

St Clears Town Council / Cyngor Tref Sanclêr

Minutes of Meeting
of St Clears Town Council held
at the Gate on 21st February 2023 at 7.00pm

PRESENT: Cllrs Councillors CM Davies, GADavies, Dr WEVJ Davies, RGEwards, FLanc, KAMajor, O Grant, TMcDermott, JMiller, IPrice, PRogers, IThomas-Wigley and Cllr P. Hughes

Via zoom: Cllr OGrant

245. **Apologies for absence. RESOLVED to accept apologies for absence from Cllrs CAJones**
246. **Personal Matters.** None
247. **Declarations of Interest.**
Item 257 Warm space – all councillors.
Item 217 Youth provision – Cllr TMcDermott.
248. **To confirm the minutes of the meeting of the Town Council held on 24th January 2023.** Cllr RGEwards proposed, and Cllr WVEJDavies seconded the motion that the minutes of the meeting held on 24th January 2023 are a true record. **RESOLVED to confirm the minutes of the Town Council held on 24th January 2023 as a true record.**
249. **Matters arising (exchange of information only).** None
250. **To receive the County Councillors' Update.**
- Work is due to start on the 20mph initiative at Bancyfelin week commencing 27th February 2023.
 - The railway station match funding is secured, and the re-opening is planned for March 2024.
 - Cllr CMDavies requested a litter bin at the boat club – noted.
 - Cllr Der WVEJDavies asked the question why different conditions were imposed on planning applications? Each application is different, but the planning department would be able to advise further.
 - Leisure Centre at St Clears to remain open at present following Carmarthenshire County Council's budget consultation. The footfall has increased over the last few months. Long may continue.
 - Cllr KAMajor asked for an update regarding CCTV at the Welfare Field. The outcome is imminent, and the works will be carried out by CCC. Cllr TMcDermott informed Council that the Fire Service arson team are due to patrol St Clears with the local PCSO's to speak with individuals and groups.
 - The cycle track to join St Clears and Bancyfelin is due to progress. Questions were raised as to the actual location, (north or south side) as this could impact on the safety of the route.

- The Gate – some suppliers were to be paid through CCC e.g. building insurance. Clarification was requested as to why this was an issue with other suppliers e.g., energy.

251. To receive the Clerk's Report

I. Carmarthenshire County Council

(i). Planning/Licensing.

PL/05358 31/01/2023	Lawful development: Proposed use. Proposed Single Storey Side extension to provide Disabled Washroom facility	Montclare, St Clears, Carmarthen, SA33 4NA	In Review	Awaiting Decision
PL/05364 31/01/2023	Approval of details reserved by a condition. Discharge of Conditions 3 & 4 on PL/03586 (flooring details and photographic record)	Bethlehem Chapel, Pwll Trap, Carmarthen, SA33 4AN	Under Consultation	Consultation Period
PL/05426 09/02/2023	Non-Material Amendment to PL/00975 (Drawings)	Former Parc Owen Industrial Estate, St Clears, SA33 4BP	In Review	Awaiting Decision

RESOLVED - no adverse comments on planning applications, PL/05358, PL/05364 and PL/05426.

ii) **BLACK HISTORY WALES** Application Form – Creative development activity 2022 – 23 (See Appendix ii)

iii) Revised Local Development Plan (LDP) for the period 2018-2033. The Revised Local Development Plan will, upon adoption, replace the current Plan and be the basis for land use planning decisions. In January 2020 the Council published the Deposit LDP for public consultation. However, since its publication there have been several events outside the Council's control that has required the content of the Plan to be further considered and revised. As a result, the Council resolved to prepare a 2nd Deposit Revised LDP. The 2nd Deposit Revised LDP sets out the land use policies and proposals including the allocation and use of land through to 2033. The 2nd **Deposit Revised Local Development Plan (LDP)** has been published for consultation along with the following documents:

- Integrated Sustainability Appraisal (ISA) incorporating the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)
- Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA)

The consultation on the 2nd Deposit Revised LDP and the above documents will take place between 17th February and 14th April 2023.

Any representations made to the 1st Deposit LDP will need to be resubmitted as part of the consultation on the 2nd Deposit LDP. Only duly made representations to the 2nd Deposit Revised LDP will be submitted for examination. Representations made to the 1st Deposit LDP will no longer be considered and will **not** form part of the Examination. Copies of the documents are available to view on the Council's website ([Second Deposit Revised Local](#)

[Development Plan \(gov.wales\)](#), at the Council's Hwb Centres / Customer Service Centres and public libraries (during normal opening hours).

Comments on the published documents should be submitted in writing, preferably using our online consultation tools by no later than **4:30pm on Friday 14 April 2023**. There are a number of advantages to using our online consultation tools, not only will it assist us in adhering to the tight timescales we have, but you will be able to track progress of your comments in respect of the 2nd Deposit Revised LDP throughout the Plan preparation. Alternatively, forms are available to download on the website, or on request. Forms should be submitted by the above closing date to: Forward Planning Section, 3 Spilman Street, Carmarthen, Carmarthenshire, SA31 1LE or via email to: forward.planning@carmarthenshire.gov.uk

2. One Voice Wales

- a) The Chief Planner, Welsh Government Planning Directorate is consulting on draft further revisions to planning guidance in relation to flooding and coastal erosion. A previous consultation took place from 9 October 2019 to 17 January 2020. Responses are invited by 17 April 2023. A copy of the consultation document can be found at: [Technical Advice Note \(TAN\) 15: Development, flooding and coastal erosion - further amendments](#) One Voice Wales will be preparing a response to this consultation. I would appreciate your response or draft response by the end of the day, Friday 31 March 2023.

- b) **NHS Wales – New Hospital** as Town and Community Councillors, you are invited to a meeting to learn more about the consultation and how NHSWales will be involving members of our communities. Online meetings are being held for each county for Town and Community Councillors to attend, these are in addition to the drop-in events for the public that will be held across our three counties. The Town and Community Councils' Event for Carmarthenshire is planned for Tuesday 7 March 2023 at 6:30pm. To register for the event and to receive your Zoom link, please complete the form available online by Friday 24 February: <https://forms.office.com/e/FYfYN2Z5JT> A wide range of information (including the Consultation Document and a range of technical documents) will be available to download from our website from 23 February: hduhb.nhs.wales/new-hospital-site.

- c) **Welsh Water** is pleased to announce its latest Biodiversity report. This follows the publishing a new Biodiversity Strategy 'Making Time for Nature' setting out the high-level mission, vision, aims and objectives for biodiversity and ecology across the company. You are being invited to this launch to hear about what they have made against the thirty commitments currently in the Biodiversity plan that support the many workstreams across the organisation. These include by way of example our journey to Net Carbon Zero 2040, and our ongoing improvements to sustainable procurement. They also want to hear your views as we want to collaborate with partners. This briefing will be an opportunity to ask questions and to also share opinions and learnings on the biodiversity commitments for the 2023 Biodiversity plan. **Online launch of the new biodiversity report: *Doing the Right Thing for Nature 2022*. Thursday 16 February 2023 – 1.00pm – 2.00pm. RSVP: by Friday 10th February 2023 Helen.lloyd-Jeng@dwrcymru.com**

3. Keep Wales Tidy

- a) Skills for Bees Cymru ([Skills for bees - Bumblebee Conservation Trust](#)) is a 3 year project which aims to train people in bumblebee identification and monitoring, through

ad hoc biological recording and also through our citizen science scheme, Beewalk ([Surveys - Bumblebee Conservation Trust](#)). I'm excited to be heading to **Carmarthenshire** this year to increase Bumblebee monitoring across the County. Free training is available to anyone with an interest – no previous knowledge required! It will consist of two **online** beginner sessions, followed by several opportunities to join me in the field to practice identifying and recording bumblebees, including practical demos on how to set up a Beewalk. If you sign up we recommend you come along to as many sessions as possible but there is no obligation to do so. Our first two ONLINE (Zoom) sessions will be:

An introduction to bumblebees and bumblebee identification (common species) – Tuesday 14th March 6-8pm. TO

BOOK: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/carmarthenshire-session-1-bumblebee-identification-tickets-518552984937>

An introduction to recording bumblebees and the Beewalk citizen science scheme – Tuesday 21st **March** 6-8pm. To BOOK:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/carmarthenshire-session-2-bumblebee-monitoring-and-beewalk-tickets-518643716317>

Dates and locations for field sessions to follow. Any questions, email: Clare.Flynn@bumblebeeconservation.org.

4. Welsh & UK Government

- a) You are invited to Dyfed-Powys Police and Crime Commissioner Dafydd Llywelyn's seventh annual St David's Conference on Friday, March 3.

Speakers will include:

Dr Robert Jones and Prof. Richard Wyn Jones

The Welsh Criminal Justice System: On the Jagged Edge

Prof. Emmanuel Ogbonna

Challenges of culture change within institutional racist organisations

Deputy Chief Constable Maggie Blythe

Violence against women and girls, and misogyny within Policing

Chief Constable Dr Richard Lewis

One police force for Wales

Book your FREE virtual or in-person place here:

<https://bit.ly/policingbyconsent>



5. Training & Conferences

One Voice Wales, February /March training dates circulated:

252. **To receive the financial report.** Cllr CMDavies proposed and Cllr Dr WVEJDavies seconded the motion to accept the financial report. **RESOLVED to accept the financial report.**
253. **To approve accounts for payment.**

Bank Reconciliation & Schedule of Payment
ST CLEARS TOWN COUNCIL
 Financial Year ending: 2022/23

Prepared by (Signatory 1): Catherine Lloyd-Jenkins Date: 21/02/23
 Authorised by (Signatory 2): Date:

Bank statement date: 01/02/23

Reconciliation date:		1-Feb-2023
STATEMENT BALANCES		
Current Account	Community Account	4,573.09
Current Account	Business Saver Account 828	73713.75
BALANCES TOTALS		78,286.84
General (Precept) Reserves 506		30652.47
Allocated Project Fund		26947.93
TOTAL		57600.40
Deposits not on statement		
1		
2		
3		
Sub-total		

Un-presented cheques:			
Cheque number	Payee	Details	Cost
		TOTAL	0.00

SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS
Dec 2022

Cheque/BACS/DD	Payee	Details	Cost (inc VAT) £	VAT £
BACS 802/813	Staff	Salary & Reimbursement (Feb)	3717.11	139.40
BACS 803	JN Williams	Erection of x4 flower planters at St Clears/Pwlltrap etc	540.00	90.00
BACS 804	JN Williams	Removal of Christmas tree etc	180.00	30.00
BACS 805	JN Williams	Grounds maintenance at Welfare field	300.00	50.00
BACS 806	JN Williams	Grounds maintenance for St Clears	700.00	116.67
BACS 809	One Voice Wales	Training (Jan ADITM/OG)	70.00	
BACS 810	City Illumination	Labour, fuel for call out	510.00	85.00
BACS 811	CCC	Playground SLA (quarter 3)	151.48	25.25
BACS 812	CCC	Skatepark SLA (quarter 3)	151.48	25.25
	DD Three	Mobile phone	6.00	1.00
	DD NEST	Pension		
			6326.07	562.57

NOTES		Reimbursement:
Receipts since last meeting date :		
Payee	Details	TOTAL AMOUNT
CCC		
Barclays	Use of Welfare field	
	Total	€0.00
Monies transferred since last meeting	13,000	

RESOLVED to approve accounts for payment.

254. To receive the Committee reports

Environment Committee – Cllr O Grant led on this and informed members that the role of committee had been approved and that they had commenced drafting the Biodiversity plan and Section 6 report. Consideration would be given to issues around water safety along the river bank, dog fouling around the town and on the Welfare field, as well as improving the walking routes and links to them.

Community, Finance and General-Purpose Committee – Cllr RGEDwards led on this and informed members that the role of committee had been approved, Council finances agreed and as such future projects could be considered. Council’s storage was an issue as CCC plan to demolish the Guides Hut and as such this was a matter that needs addressing.

The WiFi failed and the Zoom link was lost, Cllr OGrant dipped out of the meeting.

Gate Committee- Cllr PRogers led on this and informed members that the Heads of Terms document had been signed by all parties, Carmarthenshire County Council and St Clears Town Council. The library is to remain as part of the lease agreement. CCC had contacted the Art Council and were awaiting an official sign off. Landsker business solutions Ltd had been appointed to undertake further community engagement as part of the Ten Towns revenue grant. They will draft a bilingual report for Council, which will be a support structure when applying for the capital fund and considering the next steps for the building and community involvement. **ACTION to write a headline brief to share with the community (Website/Cardi Bach/Other). To invite County Councillors to all future meetings with the Local Authority and the Gate committee meetings. Committee meeting times to be changed to ease attendance to the following: Environment 7pm, Gate 7.45pm and Community, Finance and General purpose 8.15pm**

Due to the increased number of meetings held and decisions needing to be made within a tight time frame to ensure that the grant and transfer targets are met, Cllr Dr WVEJDavies proposed and Cllr CMDavies seconded the motion that the sub-committee be authorised to make decisions and payments in respect of the Gate and community engagement project in the interim period with all decisions fed back to Council during the Gate committee meetings. **RESOLVED to grant dispensation and authority to the sub-committee to make decisions and payments on behalf of Council in respect of the Gate and community engagement project in the interim period until hand over.**

The zoom link was refreshed, and Cllr OGrant re-joined the meeting.

RESOLVED to accept the Committee reports for February 2023.

Cllr P Hughes left the meeting.

255. **To consider storage facilities for the Council. AGREED to defer for further discussion by the Community, Finance and General-Purpose committee.**
256. **Correspondence.**
- a) Air Ambulance Wales – thank you letter for donation received.
 - b) Save a Life Cymru – One Voice Wales Public Access Defibrillators Census request.
 - c) Carmarthenshire County Council - Community Review of Town/Community Councils - noted.
257. **To receive reports from representatives on meeting of outside bodies, seminars etc.**
- Cllrs GADavies and JMiller gave an update on the Welcome space. The numbers attending is increasing week on week. The majority attending are doing so for socialising and wellbeing. Council considered how the venture could be continued after the grant comes to an end. The over 50's group attended every other week. A number of activities/talks have been arranged, e.g. Arthritis group talk, Beware of online scamming by Barclays Bank. **ACTION to ensure that the resources as noted in the application are purchased within the specified timeframe.**

Cllr TMcDermott to engage with the Youth service to commence the Youth provision within St Clears and to liaise with the clerk for any documentation/information required. Confirmation of dates/times were required of when the service would operate following an initial outreach service around the town. It was confirmed that there was a darts board and table tennis table available for use when the Youth club are ready.

258. **To receive the Town Mayor's Report on civic events, engagements etc.**
The Mayor attended the local darts presentation evening, whilst the Vice Mayor attended the successful Twinning event at the Gate and had accepted the official commemorative book and slate plaque on behalf of Council.

259. **Matters for the next agenda (exchange of information only)**

The Chairman closed the meeting at 20:47hrs.

Appendices



Press release

**For immediate
release**



Mae'r neges hwn hefyd ar gael yn y Gymraeg.

The Ombudsman appoints four new members to its
governance roles.

The Public Services Ombudsman for Wales appoints Bernie Davies, Sue Phelps MBE, Nia Roberts and Dave Tosh OBE as new independent members of the office's Advisory Panel and the Audit and Risk Assurance Committee.

The Ombudsman has established an Advisory Panel as a non-statutory forum whose main role is to support the Ombudsman in providing leadership and good

governance of the office. It also has in place the Audit and Risk Assurance Committee, which oversees our governance, risk management, the control environment and the integrity of financial statements and the annual report.

The Ombudsman sought to recruit new members to these governance roles in November last year. Reflecting the recognised challenges and opportunities facing the office and the public sector in Wales, the Ombudsman was especially interested in applications from individuals with experience in health services, cybersecurity, ICT and digital, as well as promotion of equality, diversity and inclusion. The four successful applicants bring in the wealth of experience across those priority areas, together with exceptional understanding of the Welsh public sector.

Michelle Morris, the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales, said

"I am delighted to make these appointments which will widen the experience, knowledge and diversity that our Advisory Panel and ARAC will bring to the work of PSOW. In particular these appointments will help improve how we deliver services across diverse communities and ensure our services are accessible for everyone. I am looking forward to working with our new and existing members over the years ahead and in delivering the strategic aims that will be set out in our new strategic plan."



Bernie Davies

Bernie is a TEDx Speaker, Bestselling Author, Diversity and Entrepreneurship Leader, with a previous legal career in property. She is Past Chair of the Neath Chamber of Trade, Board member for Black History Wales and Fio Arts Charity, Ambassador for the Commonwealth Entrepreneurs Club, Business Wales and Equal Power Equal Voice Mentor, Welsh Government Exceleator Coach and Founder of Bernie Davies Global. Bernie supports entrepreneurship programmes with a focus on diversity, for major banks, universities and government agencies. On United Nations Human Rights Day, 2022, Bernie was awarded the prestigious title of Ambassador for Peace by the Universal Peace Federation for her work in Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. Bernie has been and continues to be a regular BBC Radio Wales contributor and BBC and ITV media expert.

Bernie said, *"I had the privilege of speaking at PSOW in Black History Month and was so impressed with the organisation and its genuine commitment to fairness and diversity. When the opportunity arose to join, in this capacity, I did not hesitate and I am so humbled to be appointed to serve for the next 3 years."*



Sue Phelps MBE

Sue has worked in the voluntary sector in England and Wales for over 40 years. Moving to Wales in 1986, she worked at Mencap before taking time out to raise two daughters. Sue began work with the Alzheimer's Society in 1995 as an administrator following the death of her grandfather who had Alzheimer's disease and held a number of service development, management and leadership roles before becoming Country Director for Wales in September 2017. Working alongside people affected by dementia, with their voice at the heart, she campaigned for and championed the rights of everyone with dementia and those who care for them, promoting the need for investment in research to give hope for the future. Sue was delighted to be awarded an MBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours in 2017 for services to dementia in Wales. Keen on sport, Sue has been an Independent Director on the Cricket Wales Board since 2018 and serves as Chair of the EDI Sub-Committee and a member of the Finance Sub-Committee.

Sue said, *"I am delighted to have been appointed to the Advisory Panel and bring an enthusiasm and willingness to support the delivery of the ambitions laid out in the Ombudsman's strategic plan. With justice being one of the qualities I value most, I see this as an opportunity to play a part in*

bringing about systemic improvement in our public services for those who suffer injustice, feel let down or in any way marginalised or excluded."



Nia Roberts

Nia has worked in several roles across the public and private sector, most recently as Head of Research and Innovation Engagement at the Welsh Government. She is a European Patent Attorney, a Chartered Physicist and a Member of the Institute of Physics. Originally from Anglesey, Nia is a Welsh speaker and lives in Llandudno, North Wales. Nia has served in a number of non-executive roles including as a member of the Engineering & Physical Sciences Research Council Strategic Advisory Network, a member of the Institute of Physics Wales Committee and previously as a Chair of Governors of a primary school.

Nia said, *"In these difficult times it's more important than ever that our public services in Wales are the best they can be and I'm really excited to be joining the team working to make sure that happens."*



Dave Tosh OBE

Dave was Director of Resources for the Senedd Commission until he retired in January 2022. Dave spent 10 years at the Senedd and prior to this he has worked in Local Government, the Aerospace Industry and served for 12 years as a Commissioned Officer in the Royal Air Force. Dave's professional background is in ICT. Since retirement, Dave has taken up a part-time role as a leadership training and development consultant. Dave also sits as a Magistrate.

Dave said, *"I'm delighted to be joining my new colleagues on the Audit and Risk*

Assurance Committee of the Office of Ombudsman for Wales. The Ombudsman provides an invaluable service for the People of Wales, and I am proud to be able, in a small way, to provide my support."

Notes for the editors:

For further information please contact communications@ombudsman.wales.

Our role

We have three main roles:



We investigate complaints about public services



We consider complaints about councillors breaching the Code of Conduct



We drive systemic improvement of public services and standards of conduct in local democracy in Wales