

**Minutes of the meeting of the Environment Committee via Zoom on
Tuesday 02nd April 2024 at 7.00pm**

Members of the Environment Committee present:

Councillors GADavies, FLanc, O Grant (Chairman), JRees.

All other members of Council for information.

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

737. **Apologies for absence.** Cllrs Dr WEVJ Davies, TMcDermott, JMiller.
738. **Declarations of interest.** Item 743, War Memorial – Cllr J Rees.
739. **To consider any matters arising from the minutes of the meeting of the Environment Committee held on 5th March 2024. (Exchange of information only).**
None.
740. **To receive the latest playpark and skate park reports from Carmarthenshire County Council. RECOMMENDED to receive the latest playpark and skate park reports from Carmarthenshire County Council (CCC).**
741. **To receive an update regarding the repairs to the playpark and skatepark.**
CCC had informed Council that they were unable to do the maintenance repairs to the playpark and skatepark and had suggested that the Council contact GBSports for a quote for the works. GBSports has been contacted but no quote has been received yet.
RECOMMENDED to chase up GBSports for a quote and to see if they are available to complete the works and find details of other contractors who may be able to take on the work.
742. **To approve the next steps for the various garden competitions.** The criteria for the different garden competitions to be put on a PDF file on the website with a QRcode added to the hard copy with a link to the information. Council discussed judges for the different competitions and dates for judging. **RECOMMENDED to publish poster and criteria on website and social media. To contact the four individuals recommended to ask if they would be willing to judge the competitions and for the judging to take place during the second week of July 2024, where Town Council members would assist and escort. The previously agreed prizes of garden vouchers to be purchased and the St Clears Men’s Shed approached to make a ‘robins bird box’ for the winner. Arrangements made for an engraved plaque to put on the bird box with the engraving:**

*St Clears Town Council / Cyngor Tref Sanclêr
Best Eco Garden / Gardd Eco Orau 2024*

Certificates to be presented to the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd winners during the awards evening on embossed blue paper with the Council's Blue Boar and Bee Friendly status logo visible.

Cllr JRees declared an interest in item 743 and left the meeting.

743. To discuss the War Memorial (responsibility, maintenance, seating, railings, future provision etc.). Members discussed the war memorial area, and the queries raised in the letter received from St Clears Royal British Legion Branch. It was noted that the Town Council is only responsible for the obelisk. However, the cutting of the trees was discussed as a quote had been requested. **RECOMMENDED on this occasion to proceed with the quote for £220 plus VAT for cutting and pruning the trees.**

Repainting the railings at the area has been deferred as this forms part of the works submitted on the Tidy Towns project.

The matter of cleaning and power washing the area would be discussed at a future meeting of Council. Although council undertook and paid for the works prior to the Remembrance Service during 2023, this does not form part of the council's overall responsibility. The purchase of a war bench was also considered, and town council has no objection to the RBL purchasing a bench if they comply with any relevant planning application.

Cllr JRees rejoined the meeting.

- 744. To receive an update and consider the panels for the Heritage trails. DEFERRED until June meeting of committee.**
- 745. To receive an update regarding replacing x2 benches at Bancyfelin.** The purchased benches are with the council contractor ready for installation. However, the current location of one bench encroaches across the entrance of a new build. CCC planning department has been contacted and they note that there are conditions attached to this build and **RECOMMENDED that council contact the highways department for further information.**
- 746. To discuss the condition of the footpaths within the town. RECOMMENDED to invite members to walk a few footpaths to survey their condition on Saturday, 27th April 2024 at 10am. Meet at Y Gât.**
- 747. To consider the committee's work during the next civic year. DEFERRED.**
- 748. Correspondence. None**
- 749. Matters for the next agenda (exchange of information only). West Wales Housing/Community Woodland (confirm lease and source tenders for the work).**

The chairman closed the meeting at 20:03 hrs.