

27 September, 2022

**LLANELLI RURAL COUNCIL**

**Minute Nos: 152 – 163**

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, 27 September, 2022 at 4.45 p.m.

**Present:** Cllr. D. M. Cundy (Chairman)

**Cllrs.**

T. M. Donoghue	J. P. Hart
A. Evans	S. N. Lewis
E. M. Evans	A. G. Morgan
N. Evans	W. E. Skinner
R. E. Evans	B. M. Williams

**152. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. S. K. Nurse and A. Rogers (Cllr. N. Evans deputising).

**153. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

The following members declared an interest in the following matters:

<i>Minute No.</i>	<i>Councillor</i>	<i>Interest</i>
155	J. P. Hart	Personal interest – children were members of Felinfoel RFC junior section.
156	A. Evans	Personal interest – involved in the grant application process with Five Roads Recreation Ground.
157	A. Evans	Personal interest – involved in the grant application process with Ponthenri Park Committee.

**154. COMMUNITY FACILITIES – MAINTENANCE WORKS**

**RESOLVED** that the Facilities Manager's report on work undertaken be noted.

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**155. FELINFOEL RECREATION GROUND  
(1) FELINFOEL RESOURCE CENTRE – RENAMING**

Members were informed of a request presented by Cllr. E. M. Evans to re-name the Felinfoel Resource Centre to ‘The Phil Bennett OBE Resource Centre’, Felinfoel in memory of Mr Phil Bennett OBE.

Following discussion, it was

**RESOLVED** the request be unanimously supported and officers be instructed to obtain quotations for replacing signage and to register the name change with Carmarthenshire County Council.

**(2) BENCH**

*Cllr. J. P. Hart declared a personal interest in the following item as his children were members of Felinfoel RFC junior section.*

Members considered correspondence from the Secretary, Felinfoel R. F. C requesting permission from the Council to install an oak bench in memory of Mr Phil Bennett O.B.E. at the recreation ground.

Members generally supported the request but in regard to the choice of material for the bench, members remarked there had been a general departure from installing wooden benches in the public realm because they were not sustainable over the longer term and more importantly they were sadly prone to anti-social behaviour and vandalism. The recreation ground had experienced considerable anti-social behaviour over the summer months not just this year but over the last few years. Members were mindful of this and felt that any tribute to mark the community’s respect to the late Mr Philip Bennett needed to be a lasting tribute which would hopefully stand the test of time. Public furniture such as benches were now being constructed of composite materials or steel. These materials could be utilised to produce ornate designs but more importantly they were difficult to vandalise and were not prone to weathering, thus safeguarding the furniture’s longevity for many years.

Laudable though the desire might be to rightly pay tribute to a most remarkable gentleman and wonderful rugby legend that Mr Philip Bennett OBE was, these points needed to be further discussed with the rugby club secretary, and it was

**RESOLVED** that the request be unanimously supported to in principle and that officers arrange a meeting with the club secretary to further discuss the precise location for the bench and the type of materials to be used in its manufacture.

**156. FIVE ROADS RECREATION GROUND**

*Cllr. A. Evans declared a personal interest in the following item as he was involved in the grant application process with Five Roads Hall Management Committee.*

On behalf of Five Roads Hall Management Committee, Cllr. A. Evans requested permission from the council to carry out a project at the recreation ground comprising the construction of

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a new path around the recreation ground perimeter, also including seats and litter bins together with the planting of trees and hedgerows to be funded via a grant if successful from Natural Resources Wales.

During discussion, it was confirmed that the provision of a hedgerow no longer formed part of the project, and it was

**RESOLVED** that permission be granted to Five Roads Hall Management Committee to undertake the project.

**157. PONTHENRI RECREATION GROUND  
GRANT APPLICATION**

*Cllr. A. Evans declared a personal interest in the following item as he was involved in the grant application process with Ponthenri Park Committee.*

Cllr. A. Evans informed members of a grant application that the Ponthenri Park Committee had submitted to The Prince's Countryside Fund for lighting and seating at Ponthenri Recreation Ground and enquired if the council would agree to pay the additional lighting costs if the grant was successful.

During the discussion Cllr. Evans revealed that since submission of the request to the council, it had been announced that Carmarthenshire County Council had selected the community's bid submission to the Safer Routes in the Community Scheme, and would be progressing the bid to full Expression of Interest status. One of the proposals in the bid was to provide for footpath lighting for the recreation ground and if ultimately successful the request to meet the additional ongoing lighting costs might be covered under the auspices of the bid. If this proved to be the case then no commitment would be required from the council.

In view of such and following discussion, it was

**RESOLVED** that the request made to the council to meet the additional lighting costs be held in abeyance until such time as the outcome of the Safer Routes in the Community Bid was known.

**158. SANDY AND STRADEY COMMUNITY HALL  
CLOTHES BANK**

Correspondence was received from Holibobs Charity requesting permission from the council for a clothes bank to be situated in the car park at Sandy and Stradey Community Hall.

Following discussion, it was

**RESOLVED** that the request be declined.

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**159. SWISS VALLEY PLAY AREA  
ERECTION OF A FENCE**

Email correspondence was received from Cllr. A. G. Morgan setting out a request received from a local resident for the council to erect a fence on part of the perimeter of the play area at Heol Nant to prevent children from entering their property by climbing over their wall and fence to retrieve footballs.

The resident had informed Cllr. Morgan that youths continued to climb over their wall and fence from the play area especially when the property was unoccupied despite the fact the council had erected a sign in the play area stating no ball games were to be played. This was a long standing issue.

Following discussion, it was

**RESOLVED** that officers investigate costs for the potential provision of a fence or netting for further consideration by the committee. If ultimately the council elected to install a fence or netting then money would need to be identified in next year's financial estimates of income and expenditure.

**160. 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.

**161. FELINFOEL PLAY AREA  
SECURITY FENCING**

Further to Minute No. 112, the Technical and General Operations Manager informed members of the three quotations that had been received for the erection of the security fencing at Felinfoel play area.

Following discussion, it was

**RESOLVED** that the quotation received from Stephen Wells Building Contractor, 8 North Terrace, Llanelli, SA14 8NU in the sum of £15,300.00 plus VAT be accepted.

**162. BRYNMAEN COMMUNITY HALL**

Members received correspondence from the Valuation Manager, Carmarthenshire County Council requesting permission from the council to surrender the Brynmaen Community Hall at the Brynmefys Estate, Furnace to Carmarthenshire County Council.

The Clerk informed members the hall had been mothballed since 2003 and outlined the history of the projects earmarked for the estate and the potential impact of these in determining the eventual fate of the hall. The council had constructed the hall in 1979/80 at a

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cost of £30,600 (to which Minute No 133, 25 July 1979 refers) and this needed to be factored into any terms to be negotiated for the potential surrender of the building. Members concurred and prior to any further discussion with the county council over the fate of the hall, it was

**RESOLVED** that officers instruct a surveyor to value the Brynmaen Community Hall for further committee consideration.

**163. FINANCIAL SUMMARY REPORT  
(1) FIVE ROADS COMMUNITY HALL – 31 JULY, 2021**

Further to Minute No. 41(2), members were circulated with the Statement of Accounts received from the above management committee.

**RESOLVED** that the annual grant of £400 be made to Five Roads Community Hall for the year ending 31 July, 2021.

**(2) PONTHENRI COMMUNITY HALL – 5 APRIL, 2019  
5 APRIL, 2020; 5 APRIL, 2021 & 5 APRIL, 2022**

Members were circulated with the Statement of Accounts received from the above management committee.

**RESOLVED** that the annual grant of £400 be made to Ponthenri Community Hall for the years ending 5 April, 2019, 5 April, 2020, 5 April, 2021 and 5 April, 2022 respectively.

**(3) SANDY AND STRADEY COMMUNITY HALL  
31 AUGUST, 2022**

Members were circulated with the Statement of Accounts received from the above management committee.

**RESOLVED** that the annual grant of £400 be made to Sandy and Stradey Community Hall for the year ending 31 August, 2022.

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The Meeting concluded at 6.00 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 October, 2022 adopted by the Council.