



**MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF THE
26th MARCH 2009 AT 7.00PM
AT THE SAINT PETER'S CHURCH HALL LAMPETER**

Present for the Public Meeting:

Dai Jones, College Street;
Barry Davies, 27 Maesyderi;
Colin George, 11 Parc-y-Felin;
Jeff Evans, Llys-y-Coed, Cwmann;
Alam Meerlitt, 17 Penbryn;
Mike Goodwin, 16 Penbryn;
Emyr Jones, Araul, Cwmann;
Carol Davies, Maesyderi;
Sue Davies, 45 Maesyderi;
Elizabeth James, Gwêl-y-Creuddyn;
Maureen Williams, 46 Maesyderi.

There were approximately another 5 members of the public present.

Cllr Mayor Derek Wilson (Chairperson);
Cllr Selwyn Walters (Deputy-Chairperson);
Cllrs Cecilia Barton; Elsie Dafis;
Margaret Davies-Evans
Greg Evans; Lynda Mason-George;
Robert Phillips, Kistiah Ramaya;
Chris Thomas & Dorothy Williams.
Town & County Cllr Robert (Hag) Harris.
County Cllr Ivor Williams
Mr Carl Stringer (Reporter-Freelance)
Mr Will Gant (Cambrian News Reporter)
PCSO Ryan Jones
Sergeant Martin Walters

- 1. CHAIRPERSON'S WELCOME** The Mayor Derek Wilson extended a welcome to all present.

Before the commencement of the full meeting, a Public Meeting took place, where residents of Maesyderi, Gwêl y Creuddyn, Bryn-yr-Eglwys and Penbryn Estates were consulted, in relation to the future use of the Maesyderi Field, as an amenity for the townsfolk. This field had previously formed a part of the old Ffynnonbedr Primary School before its relocation to its new campus. It has also been open to the public for the past 17 years. The Town Council (TC) is presently negotiating a 3 year lease for the field with Ceredigion County Council (CCC), at a nominal fee.

Members of the public expressed a strong desire for the field to be maintained as an open space, to be used primarily by the 100 or more children of the Maesyderi Estate. They urged the TC to improve the condition of the field and to ensure that it would be properly maintained. This would involve attending to the surface, which is presently rough and littered with mole-hills and dog-faceas. The surrounding fence is also in need of repair. Elizabeth James enquired about the reinstallation of the football pitch. It is hoped to create two new pitches on the field. Other suggestions put forward had included a skate-park, running track and play-ground.

Concerns were raised that the field could be used for building purposes, after the 3 years, by CCC. If the field is properly maintained and used abundantly during the

next 3 years, the TC would then be in a strong position to prolong the arrangement of an amenity for the town.

After hearing of the scale of the problem of dog-fouling, councillors argued that there should be “zero-tolerance” in relation to dogs using the field, in any capacity.

Police Community Support Officer (PCSO) Ryan Jones conveyed that matters raised in recent PACT meetings, had included the recurring problem of dog-fouling and this issue was presently being targeted by the Police.

2. APOLOGIES & PERSONAL MATTERS

Cllrs Andrew Carter and John Davies apologized for their inability to attend this meeting.

Members were sorry to hear of the recent, passing away, of Cllr Greg Evans’ father.

3. DISCLOSURE OF PERSONAL INTERESTS

3.1 Cllrs Phillips, Barton & Harris declared a personal interest when the request for financial support was discussed, from the Lampeter Swimming Pool Committee, as they are members of this committee. Cllrs Harris & Phillips vacated the premises.

3.2 Cllr D.Williams declared a personal interest when the tender for grass cutting/footpaths was considered and vacated the premises and also, when attention was assigned to the Young at Heart’s Annual Insurance Policy.

4. POLICE MATTERS

4.1 Alcohol Exclusion Zone (AEZ) for Lampeter

A letter received from Elin Prysor, Legal Services CCC stated that the CCC is in the process of considering the *Joint Application* between the Dyfed-Powys Police and the TC for an *Alcohol Exclusion Zone* for Lampeter. The cost to CCC for advertising and signage in respect of the Aberystwyth AEZ in 2005 came to £5,000. CCC are preparing for a public consultation, and in compliance with statutory requirements, this will entail placing an advertisement in the local press of the CCC’s intention to consider making such an Order. The quote in respect of the initial advertisement is in the region of £850.00. The matter will thereafter go to the CCC for decision. If the Order is approved, a second advertisement will be required by way of Public Notice of the Order. Once the Order is ready for implementation, signage will then be erected. It was enquired whether the TC could contribute towards these costs. It was resolved to meet 50% of the expenditure, up to a threshold of £2,500, in a bid to move the matter. Sergeant Walters stated that the TC “were making totally the right decision”.

4.2 Boy-Racers: it was reported that the problem associated with “Boy-Racers” within the town, was presently being addressed.

5. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE 26th FEBRUARY MEETING

These were agreed to be correct.

6. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

6.1 Vacant Seat on the Town Council: The TC had resolved in the previous meeting, to request an Election to fill the vacant seat. Information received from CCC stated that “...according to our understanding of the Rule, it is not possible to display the Notice once again (the Notice inviting 10 members of

the electorate to request an Election had previously been displayed in August 2008) and co-option is the only way forward.” Mr Paul Clayden MA Solicitor communicated, “the legal position is that where there is a vacancy, the council must fill it as soon as *practicable* ... by co-option, since no by-election to fill the vacancy was called”. Two applications were received for the vacancy. The Town Council resolved not to change the non-co-option policy (7(in favour of keeping the policy in place) 4(to change the policy) 1(abstention))

The TC has repeatedly insisted that the process of co-option is undemocratic and that new members should be voted in by the electorate. Interested parties could have stood an Election in May or August 2008.

- 6.2 Town Council’s Vandalized Notice Board:** The Mayor reported that he would improve the condition of the framework in the near future. Some posters, which had been displayed on behalf of the Town Council, have been removed by the public.
- 6.3 A Shared Community – Welsh Assembly Government (WAG):** this document is in circulation.
- 6.4 Ceredigion Community Safety Plan 2008-11 –** in circulation.
- 6.5 Recycling Bin Harford Square;** permission has been refused by CCC to locate the bin at Harford Square despite earlier verbal assurances that the bin could be positioned at this spot. Cllr Rob Phillips had met with a representative of the Ceredigion CC earlier that day and other locations had been considered namely Parc-yr-Orsedd and midway between the Spar and Gwilym Price Stores.
- 6.6 Tidy Towns:** Mr Glanville Evans, Cllrs Barton, Walters, Davies-Evans and the Clerk had attended the meeting of the 19th March under the direction of Rachel Mills, the Civic Pride Co-ordinator CCC, who is responsible for the delivery of “Tidy Towns”, a three year partnership initiative between *Ceredigion County Council and Keep Wales Tidy* and funded by WAG. These matters had been considered:
- 6.6.1 Recycling Bin in the town of Lampeter:** more information was required by the Civic Pride Co-ordinator before she could arrange to order the bin, although a detailed application has already been submitted to the CCC. Cllr Walters stated that the bin should be black in colour and the headings “Plastic/Cans”
- 6.6.2 The removal of unsightly graffiti** from certain locations within the town; the CCC is only permitted to remove graffiti from council owned property. It would be the Railway’s responsibility to remove the graffiti from the railway bridge, on the outskirts of the town, despite the fact that much of the old railway line has been removed in this vicinity.
- 6.6.3 Improvements to the Scouts’ Hall;** Mr Glanville Evans reported that the rear of the entrance to the hall needs to be improved and the kitchen is in need of upgrading. Presently, all the work is undertaken by volunteers eg painting, decorating. Rachel Mills would find out if this request meets WAG criteria for funding.
- 6.6.4 Maesyderi Field:** further discussions could take place after the lease has been finalised. One of the conditions of the grant requires the community to take possession and responsibility for the field. Funding could be possible for the repair of the fence (3 quotes would have to be submitted). Future discussions could include the provision of play equipment, benches, picnic tables and possibly, to develop a part of the field as a community garden.
- 6.6.5 Parc-yr-Orsedd:** 5 new benches were ordered for the park.

- 6.7 **Provisions of seats at the Post-Office, Lampeter:** awaiting a reply from PO Ltd.
- 6.8 **Changing the name of King George V Green to Parc St.Germain-sur-Moine:** This issue is presently circulating 3 departments within CCC. Kay Hughes, Address Management Officer CCC stated that a consultation process would have to take place and consideration assigned to legal documents before the re-naming of the park could proceed. The Council Officer could not foresee problems, which would prohibit the name change.
- 6.9 **Ceredigion Crime and Disorder Strategic Assessment 2008:** Ceredigion Community Safety Partnership: the Deputy-Mayor Selwyn Walters had assigned further attention to this document.
- 6.10 **Letter from Mr Jamie McCormack Turner 2 Glyndwr, Station Terrace, Lampeter SA48 7HB** asking for the provision of a street sign for the five Glyndwr Terrace houses and suggested 1-5 Glyndwr. Kay Hughes CCC stated that the matter was under investigation.
- 6.11 **Citizens Advice Bureau:** re the TC's request for a representative to attend a meeting of the TC: awaiting a reply from the CAB.
- 6.12 **Wellbeing Activity Small Grants scheme to promote Health & Wellbeing** CCC: it was reported that the TC had not been successful in its bid for grant funding.
- 6.13 **Request salt buckets** from the CCC for the Penbryn Estate and the Rookery Car-park:awaiting a reply from CCC.
- 6.14 **Response to the Request to CCC for the one-way stretch of road known as Mountwalk** to be pedestrianised in the interest of safety.
It was reported that a site meeting had been arranged between a delegation of the TC and Rachel Thomas CCC for Friday the 3rd April at 9.00am.
- 6.15 **CAVO Volunteer Award of Recognition 2009:** it was resolved to nominate Mrs Janet Evans, Haulfryn, Lampeter for the *Volunteering Award (Over 25)*
- 6.16 **Dog Fouling:** CCC : 100 leaflets have been ordered from CCC. The leaflets are presently being reprinted.
- 6.17 **Mayoral Installation Ceremony 2009:** further details would be circulated shortly.

7. CORRESPONDENCE

- 7.1 **Ceredigion's success in becoming a Fairtrade County CCC**
Ceredigion has been a Fairtrade County since September 2008. Fairtrade contributes to ensuring sustainable living for more than 5 million farmers and workers in poor countries around the world.
- 7.2 **Requests for Dispensations** CCC: The Standards Sub-Committee is entitled to grant dispensations to speak *and* vote in respect of requests for financial assistance from other organisations of which councillors are members, provided the Sub-Committee is satisfied that one of the grounds for granting dispensations has been met. These grounds are set out on the dispensation application form.
- 7.3 **All Wales Convention 4/03/2009 Aberystwyth: for information**
- 7.4 **Request from a member of the public of Lampeter** asking for a letter of support for a friend from his native Turkey to visit Lampeter – the Mayor and Deputy-Mayor had agreed to a letter of support prior to the meeting.
- 7.5 **Other Correspondence: for information only.**

8. MENTER LLAMBED

Cllr G.Evans reported that *Transition Llambed* are to canvass local people to build up a picture of their energy usage and knowledge of "green issues".

An Event will take place at the Victoria Hall on the evening of the 28th April.

9. PLANNING

9.1 This application has been approved by Ceredigion CC

Date in which the TC was notified by CCC	Applicant	Planning Decision
25/02/2009 Application Number: A080943LB	University of Wales, Lampeter Location Porter's Lodge, University of Wales, Lampeter	Ceredigion CC as the Local Planning Authority consents to: Internal alterations, Porter's Lodge, University of Wales, Lampeter

9.2 **Minutes of the Development Control Committee** held at the Ceredigion CCC's Offices at Penmorfa, Aberaeron on the 11/02/2009 and Agenda of the meeting of the 11/03/2009: noted for information.

9.3 Ceredigion CC – Pre-Deposit Local Development Plan Documents

Consultation: As part of the process of preparing the Local Development Plan (LDP), the Council is to consult on the Pre-Deposit LDP Documents. This stage of the consultation includes the following documents (1,2&3): 1)**The Preferred Strategy**, including the Key issues affecting Ceredigion; The Vision and Objectives; Main Strategy for the Plan Period; Key Strategic Policies; Proposed Candidate sites Assessment Methodology. 2)**Initial Sustainability Appraisal Report** & 3)**Habitats Regulations Assessment Screening Report**. The pre-Deposit LDP Documents will outline the level of growth being considered, the location of growth, areas for protection etc. The consultation ends on the 28th April. It was resolved that a sub-committee would meet to compile a response.

9.4 **Town & Country Planning Act 1990: The Town and Country Planning (General Development Procedure) Order 1985. Article 13 Notification to Community Councils**

Under the provisions of the above legislation Community Councils have 14 days in which to respond to notification of a planning application. It was agreed to delegate powers to the Mayor, Deputy-Mayor and Clerk for ordinary applications that would arise between meetings. For bigger applications, the whole council would be involved.

9.5 **Appeal to the WAG under section 78 of the Town & Country Planning Act 1990** against a refusal to grant planning permission by Ceredigion CC: applicants Mr & Mrs Davies 56 Bridge Street, Lampeter. The development: demolition of an existing structure and the erection of a new building to include 2 flats and artists studio. Appeal date: Informal hearing: 10/03/2009: Outcome: the WAG dismissed the Appeal. Among the reasons: the site lies within the Lampeter Conservation Area, the effect on the living conditions of neighbouring residents and highway safety and congestion.

10. FINANCE

10.1 Financial requests:

10.1.1 Lampeter Swimming Pool: £1,000 donated, it was decided to thank the Swimming Pool Committee for its endeavours to maintain this valuable service.

10.1.2 Mencap Cymru £50.00: it was stated that 1 in 7 children and adults living in Lampeter are affected by a learning disability.

- 10.1.3 Campaign for the Protection of Rural Wales (CPRW):** Annual Membership: £20.00: CPRW pledges to spend the money in campaigning to protect Wales' greatest asset – the unique landscapes of Wales.
- 10.2 Thank you letters were received from *Macmillan Cancer Support*** for the recent donation of £100, from the *Gŵyl Dewi Drwg Festival* for the donation of £250.00 and from *Ceredigion Young Farmers* for the donation of £50.00
- 10.3 Clerk's Pay (March)** £497.00
- 10.4 Heat/Light/Storage** £20.00
- 10.5 H M Revenue + NI Contributions;** £91.36
- 10.6 Cllr D. Williams had informed members at the previous meeting** that additional insurance could be required for councillors aged 75 or over. It was reported that the TC's present insurance includes this cover.
- 10.7 Income: Christmas Lights' Grant £545 CCC.** Ceredigion CC will no longer be offering financial assistance towards the cost of Christmas decorative Lighting commencing in Christmas 2009.
- 10.8 It was resolved to renew the One Voice Wales' Annual Membership** for a fee of £273.00
- 10.9 Hire of Menter Llambod Office 19/03/2009:** Tidy Towns' Meeting £15
- 10.10 BT Bill & Broadband** 3 months to 11/03/2009 £99.55
- 10.11 Hire of St Peter's Hall (Monthly Meetings) @** £7.50 per hour 26/03/2009 £26.25
- 10.12 Ffynnonbedr Primary School Annual Disco:** Hire of DJ £50.00; Crisps/Squash/Plastic Cups £55.00 c/o Cllr D.Williams. Members who had attended this function were thanked for their services namely Mayor, Mayoress, Cllrs D.Williams, Davies-Evans and Carter.
- 10.13 Eryl Jones:** It was resolved for the TC to pay for the Young at Heart's annual Insurance Premium of £231.75.
- 10.14 Stationery Claim (Clerk)** £43.12
- 10.15 The current interest rate on the TC's account** held at the Lloyds TSB is 0.1% and annual interest of £60 is received for the present balance of £60,000. It was reported that the Barclays Bank presently offered 1.5% annual interest on a certain account and consequently interest of £900, on the balance of £60,000. The current rate of interest on the TC's account held with the Alliance and Leicester is also 0.1%. It was decided to investigate the matter further and to report back at the next meeting.

11. SUB-COMMITTEES

11.1 FOOTPATHS' INCLUDING PARC-YR-ORSEDD

11.1.1 Ceredigion Community Footpaths Grant CCC 2009-10: £487.50 will be awarded to the TC for the maintenance of footpaths over the summer months. Quotes for grass cutting at Parc-yr-orsedd over the summer months and for the footpaths' maintenance have been requested.

Ceredigion Rights of Way Improvements Plan in Nov 2008: (work to be undertaken on the Old Station Yard to Longwood footpath; Upgrade Forest Walk/Forest Road Footpath and also upgrade Gwêl y Creuddyn to Aberaeron Footpath 61/16). – according to CCC these are not official footpaths. Further discussion will take place at the next meeting.

11.1.2 Parc-yr-Orsedd: Arrangements are in hand for the Official Launch of the Park to include the new sports' equipment, as funded by the *Sports' Council For Wales*, which will take place on Tuesday 28th April at 2:00pm.

11.1.3 Additional Access for Town Council Play Area: Mr Glanville Evans has started the work.

11.1.4 Further attention would need to be assigned to the improvements stipulated by Cllr Chris Thomas in relation to the Parc-yr-Orsedd (please refer to the previous minutes for a breakdown)

12.2 CCTV CAMERAS

12.2.1 Monthly Report for February 2009 CCC: There had been 3 requests from the Police to view digital media and 2 requests for copy discs regarding public order and assault. All Lampeter cameras had been difficult to control from 22.02.09 to the 26.02.09 but the problem had been rectified within 3 days.

12.3 STREET LIGHTING

12.3.1 The street light adjacent to the Ambulance Station and Llys Idwal has been repaired.

12.3.2 It was reported that the new lighting pole adjacent to Castle Green had been positioned in the centre of the pavement and could be perceived as a hazard for push-chairs' and wheel-chairs' users.

12.4 PAVEMENTS'

12.4.1 It was decided to thank CCC for the improvements undertaken to the pavements at Bridge Street, which are a distinct asset to the town. Some members expressed concern regarding the kerb of the pavements, which was, in their opinion, too low and of insufficient depth – to report to CCC.

12.5 WELSH LANGUAGE

Letter from the Welsh Language Board (WLB) thanked the TC for submitting the Annual Review of its Welsh Language Policy. In the reviewed Welsh Language Policy of the TC it stated that, "The Council has considered the Welsh Language when awarding grants but this has not happened in a formal way. It is recommended that in future the council requests a brief statement from applicants in the same way as a balance sheet is requested." Cllr Phillips reported that advice had been sought in ensuring that consideration is given to the Welsh Language by organizations, who seek grants from the TC without discriminating against non-Welsh organizations. In their response, the WLB stated that in the information which is sent to those intending to apply for financial assistance towards local activities, the TC will make it clear that there is a need for applicants to describe how they intend to reflect the linguistic nature of the community and their audience in the activities for which they require financial support. When considering applications the TC will ensure that applicants have appropriately reflected the linguistic nature of the community and their audience in their application. The TC should implement this clause by designing a template for organizations, which make financial requests. The form should state clearly that the activity should reflect the linguistic nature of the area, by giving examples of how this could be achieved. If for example, an organization is making a financial request for holding a concert, then they should explain how the concert will reflect the linguistic nature of the area eg posters, bilingual programmes, explain how many performances will be conducted through the Welsh Language.

If an application was submitted by a non-Welsh organisation eg Theatre Company say, it would not be expected for them to perform through the medium of the Welsh Language, but some of the marketing material should be bilingual. By operating like this, the TC would not be discriminating as everyone is expected to reflect the linguistic nature of the area.

It would be fair to surmise that linguistic obligations would not be expected from every grant application, but the TC should decide what is appropriate in each case.

It was resolved that Cllr Phillips would liaise with the Clerk, to design a suitable form.

13. AOB

13.1 Lampeter Carnival 2009: Cllr Mason-Gorge enquired about the arrangements in relation to this year's Carnival. Deputy-mayor Selwyn Walters reported that arrangements would be conducted by a local community group, of which he was the Chairman. Councillors would be invited to their next meeting.

13.2 Cllr Davies-Evans expressed concern regarding the temporary closure of the Public Conveniences of St Thomas' Street. It was conveyed that CCC contractors were attending to the matter.

14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday the 30th April 2009 at 7.30pm at the Old Hall, University of Wales, Lampeter.

Mayor's Installation Ceremony 1 May at 6.30pm at the Old Hall, University of Wales, Lampeter.

The press were excluded when discussing the following matters:

15. Leasing the Bryn Field: after much deliberation it was resolved to submit a lease for the Bryn Field.

16. Three quotes were received for grass-cutting at Parc-yr-orsedd over the summer months and for footpaths' maintenance. It was resolved to accept the quote submitted by Mr Eirwyn Williams viz £90 per day for the footpaths' maintenance and £85 per cut (6 cuts) at the Parc-yr-orsedd.

The meeting concluded at 10.15pm

----- (Chairperson & Date)