

St Clears Town Council
Minutes of the St Clears Town Council Meeting
held in The Gate, Pentre Road, St Clears
on Tuesday 21 October 2014 at 7.00pm

Present:

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

In the Chair – Councillor RG Edwards (Town Mayor)

91. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Councillors KA Major, JSV Rees and H Witt.

92. Personal Matters

No matters were noted.

93. Declarations of Interest.

Councillors CM Davies, PM Hughes and LL ap T Davies expressed an interest under item 105 below due to their roles on, or representing the Council on, St Clears and District Community Association.

94. To receive a presentation from Group Manager Iwan Cray, Mid and West Wales Fire & Rescue Service

Group Manager Iwan Cray introduced himself and said that he was there to answer any questions the Council may have but also to touch on some of the work the Fire & Rescue Service has been doing and some of the work they have planned. Mr Cray informed Council of the different type of incidents that they deal with and where there had been a reduction for some and an increase in other areas. He also informed Council of the Home Fire Safety Check programme which was available to everybody. Take up had been relatively low in the Whitland area, which covers St Clears at just 12.8% and Mr Cray noted the service needed promoted. He agreed to send posters to the Town Clerk for display in the Council area.

More information was received, including the plans to increase the number of first responders in the area and the Fire & Rescue's work with young people was also discussed.

95. To confirm the minutes of the meeting of the Town Council held on 16th September 2014.

Councillor Dr WEVJ Davies proposed they were a true record and was seconded by Councillor C Ingleton.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of 16 September were a true record.

96. Matters arising (exchange of information only)

No matters were discussed.

97. To receive the County Councillor's Update

Councillor PM Hughes sought Council's approval for the County Council to remove the double yellow lines from outside 8 Corvus Terrace where there is a disabled resident. Councillor CM Davies proposed that the motion be supported and Council agreed unanimously.

RESOLVED that the Council support the County Council's wish to remove the double yellow lines outside 8 Corvus Terrace.

Councillor Hughes noted that the problem with the drain on Gothic Corner in St Clears still hadn't been resolved but that it had been referred to another department so the matter was in motion again.

Councillor Hughes also noted that the problems at Rhydygors that were discussed in the previous Town Council meeting appeared to have settled down and that he was monitoring the situation.

The County Councillor noted that the letter box on Backe Rd had been removed and that he was trying to resolve this matter but hadn't received a response as yet.

98. To receive the Clerk's Report

1. Carmarthenshire County Council

i) Planning Applications – NONE.

2. One Voice Wales

i) **Carmarthenshire Area Committee** – 28th October, 7pm at the Gate, St Clears.

3. Welsh Government

i) **The Review of Designated Landscapes** – Comments invited by 5th November on (i) the purposes of designated landscapes, and (ii) the merits of classifying Wales' designated landscapes under one type of designation.

4. Planning Aid Wales –

Invitation to attend a half day seminar which will explore how community planning can benefit communities and the planning profession. Bringing together community councils and planners, it will be an opportunity to share experiences, develop understanding and identify good practice. **18 November 2014 – 2.30pm till 6.30pm, Chapter Arts Centre, Cardiff** £20 fee per person. Speakers: Wayne Dyer, *Arup* Robert Robinson, *Welshpool Town Council*, Anna Leron *Civic Trust for Wales* Dave Lucas *Caerphilly County Borough Council*

5. Town Clock

Good directions due to service the clock on the 22nd October.

99. To receive financial report.

Members were provided with information relating to the expenditure for the period 1st April 2014 to 14th October 2014 including total spend, total budget and variance for all allocated budget headings and projects.

100. To approve accounts for payment.

The Clerk presented the Bank Reconciliation and Schedule of Payments Report as at 14th October 2014, which also noted the Bank Balances, un-presented cheques and receipts since last meeting.

Reconciliation date:		14 October 2014
STATEMENT BALANCES		
Current Account	Community Account	700.00
Current Account	Business Saver Account	30623.15
Investment Account		57183.34
BALANCES TOTALS		88506.49

RESOLVED that the following Schedule be approved for payment:

103549	Carmarthenshire County Council	Room hire	40.80
103550	Fire and Security Alarms Ltd	Service of CCTV	900.00
103551	Emma Smith	Reimbursement (Sept)*	22.29
103552	Emma Smith	Salary (October)	1839.70
103553	AEGON	Emma Smith Pension (Oct 14)	149.22
103554	Helen Williams	Salary (October)	1,276.58
103555	AEGON	Helen Williams Pension (Oct 14)	189.41
103556	HMRC	PAYE (October)	547.77
103557	J N Williams	Ground Maintenance Sept 14	420.00
103558	J N Williams	Litter picking Sept 14	120.00
103559	Glyn Edwards Office Equip	Photocopying	4.56
103560	C L Hussell	Marquee Storage	390.00
103561	Bancyfein Village Hall	Community Events Chest	180.00
103562	Bancyfein Village Hall	Community Events Chest	300.00
103563	St Clears & District Comm Assoc	Community Events Chest	400.00
103564	One Voice Wales	Training costs	60.00
103565	Cash	Petty cash for Clerk	150.00
103566	Eagle Signs	Reositioning of notice board	96.00
103567	G Williams & Sons	Cleaning sandstone at War Mem,	390.00

101. To receive reports of the committee meetings held on 7th October 2014

Environment Committee report. It was noted that there are still problems with obtaining inspection reports for the Skate & Play parks

and that this matter would need to be revisited. Councillor P J Rogers, Chair of the Committee noted that the silver leaf restoration on the war memorial would be done in time for Remembrance Sunday. Council was also informed that the heritage panels on Peillac Way were due to be removed for the winter months to protect them from the high tide.

The condition of the Town Hall, a feature of the heritage trail was also raised and Councillor PJ Rogers proposed that Council write to the Town Trust to ask for an update on the repair work to the building given the negative comments that had been received by visitors.

Planning & Communities Committee. Council welcomed the proposal to replace the DVR for the CCTV.

Finance & General Purpose Committee. Members attentions was drawn to the recommendation to proceed with online banking with the inbuilt safeguard that two members of Council were to sign the schedule of payments for each meeting. Council agreed to proceed.

RESOLVED that the Council proceed to register for Online Banking.

102. Correspondence

- 1. Taf QT Club** – a letter to thank the Council for their donation to the Club and the Mayor for his visit. It also notes that the club has just celebrated their 1st birthday.
- 2. John McEvoy – Carmarthenshire County Council** – emailed to ask if the Town Council could please consider a request to remove the double yellow lines outside No. 8 Corvus Terrace, (B 4293) St Clears on the grounds of improving access for a severely disabled resident of No. 8.
- 3. Andy Pearson** – update with regard to the Dyfed Powys Police Estate Strategy and a response to Council's concerns regarding St Clears Police Station.
- 4. National Library of Wales** – Invitation to partake in the UK web archive by archiving the website. A partnership between the National Library of Wales, the British Library, JISC and the Wellcome Library to preserve the website for future users. The website has been identified as an important part of Wales' documentary heritage.

RESOLVED that the form to consent to the archive be completed and returned.

- 5. Tom Brown, St Clears Historical Protection Society** – Copy of a letter to the Head of Planning for Carmarthenshire regarding three late Victorian Water Pumps on High Street and Bridge Street. The society would like protect their historic position within the community. The letter enquires as to who is responsible for the pumps and whether planning permission is necessary prior to any refurbishment. They also note that any further information or advice which may be relevant.

RESOLVED that the matter be passed to the Environment Committee.

6. **Carmarthen Town Council** – meeting on the 19th November at 7pm of the Swansea Bay City Region at Carmarthen Town Council. Councillor Meryl Gravell, David Gilbert, Director of Regeneration and Leisure at Carmarthenshire and the Secretary of the Board, Steven Phillips, who is also Chief Executive of Neath Port Talbot, will be attending. They are inviting up to two representatives.

RESOLVED that two representatives in addition to the County Council should attend the meeting.

103. To receive an update on the Welfare Field.

Members had been provided with minutes for the first two Welfare Field sub-committee meetings and a verbal update was provided for the meeting held prior to the Council meeting earlier that evening. The Chair of Council informed members that the next step was to meet with users of the field to discuss their wishes. Minutes of the sub-committee will be provided prior to every Council meeting.

104. To discuss placing notice boards in more of the Council's areas.

Members discussed the need for notice boards in other areas of the Council in addition to the new notice board outside the Gate.

RESOLVED that the Clerk look into options for more notice boards and research the sizes available and the price of the notice boards. The matter will be revisited in the Environment Committee and reconsidered at the end of the financial year.

105. To discuss the Christmas lights switch on event and the application to the Community Events Chest.

Councillor PM Hughes left the meeting at this point. Council agreed to move the item to the end of the meeting to allow for a fuller discussion.

106. To discuss the development of a 2015 online and paper calendar.

The Chair of Council updated Council regarding the developments with the calendar noting that it would be sponsored by local businesses and would include major community events. The calendar would have the heritage panels as images and a list of local groups and organisations contact numbers. The Chair explained the finances required to support the calendar and reminded Council that such a calendar had been requested in the public meeting in September.

Councillor Dr WEVJ Davies proposed that Council go ahead with producing the calendar and Councillor CM Davies seconded the proposal, Council agreed the proposal.

RESOLVED that the paper calendar for 2015 be produced as outlined above.

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

No expressions of interest had been received.

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

Councillor LL ap T Davies had attended the St Clears and District Community Association meeting and noted that the Association had accepted the Community Events Chest donation and would be running the fireworks event in St Clears on 5th November.

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

The Mayor reported that he had attended the following events:

- Reopening of Spar on Pentre Rd St Clears.
- Dylan Thomas exhibition at the Gate, St Clears.
- Supporting St Clears RFC in Aberaeron.

The Mayor also thanked everybody for their support with the 70s Charity night at Ysgol Griffith Jones on the 11th of October. He reported that the event had been a success and had raised in the region of £2000 for charity.

It was also noted that a joint meeting of councils had been held on the 23rd of September with representatives from St Clears, Whitland, Llanddowror & Llanmiloe and Llangynin councils present. The Mayor reported that the meeting had been positive and looked at ways of working together to benefit the Councils and their communities. The next meeting will be held on 25th November and speeding will be one of the items on the agenda.

The Mayor also gave an update on the Tuesday morning drop in sessions at the Gate which included discussions with the Project & Events co-ordinator about the calendar. It had also included discussions on the management of assets with the Chair of Finance & General Purpose Committee. The Chair of the Environment Committee had also called in to discuss issues concerning the heritage trail and the environment committee.

110. Any other business (exchange of information only)

Councillor Dr WEVJ Davies enquired about the byway at Manordaf and noted that there were stills cars parking there blocking access to the quay. It was agreed that the matter be referred to the next meeting of the Environment Committee.

Council discussed how the community in St Clears were coping with the movement of the Post Office to Spar. It was noted that the disabled parking bay outside the shop was not being correctly used and it was agreed that Council should write to Spar to ask them to monitor this.

As agreed earlier in the meeting, Council came back to item to discuss the Christmas lights switch on and the application to the Community Events Chest to receive support to run the event. The application was discussed and it was agreed that £100 be donated to cover the cost of the posters and the flyers for the event and it was also agreed that the Council would cover the cost of the selection boxes for the children up to £300. Support would also be given in terms of equipment such as crowd control barriers and stalls for the event. Councillor LL ap Davies suggested that a meeting be arranged to discuss the event and co-ordinate the light switch on and Council agreed.

Meeting terminated at 20.49