

**20 December, 2021**

**LLANELLI RURAL COUNCIL**

**Minute Nos: 337 – 345**

At a Meeting of the **FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE** of the Llanelli Rural Council held at the Council Chamber, Vauxhall Buildings, Vauxhall, Llanelli, and via remote attendance on Monday, 20 December, 2021 at 5.10 p.m.

**Present:** Cllr. S. L. Davies (Vice - Chairman (in the Chair))

**Cllrs.**

C. P. Beer	A. Evans
T. Devichand	J. S. Phillips
S. M. Donoghue	W. V. Thomas

**Absent:** J. S. Randall

**337. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. F. Akhtar, S. M. Caiach and S. N. Lewis.

**338. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations of interest were made.

**339. INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT (INTERIM UPDATE) 2021/22**

Members considered the Internal Audit Report (Interim Update) 2021/22 received from the Director, Auditing Solutions Ltd which concluded that the council continued to have effective systems in place and consequently, there were no significant matters arising at present.

However, members were informed that during the recent audit work undertaken by Audit Wales, in relation to the 2020/21 annual accounts, officers had discovered an issue with the disposal of the Renault Megane vehicle in 2016. The asset had not been removed from the asset list prepared by DCK Accounting Solutions Ltd until 2020/21. The council was unable to locate the disposal record of the vehicle which had been scrapped five years ago. Officers had highlighted this to the external auditor confirming it would be brought to the attention of the council's internal auditor. Consequently, the internal auditor was asked to review the council's asset register and existing set of controls and to comment upon the adequacy of the council's arrangements when producing the interim report.

Members were then guided through the interim audit report and were informed that the internal auditor had set out the following recommendations in the interim report:

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- Members should review and sign off all bank reconciliations.
- The council needs to collate detail and retain evidence of asset disposals and notify DCK Accounting Solutions Ltd annually to ensure the asset list is accurate.
- The council should going forward keep a record of grouped assets added to the asset list each year so it was clear what should be removed if items were later scrapped.

Having thanked the Finance Manager for the work undertaken in managing the council's finances, it was

**RESOLVED** that the report be noted and the recommendations set out in the report be approved and adopted.

**340. FINANCIAL REPORTS**

**RESOLVED** that the committee reports for the Administration Department, Burial Services and Training Department to 31 October, 2021, be noted.

**341. SCHEDULES OF PAYMENTS**

Consideration was given to the schedules of payments for the Administration Department, Burial Services and Training Department for September and October 2021 (copies of which had been previously circulated) which revealed that the expenditure amounted to £263,351.25, £94,639.08, £46,992.75, £5,912.98, £139,769.22 and £128,334.26 respectively.

**RESOLVED** that the reports be noted.

**342. TRAINING PROGRAMMES - CONTRACT VALUES**

**RESOLVED** that the updated contract values report for the apprenticeship and traineeship programmes covering the period up to November 2021, be noted.

**343. 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.

**344. WHITE LION DEPOT – LEASE**

Further to Minute No. 216, members having considered the report of the Technical and General Operations Manager on the outcomes of recent negotiations for the lease renewal, White Lion Depot, Pemberton, it was

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**RESOLVED** that:

1. The advice contained in the report be accepted.
2. The council's lease of the premises at White Lion Depot, Pemberton shall not be renewed with it being allowed to expire on 25 March, 2023, and that all necessary preparations be made to vacate the site on or before the expiry date.
3. Officers be authorised to seek alternative locations for a new depot as recommended in the report but the overriding preference was to explore the option of obtaining factual or adverse possession of the parcel of land within the Llanelli District Cemetery grounds.

**345. SEASONAL GREETINGS**

The Chairman wished members and staff a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

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The meeting concluded at 5.25 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 14 January, 2022, adopted by the Council.