



**LAMPETER TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF
29th MAY 2008 AT 7.30PM
TOWN HALL, LAMPETER**

1. CHAIRPERSON'S WELCOME

The Mayor Christopher Thomas extended a welcome to all present.

PRESENT

Cllr Mayor Chris Thomas (Chairperson); Cecilia Barton; Andrew Carter; Elsie Dafis; Margaret Davies-Evans; Greg Evans; Robert Harris; Lynda Mason-George; Robert Phillips; Kistiah Ramaya; Dorothy Williams and Derek Wilson.

Police Inspector Calvin Griffiths; PC Jo Grey, PCSO Ryan Jones

2. APOLOGIES

Cllr John Davies; Selwyn Walters.

3. DISCLOSURE OF PERSONAL INTERESTS

None.

4. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES – 24/04/2008 and 8/05/2008

These were agreed to be correct apart from the following amendments:

4.1 Cllrs Cecilia Barton & Greg Evans were present at the meeting of the 24th April.

4.2 10.1.3 - it would not cost £360 to trim trees in Parc-yr-Orsedd, but by the War Memorial.

4.3 Payment for the flowers referred to in paragraph 9.6 of the minutes of the 24.04, has not been deducted from the Town Council's funds.

5. POLICE MATTERS

Police Inspector Calvin Griffiths reported on police issues:

5.1 Police Cover in Lampeter

Members expressed concern about the level of police cover in Lampeter, after hearing that only a single patrol car protected the town at night. PI Griffiths reported that, at this time, Lampeter Police Station boasted the full complement of Officers i.e. 16 Officers were allocated to provide round the clock staffing for the area. There were 12 Officers in Aberaeron. Upon an arrest being made in the Lampeter area during the night, the Lampeter's patrol car would be forced to divert to Aberystwyth, Ceredigion's only 24hour custody block, leaving two Aberaeron Officers covering the town in addition to their own area, from 13 miles away. Similarly, an arrest in Aberaeron would force Lampeter Officers to cover a much larger area until their colleagues completed their tasks.

Regarding the reply to the matter raised that, "there was a perception that the response time was not quick enough," it was argued that a shortage of resources was responsible for this deficit, and that the Police had a huge area to cover. The only solution would be to employ more Officers and therefore more funding would be necessary. Officers from Aberystwyth and

Aberaeron were sometimes recruited to help the Lampeter Police. Inspector Griffiths had requested 2 additional Officers to cover Aberaeron and New Quay over the summer months, to allow Lampeter Officers to stay in the town. It was decided to send a letter to Superintendent Alun Harries at the Aberystwyth Headquarters, to ask for more police cover at night in Lampeter. The general consensus of opinion was that the response to emergency calls, was not what it should be. In the name of local democracy, it was felt that the people of Lampeter deserved a better service.

5.2 Level of Crime

The relatively low-crime rate of the Lampeter area was discussed, and according to Inspector Griffiths the level of crime, “was falling month on month”.

5.3 The Police at Lampeter were meeting with members of the Community

and addressing concerns e.g. dog fouling, and improvements were being implemented. It was reported that dog-fouling posed a problem at the Maesyderi Estate.

5.4 Cllr Carter raised the matter of oil-theft and people were advised to be vigilant.

5.5 Parking on the Drovers’ Road pavements was discussed; it was conveyed that a Traffic Warden surveyed the streets on a regular basis and penalties were imposed.

5.6 Alcohol-Free Zone for Lampeter

Questions were raised in relation to the “Alcohol-Free Zone”. The Inspector conveyed that this was “under-review” and its necessity was being assessed. Aberystwyth’s Alcohol-Free Zone had been introduced 3 years ago, but comparisons between the two towns were not deemed applicable, due to Aberystwyth’s “large night-time economy”. Such a scheme would empower Officers to seize open containers from those drinking within a specified area and to arrest anyone who resisted. Some members felt that under present circumstances, the Tourism Trade of Lampeter was being undermined.

At the conclusion the Mayor Christopher Thomas, thanked the local constabulary for their help, advice and unstinting support during his term of office.

Another Police matter, which was not discussed with the Police:

5.7 Situation re anti-social behaviour under the arch by the Town Hall.

CC letter sent by Kate Butler to Mr Dylan Wyn, Headteacher of Lampeter Comprehensive School re children of Lampeter Comp. School smoking and spitting under the arch of the Town Hall. She enquired whether this area could be made into a “No-Smoking Zone”. Although members shared her concerns, it would be conveyed that the Town Council has limited powers. Her letter would be re-directed to the local police and the Mayor would discuss the illegality for retailers to sell tobacco to the under 18s with the police. It would be explained that the area of concern is an “Open-Area” where it would be difficult to make it a “No-Smoking Zone” without recourse to a local by-law. This would take some time and it is doubtful whether it could be done at all.

Mrs. Butler would be offered the opportunity to discuss the matter further, with a Town Councillor.

6. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

- 6.1 Co-opting a new member for the vacancy on the Town Council:** A former expression of interest has now been withdrawn. It was decided to find out if it was compulsory to fill this vacancy.
Letters were received from Cllrs Derek Wilson and Selwyn Walters accepting the positions of Mayor and Deputy-Mayor for the ensuing Municipal year.
- 6.2 Arrangements in relation to the Mayor's Inauguration Ceremony 2008** of Friday the 6th June at 6:30pm at the Town Hall: these were discussed. Permission has been granted by the CCC to stage this year's service at the Town Hall, subject to conditions.
- 6.3 Cittaslow; further developments after the Meeting of the 13th May;**
A steering committee has been set up and the first meeting is scheduled for Mid-June, where the Cittaslow goals will be assigned further attention. It was decided to thank the College for the use of the Cliff Tucker Theatre to host the Open Meeting of the 13th May.
- 6.4 Lampeter Youth Club:** Three CCC part-time Youth Workers take responsibility for the Youth Club, which is open one evening per week at the Canolfan Steffan. To date around 30 young people have attended per session and another venue is sought. A Youth Committee is due to be set up shortly.
- 6.5 Provision of new Entrance Signs for the town:** these were further considered including the design and wording. CCC has stated that no financial help will be available from them, as the present entrance signs, are not, in their opinion, in a sufficient state of disrepair to warrant replacing. It was decided to challenge the CCC on this decision, once the signs had been ordered.
- 6.6 Bins – to hold recyclable waste:** Cllr Phillips had made further research in relation to the provision of these bins. It was decided to assign further attention to the purchase of 3 bins at an estimated cost of £377 each, which could possibly be included in the Tidy Towns project. (Cross-ref 7.1)
- 6.7 The situation in relation to traffic issues**
Responses received from CCC:

6.7.1 Drovers Road

here
Traffic
there is no
is a
visual
install a 'Give
at this location).

The CCC have no records of any collisions involving personal injury relating to this junction, or of there having been a 'Give Way' sign in the past. Section 3 of the current version of Chapter 3 of the Signs Manual (which details Give Way signs) states that requirement for these at junctions involving a minor road that residential or local street. Furthermore, in order to minimise clutter in this part of the town, they would be reluctant to install a 'Give Way' sign here (there may in any case be siting issues

6.7.2 Parking restriction by the old school in Bryn Road

CCC shall be consulting on revoking part of the current parking restrictions, namely on the northern side of Bryn Road, to the west

of
They
relating to

the bend by the junction with Cambrian Road, up to the build out.
shall also be removing redundant signage and road markings
the former school premises.

6.7.3 HGVs using Church Street and Bryn yr Eglwys.

Bryn

allow

CCC will install blue and white bilingual advisory signs at the entrances to Church Street and Bryn yr Eglwys (at its junction with Road) stating that the road is unsuitable for HGVs. These signs will be advisory only, not mandatory. A prohibition here (necessitating all the required consultation etc.) would still have to allow access for deliveries (e.g. of oil etc.), thus not removing HGVs from these two roads entirely.

Awaiting a reply in relation to:

6.7.4 Repair of the “Finger Sign” outside the Town Hall:

6.7.5 The cement surrounding the man-hole by the Somerfield Supermarket:

6.7.6 Water collecting- entrance to the Ambulance Station

6.8 Mr Noel Davies will receive the 2008 Ceredigion Volunteer Award of Recognition, for his services to the British Legion. The Ceremony will take place on Friday the 6th June at the Aberaeron Memorial Hall. The Mayor Christopher Thomas will also attend this Ceremony.

6.9 New Housing development in Forest Rd; developer has proposed the name Maes Hyfryd: alternative proposals can be forwarded by the Town Council to the CCC: it was decided to defer this matter until the next meeting.

7. CORRESPONDENCE

7.1 Tidy Town Scheme: it was resolved to take part in this project. The Mayor and Mayor-Elect to complete the necessary paper-work.

7.2 Do electric and magnetic fields cause childhood leukaemia? Report by Dr Adrenne Morgan & Katie Martin – circulated to members.

7.3 Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Authority – Draft Risk Reduction Action Plan 2009/10 Consultation – for information.

7.4 Proposals to change the structure of the NHS in Wales: Cllr Barton had attended the NHS meeting of the 23rd May at Brondeifi Chapel and she and the Mayor will respond to the consultation.

7.5 Notice of One Voice Wales 2008 Conference and AGM: The Mayor Elect and Cllr. D.Williams will attend this meeting of the 11th October at the Pontrhydfendigaid Pavilion. Two motions for debate are required. This year’s theme will be “Local Councils and the Environment”.

7.6 Litter, Dog Control, Graffiti, Fly posting and Noise Offences Fixed Penalty Notice Returns WAG - for information only.

7.7 Calor Village of the Year Competition: it was resolved to enter this competition:

7.8 Other Correspondence: for information only.

8. MENTER LLAMBED

Cllr G.Evans reported that :

- 8.1 **The Transition Town project has now been renamed to *Transition Llambed*** and a new logo has been designed. A great deal of enthusiasm has been shown in different fields.
- 8.2 **Sports' Facilities:** Grant funding is awaited.

9. PLANNING

- 9.1 **Application: Erection of a dwelling;** Land adjacent Dan y Wenallt, Falcondale Drive, Lampeter. Applicant: Mr & Mrs Julian Evans, Dan y Wenallt, Falcondale Drive, Lampeter. Application No: A080369.
Town Council's Comments: no objection to this planning application.
- 9.2 **Permission has been granted by CCC** to erect a house and garage, Plot 5, Pontfaen Farm, Lampeter. Applicant Mr AM Evans, Cwmhalen, 24 Haulfan, Ffosyffin, Aberaeron. Application Number: A080115.

10. FINANCE

- 10.1 **Income: £43,220** Precept: 2008-09 CCC
- 10.2 **Expenditure:**
 - 10.2.1 **ChildLine Cymru** £25.00
 - 10.2.2 **One Voice Wales Conference** £120
 - 10.2.3 **Clerk's salary (May)** £463.95
 - 10.2.4 **HM Revenue (Clerk-May)** £86.58
 - 10.2.5 **Heat & Light** £20.00
 - 10.2.6 **Mayor's Allowance** £2,587.70
 - 10.2.7 **Compass Stationery** £82.16
- 10.3 **The PAYE End of year submission** has been submitted on-line.
- 10.4 **Internal Auditor for the Town Council;** no developments.

11. SUB-COMMITTEES

11.1 Changes to sub-committees

Present Situation:

- 11.1.1 **Pavements'** : Cllr C.Thomas; L.Mason-George; E.Dafis; R.Phillips.
- 11.1.2 **Lighting:** Cllr J.Davies; D.Williams; M. Davies-Evans; G.Evans;
- 11.1.3 **Footpaths** : Cllr A. Carter; R.Harris; S.Walters; C.Barton;
- 11.1.4 **CCTV:** Cllr R.Harris; R.Phillips; K.Ramaya; H.Davies (retired)
- 11.1.5 **Welsh Language:** Cllr R.Phillips, D.Williams; C.Thomas; S.Walters.

It was resolved to defer the discussion, in relation to membership of sub-committees, until the next meeting. Cllr C. Barton was nominated as the new member of the Swimming Pool Committee, on the retirement of Cllr Hazel Davies.

11.2 FOOTPATHS (including Parc-yr-Orsedd)

11.2.1 Relocating the Rock-Block, Parc-yr-Orsedd: enquiries on-going.

11.2.2 Repairing the fence/ new entrance at Parc-yr-Orsedd – The Mayor/ Mayor-Elect and Cllr. D.Williams had met Mr Peter Matthys of CCC earlier that day to discuss the new entrance. A quotation is expected from the CCC .

11.2.3 Planting of Daffodil Bulbs at Parc-yr-Orsedd: Excess daffodil bulbs have been received, once again, from the CCC. Volunteers are required to plant the bulbs.

11.2.4 Lappset: Playground Equipment: for information only.

11.2.5 Rights of Way Improvement Plan Consultation Draft CCC: Cllr. A.Carter agreed to assign further attention to this document.

11.3 PAVEMENTS'

11.3.1 Siting of Dog Bins for the town: it was decided to find out the cost of purchasing and servicing these bins from CCC.

11.4 CCTV Cameras

11.4.1 The monthly Report – April - as received from CCC: One request has been received from the Police to view digital media in relation to theft. Work has commenced on the upgrade of the radio link for the Lampeter cameras but has not yet been fully commissioned; hopefully this will be done in the near future.

11.4.2 Visit to the CCTV Control Room, Aberystwyth: awaiting a suitable date from the CCC.

12. A.O.B.

12.1 There is no water in the Fountain on the Square: to report the matter to CCC.

12.2 There are difficulties with a wall near the rear of Natwest bank and Somerfield Supermarket. The wall is crumbling and the rubble from the wall is used by children as missiles. It was decided to enlist the assistance of CCC.

12.3 It was decided to present Lampeter Primary & Secondary Schools with shields, in recognition of their success during recent school inspections.

12.4 It was resolved to send a letter of congratulations to J & E Woodworks for completing work at the home of Prince Charles at Myddfai, Llandoverly.

12.5 It was discussed whether it would be feasible, to present people who had contributed richly to the life of the community, with shields, on reaching landmark birthdays.

12.6 It was resolved to present Mrs Hazel Davies with a shield in recognition of her service to the Town Council and to the Town itself.

The meeting concluded at 10:00pm.

13. Date of next meetings:

Mayor's Inauguration 6:30pm at the Town Hall – Friday the 6th June;

Next Monthly Meeting: Thursday 26th June at 7:30pm.

