

**Minutes of the Annual meeting of Full Council (FC) held at Y Gât, Pentre Road,  
St Clears on Tuesday, 21<sup>st</sup> May 2024 at 7.00pm\***

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**Members Present:** Cllrs CMDavies, Dr WEVJDavies, GADavies (Mayor), RDavies, OGrant, FLanc, TMcDermott, JMiller, JRees, PJRogers, IThomas-Wigley.

**In attendance:** Press (0), Members of the public (8), Carmarthenshire County Councillors (1). Apologies from Cllr RGEwards.

**2024.1. To formally appoint the Town Mayor for the civic year 2024/25 and receive the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.** Cllr CMDavies nominated Cllr GADavies for the role of Mayor, and this was seconded by Cllr JRees.  
**RESOLVED to appoint GADavies as Mayor for the Civic Year 2024/25. Cllr GAD read the Declaration of Acceptance.**

***The mayor addressed the members:***

*Noswaith dda i chi gyd -Cyd-gynghorwyr, Cynghorydd Sir, Teulu a Ffrindiau. ...  
Good evening - Councillors, County Councillor, Family and Friends A warm  
welcome to you all.*

*At this year's Annual Meeting, I cannot help, but think back to last year's meeting and the shock I had then when elected Town Mayor. This year is different, as I knew in advance what was going to happen and have prepared accordingly. Having said that, being elected Town Mayor remains a huge honour and privilege. One that I am delighted to accept, and I am truly grateful to you all, for entrusting me with this role for another year. Even though I now know what lies ahead of me! I thoroughly enjoyed my term of office and I look forward to serving the communities of Bancyfelin and St. Clears once again. I will strive to the best of my ability to always be a worthy ambassador for the Town Council. *Fy mraint a'm anrhydedd fydd cynrychioli cymunedau Bancyfelin a Sancler a gwneud fy ngorau drostynt hyd eithaf fy ngallu a bod yn Lysgennad teilwng ar ran y Cyngor Tref yn ystod y Flwyddyn Ddinesig a ddaw.**

*Last year, I vowed to do two main things - namely to raise the Town Council's profile by engaging more with the community and endeavouring to share all the good work that is being undertaken by the Town Council and drawing everyone's attention to it, mainly through having a FB page. I hope that I have succeeded in accomplishing these two aims.*

*As Mayor I have strived to accept the numerous invitations received to attend all sorts of functions, and I have enjoyed meeting people from all walks of life. I have made a point of visiting as many of the societies and organisations there are within the ward, and it has given me enormous pleasure to visit all the Youth*

*groups of the area or to invite them to meet the Mayor and Deputy Mayor and visit the Council Chamber. I feel that it's important to inform every one of the roles of the Town Council whilst dispelling a few misconceptions, whilst tuning in to people's aspirations for the town.*

*Both schools have been visited and all the residential homes. A competition was set to design a poster warning against dog fouling, and we had worthy winners from both schools and the posters are now up and around both Bancyfelin and St. Clears. Before long there will be an Eco Garden competition with different categories- watch out for that!*

*There have been several community events held during the last year including a Community Food evening, a consultation regarding the Playpark and a Community Woodland. During June there will be another community consultation regarding the Street Art that has been commissioned by using funding from the Ten Towns grant. You will see that there is far more community involvement taking place, which will encourage a strong bond between both parties so that even more may be achieved.*

*The greatest achievement by far I would say, is the Town Council taking over the day to day running of Y Gât, formerly run by Carmarthenshire County Council. This is a huge undertaking and an achievement to be extremely proud of. We are indebted to the commitment of councillors past and present who ensured that this became a reality. Now we the opportunity to fulfil the vision of creating Y Gât as a business and community hub, bringing new life to the town has commenced. Numerous activities are taking place catering for all needs. The Town Council is extremely proud that this achievement has had recognition where St Clears came first and won the award for Best Devolution of Asset/Service at the One Voice Wales conference held in March 2024.*

*Supporting the community is my passion, and I'm proud to say that the Town Council funded the Croeso Cynnes hub for over a year and a half, ensuring that the most vulnerable in our community were given the opportunity to meet up and have a chat in a safe and friendly environment. I was overwhelmed by how much this meant to people and how the volunteers had also benefitted. Establishing that there was such a need for this shocked me, but once the cafe is up and running there will be an opportunity to continue to meet as Croeso Cynnes and registered attendees and volunteers can get 10% off between 10.30 and 12.30 thanks to our prospective cafe tenant.*

*After a great deal of commitment and hard work, from the Ten Towns sub-committee, the Town Council has been successful in obtaining substantial*

*funding from Carmarthen County Council's Ten Towns Grant. I would like to express my sincerest gratitude to this group, who gave up their time during the summer recess, to meet deadlines and ensure that this was accomplished. Without your support and continued enthusiasm this would not have been achieved. A great deal of new improvements will soon be seen in the town and work here at Y Gât is just the beginning. You'll see Street Art murals; painting of utility boxes to make the town vibrant and lively, refurbishment of Y Gât and rebranding it and painting from top to bottom; digital screens and a new website; paying for Youth provision and paying for the location for them to meet; a Street market co-ordinator will be employed etc. St. Clears will be a town residents will be proud of, and visitors will want to visit.*

*There's so much more to share with you about what has happened, but it's going to take too long. Now I would just like to share with you what my focus will be for the coming Civic Year and that is Wellbeing. This will be launched by having a community event, Llwyfan Lles (a platform for wellbeing) when different organisations and agencies will showcase what they can offer to provide care and support and they will have an opportunity to present or just display. It will be a community event, with everyone being invited to see what is on offer. This will tie in with the Community information sharing hub on different topics, that will happen on Friday afternoons and there will be a Craft Club every Wednesday afternoon which again is a source to aid with wellbeing. MIND meet at Y Gât every Thursday afternoon, and they offer an excellent service for anyone who needs support. Hopefully, there'll be Yoga classes available too. That's just a taste of what is being planned- watch this space.*

*I gloi, diolch yn fawr i bawb am fy nghefnogi ym mha bynnag ffordd - y cleric, fy nirprwy Faer, y Cynghorwyr a thrigolion yr ardal. Finally, I would like to thank everyone within the Town Council, the clerk, councillors and residents alike for the unwavering support I have been given. None of the above would have been possible without it.*

*There are exciting times ahead for the Town Council and St. Clears, and I am delighted to be driving this vision forward, to ensure a brighter and more prosperous future for the town and the surrounding areas.*

*Gyda'n gilydd medrwn gyflawni hyn - together we can achieve this.*

**2024.2. To formally appoint the Deputy Town Mayor for the civic year 2024/25 and receive the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.** Cllr IThomas-Wigley nominated Cllr OGrant for the role of Deputy Mayor, and this was seconded by Cllr PJRogers. **RESOLVED to appoint OGrant as Deputy Mayor**

**for the Civic Year 2024/25. Cllr OGrant read the Declaration of Acceptance and thanked members for their vote of confidence.**

**2024.3. Declarations of interest. None for the business being transacted.**  
 Declaration of Interest documents had been circulated to all members for completion. It was agreed that the forms be completed and returned to the Clerk by the June ordinary meeting of Council. The members DOI will then be published on the Council's website.

**2024.4. To appoint representatives on outside bodies. RESOLVED to appoint the following members as representatives on outside bodies.**

St Clears District & Community Association	Cllr C Mark Davies
Ysgol Griffith Jones Governing Body	Cllr Owain Grant
Bancyfelin, Llangain & Llansteffan Schools Federation Governing Body	Cllr R Graham Edwards
Osborne Charity	Cllr Dr W Edmund V J Davies
One Voice Wales	Cllr J Rees
Bancyfelin Village Hall Committee	Cllr R Graham Edwards
St Clears Town Trust	Portreeve /Town Mayor – Cllr G Annalyn Davies

**2024.5. To approve and elect members to Council Committees. RESOLVED to appoint the following members to the Council's committees.**

<b>ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE</b>	<b>COMMUNITY, FINANCE &amp; GENERAL-PURPOSE COMMITTEE</b>
Cllr CM Davies	Cllr GA Davies
Cllr Dr WEVJ Davies	Cllr R Davies
Cllr GA Davies	Cllr RG Edwards
Cllr R Davies	Cllr J Rees
Cllr O Grant	Cllr PJ Rogers
Cllr F Lanc	Cllr T McDermott
Cllr J Miller	Cllr I Thomas-Wigley

<b>Welfare Field sub-group</b>	Cllr R Davies Cllr O Grant Cllr Tristy McDermott
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**2024.6. To fix the dates and times of ordinary meetings and committee meetings of the Town Council for the civic year. RESOLVED to hold the ordinary meetings of Council on the third Tuesday of the month at Y Gât to commence at 7pm (unless otherwise informed) and the April meeting at Bancyfelin Hall. No Full Council meetings held during August summer recess. Environment and Community, Finance and General-Purpose**

**(CFGP) committee meetings to be held on the first Tuesday of the month except during August and May, to commence at 7pm and 8pm (alternating each month). [Appendix i]**

- 2024.7. To consider the:**
- (i) Code of Conduct.**
  - (ii) Financial Regulations.**
  - (iii) Standing Orders.**

Cllr OGrant proposed, and Cllr Dr WEVJDavies seconded the motion that these be deferred until the June meeting of Council. **RESOLVED to defer these items until the June meeting of Council.**

**2024.8. To consider planning applications.**

<a href="#">PL/07587</a> 23/04/2024	Non-Material Amendment to PL/03374 (substitute Plot 60 from housetype HT-C to HT-D-01 AS)	Land to the west of High Street, St Clears, Carmarthen	In Review	Awaiting Decision
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**RESOLVED there be no objections to application PL/07587.**

To consider that, under the Public Bodies (admission to Meetings) Act 1960, Sec 1 (2), the public and accredited representatives of newspaper be excluded from the meeting for whenever publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted. Items 2024.9 and 2024.10.

- 2024.9. To approve the accounts for payments.** Cllr JPRogers proposed, and Cllr JRees seconded the motion that the accounts be approved for payment. **RESOLVED to approve the accounts for payment.**

SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS					
21 May 2024					
Cheque/BACS/DD	Payee	Details	Cost (inc VAT)	Gate	VAT £
BACS 16	JN Williams	Rubbish Collection at Welfare Field	363.00		160.50
BACS 17	JN Williams	Grass Maintenance and de-littering @Welfare Field	648.00		108.00
BACS	Staff	Reimbursement & salary	3231.03		2.60
BACS 13	Wembley Storage	Storage Container Mar.	110.00		
BACS 20	Gallagher	Hiscox Insurance	2196.61		
BACS 21	Neusadd Bancyfelin	Hire of Hall	30.00		
BACS 22	Simon Hedger	Rebecca Riot sculpture repairs	200.00		
BACS 23	Alex Hughes	Tree cutting around War memorial	220.00		
BACS	Y Gŵt staff	Salary etc.		803.23	
BACS 28	W/e Care Cleaning Services	April/May Y Gŵt cleaning		160.00	
BACS 29	Total Energies	Gas Invoice			
BACS 30	EDF	Electricity charges		1313.05	213.84
BACS 31	CRES	Waste collection		80.57	
BACS 32	Wembley Storage	Storage Container Oct 23.	110.00		
DD	Xero	Digital Accounting	36.00		6.00
DD	Three	Mobile phone	6.00		1.00
		Gate Rates £3413.50 01/04/24 - 31/03/25 monthly fee April		341.00	
DD	CCC	Water Rates Oct		60.00	
DD	ICO	Data Protection Fee	35.00		
			<b>7785.70</b>	<b>3363.91</b>	<b>497.94</b>
<b>NOTES</b>					
Receipts since last meeting date :					
	<b>Payee</b>	<b>Details</b>	<b>TOTAL AMOUNT</b>	<b>GATE AMOUNT</b>	
	CCC	Precept	37986.27		
	St Clears Scouts Hut	Ground rent 2022/23			Outstanding
	St Clears Scouts Hut	Ground rent 2023/24			Outstanding
	Hywel Dda Health Board	Room rental (Dewi)			Outstanding
	CCC	Room rental (Gallery)			Outstanding
		<b>Total</b>	<b>£37,986.27</b>	<b>£0.00</b>	

**2024.10.** To receive an update on the 2022/23 and 2023/24 audit. Council was informed that the accounts for 2022/23 and 2023/24 had been updated following the return of the 2021/22 accounts from Audit Wales. The documents were currently with the approved internal auditor, Llewellyn Davies Accountants, Whitland. A meeting is arranged for the beginning of June, and it is anticipated that the internal auditor's reports will be available for Council to resolve during the next ordinary meeting of full council. The publication notices for members of the public to review the 2021-22 documents has been posted on the website and notice board for the appropriate time

**2024.11.** Any other items of business related to the Annual Meeting. **None.**

**There being no other business the Chairman closed the meeting at 20:30hrs**

**Appendices**  
**Appendix i**



**St Clears Town Council Meeting dates 2024/25**

Ordinary meetings of Full Council (FC) will normally be held on a Tuesday evening in Meeting room 1 at Y Gât, Pentre Road, St Clears, Carmarthenshire, SA33 4AA (unless otherwise published) to commence at 7pm.

<b>Committees</b>	<b>Full Council</b>
None	21 May 2024 (Annual Meeting)
4 June	18 June
1 July ( <b>MONDAY</b> )	16 July
Aug Recess	Aug Recess
3 September	17 September
1 October	15 October
6 November ( <b>WEDNESDAY</b> )	19 November
3 December	17 December
7 January 2025	21 January 2025
4 February	18 February
4 March	18 March
1 April	15 April <b>at Bancwello Hall</b>

The meeting is open to members of the press and public and anyone who wishes to attend the meeting should contact the Clerk of the Council to resolve the details. St Clears Town Council facilitates public participation at its Full Council meetings. This does not mean that members of the public can take part in debate, but they will be afforded a reasonable opportunity at the beginning of the meeting to ask questions/make representations about the business to be discussed or transacted at the meeting and which is open for public discussion (confidential business is excluded). There is no right to address Council during committee meetings. If you wish to address Council, please contact the clerk and arrangements will be made. Contributions from the public or press are not permitted during proceedings.

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