



**LAMPETER TOWN COUNCIL  
CYNGOR TREF LLANBEDR PONT STEFFAN**

**MINUTES OF A FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY  
29<sup>th</sup> MARCH AT 7.30PM AT THE TOWN HALL, LAMPETER**

**PRESENT:**

**Cllr. Mayor Dorothy Williams (Chairperson)**

**Cllrs:** Deputy-Mayor Chris Thomas, Cecilia Barton, Andrew Carter, Hazel Davies, John Davies, Margaret Davies-Evans, Greg Evans, Robert Harris, Robert Phillips, Kistiah Ramaya, Selwyn Walters and Derek Wilson.

**1. APOLOGIES**

1.1 Apologies for absence were received from the local constabulary.

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

The following declared their personal interest in matters recorded in the following minutes:

<b>Name of member:</b>	<b>Paragraph:</b>	<b>Matter under consideration:</b>
Cllr. Mayor D.Williams (vacated the premises)	10.1.1	Tenders: Grass Cutting at Parc-yr Orsedd and the servicing of footpaths
Cllr. R. Phillips	8.1	Planning permission at Barley Mow
Cllr. C.Barton	9.1	Request for financial
Cllr. K.Ramaya	9.1	support, from the
Cllr. H. Harris	9.1	Lampeter Music Club
(all three members vacated the premises)		

In the absence of the Mayor, when discussing the matter referred to, under paragraph 10.1.1, the meeting was chaired by the Deputy-Mayor Chris. Thomas.

**3. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE 22<sup>nd</sup> FEBRUARY**

It was resolved to confirm as a true record, the Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council, held on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of February, and were signed by the Cllr. Mayor Dorothy Williams.

**4. POLICE MATTERS**

4.1 **Police Community Support Officers (PCSO):** a letter had been sent to the University of Wales, Lampeter, asking for their thoughts, on the possibility for the Town Council and Lampeter University to collaborate, sometime in the future, in order to utilize a PCSO, in the college and the town. A reply was received from Professor R.A.Pearce, the Vice-Chancellor, conveying that the University would be interested in developing this proposal, and that, in his opinion, a joint approach between town and University, would be most beneficial. He mentioned a few occasions in the past, when incidents, which

have started in the town, have spilled onto the University campus, and the potential introduction of a drinking ban in public, within Lampeter town, could result in an increase in the transfer of problems, from the streets to the campus, if anti-social drinkers move away from Harford Square onto the University campus. He mentioned that it would be very hard to develop a policing strategy for the University campus, which did not involve the whole town, and vice-versa. Even if joint funding was provided, there would be a number of matters, which would need careful consideration, including the hours during which PCSO support would be available. The majority of unsocial activity in the town occurs in the late evenings and early hours, and PCSO officers are contracted to work until midnight. Discussions would be required with the police, in order to draft an appropriate policy for ensuring that PCSO support was targeted to meet mutual needs. These comments were noted for information.

**4.2** The chairperson had spoken to the local constabulary, prior to the meeting. They warned people in the Lampeter area to be extra vigilant, following a spate of diesel thefts. Business premises in the town have been worst hit with police officers forced to deal with five different offences in the past month. Vehicles and storage tanks have both been targeted in the past few weeks. The Police have warned people in the area to stay vigilant following the incidents and are also encouraging victims of theft, however petty, to report the matter.

## **5. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES**

**5.1 Concern about the safety of movement at Picton Lane, Lampeter:** A letter received from the county council, conveyed that they appreciate the concern of members of the Town Council, and those of others, who have contacted them in light of perceived road-safety issues at this location. A site meeting has taken place, between representatives of the Ceredigion County Council, Mr Sid Evans, Hendre, New Street, Lampeter and Mr T.K.Lewis, Pantywilco, Llanwnnen (a former Police Inspector). One suggestion is to stop-off one end of the road, but this would require a Traffic Order, involving an outlay of approximately £6,000, to meet advertising costs. Should the Town Council have a preferred option, as to the solution, then it was suggested that they write to the county council.

An Automated Traffic Counter will be reinstalled, now that road works have ended on the adjacent stretch of Bridge Street, and the Town Council will be informed of the outcome, once a second set of data has been collected and collated.

**5.2 LAS Site Visit:** members were notified that a second site meeting had been arranged at the LAS Industrial Estate for Monday the 2<sup>nd</sup> April at 6.30pm. It was decided that councillors, who had attended the previous meeting, with the exception of Cllr. D.Wilson, would not be present on this occasion.

**5.3 By-Election for Two Councillors : Lampeter Town Council:** A communication received from Mr Owen Watkin, Chief Executive CCC, expressed that he had received two nominations only, in relation to the by-election for Lampeter Town Council, therefore confirming the uncontested election of Elsie Dafis, 13 Parc-y-Felin, Lampeter and Lynda Mary Mason- George to Lampeter Town Council. It was resolved to congratulate both parties in becoming Town Councillors and to invite them to the next meeting of the Town Council. They would also be asked to sign the "Declaration of Acceptance of Office".

- 5.4 **CCTV Cameras: CCC:** The anticipated reduction in the annual CCTV payment (from £19,600 to £12,000, at the beginning of the present financial year), has not, as yet, been brought to fruition. The monthly report on the performance of these cameras is also awaited. It was decided to contact the county council to ask for an explanation.
- 5.5 **New CCTV System Demonstration 20/03/07: University of Wales, Lampeter:** Many councillors had viewed the college's new CCTV system during the meeting of the 20<sup>th</sup> March. It was resolved to contact Mr S.Gibbs, the Manager of the Computing Services at Lampeter College, to ask whether the University has certain propositions to present to the Town Council.
- 5.6 **Update, regarding the bench - Kakitsuka Family:** a suitable location remains to be found.
- 5.7 **The Role of Honour:** Cllr. D.Wilson reported that the condition of the board was satisfactory and had been taken down from the wall. Arrangements could now be made with Mr Blainey to inscribe the missing names of past-mayors in gold-leaf. The Mayor stated that the Curator of the Museum, would shortly be removing the artefacts from the Town Hall, in preparation for the filming of a part of the *Dylan Thomas Story* at the Town Hall.
- 5.8 **Lampeter Post-Office: a copy of the reply received by Mr Mark Williams Ceredigion MP, from CCC, in relation to his request to merge the Tourist Information Centre (TIC) and Post-Office at Lampeter.** In his response, Mr Owen Watkin, Chief Executive CCC, stated that currently, there is no Tourist Information Centre in Lampeter, or existing provision to combine the TIC and a Post-Office. Providing a new TIC facility would be a new resource demand for the Authority, especially taking into account the minimum requirements and standards stipulated by the Welsh Assembly Government, having taken over the role, of the former *Wales Tourist Board*. Private businesses, Hotels and Restaurants, display leaflets relating to tourist attractions, and the county council's website gives a great deal of information concerning tourist features and attractions. Members of the Town Council felt that a Tourist Information Centre, should be available in Lampeter.
- The sale of TV Licences at Post-Offices:** a reply to the letter sent by the Town Council to Mr Mark Williams MP, conveying that they regret the latest government measure of stopping the sale of TV Licences at Post-offices. In his reply, Mr Williams communicated that he totally agreed with the important sentiment behind the letter. The Government has systematically pursued a policy of taking trade away from post-offices, undermining their viability and their future. The sale of TV Licences at Post-Offices is one example, and the failure of the DVLA to remind people that they can still pay car-tax over the counter, rather than on-line, is important. He continues to make these points in the House Of Commons and urges everyone to do their utmost to use their post- offices at all times, "Quite literally, if we don't use them, we will lose them".
- 5.9 **Introduction of charges at the Cwmmins and Rookery car-parks:** it was reported that this matter had been held in abeyance by the county council. Further investigations were in hand regarding the Cwmmins, in light of the fact of its former status as a "village-green". Concerns were raised in relation to parking for disabled drivers. Formerly they had been allowed two hours parking for free, but now they will only be eligible for free-parking, if they are in possession of both the badge and the disabled tax-disk. Those drivers holding only the disabled badge will have to pay to use disabled bays in the car-parks. It was agreed to submit observations, regarding this issue, to the county council.

- 5.10 **Council Depot Lampeter:** a response was received to the letter sent to the CCC voicing concern about the possible closure of the depot, at Lampeter. A review of Depots is being undertaken by the county council, in order to be cost-effective. The council has to work within resources available and reductions are necessary in order to work within agreed budgets. It was resolved to contact the county council, once again, stating that in the Town Council's opinion, this depot offered the best facilities in the county and members were strongly in favour, that it should remain open.
- 5.11 **Suitable Venue for free car-park:** Cllr. H. Harris revealed that he may have found a suitable site and had spoken with the landowner. Enquiries were ongoing.
- 5.12 **King's Mead Petition:** a petition of 16 names was received from the residents of Kingsmead, Lampeter, concerned about the condition of the road between Kingsmead and New Street in Lampeter. Road works are needed to improve the state of this road and hopefully, could be dealt with, as an extension of the repairs in Bridge Street. The petition and a supporting letter from the Town Council, were forwarded to the county council.
- 5.13 **Summer Ball for the pupils of Ffynnonbedr Primary School:** The Mayor informed members that this has been arranged for Friday, 13<sup>th</sup> July. The approximate cost would be £400.
- 5.14 **Ludlow Visit:** it was reported that Kate Stewart was in the process of liaising with the Mayor of Ludlow, with the view to arranging a suitable date to visit the town, to glean further information appertaining to the *CittaSlow* Initiative
- 5.15 **Literature circulated at the previous meetings:**
- **Strategy for Sport & Leisure 2006-10** CCC Recreation Services
  - **Making the Connections;** Delivering Beyond Boundaries (WAG)
  - **Post-Inspection Plan** Lampeter Comprehensive School
  - **Fire and Rescue National Framework** (Wales) 2005 (Revisions) Order 2007 and Intervention Protocol: Welsh Assembly Government
  - **Making the Connections - Local Service Boards in Wales:** A prospectus for the first phase 2007-08, Welsh Assembly Government
  - **The Strategy for Older People in Wales;** Welsh Assembly Government

It was agreed to note the content of the documents, for information purposes.

## 6. CORRESPONDENCE Minute 60/2006

- 6.1 **Ceredigion Local Development Plan LDP : Public Consultation on the Draft Delivery Agreement: February 2007 CCC:** the draft Delivery Agreement is effectively a project management tool, which sets out the means by which the plan will be produced in terms of time and resources and also how people will be able to engage in the process. The consultation process ends on the 5<sup>th</sup> April. Cllr. Mayor D. Williams agreed to submit comments in relation to the Draft Delivery Agreement. Once the Delivery Agreement has been agreed by the Welsh Assembly Government, the Local Authority will be proceeding with looking at the issues that need addressing through the LDP. Housing will be one of the key issues and meeting affordable housing needs will be key to this. At that stage, the county council and anyone involved in the process will need to consider all options available in order to ensure that housing issues identified in the area can be appropriately addressed.

A response was received to the letter sent to the CCC, stating that Lampeter Town Council supports any plan which promotes affordable housing for the people of the area. In the reply, it was stated that this issue will be further explored during the initial stages of the Ceredigion Local Development Plan production and has

been noted. It was also stated that the county council is already actively promoting the provision of affordable housing, not only through the Unitary Development Plan (UDP) policies, but also through other avenues such as whether land in the Council's ownership could be released for affordable housing. In terms of the UDP policy, although in its infancy in terms of implementation, it is already in being - with 14 certificates granted to occupants for affordable properties last year. This is likely to increase as the stock increases, for example, up to 60 new affordable units have been given planning permission over the past 18 months.

- 6.2 **Proposed Vehicle Activated Warning Sign: 30 ARAF SLOW: CCC:**  
Aberaeron approach to the town: this sign will replace the present Town-Sign, which will be relocated to a new position, some 60 yards away, in the Aberaeron direction.
- 6.3 **Public Convenience** at Victoria Hall CCC: a consultation period will take place prior to any decision-making, in relation to the future plans for this latrine.
- 6.4 **Smoke-free premises etc** (Wales) Regulations 2007 WAG + notification of information days as arranged by CCC: guidance enclosed regarding the smoking ban due to be introduced in all enclosed and substantially enclosed public places in Wales on the 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2007.
- 6.5 **Policy Guidance on Managing Footway Obstructions** CCC: Cllr A.Carter agreed to assign further attention to this document.
- 6.6 **One Voice Wales:** The next *Ceredigion Area Meeting* will take place on the 11<sup>th</sup> April at The Memorial Hall, Aberaeron.
- 6.7 **Citizens Advice Bureau Aberystwyth:** informing the Town Council that they have been operating from the Doctor's Surgery in Lampeter, for some months and that the project has been most effective. The take-up has been tremendous and people are waiting for the adviser to arrive. Members welcomed the fact that services had been resumed in the town and it was resolved to ask for further clarification in relation to this service.
- 6.8 **Posters: WAG Elections 3 May:** these posters would be displayed in the vicinity.

## 7. **MENTER LLAMBED Minute 61/2006**

Cllr. Greg Evans informed members that the Menter Llambled group will carry on with its development work, despite the WAG's funding cuts. He stated that board members had met the previous Wednesday, to discuss the implications of the grant cuts made by the Department for Enterprise, Innovation and Networks (DEIN). He announced that the Development Officer, Teleri Davies, is to leave because of concerns over long-term financing, although a replacement will be found.

Menter's keynote project to revitalize Lampeter Town Hall, will continue and plans have already been submitted to the county council. Funding is sought. The Town Hall and the currently unused magistrates' court will be revamped, if plans are approved by the county council. A Welsh Quilt centre will be included as part of the revitalized building.

### **LIFETRAIL TRIMTRAIL PROJECT – PARC-YR-ORSEDD**

Six Lifetrail Stations (£14,614.85) and 6 x 3.6 x 3.6m concrete bases (£4,500), have been ordered from Playworld Systems, Unit 4a Lower Road Trading Estate, Ledbury, Herefordshire, HR8 2DJ. Installation Costs £1,200; delivery £350. TOTAL £20,664.85

## 8. **PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

### **Minute 62/2006**

- 8.1 **It was reported that the following planning application had been permitted by Ceredigion County Council.**

<b>Applic. No:</b>	<b>Applicant:</b>	<b>Location:</b>	<b>Permission to:</b>
A060606	02 (UK) Ltd 260 Bath Road Slough Berks SL1 4DX	Barley Mow Lampeter	Locate Replacement 15m mast, 6 antennae & additional ground equipment

**8.2 The Town Council was informed that the following application has now been withdrawn.**

<b>Applic. No</b>	<b>Applicant</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Proposal which has been withdrawn</b>
A050854	Mr M Gray	University of Wales Lampeter	Retention of 3 skips to receive inert dry recyclate.

**8.3 The following planning applications were received:**

<b>Applic. No</b>	<b>Applicant</b>	<b>Location:</b>	<b>Proposal</b>	<b>Comments</b>
A070248	Lampeter Bowling Club	Lampeter Bowling Club, Lampeter	Erection of a conservatory & alterations to existing bowling green & surrounding fence	<b>No objection</b>
A070311	Mr E Davies Peterwell Lodge Masonic Hall Swynfan Pencader Carms	Former British Legion Hall, rear Bridge Street Lampeter	Erection of a Masonic Hall & multi purpose hall	<b>No objection, but concerned about the access and parking could pose a problem.</b>
A070175LB	Menter Llambod Cyf Station Terrace Lampeter	Disused Magistrates' Court, Lampeter Town Hall, High Street, Lampeter.	Demolition of toilet extension & alterations	<b>No objection</b>
A070174	Menter Llambod Cyf	Lampeter Town Hall, High Street Lampeter	Change of use from courthouse to welsh quilt centre	<b>No objection</b>

**9. FINANCE  
Minute 63/2006**

**9.1**

	<b>Admin.</b>	<b>Maint.</b>	<b>Grant</b>	<b>Sec137</b>	<b>VAT</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>	£	£	£	£	£
Clerk's salary: net – 1 month	323.42				

Tax and NI	92.73				
Heat and Light	20.00				
Stationery Claim	25.74				
BT Direct Debit	88.75				15.54
Girlguiding Ceredigion				50.00	
Lampeter Music Club				100.00	
Samaritans				25.00	
Hire of Town Hall - Town Coun. Meet	60.00				
Cleaning of bus-shelters		15.00			
MLL Telecom – 1 month CCTV		1,633.34			285.83
SWALEC Christmas Lights		595.86			104.27
Young at Heart Insurance				199.88	
Hire Victoria Hall – afternoon teas x3	30.00				

- 9.2 **Further to the enquiry regarding the *Relate's* Association with Lampeter** it was conveyed that *Relate Mid & West Wales* provided counselling services in Lampeter in 2005-06 and is currently researching venues in the area, with a view to resuming this provision. An answer is expected from a potential counsellor within a fortnight and they will contact the Town Council, when the outcome of that approach is known. This information was noted.
- 9.3 **A Christmas Lights' grant application of £495**, has been submitted to CCC.
- 9.4 **The Mayoral Installation Ceremony 2007:** a letter received from the Estate's Dept, University Of Wales, Lampeter conveyed that the Old Hall had been provisionally booked for Friday 4<sup>th</sup> May at 6.30pm, at a discounted price of £70.
- 9.5 **Local Council Briefing** - Spring 2007 BDO Stoy Hayward LLP- to be used when completing the Annual Return for 2007.
- 9.6 **Proposed extension to the appointment of the external auditor:** when the Wales Audit Office was created in April 2005, the Auditor General for Wales continued with the appointment of BDO Stoy Hayward as the Town Council's external auditor. That appointment was made by the Audit Commission several years earlier. Last year, the Auditor General for Wales carried out a new procurement exercise specifically for community councils and other small bodies. Tenders were invited and the bidders thoroughly evaluated for their ability to provide a quality service tailored for Wales. BDO Stoy Hayward was one of the preferred bidders and the Wales Audit Office proposes that the firm's appointment should be extended for the foreseeable future. BDO Stoy Hayward will continue to work for the fee scales for 2006-07 to 2010-11.

## 10. SUB-COMMITTEES

### Minute 64/2006

#### 10.1 FOOTPATHS'

##### 10.1.1 Tenders: Footpaths and Parc-yr-Orsedd Grass-Cutting 2007

It was reported that one quote had been received from Mr Eirwyn Williams, Blodfryn, Bryn Road, Lampeter. This involved a quote of £425 for grass cutting at Parc yr Orsedd for the months of May, June, July, August and September 2007. All grass cuttings would be removed. A quote of £90 per day was submitted for the servicing of footpaths. It was also noted that Public Liability Insurance was in place. It was resolved to accept these quotes and request an additional grass-cut at Parc-yr-Orsedd for the month of April, payment would be pro-rata. Members commented on the excellent work undertaken by Mr Williams in previous years.

- 10.1.2 **Ceredigion County Council Community Path Scheme 2007-08:**  
It was reported that the application for grant-funding of £985, to assist with work on footpaths in the locality (submitted Dec 2006), had been accepted in accordance with the conditions laid down by the county council i.e. the Town Council will receive 75% of the grant requested and will have to fund the remaining 25% themselves. Lampeter Ramblers' had also been successful, in their bid for grant-funding to supply and install gates, on the footpath Ref No:62/9. They will be awarded £412.50 (75% of the request of £550). Relevant parties within this organisation, would be notified of this decision. It was noted that all invoices should be submitted to the county council, before the 1<sup>st</sup> September.

## **10.2 PAVEMENTS'**

It was reported that slabs were loose on the corner of New Street and Drovers' Road and along the Mount Walk pavement. These faults would be reported to the CCC.

## **11. AOB: Minute 65/2006**

- 11.1 **Future plans for the existing Ffynnonbedr Primary School**, were discussed, after relocating to the new building. It was reported that the county council's procedure for the disposing of its assets would be followed.
- 11.2 **Cllr Carter reported that household items were dumped as litter**, in Lampeter and that signs should be displayed, in a bid to inhibit this mal-practice. Cllr. H.Harris agreed to look into the matter.
- 11.3 **Members were pleased to hear that North Road** had been resurfaced.
- 11.4 **Meals on Wheels Service:** it was resolved to send a letter to the county council, stating that the furore arising from proposals to change the present "Meals on Wheels" service to the elderly of Ceredigion, is noted with concern, by the Town Council. Fresh meals, produced locally, are a stark contrast to the convenience food, from, say, Wiltshire, with serious social ramifications.
- 11.5 **Tralee R.F.C.** – it was agreed to congratulate the people of Tralee, on their Rugby Football Club, reaching its 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The Town Council hopes that their success would continue and that their association with Lampeter will thrive.
- 11.6 **Town Council's Notice Board:** It was stated that the notice-board should be used for non-political information and not for other useful information for the public e.g. "Vote for Elin Jones" would be deemed unsuitable, but detailing surgeries by the town's MP and AM, would be permitted.
- 11.7 **The Mayor's Final Do** will take place at the Ling-di-long Chinese Restaurant, at 8.00pm on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> April.

**The meeting ended at 9.15pm.**

## **12. Date of next meeting: Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2007 at 7.30pm, at the Town Hall.**