

**LAMPETER TOWN COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF**  
**24.11.2011 AT 7.30PM**  
**CHURCH HALL LAMPETER**

*Cllr Andrew Carter led members in an opening prayer.*

**1. CHAIRPERSON'S WELCOME**

The Immediate Past Mayor, Cllr Rob Phillips chaired the first 10 minutes of the meeting, in the absence of the Mayor, as he was attending the Christmas Fayre at the Secondary School. Cllr Phillips extended a welcome to all present.

**2. PRESENT**

Cllr Mayor Robert (Hag) Harris (Chairperson); Cllr Cecilia Barton; Cllr Andrew Carter; Cllr Elsie Dafis; Cllr Margaret Davies-Evans; Cllr Greg Evans; Cllr Rob Phillips; Cllr Selwyn Walters & Cllr Derek Wilson.

Maria Wilding Ceredigion County Council (CCC)

Mr Gerald Morgan

PC Richard Marshall

**APOLOGIES** for absence were received from Cllrs John Davies; Kistiah Ramaya (Deputy-Mayor); Chris Thomas and Dorothy Williams.

**Presentations**

**3. BALCHDER PENTREFI**

**CEREDIGION COMMUNITY AND TOWN COUNCILS VILLAGE RENEWAL FUND**

The first presentation was given by Maria Wilding CCC, in relation to the above. Ceredigion Community and Town Councils or related organizations can access this fund to help improve the appearance of their Communities. The Fund can support:

**3.1 Capital Works** that improve the look of public spaces &

**3.2 Landscaping** and planting schemes in open spaces, improvements to public seating and low-energy lighting, improvements to public transport waiting areas, public signage or information panels.

(external improvements only)

- Maximum grant size will be limited to £20,000 per application;
- Grant rates will be variable with a maximum intervention of 60%, depending on the nature of the work undertaken;
- Match funding can be in the form of cash, other grants or in-kind donations;
- The scheme will operate on a rolling programme and applications can be made at any time until June 2013;
- Community Play Areas and Street Lighting do not qualify under the scheme.

It was **resolved** to inform different organizations in Lampeter e.g. Scouts, of the project. The Town Council will have to approve the application, should an organisation decide to submit a bid for grant-funding.

**4. A HYMN BOOK FOR LAMPETER**

**The second address was delivered by Mr Gerald Morgan re a Hymn Book, which he hopes to present to the town of Lampeter in October 2012.** The Hymn Book will include a selection of 25 English hymns, encircling Christian themes, written and composed by Mr Morgan. They will be a celebration of different organizations, individuals and places of worship. It was resolved to support the compilation of the hymn book and to grant permission for the TC's Crest to appear on the back cover.

## 5. POLICE MATTERS

- 6.45pm this based
- 5.1 **The Ceredigion Joint Community Consultative Meeting 2.11.2011- Council Chamber, Penmorfa, Aberaeron.** The Mayor had attended this meeting. **Matters discussed:** Election of a Police Commissioner; Risk-policing; Police Panels and the centralization of services.
- 5.2 **PC Richard Marshall updated members on recent crimes:**
- 5.2.1 **The site** of the Pagan Temple at the College had been vandalized;
- 5.2.2 **Travelling Criminals** had stolen around £3,000 of cosmetics from a local Chemist;
- 5.2.3 **Three youths** had been arrested for an under-age sex offence;
- 5.2.4 **A Drugs Raid** had taken place.
- 5.3 **A new Inspector** will be appointed to Lampeter to serve a wider area.
- 5.4 **Re events** such as Remembrance Day Services, where roads are closed, an application must be submitted to the Local Authority.

## 6. DISCLOSURE OF PERSONAL & PREJUDICIAL INTEREST

None declared.

## 7. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES of the meeting of the 27 October 2011

These were agreed to be a correct record and were signed by the Chairperson.

## 8. MATTERS ARISING

- 8.1 **The purchase of a lap-top computer:** Cllr Phillips stated that the lap-top had been ordered – estimated cost £440.
- 8.2 **Bwcabus Presentation:** Cllr Phillips had represented the TC at the *Bwcabus* presentation of the 1 November. *Bwcabus* is a new fully accessible local bus service, tailored to the needs of the passengers by operating in response to pre-booked journey requests. The service operates from 7am-7pm Monday to Saturday. (Please refer to Appendix 1)

The Bwcabus service, run by Carmarthenshire County Council, helps people living in parts of rural Carmarthenshire and Ceredigion to travel to work & to access education, training and health services.

The innovative project, the first of its kind in Wales, provides passengers with a service, which allows them to book their bus journeys from home or the nearest bus stop and links with conventional bus and train services.

The service was launched in 2008 with initial backing of £350,000 of Welsh Government and £500,000 of EU funding. The scheme combines the latest technologies including GPS and scheduling software to enable passengers to link up to mainstream services.

Bwcabus has proved to be a phenomenal success, winning many national awards and far exceeding projected targets.

The service has clocked up in excess of 21,000 passenger journeys and boasts over 900 registered users.

Its popularity with travellers in north Carmarthenshire and south Ceredigion increased demand on the Bwcabus network by 40% in its first year. This compares with a general decline in rural public transport usage.

Carl Sargeant, said: "This highly popular Bwcabus service is revolutionising public transport in rural west Wales – by helping people to access key services, travel to work and take up training and other educational opportunities."

"By extending the service into new areas of the Teifi Valley in both Carmarthenshire and Ceredigion, Bwcabus will provide a cost-effective service for isolated passengers and continue to play a vital link between rural and urban locations in West Wales."

The three-year pilot scheme was developed in collaboration with the Wales Transport Research Centre at the University of Glamorgan, who established the original model, which could eventually be rolled out across rural Wales. The centre continues to provide advice and technical support to the project.

The current service is managed by Carmarthenshire County Council and run in partnership with Ceredigion County Council, the Welsh Government, Traveline Cymru, Richards Brothers and Morris Travel.

From Monday 5th December 2011, Bwcabus will be extended to serve rural communities in the Lampeter area, including Llanwnnen and Cribyn. The Trawscambria service X40 will not be affected by the changes, and will continue to operate a normal advertised timetable.

For further information on Bwcabus please visit the Bwcabus web site <http://www.bwcabus.traveline-cymru.info/> or call **01239 801 601**.

### **8.3 Winter Maintenance: Advice was received by the CCC from One Voice Wales re the following questions:**

**8.3.1 Can Town & Community Councils** incur expenditure to provide in their areas, bins with salt/ sand / grit, additional to those purchased and provided by the highway authority in exercise of its statutory duties? **Answer: Yes**, such expenditure may be incurred under s. 137 (1) of the Local Government Act (LGA) 1972 (the 1972 Act) but is limited pursuant to s.137 (4) of the 1972 Act.

**8.3.2 Can Community Councils** fund the Highway Authority to extend the routes which it has designated for snow and ice clearance? **Ans. No.** Community Councils do not have the statutory powers or duties to clear snow or ice from highways. They should ensure that they are not exposed to the risk of legal liabilities which may arise as a consequence of any negligent actions.

**8.3.3 Can Community Councils** incur expenditure to employ people to assist with snow and ice clearance on the highways in their areas which is not a contribution to the expenditure incurred by the Highway Authority in its employment of relevant staff for the delivery of its winter service (permitted under s. 137 (2) of the 1972 Act? **Ans. Yes.** Such expenditure may be incurred under s. 137 (1) of the 1972 Act but is limited pursuant to s.137 (4) of the 1972 Act. It is sensible for the duties of any such employees to be limited to the transport of salt/grit/sand to particular locations where it is offered as a self help facility to road users or local people or to where the community council itself has provided additional salt/grit/sand bins. **Noted for information.**

- 8.4 Consultative meeting 2011 CCC (1.11.11- 7.00pm) Feedback:** Members had met with the Leader of the County Council, Cllr Keith Evans and the Director of Education and Community Services, Mr Eifion Evans to discuss matters of mutual concern.

Cllr Evans spoke of the cuts facing the CCC and the need for an increase in partnership working with other Local Authorities, in a bid to make savings e.g. joint working with Powys County Council in the Highways Dept. He referred to the *Simpson's Report* and the maintenance of services regionally, nationally and locally. The Capital Funding for the CCC will be decreased by 45% in the next financial year. Borrowing money is an option for the County Council. The financial challenge is enormous and, at the same time, there is pressure to provide a more efficient and effective service in areas as diverse as life-long learning; the safety of children and vulnerable adults; road safety; regeneration programmes and to promote a more prosperous economy.

**Ceredigion CC prioritizes** Education; 2) Social Services; 3) Highways, Property & Works; 4) All other depts. In the field of Transport the CCC works in collaboration with Carl Sargeant, Minister for Local Government. Cllr Evans referred to 2 events, namely the Urdd National Eisteddfod 2010 and the Royal Welsh Show 2010, which had involved the county of Ceredigion. He also stated that Ceredigion will play host to the London Olympic 2012 Flame when the torch will be carried through the county in May of next year.

Mr Eifion Evans stated that a better system of communication would shortly be adopted by the county council when liaising with the Town Council. A reference number will be allocated to each initial request via email/telephone from Town & Community Councils and this number should be referred to at all times when discussing the matter at a future date.

The European Grant *Balchder Pentrefi* also came under discussion. (*Minute 3: see above*)

Questions had been submitted before hand by the TC re the *Bwcabus*; the closure of Ceredigion Training in the town – it was stated that there should be sufficient demand for the facility to justify its provision within the town; Charter Working - ongoing between CCC and OVW; Snow Clearance; the Bike Track- Mr Eifion Evans stated that a great deal of investment in education had already taken place in Lampeter in recent times (new school building, 3-19 School and the new Outdoor Multi-use Play Area). The Maesyderi Field had previously formed a part of the Old Ffynnonbedr School and any revenue realized from the field should be retained within the Education Dept and used to offset some of the expenditure associated with the 3-19 School.

- 8.5 The Mayor's Chain: re the repair:** no developments.

- 8.6 Young at Heart Christmas Tea-Party- 7.12.2011**

Arrangements were discussed further.

- 8.7 Adopting a Community Flood Plan:** resolved not to draft a Community Flood Plan at present but to note problem areas within the town. **Re** the TC's request for the drains to be cleaned on a more regular basis- Surface/ Highway drains are the responsibility of the Ceredigion CC. Welsh Water is responsible for the sewers and flash-flooding. Welsh Water commissions Carmarthenshire County Council to clean the sewers and deeper problems within Lampeter. The Mayor had spoken to Mr Richard Davies Carm. County Council Hydrology Section regarding de-silting. Mr Davies stated that Bridge

Street was due to be de-silted again. The Mayor emphasized the importance of de-silting this area on a regular basis.

**Concerns can be reported to Welsh Water on 08000853968, Carm. County Council 01267 234567 and Ceredigion County Council 01545 572572.**

- 8.8 **AGM Age Concern Ceredigion 17.11.2011:** The Mayor had represented the TC at this meeting. This organisation is now called *Age Cymru*.
- 8.9 **Traffic Meeting CCC: 12.12.2011- 2pm – noted for information.** Picton Lane Project: Experimental Stopping Up Order cannot be introduced on an experimental basis. Instead experimental prohibition of Driving Order to effect the temporary closure of Picton Lane at its junction with Bridge Street is an alternative.
- 8.10 **The Queen's Diamond Jubilee Beacons: Guide to taking part: RESOLVED** Cllr Phillips to make further enquiries.
- 8.11 **One Voice Wales:** Appointment of Training Champion from the TC: matter held in abeyance.

## 9. CORRESPONDENCE

- 9.1 **Christmas Fair– Lampeter Chamber of Trade -8.12.2011 5-8pm; Temporary Road Closure –** noted for information.
- 9.2 **Aberystwyth Town Council:** letter re cutbacks re Bronglais Hospital **RESOLVED** – to send a letter to the Chairman of the Hywel Dda Health Board, opposing the downgrading of Bronglais Hospital and to ask for further clarification.
- 9.3 **Ceredigion Mobile Shopmobility AGM 7.12.11- 7pm** Penmorfa Aberaeron: for information.
- 9.4 **Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Authority Annual Action Plan 2012-13:** for information.
- 9.5 **Draft booklet activities and services for children and families in Lampeter:** Cathryn Morgan RAY Ceredigion: the Mayor had submitted further information re activities in Lampeter, which could be included in the draft document.
- 9.6 **Thank you letter** – from Dinah Jones Lecturer, University of Wales Trinity St David re *Journalism* students who had observed the October meeting and the help, which was given to them during and after the meeting by the Town Council, to develop certain issues as articles for newspaper.
- 9.7 **Rural Wales Circular:** for information.
- 9.8 **Other Correspondence; for information only.**

## 10. 10.1 PLANNING PERMISSION BY CCC

**10.1.1 Application No: A110633CD:** Erection of new Reception and Admin Building: Lampeter Comprehensive School. Applicant Ceredigion CC.

**10.1.2 Application No: A110753:** Erection of an extension to existing clubhouse and ancillary demolition works: Location: Lampeter Rugby Football Club.

**10.1.3 Application No: A110697:** Demolition of existing sub-standard retaining wall and construction of new retaining wall: Cilerwisc Depot, Station Terrace, Lampeter.

**10.2 PLANNING APPLICATIONS: None received.**

**10.3 Development Control Committee CCC:9.11.2011:** for information.

## 11. MENTER LLAMBED & TRANSITION TOWN LLAMBED (TTLI)

Transition Town Llambled will become the new Landlord of the Victoria Hall as from the 1 December 2011. Grants/ Funding are sought. Initial projects will include painting the outside of the hall and upgrading the toilets and kitchen. Cllr Greg Evans, Chairman of TTLI stated that the organisation will submit an application for grant funding to the TC, in the very near future. Best wishes were extended to TTLI, in its efforts to develop the hall for community use.

## 12. FINANCE:

12.1 **Lampeter Swimming Pool;** Balance Sheet on transfer; not received.

### 12.2 **Payments**

12.2.1 **Clerk's Pay** Oct 2011 £597.02; **HM Revenue** £ 68.10;

12.2.2 **Leaflets** Remembrance Sunday: £22.50

12.2.3 **Mr Gwynne Davies:** Hire of Loudspeakers Rem. Sunday £60.00

12.2.4 **Electronic Plan of Bike Track** £15.00

12.2.5 **Parc-yr-Orsedd** – extra cut- Mr E Williams £ 90.50

12.2.6 **Poppy Wreath** c/o Cllr J. Davies £20.00

12.2.7 **Hire of Church Hall** 24.11.11 £18.75

12.3 **Receipts:** none.

12.4 **Requests for grant funding:**

12.4.1 **Vale of Glamorgan National Eisteddfod:** £100

12.4.2 **Homestart Ceredigion** £50.00

12.4.2 **Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod:** received

## 13. SUB-COMMITTEES

13.1 **Street Lights'** –one street light defective at Barley Mow.

13.2 **Pavements'** - no report.

13.3 **Footpaths'** – no report.

13.4 **Parc-yr-Orsedd:** the Park Inspector had met Cllr Chris Thomas on site on the 31.10.2011: a formal report is awaited.

13.5 **CCTV Cameras' - October Report not received.**

13.6 **Maesyderi Field Management** – minutes of 16 Nov attached. The Park Inspector had met Cllr Chris Thomas on site on the 31.10.2011: a formal report is awaited

## 14. A.O.B.

14.1 **Cllr Elsie Dafis** stated that a new Call Centre will open shortly in the town, creating 15 new jobs and a boost to the local economy.

14.2 **It was resolved** to send a letter to the Chief Executive of Ceredigion CC to thank the County Council for the provision of flowers, for the town, during the summer months.

14.3 **Lampeter Poultry Show Date:** 21 December 2011.

The meeting ended at 9.35pm.

## 15. DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS

15.1 **BUDGET MEETING- THURSDAY 12 JANUARY AT 7.30PM AT THE CHURCH HALL;**

15.2 **MAESYDERI FIELD MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE: WEDNESDAY 18<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY AT 6.30PM AT THE MENTER LLAMBED OFFICE;**

15.3 **MONTHLY MEETING: THURSDAY 26<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY AT 7.30PM AT THE CHURCH HALL.**

----- (SIGNED/DATE)