



**MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF THE
30th OCTOBER 2008 AT 7.30PM
TOWN HALL LAMPETER**

1. CHAIRPERSON'S WELCOME

The Mayor Derek Wilson extended a welcome to all present.

PRESENT

Cllr Mayor Derek Wilson (Chairperson);
Cllrs Cecilia Barton; Andrew Carter; Elsie Dafis;
John Davies; Margaret Davies-Evans;
Robert Phillips; Kistiah Ramaya;
Town & County Cllr Robert (Hag) Harris;
County Cllr Ivor Williams;
Mr Dave Smith (Chairman of the Chamber of Trade).

2. APOLOGIES

Cllrs Greg Evans; Lynda Mason-George; Chris Thomas;
Selwyn Walters (Deputy-Chairperson) and Dorothy Williams.

3. Public Forum at the Town Council's Meetings

The Public Forum was launched at this meeting and attracted one expression of interest, namely Mr Dave Smith, Chair of the Chamber of Trade. His topic for discussion involved the town's twinning with St Germain sur Moine, which commenced 5 years ago. An abundance of signs appear in St Germain sur Moine declaring twinning with Lampeter and a Square has been named after the town. Mr Smith stated that apart from a stone, located on the green, opposite the Police Station, there was no other evidence to show the twinning, within the town of Lampeter. Members assured Mr Smith that new signs proclaiming Lampeter's association with the French town, had been ordered from CCC, for the four main entrances to the town.(Cross-ref 7.4)

It was enquired if it was feasible for a place in Lampeter to be named in honour of St Germain sur Moine. It was suggested that this could be a lengthy process. It was resolved to defer the decision of whether members would consider changing the name of a place, until the next meeting.

Cllr Phillips reported that since the introduction of the Town Council's Welsh Language Policy, the Town Council should favour Welsh names for places, as opposed to other languages.

Cllr Barton thanked Mr Smith for attending the meeting and hoped that the Public Forum would gain momentum.

4. POLICE MATTERS

4.1 Alcohol Exclusion Zone for Lampeter.

A letter has been submitted to the Ceredigion Community Safety Partnership stating that the Town Council would like to make a joint request regarding an Alcohol Exclusion Zone in Lampeter. This joint request is by the Town Council and the local Police Authority. The new request is for an Alcohol Exclusion

Zone in Harford Square, the three main roads into Harford Square, Parc-yr-Orsedd Amenity Area and Somerfield Car-Park.

- 4.2 **Dyfed-Powys Police Authority: Policing Plan 2009-12:** three priorities for the area requested: it was resolved to prioritize, “Accessibility to Police”, “Anti-Social Behaviour” and “Visibility of Police”. It would also be mentioned that the Town Council would welcome help in implementing the Alcohol Exclusion Zone for the town.
- 4.3 **Dyfed-Powys Police Authority:** Public Consultation Meeting Thursday 20th November at 7.00pm CCC Buildings, Penmorfa, Aberaeron. The Mayor and Deputy-Mayor were nominated to attend this meeting.

5. DISCLOSURE OF PERSONAL INTERESTS

- 5.1 **Cllr A.Carter declared a personal interest** when discussing the financial request from the Lampeter Scouts’ Association.

6. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE AUGUST MEETING

These were agreed to be correct apart from the following:

- 6.1 **Minute 10.3 -Eirwyn Williams;** *grass cutting over the summer months at Parc-yr-orsedd: £550.* This should be £510. An additional £40 was paid to Mr Williams for undergoing remedial work on the footpath leading from St Peter’s Church to the Maesyderi Estate.
- 6.2 **Minute 12.4 Best wishes would be extended to Cllr John Davies on his retirement from the Menswear Shop Danny BJ, which has been in the family for over half a century.** The name of the shop was actually *Daniel Davies* and not *Danny BJ*.

7. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

- 7.1 **Vandalized Notice Board:** the Mayor reported that it would cost in the region of £1,000 to repair/replace the notice board. Mr Geraint Hughes Estates’ Department CCC stated that he is contacting relevant sections of the county council and will revert to the Town Council shortly, in relation to the request to secure the new notice board onto the wall of the Town Library.
- 7.2 **A Shared Community – Welsh Assembly Government (WAG):** this document is in circulation.
- 7.3 **Ceredigion Community Safety Plan 2008-11 –** in circulation.
- 7.4 **Town Entrance Signs:** Two options were forwarded by the CCC, as a result of the meeting of the 7th October between a delegation of the Town Council (Mayor/Deputy-Mayor Cllrs Phillips/Harris/Ivor Williams and Clerk) and Katy Spain *Assistant Engineer Transportation Strategy Ceredigion CC.* The meeting clarified the issues relating to the design, manufacture and installation of the Lampeter Town boundary signs. It was resolved to choose “Option B” (attached). Indicative costs will be:

Option B:

| | | | |
|--|----------------|---|----------|
| Manufacture of Sign Option A | 4 x £387.38 | = | £1549.52 |
| Design fee (15%) | 0.15 x £387.38 | = | £58.11 |
| Installation (erection of signs and Installation of new posts) | | = | £1701.87 |

NET TOTAL = £3309.50

The Clerk to inform the Ceredigion CC and to make arrangements for the town’s crest to be forwarded electronically to the county council.

- 7.5 **Calor Village of the year Competition:** It was decided that the Mayor and Deputy-Mayor would attend the Awards’ Ceremony at the Guild Hall, London scheduled for Tuesday the 2nd December. Discussion arose in relation to the

expenses incurred by members when undertaking work on behalf of the Town Council. It was resolved that the TC would pay these costs in the future. (The Clerk to compile an expenses form). It was therefore agreed that the Town Council would meet the Mayor and Deputy-Mayor's travelling and overnight costs on their imminent London visit.

- 7.6 Tidy Wales Scheme:** A letter was received from Tegryn Jones, Chief Executive, Keep Wales Tidy, thanking the TC for taking part in this year's competition, which was submitted by Cllr Chris Thomas, on behalf of the Town Council. Unfortunately Lampeter had not succeeded in reaching the short-list. Cllr Chris Thomas had spoken to a representative of the Keep Wales Tidy organisation at the One Voice Wales Conference of the 11th October. It was suggested that the TC could reapply for the grant if everyone was in agreement but volunteer groups would have to be involved with projects around the town as the committee is looking at the close working partnership within the town. It was resolved, in a previous meeting to purchase the recycling bin using TC's funds if the Keep Wales Tidy bid had not been successful. The Clerk to contact CCC to request permission to locate the bin in the Harford Square area.
- 7.7 It was reported that a representative of the Citizen's Advice Bureau Ceredigion (CAB)** had been unable to attend this evening's meeting or the following month's meeting. Stella Van Der Geyten, the person who had been requested to attend the TC's meeting has, by now, left the bureau. It was resolved to arrange a meeting for the New Year in order to discuss funding and to clarify CAB's role in Lampeter.
- 7.8 Document from Peter Bosley Chair Lampeter Society,** the Alumni Organisation for the University of Wales Lampeter, The Document: *Position Statement for the University of Wales Lampeter Court and the University of Wales Lampeter Council*; it was resolved not to respond to this document, Mr Bosley drew members' attention to the events of the weekend of the 5/6th December. The Society is endeavouring to bring together the university and its graduates in a full scale debate on aspects of the situation and ideas about the way forward. The agenda will be forwarded to the TC in due time.
- 7.9 One Voice Wales AGM 11/10/2008 The Pavilion, Pontrhydfendigiad:** Cllr Chris Thomas had attended this meeting and provided an update on the day's events:
There is a voluntary training package for Town and Community Councillors, which is about to come into force. Trainers are undertaking training in November and the training of councillors will commence shortly after that. One Voice Wales are also setting up their own web-site and all affiliated councils will be able to have their Town and Community Council's website added on to this web-site. It is envisaged that all councillors will have a password for entry into the site. This will allow all councillors access to all publications and consultative literature over the web. Town Clerks will have a separate code and will be able to update the site for their respective council. An address was received from Jane Davidson AM, Minister for the Environment, Sustainability and Housing with the Welsh Assembly. She recognised the invaluable contribution which Town and Community Councils make to Environment and Sustainability issues. The *Nobel Prize* winner Sir John Houghton FRS CBE gave a presentation on the climate change challenge, which presently faces Wales. Ashton Hayes' Parish Council endeavoured to show how the first tier of local government could address global problems. This council has succeeded in making Ashton Hayes the first carbon neutral village in England and has reduced its emissions by 21% since the inception of the project.

An address was also received from Peter Davies Commissioner for Developing Sustainability in Wales. One Voice Wales has been working with Peter Davies and others in a bid to develop the concept of a sustainable community, by assigning attention to social and economic aims, as well as environmental goals.

NEW MATTERS ARISING

7.10 Remembrance Sunday 9/11/2008: Arrangements were made in relation to this service, the 90th Armistice of the First World War, in order to remember those who gave their lives in the Two Great Wars of the last century, and in military conflicts since that time.

8. CORRESPONDENCE

8.1 Local Government Act 1972 – Sections 55(2) and 57(4): Review of Community Boundaries in the county of Ceredigion: The County Council is conducting a review of community boundaries and of electoral arrangements in the county. The views of the Town Council are needed. After discussion, it was resolved not to submit any comments.

8.2 Ceredigion Area Meeting One Voice Wales: 9/10/2008 at 7.00pm at Penmorfa, Aberaeron: Agenda included an address by representatives of the CCC regarding *Revising the Ceredigion Community Strategy*. Also Post Office Ltd Network Change Programme and the Local Development Plan – Key Stakeholder Group: noted for information.

8.3 Local Government Boundary Commission for Wales: Review of Community Council Election Results 2008: The Commission has recently undertaken an exercise to collate the 2008 Town & Community election results. The purpose of the exercise was to identify the number of uncontested seats and additionally, the number of seats that still remain vacant immediately after the election.

In 2008- 68% of seats were not contested.

In 2004- 77% of seats were not contested.

In 2008- 12% of Town and Community seats remained vacant.

In 2004- 12% of Town and Community seats remained vacant.

In 2008- the ratio of electors to Town/Community Councillor is 205:1.

In 2004- the ratio of electors to Town/Community Councillor was 194:1.

There are a large number of small councils and the ratio of electors to councillors is low. The relatively high proportion of seats remaining vacant may reflect a variety of reasons for each locality in terms of community interest etc. The fact that 66% of councils are elected without contest suggests that there are still issues concerning the democratic process itself. Many vacancies are filled through the process of co-opting additional members.

The Commission concluded that the present arrangement for Town & Community Councils does not provide for effective local government and there is still potential to reduce the numbers of councils through a process of amalgamation and to set a higher ratio of electors to councillors. This could engender greater local participation with more elections for fewer seats.

At this stage the Commission has presented this information to the Minister for Local Government, and will share it with the Electorate Commission since it has been the only exercise conducted to gather this data. The purpose of the exercise is to share the information with interested parties.

For Lampeter

In 2008 -100% of seats were not contested.

6.7% of seats remained vacant immediately after election. The Town Council has resolved not to co-opt a new member at the present time.

The average number of electors to Town Cllr is 114:1.

- 8.4 **Launch of the Calon Ceredigion Nurse Appeal:** noted for information.
- 8.5 **Ceredigion Age Concern:** AGM Feathers Hotel Aberaeron: 13/11/2008 at 2pm: for information.
- 8.6 **TraCC Regional Transport Plan:** members have completed a questionnaire regarding the Mid Wales Regional Transport Plan.
- 8.7 **Ceredigion Green Party Consultation on the Bus Services in Ceredigion:** Cllr Phillips agreed to submit a response on behalf of the Town Council.
- 8.8 **The Additional Licensing Scheme for Houses in Multiple Occupation:** Ceredigion CC is seeking to introduce "Additional Licensing of Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMOs) throughout the whole of Ceredigion on the 1st of April 2009. This is following the general approval given by the Welsh Assembly Government (WAG) in 2007. Mandatory Licensing came into force on the 30th June 2006 for larger HMOs in Wales and the proposed Additional Licensing Scheme is to extend this to include all properties within Ceredigion defined in law as an HMO under the Housing Act 2004. It was resolved that Cllr E.Dafis would to respond to the consultation.
- 8.9 **Guidance for Community & Town Councils in Wales:** Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act: WAG: The Mayor – first recipient.
- 8.10 **Fire & Rescue National Framework for Wales WAG:** The Mayor – first recipient.
- 8.11 **Other correspondence:** for information only.

9. **MENTER LLAMBED**

As Cllr G.Evans was absent, no information was received regarding Menter Llambed.

10. **PLANNING**

Planning Applications received from Ceredigion CC

- 10.1 **Erection of external lift:** University of Wales, College Street, Lampeter Application Number A080977 Applicant: Mr Cennydd Powell University of Wales, Lampeter – Town Council's comments: no objections.
- 10.2 **Erection of external lift:** University of Wales, College Street, Lampeter Application Number A080978LB Applicant: Mr Cennydd Powell University of Wales, Lampeter – Town Council's comments: no objections.
- 10.3 **Erection of a conservatory: Afon Del, Falcondale Drive, Lampeter.** Applicants Rev & Mrs B.Fillery Afon Del Falcondale Drive, Lampeter. Application No: AO80959: Town Council's Comments: fully supportive of this application.
- 10.4 **Internal Alterations:** Porter's Lodge, University of Wales, Lampeter: Application Number: A080943LB: Applicant: Mr C.Powell: Town Council's Comments: supports this application.

The Ceredigion CC has granted permission to:

- 10.5 **Retain tattoo parlour and shop:** Tavistock House, 17 Harford Square, Lampeter. Applicant: Mrs Ainsbury-Panesh, Rhydyfelin, Pentre, Tregaron. Application Number: AO80439

11. **FINANCE**

11.1 Financial requests:

11.1.2 First Lampeter Scout Group: letter from Mr Grenville Evans asking for financial assistance to purchase much needed kit and equipment. The First Lampeter Scout group provides a Scouting experience for boys and girls of all ages from Lampeter and its surrounding villages. It was

decided to request a balance sheet and to find out their policy regarding the use of the Welsh Language, before considering a donation.

11.2.2 National Eisteddfod 2009: Bala: it was resolved to contribute £100.00

11.2.3 Old Primary School Field, Opposite St Peter's Church:

Correspondence was received from Cllr Greg Evans. He stated that he had been approached by the Junior Rugby & Football teams to ask if it was possible for him to locate extra training facilities. As a result, they are considering using the Ffynnonbedr old school field to train the junior teams and a letter is in the process of being sent to the Estates' Dept CCC to this effect.

It was enquired whether the TC would offer financial assistance towards the purchase of temporary floodlights, which would cost approximately £1,000.

Members highlighted the fact that it was the TC's intention to rent or buy the field, to use as an amenity by the people of Lampeter. This could be at variance to Cllr Evans' stated aim of leasing the field for the sports' facility only.

It was resolved to contact Ceredigion CC to ask about progress in relation to the TC's request for leasing/buying the field.

The decision as to whether to make a financial contribution towards the floodlights was deferred, as it was felt that further discussion was needed on the possible use of the Maesyderi Field. The TC wish to remind the Football & Rugby Organisations that a policy to help the Welsh language would be considered in requests for financial requests in the future.

11.2 Stationery: Compass Office Supplies £49.93 VAT £8.74 Cheque 001629

11.3 Clerk's Pay (Oct) £498.60

11.4 Heat/Light/Storage £20.00

11.5 H M Revenue; £109.78

11.6 It was resolved not to make a financial contribution to the:

11.6.1 Aberystwyth and District group, National Association for Colitis and Crohn's Disease; &

11.6.2 Bobath Children's Therapy Centre Wales, which provides specialist Bobath therapy to children all over Wales, who have cerebral palsy.

11.7 A thank you letter was received from the Urdd Gobaith Cymru

Ceredigion for the recent donation of £100

11.8 Poppy Wreath £16.50

11.9 Printing 200 Leaflets Remembrance Sunday £20.00

11.10 Visit to CCTV Control Room, Aberystwyth: 20/10/2008 Hire of Minibus £80.00

11.11 Visit to CCTV Control Room, Aberystwyth: 23/10/2008 Cllr I.Williams Car Expenses @40pence/mile = £20.00

11.12 Zurich Insurance: Changes to Community Insurance Centre Underwriting: noted for information.

11.13 Town Council's Reserves: These are in a state of flux in the country in general. The £150,000, now held in reserve, was considered. In view of the happenings of the last 3 months, it may be prudent to spread the money over 3 or 4 accounts. Presently the sum is held in two accounts namely Lloyds TSB and the Alliance & Leicester Bank.

Interest rates are now falling. The 1.5% cut in the bank base-rate is only a start of further decreases. It could be good practice to hold 3 smaller accounts. It was decided to make enquiries regarding accounts held at banks/building societies within Lampeter and to assign further attention to the matter at the next meeting.

12. SUB-COMMITTEES –

12.1 Footpaths' including Parc-yr-orsedd

12.1.1 The Invoice of £999, regarding the work undertaken on the footpaths by Mr E. Williams, has been submitted to the CCC- 75% grant funding under the auspices of the Ceredigion Community Footpaths' Scheme 2008-09.

12.1.2 It was reported that maintenance work was required on the footpath adjacent to the Penbryn Estate.

12.2 CCTV Cameras

12.2.1 Monthly Report for September 2008 There had been 7 requests from the Police to view digital media regarding burglary, criminal damage and the theft of a vehicle

12.2.2 Members Visited the Control Room Aberystwyth on Monday the 20th October and Thursday the 23rd October and all six cameras were fully functional and showed clear images.

12.3 Street Lighting

12.3.1 A street light adjacent to the rugby club is defective. To report to Ceredigion CC.

12.3.2 Western Power Distribution: Temporary Unmetered Connections for Festive Lighting Christmas 2008: to forward to Mr Sam Thomas.

12.4 Welsh Language Policy: Cllr Phillips guided members through the Welsh Language Policy: Annual Report. Lampeter Town Council adopted a Welsh language Policy under the Welsh Language Act 1993 on the 30th August 2007. Point 6.4 of the policy requires that the council receive an annual report, that the public are able to comment on the report and that it is submitted to the Welsh Language Board (copy attached).

Two points were highlighted:

12.4.1 The newly established Youth Club in Lampeter is presently run by Ceredigion CC Youth Workers who are not Welsh speakers. The Town Council Representatives on the steering group are planning to raise this with CCC.

12.4.2 When awarding grants in the future, the TC will require a brief statement form applicants in relation to their Welsh Language Policy. If they have a policy which promotes the use of the Welsh Language, this could help them in their application.

13. A.O.B.

13.1 It was resolved that no meeting of the Town Council will take place during the month of December.

13.2 Dog fouling remains a problem on the Bryn-yr-Eglwys and Penbryn Estates and on the Cwmins: to report the matter to the Dog warden CCC.

14. Date of next meeting: Thursday the 27th November at 7.30pm.