

**LAMPETER TOWN COUNCIL
CYNGOR TREF LLANBEDR PONT STEFFAN
MINUTES OF A FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY
31ST MAY AT 7.30PM AT THE TOWN HALL, LAMPETER**

CHANGES TO THE MEALS ON WHEELS SERVICE IN CEREDIGION

Before the commencement of the full meeting, members were addressed by Mr David Harries, Assistant Director-Adult Services, Social Services Dept, Ceredigion County Council, in relation to the proposed changes to the *Meals on Wheels Service* in Ceredigion. He was accompanied by Mrs Elonwy Jones and Elin Fitzpatrick, officers in charge of the trial of frozen meals. The discussion endeavoured to answer questions such as, "Why is it necessary to change the current arrangements? How will the trial of the new arrangements work? What are the anticipated advantages of the proposed arrangements?", in addition to other concerns. Details of Mr D.Harries' address are available at the Town Library.

A few points which were raised included:

- Mr Harries mentioned that trials are running in Llandysul and Tregaron and are now starting in Lampeter, due to a shortage in recruiting volunteers locally. Members of the Town Council had been surprised at this revelation, and prior information from the WRVS would have been helpful.
- It was learnt that recipients of the frozen meals would not have to pay for the provision of a microwave and freezer.
- An unforeseen problem was the accommodation of desktop freezers and microwaves, which cannot be fitted in some of the kitchens e.g. sheltered homes, due to the lack of space.
- Cllr. A. Carter voiced the concerns of many people, "One of the most important aspects of the *Meals on Wheels* service is the social contact that is provided by volunteers."

The results of the pilot trial scheme would be considered after 3 months

1. CHAIRPERSON'S WELCOME

The Mayor Christopher Thomas extended a warm welcome to all present.

PRESENT:

Cllr. Mayor Chris Thomas (Chairperson)

Cllrs: Deputy-Mayor Selwyn Walters, Cecilia Barton, Andrew Carter, Elsie Dafis, Hazel Davies, John Davies, Margaret Davies-Evans, Greg Evans, Robert Harris, Lynda Mason-George, Kistiah Ramaya and Dorothy Williams.

Kate Stewart, (Cittaslow Initiative)

2. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr. Robert Phillips, Derek Wilson and the local constabulary.

3. DISCLOSURE OF PERSONAL INTEREST

No member declared an interest in any item under discussion at this meeting.

4. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE 26TH APRIL 2007

It was proposed, seconded and resolved that the minutes of the meeting of the 26th April were a correct record and were signed by the chairperson.

5. POLICE MATTERS

It was reported that:

- 4 cars had been vandalized at the Maesyderi Estate and another at Ffynnonbedr;
- The *Neighbourhood Watch Scheme* would start shortly at Maesyderi. Residents have expressed concern in relation to the lighting on the site;
- A spate of burglaries had taken place recently and members were saddened to hear of the vandalizing of the surface of grave, hours after burial, at St Peter's Church Cemetery, Lampeter;
- It was agreed to invite P.I. Mark James to the next meeting to discuss members' concerns. The Town Council is also awaiting developments in relation to the proposed bylaw to form an Exclusion Zone, to prohibit alcohol consumption on the streets of Lampeter.

6. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

6.1 **Cittaslow: discussion on the way forward:** Following the recent visit to Ludlow on the 30th April 2007, it was agreed to set up a working party, in order to consider pursuing Cittaslow status for Lampeter. The process of joining Cittaslow starts with a self-assessment against a set of weighted criteria or goals. The aim of the working party, should they wish to move the matter forward, would be to assess whether Lampeter would score 50% or higher in this initial assessment, therefore qualifying for the first step in the membership process. The goals include supporting and developing local producers and their products, supporting local culture and traditions, working towards a more sustainable local environment, encouraging diversity and promoting healthy living.

The working party would comprise of representatives of the Lampeter Chamber of Trade; the University of Wales, Lampeter; the Town Council and also Kate Stewart from Cwmann, a keen advocate of the Slowcity initiative and has said, "Personally, I would like to see Lampeter become a Cittaslow as I think Lampeter is already half way there and that Cittaslow status would be a great boost to the town. Lampeter would to some extent be safeguarded in order to progress in a sustainable manner, without having to lose integrity for the sake of growth." It was agreed to contact these organizations and individuals. It was also resolved to contact Mold, the first town in Wales to be accepted into the Cittaslow movement, to discuss the financial cost and the benefits to the town, since embracing the Cittaslow goals.

6.2 **Lampeter Post Office (P.O):** A small delegation of the Town Council and members of the Chamber of Trade had met representatives of the Post Office LTD, and Post Watch Wales on the 8th May 2007. Minutes of this meeting had already been circulated to members. Replies were received to the copy of the letter sent to Kathryn Alexander Post Office LTD, voicing opposition to the proposed movement of the local P.O. from the present site in College Street, to the Co-op (Pioneer Store) in Bridge Street, Lampeter. The response from Post-Watch Wales stated that although they are sympathetic to the feelings of a

significant number of local people, they have no power to dictate to Post Office LTD (POL), where offices should be located or to interfere in private commercial discussions between the company and potential sub postmasters; sub post offices are private businesses. They do however, have responsibility for commenting on the adequacy of the new facilities and in their opinion, these appear to be satisfactory. It was resolved to reply to the letter, stating that members of the Town Council believed that much more could have been done on their behalf, to offer a choice of venues to home the new P.O. rather than one imposed venue.

A reply was also received from the Planning Dept CCC, stating that the Town Council's concerns had been noted and at the present time (8th May 2007), Ceredigion Planning Authority has yet to receive an application for a change of use at the Co-op (Pioneer) Store. Until an application is received, detailing the proposed change, the authority is unable to comment further at this point.

- 6.3 **Picton Lane, Lampeter:** As a result of the site meeting of the 25th April, the county council proposed a joint initiative with Lampeter Town Council, as a means of addressing concerns at Picton Lane. This would involve experimentally blocking off Picton Lane for a sufficient period of time to assess what impact this may have on the town. This initiative would involve the Town Council paying the cost of effecting a temporary road closure at Picton Lane for an initial period of 3 months. The anticipated cost would be in the region of £1,000. This would be the Town Council's contribution to this joint initiative. The Authority's contribution would be to arrange and fund the provision and installation of lockable bollards, to be located at both ends of the lane. These bollards can be deployed in an up position to prevent vehicles to pass, or retracted below the road surface to permit vehicles to pass. Additional keys for these bollards would be made available to the emergency services only, to facilitate their access. Temporary signage would also initially be installed to alert drivers to the blocking off of the lane. This arrangement would provide scope for alternating the end of the lane to be blocked off, and for the effects of different bollard arrangements to be assessed.

The proposal to implement the traffic calming trial was considered and rejected by members of the Town Council, on grounds of the cost – 3 members were in favour; 4 against and 6 abstentions. It was agreed to inform the county council of this decision.

- 6.4 **North Road:** parking prohibition: it was reported that a single yellow line (Traffic Order of prohibition of parking 8pm-6am, all days) had been painted recently on the western side of North Road, opposite the junction of/entrance to Mill Street and up to the entrance to the Bryn. It was stated that, to date, it was deterring motorists from parking in this area.

- 6.5 **Parking for Disabled Drivers** - due to an increase in Blue-Badge holders in Ceredigion another qualification has been introduced in order to be entitled to free car-parking at county owned car-parks in Lampeter. This additional clause means that Blue-Badge holders are also requested to be holders of a disabled tax-disk. It was agreed to contact the county council to enquire whether this decision could be reconsidered.

This scheme varies from county to county and within the county e.g. different rules apply in Cardigan, compared to Lampeter. Charges are implemented in some sites in Ceredigion. Carmarthen on the other hand is free for disabled

drivers. It is important to read the instructions at each site because traffic wardens are known to be wandering around the county owned car-parks.

- 6.6 **CCTV Cameras:** the report for April 2007 was received from CCC. There had been 2 requests from the police to view video media in Lampeter in relation to an assault and theft for investigation/court purposes. One camera remains in a state of disrepair. In response to the letter expressing concern that Lampeter Town Council is continuing to pay the existing telecommunications charge of £19,600 (ex VAT) per annum instead of the anticipated £12,000, it was conveyed that there had been delays in “upgrading” the existing CCTV system at Lampeter and connecting to the Council’s telecommunications network. This has been due to an existing contractor becoming bankrupt. The county council has been arranging a new tender for the work which is in progress and the best estimate in terms of timescale for the network to be completed and the CCTV camera images to be transmitted on the Council’s network at the lower cost will be 3 months, from the 30th April 2007.
- 6.7 **Possible closure of the Lampeter County Council Depot:** a letter received from Mr. P. J. Arnold CCC, dated the 14th May conveyed that the provision of fixed depots and their location is under review. No decision on any closure has yet been made and the issue is still under consideration. The Town Council’s comments will be considered along with others from various sources in reaching any conclusions.
- 6.8 **Update, regarding the bench - Kakitsuka Family:** enquiries in relation to finding a suitable location for the siting of the bench, are ongoing. It was reported that the bench was in storage. Arrangements would have to be made shortly to find a suitable person to assemble the bench and to secure it firmly onto concrete.
- 6.9 **Policy Guidance on Managing Footway Obstructions:** CCC Cllr. Carter conveyed that he had read the document and the main theme discussed methods in which footpaths and pavements could be made more pedestrian friendly.
- 6.10 **One Voice Wales:** Ceredigion Area Meeting 11/03/2007: minutes of this meeting were available for the perusal of members.
- 6.11 **Housing Development at Forest Road CCC:** it was stated that the county council had requested the developers to contact the Town Council directly, in order to agree a mutually acceptable estate name. The Town Council had been of the opinion that “Coed Barcud” would deem to be a more suitable name for the site, rather than the developers’ proposed name of “Maes Hyfryd”.
- 6.12 **Welsh Language Policy – Lampeter Town Council:** this matter was held in abeyance until the next meeting of the Town Council, in the absence of Cllr. R. Phillips.
- 6.13 **Relate:** re counselling sessions in Lampeter: a communication was received from Mary Burdett-Jones, stating that the Taliesin Surgery in Lampeter will host future *Relate* meetings. They will provide three counselling sessions on a Monday at 3,4 & 5pm, commencing on the 4th June. *Relate Mid and West Wales* has now folded and has become a part of *Relate Cymru*, an initiative which is backed by the Welsh Assembly.

7. CORRESPONDENCE

Minute 13/2007

- 7.1 **Proposed Traffic Regulation Order: A482 Bridge Street, Lampeter: CCC:** The current parking regulations are being reviewed in conjunction with the ongoing

highway improvement scheme. Comments were invited in relation to the provision of a Traffic Regulation Order at this location.

and *The three parking bays on the left hand side of Bridge Street, facing north extending from 60 Bridge Street to 26 Bridge Street:*
 to The Traffic Order would involve replacing existing Prohibition of Waiting 8am 6pm to **1 Hour Limited Waiting Only, 8am-6pm, no return within 1hour.**
The parking bay on the right hand side of Bridge Street, facing north and is positioned opposite the junction of/entrance to New Street:
 Only The Traffic Order would involve replacing existing 1hour Limited Waiting 8am-6pm, no return within 1hour, to **Prohibition of Waiting 8am-6pm.**
 proposed It would be conveyed that the Town Council is fully supportive of these
 be Orders, but felt that they need not apply on a Sunday. Also, it would
 parking requested that these areas be clearly marked and easily identified as bays.

A letter was received from Gabrielle Davies, Salon Cain, 56 Bridge Street, Lampeter, expressing concern about the volume of traffic parked directly in the parking bay outside her business, for long periods, thus inconveniencing her customers from being able to stop directly outside her salon, and which could have a detrimental effect on her business. It was agreed to inform Gabrielle Davies of the proposed Traffic Order, which, if imposed would imply that parking would be restricted to 1hour between 8am and 6pm outside her salon. This measure should alleviate some of the difficulties mentioned in her correspondence.

7.2 **Mid & West Wales Fire & Rescue Authority: Draft Risk Reduction Action Plan 2008/09:** consultation 22/05/2007-14/08/2007: asking for the Town Council's views on two main proposals – a proposal to change the way in which they deliver their Services to reduce risk in the upper Swansea and Amman Valley areas and the changes which they may make to duty systems for a number of their staff. It was decided to find out more information in relation to the first proposal and its relevance to the Lampeter area.

7.3 **CefnGwlad.org** - the Rural Resource: noted for information.

7.4 **“The Voice” One Voice Wales”** circular May 2007: for information only.

**8. MENTER LLAMBED Minute 2/2007
Minute 14/2007**

Cllr. Greg Evans updated members on recent events:

8.1 **The Town Hall's final business plan** would shortly be submitted to the DEIN (Dept for Enterprise, Innovation and Networks).

8.2 **Signs for the Gateway** would be discussed at their next meeting.

8.3 **The Tourism Brochure** would shortly be available on the website.

8.4 **Lampeter Fit Trail:** developments ongoing.

**9. PLANNING APPLICATIONS
Minute 15/2007**

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

Applic. No	Applicant:	Location:	Permission to:
------------	------------	-----------	----------------

and date of application:			
A070400 30/03/2007	Mr D.Dudley Bryn Olwen Bryn Road LAMPETER	Bryn Olwen Bryn Road LAMPETER	Erect a garage

- 9.2 **The Town Council was informed that the following application had been finally disposed** of by virtue of Article 25(11)(a) of the Town and County Planning (General Development Procedure) Order 1995.

Applic. No and date received by the Town Council:	Applicant:	Location:	Proposal to:
A060915	J & E Woodworks Builders & Joiners Barley Mow LAMPETER	J & E Woodworks Builders & Joiners Barley Mow LAMPETER	Erect a workshop

- 9.3 **It was reported that the following planning application had been refused by Ceredigion County Council**

Applic. No:	Applicant and Location	Refusal to:
A050713	Lampeter's Men's Institute 12 High Street LAMPETER	Replace windows & door. The replacement uPVC windows would detract from the character of the conservation area and is therefore contrary to Policy EN2 of the Development Plan and Policy ENVB1.5 of the Ceredigion Unitary Development Plan Proposed Modif.

- 9.4 **The following planning application was received:**

Applic. No and date received by the T.C.	Applicant:	Location:	Proposal:	Comment:
A070483 4/05/2007	Mr Chris Saunders LAS Waste LTD Tregaron Road LAMPETER Ceredigion SA48 8LT	LAS Waste LTD Tregaron Road LAMPETER Ceredigion SA48 8LT	Use of site & erection of building for B1, B2 & B8 use (business, general industrial & storage & distribution)	No objection

10. FINANCE
Minute 16/2007

10.1

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

Tax and NI	92.73				
Heat and Light	20.00				
Bobby Van Scheme				50.00	
MLL Telecom – 1 month CCTV		1,633.34			285.83

- 10.2 **A request for financial support** was received from the Oxygen Therapy Centre Cardigan LTD. It was decided not to contribute at this present time.
- 10.3 **A thank you letter was received from Mr Gwyndaf Tobias**, Treasurer of the Lampeter Food Festival, for the recent donation of £400.
- 10.4 **The internal audit of the accounts of Lampeter Town Council** for the year ending the 31st March 2007, will be undertaken in the month of June by Mr Robert Thomas, Llain-Deg, Cellan, prior to the completion of *The Local Councils in Wales Annual Return* for the year ending 31 March 2007, from the Wales Audit Office. A notice will also be displayed, notifying the electors of Lampeter that the accounts may be viewed during a set period, extending from June to July.

10. SUB-COMMITTEES
Minute 17/2007

10.1 FOOTPATHS'

Cllrs. Elsie Dafis and Lynda Mason-George were nominated to serve on this committee and were welcomed by the chair. The updated sub-committee now includes Cllrs. Mayor Chris. Thomas, Rob Phillips, Elsie Dafis and Lynda Mason-George.

11. AOB: Minute 18/2007

- 11.1 **It was reported that planting** would take place shortly at Parc-yr-Orsedd.
- 11.2 **It was enquired about the destination of the wood of the courtroom** after its removal from the Town Hall.
- 11.3 **A consequence of the new legislation in Wales**, prohibiting smoking in public places, appears to be an increase in the habit of disposing cigarette stubs onto the streets of Lampeter. Ash-tray bins were discussed.
- 11.4 **Another question which was asked was**, "Why are the houses in Bryn Road not numbered?" This was noted.

The meeting ended at 9.55pm.

12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday 28th June 2007 at 7.30pm, at the Town Hall.