

**Minutes of the Ordinary meeting of Full Council (FC)
held at the Gate, Pentre Road, St Clears
on Tuesday, 20th June 2023 at 7pm.**

Members Summoned and Present: Cllrs Dr WVEJDavies, CMDavies, GADavies (Mayor), RGEwards, OGrant, FLanc, TMcDermott, IPrice, PJRogers, IThomas-Wigley.

In attendance: Press (0), Members of the public (1), Carmarthenshire County Councillor PHughes

400. **Apologies. RESOLVED to accept apologies for absence from Cllr JMiller, and County Councillor CJones.**
401. **Personal Matters.** The chair extended the Council's condolences to the family of Mr Geoff Gronw, Bancyfelin who made a valuable contribution to St Clears Town Council as a Councillor and Mayor during his term of office. Council stood and observed a minute's silence.
402. **Declarations of Interest.** It was **NOTED** that councillors should declare any interests if they arise. Item 414a, St Clears & District Community Association Community Events Chest Application – Cllrs CMDavies and TMcDermott.
403. **To confirm the minutes of the Annual meeting of the Town Council held on 16th May 2023 and the Ordinary meeting following on 16th May 2023.** Cllr RGEwards nominated, and Cllr OGrant seconded the motion that the minutes of the Annual meeting of the Town Council held on 16th May 2023 and the minutes of Ordinary meeting of the Town Council also held on 16th May 2023 are an accurate record. **RESOLVED that the minutes of the Annual meeting of the Town Council held on 16th May 2023 and the Ordinary meeting following on 16th May 2023 are an accurate record of proceedings.**
404. **Matters arising (exchange of information only)**
Council awaiting update on Item 362 regarding signage at Priory field.
Circular Economy Innovation Communities report. **NOTED.** The clerk informed Council that as part of the CEIC project group SBR7 with Swansea University and Cardiff Metropolitan, she has been a part of the URDD23 group, which presented a sustainability and Circular Economy event to future generation school groups and individuals who attended the Urdd National Eisteddfod at Llandovery this year. Eight schools have pledged to undertake a CEIC project and create a mascot, while a further forty individuals participated. The URDD23 group will follow up with the schools during the autumn term to assess how well they are progressing with their projects. The Clerk and the URDD23 team will share the project details during their presentation at the CEIC conference at Cardiff City Stadium on 4th July 2023.

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405. To nominate and formally appoint a Vice Chairman for the Civic year 2023/24 and receive the Declaration of Acceptance.

Two Cllrs were nominated for the position of Vice Chairman. Following the vote there was an equality of votes (5 votes each). Thus, the Chairman had the casting vote.

Local Government Act 1972 s15 (3): In the case of an equality of votes in the election of a deputy chairman the person presiding at the meeting shall give a casting vote in addition to any other vote he may have.

RESOLVED to formally appoint Cllr OGrant as Vice Chairman for the Civic year 2023/24 and receive the Declaration of Acceptance. The Chairman thanked the deputy chairman, Cllr Dr WVEJDavies for his work during the civic year 2022/23.

406. To receive the County Councillor’s Update

- Water leak within the town has been addressed.
- Cycle path, Bancyfelin to St Clears will be on the south side and cyclists will have to cross through the tunnel. Council kept up to date via communication as received from Cycle Sir Gar group. Proposed to write to the Senedd Member, Lee Waters to request an update as path would boost tourism for both communities. RESOLVED to write to Welsh Assembly Government to seek an accurate and up to date account and defer further discussion until future meeting of Council.
- New Housing within the town. Section 106 monies earmarked for road improvements and affordable housing. Environment committee to review this and plan other projects for development e.g., play park.
- Grass at river path, Peillac Way is overgrown, request for grass to be cut.

407. To receive the Clerk’s Report

I. Carmarthenshire County Council

(i). Planning/Licensing.

PL/05966 26/05/2023	One Planet Development comprising a Residential Yurt with ancillary outbuildings and structures	Llangynog - Land formerly part of Alltygrug, Erw Clychau Glas, Llangain, Carmarthen, SA33 5BA	Under Consultation	Consultation Period
PL/05997 25/05/2023	Single storey conservatory to front elevation	Ty Tarw, Pilroath, Llangain, Carmarthen, SA33 5AJ	Under Consultation	Consultation Period
PL/05973 24/05/2023	Kitchen and garage extension	Bronheulwen, Llangynog, Carmarthen, SA33 5DD	Under Consultation	Consultation Period
PL/06010 08/06/2023	Retention of agricultural outbuildings	Land near Maenllwyd Farm, Llangynog, Carmarthen	In Review	Awaiting Decision

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SCO/01625 19/06/23	EIA Scoping Report Hywel Dda Urgent and Planned Care Hospital	Site 17, Land at Crug Y Deri, Tenby Road, St Clears, SA33 4JW	Dyddiad Dechrau Ymgynghori: 19/06/2023	Dyddiad Gorffen Ymgynghori: 10/07/2023
PL/06042 13/06/2023	Removal of Condition 2 on W/23304	Springfield, Llandeilo Abercowin, Llanybri, Carmarthen, SA33 5HY	Under Consultation	Consultation Period
PL/05993 16/06/2023	Erection of agricultural storage building	Land opposite Glanyrafon, Meidrim Road, St Clears, Carmarthen, SA33 4DW	Under Consultation	Consultation Period
PL/06101 15/06/2023	Discharge of Conditions 3 and 5 on PL/05562 (Written Statement of Investigation and Site Report and Management Plan for Control and Eradication of Japanese Knotweed)	Land at Maesgriffith, Llansteffan, Carmarthen, SA33 5JW	Under Consultation	Consultation Period

RESOLVED that there be no objections or adverse comments for the above-named planning applications.

2. One Voice Wales

a) Publication of updated Standing Orders document for Town & Community Councils received.

3. Keep Wales Tidy

Keep Wales Tidy and Our Local Places for Nature scheme are providing free garden packages to communities across Wales. Since launching in 2020, they've created and enhanced green spaces in Wales for people and nature to enjoy. This year they have hundreds more free garden packages to give away to eligible organisations. Detailed information on the programme can be found on the website <https://keepwalestidy.cymru/our-work/conservation/nature/>. The map at the bottom of the home page shows the location of all awarded packages to date.

4. Welsh & UK Government

a) Infrastructure (Wales) Bill 2023 – Appendix i

5. Training & Conferences

a) Circular Economy Innovation Communities SBR 6 & 7 conference, 4th July at Cardiff Arena 9.30-4.30pm

The following were considered in the absence of the press and public, Items 408, 409 and 413. The Chairman changed the order of proceedings so that members of the public were only asked to leave the meeting once.

Exclusion of Public and Press

Action: To consider that, under the Public Bodies (admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public and accredited representatives of newspaper be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that it involves the likely

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disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

408. **To receive the financial report.** Grant information and staffing for the Gate.
RESOLVED to accept the financial report.
409. **To approve accounts for payment.** To approve additional hours payment for staff.
RESOLVED to approve accounts for payment.

<u>Un-presented cheques:</u>				
Cheque number	Payee	Details	Cost	
103993	St Clears Young Farmers	Agricultural show, Mayor'd donation	50.00	
TOTAL			50.00	
SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS				
June 2023				
Cheque/BACS/DD	Payee	Details	Cost (inc VAT) £	VAT £
BACS 843/846	Staff	Salary & reimbursement	3358.60	2.60 *
BACS 844	JN Williams	Grounds Maintenance and delittering	420.00	70.00 *
BACS 845	JN Williams	Grounds Maintenance at Welfare Field	819.60	136.60 *
BACS 847	HMRC	PAYE (June plus overtime)	770.93	
BACS 848	Llewellyn Humphries Chartered Surveyors	Record of Conditions Report for The Gate	1800.00	300.00 P
BACS 849	Gallagher	Insurance premium 2023_24	2121.02	
BACS 850	Bowen & Weaving	Stationery	28.20	4.70 *
BACS 851	h3Group	CCTV Annual maintenance	240.00	40.00 *
Cheque	Bancyfelin & District Village Hall	Bancyfelin Carnival	300.00	*
BACS 853	TAF Running & Orienteering Team	St Clears 10K race	300.00	*
DD	CCC	Gate rental (April 2023)	150.00	
DD	Three	Mobile phone	6.00	1.00
			10314.35	554.90
NOTES				
Receipts since last meeting date :				
Payee	Details	TOTAL AMOUNT		
CCC	Precept			
Barclays	Interest			
St Clears Junior football Association	Use of Welfare field		£200.00	
St Clears Junior football Association	Use of Welfare field		£200.00	
	Total		£400.00	
Monies transferred since last meeting				

413. **To consider the vacant seats on Council.**

Council is to fill the casual vacancy as soon as practicable, which is required by rule 5(5) of The Local Elections (Parishes and Communities) (England and Wales) Rules 2006 (legislation.gov.uk).

A successful candidate must have received an absolute majority vote of those present and voting (LGA1972, Schedule12, para 39).

There were four applications for the two vacant seats on Council. One applicant withdrew their name. Council read the remaining three applicants' letters of interest and took a vote, which was undertaken in alphabetical order.

RESOLVED to co-opt Chris Davies and Jane Rees to St Clears Town Council.

410. **To receive the committee reports held on 6th June 2023**

a) Environment Committee –

Dog fouling competition winners selected.

Biodiversity report finished and published. Target to increase pollinators by 50% in year one and up to 75% in year two.

RESOLVED to defer the Best Garden, Eco Garden and hanging basket competition until 2024/25 civic year to allow more time for promotion and preparation.

Quotes sought for improving the playpark. Committee to consider a phased approach for renewal and **AGREED** to rank projects in order of priority and submit costs for financial consideration and budget planning to CFGP committee by end of October 2023.

b) The Gate – Please see ITEM 411

c) Community, Finance and General Purpose (CFGP). Storage solution resolved and container secured at Wembley Storage, Pentre Road. Arrangements made to transfer belongings as soon as possible. St Clears Town Council's official and only Facebook page is live (Cyngor Tref Sanclêr/St Clears Town Council). Youth workers have commenced working in St Clears.

RESOLVED to accept the minutes of the Environment, Gate and CFGP committee meetings held on 6th June 2023 as accurate records.

411. **To receive an update regarding the Gate.**

Productive meetings held to date and the Committee has now concluded all discussions with the County and the Solicitors. Mayor and Clerk to sign lease as soon as possible and sub leases to be drafted for unit tenants. Main lease not yet signed but handover commencement date confirmed as 1st July 2023 with a break point in July 2027 allowing newly elected Council (following 2027 election) to make the decision whether to continue with the project.

The following Councillors agreed to assist and shadow the Gate committee members moving forward –

Cllr OGrant with Cllr PJRogers

Cllr IThomas-Wigley with Cllr RGEwards

Cllr TMcDermott with Cllr GADavies.

The Council **NOTED** the need for a clear process for opening and closing of the Gate building as of 1st July 2023, and a lead name for the events moving forward, e.g., Cllr GADavies contact for the welcome space.

The Gate coordinator role has been advertised with a closing date of Monday, 3rd July 2023.

Current opening days Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, 10:30am-4.30pm.

The Landsker report to be published on the website, a hard copy placed in the library and a copy sent to the volunteer list.

The Ten Towns group has met twice, and a sharing of information document has been drafted. **RESOLVED to publish this on the Council's website and Facebook.**

The document includes a linked opportunity for residents and business owners to leave comments (closing date 7th July 2023). The Mayor and County Councillor PHughes will visit local businesses to gather information and their views.

NOTED, the grant is not available to individual businesses. Cllr OGrant has met

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with an architect to discuss potential internal developments at the Gate. Council may need to procure the services of a quantity surveyor to undertake some of the work.

ACTION, the sub-group to bring a timeline for actions, project details and as much information and approximate costings to the CFGP committee for further discussion during the July committee meeting. NOTED that the Town Council will have to approve the spend and pay for the work prior to reclaiming any of the grant funds.

Any alteration or extension work undertaken would need to be approved by Carmarthenshire County Council through the appropriate channels e.g., Planning. Digital drawings of the building required.

412. **To approve the Voluntary policy for Council. Correction: Volunteer Policy.** Cllr RGEwards proposed, and Cllr OGrant seconded the motion that Town Council adopt the Volunteer Policy. **RESOLVED to adopt the Volunteer Policy.**
414. **Correspondence (discussed at the end of the Clerk’s report, ITEM 407).**
- a) St Clears & District Community Association Community Events Chest Application. **RESOLVED to donate £300 to St Clears & District Community Association.**
 - b) A. Myden (CCC) Update regarding Guides Hut Storage facility. **NOTED, once Town Council has completed removing its belongings and assets, the keys will be returned to Carmarthenshire County Council.**
 - c) PLANED – congratulations letter regarding the commencement of the Wales Community Food Distribution hub. **NOTED**
 - d) CCC Notice of Vacancy (section 116 of the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011) public notice given for the required timeline. Town Council permitted to co-opt a replacement as soon as is practicable. **NOTED**
415. **To receive reports from representatives on meetings of outside bodies, seminars etc.**
- Cllr OGrant informed Council that he had attended on-line Governor training.
 - Cllr RGEwards informed that as Governor he’d attended all meetings regarding the appointment of a new Headteacher for Bancyfelin, Llansteffan and Llangain Federation of schools. Following two rounds of advertising with no applicants, a temporary Headteacher has been appointed to cover the role until the position is readvertised in the new academic year. A successful fundraising event was held at the boat club to raise much needed funds to cover the transport costs to take the pupils to swimming lessons at the Leisure Centre, Carmarthen.

The Mayor proposed Standing Orders to conclude matters.

416. **To receive the Town Mayor’s Report on civic events, engagements etc.** Cllr GADavies (Mayor) attended the St Clears carnival & sports committee’s evening to draw the name for the Carnival Queen and attended a meeting of the Town Trust (Port Reeve) and Men’s shed. The Mayor attended the St Clears Young Farmers

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association agricultural show at the Three Counties show ground, Carmarthen and congratulates the committee and all involved on a successful event following a three-year lapse and no show, due to Covid restrictions.

The Mayor thanked Cllr CMDavies for securing the Guide Hut.

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

- a) To discuss further funding provision for the Youth Club – CFGP.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9:18pm

Appendices

Appendix i

Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

14 June 2023

Infrastructure (Wales) Bill 2023

Dear Stakeholder,

On 12 June the Infrastructure (Wales) Bill was introduced into Senedd Cymru. The Bill proposes a new unified consenting process for Wales, which will apply both on the land and in the territorial sea. The Bill is vital to the timely delivery of significant infrastructure projects in Wales and is an important step towards supporting Government commitments to delivering on renewable energy targets as we move towards 'net zero' emissions by 2050.

The need for this Bill has arisen as a result of the Wales Act 2017, which devolved further powers to Wales for the consenting of energy generating projects, overhead electric lines, ports and harbours and other infrastructure works. In 2018, the principles underpinning the Bill were subject to full [public consultation](#) and have been refined with ongoing engagement and communications with key stakeholders.

The Bill will ensure a streamlined and unified consenting process. This will enable developers to access a 'one-stop-shop', whereby permissions, consents, licences and other requirements currently issued under different consenting regimes can be obtained as one package. By replacing multiple consenting processes with a single process, we will help attract the essential investment we need, particularly in the renewable energy sector.

The Bill also ensures a transparent, and consistent, process which enables local communities to better understand and engage in decisions that affect them, whilst providing certainty in decision-making which is underpinned by clear policy. It will also be able to meet future challenges by being sufficiently flexible to capture developing technologies and any further powers which may be devolved.

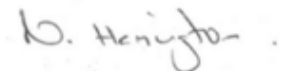
Specifically, the Bill makes provision for matters such as:

- the thresholds when a development is considered to be a significant infrastructure project;
- ensuring publicity and engagement with local communities and local planning authorities;
- the processes and procedures for determining applications (including authorising the compulsory acquisition of land); and
- breaches of infrastructure consent and how these can be enforced against.

The Bill is available on the Senedd Cymru website, along with [information regarding the legislative process](#). The Bill is accompanied by a range of supporting documentation, in particular the [Explanatory Memorandum incorporating the Regulatory Impact Assessment and Explanatory Notes](#), as well as the [Methodology Paper](#) which supplements the Regulatory Impact Assessment. Details of the impacts of the new consenting regime on a range of stakeholders are provided in the Regulatory Impact Assessment and also the [Integrated Impact Assessment](#).

The Senedd will commence scrutiny of the Bill shortly and I would encourage you to engage in the process.

Yours faithfully,



Neil Hemington
Prif Gynllunydd, Y Gyfarwyddiaeth Gynllunio
Chief Planner, Planning Directorate

Appendix ii

RE: **Licensing Act 2003.**

Review of Licensing Policy and Cumulative Impact Assessments

Carmarthenshire County Council is currently undertaking a review of its Licensing Policy which outlines the Authority's approach to licensing Premises, Clubs, Temporary Events and Personal Licences.

The current licensing policy was adopted by the authority in March 2021, following a consultation, which included a review of the existing Cumulative Impact Assessments for Lammas Street, Carmarthen and Station Road, Llanelli. However, the authority must undertake a full review of the Cumulative Impact Assessments at least every three years to ensure that they are still appropriate.

As part of this consultation the authority is reviewing the existing Cumulative Impact Assessments in force for Station Road, Llanelli and Lammas Street, Carmarthen.

The consultation also seeks views regarding the adoption of a further Cumulative Impact Assessment for **Nott Square, King Street and Queen Street, Carmarthen**. We are consulting in relation to these areas for the following reasons:

- a) Nott Square, King Street and Queen Street, Carmarthen are already identified at paragraph 6.12 of the existing Licensing Policy as Hot Spot areas of alcohol related Crime and Disorder.
- b) A request has been made by Carmarthen Town Council because of the levels of Crime and Disorder being reported to them.

What is Cumulative Impact?

14.20 The concept of “Cumulative impact” has been described within this guidance and used by licensing authorities within their statements of licensing policy since the commencement of the 2003 Act. ‘Cumulative impact assessments’ were introduced in the 2003 Act by the Policing and Crime Act 2017, with effect from 6 April 2018. Cumulative impact is the potential impact on the promotion of the licensing objectives of a number of licensed premises concentrated in one area.

14.21 In some areas where the number, type or density of licensed premises, such as those selling alcohol or providing late night refreshment, is high or exceptional, serious problems of nuisance and disorder may arise outside or some distance from those premises. Such problems generally occur as a result of large numbers of drinkers being concentrated in an area, for example when leaving premises at peak times or when queuing at fast food outlets or for public transport.

14.22 Queuing in itself may lead to conflict, disorder and anti-social behaviour. Moreover, large concentrations of people may also attract criminal activities such as drug dealing, pick pocketing and street robbery. Local services such as public transport, public lavatory provision and street cleaning may not be able to meet the demand posed by such concentrations of drinkers leading to issues such as street fouling, littering, traffic and public nuisance caused by concentrations of people who cannot be effectively dispersed quickly.

14.23 Variable licensing hours may facilitate a more gradual dispersal of customers from premises. However, in some cases, the impact on surrounding areas of the behaviour of the customers of all premises taken together will be greater than the impact of customers of individual premises. These conditions are more likely to arise in town and city centres but may also arise in other urban centres and the suburbs, for example on smaller high streets with high concentrations of licensed premises.

Further detailed information regarding Cumulative Impact Assessments can be found at paragraphs 14.20 – 14.48 of the Home Office Guidance published under section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003.

As part of the review the Council is consulting a number of interested parties including licence holders, businesses, local residents and their representatives.

This is an opportunity for local residents, businesses, existing licence holders and their representatives to formally comment on the proposal and provide feedback to the Authority.

To assist respondents, we have created an online survey on the council’s website: -

[Licensing Policy Review 2023 \(gov.wales\)](https://www.gov.wales/government/licensing-policy-review-2023)

The authority welcomes peoples’ views on not only the questions posed in the consultation, but also on any other issues arising out of the current statement of licensing policy and the implementation of the Licensing Act in Carmarthenshire.

Participants are advised that supplementary information such as statistics and supporting statements can be uploaded as an attachment to the survey in word or PDF form.

If you are unable to access the documents online, the consultation document can be posted out and the reference documents can be viewed at the Council’s customer service centres.

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Responses to the consultation must be submitted by the 8th August 2023, although an earlier response would be appreciated.