

**LAMPETER TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING HELD ON
THE 25.02.2010 AT 7.00PM
AT THE CHURCH HALL**

PRESENT

Cllr Mayor Selwyn Walters (Chairperson)
Cllrs Cecilia Barton; Andrew Carter (arrived at 7.30pm);
Elsie Dafis; Margaret Davies-Evans;
Greg Evans; Lynda Mason-George.
County Cllr Ivor Williams
PC Richard Marshall
Hannah Smith – Cambrian News Reporter
Mr Ru Hartwell, Director of the *Treeflights*' Organisation (6.50-7.35pm)

**POWER-POINT PRESENTATION BY MR RU HARTWELL, DIRECTOR OF THE
TREEFLIGHTS' ORGANISATION (Planting Trees to Absorb Carbon Project)**

At the beginning of the meeting, members were addressed by Mr Ru Hartwell, Director of *Treeflights*' Organisation. *Treeflights* is a non-profit organisation, based at Llanddewi-Brefi, Tregaron. It endeavours to address the problems associated with climate change, by planting trees to absorb carbon. This is achieved by the co-ordination of the *Lampeter/Bore Community Carbon Link*, which aims to connect the Welsh and Kenyan communities through the medium of carbon.

This project has generated local interest and has encouraged people to assume some responsibility for their CO₂ emissions, in light of the fact that Wales has a large carbon footprint. Over 20 local companies have committed to reduce their carbon footprint through ongoing sponsorship of the *Community Carbon Link* i.e. by the sponsorship of the planting of trees in Kenya, or by protecting a small area of the tropical rain-forest. As Kenya is near the equator the trees absorb more carbon, when compared to trees situated further afield. To sponsor the planting of one cashew tree, the cost is £2.50, and £1 is requested for the protection of 20 square metres of tropical forest. The administration costs for the project are covered by the Welsh Assembly Government's *Gold Star Communities' Scheme*, therefore, all the money raised, is contributed directly to the community of *Bore* and is split as follows (per tree)

- £1 Nursery/distribution/admin
- £1 Payment for the farmer
- £0.50 Subsidy for local primary school.

Bore is made up largely of the Giriama tribe, who are a marginalized and impoverished group within Kenya, itself, one of the world's poorest countries. The benefits of this project are far-reaching. Much needed employment is provided for the Kenyan farmers, who plant the trees, which absorb CO₂. 50 farmers are currently involved in the project. A valuable cash-crop is produced. This overcomes, in part, the need to cut down the rain-forest and the dependence on charcoal burning, which is virtually the only other way to raise money. CO₂ emissions are further reduced. A part of the money raised from these activities, as mentioned above, is donated to the local school, which helps in the education of the Kenyan children.

The planting of trees by *Treeflights*, is not confined to Kenya alone. Over 7,000 growing trees can presently be seen, scattered amongst four continents. Local people in the Lampeter area, have had the opportunity to grow native trees, in Llanybydder, Carmarthenshire. As part of the Carbon Link Initiative, Aberaeron Primary School pupils

have planted 20 trees on the campus of Lampeter University, in partnership with their Kenyan counterparts, who have sown 250 trees. These experiences have raised awareness of the carbon footprint and promoted ownership of the issue, through first-hand experience.

Treeflights is innovative and ethical in its attempt to address the global problem of Climate Change. In the process, it is reaching out to help, in a practical way, those who are in desperate need of the basic commodities of life.

It was resolved to forward a letter of endorsement to Mr Hartwell.

1. CHAIRPERSON'S WELCOME & OPENING PRAYER

The Mayor Selwyn Walters extended a welcome to all present.
Cllr Mason-George led members in prayer.

2. APOLOGIES & PERSONAL MATTERS

Town Cllrs John Davies, Robert (Hag) Harris, Kistiah Ramaya, Rob Phillips, Chris Thomas, Dorothy Williams, Derek Wilson and PCSO Ryan Jones apologized for their inability to attend the meeting.
Apologies were received from the new Divisional Commander for Ceredigion, Simon Powell, who was attending a Police Consultative Meeting at Aberaeron. Cllr Ramaya was also present at this meeting.

3. DISCLOSURE OF PERSONAL & PREJUDICIAL INTERESTS

There were no disclosures of interest.

4. POLICE MATTERS

PC Richard Marsahll updated members on recent issues:

- 4.1 The Proposed Alcohol Exclusion Zone for Lampeter.** PC Marshall was unaware of further developments.
- 4.2 Consultative Meeting with the Dyfed-Powys Police Authority,** Thursday 25th February 2010 at 7pm at the Penmorfa CCC Offices; an update will be provided of the information of the December meeting.
- 4.3 The poor attendance at police PACT (Police and Communities Together)** meetings, was reported. The police are now looking at new ways of discussing police issues, which co-ordinate the police with the local community.
- 4.4 The Police have received many calls** from members of the public, during the past month, regarding lost purses.
- 4.5 The Parking problem at Drovers' Road was raised.** Vehicles are loading/unloading cargoes on the road. Cars are frequently parked on the pavements. It was resolved to ask the Ceredigion CC if it would be possible to position bollards on the pavements.
- 4.6 The whole traffic congestion** in the town was considered. The Mayor enquired whether the police would support the town council in its request for a full traffic survey of the town, from the county council.
- 4.7 Provisions are in hand** for the control of additional traffic, which will travel through the town, during the Urdd National Eisteddfod May 2010 at Llanerchaeron.
- 4.8 A person** from the Lampeter area, who stole computer software worth £190,000, has been sentenced to 15 months in prison.

5. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE 28TH JANUARY 2010 MEETING

These were agreed to be correct.

6. **ELECTION OF MAYOR & DEPUTY-MAYOR FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR 2010-11**
Letters of Acceptance of Office, were received from the Mayor-Elect Cllr Rob Phillips and from the Deputy-Mayor-Elect Cllr Hag Harris.

7. **MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES**

7.1 **Consideration to the Money held in the Bequest Account £11,500:**

Members had considered the different options for possible beneficiaries, at the January meeting of the town council:

- Conversion of the dilapidated structure to the rear of the present Social Services facility, for a Youth Club Centre in Lampeter (5 votes)
- Developing the Victoria Hall as a community facility (3 votes)
- Scout Hall (2 votes)
- Bursaries for young people in their studies (0 votes)

It was resolved to use the bequest to help the young people of the town and to ask the landlord of the “dilapidated building” namely, Ceredigion County Council, about the feasibility of transforming the structure to a Youth Club Venue.

In the response, it was reported that it would not be practical to renovate this building, due to its size and state of disrepair. It would be more appropriate to demolish the building and to rebuild on a larger footprint, but financial resources were presently prohibitive. As an alternative, the use of portacabins was under consideration, which would be within budget and timeframe constraints of the funding. Members noted this possible development and questioned the transport costs for the relocation of these ‘cabins. It was not deemed prudent to use the legacy money to pay for the transportation. Cllr Ivor Williams mentioned that redundant portacabins were sited on the previous primary school campus. It was felt that there were many unanswered questions regarding this matter e.g. Were the ‘cabins (how many?) a temporary measure?; Would the “dilapidated” building be demolished before their installation? When would a decision be reached concerning the construction of a new building? The Mayor stated that the £11,500 was merely a gesture, in relation to the entire funding, which would be required to bring this matter to fruition. Further clarification was needed. County Cllr Ivor Williams will meet with representatives of the Ceredigion Youth Services imminently, to discuss the way forward.

In the event of a negative response, the other options, outlined above, would be revisited.

7.2 **Nomination of a councillor to the Citizens’ Advice Bureau (CAB) Trustee Board:** Cllr Elsie Dafis was nominated to represent the town council on the CAB Board of Trustees. *The CAB had been informed. Cllr Elsie Dafis has not yet been contacted. To remind the CAB.*

7.3 **Recycling Bins:** Two bins have been ordered by Rachel Mills *Tidy Towns’ Co-ordinator, CCC* – one to be installed at Parc-yr-Orsedd and the other at Market Place. The town council will meet the cost of one of the bins whilst the Tidy Towns’ scheme will pay for the other. *The bins have been received by the county council. Awaiting further notification of the time of installation.*

7.4 **2 Signs Parc St.Germain-sur-Moine:** The two new signs were displayed in the park on the 15th February by the Ceredigion County Council. The Mayor will arrange for representatives of the Town Council and the Lampeter

Twinning organisation to be photographed in close proximity to one of the signs. Cost of both signs had been approximately £240, installation costs £111, therefore total cost to the Town Council is £350.

- 7.5 Clos Glyndŵr:** the County Council will meet the cost of the sign bearing the inscription *Clos Glyndŵr*, which will be displayed on the property of Mr Simon Anderson. Permission is requested from at least three of the five householders to name this vicinity *Clos Glyndŵr* before proceeding with the application. The Clerk reported that she had sent a letter to each of the 4 householders (Mr Simon Anderson has granted permission) and a SAE, at the beginning of October 2009. One reply had been received to date from Mr Jamie McCormack.
Cllr Phillips had been asked to remind other householders of this request in a bid to move the matter forward. No developments regarding this matter. It was reported that the spelling of the word *Clos* as in *Clos Glyndŵr*, appeared repeatedly incorrect on minutes, agendas and documents of the town council. It should be spelt, according to many councillors, as *Clôs*, to include the circumflex accent on the “o”. It was proposed, seconded and resolved that all future recording of the word “Clos” as in “Clos Glyndŵr” in documents appertaining to the town council, should appear as *Clôs Glyndŵr*.
- 7.6 Traffic Problems Lampeter**
No further developments to report. The Mayor asked the Clerk to remind the Ceredigion County Council, yet again, of the traffic issues outlined in previous minutes.
- 7.7 New Town-Entrance Sign** to be displayed on the Carmarthenshire Border CCC: *Awaiting further information from CCC.* Payment has been requested for the other 3 town entrance signs from Ceredigion CC. (£1,000 each, ex VAT)
- 7.8 Animal Aid’s Compassionate Charter-8 Achievable Steps to Help Animals, People and the Planet:** Animal Aid exposes and campaigns peacefully, against all animal abuse, and promotes a cruelty-free lifestyle. Aberystwyth Town Council has voiced its public support to this Charter. Its adaptation of the Charter had been circulated amongst members of Lampeter Town Council before the meeting, for consideration. Members resolved that although they agreed in principle with the Charter, they stated that the town council did not have the authority to impose the requirements onto members of the public. A public statement of support, would therefore, not be forthcoming from Lampeter Town Council.
- 7.9 Review of electoral arrangements for Welsh Principal areas:** the Boundary Commission is to review the electoral arrangements for the County of Ceredigion, with a view to considering and formulating proposals for future arrangements. They will consider the size of the Ceredigion County Council and the number and boundaries of its electoral divisions based on the existing pattern of communities and community wards. Initial comments were invited by the 2 March 2010. *It was resolved to submit a few initial comments stating that the town council notes the forthcoming review of electoral arrangements for the county of Ceredigion and in particular for the Lampeter Ward. The Town Council values the present representation of Lampeter, where two county councillors represent approximately 800 electors per councillor, although members recognize that this is an imbalance when compared to say Cardiff, with over 3,300 electors per councillor.*
- 7.10 Ombudsman: Code of conduct – Consultation Draft Guidance from the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales:** Mr Peter Tyndall, Ombudsman - statutory guidance, which he intends to issue under Section 68 of the

Local Government Act 2000, in respect of the Model Code of Conduct. Document circulated amongst members. Cllr Phillips; first recipient. Cllr Mason-George second recipient 25/02/2010.

- 7.11 **Cllr Ivor Williams, mentioned** that he had been approached by Mrs Cheryl Jones , asking if it was possible for her to address the town council, on the subject of *Colo-Rectal Cancer*. **To invite Mrs Jones to the March meeting of the Town Council.**
- 7.12 **Street Signs Bryn-yr-Eglwys and Maesyderi/Gwêl-y-Creuddyn:** email from Mr Lyndon Griffiths, CCC, conveyed that these two street-signs will be replaced at the beginning of the next financial year.

8. CORRESPONDENCE

- 8.1 **Consultation on the possible merger of the Standards Committee and Standards' Sub-Committee CCC:** it was resolved to support the merger, in the interest of efficiency.
- 8.2 **Sustainable Development Survey-One Voice Wales:** Cllr Greg Evans had completed the questionnaire on behalf of the town council.
- 8.3 **A meeting has been arranged with Lowri Thomas Street Scene Manager, Ceredigion CC** on Monday 1 March at 10am at the Fountain, Harford Square, Lampeter. The aim of the meeting will be to discuss the possibility of improving the condition of the fountain. Interested councillors can attend this meeting. Also to invite the Chair of the Lampeter Chamber of Trade, Mr Chris Saunders. This matter had been initiated by County Cllr Ivor Williams.
- 8.4 **The National Assembly for Wales' Equality of Opportunity** Committee is undertaking and inquiry into the accessibility of railway stations in Wales eg ease of access for disabled people and would welcome written evidence from those with an interest. *To forward the information to Cllr Phillips.*
- 8.5 **Local Government Legislative Competence Order: One Voice Wales;** Assembly's Plenary debate: it was overall a very positive debate with all speakers advocating the important role played by community and town councils. One Voice Wales submitted evidence to both the Assembly Committee and Welsh Affairs Select Committee during their consideration of the draft LCO and appeared before the Assembly Committee.
- 8.6 **Response from Mr Roger Clive-Powell regarding** the request from the town council to replace the bollard under the archway connecting High Street to the Sainsbury's Car-park, under the Old Town Hall: Mr Powell asked what was the town council's rationale for wishing to replace the bollard under the archway. Concerns were raised by councillors about the free movement of push-chairs/wheelchairs under the archway, due to the presence of builders' vehicles. The Town Council would appreciate if the workers' vehicles were parked in such a way, which would allow sufficient room for these pedestrians. It would be conveyed to Mr Powell that the Town Council appreciates the work, which is undertaken by the Jen Jones Quilts' Centre and its value to the people of Lampeter and further afield.

9. PLANNING

9.1 PLANING PERMISSION BY CEREDIGION COUNTY COUNCIL

| Date received by TC form CCC | Applicant | Location/Proposal |
|---|--|---|
| 3.02.2010 Application No: A090563 | Mr Kevin Thomas Moelfre Developments Llechwedd Capel Iwan Castell Newydd Emlyn | Plot 4 Maeshyryd Forest Road Lampeter Erection of house and garage. |

9.2 Minutes of the Development Control Committee held at the Ceredigion CC's Offices at Penmorfa, Aberaeron on the 13/01/2010 and Agenda of the meetings of the 10/02/2010.

9.3 Review of the Planning Application System by GVA Grimley for WAG. One Voice Wales will be represented at the events, but the town council can respond directly to the consultation report, which will be available on the web from the 8th March. www.gvagrimley.co.uk/wagplanningconsultation : noted for information.

9.4 Nathaniel Lichfield and Partners is currently working on behalf of Ceredigion County Council and is undertaking a review of potential sites to deliver employment uses. This work focuses on the South Ceredigion area and will form part of the Council's evidence base in the preparation of its Local Development Plan. South Ceredigion is considered to be the area south of Aberaeron and Tregaron and includes these main towns as well as Lampeter, Cardigan and Llandysul.

The County Council has asked Nathaniel Lichfield and Partners to consult with the Town Councils within the area to understand the views of the needs and demands of commercial businesses operating in the area. There are 9 questions to answer as received from Nathaniel Lichfield and Partners:

1. Is there currently a high or low demand for employment land/premises in the South Ceredigion area? Is there a variation between office, general industrial and warehouse uses? 2. Is there a difference between locations within the main towns compared with out of the settlement locations? 3. Where do you consider the best locations for future development are? 4. What form will future growth take? Will the demand be for small individual units or large units/estates)? Will there be more demand for extensions to existing sites or requirement for new sites? 5. What do you consider to be the key location requirements that businesses request? Which ones of these are deal breakers? 6. What do you consider to be the main delivery challenges over the short and longer term? 7. Are there any sites that you consider to be appropriate for future development? These could either be expansion to existing sites or other sites with no current employment use? 8. Are there any existing employment sites that should not be developed further/redeveloped? Why? Are there any estates that could not accommodate further growth? 9. Do any of the existing employment sites need infrastructure or other kinds of work undertaken before any further development takes place?

The Mayor Selwyn Walters agreed to answer the questions on behalf of the Town Council.

10. MENTER LLAMBED

10.1 The Town Council's New Website:

A 3 hour Training-Session will be undertaken by the Clerk and Cllr Phillips on the 13th March.

- 10.2 **Transition Llambed** has secured a 25 year lease on the Victoria Hall, from Ceredigion CC to be developed as a community project and to be sustainable.

11. FINANCE

11.1 Expenditure February 2010

| ITEM | Payment |
|--|-----------|
| Lampeter Scouts | £ 500.00 |
| Lampeter Agricultural Show | £ 100.00 |
| Campaign for the Protection of Rural Wales | £ 20.00 |
| Hire of St Peter's Hall x 3hrs 25.02.2010 | £ 22.50 |
| Compass Stationery | £ 203.65 |
| Hedge Cutting, Maesyderi Field, Lampeter Tree Services £480 £84 VAT | £ 564.00 |
| 3 Town Entrance Signs £2,960.85 VAT £444.13 | £3,404.98 |
| Clerk's salary Feb 2010 net (@12hrs per week) | £ 450.90 |
| Clerk's salary Feb 2010 net translation 10hrs/month | £ 86.59 |
| H M Revenue + NI Contributions Feb | £ 97.40 |
| Heat & Light & Storage Costs Feb 2010 | £ 20.00 |

- 11.2 **Cllr Carter stated that the Scouts' Organisation** was in dire need of financial assistance to renovate their hall at Church Road, the old grammar school, and one of the oldest buildings in the town. It could qualify for money from a historic building fund, due to this status. £500 had previously been donated to the Lampeter Scouts, by the Town Council in November 2008. It was resolved at this meeting to donate another sum of £500.

- 11.3 **It was resolved not to make a financial contribution to the** Kidney Wales Foundation – Walk for Life 2010 Appeal.

- 11.4 **Review of Councillors' Allowances Regulations WAG:** e.g. Attendance Allowance, Financial Loss Allowance, An Allowance for attending Conference/Meetings; Travel Allowance; Subsistence Allowance. Responses requested by the 11th June 2010. It is hoped that the introduction of these changes will encourage more people to become town and community councillors. *The questions to be considered in the future.*

- 11.5 **Risk Assessment** for the Town Council for the yr 2009-10: The Clerk has compiled a Draft Risk Assessment for consideration by the Mayor/Deputy-Mayor and Cllr Mason-George. (o/s)

12. SUB-COMMITTEES

12.1 Street Lights'

12.1.2 Cllr Davies-Evans stated that two street-lights did not function in the vicinity of the Cwmins – to report to the Ceredigion CC.

12.2 Pavements'

12.2.1 **Cllr D. Williams agreed** to compile an inventory of all the problems associated with the pavements of the town, for submission at this next meeting. (outstanding as Cllr D.Williams was absent)

- 12.2.2 It was reported** that water was leaking onto the pavement adjacent to the *Cascade Florist's* shop on the High Street – to report to *Dŵr Cymru*.
- 12.3 Footpaths' inc Parc-yr-Orsedd**
- 12.3.1 It was resolved to seek quotes in** relation to the grass-cutting at Parc-yr-Orsedd over the summer months (April to September inclusive) and for the maintenance of footpaths. An advert would be displayed on the notice-board. Closing Date Thursday 25th March 12 Noon.
- 12.3.2 Improvements at Parc-yr-Orsedd**, as suggested by recent reports referred to, in previous minutes, are presently ongoing by Mr Steve Edwardes.
- 12.4 The 6 CCTV Cameras'**
- 12.4.1 Monthly Report for December 2009 CCC:** There had been one request by the Police to view digital media, in relation to a theft and fraud.
- 12.4.2 Monthly Report for January 2010 CCC:** There had been 4 requests by the police to view digital media, one request for stills and 3 requests for copy discs, in relation to a burglary, a shoplift, a theft and dangerous driving. One camera could not be moved but this did not affect the picture. Date fault reported 7.01.2010. Engineers reset the camera and all movement was restored. Repaired 20.01.2010. Attendance of engineers had been delayed due to adverse weather conditions.
- 12.5 The Welsh Language Annual Review:** Cllr Phillips had circulated the Annual Review to members prior to the meeting. In the absence of Cllr Phillips, the content of the Review was not discussed.
- 12.6 Maesyderi Field Management Committee**
A meeting had taken place on the 17th February. (Minutes attached)
- 13. A.O.B.**
- 13.1 Some members stated that they felt cold** during meetings of the town council, at the Church Hall. *To report the matter to representatives of the St Peter's Church.*
- 13.2 A bench is in need of repair at Bryn-yr-Eglwys**, adjacent to the old primary school: to ask Cllr Derek Wilson if it would be possible for him to repair the bench.
- 13.3 Cllr Dorothy Williams had submitted two enquiries via Cllr Dafis.**
- 13.3.1 What had been resolved** in relation to the invitation to visit the Welsh Assembly Building at Cardiff Bay, which was received over a year ago? *The matter had been left in abeyance.*
- 13.3.2 Payment for the Bugler** at the Remembrance Day Service of the 8th November 2009. It was reported that the British Legion assumed responsibility for this service. The town council makes arrangements concerning the printing, translation and payment of the programmes, which are circulated on the day. It was resolved to seek further clarification. A donation of £20 had been give to the bugler of 2008, via the town council's funds, as a goodwill gesture.
- 13.4 The Lampeter Food Festival** will take place on Saturday 24th July and the Carnival on Saturday 31st July.
As there was no other business, the meeting concluded at 9.30pm.
- 14. Date of next meeting – Thursday 25th March 2010 at 7pm at the St Peter's Church Hall.**

(signed/date)