

**12 December, 2023**

**LLANELLI RURAL COUNCIL**

**Minute Nos: 266 – 273**

At a **COUNCIL** Meeting of the Llanelli Rural Council hosted at the Council Chamber, Vauxhall Buildings, Vauxhall, Llanelli, and via remote attendance on Tuesday, 12 December, 2023 at 6.00 p.m.

**Present:** Cllr. J. S. Phillips (Chairman)

**Cllrs.**

D. M. Cundy	J P. Hart
M. V. Davies	S. N. Lewis
S. L. Davies	A. G. Morgan
T. M. Donoghue	S. K. Nurse
A. Evans	A. J. Rogers
E. M. Evans	W. E. Skinner
N. Evans	A. G. Stephens
R. E. Evans	N. A. Stephens
S. M. T. Ford	B. M. Williams
O. Williams	

**266. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

An apology for absence was received from Cllr. S. R. Bowen.

**267. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

The following members declared an interest in the following matters:

<i>Minute No.</i>	<i>Councillor</i>	<i>Interest</i>
270	D. M. Cundy	Personal and prejudicial interest – the committee recommendation affected him in a personal capacity and a member of the public might reasonably perceive there was a conflict of interest which was likely to impair his ability to judge the public interest.
270	S. N. Lewis	Personal and prejudicial interest – the committee recommendation affected her in a personal capacity and a member of the public might reasonably perceive there was a conflict of interest which was likely to impair her ability to judge the public interest.

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**268. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

There was no public participation in the proceedings.

**269. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

**RESOLVED** that the following minutes (copies of which had been previously circulated to members) be confirmed and signed as a true record of proceedings:

Council	14 November, 2023
Policy and Resources Committee	15 November, 2023
Planning and Liaison Committee	20 November, 2023
Recreation and Welfare Committee	21 November, 2023
Finance and General Purposes Committee	29 November, 2023
Planning and Liaison Committee	11 December, 2023

*Cllr. A. Evans briefly left the council chamber during the discussion of the above item but re-joined the meeting shortly after.*

**270. COUNCIL CHAIRMAN ELECT AND VICE CHAIRMAN ELECT SELECTION FRAMEWORK**

*Cllrs. D. M. Cundy and S. N. Lewis declared personal and prejudicial interests in the following matter because the committee recommendation affected them in a personal capacity and a member of the public might reasonably perceive there was a conflict of interest which was likely to impair their ability to judge the public interest and left the meeting prior to the matter being discussed.*

Further to Minute No. 235, members proceeded to consider the following recommendation of the Policy and Resources Committee:

*“RECOMMENDED that the council supports the proposal to temporarily suspend the selection framework accordingly.”*

Lengthy discussion ensued during which a recorded vote was requested and the names of the members on how they voted upon the recommendation was recorded as follows:

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<i>For</i>	<i>Against</i>	<i>Abstained</i>
T. M. Donoghue	M. V. Davies	A. G. Morgan
E. M. Evans	S. L. Davies	
N. Evans	A. Evans	
R. E. Evans	S. M. T. Ford	
J. S. Phillips	J. P. Hart	
A. J. Rogers	S. K. Nurse	
W. E. Skinner	A. G. Stephens	
N. A. Stephens	O. Williams	
B. M. Williams		

And it was ultimately,

**RESOLVED** that the recommendation of the Policy and Resources Committee be accepted, the effect of which entailed Cllr S. N. Lewis being nominated to serve as Vice Chairman elect of Council in anticipation of the forthcoming civic year in May 2024; Cllr T. M. Donoghue subsequently agreeing to defer acceptance of the role for a period of twelve months, with Cllr D. M. Cundy being nominated to serve in the same capacity the year after.

**FURTHER RESOLVED** that, and for the avoidance of doubt, the temporary suspension of the ‘Council Chairman Elect and Vice Chairman Election Selection Framework’ shall be automatically lifted and re-instated once the above arrangements had fully taken effect.

*Cllrs. D. M. Cundy and S. N. Lewis returned to the meeting.*

## **271. LLANELLI JOINT BURIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

In reference to Minute No. 27, of the Llanelli Joint Burial Advisory Committee meeting held on 8 November, 2023, it was

**RESOLVED** that the following recommendation be accepted:

*“RECOMMENDED that the rent for the ensuing year be confirmed as £43,720 and that the Westerleigh Group Limited be notified accordingly”.*

## **272. SEALING OF DOCUMENTS SWISS VALLEY COMMUNITY HALL AND CAR PARK**

Correspondence was received from Carmarthenshire County Council enclosing the Lease documents for engrossment by the council.

The Technical and General Operations Manager informed members that the proposed lease agreement was for a term of 99 years with a peppercorn rent remaining at a charge of £20 per annum.

**RESOLVED** that the Chairman and Clerk be authorised to sign and affix the council’s seal to the Lease for Swiss Valley Community Hall and Car Park.

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**273. LLANELLI JOINT BURIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Members received the following Minutes of a meeting of the Llanelli Joint Burial Advisory Committee held on 13 September, 2023:

“At the Meeting of the Llanelli Joint Burial Advisory Committee held at Vauxhall Buildings, Vauxhall, Llanelli, and via remote attendance on Wednesday, 13 September 2023 at 4:00 pm.

Present: Cllrs.

T. M. Donoghue	S. Greaney
N. Evans	J. S. Phillips
S. Evans	J. Williams

Together with Mr A. Davies (Town Clerk)

**8. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN PRO TEMPORE**

RESOLVED that Cllr. T. M. Donoghue be appointed Chairman pro tempore.

**9. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. D. L. Darkin, B. A. L. Roberts and A. J. Rogers.

**10. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations of interest were made.

**11. MINUTES**

RESOLVED that the following minutes (copies of which had been previously circulated) be confirmed and signed as a true record of proceedings.

Annual Meeting - 14 June 2023

**12. INCOME AND EXPENDITURE REPORTS**

RECOMMENDED that the income and expenditure report up to 31 July 2023 be noted.

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13. MEMORY LETTER BOX

Cllr. S. Greaney requested whether a memory letterbox could be installed within the cemetery grounds. After a lengthy discussion it was

RECOMMENDED that officers look at sourcing an alternative to a letterbox due to the concerns regarding safety of members of staff when emptying the letterbox.

FURTHER RECOMMENDED that if an alternative can be found then installation would need to take place in a secure place, for instance the Chapel and furthermore members of the public would need to be informed of the policy parameters in regard to such things as general storage, and retention and disposal periods.

14. ICCM CEMETERY OF THE YEAR AWARDS

Members were informed that the cemetery had been put forward for the cemetery of the year awards and that staff had been invited to attend the awards.

RECOMMENDED that the information be noted and the results of the award be reported to a future meeting.

Cllr. T. M. Donoghue gave her apologies and left the meeting.

15. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN PRO TEMPORE

RESOLVED that Cllr. S. Greaney be appointed Chairman pro tempore for the remainder of the business to be transacted.

16. 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.

17. GRAVE RESERVATIONS

Members considered the Technical and General Operations Manager's report in respect of grave reservations. After a lengthy discussion it was

RECOMMENDED that:

1. In the interests of facilitating family interments in the Woodland and Muslim burial areas, one reservation shall be permitted upon application by the spouse/partner of the deceased. This was necessary as both areas only permitted single depth graves. Should other family members subsequently request to reserve an additional grave, following the initial reservation

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made by the spouse/partner, they would need to purchase the Exclusive Rights of Burial over the additional space in accordance with the cemetery rules and regulations.

2. Full kerb sets shall be permitted in the Muslim section, because this section of the cemetery was not classed as a lawn section due to the traditional mounding of the graves.

3. Issue 4 of the cemetery rules and regulations, reflecting the above policy changes and as presented in the report be approved.

.....”  
The meeting concluded at 4.35pm  
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**RESOLVED** that the minutes and the recommendations contained therein be received and accepted.

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The meeting concluded at 6.35 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 January, 2024 adopted by the Council.