

LLANSTEFFAN AND LLANYBRI COMMUNITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING HELD IN LLANYBRI COMMUNITY HALL

21st MARCH 2016

Chairman Councillor C Jones

Present Councillors D Hunter, G Howells, A Cooper, M James & B Ryder

Apologies Councillors D B Davies, E I Davies and S Taylor

Clerk L Dutch

1. DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS & DISPENSATIONS

Cllr Jones as Llansteffan School Governor Council Rep; Cllr Howells as Llansteffan Church Warden, Parochial Church Council Member & Llansteffan School Governor Chairman and Community Rep, also a personal interest in relation to W/33381, so Cllr Howells would speak but not vote; Cllr Dr Hunter as Llansteffan Memorial Hall Chairman; Cllr Cooper as Chairman of Llansteffan First Responders Association.

2. MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 15th FEBRUARY 2016

The minutes of the meeting held on 15th February were confirmed and signed as a true record, subject to the following amendments: (i) Cllr Cooper was 'Chairman' of First Responders, not Secretary, and (ii) under Min.472 the S.137 donation to Llansteffan Hall was 'towards' the purchase of fire doors, not 'for fire door purchase'.

Min
No

3. MATTERS ARISING FOR INFORMATION

Llanybri road diversion signs

Following resurfacing works, the diversion signs had not been removed.

507

Pil Glas to Llanybri Road

The request for passing places had been acknowledged in writing by Highways; requests from across the county were in the hundreds; a prioritization system would be applied.

508

Human Resources Committee

Cllrs Howells and Cooper to meet for the Clerk's appraisal on 14th April.

509

February Payment of Accounts

Llansteffan Community School's S.137 Donation towards Key Stage 2 swimming lessons for 2016 of £683 would be paid in April 2016, as in the previous year. £126.55 had been raised towards school swimming lessons at the Noson Lawen in the Inn at the Sticks on 5th March.

510

4. MORFA DRAINAGE SCHEME & SEWERAGE SYSTEM

The long-awaited meeting convened by Angela Burns AM between County Council, Dwr Cymru, Community Council and Local Resident representatives would take place in Llansteffan on 29th March. Members reiterated frustrations with the misinformation and/or no information that had been supplied by the County engineers. Residents living opposite the concrete chamber on The Green had outstanding complaints relating to property damage and the unacceptable deterioration of the visual amenity. A letter from Mr H Iorwerth summarised the issues. The technical reinstatement advice supplied by the County Rural Conservation Manager had apparently been ignored.

511

Resolved

- i) **That a comprehensive list of issues prevailing on The Green following completion of the drainage works be prepared by Chair and Clerk prior to the Angela Burns AM meeting on 29th March in Llansteffan.** 512
- ii) **That the outfall pipe below the sea wall and the regular pooling-up of water below be investigated for public health and safety reasons.** 513
- iii) **That the sandy area of The Green around the chamber be discretely fenced-off to allow natural regeneration of the grass sward.** 514

5. COUNCIL PROJECT UPDATES

a) Llanybri Playground

Cllr Charles reported that salvaged road planings had been laid on the footpath to the playground site, free of charge. Access gates had also been donated and installed free of charge. Cllr Charles was thanked for his hard work. 515

The Clerk provided a financial overview for the £35,000 playground project: Awards for All Wales had approved a £5,000 grant to supply and install the DDA-approved Kompan Supernova Roundabout. Funds totalled £24,790. Cllr Ryder explained that Llanybri fund-raising committee had devised a list of events for March and April and requested an extension to the 31st March deadline. The Chair thanked all involved for their invaluable fund-raising efforts. 516

Resolved

- i) That the fund-raising deadline for the Llanybri Playground Project be extended to 30th April 2016;** 517
- ii) That the Llanybri Playground Planning Group be authorised to meet with Sunshine Playgrounds which won the tender to investigate timescales for placing an order which would guarantee an installation date before the summer holidays.** 518

b) RDP Feasibility Study

The Council position statement on the County Council asset transfer request re the beach playground had been submitted to the County Asset Transfer Working Group, as per the recommendation of the Corporate Property Officer. No further action could be taken regarding an RDP funding application for a Council-commissioned feasibility study until Welsh Government had given principal authorities the go-ahead, likely in mid-April. A study could be two-pronged: (i) Investigating the evidence in support of the argument that County Council must retain full responsibility for public assets in tourist villages; and (ii) investigating the feasibility of the Council taking responsibility for a package of income-generating and non-income generating public assets in Llansteffan to achieve a degree of sustainability. 519

Resolved

The Clerk be requested to provide a paper outlining a proposal for a Rural Development Plan funding application for an Asset Transfer feasibility study at the April/May meeting. 520

c) Village planning proposal

The Chair explained that preoccupations with the reinstatement of The Green following the completion of the Drainage Scheme had meant that little progress had been made with this proposal. Despite this, village planning represented a project that she would be happy to lead on when no longer Chair. 521

6.REVIEW OF INTERNAL CONTROL & INTERNAL AUDIT

The Draft Review of the Effectiveness of Internal Audit 2015/16 – an additional annual task demanded by Wales Audit Office – was outlined by the Clerk. The review covered ‘Meeting the Standards’ and ‘Characteristics of Effectiveness’ following a template recommended by the external auditor. Progress achieved by Council had been the approval of Financial Regulations (19.10.15). Areas for development included to approve the internal auditor’s terms of reference and an internal audit plan. 522

Following the recent untimely death of the Council’s internal auditor, the Clerk presented a review of current regulations and a proposal for the supply of an internal audit service to the Council, which had to be put in place immediately as the end of the 2015/16 financial year loomed. Members considered the three options: (i) Auditing Solutions Ltd, established in 2003 specifically to supply an internal audit service to councils and other public bodies in line with Accounts and Audit Regulations, quote: £180 + VAT; (ii) Nicola Eyre, freelance accountant, currently Clerk to Governing Body of Bridgend College, quote: £150 + VAT; and (iii) LHP 523

Chartered Accountants, Carmarthen, but no quote supplied.

The Clerk recommended that the Council appointed Auditing Solutions Ltd for the following reasons: (i) Council, staff, governance and public monies administered in the community interest would be protected by a company fully conversant with the local council sector; (ii) the company demonstrated professional competence in implementing the requirements of the Accounts and Audit (Wales) Regulations 2014 and the 'thematic' annual demands now being made by the Wales Audit Office to professionalise the local council sector; (iii) the company could claim full independence from Llansteffan and Llanybri Community Council; and (iv) the company has provided the internal audit service for Llanelli Rural Council for three years or more and been well recommended. 524

Resolved

- i) That the Draft Review of the Effectiveness of Internal Audit 2015/16 be approved. 525
- ii) That Auditing Solutions Ltd be advised of the Council's decision to accept its quotation of £180 plus VAT to undertake the Internal Audit for 2015/16 with immediate effect. 526

7. DRAFT SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING GUIDANCE

Resolved

That Carmarthenshire County Council's consultation on its Draft Supplementary Planning Guidance (Archaeology, Rural Development, Nature Conservation, Place-making and Design, and Leisure and Open Spaces in New Developments) be considered at the Planning Committee meeting on 6th April. 527

8. COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT

No report was received in Cllr Davies's absence. Members wished him a speedy recovery. 528

9. HEALTH & SAFETY REPORTS

Morfa Playground

Basic maintenance duties would be undertaken as and when the weather improved. 529

Carrier's Lane

Little change other than regular litter and dog fouling, kindly removed by Cllr Howells, and damage to the field surface when a contractor cut the hedge of a property adjoining the lane. 530

Morfa

No further issues reported since the January inspection. 531

Croft

Minor littering and dog fouling a growing problem with increasing numbers of visitors. 532

Headland Path

The low branch behind the shelter needed to be removed as it obstructed the path; the cliff path had not yet been scraped but better weather had helped underfoot; generally little progress made in addressing the outstanding issues raised with Countryside Access. 533

Hen Gapel

DA Siggery Ltd had commenced the major repairs to the chapel tower roof on 17th March, which would include the installation of new lead work. The works to be part-funded by a 50% Ancient Monuments Grant awarded by Cadw Welsh Government. 534

10. PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS

Resolved

i) That the following accounts be approved for payment:-

NAME	DETAILS	AMOUNT	
SE Dutch	Salary/expenses	785.31	535
Malcolm Evans	Morfa playground maintenance	136.00	536
Jonathan Davies	Hen Gapel maintenance	60.00	537
HMRC	NI/Tax payments - quarter end 5 April'16	127.39	538
Llansteff Sports Club	Morfa Maintenance Grant 2016/17	750.00	539
SWALEC	Castle lighting (Direct Debit payment)	88.84	540
EI Davies	Repair of Hen Gapel history panel frame	35.00	541
Pro Print	Copies	18.89	542
TOTAL:		2001.43	

ii) That the S.137 Donation to Llansteffan School of £683 towards pupil's swimming lessons for 2016 be paid in April 2016, as in the previous year. 543

iii) That the need to include the approved 10% increase in pay for M Evans and J Davies for the March stages in the next pay cheques be approved. 544

11. CORRESPONDENCE

Resolved

That the following items of correspondence be noted: 545

Welsh Government	Shared Purpose: Shared Future – Statutory Guidance Well-Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015
Public Services Ombudsman For Wales	Principles of Good Administration & Good Records Management
Play Wales	'Play for Wales' magazine

Tower Mint Ltd - HM Queen Elizabeth 11 90th birthday commemorative medal

Resolved

That the sample HM Queen Elizabeth 11 90th birthday commemorative medal be given to Llansteffan School for the benefit of the pupils. 546

Simon Hart MP - Superfast Cymru meeting

A letter was received about a meeting in Whitland on 6th April. No interest expressed. 547

Carms County Council – Access to Social Housing Consultation

Resolved

That Carmarthenshire County Council's consultation on Access to Social Housing be considered at the Planning Committee meeting on 6th April. 548

E. Rees - Llanybri & WW1 Exhibition

An email was received requesting a Llanybri councillor to address attendees at the opening of the exhibition on Saturday 16th April. 549

Resolved

That Cllr Brian Charles be authorized to address attendees at the WW1 exhibition. 550

D. Hunter Chairman - Llansteffan Memorial Hall Committee

A letter was received requesting the Council to elect its representative to attend Hall Committee meetings, in accordance with its constitution. AGM to be on 13th April. 551

Resolved

That Cllr Cooper be re-elected to serve as Llansteffan Memorial Hall Committee representative for 2016/17. 552

BT – Contract to Adopt Kiosk on Llansteffan Square

Resolved

That due to delays in the proposed private arts project, the adoption process be postponed and BT be informed accordingly. 553

Financial Requests 554

Cruse Bereavement Care

Royal Welsh Agricultural Society

SW Wales Macmillan Cancer Support

12. PLANNING

Resolved

i) **That no objections be raised to the following application on the basis that the proposal complies with LDP Policy TSM1 Static Caravan and Chalet Sites in increasing the sustainability of local businesses, subject to the attaching of a condition specifying that any new static caravans must be coloured a discrete green to blend within the rural landscape (Council had received a report from Planning Committee which had considered the application and local objections):** 555

W/33381 Proposed 12 new and 2 relocated static caravans and site improvements at Waunygroes Caravan Site, Llanybri.

ii) **That initial observations to the following application be discussed at the Planning Committee meeting on 6th April in advance of the formal re-consultation:** 556

W/31230 Proposals to develop 19 houses on land to the rear of Maesgriffith, Llansteffan and 6 public parking spaces.

13. MATTERS FOR INFORMATION ONLY

- Top of Plas Hill, the grips on either side of Llanybri road needed to be smoothed. 557
- BT to be made aware of phone cables lying on top of hedges near Llyshendy. 558
- The National Botanic Garden South African flowers embroidery was magnificent. 559
- The footings at Llys Steffan under construction were lawful under original consent. 560
- 'Clean Water for Wildlife' Survey kits were distributed to interested members. 561

The meeting closed at 21:02.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

Monday 16th May 2016 in Llansteffan Memorial Hall

Monday 20th June 2016 in Llansteffan Memorial Hall

Signed..... Chairman/Vice Chairman Date

