

Minutes of the Ordinary meeting of Full Council (FC) held at the Gate, Pentre Road, St Clears on Tuesday, 23rd January 2023 at 7.00pm

Members Present: Cllrs Dr WEVJDavies, GADavies (Mayor), OGrant, FLanc, JMiller, TMcDermott, JRees, PJRogers,

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

- 646. Apologies. RESOLVED to accept apologies form Cllrs CMDavies, RGEwards, IPrice, IThomas-Wigley**
- 647. Personal Matters. NONE**
- 648. Declarations of Interest.**
Item 650 Matters Arising Item 616/512– Cllr Dr WEVJDavies
Item 657 Croeso Cynnes – Cllr GA Davies
Item 618, Ten Towns – All Councillors
- 649. To confirm the minutes of the Ordinary meeting of the Full Town Council (FC) held on 19th December 2023.** Cllr Dr WEVJDavies proposed, and Cllr JRees seconded the motion that the minutes of the Ordinary meeting of the Full Town Council held on 19th December 2023 are a true record of proceedings. **RESOLVED to confirm the minutes of the Ordinary meeting of the Full Town Council held on 19th December 2023 are a true record of proceedings.**
- 650. Matters arising (exchange of information only).** Item 616 – Water issue at new housing development on High Street (Re: Item 512). Further tree cutting observed. Item 618 – Ten Towns grant. All relevant documents including business plan, location map, financial plan, copy of lease etc had been submitted to Carmarthenshire County Council.
Stage 1 – completed and submitted to the relevant panel/cabinet which includes reconfiguration of Y Gat, plus internal painting etc. furniture and street art.
Stage 2 – to complete which includes new website (reminder for members to provide profile paragraph), digital screens and e-bikes storage and repair station.
Other: Contact details for Elfan Griffiths, Y Gât facilities manager.
E-mail address: gate@stclearstowncouncil.co.uk
Mobile No.07842752751
Office No. 01267 224963
- 651. To receive the County Councillor’s Update.** Apologies received from Cllrs PHughes and CJones. Cllr CJones sent correspondence informing Council that due to the severe weather, the toilet block at St Clears carpark had been damaged.
- 652. To approve the sub-committee reports**
a). Environment committee. Cllr OGrant informed that due to the potential improvements as part of the Tackling Towns programme, the Council’s order for

benches is amended to x2 to purchase. The committee had spent time reviewing the budget. Item 653 to include current & future projects but that the river pollution is not feasible as a project but would be monitored and issues raised reported to National Rivers Authority. Cllr PJRogers proposed, and Cllr GADavies seconded the motion that the Environment committee report be adopted as a true record. **RESOLVED to approve the report for the Environment Committee.**

b). Community, Finance and General-Purpose committee. The chair informed that the committee had spent time reviewing the budget, considering fund donations, Y Gât and progress with the Ten Towns grant. Cllr OGrant proposed, and Cllr GADavies seconded the motion that the Community, Finance and General Purposed committee report be adopted as a true record. **RESOLVED to approve the report for the Community, Finance and General Purposed committee.**

653. To receive the Clerk’s Report

1. Carmarthenshire County Council

(i). Planning/Licensing.

PL/06831 20/12/23	Disabled works to existing building	23B Cefn Maes, St Clears, Carmarthen, SA33 4DA	Dyddiad Dechrau Ymgynghori: 20/12/2023	Dyddiad Gorffen Ymgynghori: 10/01/2024
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(ii). Carmarthenshire Communities for Work Plus are holding an information session on the **24th January 2024** in **Parc Y Scarlets, Llanelli from 9am-11am**. Come and find out what the team can offer and how we can work together to support the young people you work with to look at their journey into training and employment. A light breakfast will be provided please let us know about any dietary requirements you may have.

Spaces are limited so please book on the below link as soon as possible.

<https://forms.office.com/e/yAi9xVdz7D> Booking for this event will close on the 19th January 2024. **NOTED, the clerk is attending.**

iii) Do you work with individuals and want to help them access more training and employment opportunities? Carmarthenshire Communities for Work Plus are holding an information session on the **30th January 2024** in **Carmarthen Library, from 11am-1pm**. Come and find out what the team can offer and how we can work together to support the people you work with to look at their journey into training and employment. **Spaces are limited so please book on the below link as soon as possible.**

<https://forms.office.com/e/3hiyXA5WJJ> Booking for this event will close on the 24th January 2024.

2. One Voice Wales

a). The Deputy Minister for Social Services has published a blog which focuses on ageism. Please follow the link to the blog [Blog Gwadd: Gweithio gyda'n gilydd i greu](#)

[Cymru oed-gyfeillgar - Comisiynydd Pobl Hŷn Cymru \(comisiynyddph.cymru\)
<https://olderpeople.wales/news/guest-blog-working-together-for-an-age-friendly-wales/>](https://olderpeople.wales/news/guest-blog-working-together-for-an-age-friendly-wales/)

b). Welsh Local Government Association would like to invite you to a session to learn more about Community Speed Watch: [GoSafe | Community SpeedWatch](#) and how you could get involved. The session will be held online via Zoom on Wednesday 8th of February 2024 at 7pm. The presentation will be in English, with a Welsh translator present for anyone wishing to make contributions in Welsh. Community Speed Watch is a national initiative where, in partnership with the Police, members of communities use detection devices to monitor local vehicle speeds. The volunteers report drivers exceeding the speed limit to the police with the aim of educating drivers to slow down.

Please register your interest by responding to kaarina.ruta@wlga.gov.uk by the 31st of January 2024 and you will then be sent the instructions to join.

c). Training sessions covering digital skills taking place in January, February & March 2024. These training sessions are being provided by **Digital Communities Wales** as part of the **Digital Health of Community and Town Councils** programme. There is no charge for Councillors to attend these training sessions. To register for the training please follow the following quick steps to be sent a ticket.

-Visit <https://www.eventbrite.com/cc/one-voice-wales-digital-training-2918959> to review session times and descriptions.

-When you have found a session which you would like to attend then click to “reserve a spot”.

-Complete the form to register. Please use the name of your council for your organisation or department where required.

Please specify during the registration for the training session if you would like to participate in Welsh.

d). Welsh Government is currently consulting on future spending purposes for dormant assets funding in Wales. Responses are invited by 28 February 2024. The consultation seeks feedback on which areas the Dormant Assets Scheme should fund. These include:

- children and young people
- climate change
- financial inclusion
- community action

They are also interested in receiving suggestions for other social or environmental priorities. A copy of the consultation document can be found at:

[Future spending purposes for dormant assets funding in Wales | GOV.WALES](#)

One Voice Wales will be preparing a response to this consultation and would appreciate your response or draft response by 16 February so that a response can be submitted by the closing date of 28 February 2024.

e). Older People’s Commissioner for Wales has been posted on the Welsh

Government website and will go live on a variety of online platforms later today:
[Appointment of an Older People's Commissioner for Wales - Welsh Government \(Cais\) \(tal.net\)](#)
[Penodi Comisiynydd Pobl Hŷn Cymru - \(tal.net\)](#)

2. You are invited to **Dyfed-Powys Police** and Crime Commissioner Dafydd Llywelyn's eighth annual St David's Day Conference.
Date: Friday, 1st of March 2024
Time: 09:00 – 16:00 **Location:** Police HQ and Online. Recognising vulnerability in offenders is essential for developing a more nuanced and effective approach to criminal justice. Identifying and understanding vulnerabilities allows for targeted and effective interventions and will aid in reducing the risks of reoffending and victimisation. **Book your FREE virtual or in-person place here:**
<https://bit.ly/PCCStDavidsDayConf2024>

3. **Welsh & UK Government**

a). The Welsh Government is setting up an independent Board for [Trydan Gwyrdd Cymru](#), Welsh Government's renewable energy developer, and their aim is that it reflects the diversity of the people of Wales. While one of the posts should bring a renewable background, they are also looking for people with wider understanding of governance and delivering benefits that make a difference to people in Wales. The [candidate pack is here](#) and we would be very grateful if you could share this with your networks.

b). Welsh Government is seeking to build a better understanding of online hate in Wales and to consider issues unique to the nation. To this end, the Welsh Government's Programme for Government for 2021-2026 contains a commitment to: 'work with the tech companies and media platforms to tackle hate crime and misinformation.' This commitment is also reflected in Welsh Government's Anti-Racist Wales Action Plan, which contains an action to 'counter online racist hateful attitudes'. Welsh Government is seeking to build links with representatives from social media companies with the intention of initiating informal discussions about options and possibilities and identifying collaborative ways of working to address hate crime in online spaces. Such a collaboration might include establishing channels of communication to relay concerns and findings which Welsh Government collect through engagement work with criminal justice agencies, third sector and members of the public.

The first part of this process involves engaging with civil society stakeholders in Wales to gather their experiences and opinions. To participate, please click on the link below: <https://app.onlinesurveys.jisc.ac.uk/s/cardiff/engagement-with-social-media-platforms>.

The survey will close 18 January 2024.

c). We are keen to work with our external partners to build a pipeline of individuals who are interested in applying for a board position. To view the latest advertisement for public appointments in Wales, please visit:

[Cardiff and Vale University Health Board Independent Member - Welsh Government \(Cais\) \(tal.net\)](#) Closing date for the above appointments is 09/02/2024 at 16:00

654. To finalise the draft budget for 2024/25 and set the precept.

The Council discussed the budget and the proposed projects for 2024/25 considering increases to costs, services, employment, energy etc. Council also considered potential cuts to services by the Local Authority. Thus, making it difficult to forecast how much money will be required and when it may be required. To maintain services and proceed with current and future projects Cllr Dr WEVJDavies proposed and Cllr JRees seconded the motion that the precept for 2024/25 be increased by 5% to £113,958.83. **RESOLVED to increase the precept by 5% and request £113,958.83 from CCC.**

655. To approve accounts for payment. Cllr JRees proposed, and Cllr TMcDermott seconded that the schedule of accounts for payment be approved. **RESOLVED to approve accounts for payment.**

SCHEDULE OF PAYMENT S

23 January 2024

Cheque/BACS/DD	Payee	Details	Cost (inc VAT) £	Gate	VAT £
BACS 918	SLCC	Annual Membership	289.00		
BACS 919	SLCC	Training PILCA	144.00		24.00
BACS 920	Staff	Reimbursement & Salary etc	4125.51		113.09
BACS 921	City Illuminations	Christmas Lights	9038.50		1909.75
BACS 922	City Illuminations	Demanda Christmas lights	3193.50		832.25
BACS 923	JN Williams	Rubbish Collection at Welfare Field	985.00		160.50
BACS 924	JN Williams	Grounds Maintenance and mowing	236.00		38.00
BACS 927	Wembley Storage	Storage Container Dec.	130.00		
BACS 928	CRES	Recycling		80.57	
BACS 929	Wentvale Nurseries & Landscapes	Autumn Planting	576.00		98.00
BACS 930	Wia Care Cleaning Services	Gate December clean		102.00	
BACS 931	W3 Design	Website Annual Hosting	295.00		
BACS 932	Scott Ormand Electrical	Electrical Cabal fee		60.00	
Cheque CCC	CCC	Annual Cyclical maintenance per SLA play park	187.28		28.88
Cheque CCC	CCC	Annual Cyclical maintenance per SLA skate park	187.28		28.88
BACS 933	EDF	Electricity Invoics		3211.08	207.98
Cheque BACS934	CCC	Replacement of Lantems	2043.30		340.55
BACS 935	JN Williams	Fence repair at Welfare field boundary	720.00		120.00
BACS 936	JN Williams	Work associated with Christmas trees	972.00		162.00
BACS 937	JN Williams	Erection of 24 new planters	792.00		132.00
BACS 938	Y Gŵl	Staffing		617.22	
Cheque Carmarthenshire & District Youth		Donation	50.00		
Cheque Cardf Bach		Donation	200.00		
Cheque Cardf Pabey Cymru		Donation	50.00		
Cheque Llund Gobaith Cymru		Donation	50.00		
Cheque Wales Air Ambulance		Donation	100.00		
BACS Wia Care Cleaning Services		Gate January clean		159.80	
DD Reno		Digital Accounting	36.00		6.00
DD CWM		Refuse collection	159.74		26.62
DD Three		Mobile phone	6.00		1.00
DD CCC		Gate Rates 09/33.88 01/07/23_31/03/24		962.00	
DD Welsh Water		Water Raise Oct		60.00	
			7664.60	5954.67	3497.48

NOTES

Receipts since last meeting date:

Payee	Details	TOTAL AMOUNT	GATE AMOUNT
CCC	Precept	36177.41	
St Clears Scout Hl	Ground rent 2/02/23		
St Clears Scout Hl	Ground rent 2/02/24		
Hysel Ode Health Board	Room rental (Dress)		
CCC	Room rental (Gallery)		
Sanclays	Interest		
Swilhelm Newydd	Y Gŵl rental		
CCC	Library subsidy		63,000.00
	Total	36177.41	63,000.00

Monies transferred since last meeting:

656. To consider the vacant seat on Council. There were three applicants for consideration for the remaining one vacant seat on Council. Members read the applicants letters and a secret ballot was proposed. Seven out of the eight members present voted. The successful candidate with the majority vote is Richard Davies. **RESOLVED to co-opt Richard Davies to the Town Council.**

The Chairman amended the agenda order and dealt with correspondence as the final item of the meeting.

658. To receive reports from representatives on meeting of outside bodies, seminars etc.

- OGrant met with the surveyor from Oolong ([Oolong Sports](#)) who are undertaking the pitch inspection at the Welfare field. Report pending.
- TMcDermott is working with the Town Trust to provide a water safety provision for the local youth in conjunction with Actif Team Sport Wales, RNLI, Carmarthen Rowing club, Gwendraeth paddlers and Ferryside Lifeboat.
- Community planting event postponed until Thursday, 1st February (school) and Saturday, 3rd February 2024 (community) 9am – 12 noon.

659. To receive the Town Mayor's Report on civic events, engagements etc.

The mayor attended the Bandi Appeal AGM at Ty Nant, Glangwili and was delighted to be reacquainted with the work being done.

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

New housing development at High Street.
Y Gât

657. Correspondence.

- a) Croeso Cynnes – a request to reinstate the Croeso Cynnes provision was received until such time as the café lease is completed. **RESOLVED to approve the request.** Croeso Cynnes will re-commence on Thursday, 21st January 2024 at 10.30am – 2.30pm at Y Gât.
- b) CCC Park and skate Park reports circulated. **RESOLVED to discuss further during the February Environment Committee meeting in the meantime to proceed with the low/moderate risk works that require attention.**

Cllr FLanc left the meeting.

- c) Correspondence received by members on personal e-mails and repeat requests for information and clarification of Council decisions. **RESOLVED that all correspondence received on personal e-mails will not be replied to as Council can only act as a Corporate Body. All correspondence and requests must therefore go through the clerk. Council agreed that the clerk forward a standard reply to any repeat requests and in future that these matters will be referred to the CFGP committee for consideration.**

There being no other business the Chairman closed the meeting at 21.17 hrs.