

St Clears Town Council

Minutes of the meeting of St Clears Town Council held in Meeting Room 1, the Gate, St Clears, on Tuesday 18th July 2017 at 7.00pm

Present: Councillors Tracy Austin-Brydon, CM Davies, LL ap T Davies, Dr WEVJ Davies, JSV Rees (Chair), PJ Rogers and County Councillor PM Hughes (Item 61 onwards).

56. Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillors RG Edwards, KA Major and I Price.

57. Personal Matters

The Chair informed Council that Reverend Canon Dorian Davies has accepted the nomination from the Bishop to be Priest in Charge of St Clears parish and has also been appointed as the Arch Deacon of Carmarthen. The Chair welcomed the appointment as good news for the community.

58. Declarations of Interest.

No declarations were made.

59. To confirm the minutes of the meeting of the Town Council held on the 20th June 2017.

Councillor LL ap T Davies noted that his name was missing from the list of those present. **RESOLVED that with the noted amendment that the minutes of the meetings held on the 20th June 2017 be approved as an accurate record.**

60. Matters arising (exchange of information only)

Item 39(ii) Councillor LL ap T Davies requested that the Clerk forward the TAIS e-mail to his e-mail address.

Item 39(iii) Members were reminded of the upcoming road closure in August.
Item 45 – Members enquired if there had been a response to the nomination of Councillor PJ Rogers to the Standards Committee. No response had been received before the meeting. Council wished Councillor Rogers well with the nomination.

Page 12 – Members enquired if there was an update on the discussions to move forward the bid to reopen the railway station. There were no further updates to share.

County Councillor PM Hughes joined the meeting at this point.

61. To receive the County Councillor's Update

- i. **Dog fouling.** The County Councillor noted that a number of tickets had been issued in the area that week as well as fines for dropping litter.
- ii. The County Councillor asked the Clerk to keep him updated regarding the lack of **skate and play park inspection reports**. Councillor PJ Rogers informed Council that the skate park was being very well used at the moments and that the users were seeking improvements. A meeting

would be held with the young people who use it to discuss their requirements.

- iii. The town's old **water pumps** were discussed as there had been some enquiries in the town regarding their ownership. It was noted that some were private and others were public. This matter would be examined further by the Environment Committee.
- iv. The County Councillor has met with the Assembly Member Angela Burns and Carmarthenshire County Council officers to discuss the **declining footfall** in St Clears and what can be done to halt it. Ideas such as a forum for the town were discussed and a meeting with businesses in the area. **RESOLVED that this matter be referred to the Community, Finance and General Purpose meeting in September.**

62. **To receive the Clerk's report.**

1) **Carmarthenshire County Council**

(i) **Planning applications. W/35801** - CHANGE OF USE FROM ONE BEDROOM FLAT TO OFFICE AND STORE. THE MEWS COTTAGE, PENTRE ROAD, ST CLEARS, CARMARTHEN, SA33 4AA. **W/35461** – AMENDED PLANS. CONSTRUCTION OF 30 NO. RESIDENTIAL DWELLINGS AND ASSOCIATED SITE - LAND AT THE REAR OF CAE FFYNNON, BANCYFELIN, CARMARTHEN, CARMARTHENSHIRE, SA33 5DQ. **RESOLVED that comments on the amended plans be sent via e-mail to the Clerk to allow more time to consider the plans.**

(ii) **#IdeasExchange - an opportunity to share your thoughts on the future of services in Carmarthenshire.** We hope you can join us at one of our engagement events to give us your innovative ideas for the work that will be done by Carmarthenshire Public Services Board (PSB) over the next five years. Wednesday 19 July 2017 – St Peter's Civic Hall, Carmarthen.

2) **Hywel Dda University Health Board**

Consultation for the community on Adult Mental Health Services. Numerous documents enclosed for consideration and response from the community. Public workshop – 19th July, Haliwell Centre Carmarthen, 6pm-9pm. Consultation ends

3) **One Voice Wales**

(i) Meetings of the Carmarthenshire Area Committee (2017-2018) - the AGM resulted in the following situation: **RESOLVED** that the following dates be provisionally agreed for the coming year: Wednesday 4th October 2017, Tuesday 27th February 2018, Wednesday 18th April 2018 (but this subsequently had to be changed to Wednesday 11th April 2018) and Tuesday 19th June 2018. Please note the change of date for the April meeting - apologies for any inconvenience."

(ii) **The 13th Conference and Annual General Meeting of One Voice Wales will be held on Saturday 30th September 2017 at the Royal Welsh Showground, Llanelwedd, Builth Wells, LD2 3SY. The Minister Mark Drakeford will be our key note speaker and will update us on**

**developments relating to Local Government Reform for our sector.
More details will follow in due course**

4) Data Unit Wales

The Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011 places a duty on each local authority to conduct a survey of all candidates standing for election to County and County Borough Councils and to Community and Town Councils. During the election process, we (the Data Unit) conducted the survey for the recent local elections on behalf of your local authority with the support of the Electoral Administrators. The current response rates for the survey limit the analysis that can be done. We would like to try to increase response rates. **Go to:** <http://www.election.cymru/carmarthenshire/>

5) Best Garden Competition

Judging of the Best Garden Competition was carried out today by the Mayor of Whitland who visited the two primary schools in the Council's area to judge their entries before going on to judge the entries from residents.

6) Christmas lights 2017

A meeting will be held next week with the 2016 Contractor to discuss ideas and request a quotation for 2017. Any comments or ideas before the meeting are welcome. More quotations based on the same specification will be sought over the summer to be considered by the Community, Finance and General Purpose Committee in September.

7) Website revisions

Revisions to the website have been considered and the Clerk discuss with the website provider to explore the possibilities. Potential changes include:

- More use of images, less text.
- Calendar to be added
- Link into CCTV 'St Clears live'.
- Make more tourist friendly

8) Summer break

There will be no meetings of Council in August due to the summer recess.

63. To receive the financial report.

The Clerk presented Council with the financial report detailing expenditure against budgetary areas since April 2017. **RESOLVED that the report be approved by Council.**

64. To approve accounts for payment.

Councillor PJ Rogers proposed that the schedule of payments presented by the Clerk be approved by Council and was seconded by Councillor T Austin-Brydon. **RESOLVED that the schedules of payments and bank reconciliation noted below be approved by Council:**

Reconciliation date:		12-Jul-2017		
STATEMENT BALANCES				
Current Account	Community Account	4,324.80		
Current Account	Business Saver Account	33832.06		
BALANCES TOTALS		38,156.86		
Investment Account		57255.21		
RESERVES TOTALS		57255.21		
SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS		18 July 2017		
	Cheque/ BACS no.	Payee	Details	Cost (inc VAT) £
	103798	AEGON	Pension	207.98
	103799	Howel Bowen	Internal Audit fee	372.00
	103800	Arts Care Gofal Celf	Community Events Chest donation	250.00
	103801	SLCC	CILCA Training days x 4	360.00
	BACS 200	Emma Smith	Salary (June)	4400.00
	BACS 201	HMRC	PAYE (June)	585.14
	BACS 202	Emma Smith	Reimbursement*	8.82
	BACS 203	Jonathan Williams	Repairs to benches	1476.00
	BACS 204	Jonathan Williams	Grounds Maintenance and delittering	672.00
	BACS 205	Jonathan Williams	Welfare Field Maintenance	278.40

The Clerk also requested that Council approve the standard payments be made during August while Council were in recess. These payments included salary, pension, PAYE and the maintenance contractor's usual ground maintenance and Welfare Field maintenance bills. **RESOLVED that the August payments noted above be authorised.**

65. To receive the Committee reports (i) Environment Committee (ii) Community, Finance and General-Purpose Committee (iii) Welfare Field Sub-Committee.

- (i) Environment Committee. The Chair of the Committee led Council through the minutes of the meeting held on the 4th July 2017. It was noted that the committee's remit would be finalised in the September meeting. **RESOLVED that the report be received and the recommendations adopted.**
- (ii) Community, Finance and General-Purpose Committee. Due to the absence of the Chair and Vice Chair for the Committee, the Chair of Council led the discussion. Council considered the committee's recommendation to accept the highest bid for the purchase of the Council's trailer. Councillor LL ap T Davies proposed that the bid be accepted and was seconded by Councillor Dr WEVJ Davies. **RESOLVED that the trailer be sold to the highest bidder.** Also considered was the committee's recommendation to award £250 from the Community Events' Chest to a three-day dance workshop in St Clears by Arts Care Gofal Celf. Councillor LL ap T Davies proposed that the recommendation be accepted and was seconded by Councillor PJ Rogers. **RESOLVED that the Arts Care Gofal Celf be awarded £250 from the Community Events Chest for the three-day event.**

RESOLVED that the report be received and the recommendations adopted.

- (iii) Welfare Field Sub-Committee. Council were informed that the hire contract was still with the solicitors and that a date in April would be sought to start the work on the field.

66. To consider work to replace and upgrade the CCTV in St Clears.

The Chair reported on a meeting with a local CCTV firm and the quotation received from them was considered. A detailed discussion about the type of CCTV and locations for cameras was held. It was agreed that further research was needed to look into the possibility for having other locations and potentially leasing CCTV. **RESOLVED that the matter be deferred to the September meeting allowing time for more research into the options.**

67. Correspondence

No items.

68. To consider the three vacant seats at Council.

An expression of interest had been received by a member of the community. It was agreed that the Clerk would contact the individual to invite them along to the September meeting.

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

Councillor PJ Rogers had attended a Governors' meeting at Ysgol Griffith Jones and reported that two new appointments had been made for staff who would take up their posts in September.

70. To receive the Town Mayor's Report on civic events, engagements etc.

Since the last meeting, the Mayor had attended:

- 22nd June – St Clears & District Choral Society's Event in aid of the Mayor's charity. It was sadly announced at this event that the choir would end but a new style group will be launched in September.
- 24th June – Mabolgampau / Sports. Cylch Meithrin Sanclêr.
- 30th June – Opening of the new Starbucks in St Clears.
- 1st July – Bancyfelin Carnival.
- 8th July – St Mary Magdalene Church's Teddy Bear Parachute Jump.
- 8th July – Carmarthenshire Riverside Festival.
- 9th July – The Corran Dog Show.
- 18th July – Judging of the Best Garden Competition.

71. Any Other Business (exchange of information only)

- (i) Councillor PM Hughes noted he had been trying to get life rings put on Peillac Way.

- (ii) The Chair asked Councillor to consider ideas for a bursary for children and bring them along to the September meeting of the Community, Finance and General Purpose Committee meeting. Members not on that committee can submit ideas to the Clerk.
- (iii) The Chair also asked members to think about ideas for producing leaflets and a pop-up display for Council to be discussed in the September committee meeting.

Meeting terminated at 20:59