



**MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF THE 31ST JULY 2008 AT 7.30PM
AT THE TOWN HALL LAMPETER**

1. CHAIRPERSON'S WELCOME

The Mayor Derek Wilson extended a welcome to all present.

PRESENT: Cllr Mayor Derek Wilson (Chairperson); Cecilia Barton; Elsie Dafis; John Davies; Greg Evans; Robert (Hag) Harris; Lynda Mason-George; Robert Phillips; Kistiah Ramaya; Chris Thomas, Selwyn Walters; Dorothy Williams and County Councillor Ivor Williams.

2. APOLOGIES

Cllr Andrew Carter; Margaret-Davies-Evans.

3. DISCLOSURE OF PERSONAL INTERESTS

Cllrs C.Thomas and D.Williams declared a personal interest when the application for financial support was received from the *Lampeter In Bloom* Organization.

Cllr C.Barton declared an interest when the application for financial support was received from the Age Concern Charity.

4. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES – 26/06/2008

These were agreed to be correct.

5. POLICE MATTERS

5.1 Alcohol Exclusion Zone for Lampeter

Reply received from Inspector Calvin Griffiths stating that the Alcohol Ban is under review and that the police are carrying out a detailed review into the problems, which are specific to Lampeter. This review will take a little more time and when complete should give a true picture as to whether an Alcohol Ban for the whole town is necessary, or if it is just a particular area, or indeed whether it is required at all. He would keep the Town Council updated. Cllr Greg Evans was surprised at this response. He had understood that the Review had been abandoned by the Police for the present time. Alcohol misuse in open public spaces, within the town, was not perceived as a problem by the constabulary. Only one incident had occurred in the past, and this, in their opinion, did not warrant an *Alcohol Exclusion Zone*. Cllr Evans bemoaned the fact that 2 years had elapsed since initial discussions, and many members were concerned that further incidents could take place in the future. It was resolved to contact the Ceredigion Community Safety Partnership and Superintendent Alun Harries stating that the Town Council remains fully supportive of an Alcohol Ban in the town and that the people of Lampeter deserve to hear a conclusion to this matter. Cllr C.Thomas encouraged individuals to report alcohol related incidents, within the town to the police.

6. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

6.1 Co-opting a new member for the Town Council: The Clerk had contacted CCC, who said that every effort should be made to fill the vacancy. In accordance with the procedure, a Public Notice was subsequently received from the CCC, inviting 10 members of the electorate to request an Election by the 20th August. Should the CCC receive 10 names by that time, members of the public would be invited to submit their names to the CCC with a view to standing an Election. Should only one person be prepared to stand an Election that person would be elected unopposed and would automatically secure the position of Town Councillor without resorting to a ballot. Should more than one name be received, an Election would be called to be funded by

the Town Council. Should no names be submitted to the CCC, it would be possible for the Town Council to co-opt a new member.

Should 10 names not be submitted to CCC by the 20th August, another avenue would arise. Some members were not in favour of co-option and felt that prospective candidates should be prepared to stand an election. In light of the fact that a Town Council Election could have been called as recently as the 1st May 2008, and that no expressions of interest had been received (apart from the present 14 Cllrs who were subsequently elected unopposed), it was felt appropriate that the seat should remain vacant for the present time. It was resolved to contact One Voice Wales to seek information in relation to best practice.

- 6.2 Provision of 4 new Entrance Signs for the town:** The design and appearance of the sign was decided upon. The Mayor reported that the *Signs of the Times Company* based in Bedfordshire will be responsible for producing the 4 signs. The total cost of installing the signs would be approximately £9,300 (ex VAT and carriage). It was resolved, before progressing to order the signs; to contact CCC to seek permission to replace the existing signs, to ask if the new signs could be attached to existing posts; to enquire whether they could be responsible for installing these signs and also to find out if they were prepared to meet a part of the cost. (Mayor DW; Cllr RP)
- 6.3 Manhole adjacent to Somerfield Car-park:** awaiting a reply from the Manager of Somerfield Supermarket.
- 6.4 Give-way Sign, Drovers Road:** awaiting a reply from CCC.
- 6.5 HGVs using Church Street & Bryn-yr-Eglwys:** Communication received from CCC stating that siting an advisory sign, declaring that the road is unsuitable for HGVs at the junction of the A475 and Church Street may interfere with deliveries to Somerfield supermarket. The manager of the Supermarket has said that a significant proportion of daily deliveries are made by drivers, who may be unfamiliar with the road layout and who could simply turn back on encountering the sign. This presents a problem, since locating the sign further away from the A475 (eg towards the Church or Scout Hall) would mean that drivers of HGVs would have already committed themselves to turning into Church Road by the time they see the sign. They would then have nowhere to turn round, and it is possible, feel that they have no option but to proceed along Bryn-yr-Eglwys. The CCC enquired whether the TC held information regarding the frequency of HGVs using Bryn-Yr-Eglwys and if vehicles belonging to any particular hauliers may be involved. Cllr G. Evans reported that around 12 lorries use the road every day – no firms in particular. He suggested that a sign prohibiting lorries with the words *For Access Only* inscribed on the sign would deter lorries from travelling up Bryn-yr-Eglwys but would permit the Somerfield lorries to do so.
- 6.6 Calor Village of the Year Competition** Cllr Greg Evans informed members that the application, which he had submitted and compiled, had succeeded in progressing into the final round of the competition. The final round consists of a visit by the Judging Team, when an opportunity will be offered for Lampeter to make a presentation to the judges, which should not exceed 2hours duration. (The actual date of the Judges' Visit is Thursday the 11th September at 3:00pm) (Cllr G.Evans/ Mayor DW/Deputy Mayor SW)
- 6.7 Register of Gifts and Hospitality:** It was decided that all gifts and hospitality greater than £25.00 should be declared by members of the TC.
- 6.8 Welsh Water:** an answer was received to the query. General maintenance checks are not undertaken on a regular basis but are purely reactive to

the complaints of customers. There was a general disquiet amongst members regarding this response; they were of the opinion that regular maintenance checks should be in place in order to alleviate future problems.

- 6.9 National Training Programme for Community & Town Councils One Voice Wales:** Cllr D. Williams agreed to find out further information in relation to the 6 modules on offer namely *The Council; The Councillor; The Council as an Employer; Understanding the law; Council Meetings* and *Understanding Local Government Finance*. Some Councillors and the Clerk expressed an interest in attending these courses. (Cllr. DW)
- 6.10 Lampeter Carnival:** It was reported that sufficient volunteers had been recruited to set up a Carnival Committee.
- 6.11 Vandalized Notice Board adjacent to the library:** it was resolved to contact the Insurance Company to find out if a claim could be made to cover the cost of the damage. It was also decided to contact CCC to enquire whether the notice board could be fixed to the wall of the library to make it more secure and to minimize vandalism in future. It would be explained that the Town Council would be prepared to meet the cost. (Mayor DW)
- 6.12 Tidy Wales Awards Scheme;** Cllr C Thomas is making further enquiries in relation to the Competition. It is hoped that the recycling bins, referred to in previous minutes can be included under this scheme. (Cllr. CT; RP)
- 6.13 Crumbling Wall; rear of Natwest Bank:** A reply was received from the CCC stating that a Building Control Officer had visited the site and inspected the offending wall and is currently establishing ownership, following which, action can be taken to rectify the danger under Section 77 of the Building Act 1984 (Dangerous Structures).

7. NEW MATTERS

- 7.1 DOT.CYM:** Cllr Rob Phillips explained the background to this campaign. (attached) . It was resolved to support this initiative. (Cllr RP)
- 7.2 Free-Parking at the Cwmins Car-park:** this matter would be considered at a future date. (Cllr HH)
- 7.3 Fundraising Activity –Urdd Eisteddfod, Ceredigion 2010:** The Town Council had resolved, in an earlier meeting to organize a fundraising activity in aid of the Urdd Eisteddfod to be hosted in Ceredigion in 2010. It was decided to defer the discussion to the next meeting, in order to allow members time to consider possible fundraising activities.

8. CORRESPONDENCE

- 8.1 Letter received from Mr Picton Jones and Mrs Helena Jones, 4 Peterwell Terrace, Lampeter asking** if it was possible to change the Post-Code of Llys Idwal, as at the present moment, the post-code for Llys Idwal and Peterwell Terrace is the same viz SA48 7BX and causes a great deal of confusion. It was resolved to contact the CCC and the Post-Office. (Cllr GE)
- 8.2 A Shared Community:** Relationship Building & Charters for Unitary Authorities and Community & Town Councils: Final Guidance WAG: this document was circulated to members.
- 8.3 Ceredigion Community safety Plan 2008-11:** Ceredigion Community Safety Partnership: circulated to members, before submitting a response.
- 8.4 Reviews of Electoral Arrangements:** The Local Government Boundary Commission for Wales (“the Commission”) has a duty under section 57 of the Local Government Act 1972 to conduct reviews of electoral arrangements in each of the 22 principal council areas in Wales. The term “electoral arrangements” refers to the number of councillors in a county or county borough, the number and boundaries of the electoral divisions forming part of the principal area, the number of councillors to be elected in each division

and the names of the divisions. It was decided not to respond to the Consultation Questions.

- 8.5 Letter received from S.Davies, Chair, Mydtara, 45 Maesyderi, Lampeter** regarding the cutting of the ex-school field, to the north of St Peter's Church and en-route to the Maesyderi Estate. She enquired whether the field could be cut on a regular basis under the auspices of CCC, the current landlord. This is one of the only remaining green areas in Lampeter and children from all over the town use it for their recreation. Cllr Hag Harris agreed to discuss the matter further with S.Davies and to speak to the relevant parties within the CCC in an attempt to arrange a regular grass-cutting scheme. (Cllr HH)
- 8.6 Proposal to transfer the CC Council's stock to a new not-for-profit landlord, Tai Ceredigion:** The WAG requires that all social housing should meet the Welsh Housing Quality Standard (WHQS) by 2012. The WHQS means that homes should be in a good state of repair; safe and secure; adequately heated, fuel efficient and well insulated; contain up to date kitchens and bathrooms; well managed; located in attractive and safe environments; & as far as possible suit the specific requirements of the households (eg specific disabilities). This will mean that the CCC will have to spend £40 million on the Council's stock within the first five years, and a total of £136 million over 30 years to maintain the stock at that Standard for the next 30 years, which is not a feasible option to the CCC under current financial rules, and is therefore proposing to transfer the housing stock to a new not for profit landlord called Tai Ceredigion. It will be the Council's tenants that will have the final say on this as a postal ballot will take place in the Autumn of this year. CCC recognizes the role that Community Councils play in providing information to citizens at a local level, and, to that end an invitation is extended for 2 representatives of the TC to attend a meeting. The purpose of the meeting will be to understand the background to the decision to ballot tenants and to ask questions. Cllrs Elsie Dafis, Lynda Mason-George and the Deputy-Mayor Selwyn Walters were nominated to attend the meeting of Monday the 22nd September at 7.00pm at the CCC Offices at Penmorfa, Aberaeron. Cllr Harris volunteered to explain the background to this arrangement at a future meeting. (Cllrs ED:LM-G:SW:HH)
- 8.7 Rural Wales Magazine 80th Anniversary Edition:** for information.
- 8.8 Ceredigion Strategy for people aged 50+, Lampeter 50+ Group – Agenda of the next meeting and minutes of the 19th May meeting:** for information. (Cllr CB;DW)
- 8.9 Ombudsman:** How to complain that a local authority member has broken the code of conduct: noted for information.
- 8.10 Lampeter in Bloom Magazine:** The Wales in Bloom Competition had taken place on the 23rd July. The Mayor congratulated the organizers for their hard work and for making Lampeter a more attractive place for visitors and residents.
- 9. MENTER LLAMBED**
- 9.1 Cllr Greg Evans reported that Menter Llambled** had secured the services of an officer and staff for 3 years.
- 9.2 It was arranged for Cllr Evans and Prof. David Austen** to address the Town Council at the next monthly meeting in relation to *Transition Town Llambled*.
- 10. PLANNING**
- 10.1 The following applications have been permitted by CCC:**
- 10.1.1 Erection dwelling:** Land adjacent to Dan y Wenallt, Falcondale

Drive, Lampeter. Applicant Mr & Mrs Julian Evans: Application number A080369.

10.1.2 Change of use & extension to form dwelling, No 7 Market Street, Lampeter. Applicants Mr & Mrs R Band. Application Number: A080238

10.1.3 Internal Alterations: Church Hall, Church Street, Lampeter.

Applicant St Peter's Church, Lampeter. Application Number: A080323LB (Listed Building Consent subject to certain conditions).

10.1.4 Replacement of existing garage with a single storey extension.

Applicant Mr Andy Bevan, Green Cottage, Greenfield Terrace, Lampeter. Application Number: A080525.

10.2 The following applications were received from CCC

10.2.1 Erection of extension and partial demolition of dwelling. Location: Eryl, 61 Bridge Street, Lampeter. Application No: A080680.

Applicants: Mr & Mrs Howell Eryl, 61 Bridge Street, Lampeter. Town Council's Comments; No Objections to this development.

10.2.2 Erection of 3 new Apartments and associated car-parking. Location: Land at Market Street, Lampeter. Application Number; A080688.

Applicant: Mr E Davies, Wenlllys, new Street, Lampeter. Town Council's Comments: Generally no objection but car-parking should be catered for within the site.

10.3 Site Visit: Applicants: Mr & Mrs GL Jones, Proposal: Demolition of existing garage and erection of three flats, Mountwalk Garage, Mountwalk, Lampeter, Application Number: A080303. Members were informed that this application is to be the subject of a site visit by the Site Inspection Panel, CCC and the Town Council would be invited to appoint a representative to attend the inspection as observer. It was resolved that the Mayor Derek Wilson would represent the Town Council- actual date (information received after this meeting) 28/08/2008 at 1:30pm. (Mayor DW; County Cllrs HH & IW)

11. FINANCE

11.1 It was resolved to make the following financial contributions

11.1.1 Age Concern Ceredigion £50.00

11.1.2 Marie Curie Cancer Care £100.00

11.1.3 Air Ambulance Wales £50.00

11.1.4 Lampeter in Bloom Organisation £100

11.2 The Internal Audit of the TC's accounts has been undertaken by Mr David Smith present Chairperson of the Lampeter Chamber of Trade, for a fee of £100, and was found to be satisfactory. Section 1 & 2 of the BDO Stoy Hayward External Auditor's form were signed by the Chair of Lampeter TC, the Responsible Financial Officer of Lampeter TC and the Internal Auditor on the 11th July 2008. In accordance with openness and transparency recommendations for local government, records are available for members of the public to view from the 21/07/2008 to 15/08/2008. The external audit date has been set for the 22 August 2008. It was reported that at the beginning of the present financial year i.e. the 1st April 2008 the Town Council's reserves were in the region of £136,500 which included a sum of approximately £11,200, received in the will of a deceased resident in April 2005 (Actual amount received £10,000 + £1,200 interest accumulated).

11.3 Shelter Cymru: a thank you letter was received for the donation of £25.00. Their services provide free, independent and confidential assistance to clients faced with homelessness.

11.4 Town & Council Election Costs 2008 CCC - £129.30. Arrangements will be made for the sum to be deducted from the 2009-10 precept in April 2009.

11.5 Hire of Town Hall, Town Council meetings (6) £123.00

- 11.6 **Hire of Victoria Hall**, Young at Heart Afternoon Teas (6) £61.50
- 11.7 **It was decided not to make a financial contribution to the DASH** (Disabilities and Self-Help) organization. DASH is a local charity based at Aberaeron and endeavours to help disabled children and their families within Ceredigion.
- 11.8 **Clerk's Salary** July £463.95; HMRevenue £86.58; Heat/Light/Storage £20.00
- 11.9 **CAVO** will be holding a training session on *Giving and Public Fundraising* on the 12th August (£20.00). Cllr E. Dafis was nominated to attend this meeting, which could prove helpful when attempting to arrange a fundraising activity in aid of the Ceredigion Urdd Eisteddfod in 2010. (Cllr ED)
- 11.10 **Alec Page Blacksmith** (work to signs and gates at Parc-yr-Orsedd) £41.13
- 11.11 **Robert's Garden Centre** (purchase of plants) £39.96
- 12. **SUB-COMMITTEES**
 - 12.1 **FOOTPATHS (including Parc-yr-Orsedd)**
 - 12.1.1 **It was reported that the problems** encountered on the footpath leading from St Peter's Church to the Maesyderi estate were the responsibility of the Town Council. (County Cllr IW)
 - 12.2 **PAVEMENTS'** - no report was received.
 - 12.3 **SREET LIGHTING**
 - 12.3.1 **A street light is defective in Bryn Road:** Cllr D.Williams agreed to report the matter to CCC.
 - 12.4 **CCTV CAMERAS**
 - 12.4.1 **June 2008 Monthly report as received from Mr Richard Griffiths CCTV Supervisor, CCC:** there had been 2 requests to view digital media from the police regarding criminal damage. A problem exists with one camera regarding condensation in the dome. Mr Griffiths reported that he was pleased to advise that the equipment upgrade for Lampeter has now been completed and camera movement has been greatly improved. The town is now equipped with "Indigovision" digital video recorders, which provide high quality images, which are recorded on site and forwarded to the CCTV Control Room for evidence purposes as and when required.
 - 12.4.2 **Visit to the Control Room, Aberystwyth:** It was resolved to attempt to arrange 2 visits to the CCTV Control Room viz Monday the 20th October at 7.30pm and Thursday the 23rd October at 7.30pm.
 - 12.5 **WELSH LANGUAGE**
 - 12.5.1 **This committee will** meet shortly to assess the Town Council's Welsh Language Policy after its implementation a year ago.
- 13. **A.O.B.**
 - 13.1 **It was resolved to report to the Highways Dept** CCC a subsidence on the High Street, Lampeter, in front of the Town Hall. The work needs to be done urgently in the interest of safety.
 - 13.2 **It was decided to send flowers to Cllr Margaret Davies-Evans**, who has been unwell recently.
 - 13.3 **Tourist Information - Lampeter:** Cllr C.Thomas reported that tourist information was inadequate.
- 14. **Date of next meeting: Thursday 28th August at 6:30pm at the Town Hall and a dinner to celebrate Mrs Hazel Davies' contribution to the Town Council, to follow immediately afterwards at the Ling-Di-Long Chinese Restaurant at 8:00pm. (£12.00 per person + £5.00 –gift)**