

St Clears Town Council

Minutes of the meeting of St Clears Town Council held in Meeting Room 1, the Gate, St Clears, on Tuesday 21st June 2016 at 7.00pm

Present: Councillors LL ap T Davies (Chair), Dr WEVJ Davies, RG Edwards, KA Major, I McEwan, DR Phillips, JSV Rees and PJ Rogers

37. Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillor CM Davies, PM Hughes and I Price.

38. Personal Matters

None.

39. Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were made.

40. To receive a report from the internal auditor.

Mr Howel Bowen presented a report to Council on the internal audit for the year 2015/16. Mr Bowen commented that Council had observed their financial regulations, kept appropriate records and had done all that was expected to meet the required standards set by external bodies.

Thanks was expressed to Mr Bowen for his work to complete the internal audit and to the Clerk for her financial work during the year.

On another matter, Mr Bowen noted that the St Clears Athletic Association, former trustees of the Welfare had a balance on the account for the field. Mr Bowen offered to transfer the money to Council as new trustees of the field. **RESOLVED that the remaining balance of the account be transferred to Council for the Welfare Field.**

41. To confirm the minutes of the meeting of the Town Council held on 17th May and 7th June 2016.

Councillor WEVJ Davies moved that both sets of minutes were correct and was seconded by Councillor KA Major. **RESOLVED that the minutes of 17th May and 7th June 2016 be signed as a true record.**

42. Matters Arising

7th June. (i) Item 30 – the Clerk confirmed that the grounds maintenance contractor was happy to carry out the handy man tasks for the current financial year. (ii) Item 32 – Community survey – Councillors who hadn't been present in the earlier meeting were advised as to the progress of discussions relating to the community survey and the intention to hold another meeting in 4 weeks. (iii) Item 33 – it was confirmed that the grounds maintenance contractor would look to undertake work on the benches. (iv) Item 34 – the Clerk confirmed that the planting had been completed. (v) Item 35 – Councillor JSV Rees noted that she

would be speaking about the audio guide for the heritage trail on Radio Wales the next morning.

43. **County Councillor's Update**

County Councillor PM Hughes had sent his apologies for the meeting. The Clerk informed Council that matters were progressing in relation to dog fouling issues in St Clears.

It was also noted that a traffic survey in Bancyfelin had been carried out and the results were awaited. It was agreed that the Clerk should contact the Trunk Road Agency about this matter as it cause major delays on the A40.

A request for an update on the reduction of the speed limit at Ostrey Hill was also requested.

44. **Clerk's Report.**

1. **Carmarthenshire County Council.**

- i) **Planning Applications.** (a)**W/33918.** CHANGE OF USE OF PART OF BUILDING TO FISH AND CHIP SHOP/CAFÉ. HAFREN STORES, STATION ROAD, ST CLEARS, CARMARTHEN, SA33 4BP. **RESOLVED that Council submit concerns with regard to parking in relation to this application.**
(b) **W/33912** THE INSTALLATION OF A WOOD BURNING STOVE IN FRONT LIVING ROOM WITH FLUE LINER TO EXISTING CHIMNEY BREAST AND NEW METAL FLUE TO ROOF. 1, TOWN COTTAGES, BRIDGE STREET, ST CLEARS, CARMARTHEN, SA33 4EE. **No objections.**

2. **One Voice Wales**

- i) Proforma for reporting allowances to the Independent Remuneration Panel. Report for 2015/16 to be sent to the panel and published on the website 30th September.
- ii) 2016-18 National Pay Agreement. Revised salary scales for Clerks. New payscale for 2016-17 to be backdated to the 1st April 2016 (reflected in Clerk's salary payment for June). Also the new scale for 2017/18 to be implemented from 1st April 2017. **RESOLVED that the increase to the Clerk's salary and revised salary scale be approved.**
- iii) Carmarthenshire Area Committee. Annual Meeting to be held on 28th June at 7pm at the Cawdor Hall Newcastle Emlyn. Ordinary meeting to follow.

3. **Coleridge Festival Wales**

Richard Parry from the Coleridge Festival Wales visited St Clears on the 8th June. The Mayor, Mayoress and other Councillors came together to welcome the festival to St Clears and walk the heritage trail. A reception was held after the walk which included sharing the area's history with Mr Parry who in return sang a song by way of thanks for the hospitality. Many images of the morning were posted to the Coleridge Festival's Twitter account. Contact the Clerk if you would like to see them but don't have access.

4. **Carmarthen Bar Navigation Committee**

The next committee meeting is scheduled for Monday, 19th September 2016, at 7.00 pm at St Peter's Civic Hall, Carmarthen.

5. **Ras yr Iaith 2016**

Ras yr Iaith (Welsh language race) will be passing through St Clears on 8th July at 11.30. The St Clears leg of the run will commence at the business park on Tenby Rd and finish at Ysgol Griffiths Jones. Local businesses are encouraged to sponsor a kilometre and residents are encouraged to support or join in.

45. **Financial Report**

Members were provided with information relating to the expenditure for the period 1st April 2016 to 21st June 2016. **RESOLVED that the report be accepted by Council.**

46. **Accounts for Payment**

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

Reconciliation date:		21 June 2016
STATEMENT BALANCES		
Current Account	Community Account	6,557.40
Current Account	Business Saver Account	25654.4
BALANCES TOTALS		32,211.80
Investment Account		57240.93
RESERVES TOTALS		57240.93

SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS			21 June 2016	
Cheque/ BACS no.	Payee	Details	Cost (inc VAT)	
103740	Fox & Hounds Bancyfelin	Buffet Mayor Making	165.00	
103741	Neuadd Pentref Bancyfelin	Hall hire - Mayor making	24.00	
103742	AEGON	Pension ES (June)	206.83	
103743	HMRC	PAYE (June)	589.90	
103744	St Clears & District Comm Assoc	Community Events Chest donation	250.00	
103745	Neuadd Pentref Bancyfelin	Community Events Chest donation	150.00	
BACS 110	Emma Smith	Salary (June)	1670.54	
BACS 111	SLCC	Conference 22 June, 1 delegate	82.80	
BACS 112	Zurich insurance	Council Insurance 2016/17	1636.75	
BACS 113	JN Williams	De-littering (May 16)	240.00	
BACS 114	JN Williams	Grounds maintenance	480.00	
BACS 115	Medway Builders	Supply of 8 windows for guide hut	676.48	
BACS 116	Emma Smith	Reimbursement*	69.49	

47. **To consider revised arrangement for the remuneration of members.**

The Independent Remuneration Panel's proposed changes to the remuneration of members were considered by Council. Councillor WEVJ Davies proposed that determinations 48 and 49 (Mayor's allowance and members' travelling expenses when on business inside or outside the Council

area) be formally adopted but that no extra allowances be added. This reflects the current arrangements at Council so would simply formalise the existing arrangement. Councillor KA Major seconded the proposal and all were in favour. **RESOLVED that determinations 48 and 49 of the Independent Remuneration Panel's Annual Report be adopted by Council.**

48. Correspondence

RESOLVED that Council note the following items of correspondence.

1. **Stephen Kirkwood.** Re: Proposed Residential Development at Parc Owen Station Road St Clears. **RESOLVED that Mr Kirkwood be invited to meet Council at 6.30pm on 5th July.**
2. **Damian Hosker, Principal Planner, On behalf of Vodafone and CTIL**
Proposed base station installation at Llwyn-y-Felin Farm, St Clears. Upgrade to an existing radio base station. Trying to identify a suitable site. Purpose of the letter is to consult to seek your views before any planning submission is made. **RESOLVED that the Clerk reply to note that any comments will be made when the official planning documentation is received.**
3. **Eleri Retallick, Principal Arts Officer, Carmarthenshire County Council.**
Discussions regarding the Council's market stalls.

49. To consider the two vacant seats at Council

The Clerk informed Council that the empty seat in the St Clears ward had been advertised and there had been no request for an election. As such, Council were able to go ahead and co-opt a member.

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

(i)The Chair informed Council that a positive meeting had been held with representatives from the County Council regarding the reopening of the railway station at St Clears. The intention was to hold more meetings over the coming weeks and months in order to regain momentum and continue the campaign.

(ii) Councillor RG Edwards informed Council that Ysgol Bancyfelin was entering a pilot for 12 months with the schools at Llangain and Llansteffan, with whom they would share a head teacher.

(iii) Councillor JSV Rees reminded Council of the Armed Forces day that would be held on Sunday 26th June with a service in the church at 4pm and buffet in the Boating Club at 5.30pm.

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

None.

52. Any Other Business

Councillor RG Edwards noted that new lighting columns had been fitted in Bancyfelin.

Meeting terminated at 20.31=