

LLANELLI RURAL COUNCIL

MEETING NOTES

At a Recreation and Welfare Committee Meeting hosted at the Council Chamber, Vauxhall Buildings, Vauxhall, Llanelli and via remote attendance on Tuesday, 16 December, 2025, at 4.45 p.m.

PRESENT: Cllrs. S. R. Bowen, D. M. Cundy (committee chairman), N. Evans, R. E. Evans, S. N. Lewis, J. S. Phillips, A. J. Rogers, W. E. Skinner, A. G. Stephens and O. Williams.

ALSO PRESENT: Cllr A. Evans in his capacity as the chairman of Ponthenri AFC to make representations about agenda item 9, prior to any discussion taking place, and Mr B. Hughes, Director of LiveFree Adventures Ltd in regard to making representations about agenda item 10 (2).

ABSENT: Cllr. J. P. Hart.

Agenda items:

1. Apologies for absence.

Cllrs. T. M. Donoghue (Cllr. R. E. Evans deputising), E. M. Evans (Cllr. N. Evans deputising) and A. G. Morgan (Cllr. S. R. Bowen deputising).

2. Members Declarations of Interest.

Cllr. N. Evans	- Item 4	– personal
Cllr. N. Evans	- Item 7	– personal
Cllr. N. Evans	- Item 11	– personal
Cllr. R. E. Evans	- Item 7	– personal
Cllr. R. E. Evans	- Item 11	– personal
Cllr. S. N. Lewis	- Item 7	– personal
Cllr. S. N. Lewis	- Item 11	– personal and prejudicial
Cllr. A. J. Rogers	- Item 7	– personal
Cllr. A. J. Rogers	- Item 11	– personal and prejudicial

3. Community Facilities – Maintenance Works.

Report noted.

4. Phil Bennett Resource Centre – Car Park – matter requested for inclusion on the agenda by Cllr. N. Evans.

It was agreed to carry forward a sum of £19405 to tarmac the un-made area of Felinfoel Recreation Ground car park for further consideration alongside other budget priorities when considering the budget estimates of income and expenditure for 2026/27.

5. VAT Partial Exemption – to consider a letter received from DCK Accounting Solutions regarding the VAT partial exemptions and its implications for the council and to agree the council's response.

The advice received from the council's appointed accountants was accepted in full noting that the council had 'Opted to Tax' Canolfan Llwynhendy and that looking forward to the next financial year the council would also need to 'Opt to Tax' three further income generating facilities, namely: Swiss Valley Community Hall, Swiss Valley Reservoir and Furnace Community Hall as taxable businesses. Classifying these properties as taxable business activities would remove the substantial input VAT costs from the Partial Exemption Calculation entirely but would free-up the £7,500 de-minimis allowance which could then be reserved for future non-business premises that the council may be looking to refurbish.

6. Playground Inspection Reports – to receive the playground inspection reports for the council's play facilities from ReZabond Surface & Play Limited and to agree the council's response.

The inspection reports were noted but regarding the following play areas, it was accepted that refurbishment works (together with the estimated costs) would need to be carried out within the next 12 months as follows:

- (1) Berwick Park Play Area, Bynea a sum of £45,000 shall be included in next year's estimates of income and expenditure for 2026/27 to replace various items of play equipment and to provide new safety flooring.
 - (2) Parc Elin Mair Play Area, Five Roads a sum of £40,000 shall be included in next year's estimates of income and expenditure for 2026/27 to replace various items of play equipment and the existing rubber tile flooring, noting the play area could conceivably be relocated to a different area of the park that was less susceptible to surface water run-off and ground water saturation from the adjacent neighbouring field.
 - (3) Dafen Park Play Area, Dafen a sum of £15,000 shall be included in next year's estimates of income and expenditure for 2026/27 to re-install a select number of play equipment items.
7. Dafen Park – Astroturf – further to Minute No. 235, to receive an update report from the Facilities Manager on proposed repairs to the facility including proposals to introduce a regular inspection regime.

The report findings were noted and the key actions points associated with conducting the immediate repairs and the planned cycle of pro-active inspection checks to safeguard the playing surface warranty were accepted.
8. Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act, 1960 – it was agreed to exclude members of the public during consideration of the following agenda items because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.
9. Ponthenri Changing Rooms – Shower Water Heating System – to consider the Deputy Clerk's report.

The matter was determined in private.

10. Swiss Valley Lower Lliedi Reservoir:
- (1) Notice of Application for Planning Permission (To Landowner) – to note correspondence from LiveFree Adventures Ltd regarding the following at Reservoir View, Lower Lliedi Reservoir, Swiss Valley, Llanelli:
 - (i) Installation of business wayfinding signage at the entrance to the car park off the A476.
 - (ii) Change of use on the building from D2 to A3 to regularise planning.
 - (iii) Planning application for the installation of an outdoor contrast-therapy facility comprising a wood-fired sauna, three cold-plunge tubs, two outdoor rinses, one drench bucket, and an associated changing area.
 - (iv) Installation of a third 20-foot storage container alongside the two existing units, to provide additional secure storage for accessible paddlesports' equipment and associated safety gear.
 - (2) Construction of Open-sided Woodland Roundhouse Shelter – to receive Mr B.H. and consider a request in principle for permission to erect a roundhouse shelter from LiveFree Adventures Limited and to designate the company as a licensed provider for organised land-based activity delivery within the woodland area adjacent to the visitor hub building.

The matter was determined in private.

11. Dafen Park – Ground Drainage – further to Minute No. 202, to consider correspondence and a quotation presented by Cllr. A. J. Rogers acting in his capacity as Secretary to the Dafen Welfare Committee regarding the council possibly committing funding in next year's estimates of income and expenditure to support curtailed alternative flood alleviation works to part of the cricket outfield extending from the cricket square towards the clubhouse as an initial first phase measure.

The matter was determined in private.

12. To receive Statement of Accounts and to consider providing financial assistance to:
(1) Trallwm Community Hall – 31 March, 2025 (further to Minute No. 54(2)).

The matter was determined in private.

The meeting concluded at 6.45 p.m.