

**12 October, 2021**

**LLANELLI RURAL COUNCIL**

**Minute Nos: 221 – 230**

At a **COUNCIL** Meeting of the Llanelli Rural Council hosted at the Council Chamber, Vauxhall Buildings, Vauxhall, Llanelli, and via remote attendance on Tuesday, 12 October 2021, at 6.00 p.m.

**Present:** Cllr. T. Devichand (Chairman)

**Cllrs.**

C. P. Beer	H. J. Evans
S. M. Caiach	J. P. Hart
M. V. Davies	S. N. Lewis
S. L. Davies	A. G. Morgan
S. M. Donoghue	S. K. Nurse
T. M. Donoghue	J. S. Phillips
P. M. Edwards	A. J. Rogers
A. Evans	W. V. Thomas
I. G. Wooldridge	

**Absent:** F. Akhtar, J. S. Randall

**221. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

An apology for absence was received from Cllr. T. J. Jones.

**222. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations of interest were made.

**223. DYFED POWYS POLICE – NEW POLICING MODEL**

The Chairman welcomed Chief Inspector Shaun Bowen, Dyfed Powys Police to the meeting to inform members of the policing model changes being implemented for Carmarthenshire in November 2021.

Chief Inspector Bowen informed members that a management review had been conducted into how the police force dealt with victims of crime and how it managed resources. The police force had to change the way it responded to the public reporting crime. The current system did not always allow the police to work in the best way for victims of crime. The police force had been taking longer than it should to record crime and did not always update victims as regularly as it would wish. Officers had to split their time between investigating tasks and responding to live incidents.

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The new Carmarthenshire model would see a local investigation unit (hub) being established in Ammanford and calls would be triaged to it directly from the main call centre. This would enable the public to report crimes which would then be transferred to a dedicated response team located at the central hub, thereby generating a much quicker response to incidents. The central hub would be made up of 19 police officers, comprising 10 officers from Llanelli police station, five officers from Ammanford police station and four officers from Carmarthen police station. In regard to the 10 officers being transferred from Llanelli to the new unit, Chief Inspector Bowen, confirmed this would reduce police force numbers to 45 officers at the police station but it was envisaged these 10 officers would be replaced as a consequence of the Prime Minister's current drive to recruit more police officers throughout the country, bringing the number of officers back to 55 officers at the police station.

Having a dedicated investigation team based in the hub would free up officers to immediately respond to incidents and keep the streets safe. The new model would make reporting and investigating crime quicker and more convenient for victims while increasing the visibility of the police.

Chief Inspector Bowen reassured members that the victims of crime would remain the police force's number one priority and that the public and officers safety was crucial. The new model would not affect neighbourhood policing teams, these units would remain the same; no police stations would close or change and there would be no change to how the police deal with 999 calls. The purpose of the reconfiguration was to be more proactive and to better prioritise crime incidents.

The new model was based on similar structures created elsewhere in the UK and would take effect from 7 November 2021, thereby enabling the reporting and investigating of crime quicker and more convenient for victims. There would be more time for police officers to respond to community concerns and to become more proactive while also supporting victims and witnesses at the scene as well as offering additionality with problem solving.

Chief Inspector Bowen informed members that it was work in progress and the police force would be reviewing the new model over the coming months. The new model would also be scrutinised by chief officers, the Police and Crime Commissioner and by Carmarthenshire communities.

In response to questions from members, Chief Inspector Bowen reiterated there would be no detrimental impact on current police service arrangements and that police officer numbers at Llanelli police station would be reinstated following the national recruitment drive over the next 12 months. In response to when a review of the new model was likely, Chief Inspector Bowen confirmed this would take place at some point in the New Year, when a full evaluation would be performed and which was likely to be led by the Police and Crime Commissioner. In closing he remarked he would be happy to be invited back to the council to go through the evaluation findings with members. Thereupon, the chairman thanked Chief Inspector Bowen for attending the meeting and briefing members and he then withdrew from the meeting.

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**224. 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:

Civic and Ceremonial Committee	14 September, 2021
Council	14 September, 2021
Policy and Resources Committee	15 September, 2021
Recreation and Welfare Committee	21 September, 2021
Finance and General Purposes Committee	29 September, 2021
Planning and Liaison Committee	4 October, 2021

**225. MATTERS ARISING  
SPEED LIMIT REDUCTION PROPOSAL TO 20 MPH  
ON RESTRICTED ROADS**

Further to Minute No. 193, and in reply to a question from members about whether it was open for any council member to reply on an individual basis to the proposed 20MPH speed limit on restricted roads consultation questionnaire and the deadline for such. It was confirmed that while the resolution was framed around the Policy and Resources Committee members replying on an individual basis, there was nothing preventing other members from also doing so, should they wish, assuming the deadline for the consultation had not expired. A check would be performed and if the consultation was still open the necessary information would be communicated to all members.

**RESOLVED** that the information be noted.

**226. REPRESENTATION ON OUTSIDE BODIES  
GOVERNING BODIES – PONTYATES PRIMARY SCHOOL**

Members considered email correspondence from Cllr. T. J. Jones informing that he would like to withdraw from being the council's Additional Community Governor representative for Pontyates Primary School and that consideration be given to nominating Cllr. Alex Evans instead. Cllr Jones took up the nomination as an interim measure while the Glyn Ward casual vacancy was being determined following the demise of former Cllr Rees.

Following discussion, it was

**RESOLVED** that Cllr Jones' request be supported and that henceforth Cllr. A. Evans be nominated to represent the council as an Additional Community Governor for Pontyates Primary School and that the Local Education Authority at Carmarthenshire County Council be notified accordingly.

**227. COUNCIL SUPPORT**

Members considered correspondence from Cymdeithas yr Iaith seeking the council's support about a campaign to highlight the housing crisis affecting communities across Wales and

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which requested Welsh Government to intervene to take control of the housing market in respect of the number of second and holiday homes and the negative impact these had on local communities.

Following a lengthy discussion, it was

**RESOLVED** that any member wishing to support the campaign by attesting the letter do so on a personal basis.

**228. LLANELLI JOINT BURIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Members received the following Minutes of a meeting of the Llanelli Joint Burial Advisory Committee held on 9 June, 2021:

“At the Annual Meeting of the Llanelli Joint Burial Advisory Committee held at Vauxhall Buildings, Vauxhall, Llanelli, and via remote attendance on Wednesday, 9 June 2021 at 4:00 pm.

Present: Cllr. B. A. L. Roberts (Chairman)

Cllrs.

D. L. Darkin.	H. J. Evans
T. Devichand	J. S. Phillips
J. S. Edmunds	

**1. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN**

Members proceeded to appoint a Chairman for the ensuing year and it was

**RESOLVED** that Cllr. H. J. Evans be appointed Chairman.

**2. APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIRMAN**

Members proceeded to appoint a Vice Chairman for the ensuing year and it was

**RESOLVED** that Cllr. J. S. Edmunds be appointed Vice Chairman.

**3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr. P. M. Edwards and Mr. D. G. Jones, Town Clerk.

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4. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

5. 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 - 23 February 2021

6. MATTERS ARISING  
DOG CONTROL MEASURES

Further to Minute No. 41 (23 February 2021), the Technical and Burial Services Manager informed members that new dog control signage had been installed in the cemetery grounds and Carmarthenshire County Council enforcement officers were conducting regular patrols of the cemetery grounds.

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

7. INCOME AND EXPENDITURE REPORTS

RECOMMENDED that the income and expenditure report up to 31 March 2021 be noted.

8. GARDEN OF REMEMBRANCE

Further to Minute No. 40 (23 February 2021), the Technical and Burial Services Manager provided members with a verbal progress report on the construction of the new Garden of Remembrance.

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

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The meeting concluded at 4.15pm  
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**RESOLVED** that the Minutes and the recommendations contained therein be received and accepted and moreover the council's condolences be extended to the former committee chairman Cllr. B.A.L. Roberts on her recent family bereavement.

**229. MATTERS REPORTED**

**RESOLVED** that the schedule of matters reported be noted.

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**230. LETTERS OF APPRECIATION**

**RESOLVED** that the letter of appreciation for the council's assistance received from the following organisation be noted:

- (1) Cardiff & Vale Health Charity

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The Meeting concluded at 6.55 p.m.

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