

**LAMPETER TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING HELD ON
THE 29.04.2010 AT 7.00PM
AT THE CHURCH HALL**

1. CHAIRPERSON'S WELCOME & OPENING PRAYER

The Mayor Selwyn Walters extended a welcome to all present and led members in prayer.

PRESENT

Cllr Mayor Selwyn Walters (Chairperson)
Cllr Rob Phillips (Deputy-Chairperson)
Cllrs Cecilia Barton; Andrew Carter;
Elsie Dafis; Margaret Davies-Evans;
Greg Evans; Robert (Hag) Harris;
Lynda Mason-George; Kistiah Ramaya;
Chris Thomas; Dorothy Williams;
Derek Wilson.
Divisional Commander Simon Powell
PC Richard Marshall
PCSO Ryan Jones
Hannah Smith – Cambrian News Reporter

2. APOLOGIES & PERSONAL MATTERS

Town Cllr John Davies apologized for his inability to attend the meeting.

3. DISCLOSURE OF PERSONAL & PREJUDICIAL INTERESTS

Cllr Rob Phillips declared a personal interest when discussing the invitation to participate in the National Library of Wales' (NLW) pilot project, to archive the town council's website. (Minute Ref: 6.3)

4. POLICE MATTERS

4.1 Members were introduced to the newly appointed Divisional Commander for Ceredigion, namely Simon Powell, who was appointed to this role 6 months ago. He is involved with patrols in Lampeter, to find out more about the concerns of the people. He reported that crime had reduced by 9% in the area, during the past year, and referred to the "Policing Pledge", which was circulated to members of the Town Council, during the January 2010 meeting. Under this pledge, the police deal with victims of crime, with dignity and respect.

4.2 Alcohol Exclusion Zone (AEZ) for Lampeter: the Order was approved by the Ceredigion County Council earlier in the day. The AEZ has been extended to include the Parc St Germain-sur-Moine and St Thomas' Street/Cwmins. It is also hoped to include the Roman Catholic Church's car-park and the Cemetery of St Peter's Church. A second advertisement will now be required by way of a Public Notice of the Order. Once the Order is ready for implementation, signage will be set up. The Town Council will suggest suitable locations for the signs and has agreed to a financial contribution, not exceeding £2,500.

Cllr Harris left the meeting at this point, to attend another meeting

4.3 Police Consultative Meeting 25th Feb 2010

The Cllr Ramaya had been present at this meeting, at Penmorfa, Aberaeron. "Policing Pledge" came under discussion, also the Alcohol Exclusion Zone.

Cllr Mason-George arrived at the meeting.

4.4 Other matters raised by members:

4.4.1 Cllr Williams expressed concern at the time taken by the Police to respond to a recent anti-social incident in the town. It was 1hr 10mins.

4.4.2 PACT (Police and Community Together) Meeting: at the last meeting of the Town Council it was reported that dog-fouling posed a problem at the Parc St Germain-sur-Moine. This information will be discussed at the next PACT meeting.

4.4.3 The Mayor reminded the Constabulary of the request to the CCC, for a full traffic survey of the town.

4.4.4 The problem of parking on the pavements at Drovers' Road and adjacent to the Spar Store, was discussed.

4.4.5 Cllr Carter reported that some elderly people had received phone-calls, requesting their bank details.

4.4.6 Cllr Phillips had spoken to the Police regarding the possible introduction of a Traffic Order at Market Street. Restrictions could help ease traffic problems and assist the Police in dealing with people who regularly park along the pavements and block the road for other drivers and pedestrians. Bollards had previously been displayed at Market Street but had been removed, as they had been considered unnecessary. Cllrs agreed to gather more information before proceeding.

4.5 The Mayor reported that he had attended the Ceredigion Divisional Police Awards Ceremony at Aberystwyth University on the 28th April 2010, where PCSO Ryan Jones was commended for his contribution to Neighbourhood Policing in Lampeter and Tregaron. Members congratulated PCSO Ryan Jones on his achievement.

5. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES of the meeting of the 25th March 2010

These were agreed to be correct.

6. MATTERS ARISING

6.1 Arrangements regarding the Mayor's Inauguration Ceremony 7 May 2010 at 6.30pm, Old Hall, University of Wales, Lampeter: Information had been circulated to members, prior to the meeting. It was resolved to enlist the services of a professional translator, Mrs Siân Jones, Cyfiaith, Aberaeron, for this year's ceremony. £40 per hr @ 1.5hrs (to include 30 ear-phones) = £60 + £20 (additional 20 ear-phones) = £80 VAT; £14 = TOTAL £94.00.
The Mayor-Elect announced the appointment of the Rev. Janet Robbins as the Mayor's Chaplain, during the following Municipal year.

Divisional Commander Simon Powell, PC Richard Marshall and PCSO Ryan Jones left the meeting.

6.2 Sign Clos Glyndŵr: No further developments.

6.3 Traffic Issues: A Verbal report was given by the Chief Executive of Ceredigion County Council, on the 29th April 2010 in relation to the:

6.3.1 Rookery Car-park Entrance: The views of a Consultant will be available in Mid-May. Due consideration will be given to the advice and findings of the Consultant and the recommendations will be shared with the Town Council, if required.

6.3.2 Mountwalk: speed-reducing features will be introduced within the present financial year.

6.3.3 Picton Lane: The joint initiative between the Ceredigion CC and the Lampeter Town Council will take place within the present financial year. Cllr Harris had also conveyed information in relation to the above, before leaving the meeting.

Regarding the pooling of the water outside the Ambulance Station, an email from Mr Lyndon Griffiths, Divisional Engineer, Highways CCC on the 28.03.2010, read, *"The owner of the private road to the Ambulance Station is responsible to ensure that all surface water is drained from the surface of their highway. To date, the highway authority has been unable to determine the ownership of this private road"*.

No responses were forthcoming regarding the repeated request for pedestrian safety measures to be introduced at North Road; the introduction of short-stay parking at the Cwmins car-park if legal obstacles can be overcome; a yellow line/Traffic Order in front of Harford Row; the request for a full traffic survey of the town; the congestion at Drivers' Rd, the sign for the Carmarthenshire/Ceredigion border and the Cambrian Road/Bryn Road junction parking problem. The Mayor had also submitted a letter, in relation to the reconfiguration of the Rookery car-park entrance. The Chief Executive had explained that she had hoped that written feedback, concerning the Consultative Meeting of the 16 Nov 2009, would be forthcoming, by this meeting, but was unable to do so via email, due to the installation of a new telephone system.

Town Councillors regretted the habitual lack of responses to their requests for information, from the Ceredigion County Council and the need for constant reminders. They also expressed disappointment in relation to the length of time taken, to move some matters forward eg the Alcohol Exclusion Zone had taken 3.5 years to reach its present stage, since the initial request by the Town Council during the summer of 2006. (Cross-ref 4.2)

Members felt that it was in order, for formal, written replies from the County Council, to be forwarded directly to the Town Council, as opposed to receiving responses-in-part and verbally, to some concerns, via the Town and County Councillor Harris. A verbal report from Cllr Harris should not preclude a written and definite response from the county council.

It was proposed, seconded and resolved (8 agreed, 2 oppositions and one abstention) to catalogue many examples, which highlighted the need for improved communication between the County Council and Town Council, during the next month, and to seek advice from a higher authority eg One Voice Wales & the Public Services Ombudsman, as to the best course of action. The matter would appear as an agenda item at the next meeting. Cllr Williams stated that communication issues between town/community councils in Ceredigion and the Unitary Authority, had been discussed at the last One Voice Wales Area meeting. The introduction of a Charter-Agreement could help in this respect. Cllr Carter was of the opinion that Ceredigion County Council provided a satisfactory service.

- 6.4 Document in Circulation: Ombudsman; Code of conduct - Draft Guidance from the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales:** Cllr Mason-George agreed to forward the document to Cllr Dorothy Williams.
- 6.5 Fair Trade Organisation Lampeter:** it was resolved to re-start this committee under the leadership of the Mayor-Elect Rob Phillips.
- 6.6 Bunting has been displayed within the town in preparation for the – Eisteddfod yr Urdd 2010 Llanerchaeron.** (Co-ordinated by the Town Council and Lampeter Chamber of Trade)
- 6.7 Town Council's Notice Board:** a member of the public enquired whether it would be possible to display a poster on the notice-board, advertising her business, for a fee. This request was refused as it was felt that the notice-board was for the town council's use only.
Improving the wood-work of the notice-board (above the glass doors): no developments.
- 6.8 Cllr D.Williams was averse** to the recording of times in which councillors arrived and left the meeting, as exemplified in the March 2010 minutes. The Chair stated that he was not opposed to this arrangement, as matters could be resolved during specific times when a certain councillor was absent from a meeting, and it would be misleading for the electorate to think that the absent member had been instrumental in reaching a certain resolution. He also mentioned that other organizations adopted this method of recording. The Clerk stated that in accordance with good practice and in the quest for transparency, openness and accuracy, had a councillor been absent during certain intervals of the meeting (exceeding a time scale of say 15mins) then it would be fair and justified, for this fact to be recorded in the minutes. After discussion, this practice was dropped, but reference could be made in the minutes proper, in the future.
- 6.9 Developments in relation to the spending of the money held in the Bequest Account:** The Mayor announced that he had presented Mrs Iris Newman, Group Scout Leader, Cllr Ivor Williams and Mr John Jones, Hall Trustees, with a cheque of £11,500 on the 26th April 2010, at the Scout Hall, Lampeter. Cllrs Andrew Carter, Hag Harris, John Davies, Margaret Davies-Evans and the Clerk had also been present, to mark the occasion, in the company of Scouts' Leaders, Scouts, Cubs, Beavers and Explorers. The money will be used to renovate their dilapidated meeting place, the old grammar school. A sum of £10,056.99 was left to the people of Lampeter in an anonymous will in April 2005, which, with interest, had accumulated to £11,500.
- 6.10 Cambrian Mountains Society:** a representative will attend the July meeting of the town council.

7. CORRESPONDENCE

- 7.1 One Voice Wales** Ceredigion Ceredigion Area Committee 8.04.2010 – Cllr Dorothy Williams had attended this meeting. Agenda items had included Partnership Working and Charters and the Local Development Plan (Key Stakeholder Group)
- 7.2 Ceredigion Social Enterprise Fund Growth:CCC:** noted for information.
- 7.3 An invitation to participate in the National Library of Wales' (NLW) pilot project** by archiving the town council's website. The NLW has identified this website as an important part of Wales' documentary heritage and would like it to remain available to researchers in the future. If the pilot is successful the archived copy of the website will subsequently form part of their permanent

collections. It was resolved to grant permission for the Town Council's website <http://www.lampeter-tc.gov.uk> to be included in this Web Archive.

7.4 General Election Posters of the 6th May 2010 CCC: to be displayed in the vicinity.

7.5 Other correspondence: for information only.

8. PLANNING MATTERS

8.1 Minutes of the Development Control Committee held at the Ceredigion CC's Offices at Penmorfa, Aberaeron on the 10/03/2010 and Agenda of the meeting of the 14/04/2010: for information.

8.2 LDP Settlement Allocations Meeting CCC: short, informal consultation for Council Members and Town and Community Councils on Settlement Allocations (maps and housing numbers): Tuesday 11 May 2010-7pm at the Council Chamber, Neuadd Cyngor Ceredigion, Penmorfa, Aberaeron: noted for information.

9. FINANCE

9.1 EXPENDITURE APRIL 2010

ITEM	Cheque no:	Payment
Young at Heart Insurance –Eryl Jones	001830	£ 241.29
Contract Sign Systems – 2 new signs for the Maesyderi Field net amount £80; Carriage £30; VAT £19.25	001829	£ 129.25
Mr Tony Eames – install footpath at the Maesyderi Field	001828	£ 1,925.00
Hire of St Peter's Hall x 3 – 29.03.2010 (x 3.5hrs)	001836	£ 26.25
CCTV Cameras (one year payment) £12,000 VAT £2,100 CCC	001826	£14,100.00
Chris Thomas & Sons; Fruit for Ffynnonbedr Disco	001821	£ 72.50
Squash – Ffynnonbedr School Disco	001816	£ 12.00
Mr Harold Williams, Ffynnonbedr School Disco	001820	£ 50.00
Clerk's salary April 2010 gross	001831	£ 634.10
Heat & Light & Storage Costs April 2010	001832	£ 20.00
Stationery Claim – Clerk	001827	£ 53.99
Bunting Urdd National Eisteddfod	001825	£ 225.00
Zurich Municipal – extra premium for Christmas Lights	001824	£ 222.90
Eisteddfod Gŵyl y Banc Rhys Thomas James Pantyfedwen	001835	£ 1,000.00

9.2 INCOME APRIL 2010

9.2.1 £1,200: Interest on maturity of one year bond £60,000- Lloyds TSB (April 2010)

The sum of £60,000 has now been reinvested in a two-year fixed rate bond at Lloyds TSB 2.35% per annum - Expected Interest after two years: £2,827.73. Start Date 9 April 2009.

9.2.2 Alliance & Leicester: Previous Statement Balance 9.10.2009 £826.85; Current Statement Balance £827.27: **Gross Interest received: £0.42**

10. SUB-COMMITTEES

10.1 Street Lights'

10.1.1 Christmas Lights: The Christmas Lights have now been insured at £561 +5% VAT an increase from the previous premium of £257 + 5% VAT, as the replacement insurance value has been increased from £10,827 to £20,000. They are insured for this value throughout the year.

10.1.2 The Police have made a request to the Ceredigion County Council for certain street-lights to be relit on the Penbryn Estate from 12 Midnight to 5am, due to the concern of residents.

10.1.3 Repair of the light of the Cenotaph (Mr D.Dudley): matter ongoing.

10.2 Pavements'

10.2.1 To ask the CCC if it would be possible to install a dropped curb outside No 5 Kingsmead, to aid a wheelchair user.

10.2.2 The Manager of the Medical Practice, Lampeter reported that remedial action will be undertaken on the paving adjacent to the Surgery, during the following week.

10.2.3 An area of land in the vicinity of the Black Lion/Ambulance Station/Llys Idwal/Site of the old Garage requires attention in the form of tarmacing. To contact the Manager of the Black Lion Hotel. Also to request the provision of a litter bin in this region.

10.2.4 Compiling an Inventory of the Pavements' faults within the town: no developments

10.3 Footpaths'+ Parc-yr-Orsedd

10.3.1 The Town Council was notified that the Community Footpaths' Grant Application CCC, had been successful. A sum of 0.75 X £1,040 will be awarded on completion of works, on certain footpaths, outlined in previous minutes.

10.3.2 Mesh for the gate in close proximity to North Rd: Cllr C Thomas stated that he had reminded Mr Alec Page of the urgent need to rectify this problem. Permission was granted for Cllr Thomas to enlist the services of another workman, should the matter not be resolved in the very near future, in the interest of health and safety.

10.3.3 Repair of the Fit Trail Equipment: the Clerk has contacted the installers, awaiting further developments.

10.3.4 O/s repair of gate on the Bryn-yr-Eglwys entrance. Cllr Thomas agreed to find a replacement to the wooden donkey, which was removed from the park, due to its state of decay.

10.3.5 It was resolved to include the possibility of employing a caretaker for the Parc-yr-Orsedd and the Maesyderi Field at a future meeting of the Maesyderi Field Management Committee.

10.3.6 Ceredigion Local Access Forum, Annual Report 2009: The Ceredigion Local Access Forum is a statutory body set up by the County Council under the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000. The role of the Forum is to improve public access to land for the purpose of open-air recreation and enjoyment: noted for information.

10.3.7 Footpath which runs through the St Peter's Church Cemetery (Mrs D.Lloyd President of the Lampeter WI): the carbon-copy has been forwarded to the Ceredigion CC.

10.3.8 Bench which is in need of repair in the Bryn-yr-Eglwys region: Cllr Wilson (o/s)

10.4 CCTV Cameras'

10.4.1 Report March 2010: There had been one request, from the Police, to view digital media regarding criminal damage. One camera had been defective - unable to use zoom facility. Date reported 6.03.2010; Date rectified 12.03.2010.

10.4.2 Ceredigion CCTV Forum Meeting: 24.05.2010; CCC, Penmorfa, Aberaeron: details were forwarded to Cllr Rob Phillips.

10.5 Maesyderi Field Management Committee

Minutes attached. A response was received from the CCC regarding the request for an extension to the lease of the field. They enquired whether the Town Council could advise on the length of the lease – to discuss at the next meeting.

11. A.O.B.

11.1 Cllr Williams reported that some of the signs within the town had been installed incorrectly and were not conveying accurate directions - to inform the CCC and to request a site meeting.

11.2 It was resolved that the Plaid Cymru AM and Lib/Dem MP posters, presently on display on the town council's notice-board, would be removed during the run-up to the General Election of the 6th May.

11.3 The Mayor thanked everyone for their contribution, during his term of office. Two matters had not materialized during the year, which he hoped could be achieved in the future

10.2.1 The march of the Welsh Guards through the town c/o Mr Lumby &

10.2.2 Flagpoles for the Cenotaph and the Parc St Germain-sur-Moine.

The meeting concluded at 10.00pm

12. DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS

AGM Mayor's Inauguration Ceremony: Old Hall, University of Wales Lampeter, Friday 7 May 2010 at 6.30pm.

Next Monthly Meeting: Thursday 27th May 2010 at the Church Hall, Lampeter at 7.00pm.

------(Signed/date)