

St Clears Town Council

Minutes of the meeting of the Town Council held in the Cynin Room,
Carmarthenshire Centre for Crafts, Pentre Road, St Clears
on Wednesday 26th January 2011 at 7.30 pm.

Present:

Councillors: T W Brown, C M Davies, L L ap T Davies, W E V J Davies, E H Eynon,
C J Jenkins, Mrs L M Owen and Mrs J S V Rees.

Also in attendance County Councillor P M Hughes (until 9.00pm).

In the Chair - Councillor C M Davies (Town Mayor).

The Town Mayor welcomed everyone to the first meeting of 2011 and wished all members a Happy New Year.

141. Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillors R G Edwards, B J Jenkins, P H Lewis, K A Major and S J Runnett.

142. Dyfed Powys Police

The Town Mayor welcomed to the meeting PC Martin Skinner and PCSO Leighton Tipping, who are stationed at St Clears.

PC Skinner updated members with regard to policing issues in the Town Council area.

Following a discussion it was

RESOLVED to investigate the possibility of providing additional CCTV cameras in St Clears.

143. Declarations of Interest

The Town Mayor declared an interest in Planning Applications Ref: W/24104.

County Councillor P M Hughes also declared his interest in this planning application as the applicant.

144. Minutes

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 15th December 2010 be confirmed and signed as a true record subject to an amendment to the minutes of the Planning Committee held on 15th December 2010.

145. Matters Arising

i) 91. Public Meeting at Bancyfelin

The Clerk confirmed that arrangements had been finalised for the public meeting to be held on Thursday 10th February 2011 in Bancyfelin CP School at 7.00pm.

Angela Burns AM, Nerys Evans AM and County Councillor P M Hughes had confirmed that they would be in attendance.

ii).140 i) Car Park

Members were advised that the Town Mayor and Councillor S J Runnett had reported that they had no issues other than the ones raised by the Solicitor relating to the Car park Lease.

iii) 140 b) Provision of Salt/Grit Bins

Members were advised that the County Council Housing Division had confirmed that they would be providing a salt/grit bin at Lon Cowin, Bancyfelin.

Councillor Mrs J S V Rees reported that no salt/grit bin had been provided at Backe Road.

RESOLVED that the Clerk make further enquiries regarding the matter.

iv) 140 vi) St Clears Leisure Centre

The Clerk reported on a response from the Chief Executive, Carmarthenshire County Council relating to the Town Council's request for a meeting to discuss the future of the Centre.

RESOLVED that the Town Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Councillors E H Eynon and C J Jenkins together with the Clerk and County Councillor P M Hughes meet with the County Council's Head of Leisure to discuss issues relating to the future of the Leisure Centre.

146. County Councillor's Report

County Councillor P M Hughes reported that concerns had been raised regarding road safety issues at Gothic Corner, High Street, St Clears.

RESOLVED that the matter be referred to the Environment Committee

He also reported that arrangements had been made for the completion of the flood defence works at St Clears with work to commence imminently.

147. Clerk's Report

i). Consultations

Carmarthenshire County Council

a) Draft Gypsy and Traveller Community Strategy

Responses required by 25th February 2011.

b) Integrated Community Strategy for Carmarthenshire 2011-16.

Responses required by 30th March 2011.

RESOLVED that the above consultation documents be considered at the next meeting of the Town Council.

ii). Informative Material

a) Carmarthenshire County Council

i)) Request from the Tidy Towns Project Officer for permission to use the Car Park in Pentre Road for a Tyre Amnesty in February 2011.

The Clerk had discussed the matter with the Town Mayor and had offered no objection to the proposal.

ii) Invitation to attend the Annual Sporting Awards Evening on 26th January 2011 in Carmarthen.

b) One Voice Wales

i) Buckingham Palace Garden Party 12th July 2011 - Invitations for 32 current Chairpersons of Town/Community Councils and guests to attend – successful names to be decided by drawing each region's nominations from a hat

ii) Notice of Carmarthenshire Area Committee Meeting to be held at Mynydd y Garreg on 31st January 2011 together with minutes of the previous meeting held on 23rd September 2010

iii) Information from the Electoral Commission relating to the Referendum on the law-making powers of the National Assembly for Wales

iv) Information from the Coordinator, Wales at the Olympic and Paralympic Games regarding 'The Community Show' - a smaller version of the Cultural Olympiad Exhibition and Education Project.

v) Y Llais/The Voice publication - December 2010 issue

c) Society for Local Council Clerks

a) Notice of West Wales Branch meeting to be held on Saturday 22nd January 2011.

The Clerk reported on the meeting and informed members that the SLCC National President had been in attendance. Time had also been set aside for a very informative discussion on the setting out of agendas.

Following the Clerk's report on the meeting it was

RESOLVED that arrangements be made for a set time to be made available immediately prior to the commencement of Town Council meetings to receive questions from members of the public.

b) Information relating to Continuous Professional Development courses for Clerks

c) Information relating to the International Experience Programme

d) Invitation to attend the Clwyd and Gwynedd Joint Branch Conference in Llandudno

e) Newsletter – December 2010

iv) Hywel Dda Community Health Council

Information relating to:

- Seasonal Flu update
- Experience of Welsh Speakers on Health and Social Care Services

v) The Royal British Legion

Information relating to the 'Great Poppy Party Weekend' – 10th to 12th June 2011 to celebrate the Royal British Legion's 90th birthday.

RESOLVED that Councillor T W Brown report back to the next meeting whether the local branch of the Royal British Legion would be arranging any celebrations.

vi) Fairtrade Wales

Information relating to Fairtrade Fortnight 28th February to 13th March 2011

RESOLVED that the information be forwarded to members of the Fairtrade Working Group

vii) Western Valleys Strategic Regeneration Area (WVSRA)

Information relating to Area Forums

viii) Participation Cymru

Newsletter January 2011

ix) Welsh Game Fair

Information regarding this year's event to be held in Gelli Aur, Llandeilo on 18th and 19th June.

x) Spinal Injuries Association (sia)

Invitation to take part in the 'Great British Fish and Chips Supper' on 20th May 2011 to raise awareness and funding for the organisation.

xi) Carmarthenshire Tourist Association
2011 Official Visitor' Guide and Newsheets

xii) Simon Hart MP – Surgery Timetable – February to June 2011

xiii) Angela Buns AM – Information relating to surgeries.

xiv) Publications

The Clerk – SLCC Journal – January 2011 issue
Clerks and Councils Direct – January 2011 issue
Play for Wales – Winter 2010 issue

148. Finance Committee

The Clerk reported on a meeting of the Finance Committee held on 18th January 2011. Members were provided with information regarding previous and current year's income and expenditure together with a draft budget for 2011/12.

RESOLVED that

- i) the Report of the Finance Committee meeting held on 18th January 2011 (Appendix A attached) be accepted and the recommendations approved.**
- ii) the draft 2011/12 Budget be approved.**

It was reported that since the meeting the Boxing Club had completed and returned the official application form for financial assistance.

RESOLVED that the Town Council support the request in principle and that the Finance Committee be given plenary powers to decide on the amount to be donated

149. 2011/12 Precept

It was noted that the Finance Committee's recommendations regarding the draft 2011/12 budget and precept would result in no increase in the 2011/12 Community Tax.

Members were also provided with information regarding the Town Council's Reserves.

RESOLVED unanimously that

- i) the 2011/12 budget be set at £81,674**
- ii) the 2010/11 Precept be set at £70,064 and that the Town Mayor and Clerk be authorised to sign the 'precept upon billing authority'.**
- iii) the shortfall be funded from an estimated additional income.**
- iv) the Town Council continue with the partnership Agreement with Carmarthenshire County Council**

150. Payments

i) RESOLVED that the following accounts be approved for payment as recommended by the Finance Committee:

- 102856 R Eynon - £500.00 – First Prize Christmas Draw
- 102857 A James - £100.00 – Second Prize Christmas Draw
- 102858 K Davies - £50.00 – Third Prize Christmas Draw
- 102859 Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal - £100.00 - Donation
- 102860 Keith Jenkins – £177.90
(£71.16 – De-littering Car Park etc January 2011.
£106.74 – De-littering Skateboarding Area and Children's Play Area December 2010)
- 102861 Lynn Bowen - £878.27 – Clerk's Salary January 2011.
- 102862 Office etc Ltd - £28.32 – Ink Cartridges (reimburse L Bowen)

- 102863 St Clears Pharmacy Ltd - £21.94 – Batteries for Portable Radio System
- 102864 Llwyndu Farm Ltd - £282.00 – Supply of Christmas Trees
- 102865 Capper & Co Ltd (Spar) - £44.96 – Gifts in lieu of payment re Winter Carnival (Reimburse L Bowen)
- 102866 Radio Carmarthenshire - £705.00 – Re Winter Carnival
- 102867 Radio Pembrokeshire - £705.00 – Re Winter Carnival
- 102868 Raymond Rees - £850.00 – Supply and fit doors at Storage Hut
- 102869 Cancelled
- 102870 Carmarthenshire County Council - £242.40 – Building Control Fee re Works at Storage Hut
- 102871 Carmarthenshire County Council - £292.58 – Advertisement in the 2011 Carmarthenshire Holiday Guide.
- 102872 Siramik - £10.00 – Refund re Payment for Food and Craft Market Stall 17.12.10

ii) RESOLVED that the following additional accounts be approved for payment

- 102873 Annya Stephens-Boal - £10.00 - Refund re Payment for Food and Craft Market Stall 17.12.10
- 102874 MGD Products Ltd - £179.99 – Portable Cooker Re Catering at Fireworks Display and Winter Carnival (Reimburse H Eynon)
- 102875 Cancelled
- 102876 Cancelled
- 102877 City Illuminations Ltd - £11,682.00 – Installation and dismantling of Christmas Lights Display and provision of new mounting brackets
- 102878 V Makepiece - £410.00 – Demolition of Porch and removal of rubble together with refurbishment following installation of new doors at Storage Hut (Reimburse C Jenkins)
- 102879 West Wales Building Plastic Supplies - £20.00 – Materials for refurbishment at Storage Hut (Reimburse C Jenkins)

151. Planning Committee

Councillor L L ap T Davies reported on a meeting of the Planning Committee held on 25th January 2011

RESOLVED that the Report of the Planning Committee meeting held on 25th January 2011 be accepted and the recommendations approved. (Appendix B attached).

iii) Councillor W E V J Davies requested that issues concerning Section 106 Agreement relating to Planning Application ref W/14786 be kept on the Planning Committee's agenda.

152. Town Mayor's Report

The Town Mayor reported on civic events and engagements undertaken during the last month.

153. Correspondence

The Clerk reported that a letter had been received from the Secretary, Bancyfelin Community Association /Bancyfelin Education Community Trust together with a cheque in the sum of £5,000 being a refund of the Grant previously made to the organisation as shortfall funding for the Community Games Court Project.

The Trustees of BECT wished to thank the Town Council for their generosity in supporting the venture.

154. Community Service Award

RESOLVED that

- i) the item be deferred to the February 2011 meeting.**
- ii) nominations be submitted to the Clerk.**

155. Proposed St Clears to Red Roses (A477) Trunk Road Improvement Scheme

RESOLVED that the Town Council do not offer any objection to the proposals as published.

156. OE 2 Fields Initiative

RESOLVED that the matter be deferred until after the proposed meeting with the County Council Head of Leisure.

157. Any Other Business

i) Ffynongain Lane

It was reported that complaints had been received by the Town Mayor regarding increased useage of Ffynnongain Lane by articulated lorries.

The matter had been referred to the County Council who had advised that appropriate new signage would be provided when available.

Following a discussion Councillor L L ap T Davies requested that issues relating to the use of minor roads by heavy/articulated vehicles be placed on the agenda of the February meeting.

ii) Town Council April Meeting

As the April meeting of the Town Council was scheduled to take place during Easter week it was agreed that the April meeting be held a week earlier on Wednesday 20th April 2011.

iii) Boxing Tournament

Members were informed that St Clears Boxing Club had made arrangements for the Semi Finals of the WABA Schoolboys Boxing Tournament to be held on 11th February 2011 in the St Clears Leisure Centre.

Car Park

i) In response to an enquiry from Councillor C J Jenkins the Clerk confirmed that arrangements were in hand to clear from the grassed area to the rear of the car park the remains of the Bonfire following the Fireworks Display.

ii) It was agreed that the gate leading in to the area to the rear of the Sewage Pumping Station in the Car Park be secured.

Meeting terminated at 9.40pm

St Clears Town Council

Minutes of a meeting of the Finance Committee held in the Mayor's Parlour
Carmarthenshire Centre for Crafts, Pentre Road, St Clears
on Tuesday 18th January 2011 at 7.00 pm.

Present: Councillors: R G Edwards, E H Eynon, K A Major and C M Davies (Town Mayor).

In the Chair Councillor R G Edwards.

Apologies

Apologies had been received from Councillor B J Jenkins.

County Councillor P M Hughes had also tendered his apologies.

Declarations of Interest

No formal declarations of interest were recorded.

Budget Monitoring

The Clerk circulated details of income and expenditure for the period 1st April to 31st December 2010 together with copies of bank statements and bank reconciliation statement as at 31st December 2010.

It was agreed to recommend that £20,000 be reinvested in a nine month Fixed Rate Bond.

Councillor K A Major proposed that as the number of businesses not accepting cheques as a method of payment was on the increase that the Finance Committee investigate other ways in which invoices could be paid.

Annual Investment Strategy 2011

Following a discussion it was agreed to recommend that the Annual Investment Strategy be revised and considered further at the February meeting following the approval of the 2011/12 budget .

Payments

It was agreed to recommend that the following accounts be approved for payment:

- 102856 R Eynon - £500.00 – First Prize Christmas Draw
- 102857 A James - £100.00 – Second Prize Christmas Draw
- 102858 K Davies - £50.00 – Third Prize Christmas Draw
- 102859 Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal - £100.00 - Donation
- 102860 Keith Jenkins – £177.90
(£71.16 – De-littering Car Park etc January 2011.
£106.74 – De-littering Skateboarding Area and Children's Play Area December 2010)
- 102861 Lynn Bowen - £878.27 – Clerk's Salary January 2011.
- 102862 Office etc Ltd - £28.32 – Ink Cartridges (reimburse L Bowen)
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(Reimburse L Bowen)
- 102866 Radio Carmarthenshire - £705.00 – Re Winter Carnival
- 102867 Radio Pembrokeshire - £705.00 – Re Winter Carnival

- 102868 Raymond Rees - £850.00 – Supply and fit doors at Storage Hut
- 102869 V Makepiece - £440.00 – Re Storage Hut (Reimburse C Jenkins)
(Demolition of Porch and removal of rubble £350.00
Refurbishment following installation of new doors £60.00
Materials £30.00)
- 102870 Carmarthenshire County Council - £242.40 – Building Control Fee re Works at Storage Hut
- 102871 Carmarthenshire County Council - £292.58 – Advertisement in the C2011 Carmarthenshire Holiday Guide.
- 102872 Siramik - £10.00 – Refund re Payment for Food and Craft Market Stall 17.12.10

It was noted that the installation of the double doors at the Storage Hut had now been completed.

It was agreed to recommend that the trailer and market stalls be stored in the Storage Hut thus eliminating the need for the hire of the storage container at Blewgyd for this purpose.

The Town Mayor referred to concerns raised by a local contractor regarding confidentiality relating to quotations submitted to the Town Council.

It was agreed to remind members regarding confidentiality when dealing with costs and the need to adhere to Town Council policies.

It was also agreed to recommend that the Town Council's Financial Regulations be reviewed.

2011/12 Budget

Following a discussion it was agreed to recommend that:

- i) the 2011/12 Budget be set at £81,674
- ii) the precept for 2011/12 be set at £70,064 resulting in no increase in the local Community Charge
- iii) that the shortfall be funded from the additional income

It was also agreed to recommend that that the budgets for the Christmas Lighting, Food and Craft Markets etc, Website and the Storage of Marquees be transferred to the Finance Committee as the Special Projects Committee had successfully completed its brief relating to these items.

Financial Assistance

The Clerk circulated for consideration a report relating to requests received for financial assistance.

It was agreed, due to time constraints, that the item be deferred to the February meeting.

The Town Mayor reported that the St Clears Boxing Club were making arrangements to stage a Boxing Tournament in St Clears in February and were seeking financial assistance from the Town Council for the event.

It was agreed that the Clerk discuss the request with the Boxing Club and that they be requested to complete the official application form.

Any Other Business

Members noted receipt of correspondence from the Welsh Assembly Government regarding the following:

- i) Borrowing by Community and Town Councils in 2011/12
- ii) Section 137 Expenditure Limit for 2011/12

Meeting terminated at 9.40pm.

St Clears Town Council

Minutes of a meeting of the Planning Committee held in the Mayor's Parlour
Carmarthenshire Centre for Crafts, Pentre Road, St Clears
on Tuesday 25th January 2011 at 7.00pm.

Present: Councillors: L L ap T Davies, K A Major, Mrs J S V Rees and C M Davies (Town Mayor).

Also in attendance Councillors R G Edwards, Mrs L M Owen (7.00 – 8.00 pm) and County Councillor P M Hughes (from 7.30pm).

In the Chair Councillor L L ap T Davies.

Apologies

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillor S J Runnett.

The Chairman welcomed to the meeting Councillors R G Edwards and Mrs L M Owen who had been invited to attend the meeting to discuss Planning Application Ref: W/24182.

Declarations of Interest

Councillor C M Davies and County Councillor P M Hughes declared their interest in Planning Application Ref: W/24104.

Planning Applications

i) New Applications:

The Committee received details of the following planning applications submitted to Carmarthenshire County Council as part of the consultation process:

- W/24104 Full Planning – Enclosurement of existing entrance porch with doors and windows – The Butcher Shop, Pentre Road, St Clears – Mr Phillip Hughes
- W/24129 Full Planning – Alterations and Extensions – Bryngwyn Farm, Pwlltrap, St Clears – Mr Andrew Akroyd
- W/24146 Full Planning – Construction of a flood defence retaining wall at rear of Library – St Clears Library, Pentre Road, St Clears – Environment Agency Wales.
- W/24182 Outline Planning – Residential development (with affordable housing), school parking /drop off area and public play area – Land rear of Fox and Hounds, Cae Ffynnon, Bancyfelin – Cwmdwyfran Developments

a) With regard to Planning Application Ref: W/24182 it was noted that the closing date for responses was 9th February 2011.

Following discussions it was agreed to defer for further consideration.

b) Members noted that Planning Applications W/24104, W/24129 and W/24146 had been approved since the Agenda had been published.

c) With regard to Planning Application W/24146 County Councillor P M Hughes reported that the Environment Agency were planning to commence with the construction of the flood defence retaining wall at the rear of the Library shortly.

The County Council had agreed to the siting of the compound for the works in a section of the Car Park in Pentre Road.

It was agreed to recommend that the Town Council offer the use of the hard core area to the rear of the pumping station for the compound in order not to lose valuable parking area at the front of the car park.

ii) Planning Approvals

The meeting noted for information that the following planning applications had been approved:

- W/21310 Removal of Condition 1 on W/19905 (Change of use from auto sales and repairs to B1 and B8) at Whispering Oaks, Tenby Road, St Clears.
- W/21675 Residential development including affordable units at land rear of Britannia Terrace, Tenby Road, St Clears.
- W/23927 Refurbishment and improvement at Penycoed Mansion, St Clears.
- W/23928
- W/ 24036 Replace windows and door, re-render front elevation at Gwalia House, Pentre Road, St Clears.
- W/24104 Enclosurement of existing entrance porch with doors and windows – The Butcher Shop, Pentre Road, St Clears
- W/24129 Alterations and Extensions – Bryngwyn Farm, Pwlltrap, St Clears
- W/24146 Construction of a flood defence retaining wall at rear of Library – St Clears Library, Pentre Road, St Clears – Environment Agency Wales.

Refusal (for information)

The meeting noted for information that the following planning application had been refused:

- W/24019 Caravan for residential purposes continuously for at least 10 years at Treasgell Fach, Salem Road, St Clears.

Gorsfach, Pwlltrap

County Councillor P M Hughes updated members regarding the provision of a car park for residents at Gorsfach.

He reported that revised plans were almost complete for consultation with residents.

Section 106 Agreements

The Clerk referred to the response received by Angela Burns AM from the Head of Planning Carmarthenshire County Council.

Members noted the variation between Carmarthenshire and Pembrokeshire County Council in the way they dealt with Section 106 Agreements and also the provision within the Planning Act 2008 for the introduction of a Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) to replace the existing system and to harmonise approach..

Following a discussion it was agreed to recommend that

- enquiries be made with the Head of Planning regarding whether any progress had been made locally regarding CIL
- to request that the matter be included when arranging the next Planning seminar.

It was also agreed to recommend that the Town Council draw up a list of projects which could be funded from Section 106 agreements/CIL and that the matter be placed on the Agenda of the next Planning Committee.

Localism Bill

The Clerk updated members with regard to the Localism Bill.

Proposed Changes to Householder Permitted Development Rights

Members were provided with information relating to the above.

Meeting terminated at 9.00pm