

## St Clears Town Council

### Minutes of the meeting of St Clears Town Council held in Meeting Room 1, The Gate, St Clears, on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2018 at 7pm.

**Present:** Councillors T Austin-Brydon, CM Davies, LL ap T Davies, RG Edwards, JSV Rees (Chair), I Richards, PJ Rogers.

*Observing: Mr Brian Newcombe*

#### **188. Apologies**

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillors Dr WEVJ Davies, KA Major and I Price.

#### **189. Personal Matters**

Condolences were expressed to Cllr RG Edwards on the loss of his stepmother. Cllr Edwards thanked council for its support.

The Chair also expressed council's sympathy for the family of Fiona Scourfield at this difficult time, noting that the community were there to support them in any way it could.

#### **190. Declarations of Interest.**

None.

#### **191. To confirm the minutes of the meeting of the Town Council held on the 20<sup>th</sup> February 2018.**

- (i) An amendment to item 178, amend Chair of Governors to read Foundation Governor.

Councillor RG Edwards proposed that the minutes were a true record of the meeting and was seconded by Cllr PJ Rogers.

**RESOLVED that with the amendment above, the minutes should be signed as a true record.**

#### **192. Matters arising (exchange of information only)**

No matters arising.

#### **193. To receive the County Councillor's update.**

The County Councillor wasn't present at the meeting to provide an update. It was recorded that the problems at the building site in Bancyfelin had stabilised since the last meeting.

#### **194. To receive the Clerk's report.**

##### **1) Carmarthenshire County Council**

- (i) Carmarthenshire County Council has set its revenue budget for the next financial year. It includes an investment of £500,000 to support schools and a commitment to boost the pay for the council's lowest paid workers. Council Tax will increase by 4.45 per cent to help the council meet the cost of providing public services, equating to a rise of less than £1 per week (£4.25 per month over the year), for an average Band D property.

- 2) **Welsh Government**
- (I) Consultation: Creating a Parliament for Wales. The National Assembly is holding a public consultation on the scope of the potential electoral, organisational and internal reforms which the Wales Act 2017 makes possible. We want to hear your views on these potential changes. [www.assembly.wales/futuresenedd](http://www.assembly.wales/futuresenedd) . Responses must be received by the 6<sup>th</sup> April.
- (II) In 2017-18, in support of the “agenda for action” Welsh Government made 20k of funding available to support the sector’s interest in setting up joint arrangements for clustering. The sector’s response provided a sufficient number of eligible bids to allocate the budget in full. Further funding has been agreed for 2018-19 to help councils who are already considering options around a set of core themes to take their thinking forward into practical application.
- 3) **One Voice Wales**
- (i) The latest legal guidance received in relation to the General Data Protection Regulation. The guidance tells council what actions are required to comply with the regulations by 25 May 2018. NALC has commissioned a firm of solicitors to prepare a toolkit for use by councils as they prepare for the implementation date. As a member council you will be provided with the toolkit as soon as it is completed. Furthermore, NALC will be advising One Voice Wales as to how to source the role of Data Protection Officer where this cannot be provided in-house.
- (ii) Member councils are invited to propose a **maximum of two motions for debate** at the AGM on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> September 2018, which must arrive at this office **no later than noon on Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> May 2018** for consideration by the Conference Agenda Committee.  
A motion must reflect a national issue or problem – One Voice Wales cannot take forward motions that are only relevant to one particular area. (Local issues/matters can be dealt with at Area Committee meetings.)  
Each motion **must** be accompanied by a short explanatory note (not exceeding 150 words) in order that the Agenda Committee can fully understand the points being made.
- 4) **Independent Remuneration Panel**  
The panel have published their report which will have effect for the financial year 2018 / 2019. There are a number of changes to allowances, including mandatory offers of allowances to all councillors. The changes will be considered in the next meeting of council.
- 5) **Local Democracy and Boundary Commission for Wales**  
The Local Democracy and Boundary Commission for Wales (the Commission) has been asked by the Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Local Government to provide updated guidance on the conduct of community reviews by principal councils to support greater consistency in the manner in which community reviews are conducted.

The Commission has published the guidance in its final form. The Guidance is available on the Commission website  
<http://ldbc.gov.wales/publications/guidance/commrevguide/;jsessionid+0714C02801543F5F18C2E1C556BF6C7F;jsessionid=DC8069E9C6EEDD45436226275F6D6227?skip=1&lang=en>

There are two audiences in mind in the drafting of this document. Primarily this is a guide for principal council officers in the conduct of a review of their communities. It has also been drafted to inform interested parties, in particular the town and community councils of Wales, as to how the process should operate.

**6) Meeting with the Independent Review Panel**

The Mayor and the Clerk recently attended an engagement event held by the Independent Review Panel to discuss the four key questions they are asking as part of their review. Responses were collected from a very well attended meeting and a draft report will be ready by the summer.

**7) Wifi Towns**

The Clerk attended a meeting with officers from Carmarthenshire County Council's Leader Programme and representatives from Antur Teifi to discuss the developments with the wifi towns initiative. The next steps involved getting businesses to sign up to have one of the access points attached to their building and installation can follow shortly after. Antur Teifi are due to provide paperwork to assist council with the business support.

**195. 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.**

**196. To approve accounts for payment.**

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

Reconciliation date:		<b>19-Mar-2018</b>
<b>STATEMENT BALANCES</b>		
Current Account	Community Account	547.31
Current Account	Business Saver Account	30710.94
<b>BALANCES TOTALS</b>		<b>31,258.25</b>
General (Precept) Reserves		26392.00
Allocated Project Fund		30901.80
		<b>57293.80</b>

SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS		20th March 2018	
Cheque/ BACS no.	Payee	Details	Cost (inc VAT) £
103841	AEGON	Pension (March)	207.97
103843	Black Lion	Bus Shelter Rental	52.00
103844	Terry Jones	Bus Shelter Cleaning	78.00
103845	Rhodri Peters	Financial Assistance donation (s.137)	200.00
103846	St Clears & District Twin Assoc	Community Events Chest (s137)	300.00
103847	Cash	Petty cash replenishment	148.84
103848	Bowen & Weaving	Paper & paper clips	21.76
BACS 263	Emma Smith	Salary (March)	
BACS 264	HMRC	PAYE (March)	585.33
BACS 265	Jonathan Williams	Grounds Maintenance and delittering	672.00
BACS 266	Jonathan Williams	Welfare Field Maintenance (paid)	278.40
BACS 267	Eagle Signs	Noticeboard - Bancyfelin (supply & fit)	685.80
BACS 268	Emma Smith	Reimbursement*	18.62
BACS 269	Carmarthenshire County Council	Footway lighting charges	8244.87
BACS 270	Carmarthenshire County Council	Conversion box lighting column CCTV	210.00
BACS 271	Carmarthenshire County Council	Room Hire / refreshments Business / orgs m	72.00
BACS 272	W3 Web Designs Ltd	Redesign of website (deposit 50%)	499.50
BACS 273	Carmarthenshire County Council	Rent Oct17-Mar18	750.00
			<b>13025.09</b>

**RESOLVED** that the cheque for the donation to St Clears & District Twinning Association should be issued but kept by Council until the rearranged dates for the visit from Peillac were confirmed.

**197. To receive the Committee reports**

- (i) **Environment Committee.** Cllr PJ Rogers, Chair of Committee led council through the minutes of the meeting held on the 6<sup>th</sup> March. **RESOLVED** that the minutes be approved and the recommendations accepted.
- (ii) **Community, Finance and General-Purpose Committee.** Due to his position as chair of the organisation, Cllr CM Davies declared an interest in the recommendation in the report regarding the donation of the damaged crowd control barriers to St Clears & District Community Association. Cllr LL ap T Davies requested that the minutes record that the defibrillator had been accepted from Cllr LL ap T Davies. **RESOLVED** that with the request amendment that the minutes and recommendations be approved by council.
- (iii) **Welfare Field Sub-Committee.** The Clerk reported that there had been no response from St Clears AFC Seniors or Juniors regarding signature of the contract for use of the field from the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2018. **RESOLVED** that legal advice be sought on the matter. **RESOLVED** that the report be accepted and that signage regarding bookings of the field be erected on site.

**198. To nominate the Mayor and the Deputy Mayor for the 2018/19 Civic Year**

(i) Councillor PJ Rogers proposed that Cllr Dr WEVJ Davies be nominated as Mayor for the 2018/19 Civic Year and was seconded by Cllr T Austin-Brydon. **RESOLVED** that Cllr Dr WEVJ Davies be elected Mayor for the 2018/19 Civic Year.

- (iii) A Deputy Mayor wasn't formally nominated during the meeting and as such the matter was referred to the April meeting of council.

**RESOLVED that council nominate a Deputy Mayor in the April meeting of council.**

199. **To discuss the Environment Committee's recommendation for a cycleway / footpath between Bancyfelin and St Clears.**  
Cllr PJ Rogers led the item and presented his paper for the construction of a cycleway between St Clears and Bancyfelin. Ideas were discussed with regard to possible funding sources and also publicity for the development. Council thanked Cllr Rogers for his paper and agreed to the initial stages of the project being taken forward. Cllr RG Edwards proposed that the proposal should be accepted and was seconded by Cllr LL ap T Davies. **RESOLVED that council supports the proposal and, subject to proper financial scrutiny and the acquisition of funding assistance from partner organisations, establishes a joint working group with other organisations to develop an outline plan to initiate the work.**
200. **To consider nominations for the Community Service Award and the Eric Raymond Senior and Junior Awards**
- (i) Cllr PJ Rogers proposed that Mr Ray Steel be nominated for a community service award for his years of work with the local scouts group. Cllr CM Davies seconded the proposal. **RESOLVED that Mr Ray Steel be presented with a community service award.**
  - (ii) Cllr LL ap T Davies proposed that Mr Dwyfor Morgan receive a community award for his work to establish and support the TROT's group in St Clears. The proposal was seconded by Cllr RG Edwards. **RESOLVED that Mr Dwyfor Morgan be presented with a community service award.**
  - (iii) Cllr RG Edwards proposed that Mr James Davies be presented with the Eric Raymond senior award for his successes in recent years and was seconded by Cllr LL ap T Davies. **RESOLVED that James Davies receive the Eric Raymond Senior Award.**
  - (iv) **RESOLVED that the Eric Raymond Junior Award be presented to Freya Evans for her success in gymnastics.**
  - (v) **RESOLVED that an extra award be made and that the Ysgol Griffith Jones choir receive a special cultural award for their services to the community.**
201. **Correspondence (exchange of information only).**  
No items.
202. **To consider the two vacant seats on the Council.**  
No formal expressions of interest received.
203. **To receive reports from representatives on meeting of outside bodies, seminars etc.**
- (i) Cllr PJ Rogers had attended the Standards Committee of the County Council. Councillor Rogers noted that Code of Conduct training would be available in June.

- (ii) Cllr I Richards noted he had visited Ysgol Griffith Jones to initiate the poster campaign against dog fouling. Cllr Richards had also made contact with a representative of Neighbourhood Watch who was willing to come and talk to council.
- (iii) Councillor RG Edwards had attended the Governors meeting at Ysgol Bancyfelin.
- (iv) Cllr JSV Rees thanked council for their support for the meeting with businesses and organisations on the 26<sup>th</sup> February. 26 people had attended. Another meeting has been arranged for 9<sup>th</sup> April which would include a presentation about the new wi-fi service in the town and an opportunity to share ideas about the Gate and the Leisure Centre in St Clears.

**204. To receive the Town Mayor's Report on civic events, engagements etc.**  
Since the last meeting, the Mayor had attended:

- Tractor Run in support of Wales Air Ambulance.
- Welsh Guards Concert at St Peters Church.
- Representing the town after the tragic incident at Broadmoor Farm.
- Cyd Cawl at the White Lion.
- Funeral of Dilys Jones, former Mayor of Laugharne.
- Mayor's Ball at Newcastle Emlyn.

The Mayor had also been asked to provide a personal letter of support to the St Clears & District Community Association to seek lottery funding. The Mayor noted her intention to do so if there were no objections by council. No objections were raised.

**205. Any Other Business (exchange of information only).**

- (i) Cllr RG Edwards noted that a new gardening club 'Tyfu Bancyfelin' was up and running.
- (ii) Cllr CM Davies informed council of some unfortunate incidents on Peillac Way where a shotgun had been used to kill ducks on the river. The police had been informed.
- (iii) Osbourne Charity. Arrangements were being made to regain order with the trust and all documents were to be sent to the diocesan and registrar.
- (iv) A change of dates the next meetings was approved as follows:
  - 10<sup>th</sup> April – Committees
  - 24<sup>th</sup> April - Full Council
  - 14<sup>th</sup> May – Mayor Making
  - 15<sup>th</sup> May – Full Council

Extra dates to note:

- 9<sup>th</sup> April – 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting with businesses / organisations / interested individuals.
- 1<sup>st</sup> May – Dementia Friends training.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> May – Awards Evening at Ysgol Griffith Jones.

**Meeting terminated 21:17**