



**LAMPETER TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING
TO CANVASS INTEREST
REGARDING INVITING THE
NATIONAL EISTEDDFOD OF WALES TO LAMPETER IN 2020
Shiloh Vestry, Lampeter
Wednesday 2 March at 7.30pm**

1. CHAIRPERSON'S WELCOME

The Mayor Cllr Christopher Thomas extended a warm welcome to all present. He explained that the purpose of the meeting was to gauge public interest concerning the possibility of inviting the National Eisteddfod of Wales to Lampeter in 2020.

2. PRESENT

** also representing other organisations (in brackets)*

LAMPETER TOWN COUNCIL

Mayor Cllr Christopher Thomas (Chairperson)
Eleri Thomas (Clerk Lampeter Town Council)
Carol Thomas (Simultaneous Translator)

Town Councillors

Cllr Elsie Dafis
Cllr Elin Jones (Lampeter Food Festival)
Cllr Rhys Bebb Jones (Cwmann Choir)
Cllr Ann Bowen Morgan (Merched y Wawr)
Cllr Rob Phillips (Plaid Cymru- Lampeter- Round Table)
Cllr Selwyn Walters (Hanes Llambled)

Ceredigion County Council (CCC)

Cllr Hag Harris
Cllr Ifor Williams

Ysgol Bro Pedr

Jane Wyn, Headteacher

University of Wales Trinity St David

Dr Medwin Hughes-Vice Chancellor
Prof. Densil Morgan (Cylch Cinio)

Transition Llambled Development Trust

Jane Langford

Lampeter Chamber of Trade

Gary Thorogood

Papur Bro Clonc

Mary Davies; Nia Davies

Eisteddfod Rhys Thomas James Llambled

Delyth Morgans Phillips (Clonc)

Corisma Choir

Lena Daniel

Lampeter Rotary

Rev Bill Fillery

Eisteddfod Capel y Groes

Manon Richards

Parti Llefaru Sarn Helen

Elin Williams

Lampeter Guides and Brownies

Judith Walters

Aelwyd yr Urdd, Lampeter

Janet Evans

Noddfa, Lampeter

Jill Tomos

Tai Ceredigion Cyf

Llyr Edwards

Lampeter WI

Christine Chabert (Lampeter Custard Creams)

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Gwen Davies

Mary Davies (Coach House Maestir)

Menna Evans

Gerwyn Jones

Gillian Jones

Shân Jones

Rhiannon Lewis

Gwyneth Morgan

Elma Phillips

Morfudd Slaymaker

Elin Thomas

Alun Williams

Dafydd Williams

Lois Williams

3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Twynog Davies

Rev. Goronwy Evans

Kyle Erickson (Lampeter Round Table)

Dorian Jones (Eisteddfod Rhys Thomas James Llambled)

Eryl Jones

Gareth Jones (Lampeter Evangelical Church)

Llinos Jones (Ysgol Bro Pedr)

Dylan Lewis (Clonc)

Ken Lewis (Cwmann Choir)

Cllr Kistiah Ramaya

Cllr David Smith

Cllr Derek Wilson

4. **DIALOGUE BETWEEN CEREDIGION COUNTY COUNCIL AND THE NATIONAL EISTEDDFOD OF WALES**

Ceredigion County Council has contacted the National Eisteddfod of Wales expressing the County's wish for the National Eisteddfod to return to Ceredigion in 2020. The main topic of discussion during a recent Meeting between CCC and the Chief Executive of the National Eisteddfod of Wales had been the requirement to identify a suitable *Maes* (field) for the Eisteddfod.

5. **REQUIREMENTS FOR THE MAES (FIELD)**

The Eisteddfod's requirements for the *Maes* are attached, as **Enclosure A**; as a whole about 140 acres are needed. Included are: connection with electricity, possible mobile phones and broadband coverage, water supply & sewage, caravan and general parking as well as access to the site.

6. **STAGING THE NATIONAL EISTEDDFOD IN LAMPETER IN 2020- EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST**

Many individuals expressed their support to include:

Prof. Densil Morgan. He said that "it was great" that the Eisteddfod could possibly be held in Lampeter in 2020; he felt that the Festival should return to Ceredigion after a gap of 28 years and ideally to one of the main towns viz Aberystwyth, Cardigan or Lampeter.

Delyth Morgans Phillips – Chair Eisteddfod Rhys Thomas James

Llambled said that it would be a cultural boost and an enormous benefit to the town.

Dr Medwin Hughes stated that he was delighted that the town could, possibly, host the Eisteddfod in 2020; the University endorsed Lampeter's Bid and he believed that the Eisteddfod would enliven the town and its economy. He was of the opinion that local businesses should take priority on the *Maes*.

Gary Thorogood: Lampeter Chamber of Trade: welcomed the focus on the town and the boost to businesses.

Jane Langford Transition Town: said that Lampeter could possibly, offer a location closer to the town, when compared, for example to Aberystwyth.

Cllr Elsie Dafis highlighted the need to identify suitable land to stage the event.

Rev. Goronwy and Beti Evans: Cllr Rhys Bebb Jones read a letter as received from Rev. Goronwy and Beti Evans, who had been actively involved with the Steering Committee of the 1984 Lampeter Eisteddfod; its economic, linguistic and cultural benefits had proved significant and the cohesive approach adopted had brought people together.

Cllr Jones went on to say that many changes had taken place in Lampeter, within the last 32 years and that the town could now be perceived as a cosmopolitan. The Eisteddfod was inclusive and belonged to all people, regardless of background and language.

Acquiring 140 acres of land appeared a daunting task but it was stipulated that the required area could be spread over many sites.

Cllr Jones believed that should the vision and will exist, it could be realised; he stressed the importance of submitting a strong case for Lampeter.

Ceredigion County Council

County Cllrs Hag Harris and Ifor Williams were both highly supportive and said that they would help with Lampeter's Bid. It was reiterated that it would be necessary to identify sites.

7. Proposal: Submitting a Bid to Ceredigion CC by the 31 March 2016

Ceredigion CC has contacted all Town and Community Councils in Ceredigion inviting them to let the County know if they have identified sites or interests in their area and to advise the County Council of this by the 31 March 2016.

The identified sites will be forwarded to the National Eisteddfod and the decision as to the identification of a suitable site in Ceredigion for the 2020 Eisteddfod will be taken by the National Eisteddfod Board.

It was unanimously **RESOLVED** to submit the Application.

Organisations were encouraged to forward letters of support to the Chair of Lampeter Town Council or the Clerk, details of which are available on the Town Council's Website. They would be included with Lampeter's Application in a bid to strengthen the case.

8. SETTING UP A SUB-COMMITTEE

It was **RESOLVED** to set-up a Sub-Committee and to draw in expertise as necessary.

Members of the sub-committee

Hywel Griffiths (Estates' Dept UWTSD)

Dr. Medwin Hughes

Cllr Elin Jones

Cllr Rhys Jones

Dylan Lewis

Rhiannon Lewis

Cllr Ann Bowen Morgan

Delyth Morgans Phillips

Representative – Ysgol Bro Pedr

Rhiannon Lewis stated that individuals, who had knowledge concerning suitable sites/land were more relevant players at this stage, as opposed to those who were in possession of "Eisteddfodau" background eg Lampeter Show Committee and the farming community. She referred to the National Urdd Eisteddfod at Llanerchaeron in 2010 and the process involved in acquiring sufficient land to hold the event.

9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was **RESOLVED** to meet every week before the deadline of the 31 March 2016, when the Application will have to be submitted to Ceredigion County Council.

Tuesday 8th March 2016 at 7.30pm at Shiloh Vestry.

The Chair thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

The Meeting was adjourned at 8.05pm

(signed/date)

Lampeter Town Council wishes to thank Mrs Carol Thomas the Simultaneous Translator for giving of her services for free during this Meeting.