

Cyngor Tref Sanclêr – St Clears Town Council
The Gate /Y Gât, Pentre Road/Heol y Pentre, St Clears/Sanclêr, SA33 4AA

**Minutes of the Ordinary meeting of Full Council (FC) held at
Y Gât, Pentre Road, St Clears, SA33 4AA.**

on Tuesday, 17th December 2024 at 7.00pm*

Members present: Councillors DrWEVJDavies, RG Edwards, OGrant, JMiller, JRees, BThornton,

In attendance: Press (0), Members of the public (1), Carmarthenshire County Councillor (1).

Due to the absence of Cllr GADavies (Mayor), Cllr OGrant (Deputy Mayor) chaired the meeting.

2024.120. **Apologies.** Cllr GADavies, RDavies, IThomas-Wigley

2024.121. **Personal Matters.** The Town Mayor sent a note to wish everyone an enjoyable and happy Christmas. The Town Council wished the Mayor a speedy recovery.

2024.122. **Declarations of Interest.**

2024.130, Y Gât – Cllr BThornton and all members.

2024.133a, Royal British Legion – Cllr JRees

2024.123. **To confirm the minutes of the Ordinary meeting of the Full Town Council (FC) held on 19th November 2024.** Cllr RGEDwards proposed, and Cllr BThornton seconded the motion to adopt the minutes of the Ordinary meeting of the Full Town Council (FC) held on 19th November 2024 as a true record. **RESOLVED to adopt the minutes of the Ordinary meeting of the Full Town Council (FC) held on 19th November 2024 as a true record.**

2024.124. **Matters arising (exchange of information only).**

Item 104 – Noted, matter in hand.

Item 125, Park at Bancyfelin – correspondence to be forwarded to GBaxter (CCC) to approve in principle to amend wording of agreement and copy sent to Cllr PHughes.

Item 116c – Obsidian building contractor and amount of water running off site – Item to be added to the Environment Committee agenda.

2024.125. **To receive the County Councillor's Update.** Cllr CJones informed Council that the Local Authority is considering the budget and that it is difficult as the All-Wales Settlement does not offer any spare funding, and this will impact on services. A consultation document is to be circulated in the new year for input from town councils and residents. It was stressed how important it is to respond to this consultation exercise. The impact of the budget will in turn affect the Town Council's budget to balance costs of services. An increase in asset transfers and potential closure/cuts to services may be felt across the County.

- The green/blue infrastructure toolkit will benefit in identifying small spaces for community growing, outdoor space for mental health and wellbeing and canopy cover (trees).
- Members raised the issue of additional planning being permitted at Bancyfelin creating greater issues for current residents with surface water and infrastructure. New developments and planning department should be coordinating and consulting with current residents to address issues/concerns prior to approval.
- A40 roundabout at St Clears - advertising an issue and a poor welcome for the town. Advertising lighting pollution is within the limits permitted by the planning application. However, all other smaller advertising requires planning permission. County to review what is permitted.

2024.126. **To approve the committee reports**

- a) **Environment committee.** Cllr OGrant confirmed the recommendations, issue with moles dealt with, fallen tree pending, planters to be adopted agreed but a brief to be drafted to include annual commitment & agreement, budget, watering, responsibility etc. Circular Economy project to include car boot sale. Egin representative to attend in the New Year. Playpark repairs pending. Benches have been reviewed, matrix for repair/replacement to be drafted and stock of timber considered for repair. Cllr DrWEVJDavies proposed and Cllr BThornton seconded the motion that the report is a true record.
- b) **Community, Finance and General-Purpose committee.** Insufficient number of members present therefore, to be approved in the January 2025 ordinary meeting of full council.

2024.127. **To receive the Clerk’s Report.**

I. **Carmarthenshire County Council**

(i). **Planning/Licensing.**

PL/08536 28/11/2024	Residential Development - Outline planning consent - all matters reserved -	Llysmeurig, Bethlehem Road, Pwll Trap, Carmarthen, SA33 4AN	Dyddiad Ymgynghori: 28/11/2024	Dechrau	Dyddiad Ymgynghori: 19/12/2024	Gorffen
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RESOLVED no objections or observations.

2. **One Voice Wales**

a) Keeping Communities Warm: How Can Council's Help?

Wednesday 11 December 2024 - 1.30pm - 3.30pm

Join us for an insightful online seminar on how councils can support residents facing the dual challenges of the cost-of-living crisis and colder winter months.

b) The **House of Commons’ Women and Equalities Committee** has today launched a new inquiry on **community cohesion**. They want to hear your views on the state of

community cohesion in the UK, what threatens it and how it can be strengthened. We are currently accepting written evidence on the following topics:

- What assessments have been made of community cohesion in the UK in a local and national context?

- What are the primary barriers and threats to community cohesion?
- How can social media impact community cohesion?
- What can be done at a local and national level to improve community cohesion?
- What examples are there of best practice which has positively impacted community cohesion?
- How should community cohesion be best approached in schools?

d) The **Valuation Tribunal for Wales** are currently recruiting people from all walks of life, and all parts of Wales, to become voluntary members of the tribunal. The tribunal hears appeals about people's Council Tax and business owners' Business Rates.

e) **[Have Your Say 2024: A message to older people](#)** Share your experiences and help shape the action Nik Cilia takes as Older People's Commissioner.

f). **Dotiau** has been commissioned by Welsh Government to undertake a review of deliberative engagement in Wales, and they are keen to hear and learn from people who have participated in deliberative engagement. If you are interested in participating in this research please contact Rachel Hughes, rachel@dotiau.org

g). **Older People's Rights Team, Social Services, and Integration Directorate**. Survey to older people who access day services. It forms part of a wider piece of work to take forward the recommendations of the Association of Directors of Social Services' recent [review](#)

Cymraeg: <https://www.llyw.cymru/arolwg-cyfleoedd-dydd-seibiant>

English: <https://www.gov.wales/day-and-respite-opportunities-survey>

f) OVW **Training** modules and dates for January circulated.

3 Other

a) **Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service Launches #SafetyActually Christmas Campaign.**

b) **Frog Bikes' Sustainability Journey**

23rd January, 12:30-13:30, online

Sign up link here: <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/ceic-wales/ceic-webinar-frog-bikes-sustainability-journey/e-gxbdke>

Join for an insightful webinar with Anna Drew, Head of Strategy and Sustainability at Frog Bikes to learn about their carbon reduction and sustainability initiatives. Discover how they reduced CO2 emissions of the kids bikes by 23% since 2019.

c) **Streetsafe** - The app can be downloaded through the usual app stores. There is a DPP page and a national page. Both pages report the same dashboard and Streetsafe is national reporting tool. It is completely anonymous. More info can be found on the links.

[StreetSafe | Dyfed-Powys Police](#)

[StreetSafe | Police.uk](#)

[Privacy notice: StreetSafe | Police.uk](#)

d) Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service is looking for Community Ambassadors, who will play a key role in helping the Service to improve its understanding and

expectations of its communities. Help them make informed decisions that reflect the interests and needs of our community. The Community Ambassador will play a pivotal role in helping to shape the services provided and assist with building a positive and supportive environment within the communities. Acting as a liaison between the Service and community members, helping to communicate important information, promote community engagement and represent the views of the communities we serve.

If you are a representative of a local organisation, business, community group, or a member of the community, and would like to assist in helping to shape the future of Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service, we would love to have you involved. **The role is on a voluntary basis. Commitment required**, as much or as little time as you can commit. Ideally, we would like to hear from people who can commit a few hours per quarter (this will fluctuate on a quarterly basis, depending on the task/initiative) working on projects for the Service, attending meetings and events where required.

4. Other

a). Dafydd Llywelyn, Police and Crime Commissioner for the Dyfed-Powys area budget for local policing for the 2025/2026 financial year consultation. Whilst the Chief Constable will assess the priorities, pressures, and investment requirements to keep our communities safe, it is important to consult with residents and business owners as part of the budget setting process so that the police precept level can be set. Therefore, a public consultation is launched, asking residents to consider their contribution towards local policing in Dyfed-Powys. The survey is now open and closes on **6 January 2025**. You can access the survey by clicking on the below links:

Welsh:

<https://forms.office.com/e/qNUbx6La8a?origin=lprLink>

English:

<https://forms.office.com/e/qNUbx6La8a?origin=lprLink>



b) National Energy System Operator (NESO) launches a series of important, interlinked publications for consultation, which will support achieving net zero carbon emissions in Great Britain by 2050. The three publications are:

The Strategic Spatial Energy Plan (SSEP) draft methodology, which sets out how we intend to deliver the SSEP and seek views to help shape this.

The Centralised Strategic Network Plan (CSNP) high-level principles that underpin our methodology for the CSNP.

The **transitional CSNP2 (tCSNP2) Refresh methodology**, which is a refreshed version of our interim network planning approach.

We have also published a supporting document to help explain how our strategic energy planning deliverables interact with each other and wider NESO activities. [You can access](#)

[all these documents and further information on our website](#). The closing date for the consultation is 11.59pm on 20 January.

Action: 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 2024.128, 129.

Members of the public asked to leave the meeting but proceeded to ask questions. The chairman informed that this was not the juncture for questions, but an opportunity would be permitted later. The individual was asked again to leave the meeting.

2024.128. **To approve the accounts for payment.** Cllr JR proposed, and Cllr RGEwards seconded the motion to approve the transfer of funds from general reserves. Cllr RGEwards proposed, and Cllr BThornton approved the schedule of payments. **RESOLVED to approve the accounts for payment and the transfer of monies from the general reserves if necessary to cover the cost of expenditure until the reclaimed funds, Ten Towns, VAT, CCC subsidy and rent have been received.**

SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS			17 December 2024			
Cheque/BACS/DD	Payee	Details	Cost (inc VAT) £	Gate	VAT £	
	BACS 137	Genesis	Installation & groundworks for digital screen	5993.04		998.84
	BACS 138	JN Williams	Grounds Maintenance and delittering @Welfare field	963.00		160.50
	BACS 139	JN Williams	Rubbish Collection at Welfare Field	498.00		83.00
	BACS 140	City Illuminations	Festive lights	9058.50		1509.75
	BACS 141	City Illuminations	Repairs & New timers	402.00		67.00
	BACS	SCTC staff	Reimbursement/Salary etc	3308.79		
	BACS 143	Wembley Storage	Storage Container (Dec)	110.00		
	BACS 146	Mikey Williams	Painting at Y Gât	4920.00		
	BACS 147	CCC	Q2 Playpark Annual Maintenance per SLA	167.72		27.95
	BACS 148	CCC	Q2 Skatepark Annual Cyclical Maintenance as per SLA at Playground	167.72		27.95
	BACS 149	We Care Cleaning Services	Cleaning at Y Gât		160.00	
	BACS 150	Vermagon	Mole pest control	60.00		
	BACS 151	EDF	Electricity usage		1978.68	
	DD	CWM	General Waste	50.28		8.38
	DD	CWM	Mixed Waste Y Gât	27.60		4.60
	DD	Total Energies	Gas usage		217.77	10.37
	DD	Xero	Digital Accounting	39.60		6.60
	DD	Three	Mobile phone	6.00		1.00
	DD	CCC	Gate Rates £9413.50 01/04/24_31/03/25 monthly fee April		941.00	
	DD	Welsh Water	Water Rates Oct		12.50	
	DD	Three	Mobile phone Y Gât		8.40	
	Cheque	CCC	Christmas Toybox Appeal	100.00		
			25872.25	3318.35	2905.94	
NOTES						
Receipts since last meeting date :						
	Payee	Details	TOTAL AMOUNT	GATE AMOUNT		
	CCC	Precept				
		Total	£0.00	£0.00		
	Monies transferred since last meeting	11,000				

2024.129. **To consider the 2025/26 budget for Council.** Cllr RGEwards proposed, and Cllr JRees seconded the motion to finalise the budget during the January meetings of Council

considering a 1% and 5% increase to the budget and the rise in Band D tax implications. **RESOLVED to finalise the budget for 2025/26 during the January 2025 meetings.**

Cllr OGrant left the meeting to speak with the member of the public who had left the meeting.

2024.130. **To receive an update from Y Gât Subgroup. NOTED.**

Ms Rebecca Polson, due to commence on 7th January 2025 as Y Gât Facility Manager and Farmers Market coordinator.

Five of the seven units are currently occupied, and another tenancy is due to commence in January 2025 leaving only unit 5 vacant. The contents of which has been donated to the art college. One kiln remaining to be removed.

Number of bookings has increased, and the venue is being used by a variety of associations/groups.

Finance and insurance information provided to Carmarthenshire County Council.

Cleaning hours. Cllr BThornton proposed, and Cllr JRees seconded the motion to maintain the cleaning hours to 2hours per week until a future review of use and the new employee is in situ. **RESOLVED to maintain the cleaning hours to 2hours per week until a future review is undertaken.**

2024.131. **To receive an update regarding the Ten Towns grant. NOTED.** Claim applications for Capital expenditure (phase 1 and phase 2) have been completed and submitted for approval. Som funding originally earmarked for furniture has not been spent. The revenue claim is to be completed but not all planned project objectives have been met.

2024.132. **To consider the four vacant seats on the Council.** No applications received. The clerk has drafted an additional document outlining the role of Councillor and an application form for interested individuals. **RESOLVED to post the updated documents on the website, Facebook page and notice board.**

2024.133. **Correspondence**

- a. RBL – request for a meeting to discuss Remembrance Sunday event plus areas of responsibility. **RESOLVED to meet and request potential meeting dates.**
- b. Cleaning services – NOTED see Y Gât update.
- c. CWM Environment - Refuse collection issue with moving waste bin off soft ground. **RESOLVED to put a few patio slabs on verge to address issue.**

2024.134. **To receive reports from representatives on meeting of outside bodies, seminars etc.**

Cllr RGEwards attended Bancyfelin School Federation Board of Governors meeting to complete school self-evaluation and attended the community's Christmas celebrations and carol singing.

2024.135. **To receive the Town Mayor's Report on civic events, engagements etc. NONE.**

2024.136. **Matters for the next agenda (exchange of information only).**

- Community Woodland
- Welfare field maintenance tender
- Welfare field trusteeship/lease

- Playpark designs
- EGIN to attend to give briefing.
- Tackling towns project & painting of railings
- Grass verge at A40 St Clears round about.

There being no other business the chairman closed the meeting at 20:56 hours.