

19 September, 2023

LLANELLI RURAL COUNCIL

Minute Nos: 148 – 159

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 September, 2023 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	J. S. Phillips
R. E. Evans	A. J. Rogers
A. G. Stephens	

Together with Cllr. S. L. Davies.

148. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. B. M. Williams (Cllr. N. Evans deputising) and O. Williams (Cllr. A. Evans deputising).

149. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following members declared an interest in the following matters:

<i>Minute No.</i>	<i>Councillor</i>	<i>Interest</i>
151	S. L. Davies	Personal interest – member of Llwynhendy and Pemberton Forum.
151	J. P. Hart	Personal interest - member of Llwynhendy and Pemberton Forum.
152	J. P. Hart	Personal interest – member of Llwynhendy and Pemberton Forum and member of the steering group, Llwynhendy Hub and committee member of Pro-Vision Llwynhendy.
152	A. G. Stephens	Personal interest – Chairman, Pro-vision Llwynhendy.
155	J. P. Hart	Personal interest - Trallwm AFC used his employer's licenced premises as their headquarters.

19 September, 2023

<i>Minute No.</i>	<i>Councillor</i>	<i>Interest</i>
159	A. Evans	Personal interest – involved with Ponthenri Park Committee.

150. COMMUNITY FACILITIES – MAINTENANCE WORKS

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

151. DWYFOR GROWING SPACE

Cllr S. L. Davies declared a personal interest in the following matters being a member of Llwynhendy and Pemberton Forum. Cllr Davies’ participation in the meeting was solely to introduce and speak about item (1) below. Similarly, Cllr J. P. Hart declared a personal interest in the following matters being a member of Llwynhendy and Pemberton Forum.

(1) FENCING

Cllr. S. L. Davies requested whether a taller fence could be erected around the perimeter of Dwyfor Growing Space because there had been several incidents of unauthorised access resulting in fruit being stolen.

The Clerk informed members it wasn’t feasible to increase the 1.5 meter height of the existing fence because of its design and given the site topography. A new 2.4 meter anti-climb proof fence would be required, the cost estimate for which was £8,850 plus VAT. This excluded the hire costs of machinery and equipment to perform the work, which was estimated at an additional £2,000, bringing the total estimate to £10,850 plus VAT. If the fence was ultimately replaced the exiting fence panels could be used elsewhere, but the fence posts could not. Moreover, the council had no budget provision currently available to replace the fence.

Following a discussion, it was

RESOLVED that the situation be monitored and kept under review and should matters escalate or not improve then provision for a replacement fence be included in next year’s budget estimates.

(2) SIGNAGE

Members considered a quotation from Traffic Management, Highways & Transport, Carmarthenshire County Council, to provide and install a direction sign on the approach road to the growing space.

Following discussion, it was

RESOLVED that the quotation received from Traffic Management, Highways & Transport, Carmarthenshire County Council for the sum of £773 plus VAT be accepted.

19 September, 2023

(3) POLY-TUNNEL

Members considered options for making several alterations and repairs to the poly-tunnel following a spell of stormy weather, during which the poly-tunnel was damaged. The facility was the property of the Llwynhendy/Pemberton Forum and had been originally installed in the growing space by the council's DLO team as a gesture of goodwill.

For the matter to be rectified, it was suggested that the suppliers of the poly-tunnel should attend site to re-construct, alter and fix the damaged parts in order for the poly-tunnel to be used again. While this was more expensive than the council performing the work, it would provide assurance over the facility's structural integrity with the work being guaranteed by the supplier. Should issues arise with the poly-tunnel thereafter, the Forum could deal direct with the supplier to resolve any issues that might arise.

RESOLVED that the poly-tunnel be re-installed and repaired by the supplier at a cost of £1,400.

Cllr. S. L. Davies left the meeting prior to all of the above items being determined.

152. LLWYNHENDY HUB PROJECT

Cllr J. P. Hart declared a personal interest in the following matter being a member of Llwynhendy and Pemberton Forum, member of the steering group, Llwynhendy Hub and committee member of Pro-Vision Llwynhendy. Cllr A. G. Stephens declared a personal interest in the following matter because he was the Chairman of Pro-Vision Llwynhendy.

Further to Minute No. 114, members received the following minutes of a meeting of the Recreation and Welfare Sub-Committee held on 8 September, 2023:

“At a meeting of the RECREATION AND WELFARE SUB-COMMITTEE of Llanelli Rural Council, at the Council Chamber, Vauxhall Buildings, Vauxhall, Llanelli, and via remote attendance on Friday, 8 September, 2023 at 11.00 a.m.

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

Cllrs.

S. L. Davies	A. G. Morgan
R. E. Evans	J. S. Phillips
J. P. Hart	A. J. Rogers
S. N. Lewis	A. G. Stephens

Together with representatives from Our Llwynhendy and the council's project architect.

19 September, 2023

9. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

An apology for absence was received from Cllr. S. K. Nurse.

10. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following members declared an interest in the following matters:

<i>Minute No.</i>	<i>Councillor</i>	<i>Interest</i>
12	S. L. Davies	Personal interest – member of Llwynhendy and Pemberton Forum, member of Our Llwynhendy and committee member of Pro-Vision Llwynhendy.
12	J. P. Hart	Personal interest - member of Llwynhendy and Pemberton Forum and member of the steering group, Llwynhendy Hub and committee member of Pro-Vision Llwynhendy.
12	A. G. Stephens	Personal interest – Chairman Pro-Vision Llwynhendy.

11. 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.

12. LLWYNHENDY HUB PROJECT

Cllr. S. L. Davies declared a personal interest in the following matter being a member of Llwynhendy and Pemberton Forum, member of Our Llwynhendy and committee member of Pro-Vision Llwynhendy. Similarly, Cllr. J. P. Hart declared a personal interest in the following matter being a member of Llwynhendy and Pemberton Forum, member of the steering group, Llwynhendy Hub and committee member of Pro-Vision Llwynhendy. Cllr. A. G. Stephens declared a personal interest in the following matter because he was the Chairman of Pro-Vision Llwynhendy.

(1) SHARED PROSPERITY FUND

Further to Minute No, 17 (4 May, 2023 refers), the Community Development Grants Officer informed members of the grant application submitted on behalf of the council to the Shared Prosperity Fund, Carmarthenshire County Council in support of the Llwynhendy Hub project.

The Community Development Grants Officer was delighted to inform members that the application had been successful and the council would be awarded a grant of £162,630 towards a construction of a play area, outdoor gym area and the general landscaping and

19 September, 2023

enhancement of the outdoor green space including the promotion of biodiversity through the planting of pathway hedgerows and trees.

Following discussion, it was

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

(2) GREEN SPACE AMENITY AND PLAY AREA

The Chairman welcomed the council’s project architect to the meeting and thereupon invited the architect to guide members through the illustrated plan for the new green space amenity and play area at Gwili Fields.

The illustration would be used as part of the tendering process that would be sent to interested play equipment providers. Mr Griffiths emphasised that there were many ways of delivering the project and the planning could be revisited at future points once the chosen tender had been received.

Officers sort guidance from members regarding the play equipment material suggesting for the equipment to be a more rustic themed rather than the normal urban theme.

Following discussion, it was

RECOMMENDED that correspondence be issued to interested parties to tender for the new play area at Gwili Fields, Llwynhendy, Llanelli once the public consultation had been undertaken.

(3) PUBLIC CONSULTATION

The Community Development Grants Officer informed members that he had attended a public consultation event held by Tir Enfys Family Centre in August 2023. It was a successful day with discussions being held with local residents regarding the plan for the new green space amenity and play area at Gwili Fields.

Going forward the Community Development Grants officer informed members that the next stage would be to hold consultation events and open days at Llwynhendy Library to garner as much information as possible as to what play equipment the local residents would like to have at Gwili Fields, Llwynhendy. Consultation surveys would also be delivered to household in close proximity of the library.

Following discussion, it was

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

During discussion of the above item, Cllr. R. E. Evans left the meeting.

.....”
The meeting concluded at 11.35 a.m.
.....

19 September, 2023

RESOLVED that the minutes be received and accepted and that the recommendation contained therein be subsequently approved.

**153. CLOS CILSAIG PLAY AREA, DAFEN -
COMMUNITY CONSULTATION**

Members considered the report of the Community Development Officer informing of the community consultation that recently took place with residents that lived within close proximity to the proposed new play area at Clos Cilsaig, Dafen.

On 3 August, 2023, paper surveys were hand delivered to households near the Clos Cilsaig play area. The consultation was also promoted on the council's social media channels which explained how to complete the online survey.

The consultation yielded a positive response with 54 surveys returned, 53 of which were in favour of a play area. Despite the positive response, concerns were raised over the following matters:

- Safety concerns due to the play area's close proximity to Dafen pond and the pond gate was not secure enough to stop children running off to the pond area.
- The pathway between the park and pond had a tendency to get very muddy.
- Older children hanging around would put people off using it.
- Park users parking their cars at Clos Cilsaig would cause issues for residential parking.

The next steps would be to approach play equipment providers for designs and costs. The designs would be made available for the community to view and assess. The feedback would be used when scoring the tenders.

The council would contribute up to £75,000 for the scheme and the tender invitation would ask play providers to produce a tender up to this value.

Following discussion, in order to rectify some of the above concerns the council would collaborate with Carmarthenshire County Council, land owners of Dafen pond to ensure that the concerns raised were resolved regarding the pathway leading from the pond to the play area and the access gate. The adequacy of the public lighting column next to the play area was also highlighted and whether this could be replaced.

RESOLVED that:

1. The report be accepted, noting that the concerns raised by the community in respect of the access gate to Dafen Pond and the ground conditions on the public footpath would be raised with Carmarthenshire County Council by the local county councillors.
2. Officers contact play providers to submit tenders for Clos Cilsaig play area, Dafen and in order to obtain better value for money, the play area planned for Penygraig, Bynea shall also be included in the tender pack so that the two schemes can be delivered under a single contract arrangement.
3. Officers contact the Public Lighting Department, Carmarthenshire County Council requesting a quotation for upgrading the lighting column.

19 September, 2023

**154. FELINFOEL RECREATION GROUND
CRICKET PRACTICE NETS**

Correspondence was received from the Honorary Treasurer, Felinfoel Cricket Club requesting permission from the council for the cricket club to construct practice nets within Felinfoel Recreation Ground.

The request was for an open, two lane practice facility which would be 29m long and 9m wide. The area for siting the nets was not currently used for any purpose. The facility would be fully enclosed with security fencing to prevent unauthorised access and would be 2.4 meter high stripe mesh security fence.

The writer explained that a standalone practice area would allow the club to increase its membership by allowing multiple teams to train concurrently. It was felt that in addition to improving the training facility on offer to existing members, the new facility would provide an opportunity for the cricket club to engage with local youths who frequented the park on a regular basis.

If permission was granted the facility would allow the cricket club to engage with youth, provide a club for them to join and participate with and in turn take greater care of the park and facilities for the whole of the community.

Following discussion, it was

RESOLVED that in principle permission be granted to Felinfoel Cricket Club to construct practice nets at Felinfoel Recreation Ground, with the arrangement being regulated under an annual licence agreement to be entered into between the respective parties, with each party being responsible for meeting their own legal costs. The cricket club will be responsible for funding the project in its entirety and annually maintaining the facility thereafter at its own expense on the understanding the cricket club indemnifies the council from all liability in respect of potential damage or loss.

155. TRALLWM FOOTBALL PITCH

Cllr. J. P. Hart declared a personal interest in the following item as Trallwm AFC used his employer's licenced premises as their headquarters.

Correspondence was received from the Chairman and Acting General Secretary, Llangennech AFC requesting permission to use Trallwm football pitch for girls/ladies matches on Sundays and occasional Saturdays.

The chairman, Llangennech AFC informed members that Llangennech AFC was a fast-growing community club based in Llangennech Recreation Ground where a community council owned the playing field which was shared between the village rugby and football clubs. With the increased popularity and requirement to provide playing space to the growing number of teams within the club's structure, the club's ability to provide facilities was lagging far behind its current capacity to accommodate many players. The writer explained that the club attracted players from the council's electoral wards of Bynea, Felinfoel and Pemberton.

19 September, 2023

Members were informed that Llangennech AFC had contacted Trallwm AFC about sharing the facility, with its club secretary stating in reply the club committee were in full support of Llangennech AFC using the pitch.

During discussion, members opined that the additional use of the pitch may have a detrimental impact on the condition of the playing surface and possibly the council's maintenance regime, and these points would need to be considered if the request was ultimately approved, and it was

RESOLVED that permission be granted to Llangennech AFC to use Trallwm football pitch at Dylan, Llwynhendy in agreement with Trallwm AFC with the matter being reviewed in 12 months' time.

During discussion of the above, Cllr. T. M. Donoghue left the meeting.

**156. WOODLAND CREATION SCHEME
CONSULTATION**

Members received correspondence from the Coed Cymru Officer, Carmarthenshire County Council informing that as part of its Zero Carbon and Biodiversity Enhancement strategies, Carmarthenshire County Council was proposing to establish a native woodland on fields in the Bynea area.

This would involve planting around five hectares of native broadleaved trees and shrubs through a grant from the Welsh Government Glastir Woodland Creation Scheme. As well as sequestering carbon this new woodland would improve the biodiversity of these fields, currently used for grazing by creating new wildlife habitats for plant and animal species.

Following discussion, it was

RESOLVED that the information be noted with the scheme being supported.

157. 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.

**158. FINANCIAL SUMMARY REPORT
SANDY AND STRADEY COMMUNITY HALL – 31 AUGUST, 2023**

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, 2023.

19 September, 2023

**159. PONTHENRI PLAY AREA
TENDERS**

Cllr. A. Evans declared a personal interest in the following matter as he was involved with Ponthenri Park Committee.

Further to Minute No. 317 (10 January, 2023, refers), members considered the report of the Technical and General Operations Manager on tenders received for the new play area at Ponthenri Recreation Ground.

A play area project proposal was included in the council’s 2023 - 2027 capital scheme programme with a total budget of up to £117,000 being available. This was made up of £100,000 held in the project earmarked reserve; a virement proposal of £11,980 and a community donation of £5,020 to be made to the council towards the project from Ponthenri Park Committee.

Following discussion, whereby members considered the tender scoring matrix to help assess the tenders received, it was

RESOLVED that:

1. The tender received from Dragon Play Wales Limited, Britannia House, Caerphilly, CF83 3GG for the sum of £116,999 + VAT be accepted.
2. A virement of £11,980 be authorised from earmarked reserves towards the cost of the children’s play area bringing the total council contribution to £111,980.
3. The community contribution of £5,020 from Ponthenri Park Committee towards the scheme be accepted with thanks and that officers make the necessary arrangements for the receipt of same.
4. A planning application be submitted to Carmarthenshire County Council as part of the preliminary work to install the play area, with a view to the installation taking place in the New Year.

.....

The Meeting concluded at 5.45 p.m.

.....

The afore-mentioned Minutes were declared to be a true record of the proceedings and signed by the Chairman presiding thereat and were, on 10 October, 2023 adopted by the Council.