

**Minutes of the Ordinary meeting of Full Council  
(FC) held at the Gate, Pentre Road, St Clears on  
Tuesday, 19<sup>th</sup> September 2023 at 7.00pm**

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

**In attendance:** Press (0), Members of the public (1), Carmarthenshire County Councillors (2) Cllr PHughes and Cllr CAJones

469. **Apologies. RESOLVED to accept apologies from Cllr CMDavies**

470. **Personal Matters. None**

471. **Declarations of Interest.**

Item 475, Youth provision – Cllr TMcDermott

Item 477, Ten Towns – All councillors on a personal and not prejudicial nature.

Item 474, Bancyfelin Play Area – Cllr GREwards as committee member.

472. **To confirm the minutes of the Ordinary meeting of the Full Town Council (FC) held on 18<sup>th</sup> July 2023.**

**CORRECTION Cllr IThomas-Wigley and not Cllr GEdwards lead on the CFGP report. RESOLVED to confirm the minutes of the Ordinary meeting of the Full Town Council (FC) held on 18<sup>th</sup> July 2023 as an accurate account of proceedings with the insertion of the above correction.**

473. **Matters arising (exchange of information only)**

Cllr PRogers highlighted the need for Council to adopt Standing Orders, Financial Regulations and approve the Training Plan. These items to be addressed during the next committee meetings of Council for full approval during Council's Full Council October meeting.

474. **To receive the County Councillor's Update**

The various fundraising events held raised a total of £2729.00 for the Federation of Schools to pay for transport to the swimming pool for swimming tuition. Community developments within different areas allows for greater collaboration between contractor/developer and the community. Surplus equipment and materials may be left with the community for different projects.

Oriel Myrddin, West Wales Gallery Exhibitions being held which offers opportunities for different community areas to network and engage with artist. Council may register their interest with Oriel Myrddin. Cllr CAJones declared an interest in this item as a trustee of Oriel Myrddin.

Planning department has recommenced site visits after approximately four years following lockdown due to Covid.

St Clears Town Council to consider taking on the ownership of the land and management of the new Bancyfelin play area upon completion. The committee are looking for financial support to assist with paying for securing a meeting space.

**475. To further discuss the Youth Club Provision.**

Cllr TMcDermott led on this and informed Council that the Leisure Centre had been secured as a venue for the Youth Club. Various support grants had been secured (Castell Howell, CK's etc), while the outcome of further bids was anticipated. The Youth Club needed to open a bank account but required written support from the Town Council. Cllr GEdwards proposed, and Cllr OGrant seconded the motion that Council write a letter of support so that the Youth Club could open a Lloyds Bank Account. **RESOLVED that the Town Council would write a letter of support for the Youth Club as part of their application to open a Lloyds Bank Account.**

Projects include a McDonalds community litter pick, Wales & West graffiti art, water safety, Community Garden and team building activities. Vape and Alcohol misuse as well as Antisocial Behaviour issues (e.g., noise pollution). Early intervention works to supports prevention.

Concerns have been expressed that the Play Park is not fit for purpose. Thus, a community group will be formed that includes Council members the local nursery, community groups (including Youth) so that they may apply for grants to improve the provision.

**476. To finalise arrangements for the CADW open door weekend (23<sup>rd</sup>/24<sup>th</sup> September).** The Gate will be open on Saturday, 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2023 from 10.30am-4.30pm with refreshments served throughout the day. Various exhibitions about Griffith Jones and the historical walks around the town to be on display. Bruce Wallace (historian) attending to assist and Peter Stopp's book, 'Griffith Jones, Llanddowror' will be on sale. Councillors will be in attendance to share information about the work of Town Council and planned future activities.

**477. To receive an update on the Ten Towns grant (Revenue and Capital)**

Revenue grant application to include: -

- a) New website for the Town Council and locality with consideration to potential increased costs to website maintenance. Town Council needs to have this provision. Cllr PRogers proposed, and Cllr Dr WVEJDavies seconded that Council approve in principle to the website development.

- b) Digital information boards. Confirmation sought from Carmarthenshire planning that the town Council will take responsibility for the ongoing Electrical supply costs for the digital display boards at the gate and main carpark area. Council did consider renewable energy for this but currently this is not viable. Cllr PRogers proposed, and Cllr Cllr Dr WVEJDavies seconded that Council manage the future ongoing electrical supply costs for the digital boards at the Gate and main carpark.
- c) Artwork joint venture as part of a community and youth project. A brief has been submitted to three local artists asking for their design, depicting local history and culture.
- d) Rebranding of the Gate.  
The Mayor thanked the sub-group members for their work and commitment during the summer recess ensuring that the applications and all relevant documentation was ready for submission.

**RESOLVED that the Revenue grant application may be submitted. Sub committee to bring the finer details of the Capital project to the Council’s Full meeting in October. Cllr PRogers proposed, and Cllr GEdwards seconded the motion that a separate tab be created and a new account to manage the capital fund moving forward.**

478. **To discuss the Ombudsman’s Consultation document as received from One Voice Wales. RESOLVED that members read the document at their leisure and send any comments/observations to the clerk by noon on Monday, 25<sup>th</sup> September for submission.**

479. **To receive the Clerk’s Report**

**I. Carmarthenshire County Council**

**(i). Planning/Licensing.**

<a href="#">PL/05993</a>	Erection of agricultural storage building (revised plans)	Land opposite Glanyrafon, Meidrim Road, St Clears, Carmarthen, SA33 4DW	<b>RE-CONSULTATION : AMENDED PLANS / ADDITIONAL INFORMATION RECEIVED</b>	Re-consultation End Date: <b>16/08/2023</b>
<a href="#">PL/06040</a> 11/08/2023	Householder planning permission. Change of use from agricultural land to garden use for land acquired behind property	Llyswen, Salem Road, St Clears, Carmarthen, SA33 4DD	<b>Dyddiad Dechrau Ymgynghori:</b> 11/08/2023	<b>Dyddiad Gorffen Ymgynghori:</b> <b>01/09/2023</b>
<a href="#">PL/06473</a> 25/08/2023	Erection of yard coverings	Ysgubor Fawr, Ffynnongain Lane, Pwll Trap, Carmarthen, SA33 4AP	Under Consultation	Consultation Period

**RESOLVED that there be no adverse comments in respect of the above planning applications.**

ii) Letter regarding 20MPH speed restrictions on roads. (Appendix ii).

iii) **Revitalising Rural Town Centre fund** which is part of the 10 towns programme is now open for applications. The fund aims to provide opportunities for rural market town premises to add vibrancy to their frontages which will support the visitor economy, by creating welcoming, revitalised, vibrant high streets. This is a targeted fund for premises located in designated areas of each rural market town. Applications from premises located outside of each town's designated area may be considered on a case-by-case basis should the project provide significant impact. Officers will be visiting each town week commencing 25/09/23 to highlight the offer and encourage take up. More information can be viewed on the webpages.

[Ten Towns \(gov.wales\)](https://www.gov.wales)

**2. One Voice Wales**

a) One Voice Wales will be preparing a response to the Welsh Ombudsman’s public consultation on “Our Equality Plan 2023-2026”. Here’s a link to the consultation:

[Consultation on new Equality Plan 2023-2026 \(ombudsman.wales\)](https://www.ombudsman.wales)

OVW would appreciate your comments by 2 October to prepare a response by the closing date of 16 October.

b) **CURRENT VACANCIES IN ONE VOICE WALES** (Link to website) [One Voice Wales](https://www.onevoicewales.org.uk)

				
Policy and Practice Officer Advert	Governance and Digital Communicati	Cost of Living Crisis Project Support Offi	Cost of Living Crisis Project Officer Adve	Cost of Living Crisis Project Manager Ad
				
Policy and Practice Officer Advert.pdf	Governance and Digital Communicati	Cost of Living Crisis Project Support Offi	Cost of Living Crisis Project Officer Adve	Cost of Living Crisis Project Manager Ad

c. One Voice Wales training calendar for September distributed.

d. OVW Annual Conference and Annual General Meeting at the Royal Welsh Showground on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> September.

**e. New Free Courses from Dangos and more**

- Details of the new Dangos courses which are bookable now
- Older People and their Finances
- Children and Young People
- In need of care
- What’s changed & changing

Public courses can be booked via the Dangos websites at <https://dangos.wales> and <https://dangos.cymru> and in-house sessions can be arranged by emailing [info@dangos.wales](mailto:info@dangos.wales) or [info@dangos.cymru](mailto:info@dangos.cymru)

### 3. **Keep Wales Tidy**

### 4. **Welsh & UK Government**

#### a) New Hospital Site Consultation – Feedback Report

Earlier this year council and the public were contacted and invited to share its views about three potential sites for a new urgent and planned care hospital as part of the health board's wider strategy to improve health and care in the region.

The 12-week public consultation, held between 23 February and 19 May 2023, sought the opinions of members of the public, health board staff, organisations, and our broader community on the three site options for the new urgent and planned care hospital in the south of the Hywel Dda area – two near Whitland and one near St Clears.

Last year, Hywel Dda Engagement submitted ambitious plans to the Welsh Government, which if successful, could result in around £1.3billion investment into health and care in mid and west Wales.

The foundation of the plan, which was developed following consultation with our communities in 2018, is to bring as much care as possible closer to people's homes, with plans for a network of integrated health and care centres, designed with local communities, across Carmarthenshire, Ceredigion, and Pembrokeshire.

A new urgent and planned care hospital is part of our strategy to be able to re-provide more care in community settings, by having a sustainable hospital model fit for future generations. This will improve and increase the specialist care services that can be provided in Hywel Dda and tackle some long-standing challenges, including old hospitals, problems in maintaining clinical rotas over several hospitals, and staff recruitment.

To ensure independence of the consultation process, Opinion Research Services (ORS) was appointed to advise and collate and manage the consultation responses. This included the production of a final report on the consultation findings. This report can now be found on the health board's website at: <https://hduhb.nhs.wales/about-us/healthier-mid-and-west-wales/> The consultation process for the selection of a site for the new hospital has achieved a Best Practice Quality Assurance from the Consultation institute.

If you cannot access the ORS report on our website and would like a printed copy of the Executive Summary, please contact us by email [hyweldda.engagement@wales.nhs.uk](mailto:hyweldda.engagement@wales.nhs.uk) or by calling us on 0300 303 8322

As part of the formal consultation process, a number of health board stakeholder groups have since been asked to conscientiously consider the ORS report. In doing so, they were asked to consider:

- Are there any further mitigations the health board should be considering?
- Do you think the report has identified all the equalities issues?
- Are there any final points you would like to make, anything not captured in the report?

What happens next?

The ORS final report, together with the output of the conscientious consideration process, the equality and health impact assessment, and the technical and commercial reports, will be considered at an extraordinary meeting of the Board at 10:30am on 14 September. During the meeting, Board members will be asked to deliberate on the key findings from the ORS report, and be asked to consider reducing the short list of sites for the new urgent and planned care hospital from three sites to two, and to decide upon the two sites to take forward.

If you would like to watch the extraordinary meeting of the Board, details of how to do so can be found on the health board's website: <https://hduhb.nhs.wales/about-us/your-health-board/board-meetings-2023/extraordinary-board-agenda-and-papers-14-september-2023/> The Board papers that will be discussed at the meeting, which will include further technical information relating to the three sites, are also available on the same webpage.

Hywel Dda Engagement are very grateful to every member of the community, to community groups, and partner organisations who took the time to meet with us and share their views during our consultation process. Thank you for your continued interest in our plans to develop a healthier mid and west Wales.

#### b. Please see below the link to Ystadau Cymru latest newsletter.

<https://www.gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2023-08/ystadau-cymru-newsletter-edition-9.pdf>

## Exclusion of Public and Press

Action: To consider that, under the Public Bodies (admission to Meetings) Act 1960, Sec 1 (2), the public and accredited representatives of newspaper be excluded from the meeting for whenever publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted. The **following items of business 479(5) and 481 were determined in the absence of the press and public** on the grounds that involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

### 5. The Gate

a. The Gate transfer is progressing, and St Clears Town Council has managed the day-to-day management including opening/closing the facility since hand over mid July 2023. However, there is an outstanding matter with the final lease and underleases due to discrepancies with the inventory list. The clerk and mayor have corresponded regularly with the Town Council's solicitor and Carmarthenshire County Council to try and bring this matter to a close but to no avail to date. The clerk has offered to review the two inventory documents and awaits a reply from the solicitor. The underleases are dependent on this document and as such Terry Thomas Lettings have not been able to proceed further with the letting of the units and café. **Noted.**

b. The additional cameras approved for the Gate facility (external and first floor) have been installed by H3Group and the engineer's reports circulated to members.

c. The Gate lift was serviced during the summer recess. Carmarthenshire County Council have informed that an annual pre-paid SIM is required for the emergency phone contact. CCC have informed that they will pay for the installation but the responsibility for the on-going costs for the pre-paid SIM will need to be paid for by the Town Council. Approval sought. Cllr TMcDermott proposed, and Cllr PRogers seconded the motion to proceed with taking responsibility for the on-going costs for the pre-paid SIM in the Gate lift. **RESOLVED to proceed with taking responsibility for the on-going costs for the pre-paid SIM in the Gate lift. Clerk to liaise with Carmarthenshire County Council to approve works.**

d. The Town Council's efforts to secure a cleaner have not yet been successful met and the facility has not been thoroughly cleaned for the past two months. The clerk has cleaned the toilet and emptied the bins and Councillors have assisted with the opening/closing and emptying bins. The Clerk would like to thank all the members who have assisted with this during the past two months ensuring the continued smooth running and operating of the facility. **NOTED. Clerk to contact the agency cleaner again to rearrange a commencement date.**

e. The closing date (12/09/23) for the applications for the role of Gate facilitator has since passed. Town Council to nominate the panel for short listing and interviews and arrange the relevant proses and dates. Cllr JMiller proposed, and Cllr IPrice seconded the proposal that a sub-group be convened to deal with the short-listing and interviewing proses for the post of Gate facilitator. **RESOLVED that the Cllr GA Davies (Mayor), Cllr OGrant (Deputy Mayor) and Cllr IThomas-Wigley (Vice Chair of the CFGP committee) be the named sub-group members to deal with the short-listing and interviewing proses for the post of Gate facilitator. ACTION sub-group to approve dates for short list, interview, questions etc.**

f. A letter has been received from Dyfed Powys Police regarding their Gate office lease. Due to financial constraints and lack of use, they have given Notice to Vacate. **NOTED**

**g.** Carmarthenshire County Council's Rural Hub Services have requested they be permitted to use the Gate facility every Tuesday as of 3/10/23 until 14/12/23. Council to approve use and costs. **RESOLVED to approve use of Gate facility by CCC for Community Hub at a cost of £15.00 per hour per meeting room.**

480. **To receive the financial report. RESOLVED to approve the financial report.**

481. **To approve accounts for payment.** Cllr PJRogers proposed and Cllr IThomas-Wigley seconded the motion to approve accounts for payment. **RESOLVED to approve accounts for payment.**



**482. Correspondence**

- a. St Clears Junior Rugby – thank you letter for donation to youth festival. **NOTED**
- b. Bancyfelin Park Committee – request for financial support for meetings. **ACTION** inform that the application needs to be submitted on the Community Chest Application.
- c. Royal British Legion St Clears Branch Party Poppy invitation at Ysgol Griffith Jones. **NOTED**
- d. Royal British Legion St Clears Branch – St Clears Town Council wreath for Remembrance Sunday. **RESOLVED to donate £50.00 for the purchase of a wreath for Town Council.**
- e. E. Bowen offering the hire of PA system at reasonable rates. **NOTED**
- f. Cllr TMcDermott – Playpark bid, formation of community group. **NOTED (see ITEM 478)**
- g. CCC – Council Renumeration forms data. **DEFERRED** until committee meetings.
- h. Letter from two local children offering litter picking project with Town Council. **ACTION**, Mayor, and Deputy Mayor invited the children to visit them at the Mayor’s Parlour and discuss their concerns.
- i. E-mail invitation from Carmarthenshire Scouts Council to attend the AGM on 8/10/23. **NOTED.**
- j. E-mail letter informing of CCC’ s decision to extend the Completion Date of the Minor Works Framework for its own purposes until 31<sup>st</sup> July 2023. **NOTED.**
- k. CWM Environmental letter informing of Separate Collection of Waste Materials for Recycling - A Code of Practice for Wales. **NOTED.**
- l. St Clears WiFi reports. **NOTED.**
- m. Swansea University Foundational Economy Innovation Network training information. **NOTED**
- n. Invitation to a charity event being held at Ysgol Griffith Jones on 28th October in aid of Parkinson's UK Cymru. **NOTED**

***PROPOSE STANDING ORDERS to conclude matters to be discussed.***

**483. To receive reports from representatives on meeting of outside bodies, seminars etc.** Cllr JRees thanked the St Clears Men’s Shed volunteers for painting the bollards around the War memorial and the ramps at the skate park. Well done as these items look clean and fresh.

Poppy Appeal event commences on 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2023.

**484. To receive the Town Mayor’s Report on civic events, engagements etc.** Mayor and Deputy Mayor welcomed Ellie and Aimee, two local children to visit the Mayor’s Parlour, and to discuss their concerns regarding litter in and around the town.

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

- List of potential projects from both sub-committees
- Ten Towns Capital grant update
- Profile paragraph from each Councillor

There being no other business the Mayor closed the meeting at 21.33hrs.

## Appendices

### Appendix i



## Wales – Get ready for 20mph

On 17th September 2023, the default speed limit on restricted roads in Wales is changing from 30mph to 20mph. In readiness for this change, you are invited to attend our 'Get ready for 20mph' virtual summit, hosted by the Welsh Government with support from Transport for Wales.

This celebratory event is our opportunity to share best practice from elsewhere; discuss progress made towards implementation here in Wales, and the wider benefits of 20mph.

The summit is taking place virtually via Microsoft Teams on **Monday 3rd July 13:00 – 14:30**; and will include a selection of speakers to discuss the benefits of this lower speed limit, as well as a breakout session to share best practice and discuss challenges to help you continue preparing for the implementation of 20mph in your communities.

Please RSVP to [ReadyFor20mph@tfw.wales](mailto:ReadyFor20mph@tfw.wales) by 27<sup>th</sup> of June and note that the formal agenda is to follow. Please also feel free to share this invitation with any other colleagues assisting with the implementation of this policy. I look forward to welcoming you to this exciting event, where together, we will ensure Wales is [#ReadyFor20mph](https://twitter.com/ReadyFor20mph)

### Appendix ii

Dear Councillors and Clerks,

#### **20mph Legislation Coming into Force on 17<sup>th</sup> September**

You will be aware that Welsh Government have introduced legislation which reduces the 30mph default speed limit on restricted roads (urban roads with streetlighting) down to 20mph. This legislation comes into force on the 17<sup>th</sup> September.

The County Council's Highways & Transportation Team have been working to prepare for this change and you have previously had the opportunity to participate in consultations and to comment on the many Traffic Regulation Orders required to support the legislative change.

Carmarthenshire has the second largest road network in Wales which runs to over 3,500km and changing the traffic signs across the network will take some time. Our Highways Team are installing new traffic sign-posts and will roll out changing the speed limit signs as quickly as possible, but it will take time to cover such an extensive network. During this transition period we will require your patience as we work through a very full schedule of traffic sign changes.

This legislative change is an issue of high public interest and to assist Town & Community Council the following information and links have been prepared.

#### **1. Why is the Speed Limit Changing?**

This is a national initiative from Welsh Government aimed at improving road safety and building safer local communities with more walking and cycling. It is not a County Council initiative but we have an obligation to implement the change in legislation. Further details: [Introducing default 20mph speed limits | GOV.WALES](#)

Enquiries regarding Welsh Governments decision to introduce the legislation can be forwarded to: Welsh Government, Cathays Park, Cardiff, CF10 3NQ  
Telephone: 0300 0604400 (Monday to Friday, 8:30am to 5pm)  
Email: [customerhelp@gov.wales](mailto:customerhelp@gov.wales)

#### **2. Costs**

All of the County Council's costs are being funded by grant from Welsh Government.

#### **3. Enforcement of Speed Limits**

Enforcement of speed limits can only be done by Dyfed Powys Police. Requests can be made to their Go Safe Team at: [GoSafe | Wales Road Casualty Reduction Partnership](#)

#### **4. Requests for Traffic Calming**

Welsh Government are not providing funding for new traffic calming. The County Council has for many years received frequent requests for traffic calming which far outstrip the budget available. Our focus is to target areas where there is an evidenced road safety problem and a reasonable expectation that an intervention will bring about a reduction in the number of recorded personal injury collisions.

#### **5. Monitoring the Change**

The reduction in speed limits is a major change to the speed limit regime. The County Council has undertaken traffic surveys on a selection of roads to provide a 'before' picture of driver behaviour and these surveys will be repeated to monitor traffic speeds. However, it is recognised that behavioural change is likely to take a number of years to embed, just as seat-belt laws did.

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#### **6. Requests for Additional Speed Limit Changes**

There will need to be a 'settling-in' period while drivers and communities get used to the new speed limits. Addressing inappropriate traffic speeds can be tackled through enforcement and education and following the limit changes these areas are likely to be important.

Where there is a clear case for further changes to the speed limit requests for can be submitted to:

[ENTrafficManagement@carmarthenshire.gov.uk](mailto:ENTrafficManagement@carmarthenshire.gov.uk)

However, we would request that communities exercise patience in allowing the new limits to bed-in.

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#### **7. Engagement / Education Initiatives**

The County Council will continue to work with Dyfed Powys Police and Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service and our schools to encourage slower speeds in our communities. One initiative we support involves Police Officers from the Roads Policing Unit stopping speeding motorists to give motorists the option to answer questions from pupils about why they were speeding or to accept a formal speeding charge.

Schools have also been offered the opportunity to run their own speed reduction campaign, and will be provided a speed radar device to measure speeds and they will use the data to create posters and videos to highlight the benefits of slowing down in their neighbourhoods.

#### **8. Active Travel**

One of Welsh Governments aims is to create safer environments for walking and cycling. The County Council is supporting this by working with schools on School Travel Plans.

#### **9. Further Information.**

Further information is also available on the County Council's website: [20mph Speed Limits for Safer and Healthier Welsh Streets \(gov.wales\)](#)

Or by contacting the Traffic Management Team at: [ENTrafficManagement@carmarthenshire.gov.uk](mailto:ENTrafficManagement@carmarthenshire.gov.uk)

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