

Minutes of the **Community, Finance and General-Purpose Committee**
meeting held at **Y Gât on Tuesday, 4th June 2024** at 8.00pm

Members of the Community, Finance and General-Purpose Committee present:
Councillors GADavies, RDavies, RG Edwards (Chairman), TMcDermott (via Zoom),
JRees, PJRogers, IThomas-Wigley
All other members of Council for information

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

1. **Apologies for absence. None**
2. **Declarations of interest.**
Item 7, Y Gât – All members
Item 16, Community Cohesion Grant Application – Cllr TMcDermott.
3. **To consider any matters arising from the minutes of the Community, Finance and General-Purpose meeting held on the 2nd April 2024 (exchange of information only).**
Item 755 – Copy of Y Gât improvements circulated to members.
4. **To elect a chairman for the committee for the civic year 2024-25.** Cllr TMcDermott proposed Cllr IThomas-Wigley for the role of chair of the CFGP committee and Cllr PJRogers seconded the nomination. **RECOMMENDED that Cllr I Thomas-Wigley be elected as chair of the CFGP committee for the civic year 2024-25.**
Cllr I Thomas-Wigley thanked the members for their vote of confidence. He also thanked Cllr RGEwards for his work during the past number of years as chairman and due diligence ensuring the council's finances are in a sound position and used for the benefit of the community at large. Cllr IThomas-Wigley chaired the meeting from this point.
5. **To elect a vice-chairman for the committee for the civic year 2024_25.** Cllr PJRogers proposed Cllr TMcDermott for the role of vice-chair of the CFGP committee and Cllr RGEwards seconded the nomination. **RECOMMENDED that Cllr TMcDermott be elected as vice-chair of the CFGP committee for the civic year 2024_25.** Cllr TMcDermott thanked the members for their vote of confidence.
Cllr RGEwards commented on how great it was to see new members being prepared to take on additional roles and responsibilities.
6. **To consider Planning Applications as notified by Carmarthenshire County Council.**

	Pre-planning notice	Werndale Hospital Bancyfelin, Carmarthen SA33 5NT	See Appendix i	The documents are available to download via the following link: https://we.tl/s8TgyI38A5 21 st June 2024
PL/07822 31/05/2024	Demolition of redundant commercial building (former forge) and re-development of site to accommodate a commercial garage	Selwyn Forge, St Clears, Carmarthen, SA33 4JP	Dyddiad Dechrau Ymgynghori: 31/05/2024	Dyddiad Gorffen Ymgynghori: 21/06/2024
PL/07824 31/05/2024	Proposed alterations and extensions to existing farmhouse	Wern Farm, High Street, Bancyfelin, Carmarthen, SA33 5NE	Dyddiad Dechrau Ymgynghori: 31/05/2024	Dyddiad Gorffen Ymgynghori: 21/06/2024

7. **To consider a Waste management contractor for Y Gât.** The committee considered whether to continue with Carmarthenshire Recycling & Environmental Services (CRES), who currently undertake the recycling contract or CWM Environmental who has been undertaking the general waste contract. Following discussion, **RECOMMENDED to continue with CWM Environmental and amend the contract to**
1 x 360 litre paper & card bin
1 x 360 litre plastic & cans bin
General waste bags only contract (minimum contract x20 bags).
The committee RECOMMENDED cancelling the current contract with CRES.
8. **To consider financial requests received.** The committee considered the Community Chest Grant financial requests received from Bancyfelin & District Village Hall to support the local Carnival and St Clears District & Community Association to support the local Carnival. Cllr JRees proposed that both associations are supported and awarded £300 each. Cllr GADavies seconded the proposal. **RECOMMENDED that both Bancyfelin & District Village Hall and St Clears District & Community Association be awarded a Community Events Chest grant for £300.**
9. **To consider the proposal for land (playpark) asset transfer at Bancyfelin.** Letters received from CCC in relation to the potential asset transfer of land at Bancyfelin. The committee is prepared to consider the proposal but with conditions attached as further information is required to make an informed decision. Cllr PJRogers proposed, and Cllr JRees seconded the motion that the committee considers the proposal but establishes a sub-committee first including members from the CFGP and Environment committee plus representatives from Bancyfelin and officers from CCC with the cabinet member involved. **RECOMMENDED to consider the proposal but to establish a committee first to include members from the CFGP and Environment committee plus Bancyfelin representatives and officers from CCC with the cabinet members involved.**
10. **To receive an update and further consider the Welfare field maintenance and waste management.** As no firm reply has been received from Carmarthenshire County Council, the committee agreed to continue with the current contractor until the matter may be resolved. The committee appreciates the support of the current contractor. **RECOMMENDED that the responsibility for the maintenance and management of the Welfare field be transferred to the Environment committee as the ground survey contract is being arranged and managed by this committee. Waste management, bins in the Welfare field NOT to be**

removed and matter to be DEFERRED until future meeting of committee.

11. **To receive an update in respect of the Town Council's end of year accounts for year ending**
- i) **31 March 2022/23.** Documents with the internal auditor, Llewelyn Davies Accountants and near completion. **RECOMMENDED to update Petty Cash payments to include the underpayment of £5.32 and update records accordingly prior to completion of the internal audit report.**
 - ii) **31 March 2023/24.** Pending, documents with the internal auditor, Llewelyn Davies Accountants.
 - iii) **Completion of Annual Governance Statement for External Audit.** The AGAR document for 2022/23 should be available for approval by the next full meeting of Council.
12. **To consider the request from Nona's to permit seating outside at the Rebecca Riot square during the summer season.** The committee has no objection in principle to this request. **RECOMMENDED** to check with CCC street scene department to see if this is permitted. The proprietor confirms that he has the required public liability insurance and provides some form of barrier (if approved by CCC) to denote the area and protect those seated.
13. **To consider a further request from the Men's shed regarding putting a container on land at the car park and a new request to site a shed in the community garden.** The Men's Shed request to site a shed at the Community Garden and a shipping container at the car park were considered. The committee wish to support the Men's shed with their activities and assist them in securing a town Centre location. However, due to insufficient space at the Community Garden, its proximity to the playpark and due to the potential use of power tools near the garden and play area, the committee did not feel this would be an appropriate location to site a shed. The Council wishes to address its own storage needs and is considering areas within the car park to locate some containers. This will need approval from Carmarthenshire County Council. Upon completion it may give the Town Council the option of being able to offer any additional viable space to a community group. **RECOMMENDED to address the Town Council's need for storage space first with the option of offering any additional viable space to community groups at the relevant time.**
14. **To consider the rota for manning the Council's stall at the St Clears Show. Show due to be held on Saturday, 15th June 2024. RECOMMENDED to adopt the following based on members' availability.**

10 - 11	GADavies
11 - 12	RGEwards
12 – 1pm	JRees
1pm – 2pm	
2pm – 3pm	PJ Rogers
3pm – 4pm	GADavies

15. **To consider a Freedom of Information Request (FOI) received. RECOMMNEDED that the chair responds to the FOI request received as per the Information Commissioner Office guidelines.**
16. **To approve the Community Cohesion Grant Application.** Cllr PJRogers proposed, and Cllr

JRees seconded the motion to approve the Community Cohesion Grant Application to create a mural under the riverside bridge. **RECOMMENDED to approve the Community Cohesion Grant Application.**

17. **To consider the committee's work during the next civic year.**

RECOMMENDED

(See Appendix i)

18. **Correspondence.** DEFERRED until future meeting of Council.

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

Community Event (Ten Towns Event Grant) due to be held on 2nd August 2024.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 22.20hrs

Appendices

Appendix i

Community, Finance and General Purposes Committee

The key objectives for the CFGP Committee for 2023-2024 are: -

- to promote and improve St Clears Town Council's area of responsibility so that residents and visitors can enjoy all the town has to offer.
- to apply for grants to further promote the rich culture and heritage of the locality and help preserve it for future generations to enjoy.
- to make best use of available funds to make the area attractive to residents and visitors contributing to their sense of well-being.
- to work in partnership with other groups, businesses and associations to promote St Clears and the surrounding district.

Role of Committee 2023-28

- to consider the Council's annual budget and make recommendations thereon to Council.
- to monitor the overall financial performance of the budget against estimates
- to keep under review the format and presentation of the Council's budgets
- to secure the implementation of any measures recommended by the internal and external auditors and submit where applicable to full Council for approval.
- to periodically review the Council's Financial Regulations
- to consider policy issues relating to the Town Council
- to draw up new policies, as required, for approval by full Council
- to review existing policies as the need arises, amend where necessary and submit to full Council for approval
- to consider and formulate responses when required to the Carmarthenshire County Council's Local Development Plan and to make recommendations thereon to full Council
- **To manage the maintenance and use of the Welfare field.**
- to be responsible for developing the five-year plan for Council and its area for approval by full Council

- to ensure that the Town Council engages with the community and business community.
- To take responsibility for the management of the Gate.

Current Committee Projects

These are: -

- To promote and distribute funds from the Community Events Chest to local organisations who apply for funding and meet the relevant criteria.
- To continue to support any developments to the reopening of the railway station.
- To gather information about meeting places in the area and promote via the Town Council website.
- Improve the appearance of the town by continuing the provision of Christmas lights and encouraging owners to maintain their properties.
- Keeping up with new developments in town centres such as provision of wi-fi access and keeping the community protected with CCTV coverage.
- Improving the Council website for it to be used as a portal for residents and potential visitors who want more information about the Council or the area including QR codes etc.
- To make the best use of the Ten Towns application to improve the economic provision in St Clears.
- To work with the letting agent, Y Gât facilitator and Market Coordinator to continue to develop and promote the venue (events, community links, businesses etc).

St Clears Town Council

18.06.24