

St Clears Town Council

Minutes of the meeting of St Clears Town Council held in Meeting Room 1, the Gate, St Clears, on Tuesday 7th June 2016 at 7.00pm

Present: Councillors LL ap T Davies (Chair), Dr WEVJ Davies, RG Edwards, PM Hughes (item onwards), KA Major, I McEwan (item 32 onwards), I Price, JSV Rees and PJ Rogers

25. Apologies

No apologies for absence were received.

26. Personal Matters

No personal matters were raised.

27. Declarations of Interest

Councillor RG Edwards declared an interest in relation to item 29.

28. To consider planning applications as notified by Carmarthenshire County Council.

W/33826 – Double story extension, Parc Glas, Heol Llaindelyn, SA33 4BB.

RESOLVED that no observations or objections be made.

W/33852 – Change of use from barns to boarding kennels with an office.

Waunbricks, St Clears, SA33 4NH. **RESOLVED that no observations or objections be made.**

W/33877 – Conversion of upper floors and rear outbuilding to form 6 apartments. Ground floor to remain as shop units. Mermaid Buildings, Pentre Rd, SA33 4AA. **RESOLVED that no observations or objections be made.**

29. To consider application to the Community Events Chest.

Two applications to the Community Events Chest were presented to Council:

1. St Clears & District Community Association. Party in the Park, 17th June 2016. **RESOLVED that the application be awarded with £250 with a further sum of up to £250 being underwritten if a shortfall is made.**
2. Neuadd Pentref Bancyfelin. Councillor RG Edwards declared an interest in this matter as a member of the committee for the hall. Councillor Edwards left the room for the discussion. Village Carnival and Sports, 2nd July 2016. **RESOLVED that the application be awarded with £150 with a further sum of up to £150 being underwritten if a shortfall is made.**

30. To consider need for a handy man to assist with Council activities.

Council considered the need for a contract with a handy man who would be able to deal with the odd jobs that arise not currently covered by existing contractors. Careful consideration was given to the need for a contractor to have the proper insurance and licences to carry out the task. **RESOLVED that Council approach the current grounds maintenance contractor to see if he would be able to undertake this work.**

31. To discuss the future of the market stalls.

The Clerk read an e-mail from Eleri Retallick, Principal Arts Officer, Carmarthenshire County Council, enquiring about the future of the market stalls. Council discussed the e-mail **RESOLVED that the Clerk should contact Ms Retallick offering a way forward regarding the stalls and report back to Council.**

32. To discuss the Community survey 2016/17

Council discussed the arrangements for the first stage of the community survey which would require Councillors to volunteer to visit community organisations to seek their views. **RESOLVED that a meeting to organise the first stage of the survey be held at 6pm on 21st June with all Councillors who will be assisting to attend if possible.**

Mrs Isla-Jane McEwan arrived during Item 32 (above). Council took a break from proceedings to welcome Mrs McEwan to Council and for her to sign the statutory declaration acceptance of office. **RESOLVED that Mrs I McEwan, Walnut Cottage, Heol Goi, be co-opted to Council with immediate effect.**

33. To receive an update on the condition and maintenance of Council owned benches

Councillor JSV Rees explained the work she had carried out work to create an inventory of Council owned benches noting their location and condition. Councillor Rees noted that there may be other benches that needed to be added and requested that Councillors considered the list and informed Cllr Rees if they were aware of any that were missing. The Chair thanked Councillor Rees for her work.

Discussion of the benches gave rise to discussion about other related matters. It was agreed that the Clerk would contact the grounds maintenance contractor regarding maintenance of the growth at the riverbank and the ground around the pumping station. The Clerk would also seek an update on the erosion of the riverbank from the County Council. Council were also informed that the dog warden had started patrols and were targeting specific areas with letters. No report had been received as yet.

34. To receive an update on the planting and ground maintenance work.

The Clerk informed Council that the summer planting should be completed by the end of the week and that a quote for £300 had been obtained for clearing the ground at the side of the pumping station. **RESOLVED that arrangements be made to clear the ground at the pumping station.**

35. Correspondence

i) **Jenny Walford, BBC Radio Wales** requesting an interview about the St Clears audio trail for the Wynne Evans show. **RESOLVED that Councillor Jane Rees be interviewed by Wynne Evans.** ii) **Jason Lawday, Carmarthenshire County Council.** Confirmation that some checks have

been carried out on footpath 63/22. Council discussed the need for checks on other paths. The Clerk and Councillor JSV Rees agreed to liaise.

36. Any Other Business

Councillor Rogers raised the matter of when Council should receive minutes of meetings under the new arrangements for meetings. **RESOLVED that the minutes of the previous meeting be ready for each meeting on a fortnightly rotation.**

Issues with vehicles travelling the wrong way down the slip road at High St, St Clears were discussed and an accident in the area which resulted in a person being hospitalised was reported to Council. **RESOLVED that the Clerk contact Angela Burns AM about the matter.**

Councillor Keith Major Informed Council of the success of a local woman in the BDO Darts Open. Rhian Griffiths made it to the semi-final where she lost to the last year's champion who went on to win again this year. It was agreed that Council should write to Ms Griffiths to congratulate her on her success.

Members were reminded that the Coleridge Festival in Wales would be visiting St Clears the following day.

Meeting terminated at 20.35