

21 February, 2023

LLANELLI RURAL COUNCIL

Minute Nos: 364 – 371

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, 21 February, 2023 at 4.45 p.m.

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

Cllrs.

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

Absent: A. Evans, S. K. Nurse

364. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

An apology for absence was received from Cllr. J. P. Hart.

365. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following members declared an interest in the following matters:

<i>Minute No.</i>	<i>Councillor</i>	<i>Interest</i>
368	S. N. Lewis	Personal interest – Treasurer, Dafen Welfare Management Committee.
368	A. J. Rogers	Personal interest – Secretary, Dafen Welfare Management Committee.
369	E. M. Evans	Personal interest – employed by Library Services, Carmarthenshire County Council.

366. COMMUNITY FACILITIES – MAINTENANCE WORKS

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

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367. MULTI USE GAMES AREA, HEOL GWILI, LLWYNHENDY - FLOODLIGHTING ELECTRICITY SUPPLY

Further to Minute No. 233, Cllr. J. P. Hart requested this matter be included on today's agenda for further discussion. However, Cllr. Hart was absent from the meeting having submitted an apology for absence.

The Clerk informed the meeting that ordinarily the item should be treated as withdrawn but stated the Technical and General Operations Manager had some good news to share with the committee about the electricity supply. The Technical and General Operations Manager thereupon informed members that the electricity power supply had been finally connected at the Multi Use Games Area and was due to be signed off by the electrician on Wednesday, 22 February, 2023, and would henceforth be fully operational.

RESOLVED that the information be noted with pleasure.

368. DAFEN PARK – BOWLING GREEN

Cllrs. S. N. Lewis and A. J. Rogers declared a personal interest in this item as they were members of the Dafen Welfare Management Committee.

Members received correspondence from the President, Havelock Park Vets Bowling Club requesting permission to use Dafen Park bowling green for their home fixtures games and practice sessions by sharing the green with Dafen Welfare Bowls Club.

Following discussion, it was unanimously

RESOLVED that permission to use the bowling green be refused.

369. LLWYNHENDY HUB PROJECT – SITE VISIT

Cllr. E. M. Evans declared a personal interest in the item below as she was employed by Library Services, Carmarthenshire County Council.

Further to Minute No. 237, members received the following record of a site visit of the Recreation and Welfare Sub-Committee held on 3 February, 2023:

“At a site visit of the RECREATION AND WELFARE SUB-COMMITTEE of Llanelli Rural Council, held at Cawdor Hall, Newcastle Emlyn on Friday, 3 February, 2023 at 9.00 a.m.

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

Cllrs.

A. G. Morgan

W. E. Skinner

Absent: S.L. Davies, J. P. Hart, S. K. Nurse

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Together with representatives from Our Llwynhendy, Library Services, Carmarthenshire County Council and the council's project architects.

7. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. S. N. Lewis (Cllr. W. E. Skinner deputising) and A.G. Stephens.

8. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

9. LLWYNHENDY HUB PROJECT - SITE VISIT TO NEWCASTLE EMLYN BRANCH LIBRARY

Further to Minute No. 237, a site visit was undertaken to the branch library at Newcastle Emlyn to observe the delivery of Carmarthenshire County Council's automated library service and how this possibly could be replicated at Llwynhendy branch library as part of the Llwynhendy Hub project. The Newcastle Emlyn library service had re-located from the former library building to Cawdor Hall. The building was a shared premises and owned by the local town council. The Head of Library Services, Carmarthenshire County Council together with his colleagues, provided a practical demonstration of the service, which was the only one of its kind in Wales.

The automated service made the best use of limited space, while maximising the number of hours the library could operate as it did not need to be manned at all times. It comprised three distinct lockers placed against a single wall, spanning less than three metres in length.

The Head of Library Services explained the service operated much like a vending machine, creating a mini self-service library. Automating the service meant the library could remain open for longer. The self-service reservation pick up lockers, accessed via a person's library card, permitted patrons to reserve items online from the county council's extensive library catalogue. When an item was ready, the item could be picked up from the locker in the library at a time that was convenient to the person making the reservation. Items reserved in this way also could be returned via the locker when items were due for return.

Members were informed that Hublet self-service tablets were also provided to increase digital inclusion. The tablets were proving to be a popular way of accessing library catalogues to order titles that were not immediately available. Patrons could also use them to access the library's other digital services, including audio books, e-books, newspapers and magazines.

The self-service solution had enabled the library to significantly increase service levels, with the library opening from 8.00am to 8.00pm, Monday to Saturday, which was twice as long as before, as well as quadrupling customer visits. Not only were their benefits to the community, but also there have been large improvements for library staff. The self-service products have freed up staff time, enabling them to focus on other tasks, such as engaging with community groups and schools.

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Following a general question and answer session, the sub-committee chairman thanked the Head of Library Services for a very informative and worthwhile visit and the party returned to the council offices at Vauxhall Buildings, Llanelli at which point proceedings were concluded.

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The site visit concluded at 12.20 p.m.

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RESOLVED that the information obtained during the site visit be received and accepted.

370. 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.

**371. FINANCIAL SUMMARY REPORT
(1) FURNACE COMMUNITY HALL – 31 DECEMBER, 2020
AND 31 DECEMBER, 2021
(2) PWLL RECREATION GROUND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
- 31 DECEMBER, 2022**

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

RESOLVED that the annual grant of £400 be made to Furnace Community Hall for the years ending 31 December, 2020 and 31 December, 2021. The annual grant of £400 be made to Pwll Recreation Ground Development Committee for the year 31 December, 2022.

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The Meeting concluded at 5.07 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 March, 2023 adopted by the Council.