



LLANDOVERY TOWN COUNCIL

CYNGOR TREF LLANYMDDYFRI

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD IN THE TOWN HALL, LLANDOVERY ON MONDAY 21 OCTOBER 2013 AT 7.00 PM.

COFNODION Y CYFARFOD BLYNYDDOL A GYNHALIWYD YN NEUADD Y DREF, LLANYMDDYFRI AR NOSLUN, HYDREF 21 2013 AM 7.00 YH.

COUNCILLORS PRESENT: Chairing the meeting: The Mayor, Cllr Rees.

Councillors: Jackson, Jones, Wright, Smith, Logsdail, Hudson, Thomas, Ennion, Long, and Morgan.

Mr David Long and Mrs Natasha Morgan were welcomed as new co-opted Members of the Council. Each took their Oath of Office, and signed their Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE / YMDDIHEURIADAU

Cllrs Blud, Dorothy Burgess and Nigel Burgess.

2. DECLARATIONS BY COUNCILLORS OF ANY PECUNIARY & NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS / DATGANIADAU'R AELODAU O DDIDDORDEBAU PERSONOL

Cllr Jackson declared an interest in item 9. 1.

3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING / CADARNHAU'R COFNODION

It was **resolved** that the minutes from 16 September 2013 be approved as a correct record, subject to "Not applicable" under "1. Apologies for absence" being understood as meaning no member was absent.

4. POLICE MATTERS & REPORT / ADRODDIAD YR HEDDLU – MATERION

No Police in attendance.

5. MAYOR'S REPORT / ADRODDIAD Y MAER

September

- 9 Prize giving day at Pantycelyn School.
- 16 Chair, Town Council Meeting.
- 16 Chair, Planning Committee meeting.
- 22 Appreciation party for retired members of Town Council at Gas Cottage.
- 25 League of Friends meeting.
- 27 Adjudicating window displays for Sheep Festival.
- 27 Attending Art Exhibition at Castle Hotel.
- 27 Meeting with Welsh Secretary at Castle Hotel dinner.
- 28 Opening of the Sheep Festival with Jonathan Edwards AM.
- 29 Prize giving day at Sheep Festival.
- 29 Meeting with William Powell AM
- 30 Llandoverly Town Council Hub Committee.

October

- 7 Llandoverly in Bloom Committee meeting.
- 7 Town Lights & Christmas Festivities Committee meeting.
- 7 Chair, Planning Committee meeting.
- 7 Heritage Museum Steering Committee meeting.
- 8 Meeting with Carmarthenshire County Council concerning the Bawddwr.
- 11 "Victory over Cancer" concert in Myddfai.
- 12 Noson Lawen at Pantycelyn School.

With reference to the meeting with Carmarthenshire County Council concerning the Bawddwr on 8 October, members were informed that the works on the Bawddwr have been completed, including the clearance of the final 200 metres on the land behind the properties in Broad Street. Possible work on the sluice gate upstream of the town was discussed, and it is understood that this subject to ongoing review. It was agreed that this matter should be pursued.

It was **resolved** that a letter of thanks be sent to the County Council for the job done.

6. COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT / ADRODDIAD Y CYNGHORWR SIR

Cllr Jackson informed members that a grant to fund a Development Officer to assist with the regeneration plan had been approved. At a recent meeting with the College Warden, the Warden had indicated that he was hopeful that the College could use the buildings at Pantycelyn School, and was very concerned about the proposed plan to develop the building and land for residential use. Cllr Jackson gave advanced notice about a proposal from County to install raised platform type speed bumps in Broad Street, which will be on the agenda for the meeting in November 2013. In answer to a question about the playing fields at Pantycelyn School, Cllr Jackson had no knowledge about the conditions of the freehold.

7. COMMITTEE REPORTS / ADRODDIADAU PWYLLGORAU

7. 1. Planning Committee / Pwyllgor Cynllunio

1. The minutes from the meeting on 16 September 2013 were noted.
2. The minutes from the meeting on 7 October 2013 were noted.

7. 2. Hub Committee / Pwyllgor Hub

1. The minutes from the meeting on 30 September 2013, and the recommendations at items 9. 1, 9. 2., and 11. in the minutes, were considered.

It was **resolved** that the minutes be noted, and that the recommendations at items 9. 1. (a monetary limit of £20 be set for a single item to be purchased from the Hub Petty Cash), 9. 2. (the Hub Manager be paid mileage allowance of 45 pence per mile for any business trips), and 11. (tenders for the heating system maintenance contract be dealt with by the Full Council at the meeting on 21 October 2013), be approved.

7. 3. Llandovery in Bloom Committee / Pwyllgor Gwyl Flodau, Llanymddyfri

1. The minutes from the meeting on 7 October 2013, and the recommendation at item 4 in the minutes, were considered.

It was **resolved** that the minutes be noted, and that the recommendation at item 4. (that the tender from Alan Morgan for a one-off clear-up of the grassed area at Victoria Crescent/ Maesglas be accepted) be approved.

7. 4. Town Lights & Christmas Festivities Committee / Pwyllgor Goleuadau Nadolig

1. The minutes from the meeting on 7 October 2013, and the recommendations at items 4. 1. and 4. 2. in the minutes, were considered.

It was **resolved** that the minutes be noted, and that the recommendations at items 4. 1. (that the tender in connection with the Christmas Lights from Richard Evans Electrical Contractor Ltd be accepted), and 4. 2. (that the tender in connection with the Christmas Tree from Mr Tony Davies be accepted), be approved.

2. An update on planned arrangements for the Christmas Lights switch-on evening was received and noted. The proposed use of an improved PA system was welcomed.

7. 5. Heritage Museum Steering Committee / Pwyllgor Llywio Amgueddfa Treftadaeth

1. The minutes from the meeting on 7 October 2013, and the recommendation at item 5 in the minutes, were considered. A verbal update on the property situation was received.

It was **resolved** that the minutes be noted, and that the recommendation at item 5 (to agree the Committee's Terms of reference) be approved.

8. TOWN CLERK'S REPORT / ADRODDIAD Y CLERC Y TREF

No report this month.

9. MATTERS ARISING / UNRHYW FATER ARALL

1. Action to note the award of the British Empire Medal to Mrs Mary Jackson was considered. It was agreed that the award was extremely well-deserved and recognised the enormous amount of charity and voluntary work that Mrs Jackson had done for the town.

It was **resolved** that a letter of congratulations be sent.

2. An update from the Working Party considering organising an event to recognise the work and service of ex-Councillor Edgar Jones and Mr Roland Davies in connection with the Heritage Centre Museum, and other ex-Councillors, was received, and recommendation and expenditure considered.

It was **resolved** that the Working Party's plan and recommendations be approved.

3. An update on the matter concerning the access gate between the rear of the Coop store and the Dolau Bran estate in connection with the safety and security of the residents, was received, and it was agreed that the matter needs careful consideration, which is continuing.

4. The contents of a letter from Llandovery History Society was considered.

It was **resolved** that the Council accepts the contents and moves on.

5. An update on the Heritage Museum Artefacts was received.

It was **resolved** that the recommendation that the Town Council agree to funding the repair of the painting by Mr Whitney for the cost stated, that Mrs L. Owen and Mrs M. Evans be asked for their help in the restoration of the painting, and that thank-you letters be sent to Mrs Owen and Mrs Evans from Llandovery Town Council for the work which they have done in repairing the Twm Sion Cati figure, be approved.

6. The level and frequency of parking in the side streets, and the idea of proposing to the County Council that the parking fees in the car park be reduced, were considered.

It has been noted that usage of the Castle car park appears to be very low. It was the view that many people who travel to their place of business/work or to shop in the town do not park in the car park, but use the side streets so that, not only is the car park not generating revenue, space in the side streets is not available for residents. The heavy use of the side streets for parking creates a safety issue.

Members agreed that the car parking charges deter people from visiting the town to shop and do business in the town. The introduction of long-term parking bays with related permits which business people might use was suggested. It was agreed that the character of Llandovery is not the same as larger town, such as Carmarthen, and it was proposed that the County Council should think again about their car parking policy to take into account the safety issues and the welfare of the businesses in the town.

It was **resolved** that a letter be sent to the County Council asking that the car park charges and the car parking policy be reviewed.

7. The arrangements for the Remembrance Day Parade on 10 November 2013 were considered. Members were asked to attend. Cllr Jackson tendered his apologies.

8. A written report from Cllr Nigel Burgess on the One Voice Wales Area Committee meeting on 16 October 2013 was received and noted.

9. An invitation from the Electoral Services Manager at Carmarthenshire County Council to submit observations in connection with a review of polling districts and polling places in the area was considered. Members were happy with the current arrangements, and it was agreed that there were no comments to be made.

10. An invitation from Carmarthenshire Environment Partnership to a Sustainability Session in Carmarthen on 19 November 2013 was considered. Cllr Wright will attend, if possible.

11. The contents of a letter from Head of Administration and Law at Carmarthenshire County Council concerning Code of Conduct Training was considered and noted.

12. Tenders for the contract to maintain the heating system at Llandovery Hub were considered. Although three invitations to tender for work had been sent out, two tenders had been received (from Des Clarke and Highgate Water Solutions), and these were considered.

It was **resolved** that the tender from Des Clarke be accepted on the grounds of cost.

13. An invitation from Dyffryn Cennen Community Council to send representatives to a meeting on 29 October 2013 in Ffairfach to discuss the need for a swimming pool in their area was considered.

It was **resolved** that no one will attend, but a letter should be sent to wish them success with their efforts.

14. An invitation from Carmarthenshire Association of Voluntary Services to attend the AGM in Carmarthen on 19 November 2013 was considered. Cllr Wright will attend and represent the Council.

15. The contents of a message from Andrew Davies, Group Scout Leader, concerning the Scouts community Challenge Badge, was considered.

Members agreed that the proposal from the Scouts to clean the War Memorial and the area in the Market Square around the fountain was wonderful and commendable, but concern was expressed about touching the fountain because of the nature of the structure. The Clerk was asked to respond accordingly.

16. The implications of the possible transfer of responsibility for community playing fields away from the County Council to local community groups was discussed.
It had been noted that comments made by a member of the County Council about future financial constraints at County had included the mention of the possibility that local playing fields may be threatened with closure unless the local Councils or other local community groups took over responsibility for them. It was agreed that such a move could lead to the loss of facilities such as Castle Field, and, with loss of the sports facilities there, this would have a damaging effect on the health and welfare of our young children.

It was **resolved** that a letter be sent to the County Council to object to any policy that passes responsibility for the maintenance of playing fields away from the County Council.

17. Mr Peter Rees in attendance to provide a verbal update from The Partnership.
Mr Rees reported on developments relating to the Regeneration Plan. The Steering Group will be meeting the County Council to provide feedback from the consultation exercise held in the summer. Heritage Lottery funding for the plan is still being considered, but a "Centre for Heritage" is central to the scheme, and the lead of the Town Council is seen as a huge strength. Mr Rees also reflected on the success of this year's Sheep Festival.

10. ACCOUNTS / CYFRIFON

1. The schedule from the Clerk relating to income totalling £61.01 and payments totalling £7,642.31 for the period 1 to 30 September 2013 was considered.

It was **resolved** that the schedule from the Clerk be noted and approved.

2. The Consolidated Statement of Accounts as at 30 September 2013 was considered and noted.

11. FINANCIAL REQUESTS / CEISIADAU CYLLIDOL

1. The donation decision taken at the September 2013 meeting, when it was resolved that £300 be donated to Towy Youth Actors, was ratified.
2. The donation decision taken at the September 2013 meeting, when it was resolved that £300 be donated to Llandovery History Society, was ratified.
3. A request from The South Wales Multiple Sclerosis Therapy Centre for funding was considered.

It was **resolved** that the request be left on the table.

4. A request from Carmarthenshire Federation of Young Farmers' Clubs for funding was considered.

It was **resolved** that the request be left on the table.

5. A request from Carmarthen & District Youth Opera for funding was considered.

It was **resolved** that the request be left on the table.

6. A request from Bobath Children's Therapy Centre Wales for funding was considered.

It was **resolved** that the request be left on the table.

7. A request from National Eisteddfod Wales for funding was considered.

It was **resolved** that £50 be donated. To be ratified at the next meeting.

12. CORRESPONDENCE / GOHEBIAETH

1. A copy of "Yr Ardd" magazine from the National Botanic Garden of Wales was received and given to Cllr Jones for circulation to those who wish to see it.

13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS - AT THE DISCRETION OF THE CHAIR - FOR INFORMATION ONLY / UNRHYW FATER ARALL YN OL DISGRESIWN Y GADAI - GWYBODAETH YN UNIG.

1. Cllr Logsdail informed members that he had had no response from any charity in connection with the advert for the disposal of the carpet tiles removed from the Heritage Centre, but had had expressions of interest from a local resident and a business.

It was **resolved** that the scope of disposal of the tiles be widened beyond a charity, and that any payment by the buyer be directed to the Llandovery History Society as a donation.

MEETING CLOSED AT 8:50 PM