

St Clears Town Council

Minutes of the meeting of St Clears Town Council held in The Gate, Pentre Road, St Clears on Tuesday 19th January 2016 at 6.30pm

Present:

Councillors LLapT Davies, Dr WEVJ Davies, RG Edwards, PM Hughes, KA Major
DR Phillips, I Price, JSV Rees, PJ Rogers

At 7.30 pm in the absence of the Town Mayor and Deputy Town Mayor it was
RESOLVED that Councillor RG Edwards act as Chair for the meeting

125. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors CM Davies, M Galvin and S
Lane

126. Declarations of Interest

No formal declarations recorded

126. Minutes

**RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Town Council held on 15th
December 2015 be signed as a correct record.**

127. Matters Arising

i) 112 iii) b) Site Meeting near the Chapel in Bancyfelin

Councillor LLap T Davies reported on the meeting on site also attended by
Councillor PM Hughes, RG Edwards and the Acting Clerk which had been convened
to request the road to be widened between Capel Bancyfelin and Lon Cowin.
Council's delegation had seized the opportunity to highlight the need for other road
safety improvements to be prioritised in the village. Whilst the meeting had proved
worthwhile it had to be noted that budget constraints limit forthcoming projects and it
may be necessary to revisit these issues with the passage of time.

RESOLVED that the report be received

ii) 122. Reports from Representatives on Meetings of Outside Bodies, etc Carmarthenshire County Council 2016/2019 Budget Consultation

The Acting Clerk drew attention to the session held following the January committee
cycle of meetings and apologised for his oversight with regard to the arrangements
but members had attended and their thoughts on the proposed efficiency savings
had now been conveyed to the County Council. Members concurred that it had
proved a useful exercise.

RESOLVED that the report be received

128. County Councillor's Update

Councillor PM Hughes referred to improvements that had taken place with extra road
markings and the Trunk Roads Agent would do more when funds allow. Councillor
PJ Rogers asked whether additional signage had been considered as there had
been another incident with a vehicle turning into the slip road in recent days. Litter on
the slip road was also proving a concern particularly with bottles littering the grass
verge. Councillor KA Major queried the position with regard to layby opposite Cefn
Maes now a bus stop with Councillor I Price seeking clarification as to the

requirement for signage thereat.

Councillor JSV Rees highlighted the concerns of many with the recycling area becoming the venue for illicit dumping which gave a poor first impression of the town and queried the possibility of whether a covert camera could be used to help eradicate fly tipping

129. Clerk's Report

The Acting Clerk verbally reported on the following issues ;

i) Financial Assistance

RESOLVED that the request from BOBATH Children's Therapy Centre Wales be referred to the February meeting of Council

ii). Draft Local Government Wales Bill

Copies of various sections were provided at the meeting to enable members to consider should they wish to put forward observations. Details of links to various documents on the Welsh Government website had previously been provided. The Acting Clerk reminded members of the 15th February deadline.

iii). Laptop

The Acting Clerk drew attention to the accidental damage to Council's laptop and efforts to repair had proved unsuccessful. As a result, the Clerk was prepared with Council's consent to source a new laptop. Councillor DR Phillips drew attention to various innovative products currently available on the market which could be considered

RESOLVED that the Clerk make necessary arrangements in consultation with the Deputy Mayor to acquire a suitable laptop.

iv). Mayor's Board

The meeting noted an update on work to the new Mayor's Board

v) Carmarthen Destination Partnership

The meeting noted the first meeting of the Partnership Forum to be held in the Ivy Bush on 4th February

vi) Budget/Precept

The Acting Clerk reported that the final instalment of the precept for the current financial year £25296.67 had been received and confirmed that agreement on the budget and precept setting would take place at Council's February meeting.

vii). NHS Wales/Hywel Dda University Health Board

Members noted a further engagement event taking place on the 25th January at The Haliwell Centre between 6 and 8pm.

130. Financial Report

The meeting considered the financial statement circulated with the agenda confirming the position as at 12 January 2016 together with a bank reconciliation distributed at the meeting confirming the following balances in the various accounts on 18 January 2016 :

Current A/c – Community A/c	£512.99
Current A/c – Business Saver A/c	£43154.32
Investment A/c -	£572226.67

RESOLVED that the reports be accepted

131. Reports of Council's Committees

a) Environment Committee

Councillor JSV Rees, Committee Chair reported on the meeting held on 5th January outlining the issues for discussion and each of the recommendations for adoption
RESOLVED that the report be received and the recommendations adopted.

b) Planning and Communities Committee

Councillor PJ Rogers, Committee Chair reported on the meeting of Committee held on 5th January giving members the opportunity to rigorously scrutinise the recommendations before Council. The Acting Clerk pointed out some documentation remained outstanding with regard to the St Clears & District Community Association's request for additional funding to meet the shortfall on the Fireworks Display.

RESOLVED that the report be received and the recommendations adopted

c) Finance and General Purposes Committee

The Chair of Committee Councillor KA Major commended the report for the approval of Council.

RESOLVED that the report be received and the recommendations adopted

132. Accounts for Payment

RESOLVED that the following schedule of payments be approved

103700 – Wrenvale Nurseries – Winter planting - £444.00

103701 – HMRC – PAYE (January) - £493.44

103702 – Cash – Petty cash- £36.68

BACS 066 – JE Williams – Salary (January) - £1317.94

BACS 067 – Emma Smith – Salary (SMP) (January) - £588.14

BACS 068 – JN Williams - Ground Maintenance, tree cutting, etc - £546.00

BACS 069 – JN Williams – Litter picking - £120.00

BACS 070 – Malcolm Herbert Plant Hire – Sitelites - £45.60

BACS 071 – Malcolm Herbert Plant Hire – Festoon & Transformer - £70.80

BACS 072 – Emma Smith – Reimbursement (phone) - £9.50

BACS 073 – N & J James – Removing Christmas trees - £45.00

133. Correspondence

The meeting noted the following items of correspondence received courtesy of One Voice Wales :

- i) Carmarthenshire Area Committee, Wed. 3rd February at Ammanford Town Hall
- ii) First World War Partnership Event, 28th January
- iii) Wales Audit Office Newsletter
- iv) Public appointments

134. Casual Vacancy – Llanfihangel Abercowin Ward

The Acting Clerk reported that despite further public notice no expressions of interest had been forthcoming to fill by co-option the casual vacancy on the Llanfihangel Abercowin Ward,

RESOLVED that a Council publishes a further public to enable co-option to be again considered at Council's February meeting.

135. Matters relative to the nomination of a Town Mayor and Deputy for the 2016/2017 civic year.

Councillor DR Phillips Deputy Town Mayor drew attention that would he not be able to undertake the duties of Town Mayor during the next civic year. Members in expressing disappointment accepted the premise for the decision.

RESOLVED that further consideration on appointments be deferred to Town Council's February meeting

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

RESOLVED that an updated report from the Town Mayor be received at the February meeting of the Town Council.

137. Any Other Business

Road to Backe

Councillor JSV Rees drew attention, that during the recent atrocious weather conditions the road to Backe had been flooded on two occasions and that there was no warning to motorists until they had reached the flooded areas. She queried whether the County Council could provide 'road liable to flooding signs' which would provide drivers with some warning as to the road conditions they could encounter.

RESOLVED that the matter be taken up with the County Council

St Clears/ Pwll Trap Road

Councillor KA Major highlighted the need to resurface the road between St Clears and Pwll Trap. Councillor PM Hughes responded that the County Council were looking at various improvements on completion of the ongoing housing development which would include resurfacing, 30mph speed limit and footways.

Minutes

Councillor Dr WEVJ Davies queried whether Council's minutes and other documents were stored in the 'Guide Hut'. Councillor DR Phillips mentioned the benefits of digitally archiving the authority's minutes with numerous companies available that could provide this service.

RESOLVED that Council's Finance and General Purposes be asked to investigate the possibility of digitally archiving Council's minutes and other documents.

Thank You

The Chair, Councillor RG Edwards expressed Council's thanks to the Acting Clerk who was attending his final meeting for his support and guidance as maternity leave cover for the Clerk. In turn, members thanked Councillor Edwards for confidently chairing the meeting without any prior notice.

February Meeting

Members noted that Council's next meeting would be held in the Village Hall, Bancyfelin commencing at 7.30pm

Meeting terminated at 8.45pm