

# **LLANDEILO AND DISTRICT CIVIC TRUST SOCIETY**

## **MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE IN SHIRE HALL, LLANDEILO, at 8pm on Monday, March 22<sup>nd</sup> 2004**

### **Present**

Dr. D. Townsley-Hughes (Chairman)  
Mr. E. Gwilym Hughes,  
Mrs. Julia Jones,  
Mr. Peter G. B. Ratcliffe,  
Mr. Paul Regan,  
Mrs. Angela Adams Rice,  
Mr. Ieuan G. Jones (Advisory)

### **1. Apologies for Absence**

Dr. David A. Jones.

**2. Minutes of the last Committee Meeting, held on February 23<sup>rd</sup> 2004**  
were accepted as a correct record.

**3. Matters Arising Not Covered in the Agenda** : None

### **4. The Llandeilo in Bloom Project.**

Mr. William Evans, currently "Treasurer" and manager of the project, had initially accepted an invitation to attend the present meeting to inform the Committee about the current activities of the project, to enable the Committee to determine what further help could be given to the project. However in a letter to the Chairman Mr Evans cancelled this arrangement after the Agenda had been circulated, informing him that he had already received a grant of £500 from the Town Council for 2004. In a further telephone conversation, Mr Evans indicated that he did not wish to make an alternative appointment to talk with this Committee and he did not require any help with the Llandeilo in Bloom Project, for which he considered he should report to the Town Forum (now the Llandeilo Fawr Community Association). The Committee agreed that the Chairman shall write to the new Chairman of the LF Community Association to say that we are interested in the Llandeilo in Bloom Project as it was set up by the Llandeilo Civic Trust Society, but that we understand that they are now responsible for this Project and that we wish them continuing success with it, and we would be glad to be kept informed about its activities.

### **5. New Bank Account at Lloyds Bank TSB Llandeilo**

There have been further delays due to the bank mislaying our application. Then it has turned up in Taunton, where new applications for organisations are being centralised. They have a backlog of about two months.

### **6. Trustees and Third Party Insurance**

Comprehensive insurance costing £190 has been offered by the national Civic Trust (London). The Chairman and Treasurer will confer with the Civic Trust Wales.

### **7. The Shire Hall as a Prestigious Correspondence Address for the Society**

No reply has yet been received from the Town Clerk about the Town Council's decision on March 16<sup>th</sup> 2004. However the Mayor has verbally communicated that the Town Council is agreeable that the Society shall be permitted to use the Shire Hall as a Correspondence Address, subject to the Society providing a suitable wooden Mail Box.

### **8. Recruitment of New Members**

Both of the following having been circulated with the Agenda, were approved by the Committee :

#### **(i) Revised membership application form**

The form had been revised to have a footnote requesting that the application form with subscription shall be returned to : "The Secretary, Llandeilo and District Civic Trust Society, The Shire Hall, Carmarthen Street, Llandeilo, Carmarthenshire, SA19 6AF."

#### **(ii) Poster inviting applications**

saying that further information and application forms can be obtained from the Librarian, Llandeilo Library. The Chairman will seek the Librarian's help.

### **9. Draft A5 photocopy of the Constitution for New Members**

A draft copy including a list of Founder Members produced by the Chairman was approved, as a special edition for Founder Members. The list of Founder Members will be omitted in the copies to be issued to new members.

### **10. Heritage Project to Revive the old Public Institute in Rhosmaen Street .**

It was noted that the 1994 edition of the Llandeilo Town Guide, stated that in 1892 the Calvinistic Methodist Chapel authorities donated the entire building under Trusteeship to the people of Llandeilo as the new permanent home for the Institute. Currently the only users are a Snooker Club. It is believed that the Trustees would like to see the building more widely used. Mr Ieuan Jones informed that the building got into a state of disrepair 20 years ago. The Trustees obtained a grant from the National Heritage Fund to repair the roof. Llandeilo Round Table funded a new gas boiler to heat the snooker room. The Committee considered the building to be an important potentially sustainable asset for the Town, possibly as a museum, exhibition centre and meeting rooms for societies. It was agreed that the Chairman shall contact the senior Trustee Mr. Evan Davies of Manoravon Farm to arrange a visit by the Committee, preferably at 6pm on the same evening as the next committee meeting.

### **11. Revival of the old Llandeilo Provisions Market, as a new public amenity**

In response to a letter to the Chairman, from Councillor David Arthur Jones suggesting that the Llandeilo and District Civic Trust Society should consider leading a campaign to gather oral and written evidence to support a request for funding, County Councillor Ieuan Jones (who had already been active in this matter) was invited to the present meeting to give information for discussion. Mr Jones circulated a paper outlining the history and present status of the building, which is owned by Carmarthenshire County Council. They are committed to spending £170,000 on repairs, mainly to the roof. They are still looking for occupiers, possibly in a multipurpose building.

The Committee discussed possible public amenity uses for the building, including as a proper theatre and tertiary college for performing arts, agreeing that a visit is necessary to be able to assess possibilities and the extent to which the Society can contribute to regeneration and development of the building. The Chairman will contact the Carmarthenshire County Council's Estates Department to arrange a visit.

### **12. Brief Review of the Cambria Town Audit re Strategy for Society Projects**

Mr Gwilym Hughes, Director of Cambria, summarised the historic findings and proposals towards developing a strong sense of identity as a market town. These will shortly be available as a Report for public viewing in Llandeilo Library, after the Town Council has had time to consider it. Then it is planned to establish a forum involving all town organisations, including the L&D CTS, to discuss initiatives towards developing a town strategy. A proposal to form a Llandeilo Heritage Society appeared to conflict with the interest and activities of the Society, but Mr. Hughes's suggestion that the aims of the Cambria Town Audit could be achieved by a Llandeilo History Society was acceptable to the Committee.

### **13. Any Other Business**

- (i) Mr. Paul Regan reported on a Seminar held by the Civic Trust Wales on March 18<sup>th</sup> 2004 about The Conservation of Historic Buildings and Traditional Materials.
- (ii) Mr. Regan gave a progress report on the Display of Digital Copies of the "Litchfield / Llandeilo Gospels, in Llandeilo Church, for which he has been commissioned to create the accommodating space, after visiting Litchfield and Lindisfarn. The Vicar of Llandeilo is issuing a report, on request, by e-mail
- (iii) Mr. Ieuan Jones reported on Town Council discussion with Robert ap Stephan from Llandovery about how they funded their historic town statue of Llewelyn ap Gruffudd Fuchan, to assist Llandeilo in planning a similar project for a statue of St. Teilo or Lord Rhys. In discussion it was suggested that Lord Rhys would be more appropriate for Dynevor than Llandeilo which is named after the saint.
- (iv) The Chairman reported that Mr Ben Earle of the Woodlands Trust had offered the Society partnership in their Llandeilo project for purchasing and planting 32 acres at Tregib Woods, involving 1200 primary schoolchildren. These woods will become a public amenity for Llandeilo, accessible by footpath along the Towy. The Committee agreed that we could accept to be a supporting partner organisation although we are invited too late to be listed on their printed leaflet, but we would help with the distribution of leaflets and attend the Community Planting Event on Sunday November 21<sup>st</sup> 2004.
- (v) The Committee agreed that the draft Contact List of names, addresses, phone numbers and e-mail addresses of Members of Committee shall be circulated.

### **14. Date and Time of the Next Meeting**

Tuesday April 20<sup>th</sup> 2004 : at 6pm visit to the Public Institute, followed by 8pm Committee Meeting in the Shire Hall.