

St Clears Town Council

Minutes of the meeting of St Clears Town Council held in The Gate, Pentre Road, St Clears on Tuesday 15th December 2015 at 7pm

Present:

Councillors CM Davies, LLapT Davies, Dr WEVJ Davies, RG Edwards, DR Phillips, I Price, JSV Rees, PJ Rogers

In the Chair – Councillor CM Davies (Town Mayor)

108. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors M Galvin, PM Hughes and KA Major.

109. Personal Matters

The Town Mayor referred to the sudden death of Mrs Jean Brown who had been Mayoress when her husband Tom was Town Mayor during the 2008/2009 civic year. Members stood in a silent tribute as a mark of respect to her memory.

110. Declarations of Interest

Councillor CM Davies in respect of the receipt of quotation to be considered under agenda item 9b and Councillor DR Phillips with regard to agenda item 10; accounts for payment.

111. Minutes

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meetings of the Town Council held on 17th and 27th November 2015 be signed as a correct record.

112. Matters Arising

i) 92 i). Matters Arising - viii) Pellican Crossing, Pentre Road

The meeting noted that taking action against motorists on the abuse of the zig zag markings was not only the province of Civil Enforcement Officers but the Police could also take appropriate action.

ii) 93. County Councillor's Update

Attention was drawn to the fact that whilst the layby opposite Cefn Maes had been marked out as a bus stop the relevant signage remained to be installed.

iii) 103 Forthcoming Meetings

a) Campaign to reopen the Railway Station

Members noted that the proposed meeting would be convened following discussions between officers of the County Council with personnel working on a study to feed into the new South Wales Rail franchise programme which should provide some direction as to the best next steps to take.

b) Site Meeting near the Chapel in Bancyfelin

The Acting Clerk reported that it looked hopeful that the meeting would take place early in the new year.

113. County Councillor's Update

Councillor PM Hughes in conveying his apologies had drawn attention to the complaint received earlier in the day that leaves on the footway leading from the traffic lights towards Penpitch and making the surface very slippery for pedestrians was being dealt with by the County Council. Arising from the above members voiced the importance of meeting with the Trunk Road Agent and the County Council with regard to continuing incidents at the exit from the slip road.

114. Clerk's Report

i) Community Health Council

Members noted the opportunity to serve on the Community Health Council

ii). Positive Planning Implementation Plan

The meeting noted the proposed delivery of the 'Positive Planning' improvement programme bringing together various projects/plans

iii). Cymdeithas yr Iaith : Tyged yr Iaith yn Sir Gar – Iaith Gwaith y Cyngor eu Hun

The open meeting on the 30th January in Carmarthen Library and the opportunity to contribute was noted

iv). Financial Assistance

RESOLVED that the request from BLAS Ammanford Stroke be referred to the February meeting of Council

v). Planning Application

W/33083 – Planning application for 78.9m by 21.7m concrete pad for the storage of grass silage. Inclusive of boundary kerbs and drain to ensure silage effluent and all surface water drains to a slurry lagoon (part retrospective); Parc yr Abbot, St Clears

RESOLVED that no objections be submitted

vi) Draft Local Government Bill

The meeting noted the publication for consultation a Draft Local Government Wales Bill.

RESOLVED that relevant sections be made available to members to enable discussion at the January meeting

vii). Proposal to divert Registered Footpath 63/22 Manor Farm

Members proceeded to examine the proposed diversion that will move part of the path that passes through the farmyard.

RESOLVED that Council has no objection to the proposal

viii) Statutory Play Sufficiency Assessment

RESOLVED that the survey be referred to the Environment Committee for completion

115. Financial Report

The meeting proceeded to consider the financial statement confirming the position as at 7 December having been circulated with the agenda together with a bank reconciliation distributed at the meeting confirming the following balances in the various accounts on 15 December :

Current A/c – Community A/c	£5640.05
Current A/c – Business Saver A/c	£17787.56
Investment A/c -	£572226.67

RESOLVED that the reports be accepted

116. Reports of Council's Committees

a) Environment Committee

Councillor JSV Rees, Committee Chair reported on the meeting held on 1st December focusing on the issues discussed.

Manordaf

Councillor Dr WEVJ Davies highlighted concerns that the County Council were not pursuing adherence to recorded decisions at Manordaf recognising the byway open to all traffic. The Town Council should be vigilant in ensuring that the County Council enforces the prerogative for would be users. Whilst members concurred it was viewed the St Clears Town Trust should also be active in this regard.

RESOLVED that the report be received and the recommendations adopted.

b) Planning and Communities Committee

Councillor PJ Rogers, Committee Chair reported on the meetings of Committee held on 17th November following the monthly meeting of Council and on 1st December and amplified on some of the pertinent issues discussed.

Guide Hut

The Acting Clerk reported that a quotation was now to hand for replacing the windows

RESOLVED that the quote received be referred to the Planning and Communities Committee at its January meeting

Community Events Chest

The Chair emphasised that there was a need to review the criteria and organisations wishing to apply for funding for particular events should adhere to the timescales for the submission of applications

Christmas Celebration

The Chair members thanked all members for their support and that there was now an opportunity to reflect on constructive feedback and look to an enhanced display this year.

RESOLVED that the reports be received and the recommendations adopted

c) Finance and General Purposes Committee

In the absence of the Chair, the Vice Chair Councillor RG Edwards presented the report of the meeting held on 1st December highlighting primary issues.

RESOLVED that the report be received and the recommendations adopted

117. Accounts for Payment

RESOLVED that the following schedule of payments be approved

103693 – MP Window Cleaning Services – Cleaning War Memorial and Market Square - £630.00

103694 – Llwyndu Farm Ltd – 4 Christmas Trees - £504.00

103695 – HMRC – PAYE - £489.64

103696 – Bowen & Weaving – Paper- £19.18

103697 – One Voice Wales- Training Delegate Fee - £35.00

103698 – Cylch Meithrin Sancler – Community Events Chest - £250.00

103699 – Carmarthenshire County Council – Toybox Appeal - £100.00

BACS 056 – JE Williams – Salary (Dec) - £1317.94
BACS 057 – Emma Smith – Salary (SMP)- £572.00
BACS 058 – Swallow Office Supplies – Printer Cartridge £105.60
BACS 059 – W3 Web Designs – Website updates - £30.00
BACS 060 – N & J James – Stall set-up - £200.00
BACS 061 – N & J James – Christmas Celebration and trees set-up - £173.00
BACS 062 – Emma Smith – Reimbursement (phone) - £9.50
BACS 063 – JN Williams - Ground Maintenance - £420.00
BACS 064 – JN Williams – Litter picking - £120.00
BACS 065 – JE Williams – Reimbursement (selection boxes) - £151.20

118. Correspondence

A correspondence schedule was circulated to members which included the following items for consideration :

- i) Police and Crime Commissioner – Setting 2016/17 Council Tax policing precept
- ii) Carmarthen Bar Navigation Committee – Minutes meeting 20th October
- iii) Welsh Government – Launch of Public Health Outcomes framework Consultation
- iv) Clerk to the Council Return to Work
- v) William Powell AM – Petition : Local Government Reforms – Say NO to Dyfed
- vi) Peter Hill – Website Link
- vii) Gareth Davies – Cymdeithas Hanes
- viii) Welsh Hearts – Could Welsh Hearts support your community
- ix) North Pembrokeshire Transport Forum – News Briefing – November 2015

RESOLVED that i) items i) and iv) be referred to January meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee and ii) the remaining items be noted

119. Casual Vacancy – Llanfihangel Abercowin Ward

The Acting Clerk reported that following public notice no expressions of interest had been forthcoming to fill by co-option the casual vacancy on the Llanfihangel Abercowin Ward,

RESOLVED that a further period of public notice be given to enable co-option to be considered at Council's January meeting.

120. Disposal of Council's Marquees

RESOLVED that the applications received be referred to the Planning and Communities Committee for consideration.

121. Nominations for the Eric Raymond Memorial Awards and the Community Service Award

Members noted the purpose of the awards with Junior and Senior categories for the Eric Raymond Memorial Shields with contribution to community being the criteria for the Community Service Award.

RESOLVED that the names of candidates together with background be considered for awards during the February meeting of the Town Council.

122. Reports from Representatives on Meetings of Outside Bodies, etc

Councillor RG Edwards presented a lucid report on the Town and County Council County Forum which had received a presentation on the County Council spending

proposals for the 3 years 2016/2019 which had also been attended by Councillors LLapT Davies and KA Major. Council noted with trepidation the concerns voiced as to the consequences of proposed cuts on already depleted budgets in so many instances.

RESOLVED that a suitable item be included on the agenda for each of the committees during January cycle of meetings to enable discussion on the possibility of responding to the consultation document.

Councillor LLapT Davies reported on his attendance at the Carwyn Connect event held in Carmarthen and whilst the turn out on the whole was disappointing he had utilised the opportunity to promote the case for a train stop in St Clears.

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

The Town Mayor reported on a particularly busy period in the lead up to Christmas which included invitations to St Mary's, Ysgol Griffith Jones School concert, the Scouts evening, PTA and the Dolyfelin coffee morning as well as the Town Council's own Christmas Celebration to welcome Santa to St Clears. He thanked his Deputy in attending the Christmas Carols and switching on the tree lights in Bancyfelin. With regard to the 'Meet Mayor' session on Tuesday mornings; speeding on Llangynin Road remained a prominent feature.

124. Any Other Business

Ysgol Griffith Jones.

Councillor PJ Rogers praised the School on a most successful series of concerts
Pentre Road

Councillor I Price reminded colleagues of the 'pinchpoint' at the exit from the Old Factory Shop Car Park to Pentre Road

RESOLVED that Council's continuing concerns be drawn to attention of the County Council

Traffic Calming Bancyfelin

Councillor RG Edwards drew attention to the Bancyfelin Community Association's concerns relative to speeding in the village and in particular near the School.

RESOLVED that the County Council be asked to investigate the possibility of installing zig zag markings/ hazard block and introducing a 20mph in the vicinity of Bancyfelin School

Bancyfelin School Concert

Councillor RG Edwards informed colleagues that the Christmas concert had been another excellent event

Curry Night

The Town Mayor drew attention to the possibility of holding a curry night following the January meeting of Council

RESOLVED that the January meeting of Council commences at 6.30 pm followed by a curry evening for members and partners at the Elaichi .

At the conclusion of the meeting members were reminded as to the dates and times of the January cycle of meetings and proceeded to join the Town Mayor for traditional festive refreshment at around 8.30pm