

27 August, 2024

LLANELLI RURAL COUNCIL

Minute Nos: 124 – 128

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, 27 August, 2024 at 4.45 p.m.

Present:

Cllrs.

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

Absent:

M. V. Davies, J. P. Hart, O. Williams

124. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN PRO-TEMPORE

RESOLVED that Cllr. A. G. Stephens be appointed Chairman Pro-tempore.

125. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence was received from Cllrs. D. M. Cundy (Cllr. R. E. Evans deputising) and A. J. Rogers (Cllr. N. Evans deputising).

126. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr. A. G. Stephens declared a personal interest in Minute No. 128 as he was a Trustee and the Treasurer of Pro-Vision Llwynhendy.

127. 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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128. GWILI FIELDS, 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. 284, (19 December, 2023 refers) and Minute No. 371, (21 February, 2024, refers) members received the Deputy Clerk’s report informing of the recent tendering exercise for the ground drainage and landscaping of Gwili Fields.

Members were informed that an invitation to tender was issued to five companies, four of which responded.

W. Griffiths Architects had evaluated the tenders received and recommended that the tender of £256,539.95 plus vat received from Emroch Landscapes of Duffryn Uchaf Farm, Port Talbot be accepted.

The tender specification encompassed all elements of the drainage scheme to satisfy the Sustainable Drainage Approval Body (SAB) in relation to the new play scheme and footpath installations as well as the council’s ambitions for wider ground improvements, drainage and soft landscaping.

The Deputy Clerk explained that it was clear from the quotes received that it would not be possible to undertake all the works at this time due to the funds available and therefore certain elements of the council’s larger drainage and landscaping ambitions would likely be held in abeyance for the time being. Further negotiations would be required with the appointed contractor to deliver all the necessary elements of the project focusing on supporting the installation of the new play equipment and footpaths.

The Deputy Clerk informed members that the council’s architect had encountered some delay in obtaining replies from Carmarthenshire County Council’s Planning Department in relation to the discharge of certain planning conditions associated with the project’s original planning consent. This had a knock on effect with the critical path of the project and if not addressed this might negatively impact upon the drawing down of the Shared Prosperity Fund grant award for the installation of the play equipment and general landscaping of the site, which had to be completed by the end of December 2024. The Deputy Clerk informed members that a meeting with a Planning Officer was imminent and it was hoped that a resolution would be found to navigate a path through the planning process.

Following discussion, it was

RESOLVED that the tender received from Emroch Landscapes, Duffryn Uchaf Farm, Port Talbot, SA13 2YA be accepted and that officers along with the council’s architect be authorised to enter into negotiations with the appointed contractor to deliver all the necessary elements of the project within the available budget to support the installation of the play area and undertake as much of the landscaping provisions as possible.

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The Meeting concluded at 4.53 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.