

16 July, 2024

LLANELLI RURAL COUNCIL

Minute Nos: 88 – 93

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, 16 July, 2024 at 4.45 p.m.

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

Cllrs.

T. M. Donoghue	J. S. Phillips
A. Evans	A. J. Rogers
E. M. Evans	A. G. Stephens
S. N. Lewis	W. E. Skinner

Absent: M. V. Davies, J. P. Hart

88. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence was received from Cllrs. A. G. Morgan and O. Williams (Cllr. A. Evans deputising).

89. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following members declared an interest in the following matters:

<i>Minute No.</i>	<i>Councillor</i>	<i>Interest</i>
92(1) & (2)	S. N. Lewis	Personal interest – she was the Treasurer, Dafen Welfare Management Committee.
92(1) & (2)	A. J. Rogers	Personal interest – he was the Secretary, Dafen Welfare Management Committee.
93	A. Evans	Personal interest – member of Ponthenri Hall Management Committee.

90. COMMUNITY FACILITIES – MAINTENANCE WORKS

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

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**91. FURNACE COMMUNITY HALL
(1) BALCONY**

Further to Minute No. 58 members received an update report from the Deputy Clerk on the repair scheme proposal in regard to the terrace structure at Furnace community hall.

Having considered the Deputy Clerk's update, members proceeded to consider the contractor's goodwill gesture of offering to complete all balcony repair works in the current financial year on the understanding the contractor would subsequently submit a final invoice for the works in the sum of £29,327.87 in the next financial year. This sum represented the variance between the total costs of works priced at £68,907.87 less the current sum held in budget of £39,580.

Following discussion, it was

RESOLVED that:

(1) The information be noted.

(2) The contractors gesture of goodwill be accepted and in view of such, the identified variance of £29,327.87 shall be included in the council budget for 2025/26. However, the inclusion of this sum shall be further reviewed once a new hall management committee had been established, following the calling of an Extraordinary General Meeting. The new hall management committee may wish to contribute towards the balcony repair costs from the hall's general reserve balances.

(2) HALL MANGEMENT COMMITTEE

Further to Minute No. 58, the local members for the Hengoed Ward informed the committee that a public meeting was to be convened within the next fortnight at Furnace Community Hall, the purpose of which was to establish a new hall management committee.

Following discussion, it was

RESOLVED that the information be noted and a further progress report shall be presented to the Recreation and Welfare Committee scheduled for 17 September, 2024.

92. DAFEN PARK

Cllr. S N. Lewis declared a personal interest in items (1) and (2) below as she was the Treasurer, Dafen Welfare Management Committee. Cllr. A. J. Rogers declared a personal interest in items (1) and (2) below as he was the Secretary, Dafen Welfare Management Committee.

(1) CAMERA INSTALLATION

Members considered correspondence from the Secretary, Dafen AFC requesting permission to install a pole mounted sports camera on the football pitch at Dafen Park.

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The camera would be located on the senior pitch to the rear of the park and its design and configuration would be compliant to satisfy data protection legislation in that the camera tracked the football not people. It was suggested the camera would be positioned on the half way line and controlled by Dafen Welfare's safeguarding officer.

The camera would be active during match times and would require electricity and WIFI to function, the cost of which would be met by Dafen AFC. The camera use was predominantly for senior teams, but in instances where junior teams played on the pitch and wanted to use the camera, both home and away teams (including parents/guardians) would be required to consent to filming, in accordance with FAW Photography & Filming Guidelines.

Following discussion, it was

RESOLVED that the request be supported on the basis that Carmarthenshire County Council (as landlord) had no objection to the request, but from this council's standpoint (as the current licensee of the park) there were two conditions to satisfy namely, the football club agreed to erect the camera on the halfway line on the eastern flank of the football pitch to prevent the cycle path being caught on camera when filming was taking place. Furthermore, the football club shall enquire with the Information Commissioner whether it needed to register itself as a Data Controller and Processor to comply with extant Data Protection legislation, with the club informing the council of the outcome as a matter of course.

FURTHER RESOLVED the football club shall be liable for all associated costs with the erection of the camera, the installation of the electricity supply, Wi-Fi capability, and other related professional costs in ascertaining whether planning permission was required and potentially having to register as a Data Controller and Processor with the Information Commissioner's office.

(2) ASSET TRANSFER

Members considered a request from the Secretary, Dafen AFC to asset transfer the senior football pitch at Dafen Park to the club.

The clerk informed members that contrary to the opinion expressed by Carmarthenshire County Council (CCC) officers in correspondence entered into with the football club and shared with council officers, that the land parcel be sub-let by the Rural Council to the club once it had been granted a lease for the park; it was preferred that the asset transfer of the land should be directly enacted as a separate lease agreement with CCC (the current landlord) and the club. Thereby omitting this council from any involvement in the anticipated legal transaction and the subsequent ongoing administration of the lease arrangements with the football club thereafter, once the lease had been granted, much in the same way as the current lease arrangement operated with the county council and Dafen Cricket Club at the park.

Arising out of discussion of the above and in light of the football club wishing to asset transfer the pitch members had no objection to the club constructing a hard standing to facilitate spectating of games on the eastern and southern flanks of the football pitch, and it was

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RESOLVED that:

1. The asset transfer request be supported and that Carmarthenshire County Council be notified about the council’s preference that the anticipated lease entered into with the football club ought to be formulated directly with the county council, with no involvement of this council.
2. Upon completion of the asset transfer, the football club will assume all responsibility for the general management and upkeep of the facility at its own expense, with the council withdrawing its free ground maintenance support, but should the club require the council to reinstate the service this could be offered on a chargeable basis for a reasonable fee to cover the council’s actual and necessary costs in providing the service.
3. The construction of a hardstanding on the eastern and southern flanks of the senior pitch at the football club’s own expense to facilitate spectating be noted and approved.

**93. PONTHENRI COMMUNITY HALL
CYLCH**

Cllr. A. Evans declared a personal interest in the following item as he was a committee member, Ponthenri Hall Management Committee.

Members received correspondence from the Leader, Cylch Meithrin Ponthenri requesting permission to make improvements to the Cylch room space at Ponthenri Community Hall.

The suggested improvements included replacing the flooring to a hard wearing non-slip floor; replacement kitchen and low level fitted unit for the children to access. The Cylch Leader stated in the correspondence that presumptuously a grant application had been submitted for the adaptations to be made at the hall but if the council permission was not granted then the application would be withdrawn.

The Deputy Clerk informed members that the Cylch Meithrin was using the hall as a casual hirer but the council should have a formal agreement in place with the organisation so that it could properly use the space on a formal tenancy basis should it desire to make permanent changes or improvements to the room space which it solely occupied.

During discussion the local member opined that the Cylch Meithrin had entered into a longstanding formal contract with the hall management committee, and it was

RESOLVED that permission be granted in principle to the request but subject to additional information being obtained and reported back to a future meeting of the Recreation and Welfare Committee about the Cylch Methrin’s current and future relationship and status with the hall management committee.

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The Meeting concluded at 5.30 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 10 September, 2024 adopted by the Council.