

21 May, 2024

LLANELLI RURAL COUNCIL

Minute Nos: 25 – 32

At a Meeting of the **RECREATION AND WELFARE COMMITTEE** of the Llanelli Rural Council held at the Council Chamber, Vauxhall Buildings, Vauxhall, Llanelli, and via remote attendance on Tuesday, 21 May, 2024 at 4.45 p.m.

Present: Cllr. D. M. Cundy (Chairman)

Cllrs.

M. V. Davies	A. G. Morgan
T. M. Donoghue	J. S. Phillips
R. E. Evans	A. J. Rogers
S. N. Lewis	A. G. Stephens
W. E. Skinner	

Absent: J. P. Hart

25. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. E. M. Evans (Cllr. R. E. Evans deputising) and O. Williams.

26. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr. M. V. Davies declared a personal interest in Minute No. 31 as he was the Chairman of Sandy & Stradey Community Hall Management Committee.

27. COMMUNITY FACILITIES – MAINTENANCE WORKS

RESOLVED that the Facilities Manager's report on work undertaken be noted.

**28. FELINFOEL RECREATION GROUND
ADDITIONAL BOUNDARY FENCE**

Further to Minute No. 77 (20 June, 2023 refers), Cllr. R. E. Evans on behalf of Cllr. N. Evans informed members that due to continued anti-social behaviour at Felinfoel Recreation Ground, an additional boundary fence was required to secure access to the recreation ground in the evening as a preventive measure.

Members were informed that recently further meetings had been held with the neighbourhood policing team, officers from Llanelli Rural Council and local ward members to discuss the

21 May, 2024

anti-social behaviour at the recreation ground in anticipation of the summer months quickly approaching. In order to combat unauthorised access to the ground, previously restrictions had been put in place. Part of those restrictions relied upon the frontage to the former primary school on adjoining land being closed off during the early evening to prevent access to the recreation ground via the neighbouring property boundary. However, it now transpired that the new owner of the former primary school had plans to licence part of the premises. This would result in the property frontage remaining open for a period much later than the closure of the recreation ground. As a consequence the recreation ground could no longer rely upon this arrangement because there was a section of open land along the boundary which hadn't been fenced off.

Following the local meeting referred to above, officers had measured the length of the open boundary and had estimated that anti-climb proof fencing could be installed to close-off the entire recreation ground boundary from the former primary school at a cost of £3,500. However, there was no provision in the budget to provide for this additional unforeseen cost. If the work was to be commissioned then money would need to be vired from another budget head. Members opined that given the measures enacted thus far it was both sensible and reasonable to authorise the work. Thereupon the Deputy Clerk stated that some preventative maintenance work to the Phil Bennett OBE Resource Centre planned for the current year could be deferred until next year, with the funds then being made available to procure and install the additional fencing if desired, and it was

RESOLVED that:

1. An anti-climb proof fence be procured and installed between the boundary of the recreation ground and the former primary school at an estimate cost of £3,500.
2. The budget cost code 4036/221 previously agreed in the estimates of income and expenditure for 2024/25 be vired to offset the costs.

29. NATIONAL FOREST FOR WALES STATUS

Cllr. A. G. Morgan requested that the council consider making an application to register the woodland around Swiss Valley Reservoir as part of the National Forest for Wales Scheme.

The National Forest for Wales was a scheme being led by Welsh Government to establish a nationwide network of woodlands and forests throughout Wales under high quality management.

It was an inclusive approach which covered all woodland types and settings. Parts of the networks would eventually form a trail running the length and breadth of Wales so anyone could access it wherever they lived. It would follow a place-based approach where involvement was voluntary and would include both urban and rural areas.

Following discussion, it was

RESOLVED that the request be supported subject to receiving consent from the landlord, Dwr Cymru/Welsh Water for the council to submit an application to the scheme.

21 May, 2024

30. PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) 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.

31. SANDY & STRADEY COMMUNITY HALL

Cllr. M. V. Davies declared a personal interest in the following item as he was the Chairman of Sandy and Stradey Community Hall Management Committee.

Members received a letter from the Treasurer, Sandy and Stradey Community Hall indicating he was tendering his resignation as Treasurer from the hall management committee from September 2024.

Following discussion, whereby members commented upon the dedication and endeavour of the Treasurer in helping to revive the fortunes of the hall, it was

RESOLVED that a letter of thanks and appreciation be forwarded to the Treasurer on behalf of the council.

**32. PLAY AREAS
(1) CLOS CILSAIG
(2) PENYGRAIG**

Further to Minute No. 284 (19 December, 2023, refers) members considered the report of the Deputy Clerk and Community Development Officer on tenders received for the above play areas.

The tender invitations followed a standard format that provided contractors with the form of contract and all the information required to produce a comprehensive tender. Each tender considered the individual site plans and highlighted site specific complexities. The tender proposals were evaluated and scored in accordance to a standard methodology outlined in the tender document.

The result of the community consultations were provided to the contractors highlighting the 'must have' as well as any 'desirable' aspects of play equipment, materials and design aesthetic and/or themes.

Six play equipment providers were invited to tender. Two providers failed to respond by the deadline date and one provider declined to tender for the Cilsaig play area.

Residents from Dafen and Penygraig communities who responded to the public consultations and had agreed to provide contact details had an opportunity to review the design proposals with local members and council officers at Vauxhall Buildings on 13 May, 2024.

21 May, 2024

Officers provided local members and residents with an appraisal of the consultation results, the tender design briefs and the evaluation scoring matrices. The attributes of each design proposal were discussed in detail. Those in attendance expressed preference for the Kompan design proposals. This aligned with the results of the evaluation process.

A number of Penygraig residents expressed concerns with car parking along the roadway that runs parallel to the proposed play area. This was the only vehicular access route for several properties at Graigwen. Following a productive discussion it was requested by the residents that the play area design incorporates some car parking provision to reduce the possibility of vehicles blocking access to their properties. As part of the scheme, it was proposed to provide car parking bays at a cost of £10,000. Members were informed that it had been agreed that Section 106 funds would be made available to fund this work, which could be accommodated by slightly re-aligning the boundary of the land parcel to be asset transferred to the council.

Following discussion, it was

RESOLVED that:

1. The tender received from Kompan UK, Serenity House, 1A Shirwell Crescent, Furzton, Milton Keynes, MK4 1GA be accepted for:
 - £72,000 +VAT – Cilsaig play area project at Dafen
 - £120,000 +VAT – Penygraig play area project at Bynea
2. A sum of £3,000 shall be allocated from the council’s original £75,000 earmarked reserve budget for Cilsaig play area to provide a new boundary fence procured outside of the tender process.
3. In light of 2. above a sum of £4,198.38 shall be deducted from the Cilsaig tender as the preferred supplier had included this figure within the original tender assuming the company would supply and install a fence as part of the scheme. This would realise a revised contract value of £67,801.62 to deliver the new play area. The saving identified from the tender process shall be earmarked to cover the costs of submitting a sustainable urban drainage scheme (SUDS) application which was now required to satisfy the planning permission requirements. However if any residual balance of funds remained after applying for SUDS approval, this would be used to possibly procure additional play equipment to put towards the scheme.
4. The other measures identified in the covering report impacting upon the Penygraig play area project be noted, namely that Section 106 funding in the sum of £10,000 was to be allocated for car parking to be incorporated within the scheme and that a further £30,000 of Section 106 funding would be allocated to develop a ball court facility, with both measures to be procured outside of the tender process.

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The Meeting concluded at 5.31 p.m.

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The afore-mentioned Minutes were declared to be a true record of the proceedings and signed by the Chairman presiding thereat and were, on 11 June, 2024 adopted by the Council.