

Minutes of the meeting of the **Environment Committee** held at
the Gate on **Tuesday 05th December 2023 at 7.00pm**

Members of the Environment Committee summoned and present:

Councillors Dr WEVJ Davies, O Grant (Chairman), FLanc, TMcDermott, JRees, IThomas-Wigley. All other members of Council for information

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

584. **Apologies for absence. Cllrs GADavies, CMDavies, JMiller**

585. **Declarations of interest. Item 590**, tree planting – Cllr Flanc.

586. **To consider any matters arising from the minutes of the meeting of the Environment Committee held on 7th November 2023. (Exchange of information only).** Future projects – need to consult with the wider community as to what the residents would like to see in St Clears. Council to consider drafting a questionnaire with key areas for development, e.g. play park, for distribution via an online platform or through an open day event.

Benches – the clerk showed the members different examples of benches. ACTION to check the length of the current benches and the plinth sizes. **RECOMMENDED** to purchase x2 NBB recycled plastic benches as previously ordered so that all new benches look the same and 1x picnic bench with disability provision for the riverside area.

587. **To draft the committee’s budget for 2024/25.** The members reviewed and amended items of the Environment’s budget spend and **RECOMMENDED** that a draft budget with a 5% increase be prepared for consideration during January’s committee meeting.

588. **To consider headings for the Councillor profile. RECOMMENDED** to proceed with the following headings for the Councillor profile statement for the new website:-

- Name
- Background
- Experience
- Interests
- Town Council responsibility

589. **To consider 'Plastic free St Clears'**. The Council discussed aspects such as removing the use of single use plastics, involving local businesses and inspiring the next generation (school pupils) as part of the requirements to achieving the plastic free community status. **RECOMMENDED to proceed and work towards the 'Plastic Free Community' status.**
<https://plasticfree.org.uk/>
590. **To receive a tree planting update. NOTED.** Carmarthenshire County Council is holding a tree planting project on Thursday and Friday (18th and 19th January 2024 respectively) where the local school pupils will be planting trees along Peillac Way river walk. A further community day will take place on Saturday, 20th Jan 2024 from 9am -12noon. All welcome and **RECOMMENDED** that Town Council gets involved.
591. **To consider the community woodland engagement event.** Council considered holding an open day event to discuss the community woodland project with the residents. The project would be a great opportunity and resource for the local community. **RECOMMENDED as the project is in the concept and ideas phase that this would be a great opportunity to share the potential of such a project with the wider community through an open day event at the Gate.**
592. **To receive an update on the Bee Friendly Status application.** Following the Town Council's successful Bee Friendly Status application it is **RECOMMENDED** that Council now continue with the work and action the plans as written in the biodiversity report.
593. **To consider improvements to the Rebecca Riots statue.**
RECOMMENDED to contact Simon Hedger (sculpture) to get a quote to repair the damaged board and correct the wording. Council to consider the use of volunteers to paint the statue in the new year when the wood is dry, and the correct colour paint has been sourced.
594. **Correspondence. NONE**
595. **Matters for the next agenda (exchange of information only).**
Budget and future projects.

The chairman closed the meeting at 20:02 hrs.