

St Clears Town Council

Minutes of the meeting of St Clears Town Council held in Meeting Room 1, the Gate, St Clears, on Tuesday 15th November 2016 at 7.00pm

Present: Councillors LL ap T Davies (Chair), CM Davies, Dr WEVJ Davies, RG Edwards, I McEwan, JSV Rees and PJ Rogers

146. Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillors KA Major and PM Hughes.

147. Personal Matters.

Councillor WEVJ Davies congratulated Mr Jeff Harries on his selection to referee the Open Golf Championship in Ayrshire earlier this year. It was agreed that a letter of congratulations should be sent by Council to Mr Harries.

148. Declarations of Interest

Councillor CM Davies regarding an item of correspondence in Item 159(ii) below. Councillor RG Edwards for the Community Events Chest application in 159(iv) below.

149. To confirm the minutes of the meeting of the Town Council held on 18th October 2016.

Item 133 – Councillor PJ Rogers requested that it be made clear that the item was referring to the County's Community Committee, not a committee of the Town Council.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of 18th October be approved as a true record with the above amendment.

150. Matters Arising

Item 140 (vi). Councillor WEVJ Davies noted that he had spoken to a resident of Salem Rd who had noted their great concern with speeding vehicles along Salem Rd. It was agreed that a letter should be sent to the County regarding the matter and a copy sent to the resident.

Item 45 – The Chair confirmed that investigations regarding the defibrillator were ongoing. The Chair also noted that a meeting regarding the reopening of the railway station was on hold at the moment.

151. County Councillor's Update

The County Councillor had sent apologies ahead of the meeting and as such no update was available.

152. Clerk's Report.

1. Carmarthenshire County Council.

- (i) The next Town & Community Council Liaison Forum has been changed to **7 December 2016**. The meeting will be held at 6:30pm in County Hall, Carmarthen. **RESOLVED that Councillor RG Edwards attend the forum.**

2. Welsh Government

- (i) **CALL FOR EVENTS FOR PROGRAMME 2017.** The Welsh Government is currently working on Cymru'n Cofio Wales Remembers 1914-1918's Programme 2017 brochure and is appealing for events which could be featured in the publication.
- (ii) The Culture, Welsh Language and Communication Committee is undertaking an inquiry into 'the Welsh Government's new Welsh Language Strategy. Information on the inquiry and how to submit written evidence is available on the Committee's website.
<http://senedd.assembly.wales/mgConsultationDisplay.aspx?ID=232>
Responses to be provided by **30 November 2016**.

3. One Voice Wales

- (i) Consultancy services. One Voice Wales is able to offer member Councils a range of consultancy services provided by fully qualified professionals. The services are available through the medium of English and are summarised below:
 - Human Resources and Employment Law
 - Accountancy Services
 - VAT legislation
 - Health, Safety and Welfare
 - Community Engagement and Development
 - Community engagement, Asset Transfer, Partnership Working and Funding and Project Monitoring and Evaluation
- (ii) Newsletter. Update from One Voice Wales including a summary of the conference on the 4th October, FAQs and training opportunities.
- (iii) **One Voice Wales Innovative Practice National Awards 2017.**
The launch of the One Voice Wales Innovative Practice National Awards scheme which is an opportunity for your council to showcase the services it provides for its community and an opportunity for councillors, clerks and staff to receive the recognition they deserve. The entries will be used as an evidence base to inform Welsh Government, Unitary Authorities, the Third Sector and other key partners of the good work local councils are doing in their communities across Wales and how they can possibly support the work of the local council sector in the future.

4. Simon Hart MP

Newsletter October 2016. Update on the MP's activities during the month.

5. Hywel Dda Community Health Council,

REVIEW OF THE NATIONAL STANDARDS FOR THE COMMUNITY HEALTH COUNCILS. The Board of CHCs have for the first time, established a set of national standards for the work of each CHC in Wales. They want to hear your views on the standards. Details of the standards together with the response form, or app if you prefer, are available on the Hywel Dda CHC

website and on the Board of CHC's website. <http://www.wales.nhs.uk/sitesplus/904/page/88383>

6. Older People's Commissioner.

Ageing Well in Wales, in partnership with Living Streets and the Centre for Ageing and Dementia Research, has recently launched a survey looking at the walkability of neighbourhoods across Wales. We're keen to hear from older people about their neighbourhoods, and how easy it is to walk around, and identify any barriers.

<http://www.ageingwellinwales.com/en/age-friendly-streets>

<http://www.ageingwellinwales.com/wl/age-friendly-streets>

7. Planning Aid Wales

Seeking views on a planning network for Wales.

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/Y8N5KSW>

153. Financial Report.

Members were provided with information relating to the expenditure for the period 1st April 2016 to the 15th November 2016. **RESOLVED that the report be accepted by Council.**

154. Accounts for Payment

RESOLVED that the schedule of payments and bank reconciliation noted below be approved by Council:

Reconciliation date:		15 November 2016
STATEMENT BALANCES		
Current Account	Community Account	3,906.68
Current Account	Business Saver Account	35005.8
BALANCES TOTALS		38,912.48
Investment Account		57248.07
RESERVES TOTALS		57248.07

SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS			15 November 2016	
Cheque/ BACS no.	Payee	Details	Cost (inc VAT)	
103765	HMRC	PAYE (Sept)	571.52	
103766	AEGON	Pension	202.81	
103767	W3 Web Designs	Updates to website	30.00	
103768	Bronwen Griffiths	Replacement of velvet on Mayor's chain	70.00	
BACS 137	Emma Smith	Salary	1643.17	
BACS 138	Emma Smith	Reimbursement*	784.78	
BACS 139	Jonathan Williams	Ground Maintenance	480.00	
BACS 140	Jonathan Williams	Litter picking	120.00	
BACS 141	Carmarthenshire County Council	Rent (Apr - Sep16)	750.00	
BACS 142	Carmarthenshire County Council	Bancyfelin Xmas Lights Boxes on posts	630.00	
BACS 144	Cllr Lyn Davies	Travel expenses ow conf & replace flask	78.94	

155. To consider the Council's budget for 2017/18

The Clerk presented the budget documentation for the beginning of the budget discussions. A general discussion was held and it was agreed that a smaller group needed to populate the table with figures for discussion.

RESOLVED that the Clerk and Councillors RG Edwards and KA Major meet to populate the table with draft figures for discussion.

156. To receive an update on the Christmas event in St Clears.

The Clerk updated Council on progress with the Christmas event and discussions at the earlier meeting that evening. It was agreed that no further meeting was required prior to the event on 25th November.

157. To discuss barriers at the entrance to the car park at Pentre Rd.

Council noted that work had commenced at the car park on Pentre Rd to install height restriction barriers. A discussion regarding potential issues created for the community and potential gains from having the barriers in place was held. **RESOLVED that a letter be sent to the County Council to note disappointment regarding a lack of consultation over the matter with the Town Council and the community.**

158. To consider the grounds maintenance and planting contract for 2017/18 onwards.

RESOLVED that the Grounds Maintenance Contract and Welfare Field contract remain separate. RESOLVED that de-littering be included in the Grounds Maintenance contract. The matter would be further discussed in the business meeting of Council on 6th December.

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159. Correspondence.

- (i) Lynnette Phillips, St Clears & District Community Association. Thanks expressed to Councillors JSV Rees and LL ap T Davies for their assistance as stewards for the fireworks event on 5th November.
- (ii) Lynnette Phillips – St Clears & District Community Association. Retrospective application for funding for the fireworks event on 5th November. Councillor CM Davies declared an interest in this matter as a member of the Community Association. **RESOLVED that information regarding income on the evening be sought and the matter referred to the meeting on 6th December.**
- (iii) Simon Hart MP – regarding speeding issues on Salem Rd. **RESOLVED** that the MP be copied in to correspondence to the County approved under item 150 (Matters arising) above.
- (iv) Bancyfelin Village Hall – Community Events Chest application seeking funding the Christmas event in Bancyfelin on the 4th December. Councillor RG Edwards declared an interest in the matter as a member of the Hall Committee. **RESOLVED that the event be awarded £125 and the purchase of selection boxes for the children.**

160. To consider the two vacant seats at Council

No expressions of interest received.

161. To receive reports from representatives on meeting of outside bodies, seminars etc.

Councillor JSV Rees noted that the Twinning Association's trip to Peillac had been a success and they had met the new Mayor. Friends from Peillac will next visit St Clears in 2018.

162. Town Mayor's Report on Engagements and the 'Drop In Session'

- 23.10.16 Mayor bid farewell to the Twinning Association members on their trip to Peillac.
- 04.11.16 Royal British Legion St Clears. Poppy Ball at Ysgol Griffith Jones.
- 11.11.16 Armistice Day at St Clears War Memorial.
- 11.11.16 High Sheriff of Dyfed Remembrance Concert at Christ Church Carmarthen.
- 13.11.16 Remembrance Day service at St Mary Magdalene Church, St Clears and laying wreath at the War Memorial.
- 13.11.16 Lunch at the Ivy Bush Carmarthen as guest of St Clears branch of the Royal British Legion.

163. Any Other Business

- (i) It was noted that the work to install the windows in the Guide Hut would be completed before Christmas.
- (ii) It was suggested that Council could loan the PA equipment to the Royal British Legion on Remembrance Sunday next year to assist with making the proceedings at the war memorial audible to all.
- (iii) Expressions of interest had been received in the Council trailer. It was agreed that it should be put out to tender as resolved previously and the documentation prepared.
- (iv) An application had been received to store some items in the Guide Hut. The Clerk agreed to consider the terms of the lease with the County Council.
- (v) Councillor I McEwan informed Council that she would be undergoing surgery on the 30th November and would be out of action for a while following the operation.
- (vi) Councillor JSV Rees drew attention to a sign in the road in Bancyfelin that wasn't illuminated. The Clerk agreed to draw this matter to the attention of the County Council.
- (vii) Council's attention was drawn to a service in the Botanic Garden on the 20th November called "Their Light Still Shines" on behalf of the Ty Cymorth Hospice Appeal.
- (viii) It was agreed that a Council Christmas get together would be postponed to the new year.

Meeting terminated at 20:35