

LLANELLI TOWN COUNCIL

ORDINARY MEETING

1st November 2023

At the **ORDINARY MEETING** of **LLANELLI TOWN COUNCIL** held remotely and at The Old Vicarage, Town Hall Square, Llanelli on Wednesday, 1st November 2023 at 6.00 p.m.

PRESENT: Councillor N.J. Pearce (Town Mayor) (Presiding)

Councillors

Bigyn Ward

M.D. Cranham J.P.
D.Ll. Darkin (Leader of
the Council)
P.T. Warlow (Deputy Town
Mayor)
J.R. Williams

Elli Ward

J.P. Jenkins

Glanymor Ward

L. Fenris
J.E. Jones, J.P.
S.L. Rees
B.A.L Roberts

Lledi Ward

A.R. Bragoli
S. Greaney
A. Lochrie

Tyisha Ward

S.A. Curry
T. Davies
A.S.J. McPherson
J.G. Prosser

APOLOGIES: Councillors A.A. Carter, J.R. Elliott, S. Evans, R. James, and G.R. Lloyd.

64. MAYORAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Town Mayor (Councillor N.J. Pearce) made an announcement to the members regarding the Llanelli Christmas Carnival, which would be held on Friday 17th November, the Mayor extended an invitation to all councillors and their families to attend the Mayor's Parlour from 5.30pm for refreshments.

The Town Mayor (Councillor N.J. Pearce) called Councillor John Jenkins to address members. Councillor Jenkins announced that he would be retiring as a Councillor and that this would be his last meeting. Cllr Jenkins thanked his fellow Councillors and the Llanelli Town Council staff for all their support over his 20 years as a Councillor.

The Town Mayor and Council Members thanked Councillor Jenkins for his service as a former Town Mayor, Council Leader and Town Councillor for the past 20 years and gave their well wishes to him for the future. His retirement was noted as a great loss to the Town Council, the Elli Ward and the wider Community. He would be greatly missed.

65. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations were made.

66. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Further to Minute No. 57 of the Town Council meeting held on 4th October 2023, the Town Mayor (Councillor N.J. Pearce) noted that no members of the public were in attendance at this meeting.

67. VERIFICATION AND CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RESOLVED – that the following minutes of the Town Council, its committees, and joint committees (prints of which having been previously circulated to members) be taken as read, and the same are hereby verified, received, and confirmed respectively:

Llanelli Town Council Ordinary Meeting	4 th October 2023	109 - 117
Planning, Licensing and Consultation Committee	9 th October 2023	118 - 121
Building and Finance Committee	9 th October 2023	122 - 128

68. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT OFFICER'S REPORT

Further to Minute No. 59 of the Town Council meeting of 4th October 2023, consideration was given to the report of the Community Development Officer (copies having been previously circulated to members). The report dealt with the following:

Community Engagement and Update

(1) Updates and Activities

Community

Good Shed – Officers had been supporting the schools and Carmarthenshire School Improvement Team to work closely on the Goods Shed Community Garden and outdoor learning space. The project was being designed with funding being sought through the National Lottery Local Places for Nature fund.

Llanelli and District Twinning Association Fund raiser curry night took place on the 12th October. £223.00 was raised on the night.

Cook / Skills 24 – Officers had recently met with Coleg Sir Gar on the Cook 24 and Skill 24 project being launched on 27th October. Officers had worked to link Cook24 to the Connect school programme with 8 of the primary schools being offered basic cooking skills onsite, a visit to a local food producer and visits to the planned cookery school in the Town Centre for 2023.

Penygaer Community Sensory Garden – Members, Officers and volunteers had been working hard to create the Penygaer Sensory Garden. Wednesday 18th October saw the railway sleeper planters built and put in place, with 9 tons of soil being moved by hand. Penygaer school had started their filming project on the garden which would form part of their work for this year's curriculum for year 6. Several community planting days would be planned in the coming weeks.

Llanelli Cradle Choir – Officers had been working in partnership with the Carmarthenshire Dementia Coalition and Welsh National Opera to create the new Cradle Choir in Llanelli. The Choir was held every Tuesday afternoon at 2.00pm – 3.00pm with the final session being held on Tuesday 7th November. The previous week, Officers volunteered and saw 30 people attend the choir, tea and biscuits served in the chat following the session.

Zero Waste launch - The Launch of Full Circle / Cwblhau'r Cylch project. Full Circle / Cwblhau'r Cylch alliance of which the Town Council is a founder member, was an ambitious project aimed at transforming Llanelli into Wales's First Zero Waste Town, through community-led initiatives and partnership working. The launch took place at Parc Y Scarlets Stadium on Friday, 27th October, the first speaker of the morning was Lee Waters MS, Deputy Minister for Climate Change.

Veterans Christmas 2023 Support – Veterans in receipt of benefits or with a total home income of £30,000 or under were noted as eligible to receive a voucher for £250.00 which could be spent at Tesco, Morrison etc. during Christmas. The vouchers were being supported by the Carmarthenshire Armed Forces Covenant of which the Town Council was a member.

Cruyff Court Foundation – A grant application to the Cruyff Foundation had been successful. The project would see Syria Sir Gar and the Multicultural Network working in Partnership with the Town Council. The £1,000 funding was match-funded with the successful Tesco application for equipment and training materials.

Christmas 2023 Cooking Sessions – Officers had helped to facilitate the first of the Christmas 2023 Cooking Sessions, working in partnership with the Multicultural Network and Foothold Cymru. The group learnt to make preserved vegetables that had recently been growing in the summer season, making apple sauce for the Christmas table from fallen apples at Penygaer. A further session would be led by the Community Development Officer in November making chilli jam and homemade cranberry sauce.

RESOLVED – That the information be noted.

This meets goals 1, 2, 3, 4, 5,6 and 7 of The Wellbeing of Future Generation Act 2015.

(2) Policy and Strategic Meetings

Officers had been working with partners; examples of meetings that have been held with:

- Cook / Skills 24 project
- Dementia Coalition
- Llanelli Zero Waste project
- Pentre Awel
- Drop in Centre Support EJs
- Penygaer School
- Penrhos School
- Stebonheath School
- Taith funding project meeting
- Good Shed Community Garden project
- Community Green Network
- Llanelli Community Partnership
- Homeless Forum
- Korean Community meeting / funding support

Funding Applications being supported / working with community organisations.

- Officers continue to work on funding applications for Penyfan Community Facility. Several meetings have taken place recently. Further information will follow.

Strategic Work Programme Reviews

- Officers had spent some time this month carrying out the 6 month review of the 2023-24 work programme due to presented to the Town Council in December.

(3) Dates for Diaries, Community Activity examples For November 2023

Community activity-

- Craft and Hearts Paddock Street, 2.00pm – 3.30pm, all are welcome.
- Multicultural Network every Tuesday from 10.30am - 12.30pm at EJs.
- Cradle Choir in Llanelli every Tuesday 2.00pm – 3.00pm at the Ffwrnes Theater.
- Young People Speak Up drop-in every Wednesday 5.00pm – 7.00pm - at the Ffwrnes Fach.
- Story Care and Share – gathering and connectivity project, 11.00am every Wednesday at the Ffwrnes Fach.
- Cosy Coffee at The Vestry Llanelli every Thursday 10.00am – 3.00pm
- Morfa Youth Drop-in – Thursday, Bwlch Community Centre 4.00pm – 6.00pm.
- Men in Conversation every Thursday, 10.00am to 3.00pm – 4.30pm at the Ffwrnes Fach.
- People Sing Up every Thursday 10.30am – 12.00pm at the Ffwrnes Fach.
- Elevenes dementia project 11.00am – 12.30pm Fridays at the Ffwrnes Fach.
- Neuro project fortnightly Fridays at the Ffwrnes Fach 1.30pm- 2.30pm
- Homeless provision being provided in Llanelli (however may be subject to change):
- Ty Gwyn continue to support on a Saturday evening as a warm hub– 5.30pm – 7.00pm.
- Greenfield Baptist Church on a Wednesday.
- Sosban Soup Station are supporting on a Sunday night as a food station but also as a food hub at Paddock Street Community Centre 5.30pm – 7.00pm.
- 31st October 1.00pm – 4.00pm Tyisha Autumn event at the Goods Shed
- Llanelli Carnival – November 17th, will begin at 4.00pm with the opening of the fairground rides. The carnival procession itself will leave Festival Fields, Pwll, at 6.15pm, and make its way into the town arriving shortly after the Christmas lights switch-on at 6.45pm.

69. SPORT, YOUTH AND ACTIVITY OFFICER'S REPORT

Further to Minute No. 60 of the Town Council meeting of 4th October 2023, consideration was given to the written report of the Sport, Youth and Activity Officer (copies having been previously circulated to members). The report dealt with the following.

(1) Community & School Activities

- **Autumn Activities** – Emails to schools & social media posts had been published promoting the new autumn activities timetable for the wards of Llanelli providing opportunities to experience a range of sporting sessions. The Football sessions within the Cruyff Court continue to average around 20 children each session, which see organised activities for Pen y Fan and surrounding areas. Half term activities were also being planned.

- **Schools Bowls Sessions Selwyn Samuel** – Ysgol Halfway had attended three weeks of activity with Llanelli Indoor Bowls club at the Selwyn Samuel Centre exploring and learning new skills assisting the new school curriculum. Ysgol Y Felin started 3 weeks after the October half term.
- **Coleg Sir Gar ALN** – Coleg Sir Gar’s Additional Learning Needs (ALN) unit had begun sessions with the SYAO in partnership with Llanelli Indoor Bowls club. The sessions were provided for young adults. The Town Council had received great feedback from the course tutors, club volunteers and the manager of the unit.
- **Hearts and Crafts Knitting Group** – A return of the sessions had been welcomed. Chair activities helped with mobility and encouraged more movement for those that often don’t get much exercise at home.
- **Sesiynau Pêl-droed Cymraeg** – Llanelli Town Council are partnering with Menter Cwm Gwendreath Elli to provide indoor football session through the medium of the Welsh Language at Wesleyan Community Centre. Menter had identified the lack of sporting provision in Llanelli through the medium of the Welsh language. The SYAO would deliver the sessions with the support of officers from MCGE. These sessions would be inclusive to all children that are beginners to the language or those that want additional opportunities to speak Welsh through the sports they enjoy. These sessions would commence in November.
- **Schools Football Events** – In partnership with Carmarthenshire County Council Actif’s team, two tournaments (which included 35 schools across Llanelli and district) were held in Ysgol Penrhos which saw around 410 children compete to attend in the next round of the Carmarthenshire Schools Football Tournament. Some schools attended allowing children of all backgrounds to enjoy playing football with their friends in a competitive and non-competitive environment.
- **Grant Application Support** – The month of October had been a busy month for grant applications within the sport and community field. Officers have supported the Evans & Williams application to the Pobl Living Fund to support with their newly formed girls under 6’s. Bwlch Rangers had also had support from the SYAO to apply for the Llanelli Town Council community grant. Seaside AFC had also expressed interest in further crowd funding opportunities which they were seeking assistance with.
- **Korean Community Child Provision** – A few members of the Korean community within Llanelli had expressed an interest in running a children’s club within one of the Town Council community centres. Launched in Paddock Street Community Centre the previous Friday, the Music sessions were available for all on Fridays at 3:30pm
- **Cruyff Court Review** – A review was being undertaken currently of the usage by sports clubs and booking on the Cruyff Court. The reviews ensure various opportunities to excel in sport and social activities through the Cruyff Court.

- **Rugby World Cup Event** – 325 Children from 22 different schools took to Coleg Sir Gar playing fields to form the Llanelli Schools Rugby World Cup Event. Each school was given a nation, the fences of the 3G were covered in flags and iconic items from across the globe. In partnership with the Scarlets each school was presented with a participation certificate and a handful of players medals. The Scarlets media team also created a small video which could be found on the Town Council Facebook site.

RESOLVED - That the information be noted.

(2) Activities Planned Short Term / Long Term

Sporting activities were being developed with planned short term and long-term activities working independently and in partnership with others as follows:

- Syria Sir Gar Football weekly session Wednesday's 5.00pm - 6.00pm Cruyff Court in Penyfan.
- Football sessions held weekly Monday's 4.00pm – 5.00pm at the Cruyff Court in Penyfan.
- Weekly Bowls Sessions to be held at the Selwyn Samuel Centre Thursday's 4:00pm – 5:00pm.
- Weekly CSG ALN Bowls Sessions to be held at the Selwyn Samuel Centre Friday's 12:00pm – 1:00pm.
- Transforming Tyshia Event 31st October at Ann St Green 1.00pm -4.00pm
- The Goodshed Wellbeing Day 1st November 12.00-3.00pm
- Scarlets Year 4 Festival 16th November in Parc Y Scarlets Barn
- Scarlets Girls Only Festival 5th December

RESOLVED - That the information be noted.

70. NAMING OF THE NEW A484 Bridge

Consideration was given to the consultation received from Carmarthenshire County Council to name the new A484 Bridge after the late Phil Bennett, in recognition of Mr Bennetts' contribution to the Llanelli area.

RESOLVED – members were delighted to support the proposal to name the new bridge, Pont Phil Bennett. The Council could think of a no more fitting name for the bridge, and it was felt to only be appropriate that a man who was held in such high regard by the entire town should be honoured in this way.

71. ACTIF CARMARTHENSHIRE SPORTS AWARDS 2023

Consideration was given to the request for nominations for the Actif Sports Awards.

RESOLVED – it was noted that all Councillors be encouraged to make individual nominations.

72. MATTERS FOR INFORMATION

RESOLVED - that the undermentioned matters be noted (copies of which having previously been circulated to members):

- (1) Audit Wales – September Newsletter.
- (2) The Llanelli Standard Edition 53 and 54.
- (3) Hywel Dda Engagement, The Bevan Commission – Engagement Events.
- (4) PLTRA Minutes of the Meeting held on 4th September 2023.
- (5) One Voice Wales Training Dates October, November and December 2023.
- (6) One Voice Wales Draft Minutes for the Meeting of the NEC held on the 15th September 2023.
- (7) One Voice Wales – News Bulletin.
- (8) Parc Howard Association Minutes of the meeting held on 25th September 2023.
- (9) Carmarthenshire County Council - Update on proposed Public Spaces Protection Order – Minute No. 3 of the Planning, Licensing and Consultation Committee meeting held on the 15th May 2023 refers.
- (10) Tyisha Building Preservation Trust – Minutes of meetings held on the 23rd May and 5th September 2023.

73. PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETING) ACT, 1960

RESOLVED – that in view of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted the following matters be considered in private and that the power of exclusion of the public under Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act, 1960 be exercised.

74. ST BARNABAS COMMUNITY CENTRE

Further to minute 54 of the Town Council meeting held on the 6th September 2023, members gave consideration to the Town Clerk's report and noted that St Barnabas Community Centre was leased by Llanelli Town Council via Rees Richards and Partners at a cost of £1,750 per annum. A 50-year lease was entered into on the 29th September 1974 and therefore was to come to an end in September 2024.

Consultation had been held with regular hirers, residents of Llewelyn Street and the general Community via social media on the possibility of the Town Council releasing the property.

Regular hirers had raised no specific concerns in relation to the possible release of the building and had confirmed that they would be content to utilise alternative facilities available from the Town Council for their hirings.

Contact had been received from two residents of Llewelyn Street expressing concern in relation to the possible future use of the building if not maintained as a Community

Centre along with worries of possible anti-social behaviour should the building be left in an unused condition for a period of time.

The County Council had also confirmed that they would need to seek an alternative Polling Station in the area should the decision to release be taken.

Following further detailed consideration of the matter it was:

RESOLVED – To confirm that the Town Council would not renew the lease for St Barnabas Community Centre and the Town Clerk to commence discussions with the landlord on that basis.

75. PENYFAN COMMUNITY FACILITY PROJECT

Further to minute number 98 of the Town Council meeting held on the 1st March 2023, consideration was given to the Town Clerk's report providing an update to members on the Penyfan Community Facilities project.

Further meetings had been undertaken developing the project with funding applications made to the:

- Carmarthenshire County Council administered, UK Government Sustainable Communities Fund for a £250,000 grant.
- Welsh Government Asset Collaboration Programme for a £250,000 grant.

Additional discussions had also been held with the National Lottery on the project.

Confirmation had been received that the Town Council was not successful in the application to the Sustainable Communities Fund, however an award of £250,000 had been made under the Welsh Government Asset Collaboration Programme. This funding was required to be spent by the 31st March 2024.

Consideration had therefore been given to a scheme that could make use of this funding and provide for a Community Facility for the Penyfan Area. Meetings had been held with a number of companies who could provide for a modular / demountable facility provision. This would be for a Community Centre facility only with a second stage (replacement of the changing rooms) to be implemented pending obtaining additional funding in 2024-25.

Budgeted project proposals provided by companies suggested that the Town Council may be able to utilise the funding provided to purchase a modular building to be located adjacent to the current Changing rooms to include:

- Community Facility of sufficient size to enable for example, Community Meetings, children's parties, after school clubs etc.
- Kitchen facility.

- Toilets.
- Limited storage facilities.

An example floor plan was presented to members for their information.

The project would require the removal of the current fencing surrounding the changing rooms and work to be carried out to bring the changing rooms back into operation (electrical and plumbing works) for a hopefully short-term period until second stage works could be funded. There would also be ground works to be carried out along with drainage improvements. Costings for these works would need to be obtained.

It was noted that should the Town Council be supportive of moving forward with further investigation of this project it would be necessary to:

- Carry out consultation in the Community to make residents and organisations aware of the proposal.
- Seek Planning Permission for the amended plans being proposed from the original application.
- Develop plans through a consultant for the ground works and drainage for the necessary approvals to be sought.
- Seek formal costed tenders for the Modular Building.
- Seek formal costed tenders for the ground and drainage works.

Following further detailed consideration of the matter it was:

RESOLVED –

- That the actions of Officers be approved.
- That the steps set out in the report be taken in order to progress the possible project and provide further reports to the Town Council on the matter.

The meeting concluded at 6.35pm