | D Richards           | Proposed car park for      |
|--------------|----------------------|----------------------------|
| (12/01/2021) | Land adjacent to     | crematorium overspill use, |
|              | Llanelli Crematorium | including access road and  |
|              | Penprys Road         | overhead solar panel       |
|              | Dafen                | arrays.                    |

Recommendation - no objection provided:

- 1. A drainage application was submitted for approval to the Carmarthenshire Sustainable Drainage Approval body.
- 2. There was no detrimental impact on local ecology and that where practicable all existing hedgerows were retained or translocated to safeguard the natural habitat for local wildlife.
- 3. The proposed development being justified to support improved access to the crematorium site with the additional car parking provision being deemed an essential bespoke solution to cater for larger services taking place at the crematorium given the site lies outside settlement development limits.

| PL/01020 | Mr K Strelley<br>Gateway Resort | Proposed go karting track. |
|----------|---------------------------------|----------------------------|
|          | Dyffryn Road                    |                            |
|          | Bynea                           |                            |

Recommendation – no objection provided:

- 1. A drainage application was submitted for approval to the Carmarthenshire Sustainable Drainage Approval body.
- 2. Flood prevention measures were incorporated into the building design and ground levels were raised above the precautionary T200 flood with 75 years of sea level rise.
- 3. The coal mining risk assessment recommendations were complied with in full given the risk from underground mining and mine entries is high.

| Application No.           | Location  | Development  |
|---------------------------|---|--|
| PL/00916<br>(18/01/20201) | Dr B Briggs<br>WWT National Wetland<br>Centre Wales<br>Llwynhendy   | Proposed new Water<br>Management System and<br>improvements to the<br>Freshwater Lagoon.                         |
| Recommendation – no o     | objection.  |  |
| PL/00988                  | Ms C Seabourne<br>22 Brynawelon<br>Llanelli   | Proposed side extension to<br>existing dwelling to create<br>larger disabled bedroom and<br>accessible washroom. |
| Recommendation – no o     | objection.  |  |
| PL/01012                  | Mrs A Griffiths<br>270 Pant Bryn Isaf<br>Llanelli   | Proposed rear conservatory extension.  |
| Recommendation – no o     | objection.  |  |
| PL/01028                  | Fitzpatrick<br>19 Stepney Road<br>Pwll  | Demolition of existing<br>garage and proposed two-<br>storey side extension and<br>new driveway.                 |
| which mitigated the pot   | ection unless a flood consequence<br>ential risk of flooding in the design<br>ne, which had no significant flood de | proposals, given the property was  |
| PL/01040                  | Mr G Williams<br>Llanelli Rural Council   | Two proposed flat pack<br>galvanised steel storage   |

Mr G Williams Llanelli Rural Council Cwm Lliedi Reservoir Llannon Road Llanelli Two proposed flat pack galvanised steel storage containers to store equipment for the lake such as kayaks, paddle boards etc.

Recommendation – that the application be noted for information.

| Application No. | Location   | Development  |
|-----------------|--|--|
| PL/01058        | Ms M Lopez<br>Powell Dobson<br>Architects<br>Huntsman Corporation<br>UK Ltd<br>Heol y Bwlch<br>Bynea | Construction of new<br>permanent single storey<br>pavilion-style building to<br>replace temporary shipping<br>containers, currently<br>housing supply chain office<br>operation. |

Recommendation - no objection provided:

1. The recommendations set out in the coal mining report were met in full.

2. The recommendations set out in the drainage strategy report were met in full.

3. The recommendations set out in the ground investigation interpretive report were met in full.

# 74. AUDIT CYCLE 2020 – 2021 ONWARDS COMMUNITY AND TOWN COUNCILS IN WALES

Members received correspondence from the Audit Manager, Audit Wales informing of the new three-year programme for the audit arrangements of community and town councils. Under the arrangements, local councils would receive a transaction-based audit in one of the years accompanied by basic audit procedures being applied for the other two years that made up the cycle.

The Clerk stated the new arrangements did not apply to the council because the council was no longer categorised as a Smaller Relevant Body as defined under The Accounts and Audit Wales Regulations 2014. This was because the council's gross income or expenditure (whichever was higher) had exceeded £2.5 million. In view of this, Audit Wales had devised a bespoke arrangement to audit the council's accounts based on a full transaction based annual audit. However, the council was still waiting for its accounts to be audited and signed off for the last three consecutive financial years under this arrangement. This was a concern, which had been raised with Audit Wales. The council had supplied all relevant information to Grant Thornton (the firm responsible for conducting the council's audit on behalf of Audit Wales) but for reasons unknown to the council, the firm had made little progress in completing the audit work. Audit Wales was aware of the situation and it was hoped the matter could be resolved by it as soon as possible through its direct intervention or otherwise.

**RESOLVED** that the information be noted.

# 75. PWLL PAVILION – FIRE RISKS WORKS

Members received the report of the Technical and Burial Services Manager, which retrospectively reported on a quotation accepted to install fire protection barriers, replace suspended ceiling tiles, install new fire shutters and construct a refuge area at Pwll Pavilion. The quotation had been accepted under the scheme of delegated powers following consultation with the Leader of Council and the Chairman of the council's Recreation and Welfare Committee. The cost of the work was within budget and needed to commence during January, to cause minimal disruption to the café based in the building.

West Wales Fire Safety Limited had identified a number of issues in the formal fire risk assessment for the premises that needed addressing. Subsequently three companies were approached and had provided quotations for the works.

Following discussion, it was

**RESOLVED** that the report and actions be retrospectively endorsed and accepted and the quotation received from Apple Design Limited, Marlborough House, Llangyfelach, Swansea in the sum of £11,650 be accepted.

#### 76. PEMBREY AND BURRY PORT FOODBANK

Cllr. S. L. Davies, T. Devichand and J. P. Hart declared personal interests in the following item as they were members of the Llwynhendy and Pemberton Forum which operated a foodbank service.

Consideration was given to an application received for financial assistance submitted by CETMA, a local organisation that operated the Pembrey and Burry Port foodbank service and which provided a service to residents in the Pwll, Pontyates, Ponthenri and Five Roads areas.

Following discussion, it was

**RESOLVED** that a contribution of £500 be made to CETMA in support of the Pembrey and Burry Port Foodbank service on production of receipted claims.

Arising out of discussion of the above, members requested information from CETMA on how to refer people to the service.

**FURTHER RESOLVED** that CETMA be contacted for the information to forward to members as soon as possible.

# 77. FINANCIAL REPORTS

**RESOLVED** that the committee reports for the Administration Department, Burial Services and Training Department to 31 December 2020, be noted.

#### 78. SCHEDULES OF PAYMENTS

Consideration was given to the schedules of payments for the Administration Department, Burial Services and Training Department for October and November 2020, (copies of which had been previously circulated) which revealed that the expenditure amounted to £112,390.27, £124,703.05; £45,667.38, £4,465.52; £122,975.14 and £122,374.40, respectively.

**RESOLVED** that the reports be noted.

#### 79. FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Consideration was given to applications received for financial assistance and it was

#### **RESOLVED** that:

- (1) Urdd Eisteddfod that a contribution of £100 be made.
- (2) Wales Air Ambulance Charity that a contribution of  $\pounds 250$  be made.

# 80. 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.

# 81. FINANCIAL SUMMARY REPORTS PWLL RECREATION GROUND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Members considered a Statement of Accounts pro-forma received from the above Management Committee.

During the discussion, members highlighted the sum spent by the management committee on utility bills in comparison to the income received from the licensee as a contribution towards rent and utility costs, noting there appeared to be a discrepancy in the amount of income received, and it was

#### **RESOLVED** that:

1. The annual grant of £400 be made to Pwll Recreation Ground Development Committee in regard to the year ending 31 December 2020.

2. Officers arrange a meeting with the Development Committee to further discuss the income received from the licensee in relation to the rent and utility costs and that the outcome be reported to a future committee meeting.

During discussion of the above, Cllr. A. J. Rogers joined the meeting.

#### 82. DWYFOR GROWING SPACE - LEASE

Cllr. S. L. Davies declared a personal interest in the following item given her personal involvement in the project in her capacity as a county councillor and because of her role as a member of the Llwynhendy and Pemberton Forum. Cllr. J. P. Hart also declared a personal interest in the item given his involvement in the project and because as he was a member of the Llwynhendy and Pemberton Forum.

Further to Minute No. 503, (30 September, 2020, refers) members considered a copy letter issued to the council's solicitors Evans, Powell & Co from the Head of Administration and Law, Carmarthenshire County Council. The letter informed of minor changes to the draft lease while also enclosing Architects and Contractor Deeds requiring the council's approval. The letter also drew attention to the point that the site might fall within the category of a 'Statutory Site', which was governed by allotment legislation. By way of response, the council's solicitor had issued an advisory letter this morning to the council. The letter stated that unless it could be argued to the contrary, the view was the county council might need to obtain the consent of the Secretary of State, because it intended to dispose the land, in the form of a 99 year lease, to the council.

During the discussion, members opined that the site had always been used as a community growing space and as far as they were aware, it was not designated as a statutory site for allotment purposes, and it was

**RESOLVED** that the council's solicitor be instructed to contest Carmarthenshire County Council's view that the site might fall within the category of a Statutory Site and that this be done as quickly as possible so that the parties can formally engross the draft lease. Moreover, the minor changes made to the draft lease be accepted along with the Architect and Contractor Deeds requiring the council's approval.

#### 83. DAFEN PARK PROVISION OF ASTROTURF FACILITIES

*Cllrs. S. L. Davies, T. Devichand, S. N. Lewis and A. J. Rogers declared a personal interest in the following matter as they were members of the Dafen Welfare Management Committee.* 

Further to Minute No. 481 (24 June 2020, refers), members received the joint report of the Deputy Clerk and Technical and Burial Services Manager. The report addressed a subsequent email communication received from Cllr. A. J. Rogers on behalf of Dafen AFC stating that the football club had agreed with the initial proposal of a 2G training pitch at the tennis courts but with the removal of the walkway and barrier from the design. The report also informed members about new advice received concerning environmental considerations which needed to be factored into the scheme design to mitigate and prevent pollutants from entering the adjacent water course, which skirted the boundary of the current facility.

By way of response to the football club's request to omit the walkway and barrier, this was not possible as this was likely to contravene the provisions of the Disability Discrimination Act. Officers provided examples of why these elements of the design had to be retained.

Furthermore, separation of players and spectators was necessary to prevent spectators from entering on to the playing surface.

Attention then turned to the new advice received about the environmental considerations. The adjacent watercourse was likely to be affected by the development and consideration had to be given in the design, construction and operation of the development to prevent pollutants entering the water system. The developer was responsible for highlighting the concerns and submitting updated design proposals to the planning authority who would in turn notify Natural Resources Wales (NRW) for its subsequent consideration.

NRW officers and the Planning Officer, Carmarthenshire County Council (CCC) could not provide specific written guidance or advice about sand infill materials in sports surfaces, apart from highlighting a developer and operator's responsibility and 'duty of care' not to cause anything to pollute any drainage system or waterway. The developer and/or operator could be held legally responsible for causing pollution if any such materials were allowed to escape into a waterway. Therefore, a bespoke drainage and filter system would need to be included in the current design and construction proposals, which would add further unknown costs to the scheme.

Enquiries had also been made as to whether the site could be levelled in a bid to save on construction costs. The cost estimate for levelling the site was  $\pounds 40,000$  (based on a  $\pounds 10$  per tonne disposal charge at 4,000 tonnes of inert waste). Costs would increase if contaminants were discovered. Notwithstanding this, a drainage filtration system would still be required if the site was levelled, so there was no way of preventing this being added to the scheme.

Given the constraints and escalating costs associated with the current location, the Clerk sought views on whether an alternative nearby location could be used instead, possibly on the field opposite Globe Row, Dafen. The field was an adjacent substantial parcel of land quite close to Dafen Park. Constructing a full size facility elsewhere would probably cost more but would offer better value for money in the longer term. A new site would eliminate most if not all of the current constructing a full size facility elsewhere would also present better prospects of drawing down grants from the likes of the Football Association of Wales and the Welsh Rugby Union. The existing space vacated at Dafen Park might then be converted into a large play area if desired.

The council did explore the possibility of developing a traditional grass pitch facility at Globe Row in 2008, but it was not considered suitable for a traditional grass pitch because of the ground conditions. It may however, be suitable for an artificial sports surface as this would be raised above ground level and would be fitted with a drainage system.

Following a lengthy discussion, members raised concern about local flooding in Dafen and the need to mitigate against this if an alternative site such as Globe Row was ultimately the preferred option. Care would also need to be taken to safeguard the sustainability of the nearby artificial hockey pitch at St. John Lloyd Comprehensive School. The scheme would need to be compatible with this existing facility, and it was

#### **RESOLVED** that:

1. The project budget of  $\pounds 113,860$  shall continue to be held in an earmarked reserve until a scheme was decided.

2. Officers make enquiries with national sports funding bodies to establish if the council could apply for grant funding for a full size Astroturf facility at Globe Row, Dafen. Furthermore, an enquiry be made to St. John Lloyd Comprehensive School to garner more information about how its facility is used by the community and the range of activities available.

2. A meeting shall be arranged with Dafen AFC, to update the football club about the status of the current project and to explain why its suggestion to remove the walkway and barrier from the current scheme in Dafen Park cannot be accommodated. Furthermore, that a drainage and filtration system would now need to be added to the design to prevent infill pollutants from entering the watercourse.

3. As a means of formalising the council's interest in the field off Globe Row, Dafen, Carmarthenshire County Council (land owner) be pressed into indicating whether it is prepared to give its in principle support regarding the possible asset transfer of the parcel of land to the council.

4. A further report shall be presented to a future council/committee meeting once all of the above matters had been attended to but recognising that time was of the essence in progressing the scheme alongside the council's other list of capital projects.

# 84. CAPITAL PROJECTS PRIORITISATION OF SCHEMES

Members were presented with a report from the Deputy Clerk on current capital schemes and other projects identified for consideration.

Budgets had been allocated to the following capital projects from the generic 2019/20 Capital Schemes budget (Minute No. 375 of the Recreation and Welfare Committee held on 21 January, 2020, refers). The projects had either been completed, would be delivered or identified as earmarked reserves (EMR) at 31 March, 2021 to be carried out from 1 April, 2021 onwards:

| No. | Facility/Area                 | Project                                       | Budget<br>£ | Comments                     |
|-----|-------------------------------|---|-------------|------------------------------|
| (1) | Trallwm Play Area             | Play area relocation and redevelopment        | 6,000       | EMR                          |
| (2) | Yspitty Road, Bynea           | 3 No. footway lighting posts                  | 1,950       | EMR                          |
| (3) | Ponthenri Play Area           | Replacement of equipment                      | 49,050      | EMR                          |
| (4) | Penygraig, Bynea – land<br>at | Identify land and provide play area           | 14,000      | EMR                          |
| (5) | Tir Einon Play Area           | Additional play equipment                     | 20,000      | Completion by 31 March, 2021 |
| (6) | Dafen Park                    | Astroturf                                     | 113,860     | EMR                          |
| (7) | Danybanc Play Area            | Refurbish play area and provide new equipment | 20,000      | Completed in<br>August 2020  |

Following a discussion on further capital projects identified for existing facilities and potential facilities/other funding requirements, it was

# RESOLVED

1. That the Capital Schemes budget of  $\pounds71,000$  for 2020/21 be allocated as follows:

| Priority<br>No. | Existing facilities                      | £      |
|-----------------|--|--------|
| 1               | Dafen Park – water sprinkler system      | 10,000 |
| 2               | Gwili Fields MUGA - floodlighting        | 35,000 |
| 3               | Trallwm Community Hall – extend car park | 26,000 |

2. That, subject to budget confirmation at the council meeting to be held on 24 February, 2021, capital projects at existing facilities were prioritised for 2021/22:

| Priority<br>No.                        | Existing facilities   | £      |
|--|---|--------|
| 1                                      | Felinfoel Recreation Ground – tarmacadam car park   | 30,000 |
| 2                                      | Ponthenri Recreation Ground – refurbish old tennis court area and create new footpaths/routes | 20,000 |
| Unallocated budget for capital schemes |   | 21,000 |

The provision of additional facilities to include a skate park at Tir Einon was subject to the Section 106 funding of  $\pounds 173,000$  secured pending a development in the area proceeding.

- 3. A progress report on the schemes listed in 1 and 2 above be presented to Council in six months.
- 4. Potential facilities/other funding requirements are:

| Potential facilities/other funding requirements  | £      |
|--|--------|
| Dwyfor Growing Space – funding agreed by Carmarthenshire County Council on asset transfer completion   | 25,000 |
| Llwynhendy Library/Gwili Fields – the council would apply for loan consent to fund<br>its contribution towards the project at the appropriate time.<br>Estimated annual loan repayment to be included as a revenue budget in the<br>financial year 2021/22 | 21,110 |
| Yspitty Road, Bynea - Play Area – potential Section 106 monies subject to asset transfer from Carmarthenshire County Council   | 29,047 |

# 85. PHOTOCOPIER LEASE BURIAL SERVICES

Members considered the report of the Deputy Clerk on a quotation received to replace the photocopier at the cemetery office. A shorter lease period of four years was proposed to

allow harmonisation with the existing contract with Konica Minolta Business Solutions (UK) for photocopiers housed at various locations within the council's buildings to terminate in January 2024.

It was,

**RESOLVED** that the quotation submitted by Konica Minolta Business Solutions (UK) Limited in the sum of  $\pounds 3,543.68$  for providing the Bizhub C300i photocopier on a four-year lease be accepted.

# 86. STAFFING MATTERS

Members considered the report of the Deputy Clerk informing of staffing matters.

**RESOLVED** that the report referenced 1:2021 be accepted.

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The Meeting concluded at 4.35 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 24 February, 2021 adopted by the Council.