

**St Clears Town Council**  
**Minutes of the St Clears Town Council Meeting**  
**held in The Gate, Pentre Road, St Clears**  
**on Tuesday 18 November 2014 at 7.00pm**

**Present:**

Councillors RG Edwards, CM Davies, LL ap T Davies, Dr WEVJ Davies, PM Hughes (Town and County Councillor), P Lanc, K Major, JSV Rees and PJ Rogers.

In the Chair – Councillor RG Edwards (Town Mayor)

**111. Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Councillors C Ingleton, DR Phillips and H Witt.

**112. Personal Matters**

The Clerk wished a Happy Birthday to the Chair of Council, Councillor RG Edwards, who had celebrated a significant birthday on the weekend prior to the meeting.

**113. Declarations of Interest.**

No declaration were made.

**114. To confirm the minutes of the meeting of the Town Council held on 21<sup>st</sup> October 2014.**

Council agreed that the minutes were a true record of the meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> October 2014.

**115. Matters arising (exchange of information only)**

- i) An update was requested on the situation regarding the removal of the double yellow lines outside 8 Corvus Terrace, St Clears. The Clerk informed Council that she had replied to John McEvoy to note that the Town Council had no objections. Mr McEvoy had replied to note that the Traffic Regulation Order would need to be amended in the first instance and the work could proceed from there.
- ii) An update on any enquiries with regard to placing more notice boards in other areas within the Council areas was requested. The Clerk informed the Council that there was no further information at this stage.
- iii) It was agreed that a letter should be sent to Spar St Clears regarding the misuse of the disabled parking bays outside the shop with a view to update Council in the next meeting.

**116. To receive the County Councillor's Update**

Councillor PM Hughes noted that there were no issues of significance to report that the Council needed to be aware of but welcomed any issues that the Council wished to raise with him.

The issue of access to the byway at Manordaf was raised and Councillor Hughes advised that it would be more appropriate to discuss this with the footpaths officer for the area so they could look into it.

**RESOLVED that the Clerk contact the footpaths officer to request that they visit to assess the situation with the byway.**

## 117. To receive the Clerk's Report

### 1. Carmarthenshire County Council

- i) **Planning Applications – W/31167** in relation to W/21675 an application to extend the outline planning permission for a further 9 months. Residential Development including affordable units at the land to the rear of Britannia Terrace, Tenby Rd, St Clears. Councillor PM Hughes proposed that concerns about the sewerage system should be noted due to problems experienced in the past. Councillor LL ap T Davies seconded the motion.

**RESOLVED that an observation should be sent noting concerns about the sewerage system coping with the new houses.**

- ii) **LDP** - the report of the Independent Inspector, Rebecca Phillips, on the Examination into the LDP 2006-2021 has now been received by the Council published. The Report concludes that with the inclusion of the recommended changes, the Plan satisfies the requirements of section 64(5) of the Planning and Compulsory Act 2004 and meets the tests of soundness set out in LDP Wales. The Report is available on the Council's website.
- iii) **Carmarthenshire Sports Personality**. Nominations are now being invited for 12 categories of awards at the 2014 Sports Personality ceremony in January 2015. Closing date for nominations **21<sup>st</sup> November**.  
**RESOLVED that the Clerk discuss a possible nomination of a local darts player who is no.1 in Wales with Councillor KA Major.**
- iv) **Integrated Community Strategy for Carmarthenshire** Annual Forum, on Thursday 27 November 2014. The Forum will be held at the Halliwell Theatre, Carmarthen from 8.45am to 1pm.
- v) The next meeting of the **Town & Community Council Liaison Forum** will be held on **4 December 2014** at 6:15pm in County Hall, Carmarthen.

### 2. Welsh Government

- i) Appointment of Lay & Legal Members to the **Welsh Language Tribunal**, closing date for applications **28<sup>th</sup> November 2014**.

### 3. Welsh Local Government Association

- i) The report of the **Governance Review** in Carmarthenshire County Council has been published. Copy available on e-mail.

### 4. Mid and West Wales Fire Service

- i) Consultation on the **Draft Strategic Plan 2015 Onwards**. Closing date **28<sup>th</sup> November**.

**5. Age Cymru**

An invitation to their **AGM** for the year ending 2013/14 The AGM is on Wednesday 3 December and will start at 10.00am with refreshments and finish at approximately 12.30pm at The Mount, CAVS, 18 Queen Street, Carmarthen SA31 2JT. Guest speaker Ian Thomas, CEO, Age Cymru.

**6. Events Calendar**

Sponsors have been secured and a first proof of the images received. Calendars expected to be completed by the first week of December.

**118. To receive financial report.**

Members were provided with information relating to the expenditure for the period 1<sup>st</sup> April 2014 to 31<sup>st</sup> October 2014 including total spend, total budget and variance for all allocated budget headings and projects.

**119. To approve accounts for payment.**

The Clerk presented the Bank Reconciliation and Schedule of Payments Report as at 31<sup>st</sup> October 2014, which also noted the Bank Balances, un-presented cheques and receipts since last meeting.

<b>Reconciliation date:</b>		<b>31 October 2014</b>
<b>STATEMENT BALANCES</b>		
<b>Current Account</b>	<b>Community Account</b>	500.00
<b>Current Account</b>	<b>Business Saver Account</b>	25234.59
<b>BALANCES TOTALS</b>		<b>25,734.59</b>
<b>Investment Account</b>		57183.34
<b>RESERVES TOTALS</b>		<b>57183.34</b>

**RESOLVED** that the following Schedule be approved for payment with the exception of the payments to Carmarthenshire County Council for Play & Skate Park inspections as no evidence of the inspections had been received.

<b>Cheque number</b>	<b>Payee</b>	<b>Details</b>	<b>Cost</b>
103569	N&J James	Stall set up	400.00
103570	Bowen & Weaving	Paper	19.18
103571	G Williams & Son	Re-gilding of war memorial	900.00
103572	J N Williams	Ground Maintenance(Oct)	420.00
103573	J N Williams	Litter picking (Oct)	120.00
403574	Carmarthenshire County-Council	Playground Insp Jul - Sep 14	396.00
403575	Carmarthenshire County-Council	Skatepark Insp Jul - Sep14	396.00

103576	JS Ennis	Christmas Trees	400.00
103577	Emma Smith	Salary (Nov)	1839.69
103578	HMRC	PAYE (Nov)	191.50
103579	AEGON	Pension (ES)	149.22
103580	Emma Smith	Reimbursement*	210.09
103581	British Legion	Poppy Appeal donation	50.00

A further invoice from Good Directions for the service of the Town Clerk had been received but the Clock had ceased to work within a couple of days of the service. The matter was discussed and it was agreed to not to pay the invoice at present.

**RESOLVED that the invoice from Good Directions should not be paid pending further discussions with them about the condition of the Clock.**

**1. To receive reports of the committee meetings held on 4 November 2014 and to approve the response to Planning Application no W/31130**

Environment Committee report.

Councillor PM Hughes noted that he had tendered his apologies for the meeting. The Clerk agreed to amend the minutes. It was also noted that a decision needed to be made with regard to replacing the dead tree on Pentre Rd in St Clears.

Planning & Communities Committee.

It was noted that the red tarmac on Gothic Corner in St Clears needed to be redone and also extended.

The response to planning application W/31130 regarding the development of houses in Bancyfelin had been prepared by the Clerk and was considered by the Council. Councillor LL ap T Davies proposed that the letter should be sent as it was and Council agreed.

**RESOLVED that the Clerk send the drafted letter to Carmarthenshire County Council in order to note Council's objections to the planning application.**

It was also agreed that an e-mail received from Mrs Annalyn Davies to Council should also be included with the letter as a further objection.

The Best Decorated Premises competition was discussed and it was decided not to use the public to vote for the winner due to time constraints and workload pressures on the Clerk.

Finance & General Purpose Committee.

The minutes of the meeting were accepted as a true record and no matters were discussed further.

**120. Correspondence**

1. Transport Department, Welsh Government. Trunk Road Speed Review – questionnaire to be completed, one for the A40 and one for A477.
2. Gillian Cobb resident of St Clears e-mailed regarding the traffic lights at Spar and traffic speeding through to beat the lights. She notes that she had a near miss as a pedestrian trying to cross the

road. **RESOLVED that a letter of support addressing the matter be sent to the County Council.**

3. St Clears AFC contacted the Clerk via Twitter to enquire who owns the land behind their pitch by the chapel.

**RESOLVED that the Clerk advise the AFC that the land is owned by the Chapel.**

4. Rhian Davies, Carmarthenshire County Council. Over recent years a planning seminar has been held for Members and Clerks of Town and Community Councils. These have generally been held every two years, however, given forthcoming changes to the planning system, it is proposed to hold the next in February 2015. She writes to enquire if representatives of the Council would be interested in attending such an event. Topics to be covered will be:-

- The Planning Bill
- The Local Development Plan
- Development Management Changes

**RESOLVED that the Clerk replies to express an interest.**

5. Councillor Pam Palmer – Deputy Leader of Community, Carmarthenshire County Council has launched a Christmas Toy Box Appeal run by the Youth Service. The aim is to help make Christmas easier for those in difficult financial situations. People are being asked to donate new toys for children and young people aged from birth to 16, for boys and girls.

**RESOLVED that the appeal be promoted at the Christmas lights switch on event.**

**121. To receive an update on the Welfare Field.**

The Chair informed Council that a meeting had been held with the users of the field to receive feedback and discuss ideas. The next step is to meet with Carmarthenshire County Council to understand their position. It was agreed that Councillor PM Hughes will be informed when a meeting is arranged.

**122. To discuss the Christmas lights switch on event.**

This item was moved to the end of the agenda in order to allow time for a fuller discussion.

**123. To consider the co-option of a member to fill the vacant seat for Llanfihangel Abercowin ward.**

No expressions of interest have been received, it was agreed that a notice be provided for the shop in Bancyfelin.

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

Councillor KA Major reported that he had attended the One Voice Wales Area Committee which had been hosted by St Clears Town Council at the Gate. He noted that One Voice Wales were looking to promote the idea of communities sharing ideas and working together. It was also noted that new dog bylaws were coming into force to do with dog fouling and other aspects of dog ownership.

Councillor JSV Rees noted that she had been on the trip to Peillac with St Clears Twinning Association. Councillor Rees noted that representatives from Peillac were hoping to make a trip to St Clears mid-May 2015.

Councillor PJ Rogers had attended the Governors meeting at Ysgol Dyffryn Taf. The Eco Committee of the school were trying to win a platinum award and the school was also trying for a stage 3 Fair Trade award.

Councillor LL ap T Davies noted his attendance of the St Clears & District Community Association. It was agreed that Councillor Davies would ask for volunteers to help with the Christmas lights switch on event.

**125. To receive the Town Mayor's Report on civic events, engagements and Tuesday morning drop in sessions.**

The Mayor noted his attendance at the following events / meetings:

- Mayor and Mayoress bid farewell to the Twinning Association's trip to Peillac and presented a gift for the new Mayor there.
- One Voice Wales Carmarthenshire Area Committee.
- St Clears Fireworks display and Bancyfelin bonfire night.
- Remembrance service at the Church on Remembrance Sunday and also at the War Memorial, the Mayor noted that the attendance was excellent.
- Service at the War Memorial on 11 November.
- The Gate's Christmas opening event on 13 November.
- Mayor's surgery sessions at the Gate on Tuesday morning where he had met with colleagues and also taken the opportunity to sort out some of the things stored in the old Guide Hut.

**126. Any other business (exchange of information only)**

No other business was raised.

The meeting returned to item 13 on the agenda (item 104 above) to discuss the Christmas lights switch on event.

It was noted that the St Clears branch of the British Legion would be providing volunteers to help steward the event.

It was also agreed that a bucket collection would be made for the Christmas Toybox appeal run by Carmarthenshire Youth Service.

The Clerk's workload over the coming weeks was also discussed and also the need to discuss the budget for 2015/16.

**RESOLVED that the Committee meetings on the 2<sup>nd</sup> December be replaced by a single budget setting meeting.** This would in turn reduce the preparation work required by the Clerk and also address the budget.

The Chair informed Council that a constructive meeting had been held with St Clears & District Community Association and the intention was to meet again in January to plan the year ahead. It was also suggested that the Community Association of Bancyfelin be involved in discussions for the year ahead.

**RESOLVED that the February meeting of the Town Council be held in Bancyfelin and that the Bancyfelin Community Association should be invited along to this meeting.**

**Meeting terminated at 20.52**