

LAMPETER TOWN COUNCIL
CYNGOR TREF LLANBEDR PONT STEFFAN

MINUTES OF A FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 26th JANUARY
2006 AT 7.30PM AT THE TOWN HALL, LAMPETER

Present: Councillor Mayor Hazel Davies (**Chairperson**)
Councillors:- Dorothy Williams (Deputy Chairperson),
Cecilia Barton, Andrew Carter, John Davies,
Margaret Davies-Evans, Greg Evans,
Robert Harris, Robert Phillips, Kistiah Ramaya,
Chris Thomas, Selwyn Walters and Derek Wilson.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

1.1 Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Tarquin Lubran and the Police Inspector Paul Williams.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Declaration of interest in an item under consideration at this meeting of the Town Council:

- 2.1 Cllr Deputy-Mayor Dorothy Williams declared an interest when members were notified of the financial requests from “Macmillan Cancer Relief” and the “Lampeter Show” organizations.
- 2.2 Cllr. C.Barton declared an interest when discussing the incident at Picton Lane, Lampeter.
- 2.3 Cllr H.Harris declared an interest when the letter, which was sent to Mr Ging, Practice Manager, Lampeter Medical Centre re Lampeter Bus Stop, was considered.

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

It was proposed, seconded and resolved that the minutes of the meetings which were held on the 25th November and the 12th January were a correct record and signed by the Cllr. Mayor H.Davies.

4. POLICE MATTERS

As there were no representatives present, no discussions took place.

5. MATTERS ARISING

- 5.1 **Barley Mow, Street Nameplate Sign: Minute 8a** Letter received from Mr Sean Dowdall, Ceredigion County Council stating that the available budget for the provisions of signs had already been allocated for this financial year. Also, the list of signs for the next year was already substantial and exceeded the expected budget figure. Should the Town Council be prepared to finance the manufacture and erection of a sign then Mr Dowdall could arrange for a quotation. This information was contrary to the previous understanding of the situation. The Town Council had been under the impression that the request for a “Street Nameplate Sign” had been accepted by the County Council and would be erected in the near future. It was felt that funding street signs from

the Town Council's own resources would constitute double-precepting. It was resolved that the clerk should seek advice from "One Voice Wales" and also to request a quote from Ceredigion County Council. It was also suggested that a formal request for the sign be made. This could then be added to the County Council's list for street signs.

- 5.2 Bench: to be donated by Japanese visitors: Minute 45a** It was reported that the Kakimimo family were in the process of sending £400 to the clerk for the purchase of the bench. The "Forest-Saver" seat, as displayed in the *Earth Anchors Catalogue* will then be ordered.
- 5.3 Longwood: representative at their monthly meetings: Minute 58/2005** Communication received from Cllr. Greg Evans expressing that, due to other commitments, he could no longer volunteer his services as the Town Council's representative on the Longwood Committee. Cllr. Andrew Carter was nominated as the new representative. He informed members that he was prepared to do so for a trial period of six months. Cllr. Cecilia Barton was nominated as the second representative.
- 5.4 Parc yr Orsedd: Remedial Work:** The remedial work following the "Play Wales Inspection" was discussed. It was agreed that the clerk should enquire about suitable signs. The safety aspect of displaying a contact telephone number in a public place was considered.
- 5.5 Maesyfelin/Maesyderi: Road Calming: Minute 13/05 13b** A conversation with Mrs Rachel Thomas, CCC revealed that the most pressing issue regarding these requests was funding. The estimated cost for the provision of traffic calming measures at each site is £5,000. The work could be undertaken earlier than envisaged should grant aid be provided. This would involve narrowing the access road to Maesyderi and installing sections the width of a single car. According to the County Council these sections of one way would prove a better solution to road humps.
- 5.6 Website; Lampeter Town Council: Minute 50b** In the last meeting it was resolved that the Town Council would launch its own website. This decision had been reached due to the difficulties, which had arisen in recent months when relying on third parties to update and amend information about the Town Council. To date, the "lampeter.org" website has come under the Menter Llambled's umbrella. Members felt that an independent website, thus offering full editorial control and enabling councillors to add, edit, change, upload or delete content themselves would prove an invaluable communication tool. This would, in turn, improve the Town Council's profile and save both time and money. Consideration was given to the Deudraeth Cyf. Website designer, "a dynamic and expandable website based on a custom Content Management System that requires only basic level IT skills to operate".
- Cllr. R. Phillips had also produced a document outlining the needs of the Town Council's Website, which could be distributed to potential designers, bearing in mind the implications of the Disability Discrimination Act DDA (Dec 1996). It was decided, however, to put these proposals on hold for the present when Cllr Greg Evans, also the chairman of Menter Llambled announced that their website was in the process of being updated and that funding had been found to keep the website up to date. He mentioned that the "lampeter.org website" had been renewed and that training could be offered to members of the Town Council on site maintenance, at no extra cost. Many councillors favoured the

advantages of having Lampeter Town Council included in Menter Llambled's website. They felt that a second website could confuse web browsers. It was resolved to monitor the situation during the next 3 months and reassess the situation after this time.

Teleri Morgan, Menter's Development Officer, had also asked for a translated version of the "Duties and Powers of Councillors," a category, presently only available in the English language. It was agreed that the clerk would provide Cllr D. Williams with the English version. Provisions would then be made for translating this information into the Welsh Language. Cllr. R. Phillips had forwarded copies of the minutes to Menter Llambled. The clerk had also provided an electronic copy (in English and Welsh) of the "Receipt and Payments" a/c for the Yr ending 31 March 2005, for their perusal.

5.8 IT System/Photocopier: Minute 50a Three quotes had been received for a new IT system- Teifi Computers, Lampeter; Deudraeth Cyf. Penrhyndeudraeth, Gwynedd; Ceredigion County Council, IT Dept. The precise IT requirements of the Town Council had not been stipulated in advance to these suppliers. Cllr. R. Phillips agreed to provide an inventory of the IT equipment which is needed by the Town Council. Permission was granted for the clerk to order a photocopier (Approx. £150) from the Viking Direct Suppliers.

5.9 Entrance to the Ambulance Station: Water Dispersion: Minute 19/05 10.6 Water collects on the T-junction on Peterwell Terrace during wet weather. Dispersing the water will prove an arduous task, according to Mr Sean Dowdall of CCC, as difficulties may be encountered in positioning a drain in this location. The County Council is presently prioritizing the area outside the secondary school. Work to be undertaken in Peterwell Terrace is scheduled for the summer months. Cllr. Chris Thomas articulated that water collected on the back lane, behind 12 Peterwell Terrace during wet weather. As this area is under the jurisdiction of the County Council it was decided to draw their attention to this matter. During the course of conversation with Mr. S. Dowdall on the 26th of January he was also reminded of Cllr. D. Williams' request to accompany a member of the County Council around the town, on a wet day, in order to pinpoint pools of standing water.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

Minute 53/2005

6.1 List of correspondence received from the 26th November to the 26th January (inclusive) (excluding proposed Traffic Order, North Rd, Lampeter and notification of a reduction of 25% in the Community Paths' Grant CCC, as mentioned in the Budget Report)

- **Dispensation Meetings Ceredigion County Council:** for information
- **Inter Community Sports Competition CCC:** for information
- **Responses to letters re possible closure of Tregaron & Cardigan Hospitals: Local Health Board, Ceredigion; NHS Trust; Brian Gibbons AM:** declaring that no decisions have been made, as yet. It was assured that all comments would be considered, in arriving at any final proposals for change.
- **Provision of Grant Aid to assist pupils to undertake an educational visit to Sweden, Lampeter Sec. School:** it was resolved to inform Mr.

- Michael Morris, Head of the 6th Form, Lampeter Comp. School that the Town Council could only consider their request for financial assistance should it be presented in the name of the PTA.
- **Consultative Meeting: 20th February 2006 at 7pm Council Chamber, Penmorfa, Aberaeron** hosted by members of the County Council's Cabinet, local Members and Officers. An opportunity to raise matters of local interest with the representatives of the Council. It was decided to ask the panel two questions, "What are the future development plans for Bridge Street?" and "What is the plan for the development of the existing primary school, after relocating to a new site?" Cllr Mayor Hazel Davies and Cllr Cecilia Barton expressed a desire to attend this public meeting.
 - **Kerbside recycling in Ceredigion: CCC:** It has been decided to extend the current "Recycle in the Bag" kerbside recycling scheme.
 - **Fire & Rescue Service, Risk Reduction Plan: Consultation Document W.A.Government:** for information. Councillors voiced fears that Lampeter could soon lose one of the fire engines stationed in the town as cutbacks are made in the service. Cllr. Hag Harris speculated that the fire risk of the halls of residence at the University could be downgraded. As a result one of the tenders could be lost. Cllr Andrew Carter was fully persuaded that two tenders should be kept at the fire station in Lampeter.
 - **Mark Williams MP** wishing all at Lampeter Town Council a Happy New Year. He stated that should the council wish advice and support on any issue then he would be more than happy to do so.
 - **Lampeter Chamber of trade: Celebration of Christmas:** thanking members of the Town Council for their involvement in the "Celebration of Christmas" and wishing councillors a successful New Year.
 - **A Community and Town Councillors Handbook: The Land Use Planning System in Wales: One Voice Wales:** It was resolved to order 4 handbooks, personal copies for Cllr Mayor Hazel Davies, Cllr D.Williams and Cllr. C.Barton and one copy for reference for the Town Council (£5/copy). The guide, an update of the original, includes advice on new planning legislation as well as the Welsh Assembly Government Spatial Plan and the "Planning: delivering for Wales" programme. Sue Essex AM for Finance, Local Government and Public Services has reported that it is good practice for community and town councils to be involved as fully as possible in all stages of the planning process and that this guide should achieve this end.
 - **Newsletter: One Voice Wales:** for information
 - **Cambria Archaeology; Ceredigion Archaeology Day School 4/03/06 Aberystwyth University:** for information
 - **Welsh Water:** National Complaints Culture Survey 2006: Cllr. D.Williams volunteered to complete this questionnaire.
 - **Open Day:** The National Library of Wales, Aberystwyth 28/01/06: for information
 - **Declaration of Support:** Health Challenge Wales: W.A.Government-the clerk to complete the questionnaire.
 - **Local Government Partnership Scheme report 2004-05:** W.A.Government: for information
 - **CC: Lampeter Bus Stop; Response sent to Mr. M.A.Ging, Practice Manager, Lampeter Medical Centre** from Mr Tomi Jones, Manager,

Corporate Passenger Transport Unit, CCC asserting that bus drivers are under instruction to stop only at designated stops. Should a new stop be arranged then its location should be pointed out and safety issues considered.

- **Dyfed-Powys Police stating that they have raised the CCTV debacle** with Mr Bleddyn Jones CCC who will arrange for the Town Council to receive future copies of the CCTV report.
- **CC Lampeter Chamber of Trade re Lampeter CCTV Surveillance System:** letter sent to the Director of Highways, Properties & Works CCC asking for information on the latest developments regarding the service. Lampeter Town Council resolved to contact Mr Mark Elliott CCC to ask for the anticipated starting date of a viable working system.

7 MENTER LLAMBED

Minute 54/2005

Cllr. G.Evans reported that many meetings had taken place in recent weeks. Information was awaited regarding the Business Plan. Funding had been received from “Cynnal Ceredigion” to finance the maintenance and updating of the website. This will include training costs. Cllr H.Harris congratulated Menter Llambled on their commendable work and for the fact that the Town Hall building was now functioning.

8 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Minute 55/2005

- 8.1 **Extension to curtilage and replacement garage: North Lodge, Falcondale, Lampeter:** no objection was expressed.
- 8.2 **Conversion, alterations and extension to form new “Social Activity Centre” Old Technology Block, Peterwell Terrace, Lampeter:** this information was gratefully received.
- 8.3 **Ceredigion Unitary Development Plan (UDP):** The Inspectorate Report regarding housing issues has now been received. It declared that too many sites had been included in the local development plan. (150-180 sites over a 15-year period)

9. FINANCE

Minute 56/2005

	Admin £	Donat. £	VAT £
9.1 Playground Inspection	51.00		8.93
9.2 BT Bill – 3 months	45.02		7.88
9.3 Gwynne Davies (hire of PA system)	50.00		
9.4 Zurich Insurance	1,108.19		
9.5 Clerk’s salary – 3 months (net)	970.34		
9.6 Inland revenue – clerk, 3 months	278.41		
9.7 Stationery claim	24.55		4.30
9.8 E.Williams – Christmas tree	10.00		
9.9 Memb. Renewal-Soc.Of Local Clerks	84.00		

CHARITIES SEC 137 £			
9.10	Victim Support Dyfed		25.00
9.11	Macmillan Cancer Relief		50.00
9.12	National Eisteddfod 2006		50.00
9.13	Lampeter Agricultural Show		100.00

It was resolved not to make a financial contribution towards *Cruse Cymru* (working to support bereaved people throughout Wales); Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod; Ceredigion Young Farmers' Clubs; The British Red Cross and Shelter Cymru. It was decided to ask representatives from Shelter Cymru whether relocating to Lampeter was included in their future agenda.

- 9.14 **Enquires had been made to obtain a better return on the bulk of money held in reserve.** It was envisaged that the balance in the Lloyds TSB a/c, on receipt of next year's precept would be approximately £150,000. This could remain at its present home yielding 2.95% (variable) on balances in excess of £100,000 and reducing to 2.55%(variable) on balances less than £100,000. Another option would be to deposit £70,000 in a Halifax Account Bond (4.4% fixed - for 6 months; no withdrawals permitted in this time interval). The remaining £80,000 (decreasing) would remain in the Lloyds TSB a/c, offering instant access.

It was decided to favour the latter option and also, to transfer the money held in the "Bequest A/C" to this Halifax Account.

- 9.15 **Borrowing by Community and Town Councils Loan Sanction 2006- 07 W.A.Gov.-for information**

- 9.16 **Christmas Decorative Lighting 2005 CCC:** announcing that the County Council is once again offering financial assistance towards the cost of Christmas Decorative Lighting in the towns of Ceredigion. The grant is calculated on a £1 for £1 basis towards the revenue costs (trees, light bulb, electricity running costs etc) of the lighting subject to a maximum of £475 for Christmas 2005. In order to take advantage of this scheme it was decided to ask members of the Lampeter Chamber of Trade to supply the Town Council with the receipted invoices, for submission to the County Council.

10. SUB-COMMITTEES

Minute 57 2005

10.1 Pavements Sub-Committee

It was decided to report the following faults to Ceredigion County Council:

- Mill Street and Maesyfelin: remedial action required.
- Paving slabs need to be rectified in Drover's Rd and outside the *Spar* store.

10.2 Footpaths Sub-Committee

Work ongoing. A footbridge may be erected at Maesyfelin.

11 A.O.B.

Minute 58/2005

- 11.1 **It was decided to send a letter of congratulations** to Mrs. Judith Walters on her recent post as “District Commissioner for Ceredigion” in appreciation of her dedicated work with the Guides.
- 11.2 **It was also resolved to send a letter of congratulations to the Lampeter branch of the Principality B.S.** on gaining the award for the best performing branch in Wales. It would be expressed that members of the Town Council were very proud to have such an illustrious organisation in their midst.
- 11.3 **Picton Lane:** In view of the recent accident of the 12th of January it was agreed to ask CCC to install traffic calming measures on both sides of Picton Lane, Lampeter.
- 11.4 **One Voice Wales:** jobs have recently been advertised.
- 11.5 **Cllr. Kistiah Ramaya** was congratulated on his prestigious award as “District Governor” with the Rotary organization. Best wishes were extended to him. He will be travelling to America very shortly and his work, as an ambassador for Lampeter is well known.
- 11.6 **Cllr. Derek Wilson** agreed to attend to the damaged notice board.
- 11.7 **It was resolved to send a recorded delivery letter to Cllr Walsingham** to request the return of the gown to the Town Council.
- 11.8 **Cllr. Mayor Hazel Davies communicated that she had received complaints of dog-fouling** from a resident living on a street at the back of Somerfield car-park. It was decided to order a large sign to warn dog owners of the penalties of dog fouling.
- 11.9 **Cllr. John Davies reported that cars and coaches were causing problems for people living in Greenfield Terrace, Lampeter.** Local residents had voiced concern that motorists parked their cars on the pavements and that large vehicles were travelling on this road. The fact that coaches were stationed overnight on the pavements was particularly disconcerting. The Town Council considered these matters.
- 11.10 **Entrance to the Comp. School:** Attention was drawn to the access issue outside the school.

Signed.....

Dated the.....day of2006