

**LAMPETER TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING**

OF THE 30.09.2010 AT 7.30PM AT THE CHURCH HALL, LAMPETER

1. CHAIRPERSON'S WELCOME & OPENING PRAYER

The Chairperson, the Mayor Rob Phillips extended a welcome to all present. Cllr John Davies led members in prayer.

PRESENT:

Cllr Mayor Robert Phillips (Chairperson)

Deputy-Mayor Cllr. Robert (Hag) Harris (Deputy-Chairperson)

Cllrs Cecilia Barton; Andrew Carter; Elsie Dafis; John Davies;

Margaret Davies-Evans; Greg Evans; Lynda Mason-George;

Kistiah Ramaya & Selwyn Walters.

Reporter: Carl Stringer; PC Richard Marshall

Mr Dafydd Pugh-Jones Manager Care & Repair Ceredigion

Mrs. Anthea Jones Care & Repair Officer (Mid-Ceredigion)

2. PRESENTATION: CEREDIGION CARE & REPAIR

A presentation was received from Mr Dafydd Pugh-Jones and Mrs. Anthea Jones, representatives of the *Ceredigion Care & Repair*. This organization was established in 1995 and offers advice and assistance to older, vulnerable and disabled people, to enable them to retain their independence, in their own homes, for as long as possible. The service is free of charge and is funded by the Welsh Assembly Government (WAG) and the Local Authority. It offers help to homeowners and private tenants and works in partnership with Ceredigion County Council (CCC) and the NHS Trust.

Representatives of the *Care & Repair* visit all clients in their homes, and offer a diverse service, which includes help with repairs, improvements or adaptations to the home; technical/energy efficiency information; advice in relation to the possible claiming of benefits and grants and, where appropriate, referrals to other agencies. The Organisation does not, however, pay for the work, make recommendations, raise expectations and guarantee that the work will be completed.

The *Homesafety Scheme* is also another service, on offer, which is a home-based visiting service for older people, to assess safety and security measures in the home. Agreed work is carried out free of charge by the Home Safety Craftsmen. This scheme addresses issues such as *falls and accidents' prevention, home safety, fire safety, house security and energy efficiency*.

The Care & Repair Office can be contacted from Monday-Friday 9-4.30pm at Bodlondeb, Penparcau, Aberystwyth, SY23 1SJ. Tel 01970 639920 or via email careandrepair@cantref.co.uk. Two case studies, which illustrate the work of the *Ceredigion Care & Repair* organization are included (Appendix 1)

APOLOGIES for absence were received from Cllrs Chris Thomas, Dorothy Williams & Derek Wilson.

3. POLICE MATTERS

PC Richard Marshall updated members regarding recent events:

3.1 Alcohol Exclusion Zone (AEZ)

Members had considered the possible formation of a "displacement alcohol zone" at the last meeting, since the introduction of an Alcohol Exclusion Zone, within the town. To date, this has not taken place.

Alcohol consumption continues to feature at the Harford Square and the Parc St. Germain-sur-Moine despite their newly acquired status, within the AEZ.

The Police have seized alcohol, from certain individuals and one person is presently facing custody charges.

3.2 Gravestones have recently been vandalized at the St Peter's Church

Cemetery. The Deputy-Mayor suggested that the Town Council could initiate

an Appeal, which would allow members of the public the opportunity to make donations towards the cost of repairing the gravestones. The Town Council could also make a contribution.

Resolved: *The Mayor to contact Rev. Canon Aled Williams to discuss further.*

- 3.3 Many Charity Boxes** have been stolen, within the town. An arrest has taken place.
- 3.4 Detergent is deposited in** the Fountain, Harford Square, resulting in the overspill of large volumes of foam, onto the pavement.
- 3.5 The abandoned, untaxed vehicle**, referred to, in the August minutes, continues to be parked on the Cwmins. *The Police to investigate further.*
- 3.6 The Crime and Disorder** rate has fallen in Lampeter, when compared to previous years.
4. **DISCLOSURE OF PERSONAL & PREJUDICIAL INTERESTS**
- 4.1 **Cllr Harris declared** a personal and prejudicial interest during the discussion appertaining to the *Local Government Boundary Commission for Wales: Review of Electoral Arrangements, Draft Proposals, County Of Ceredigion.* (Point 7.4)
- 4.2 **Cllr Carter declared a personal interest** when an explanation was sought in relation to the satellite-dish, which is displayed within a Conservation Area. (Point 6.7)
5. **CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES** of the meeting of the 26th August 2010
These were agreed to be correct.
6. **MATTERS ARISING**
- 6.1 **Establishing a Traffic Management Consultative Committee between representatives of the Ceredigion County Council and the Town Council.**
Cllr Selwyn Walters was nominated to attend the meeting, scheduled for the 10th January 2011. Representation on the committee will be made up of a number of organizations, to include community councils in the area.
- 6.2 **Improvements to the Harford Square:** a delegation of the town council had attended a site-meeting on the 9th September. The Mayor had compiled a list of improvements. These were accepted by the TC, apart from a few minor adjustments. (Appendix 2).
A letter, from an elderly resident of the town, conveyed that the proposed cosmetic improvements to the Square, were unnecessary, and asked if it would be feasible to replace the cobbles, with tarmac. In her opinion, the cobbles were an accident provocation, especially in wet weather, when the cobbles were slippery. In the response, it would be stated that it is the TC's intention to re-align the cobbles, which are currently a health and safety issue. Members believe that the Square is a prominent feature of the town and the fountain itself, a treasured icon. It is the TC's intention to retain and preserve the character of the town's central-point, which would certainly be lost, should a decision be made to tarmac the area.
- 6.3 **Signs within the town:**
- **Carmarthenshire/Ceredigion border sign:** awaiting further developments from CCC.
 - **Bryn-yr-Eglwys/Penbryn & Maesyderi/Gwêl y Creuddyn Signs:** awaiting further information from CCC.
- 6.4 **Town Council's Notice Board:** Cllr Wilson will paint the notice-board shortly.
- 6.5 **Link for the website** – History page- the names of Past Mayors of Lampeter, now appear on the Town Council's Website.
- 6.6 **Town Council's Furniture:** Cllr Walters reported that the furniture, presently stored at the Registrar's Office, Lampeter, could remain at this location, for the foreseeable future. In the long term, a permanent home will be needed. In

response to the recent article in the *Cambrian News* appertaining to this topic, two parties had expressed an interest, viz Mr Hefin Evans (Evans Bros Estate Agents), and Martin, Manager of Tŷ Mawr Mansion, Cilcennin. It was felt that a Lampeter location was necessary. Cllr Walters will contact Mr Hefin Evans to discuss the feasibility of his suggestion.

- 6.7 **Satellite Dish on display at the High Street:** enquiries ongoing.
- 6.8 **Bunting:** it was reported that members of the Chamber of Trade had recently dismantled the *Urdd* bunting, which had been displayed since the end of April.
- 6.9 **Positioning a litter bin on the Pavement opposite Troedrhiw Cottage, North Road, Lampeter:** this request has been refused by the CCC as the location does not meet the necessary criteria. However, the CCC will monitor the situation.
- 6.10 **Children's Integrated Centre Meeting of the 28th Sept at Lampeter:** it was reported that the introduction of a *Children's Integrated Centre* at Lampeter, would be a positive development.
- 6.11 **Tai Cantref AGM 16.09.2010:** the Town Council had not been represented at this Meeting.
- 6.12 **It was decided, in a previous meeting, to present Mr Leno Conti** with a shield, in recognition of his services to the town. It was resolved to keep to the original decision, and to make arrangements to present Mr Conti with this award, at the Mayor's Inauguration Ceremony of 2011.

7. CORRESPONDENCE

- 7.1 **Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management:** Development of a National Strategy for Wales: CCC, asking whether it would be possible for the TC to provide information with regards to any significant flood risk areas, which should be identified and if possible, to provide some dates of the flooding events, extent and the source or cause of the event: *Cllrs Dafis & Carter to assign further attention to this matter.*
- 7.2 **Motions for debate AGM OVWales 9.10.2010:** noted for information.
- 7.3 **Ceredigion Care & Repair Consultative Meeting 20.10.2010:** The Deputy-Mayor will represent the TC at this meeting.
- 7.4 **Local Government Boundary Commission for Wales:** Review of Electoral Arrangements, draft proposals, County Of Ceredigion. It was resolved to favour *Option Lampeter 2* with adjacent Llanybi (minus Gartheli Community Wards) to raise the overall electorate to 3,007 as a two-member Electoral Division (Ratio 1:1,503). **Resolved:** The Mayor to convey the information to the Local Government Boundary Commission For Wales before the 9.11.2010.
- 7.5 **Changes to Ceredigion Household Waste Collections 15.11.2010:** the CCC is responding to WAG targets and aiming to reduce the amount of waste, which is sent to landfill. The new Ceredigion household waste collection service will involve a weekly recycling collection service as well as the introduction of a weekly food waste collection service, covering the entire county. Remaining waste should be deposited in black bags, which will be collected fortnightly. It would be conveyed that the TC, under this new system, was concerned about the collection of some landfill litter bags, which could remain for many days outside certain buildings, such as flats and Houses in Multiple Occupancy (HMOs)
- 7.6 **Request for public seating at High Street.** The correspondent behind the enquiry, thought that it was incumbent on the town council, to provide seating particularly for the use of older people. Cllr John Davies, who was supportive of the request, stated that this was an historical issue and in the past, shopkeepers had been reluctant to provide a seating area outside their shops. Members were informed that benches were once in place, outside the Black

Lion and Royal Oak public houses. The Town Council would try to encourage owners of properties on the High Street to come forward, to volunteer this provision. The benches, should ideally, be sited in close proximity to bus-stops. Resolved: To approach Lloyds TSB and the Black Lion to ask if they would grant permission for a seat to be positioned outside their buildings.

7.7 **Consultative meeting with representatives of CCC November 2010:** matters to be discussed at the meeting should be forwarded to the CCC, in advance. Members to consider questions, which could be asked.

7.8 **Other Correspondence: for information only.**

8. PLANNING

8.1 PLANNING PERMISSION GRANTED BY CCC

8.1.1 **Applicant: LAS Holdings Ltd;** Proposal: Change of use from B1/B2 (Business and General Industrial) to D2 (Assembly & Leisure).

Location: 22 Lampeter Business Park, Lampeter. Application No: A100468: TC notified on the 28.09.2010.

8.1.2 **Applicant: Mr N Wright.** Proposal: Change of use of Ground Floor from the last known use as a retail unit, Use Class A1 to a restaurant, use Class A3. Application No: A100491. TC notified on the 18.09.2010.

8.2 **PLANNING APPLICATIONS** (responded to, within the 14 day rule by a delegation of the Town Council)

8.2.1 **No A100589:** Proposal: First floor extension, amendment to existing building to include extension of access ramp and alteration to window opening to form additional access door. Location: Unit 7 Lampeter Industrial Estate, Tregaron Road, Lampeter. Response required by the 30th September: **Comments: No objections.**

8.2.2 **No A100610CD:** Proposal: Erection of an extension to design technology block, Lampeter Secondary School. Response required by the 30th September. **Comments: No objections.**

9. FINANCE

9.1 **Refund: University of Wales** Trinity St David's Lampeter £100 for the hire of the Old Hall 7.05.2010 for the Mayor's Inauguration Ceremony.

9.2 **Payment BT Broadband and Phone** 13 June-12 Sept £93.67; VAT £16.39; Total: £110.06.

9.3 **Cheque No 001868** £40; Cleaning of 4 bus-shelters; Mr Mark Jenkins. A Direct Debit, of £20/month has been set up with Lloyds TSB, for Mr Jenkins who has been awarded the contract of cleaning the 4 bus-shelters every two months for a fee of £10/bus-shelter.

9.4 **Cheque 001869:** £1,060: Mr E Williams, for clearing the footpaths over the summer. 75% of the cost has been met by grant-funding from CCC (£795) and the remaining 25% from the TC's funds.

9.5 **Cheque 001870:** £300: Mr Mike Brown for the cutting of the grass at Parc-yr-Orsedd April-Sept; one cut per month for a fee of £50/cut.

9.6 **Cheque 001871-** £25 donation – Urdd Gobaith Cymru.

9.7 **Cheque 001872** - £50 donation – Relate Ceredigion

9.8 **Cheque 001873** - £20- heat & light and storage costs (Clerk) £20.00

9.9 **Cheque 001874-** £6.12- stamps' claim (clerk)

9.10 **Cheque 001875** - £10.50 – refuse bags for the Maesyderi field.

9.11 **Cheque 001876** – Clerk's Pay Sept £632.27 (gross)

9.12 **The External Audit Form for the 2009-10**, regarding the accounts of Lampeter Town Council, has been forwarded to the External Auditors BDO Stoy Hayward in Southampton, for consideration.

9.13 **Internal Financial Control:** It was resolved that the Mayor would verify all the payments made by the TC, every month, by referring to the bank statements,

cheque book stubs, invoices and minutes. The Mayor to inspect the accounts from April- August 2010 and in future, on a monthly basis.

- 9.14 A thank-you letter** was received from Nikki Mead, Lampeter Brownie Leader, for the recent donation of £50 towards her Centenary Guiding Camp Fund. The event had provided a great opportunity for her to meet other Guides, from all around the world, and an experience to remember and to treasure.
- 9.15 A thank-you letter** was also received from *Shelter Cymru*, for the recent donation of £25.00

10. SUB-COMMITTEES

10.1 Footpaths' + Parc-yr-Orsedd

10.1.1 Operational Playground Inspection Training Course CCC: 25/26/27 October 2010. Arrangements are in hand for Cllr Chris Thomas to attend the course.

10.1.2 Securing a bin to the ground and the provision of bin lids:

In the absence of Cllr Thomas, it was not ascertained whether this matter had received attention.

10.1.3O/s Mesh for the gate North Rd; Repair of gate Bryn-yr-Eglwys entrance & **Replacement** of wooden donkey:

10.1.4The Annual Playground Inspection will take place shortly by Digley Associates for a fee of £45 + VAT.

10.2 CCTV Cameras' Report August 2010: There had been 2 requests to view digital media concerning a public order (18.08.2010) and an assault (15.08.2010). The Focus Facility had been lost, on one camera for one day (9.08.2010)

10.3 Maesyderi Field Management: Minutes of the meeting of the 15.09 attached.

11. A.O.B.

11.1 The structure of the Town Council's Agenda came under review. Cllrs should receive the agenda at least 3 clear days before each meeting. The three clear days is established in law, because it is important to be notified of issues to be discussed. Topics requiring a decision cannot be added to the agenda after the deadline of 3 clear days has elapsed; they must wait for another meeting. According to best practice and information included in the *Good Councillor's Guide*, WAG, it was stated that agenda items should be itemized. It should be made very clear of what is expected of a cllr, and be precise about the subject under discussion. It was resolved to continue to itemise topics under *Matters Arising, Correspondence* and also *Planning Applications & Finance*. Under *AOB*, should a matter require a decision, cllrs should forward details to the clerk, at least 3 clear days before the meeting, for the matter to be included on the Agenda, in consultation with the Chair. All other matters discussed under *AOB*, will be for information only. Some cllrs were of the opinion that should there be no developments in relation to certain items e.g. Town Signs, during a certain month, then they should not appear on that month's Agenda. They had been included in the past, to remind cllrs of unresolved issues.

11.2 Cllr John Davies drew members' attention to the Remembrance Sunday Service of Sunday the 14th November. It was resolved to discuss the matter further at the next meeting.

The meeting concluded at 10.00pm.

12. DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS

12.1 Maesyderi Field Management Committee 20 October 2010 at 6.00pm at the Menter Llambod Office;

12.2 Monthly Meeting: Thursday 28th October 2010 at 7.30pm St Peter's Church Hall, Lampeter. -----(signed/date)