

St Clears Town Council

Minutes of the meeting of St Clears Town Council held in Meeting Room 1, the Gate, St Clears, on Tuesday 26th April 2016 at 7.00pm

Present: Councillors CM Davies (Chair), LL ap T Davies, Dr WEVJ Davies, RG Edwards, PM Hughes, JSV Rees, PJ Rogers

174. Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillor KA Major and Councillor I Price.

175. Personal Matters

The Chair informed Council that a letter of resignation had been received from Melonie Galvin. Council requested that a letter of thanks be sent along with best wishes for the future.

Councillor Lyn Davies thanked Council for the card and condolences from Council after his sister passed away. The Chair expressed the condolences of Council to Councillor Davies.

176. Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were stated.

177. To confirm the minutes of the meeting of the Town Council held on 15th March 2016.

Councillor WEVJ Davies proposed that the minutes were an accurate record of the meeting and was seconded by Councillor JSV Rees. **RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting on 15th March 2016 be approved.**

178. Matters Arising

Item 160 (143) Councillor PJ Rogers enquired if the revised speed limit on Ostrey Hill was now in place. Councillor PM Hughes explained that it wasn't active yet but would be shortly when some work had been done to the pavement in the area.

179. County Councillor's Update

Councillor PM Hughes noted that the parking bays outside the Factory Shop would be further reduced by 5 metres and not as far as the chip shop as previously recorded. Councillor PM Hughes agreed to check the status of the litter-picker in Bancyfelin.

180. Clerk's Report.

1. Carmarthenshire County Council.

- i) Planning applications – **W/33637**. CHANGE OF USE FROM GARAGE AND OIL STORAGE (B8) TO TIMBER PROCESSING AND STORAGE (B2) NORTH GARAGE, STATION ROAD, ST CLEARS. **RESOLVED that the matter be referred to the special meeting of Council on 3rd May.** CARMARTHEN, SA33 4BP. **W/33634** - REAR EXTENSIONS. BIRCH GROVE, TENBY ROAD, ST CLEARS, CARMARTHEN, SA33

4JW. **RESOLVED that Council have no objections to the planning application.**

- ii) Carmarthenshire County Council (Public Footpath 63/22, Manor Farm, St Clears, Carmarthenshire), Public Path Diversion Order. The order will divert part of the public footpath at Manor Farm as shown on the Order Map. **RESOLVED that no objections be noted and that the County be requested to check the rest of the path.**
- iii) **Change in language category for Ysqol Gyfun Gymraeg Bro Myrddin**

The Statutory Notice for the above proposal is available to view on Carmarthenshire County Council's website from 13 April 2016 on the following web address: www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/publicnotices

2. One Voice Wales.

- 1. **One Voice Wales/SLCC Joint Event – 22 June 2016, Liberty Stadium, Swansea.**

This Event is a very important one for Councils given that it focuses on key topic areas such as the Well Being of Future Generations Act 2015, proposed local government reorganisation; financial governance and accountability; and contributing to sustainability. It is open for Councillors and Clerks to attend. £69+ VAT (Early Bird). **RESOLVED that the Clerk attend the conference.**

2. Motions for 2016 Annual General Meeting

Member councils are invited to propose a **maximum of two** motions for debate at the AGM on Saturday 1st October 2016, which must arrive at this office **no later than noon on Friday 1st July 2016** for consideration by the Conference Agenda Committee.

3. Welsh Government

'Community Asset Transfers in Wales: a best practice guide'. The Welsh Government has recently published this guide in conjunction with other government bodies and 3rd sector partners.

4. Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service

Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Authority has published its Strategic Plan for 2016-2021 and its Annual Improvement Plan for 2016-2017. The Strategic Plan for 2016-21 and the Annual Improvement Plan for 2016-17, are available on the Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service website www.mawwfire.gov.uk.

5. Website.

Work has continued to populate the calendar section of the website. If you have any events to add, please contact the Clerk. Please spread the word.

181. Financial Report

Members were provided with information relating to the expenditure for the period 1st April 2015 to 25th April 2016. **RESOLVED that the report be accepted by Council.** The Clerk provided an update on progress with the audit arrangements for the end of 2015/16 financial year.

182. To receive reports of the committee meetings held on 5th April 2016.

Environment Committee. Item 7 – It was agreed that the secondary schools should be contacted to take part in the Coleridge Festival.

Item 8 – It was suggested that the County Council may be able to help with clearing the street refuse, enquiries should be made here in the first instance.

Item 11 – an update was requested regarding dog fouling on Heol Goi, St Clears and the intervention of the dog warden. No action had been taken as yet so Councillor PM Hughes agreed to contact the dog warden to request the situation be monitored. It was noted that similar problems existed on Station Rd, St Clears.

Planning and Communities Committee

The Chair informed Council that the Guide Hut was still open with the trailer half way in. Council noted their growing concern over this matter and it was agreed that if the trailer hadn't been moved by the contractor then volunteers would meet on Friday 29th April to empty and move the trailer in order to secure the hut. A discussion was held about the matter and Councillor PM Hughes agreed to contact the County Council to have the trees trimmed back and the Clerk agreed to check the grant conditions relating to the hire of stalls.

Finance and General Purpose. The minutes were accepted with no matters arising.

183. Accounts for Payment

The Clerk's salary had gone up one point on the scale at the beginning of April as per NJC pay scales presented to Council and approved in December 2014. Councillor PM Hughes moved that the schedule of payments noted below should be approved and was seconded by Councillor JSV Rees, **RESOLVED that the schedule of payments and bank reconciliation noted below be approved by Council:**

SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS			19th April 2016	
Cheque/ BACS no.	Payee	Details	Cost (inc VAT)	
103721	Ysgol Dyffryn Taf	Sponsorship D&T Award	50.00	
103722	Neuadd Bancyfelin	Room hire	12.00	
103723	HMRC	PAYE (Apr)	562.14	
103724	AEGON	Pension ES (Apr)	200.80	
103725	A McEwan	Best Garden Competition	70.00	
103726	E John	Best Garden Competition	75.00	
103727	Mr & Mrs R Roberts	Best Garden Competition	75.00	
103728	G Morse	Best Garden Competition	30.00	
103729	St Clears Pharmacy	Best Decorated Premises	30.00	
103730	Dechrau Disglair	Best Decorated Premises	20.00	
103731	Eynon's of St Clears Ltd	Best Decorated Premises	10.00	
103732	Catrin Cox	Best Decorated Premises	30.00	
103733	Mr Chadwick	Best Decorated Premises	20.00	
103734	Eleri Evans	Best Decorated Premises	10.00	
BACS 095	One Voice Wales	Membership 2016/17	393.00	
BACS 096	Carmarthenshire County Council	Room Hire 8 March 2016	10.00	
BACS 097	JN Williams	Ground Maintenance	420.00	
BACS 098	JN Williams	Litterpicking	120.00	
BACS 099	Emma Smith	Salary	1629.68	
BACS 100	Carmarthenshire County Council	Annual Inspection - Skate & Play	96.00	
BACS 101	Carmarthenshire County Council	Routine inspections Skate & Play (Q4)	792.00	
BACS 102	W3 Web Designs	Website update	30.00	
BACS 103	Emma Smith	Reimbursement*	101.18	
BACS 104	Swallow Office Supplies	Toner Cartridge x 2	211.20	

Reconciliation date:		25 April 2016
STATEMENT BALANCES		
Current Account	Community Account	5,729.85
Current Account	Business Saver Account	5908.26
BALANCES TOTALS		11,638.11
Investment Account		57233.80
RESERVES TOTALS		57233.80

184. To consider a revised code of conduct.

The Clerk introduced a revised Code of Conduct which had been circulated by the Welsh Government. The key changes were explained and members were asked to read and consider the document with a view to approving the revised Code during the AGM in May. **RESOLVED that the revised Code of Conduct be referred to the AGM for consideration.**

185. To discuss changes to the remuneration of members.

The Clerk introduced a document from the Independent Remuneration Panel Wales regarding upcoming changes to members. Council would need to consider the changes and vote on whether to adopt them. **RESOLVED that the matter be referred to the June meeting of Council.**

186. To discuss an event for the Queen's official birthday.

It was agreed that thanks would be sent to Tom Brown for putting up the flags on the Queen's birthday. Council considered the options for holding an event in June for the Queen's official birthday. **RESOLVED that Council would consider gifting school**

children in the area a coin or a mug to mark the occasion rather than arranging an event.

187. Correspondence

The meeting noted the following items of correspondence received:

1. Nicholas Alderton. Research Student, Cardiff University. Request for information about how much money Council will be spending on the Queen's birthday celebrations. **RECOMMENDED that a reply be sent to note that no expenditure had been allocated for the event.** Councillor JSV Rees expressed her wish to note that consideration has been given to an event and discussions were ongoing about other ways of marking the occasion.
2. Dyfed Powys Police and Crime Commissioner. The response was noted by Council. **RESOLVED that the Clerk send a letter of thanks requesting that Council be updated on developments.**
3. Daniel Holloway re: park at Bancybeili. **RESOLVED that the Clerk respond further to Mr Holloway to note there is a bin at the park in the Leisure Centre.**
4. Wales Air Ambulance. Letter of thanks for the donation.
5. St Clears & District Royal British Legion. Email from John Mycroft thanking Council for the community events chest donation.

188. To consider the two vacant seat in the Llanfihangel Abercowin ward.

The Clerk reported that no expressions of interest had been forthcoming to fill by co-option the casual vacancies on the Llanfihangel Abercowin Ward. Council discussed the reduced numbers of Councillors and the difficulties this posed, especially for the Committee meetings. Changes to the arrangements for meetings were discussed and it was agreed that the committees should cease and in its place should be a further meeting of Council to deal with the business previously dealt with by Committee, subject to approval at the AGM. **RESOLVED that the changes to the committee meetings be referred to the AGM.**

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

Councillor JSV Rees informed Council that the Twinning Association's trip to Peillac would now take place on October 23rd rather than in May as planned.

Councillor RG Edwards noted he hoped to be in a position to share an update regarding Bancyfelin Primary School soon.

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

The Mayor noted that he had been in further discussion with a resident on Llangynin Rd about speeding in the vicinity. The matter was now in the hands of the Assembly Member. Council discussed opportunities for the public to meet with Council now that the drop in sessions had ceased. It was agreed that two meetings a month with

an opportunity to call in ahead of the meeting should provide sufficient access to Council, in addition to contacting the Clerk / individual Councillors from day to day.

191. Any Other Business

Due to the resignation to the incoming Deputy Mayor, it was noted that there was some urgency to elect a Deputy, prior to the Mayor Making in two weeks' time. Councillor CM Davies proposed that Councillor JSV Rees be nominated as Deputy Mayor for the Civic Year 2016/17 and was seconded by Councillor Philip Rogers. RESOLVED that Councillor JSV Rees be nominated as Deputy Mayor for the 2016/17 Civic Year.

Councillors were reminded that there would be a meeting of Council on Tuesday 3rd May at 7pm.

Councillor LL ap T Davies informed Council that the Mayor Making would be held on the 13th May at 7pm in Bancyfelin Village Hall.

Meeting terminated at 20.50