

7 May, 2024

LLANELLI RURAL COUNCIL

Minute Nos: 475 – 478

At a Special 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, 7 May, 2024 at 4.45 p.m.

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

Cllrs.

T. M. Donoghue	S. N. Lewis
E. M. Evans	A. G. Morgan
R. E. Evans	J. S. Phillips
J. P. Hart	A. J. Rogers
A. G. Stephens	

Absent: O. Williams

Together with Mr. C. Griffiths of WG Architects Ltd.

475. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

An apology for absence was received from Cllr. B. M. Williams.

476. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following members declared an interest in the following matters:

<i>Minute No.</i>	<i>Councillor</i>	<i>Interest</i>
478	J. P. Hart	Personal interest – member of: Llwynhendy and Pemberton Forum: Our Llwynhendy Steering Group: Llwynhendy Hub steering group and Provision Llwynhendy.
478	A. G. Stephens	Personal interest – Trustee and Treasurer, Pro-vision Llwynhendy.

477. 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.

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**478. LLWYNHENDY HUB PROJECT
TENDERS**

Cllr. J. P. Hart declared a personal interest in the following matter as he was a member of Llwynhendy and Pemberton Forum; Our Llwynhendy steering group: Llwynhendy Hub steering group and a committee member Pro-vision Llwynhendy. Cllr. A. G. Stephens declared a personal interest in the following matter as he was a Trustee and the Treasurer of Pro-vision Llwynhendy.

Further to Minute No. 414, the chairman welcomed to the meeting the council's consultant architect and invited him to address members in regard to the tenders received to deliver the project at Llwynhendy Library, Gwili Fields.

The consultant architect guided members through the tender report (previously circulated with the agenda). Members were informed that six reputable companies had been invited to submit tender bids and three unmarked tenders were returned to the council offices within the specified timescale. These tenders were opened by the council chairman on the 23 April 2024. The consultant architect stated the three competitive tenders received ranged 30% from the lowest to the highest bid (£684,753.82 to £872,000.40). He then provided an evaluation of the tenders submitted, confirming all conformed to contract and content in terms of the lump sum provided. By way of comparison the two lowest tender bids were within 2% of one another but it was evident from the tender breakdowns there were several fluctuations across various elements that needed further scrutiny. In particular further breakdowns for Mechanical and Electrical content as well as further detail regarding provisional costs, assumptions and exclusions was required. The architect stated he expected with the applicants, to resolve these questions before being able to fully recommend the successful tenderer for the council's consideration, in plenty of time for a suitable start date on site. It was noted that one of the lowest two tenderers had specified a shorter tender period to complete the work and this also needed further investigation.

In terms of moving forward and on the basis of the initial evaluation, the architect suggested that the two lowest submissions could form part of funding applications in advance of contract award and suggested that further evaluation and negotiation be embarked upon with each of the two lowest tenderers to maintain competition as a decision was ultimately being finalised.

Following discussion, it was

RESOLVED that the architect's report be accepted and that the architect be authorised to enter into further discussions with the respective representatives of the two lowest tenderers, namely from Martin Taffetsauffer Building and Civic Engineering Contractor Limited and Calon Construction Limited in the interests of securing best value for the project, prior to the council selecting the preferred tender bid.

FURTHER RESOLVED that the architect also be authorised to thank and notify the third tenderer for submitting a competitive tender for the project, which however, had proved to be unsuccessful on this occasion.

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The Meeting concluded at 5.05 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 16 May, 2024 adopted by the Council.