

LLANDOVERY TOWN COUNCIL



CYNGOR TREF LLANYMDDYFRI

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD IN THE TOWN HALL, LLANDOVERY ON MONDAY 18 MAY 2009 At 7.00PM

COFNODION CYFARFOD NOSLUN, MAI 18 2009 AM 7.00YH YN NEUADD Y DREF, LLANYMDDYFRI

CONTINUATION OF THE AGM

Declaration by Councillors of any Pecuniary & Non-Pecuniary interests entered in the record book before commencement of the meeting.

Cllr Helene Lovell declared an interest in item 8A11 – Town Crier.

Cllr Ivor Jackson declared an interest in item 10 – Planning.

DECLARATION BY COUNCILLORS OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE

Councillors Helene Lovell and Nigel Burgess signed declarations of acceptance of office as Mayor and Deputy Mayor of Llandovery, respectively, on 14 May 2009 during the Mayor-making ceremony.

COUNCILLORS PRESENT: The Mayor: Helene Lovell, Deputy Mayor: Nigel Burgess, Councillors: Ivor Jackson, Edgar Jones, Gina Jones, Phillip Bridger, Ann Hughes, Pat Smith, Maureen Williams, Elizabeth Thomas, Haydn Hudson, Robin Ennion, Diane Fontenoy.

Cllr Edgar Jones offered congratulations to the new Mayor on taking office and for an enjoyable weekend of celebration.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE / YMDDIHEURIADAU

- None

2. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES / CADARNHAU'R COFNODION

Re 11. Correspondence - Clerk omitted to record the reading out by the Mayor of the letter of thanks from former Clerk, Terry Leyman.

- Cllr Nigel Burgess proposed that the minutes from the 20 April 2009 be accepted.
Cllr Elizabeth Thomas seconded the proposal. All were in favour.

3. POLICE MATTERS & REPORT/ ADRODDIAD YR HEDDLU - MATERION

PC 101 Simms attended on behalf of PC Howie Davies.

1. He reported as follows.

"Llandovery will cease to exist as a police station as from today and thereafter for a period of 12 weeks. This is due to a total refurbishment whereby the new police station will be located within the old police house in Towy Avenue. The level of service provided will not diminish as we will utilise the mobile police station on a daily basis for the township of Llandovery.

The police are aware of a communication dispatched to the council from the Chair of the B.O.B.B scheme. She remains keen to keep a good working relationship between councillors and is eager to point out that the scheme is in its infancy. However, I can announce that a total of two subjects have been banned already at the last meeting of the BOBB scheme. Those banned were dealt with for incidents of disorder. A further male has been issued with an interim ban by police recently for an incident of assault within a public house and criminal damage thereafter in the town. The Committee intend to implement a zero tolerance towards violence within public houses.

There were 6 recorded crimes reported during a 4 week period within the town, they include Criminal damage at the Post Office, the stated assaults and one of theft."

2. Cllr Jackson asked about telephone numbers to contact the Police.
'101' should be used for non-emergency matters, and '999' for any perceived emergency.
3. Cllr Nigel Burgess conveyed PC Howie Davies's message of thanks to Cllr Gina Jones for her support over the last year, and his good wishes to the new Mayor.

The Mayor thanked PC Simms for attending, and he left the meeting.

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM LAST MEETING / MATERION - YN CODI

1. Re Police Matters 2. Issue concerning Ban or be Banned Committee.
The Mayor read out a letter from the Chair of the BOBB Committee (see 11. Correspondence, item 11. below).
In the interest of building cooperation and understanding:
Cllr Ann Hughes proposed the Mayor and Cllr Gina Jones meet the Chair of the BOBB committee.
Cllr Edgar Jones seconded the proposal. All in favour.
2. Re Matters Arising - 3. Swimming Pool.
The Mayor reported that on 29 April 09, Clerk contacted Garry Price, Area Facilities Manager, by telephone, and was given a verbal update on the current situation. Clerk sent Garry an email on the same day, inviting him to this meeting, or at least to provide a written update of the situation. No reply has been received.
Clerk subsequently obtained from Gill Wright a copy of letter from Meryl Gravell Leader of CCC to Gill dated 20 April, confirming Garry's verbal update, which indicates new staffing rotas have been developed, and new Normal Operating Procedures and Emergency Action Plans are being implemented, which will allow the swimming pool to extend its opening hours. Agreement with the employees at the pool has been reached, and the process of recruiting the right employees is being followed.
In discussion it was viewed as remiss of Mr Price that he had not responded to the Clerk's email.
Cllr Haydn Hudson proposed a strong letter be sent to Mr Price on this point.
Cllr Elizabeth Thomas seconded the proposal. All in favour.
3. Re Other Matters arising, 2. - Concerns about the changeover status of Llandovery station and the "Up" platform.
The Mayor reported that Clerk contacted Gill Wright on 22 April to obtain background and was informed that the concerns are unfounded. The points will be replaced in 2010. Gill Wright who was in attendance as a public observer and addressed the meeting to confirm this, and stated she had an undertaking from Network Rail.
4. Re Other Matters arising, 3. - 'Code of Conduct' training.
The Mayor reported that the date for this event has been set – 10 June at Assembly Rooms – 7pm. Council members from the surrounding area have been invited.
All Councillors present except Cllr Edgar Jones stated their intention to attend.
5. Re Other Matters arising, 4. - Costcutters, Stone Street - planning irregularities.
The Mayor reported that the Clerk spoke to Kevin Phillips, Planning Officer, on 28 April – Kevin had already noticed the dishes and reported them to the Enforcement Team. Clerk then spoke to Conservation Enforcement Officer who informed Clerk that 'Instruction to remove' has been issued because planning permission will not be granted.
6. Re Other Matters arising, 5. - Market Square maintenance.
The Mayor reported that the Clerk had sent letters to Head of Street Scene on 28 April, re Cobbles Cleaning Machine and Special Bins for Cigarette Machine. Acknowledgements received 9 May –
 - Cobbles Cleaning Machine issue forwarded to Area Manager (East Division) for attention and response.
 - Special Bins for Cigarette Machine issue forwarded to Cleansing & Refuse Team (East Division) for attention and response.
Cllr Ivor Jackson reported that the area under the arches has been painted and part of the paving repaired.
7. Re Correspondence, 4. - WAG - Invitation to visit the Senedd building
Councillors asked to consider. Cllrs Thomas, Fontenoy, Burgess, and Gina Jones expressed an interest. The Mayor undertook to organise this.

8. Re Correspondence, 6. – Community Health Council – reply and invitation.
The Mayor reported that a reply to the Clerk's letter sent on 28 April 09 had been received on 13 May 09 from J S Skipper, Chief Officer. The Mayor conveyed the contents of the letter in which an offer to attend a future meeting of the Town Council to provide an update about the changes within the NHS in Wales was made.
Cllr Edgar Jones proposed Mr Skipper should be invited to an open meeting.
Cllr Maureen Williams seconded the proposal. All in favour.
Clerk asked to respond accordingly.

5. MAYOR'S REPORT / ADRODDIAD Y MAER

23 April	Twinning Quiz night.
27 April	Council sub committees
30 April	Hall Manager's meeting
2 May	University of Trinity Civic Service, Carmarthen.
2 May	Llandovery Male Voice Choir concert.
5 May	Mayor's reception with the Chair of CCC.
7 May	Ysgol Pantycelyn Record of Achievement Evening
8 May	President of the League of Friends Concert.
9 May	Mayors Charity Concert Cwmaman.
10 May	Christian Aid Service
11 May	Mayor/ Deputy Mayor/ Town Clerk meeting
12 May	Christian Aid Quiz
14 May	Mayoral Inauguration
15 May	Christian Aid concert
16 May	Round the world in 80 minutes – Towy Youth
17 May	Civic Service
17 May	Welcome dinner for European visitors

6. COMMITTEE REPORTS / ADRODDIADAU

a) Heritage Centre / Canolfan Dreftadaeth

- Any progress on third quotation for the Platform lift?
Cllr Edgar Jones reported that only two quotes have been received. There was some doubt about the precise terms of each quote, and one of them dated October 2008 was valid for only 3 months.
Cllr Haydn Hudson proposed the matter be discussed in Committee and report back.
Cllr Ann Hughes seconded the proposal. All in favour.
- BBNPA - lease renewal.
The lease expires on 24 May 2009. Cllr Edgar Jones had contacted BBNPA and suggested the lease continue on the existing basis, and they had told him they would look into it. It was wondered whether an exchange of letters would suffice.
Cllr Elizabeth Thomas proposed that a letter be sent.
Cllr Ann Hughes seconded the proposal. All in favour.
Clerk to action.
- Cllr Edgar Jones raised the issue of the state of the courtyard wall. Cllr Hudson undertook to look at it.
- Notice Board
Cllr Hudson undertook to examine the damaged Notice Board.

b) Town Lights & Christmas Festivities Committee / Pwyllgor Goleuadau Nadolig

- Report from meeting on 27 April.
Cllr Nigel Burgess reported on the findings of the street lights inspection.
The potential advantages and disadvantages of switching off certain lights were discussed, considering economic benefit, safety, the community reaction, and the efforts to get the lights installed in the first place.
Cllr Thomas queried whether there were any areas where lights could be added – this to be reviewed in Committee – to meet on 2 June 09 at 7pm.
Cllr Robin Ennion proposed the issue be tabled until County has completed its review.
Cllr Nigel Burgess seconded the proposal. All in favour.

2. Cllr Ivor Jackson reported that some work has been done on the lights, one has been repaired and two are on order.

c) Llandovery in Bloom / Gwyl Flodan, Llanymddyfri

1. Progress on worn hooks on the hanging brackets under the Town Hall issue - Cllr Ivor Jackson.
Cllr Ivor Jackson reported that he had met with Lyn Rowlands and the services of a structural engineer are awaited. In any event County will repair the hooks.
2. Really Welsh - Daffodil bulb offer.
Report from meeting on 27 April.
It had been decided to order 4 bags for the Autumn – Clerk to process.
3. Cllr Thomas reported –
 - County will deliver plants in June.
 - New brackets at the station donated by Cllr Ivor Jackson
 - Competition forms being readied for distribution by Councillors.
4. Cllr Edgar Jones raised the issue of the weeds around the Heritage Centre. Cllr Jackson pointed out that the wet weather would hamper the effectiveness of spraying weeds. Clerk was asked to contact Contractor to chase up.

d) Public Seating Committee / Pwyllgor Eisteddleodd Cyhoeddus

1. Any progress on Order placed with Peelweld for the new seats and bench?
No - Clerk to enquire about progress.
2. Seat cleaning and painting specification - in progress.
Cllrs Hudson and Gina Jones to draw up tender.

e) Footpath Committee / Pwyllgor Llwybrau

1. Two stiles ordered on 28 April - for information.
Clerk asked to make enquiries on order status.
2. Letter to Network Rail still to be sent.
3. Cllr Ann Hughes reported that the footpath between the Builth Road and Maesglas has wet leaves which are slippery. Clerk to contact contractor.

f) Finance Committee / Pwyllgor Cyllid

1. Bank Account signatories - revisions.
Mayor reported that changes have now taken effect.
2. Annual Return Documents received from BDO - *For Information*
3. Report from meeting 27 April.
Mayor reported that new Town Clerk's salary has been settled.
4. Committee meeting arranged for 2 June 09 at 7.30 pm.

g) Emergency Group (FLAG)/ Grwp Argyfwng (FLAG)

Nothing to report.

h) Forward Planning Committee / Pwyllgor Cynllunio Blaenllaw

1. Any progress on consideration of the Calor Gas Village of the Year Award.
Cllr Edgar Jones reported it had been concluded that there was insufficient time to pursue this.
2. Meeting to consider development of Council's own website with Llandovery College involvement?
Cllr Nigel Burgess reported that nothing had happened on the collaboration.

i) Forum / Fforwm

1. Cllr Gina Jones stated there has been no recent activity in this committee.
2. CCTV issue.
Cllr Hudson queried the fact that nothing had been heard from the Representative who visited in March 09 whose report with costings is still awaited. Clerk asked to investigate.

j) Llandovery Web Site / Gwefan Llanymddyfri

Cllr Burgess reported:

1. Minutes of Council meetings now up to date.

2. Members list needs to be updated and photographs will be taken.
3. The local Male Voice Choir has its own website which may be a possible link.
4. The issue of the purchase of its own website needs to be considered – Cllr Burgess to discuss with Cllr Stather.

k) One Voice Wales / Un Llais Cymru

1. 2009 Conference and AGM.

Cllr Burgess to attend. Any motions requested by the next meeting.

7. OTHER MATTERS ARISING / Unrhyw Fater Arall

1. Cllr Maureen Williams informed the Council that she had received a letter from Arriva in connection with the “Adopt a station” scheme, with which were enclosed 15 vouchers worth £5 each.
Cllr Williams proposed these vouchers be passed to the local volunteer helper, Mrs Mary Illif.
Cllr Robin Ennion seconded the proposal. All in favour.

8. ACCOUNTS / CYFRIFON

Accounts for approval Cyfrifon I'w Cadarnhau	Out-going £ Allan Daliada £	Incoming £ Derbyniadau £
a. <u>Town Council / Cyngor Tref</u>		
1. Town Clerk's Salary (2 months)	843.88	
2. Admin Expenses (Petty Cash)	100.91	
3. HM Revenue and Customs (2 months)	242.58	
4. Castle Hotel (Civic Reception deposit) (Paid 22 April 09)	250.00	
5. RPMH Assembly Rooms (Monthly Rental)	80.00	
6. Heritage Centre (Rental)	80.00	
7. Davies Craddock Ltd (Insurance)	4,329.81	
8. CCC - Elections administration charge (paid 11 May 09)	358.56	
9. Viking Direct (Office requisites and stationery)	196.67	
10. Town Crier Honorarium	500.00	
11. CCC - Precept		15,333.34
12. Bank Interest		5.29
13. CCC - Buffet at Assembly Rooms	483.00	
14. CAVS - membership renewal	20.00	
15. Viking Direct (Office requisites)	81.04	
16. Castle Hotel (Civic Reception balance - paid 15 May 09)	1,254.00	
17. Viking Direct (“Minuted” Stamp)	19.54	
18. Disposal of remaining refreshments		124.80
b. <u>Heritage Centre / Canolfan Dreftadaeth</u>		
1. Mrs Dawn Roderick (Cleaning and materials)	82.40	
2. LTC (Room Hire)		80.00
3. Dyfed Alarms Ltd (Paid 11 May 09)	218.50	
4. CCC - Rates (2 nd payment)	229.00	
5. BBNPA (Rental: services recharges)		430.05
6. Donations (April 09)		125.00
7. Photocopying (April 09)		11.60
8. Lettings (April 09)		5.00
9. Donations (May 09)		93.07
10. Photocopying (May 09)		5.60
11. Lettings (May 09)		5.00

Re Item a. 7.

Cllr Hudson queried what was included in the policy. Clerk undertook to find out.

Re Item a. 8.

Cllr Ivor Jackson queried County's justification for making this charge in view of the fact that Llandovery had not had elections. Cllr Gina Jones stated it was related to the cost of

administration, such as correspondence with Councillors that had taken place, despite no elections.

Cllr Haydn Hudson proposed that the accounts be accepted 'en bloc'.

Cllr Gina Jones seconded the proposal. All in favour.

9. FINANCIAL REQUESTS / CEISIADAU CYLLIDOL

1. Amman Valley Dementia Carers Support Group - Request for funding.

The request was circulated and discussed. Clerk to write seeking more information. To be considered at the next meeting.

10. PLANNING APPLICATIONS & PLANNING PERMISSIONS / CEISIADAU CYNLLUNIO a CANIATAD CYNLLUNIO

Planning Applications Withdrawn / Ceisiadau Cynllunio Wedi Eu Tynnu yn ol

None.

a. Planning Applications sought. / Ceisio Ceisiadau Cynllunio

E/15858 - Full Planning - Amended Plans - Proposed formation of new road access from Dingat View, and proposed demolition of existing classroom and stores block - Llandovery College.

Cllr Ennion presented copies of correspondence and a petition objecting to this application, which had been given to him for information.

Cllr Jackson gave an update following a meeting with Kevin Phillips, Planning Officer. Although the Clerk had obtained the "latest" plan from the CCC website, this was known to be not the latest plan. The access is planned to be via Dingat View - the Clerk was asked to contact the Planning Officer and, if this was confirmed, to write, turning down the application.

Cllr Ann Hughes proposed that the application be turned down.

Cllr Phil Bridger seconded the proposal. All in favour.

b. Planning Permissions Granted / Ceisiadau Cynllunio Wedi Eu Caniatu

E/20769 - Full planning - two Storey rear extension for 1 Gelli Deg, Llandovery.
Noted.

c. Planning Permission Refused / Ceisiadau Cynllunio Wedi Eu Gwrthod

None.

11. CORRESPONDENCE / GOHEBIAETH

1. Llandovery Junior Football Club - letter of thanks for donation.
Read out by the Mayor.
2. Llandovery Town Tennis Club - letter of thanks for donation.
Read out by the Mayor.
3. Llandovery Town Crier - letter of thanks for donation.
Read out by the Mayor.
4. Carmarthenshire Energy Agency - How to develop a community renewable energy scheme - free workshop. (Circulated to all Councillors on 30 April).
No one attending.
5. South-West Wales Welsh for Adults Centre - Invitation to Seminar on planning effective Welsh language training.
No interest.
6. The Civic Trust for Wales - Invitation to participate in Open Doors 2009.
It was thought the Town Crier event would be of interest. The papers to be circulated through the Councillors for consideration.
Cllr Ann Hughes proposed the matter be considered by the Forward Planning Committee.
Cllr Thomas seconded the proposal. All in favour.
7. Welsh Language Board - "Have your say about Welsh Language Service" booklet.
No one interested.
8. Storvision, Germany - Provision of CCTV equipment.
Papers passed to Cllr Hudson for consideration and report back.

9. Building Open Day at Dinefwr.
Noted by those interested.
10. WAG – Managing the safety of burial ground memorials.
No longer relevant to this Council
11. Behave or Be Banned Committee – Letter of concern.
Discussed as recorded at 4. Matters Arising From Last Meeting, 1.
12. Gwyl Twm Sion Cati - letter of thanks for donation.
Read out by the Mayor.
13. CCC – Training session for weekly playground inspections.
Read out by the Mayor.
There were no takers for the course on this occasion, but a discussion about the Castle playground facilities ensued.
Cllr Gina Jones proposed that County be asked what role playground inspectors will have, and what is the follow up to ensure equipment is maintained.
Cllr Ennion seconded the proposal. All were in favour.
Clerk to write CCC.
14. Letter of thanks from Mr Roland Davies for the social evening at the Heritage Centre in April 09.
Read out by the Mayor.

12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS AT THE DISCRETION OF THE CHAIR
UNRHYW FATER ARALL YN OL DISGRESIWN Y GADAIR

1. Cllr Ivor Jackson aired his views about the Mayor's memo issued prior to the meeting.
The Mayor noted and responded to these views.
2. Cllr Robin Ennion raised the issue of ball games being played in the Market Square, and queried whether "No Ball Games" notices could be erected. Cllr Ivor Jackson undertook to investigate with County.
3. Cllr Phil Bridger raised the issue of ball games being played in the Car Park – this was considered to be a matter for the police.
4. Tennis courts
 - a. Cllr Thomas raised the issue of locking the gate on the far side to prevent the courts being used as a short cut. The Mayor undertook to get a lock.
 - b. It was suggested that the contractor should be asked to put up the nets.
 - c. Cllr Jackson informed the meeting that County was hoping to obtain a grant to improve the courts, but unfortunately, this had fallen through. However, there is a possibility that a "Green Flag" parks initiative may be adopted and applied to Llandovery Park next year, and this would see a big improvement. Also, there may be the possibility of Town Council involvement in partnerships with such as the Tennis Club.
 - d. Cllr Ennion observed that some work needed to be done to clear the area of discarded old nets and football equipment, and make the area neat and tidy. Cllr Hughes suggested a sign to stop dogs. Cllr Jackson undertook to take these issues to County.
5. Visit to Rhys Prichard School
The Mayor informed Council that she would be visiting Rhys Prichard School the following morning, in full regalia, accompanied by the Macebearers, , and sought the views of whether to present the overseas visitors with a Llandovery Plaque. It was agreed that this should happen.

MEETING CLOSED AT 9.10 PM