

Minutes of the **Community, Finance and General-Purpose Committee**  
meeting held at the Gate on **Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2024 at 8.00pm.**

---

**Members of the Community, Finance and General-Purpose Committee summoned and present:** Councillors GADavies (Ex-officio), RGEwards (Chairman), TMcDermott, JMiller, JRees, PJRogers, IThomas-Wigley. All other members of Council for information.

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

*The Chairman wished members a Happy New Year.*

**637. Apologies for absence. Cllr FLanc.**

**638. Declarations of interest. NONE**

**639. To consider any matters arising from the minutes of the Community, Finance and General-Purpose meeting held on the 5<sup>th</sup> December 2023 (exchange of information only).**

Item - Christmas Toybox appeal. As the donation window had closed following the Council's decision, it was **RECOMMENDED** to add the Council's agreed 2023/24 donation amount of £50.00 to the Council's 2024/25 donation amount.

**640. To draft the committee's budget for 2024/25.**

The Council reviewed the budget and considered increases to the cost of services, staffing and energy etc. The Council drafted the budget with a 5% uplift in key but not all areas. The CFGP committee budget includes items plus others under the following headings:

Administration

Staffing, HMRC / staff review etc. 47602

Post /Telephone /Stationery 840

Subscriptions/Publications 788

Y Gât 10000

Welfare field 9000

Civic

Members Allowances 2028

Mayors Allowance 3000

Civic / election expenses 350

Council Offices

Rent 1800

Insurance 2500

Grants, Donations & Bursaries

Grant/Donations 1500

Audit fees 2000

Website 525

Christmas Lights 10500

CCTV/Community safety 2100

Community Events Chest 3000

Supporting Community Events/projects 4725

Storage 1500

Wi-Fi 250

Total CFGP Budget Forecast in the region of £110,389.00 including a 5% uplift in key areas. **RECOMMENDED to proceed with the budget as discussed including the 5% uplift in key areas.**

641. **To consider future projects.** Following discussion, **RECOMMENDED** to consider Council storage and the Welfare field as part of the future projects list.

642. **To consider planning applications as notified by Carmarthenshire County Council.**

<a href="#">PL/06831</a> 20/12/23	Disabled works to existing building	23B Cefn Maes, St Clears, Carmarthen, SA33 4DA	<b>Dyddiad Dechrau Ymgynghori:</b> 20/12/2023	<b>Dyddiad Gorffen Ymgynghori:</b> <b>10/01/2024</b>
--------------------------------------	-------------------------------------	--	--	---

**RECOMMENDED** that there be no adverse comments in respect of Application PL/06831.

The Council **RECOMMENDED** querying the following PL/01300 and PL/01301 which appeared in the decided weekly planning list 18/12/23 -22/12/2023.

<a href="#">PL/01300</a> 28/04/2021	Full planning permission	Conversion of former furniture store to supermarket, comprising of partial demolition of frontage, new frontage, and store area with car park to front.	Former GW Stores, Pentre Road, St Clears,	Full Refusal
<a href="#">PL/01301</a> 28/04/2021	Consent to display an advertisement	Installation of unlit 'CK' store signage to front elevation. Installation of ATM on front elevation of building with Halo Lighting	Former GW Stores, Pentre Road, St Clears,	Advertisement Refused

643. **To consider financial donation requests.**

Council discussed financial support for local and National charities that benefit and support residents within the community.

**RECOMMENDED to donate the following amounts:**

**Carmarthen & District Youth Opera - £50**

**Cerebral Palsy Cymru - £50**

**URDD Gobaith Cymru - £50**

**Wales Air Ambulance - £100**

**Y Cardi Bach - £200**

**Wales region SSAFA (Armed Forces charity) – Nil as the charity is already supported locally.**

**644. To adopt policies for Council.** The following documents: Equality and Diversity Policy, Vexatious Complaints and Requests Policy, Grievance Procedures, and Disciplinary Procedures had been circulated to members to reading prior to the meeting. The council thanked the Clerk for preparing and circulating the documents. **RECOMMENDED to adopt the Equality and Diversity Policy, Vexatious Complaints and Requests Policy, Grievance Procedures, and Disciplinary procedures documents as seen.**

**645. To approve the purchase of equipment for Y Gât and permission to spend limits.** Mr. Elfan Griffiths, Y Gat part-time facilities manager commenced in post today (9/1/24) supported by the Clerk. New equipment is needed to assist Elfan Griffiths with the smooth operation of Y Gat moving forward. This includes a mobile phone, laptop, printer, various stationery, and consumables. **RECOMMENDED spending limit for the purchase of equipment agreed up to a total of £850 (laptop £500, mobile phone £150, petty cash, printer, plus other consumables £200). In addition, a mobile phone SIM would be set up via Direct Debit.**

Cllr IThomas-Wigley showed members an online booking system 'SimplyBook.me' for consideration. A basic system for multiple rooms would cost in the region of £7.50 per month. The clerk is to share the information with the facility manager so that different systems may be reviewed, and a booking system may be considered at a later meeting of the Council.

*Cllr TMcDermott left the meeting.*

**646. To consider the next steps for the Ten Towns Revenue Grant.**

The Revenue Grant has been approved and Council may proceed with the different projects (e.g. Youth provision) as per the agreement. The Council will need to pay the invoices and reclaim the monies spent accordingly.

A Business plan has been completed and the Capital grant application is part completed. The completed section is ready for submission. The remainder requires some additional information (e.g. digital screens) prior to submission.

**647. Correspondence.**

- a. Y Gât – CCC Boiler inspection completed. **NOTED**
- b. Terry Thomas Lettings – update letter regarding Underlease documents for unit lettings. This should be ready as close to the end of next week. **NOTED**
- c. PLanc – request to view inside Council's storage container – **DECLINED.**
- d. HBantock, Age Cymru – Free use of Y Gat for bi-weekly digital sessions to support the local community – **RECOMMENDED** to

- support request.
- e. ANicholas, Carmarthenshire Food Network Officer – Proposed new date for Community Event. **RECOMMENDED** Thursday, 8<sup>th</sup> or 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2024 between 5pm-7pm.
  - f. MCarter, St Clears Junior Football section – permission to seek business support to complete roof repairs to football storage hut. **RECOMMENDED** to support request.
  - g. DLockwood, Carmarthenhsire Golf Club – Mobile App information. **NOTED.**
  - h. D-Day 80 Lamp Light of Peace information. **NOTED.**
  - i. LKing, Chair 2<sup>nd</sup> St Clears Scout Group – as the new chair meeting to resolve any outstanding issues. **RECOMMENDED** that the clerk make arrangements to meet to discuss any outstanding issues.
  - j. CCC – Thank you letter for supporting the Period Poverty campaign. **NOTED.**
  - k. DBriggs, Managing Director City Illuminations – Cost of supply and fit of new electronic programmable timer for Christmas Lights £145 plus VAT. **RECOMMENDED** to approve payment.
  - l. BPerl, Community Project Coordinator St Clears Leisure Centre – request to discuss ideas and update Council on progress during next monthly meeting. **RECOMMENDED** to postpone meeting until budget approved, Ten Towns and Y Gât projects commenced and running.

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

Y Gat update

Ten Town update

Composition of Committees

***The Chairman closed the meeting at 22:02hrs.***