

19 October, 2021

LLANELLI RURAL COUNCIL

Minute Nos: 231 – 237

At a Meeting of the **RECREATION AND WELFARE COMMITTEE** of the Llanelli Rural Council held at the Council Chamber, Vauxhall Buildings, Vauxhall, Llanelli, and via remote attendance on Tuesday, 19 October, 2021 at 4.45 p.m.

Present: Cllr. W. V. Thomas (Chairman)

Cllrs.

T. Devichand	J. P. Hart
S. M. Donoghue	S. N. Lewis
P. M. Edwards	A. G. Morgan
A. Evans	A. J. Rogers
I. G. Wooldridge	

231. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. M. V. Davies, T. M. Donoghue (Cllr. S. M. Donoghue deputising), T. J. Jones (Cllr. A. Evans deputising) and S. K. Nurse.

232. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

<i>Minute No.</i>	<i>Councillor</i>	<i>Interest</i>
234	T. Devichand	Personal interest – member of the Llwynhendy and Pemberton Forum.
237	T. Devichand	Personal interest – Chairman, Dafen Welfare Management Committee.
234	J. P. Hart	Personal interest - member of the Llwynhendy and Pemberton Forum.
237	S. N. Lewis	Personal and prejudicial interest – member, Dafen Welfare Management Committee and an employee of Dafen Cricket Club.
237	A. J. Rogers	Personal interest – member, Dafen Welfare Management Committee.

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233. COMMUNITY FACILITIES – MAINTENANCE WORKS

RESOLVED that the report of the Facilities Manager on work undertaken be noted.

Arising out of discussion of the above, members enquired if additional refuse bins could be erected at Dafen Park.

FURTHER RESOLVED that the cost estimate for the provision of additional bins shall be included for consideration in the council's draft estimates of income and expenditure for the 2022/2023 budget.

234. DWYFOR GROWING SPACE

Cllrs. T. Devichand and J. P. Hart declared a personal interest in the following item as they were members of Llwynhendy and Pemberton Forum.

Further to Minute No. 156 (21 April, 2021, refers), the Community Development Officer reported on recent funding awards for the development of Dwyfor Growing Space in Llwynhendy and also provided a general progress update on the development of the site and what the next steps entailed.

The report provided a summary of works required in order to achieve the outputs associated with the grant funding. Following the approval of the lease agreement for Dwyfor Growing Space, the negotiation included a £25,000 payment from Carmarthenshire County Council (CCC) for a range of initial works in order to prepare the site for further development.

Schedule 1 of the lease was agreed considering the works as referenced in the project briefing paper. Schedule 3 appointed a consultant architect who would provide contracts, working drawings and a schedule of works. The architects would act as consultant surveyor for the works. Schedule 2 appointed a contractor who would carry out the works.

Recent applications for funding had been obtained for the following:

(1) CCC's Food Poverty Fund. £9,314.73 secured by Llwynhendy & Pemberton Forum. This would fund a growing space that would include fruit trees, a poly - tunnel, a green house and a storage shed.

(2) CCC's (via Welsh Government) Allotment Fund. £11,180 secured by Llanelli Rural Council to adapt previous allotment spaces near to the sheds into 22 new manageable plots.

The combined total available funding to invest in Dwyfor Growing Space equated to £45,494.73. Some of the works to be funded by the grants could also cover costs initially considered by CCC's asset transfer grant. Savings of approximately £5,300 had been identified which could be utilised for future developments and associated professional fees.

Members were informed that a request had been made to CCC's Housing Department for an easement to allow Welsh Water access along an access lane at Dwyfor to install a new water supply, and an official response was still awaited.

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In regard to the ongoing upkeep and management of the space, consideration would need to be given to applying for funding to pay for a part time site co-ordinator. This job role would help keep the site in a good condition and help manage access for individuals and community groups to adopt areas for their own benefit.

Following discussion, it was

RESOLVED that the report be noted and officers be authorised to seek further grant funding opportunities in regard to the potential recruitment of a part-time site co-ordinator to support and oversee the general management and upkeep of the site.

235. PWLL RECREATION GROUND – COMMUNITY GARDEN REQUEST

Correspondence was received from Pwll W. I. seeking permission from the council to erect a community garden at Pwll Recreation Ground.

The community garden would consist of two raised flower beds which would be positioned on a small patch of land between the storage sheds and the changing rooms. The community garden would be assembled and maintained by local volunteers to encourage community engagement and would benefit the health and well-being of volunteers who took part.

During discussion, whereby members raised a concern along with other general observations namely: potential vandalism to the community garden; the location being generally unsuitable given its close proximity to the football pitch; the incompatible of the idea with the site's primary purpose of facilitating recreational sports activities; and that the group had been granted permission to develop a small parcel of land near the site entrance where the request could be more suitably accommodated, it was

RESOLVED that the request for a community garden at Pwll Recreation Ground be declined.

236. 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.

237. DAFEN PARK – CRICKET OUTFIELD PROPOSED DRAINAGE WORKS

Cllrs. T. Devichand and A. J. Rogers declared a personal interest in the following item as they were members, Dafen Welfare Management Committee. Cllr. S. N. Lewis declared a personal and prejudicial interest in the following item because she was a member of Dafen Welfare Management Committee and because she was an employee of Dafen Cricket Club and left the meeting before discussion commenced.

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Further to Minute No. 52(2), members consider a letter from Dafen Cricket Club informing that due to the detrimental impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on the club's finances, the club was no longer in a position to solely carry out the drainage works to the cricket outfield. The club enquired if the council would be prepared to fund the whole project.

Initial costs and a quotation had been received which was in the region of £37,000.

During the ensuing discussion, the Clerk stated the initial costs would need to be corroborated, by the council carrying out its own enquiries. Furthermore, there was no budget provision available in the current financial year. If the council agreed to the request, the nature of the work would be regarded as a significant capital scheme. Thereupon members commented upon the council's general policy requirements for determining and prioritising capital schemes and that the request would need to be considered in accordance with current policy, and it was

RESOLVED that the scheme be put forward for possible inclusion in the council's list of capital schemes when the capital list is next presented to council in January 2022, so that it can be assessed alongside other schemes.

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The Meeting concluded at 5.38 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 November, 2021 adopted by the Council.