

**Minutes of the Environment Committee meeting held at the Gate on
Tuesday 06th February 2024 at 7.00pm**

Members of the Environment Committee summoned and present: Councillors GADavies (Ex-officio), CMDavies, Dr WEVJ Davies, FLanc, O Grant (Chairman), JRees, IThomas-Wigley.

All other members of Council for information.

Observing: Cllr RGEwards

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

661. **Apologies for absence.** Cllrs TMcDermott, JMiller,

662. **Declarations of interest. NONE**

663. **To consider any matters arising from the minutes of the meeting of the Environment Committee held on 9th January 2024. (Exchange of information only). None**

Cllr IThomas-Wigley joined the meeting during agenda item 633.

664. **To consider a Community Questionnaire and a date for a public consultation event.** Council considered various questions for the community questionnaire which included questions regarding the play park at the Welfare field, the skate park at the rear of the car park and the creation of a woodland to the rear of Maes yr Hufenfa. Thursday 29th of February 2024 between 6 and 8pm was proposed as a date for the consultation event due to be held at Y Gât. Members thanked Cllr Tristy McDermott for preparing the questions for consideration. **RECOMMENDED to adopt the questions for the Community questionnaire (appendix i) and hold the public consultation event on Thursday, 29th February 2024 between 6 and 8pm.**

665. **To consider the various Garden competitions for 2024.**

The committee discussed the various garden competitions due to be held during 2024 and the prizes/awards given as well as the judging dates.

RECOMMENDED to hold the following competitions with a garden centre voucher as prizes.

- **Best Hanging Basket/Box - 1st £30, 2nd £20, 3rd £10. Judged July 2024**
- **Best vegetable container/box - 1st £30, 2nd £20, 3rd £10. Judged July 2024**
- **Best Eco garden - 1st £60 plus bird box, 2nd £40, 3rd £20. Judged early September 2024.**

Information to be shared with the community so that they are aware that the Garden Competitions will recommence in 2024 and they may plan and prepare if they wish to participate. Criteria for Eco Garden competition to be agreed during the next meeting of the Environment committee.

666. **To consider Safer routes to Schools. RECOMMENDED to request an update regarding Safer Routes to Schools from the County Councillor, PHughes.**
667. **To consider the bottle bank area at main carpark.** Information has been received that the bottle banks at St Clears main town carpark will be removed although there is no date available at present. The clothes bank, small electrical equipment bank and others will remain. **NOTED.**
668. **To approve the work required on the Rebecca Riot statue. RECOMMENDED to accept the quote from S. Hedger for £200 and proceed with correcting the wording and repairing the damaged sign. As the stain colour for the statue is now obsolete, Council to agree an alternative to match the current colour to protect the wood and ask the Men's Shed if they would like to volunteer to paint, when the weather is better.**
669. **To consider the Play & Skate Park reports. RECOMMENDED to proceed with all the minor repair works required as noted on the reports.**
670. **Correspondence.**
OVW – free hedge laying course.
671. **Matters for the next agenda (exchange of information only)**
- Criteria for garden competition
 - Heritage trail panel boards
 - Tree cutting around War memorial.

Congratulations to the organisers and thank you to all who participated in the successful tree planting event held at the riverside. Over 300 trees were planted. Further work is intended with the school children to monitor growth etc.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 20:03hrs.

Appendix i

St Clears Playground Consultation 2024

St Clears Town Council are looking for answers from the community regarding the provision for children and young people in St Clears. Please complete the following consultation to order for us to conduct a full report of needs for the development of provision.

How important do you believe it is to have a children’s play park in St Clears?

1 – being not at all, 5 – essential

Which ages, do you believe is in most need of a play park?

0-4

5-10

11 – 16

17 – 25

How old is the person completing this form?

Under 16

16-25

26 – 35

36 +

Are you the following?

- Child
- Parent
- Carer
- Grandparent
- Other

Do you reside in the area of St Clears?

- Yes
- No

Please provide your postcode

Would you travel to St Clears to use the play park if it was to be improved?

- Yes
- No

How often **do** you use the play park facilities at the Welfare Field in St Clears?

- Daily
- 2 or 3 times a week
- Weekly
- Monthly
- Yearly
- Never

Do you visit the park more often during the school holidays?

- Yes

- No
- Other

In order of importance, which is the most important aspect of a play park for you?

- Safety
- Equipment
- Inclusivity
- Sensory
- Multi-purpose

What equipment would you like to see in a play park?

- Swings
- Slides
- Climbing facilities
- Sensory equipment
- Zip wire
- Infant/ toddler multi play
- Roundabout
- Disability access
- Picnic benches
- Seating hut/ sheltered area
- Junior multi play
- Sand play
- Water play/ splash zone
- Adventure/ trim trail
- Other

Please specify your top 3 preference on the above

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

How likely are you to recommend St Clears play park to others, as it is?
(10 = very likely and 1 = not likely)

Community Woodland Creation

As a Town Council we hope to create a community woodland which will be accessible to all. For us to develop this, please give us your input.

1. How important do you think it is to have a community woodland area at the rear of Maes yr Hufenfa, St Clears for the community to use?
2. How would you use the community woodlands?
 - Exercise
 - Wellbeing
 - Engaging with nature

- Educational purposes
 - Create sub groups
 - Volunteering
 - Observe nature & wildlife
 - Dog walking
 - Other (please specify)
3. Would you be interested in attending educational courses e.g. green skills and/ or wellbeing sessions?
4. Do you think a community woodland in the town would be well utilised?
5. Would you be interested in learning new skills and volunteering to help create and develop the community woodlands?

Skate Park Review

Do you use the skate park facilities in St Clears?

- Yes
- No

If you do, would you recommend this to others?
(10 = very likely and 1 = not likely)

Do you feel an improved skate park should be considered for St Clears?

- Yes
- No

Would you travel to use the skate park if improvements and amendments were made?

- Yes
- No

Do you have any recommendations to improve the skate park facilities in St Clears?