

**Minutes of the Ordinary meeting of Full Council (FC) held at Y Gât  
Pentre Road, Carmarthenshire, SA33 4AA on Tuesday,  
20<sup>th</sup> January 2026 at 7.00pm\***

**Members Present:** Cllrs, WEVJDavies, RGEwards, OGrant,  
JRees (Mayor), IThomas-Wigley

**In attendance:** Press (0), Members of the public (0), via Zoom (0)  
Carmarthenshire County Councillors (1)

**2025.0162. Apologies for Absence.** Cllrs RDavies, B.Thornton

**2025.0163. Personal Matters.** The Mayor wished members a Happy New Year and welcomed them to the first meeting of 2026.

- Condolences extended to Cllr BThornton and family on the loss of his mother, Marion Gill who was also a fond member of the Y Gât business community.
- Condolences also extended to Maggie James (previous Y Gât facility manager) on the loss of her husband, Barry James.

**2025.0164. Declarations of Interest.** Item 2025.0168 Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) - Cllr OGrant.

**2025.0165. To approve the minutes of the Ordinary meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> December 2025. Correction:** In attendance, Carmarthenshire County Council (1) via Zoom.

Cllr OGrant proposed and Cllr IThomas-Wigley seconded the motion that the minutes of the Ordinary meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> December 2025 be approved as a true record.  
**RESOLVED that the minutes of the minutes of the Ordinary meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> December 2025 be approved as a true record.**

**2025.0166. Matters arising (exchange of information only).**

- Town Mayor will be visiting the x4 homes. Previous arrangements postponed due to illness at the homes and inclement weather.
- Reply received from Enzygo regarding Penuwch Solar farm following Council's letter of concern to pre-planning application.

**2025.0167. Correspondence**

- a). N.Ward – letter to inform that St Clears Young Farmers Show will take place on Saturday, 20<sup>th</sup> June 2026. **NOTED.**
- b). Enzygo – Reply letter to Town Council's Pre-planning consultation letter regarding Penuwch Solar Farm. **NOTED.**
- c). A.Cullis – Why are parts of the website so dated? **NOTED.**

**Cyngor Tref Sanclêr – St Clears Town Council**  
**The Gate /Y Gât, Pentre Road/Heol y Pentre, St Clears/Sanclêr, SA33 4AA**  
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- d). M.Carter – Moles on Welfare field have returned. **ACTION to inform vermin removal contractor.**
- e) N.Rees (CCC) Re: land lease at Bancyfelin. **ACTION Town Clerk and Cllr GEdwards to chase up solicitor for update.**
- d) Invitations - for the Mayor of St. Clears. **NOTED**
  - to join Ethos Universitas Partner Communities, the world’s first structured international framework dedicated to civic integrity and ethical local governance.
  - Carmarthen Town Council’s St David’s Parade
  - NAAFI style coffee morning across Carmarthenshire held at Y Gât, St Clears. The first meeting will be on the 11th of February 1030 – 1230

**2025.0168. To receive the County Councillor’s Update.** Cllr. CJones informed members that Carmarthenshire County Council’s budget consultation was now live and encouraged all to respond. A 6.5% budget increase was anticipated to cover expenditure as the County Council must present a balanced budget.

As board member with responsibility for rural affairs, planning and community cohesion, keen to work with all stakeholders in addressing issues along the Welsh Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) rivers (phosphate pollution) including Tywi Taf and Cleddau.

The yellow lines along Pentre Road will be reinstated. If traffic issues persist after this then a new traffic regulation order may need to be applied for.

Assembly elections due to be held in May 2026. Pre-election period to commence in March.

Members informed that there is an issue with the front of the Y Gât leaking and no response had been received from CCC to date. Correspondence to be forwarded to Cllr Jones.

Closure notice and consultation for Meidrim primary school different to that of Llansteffan primary school.

**2025.0169. To receive the Clerk’s Report.**

**I. Carmarthenshire County Council**

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

<b>PL/10352</b>	Change of use of redundant chapel into one private dwelling, new access with on-site parking and turning bay, and a single storey outbuilding for domestic craft workshop and storage	Trinity Chapel, Station Road, St Clears, Carmarthen, SA33 4BQ	<b>Dyddiad Dechrau Ymgynghori:</b>  16/01/2026	<b>Dyddiad Gorffen Ymgynghori:</b>  <b>06/02/2026</b>
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<b>PL/10378</b>	Removal of Condition 5 on W/11146 (to allow the preparation rooms and storage facilities to be let as a separate business entity)	Rear Shop, Deganwy, Pentre Road, St Clears, Carmarthen, SA33 4LR	<b>Dyddiad Dechrau Ymgynghori:</b> 15/01/2026	<b>Dyddiad Gorffen Ymgynghori:</b> 05/02/2026
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Members raised concern about a single storey outbuilding for domestic craft workshop and storage to be placed at the rear of Trinity Chapel up to the tree line. Plans showed no elevations for the outbuilding and flooding could be an issue as the trees would be removed and the land is on the boundary with the Welfare field.

**RESOLVED to inform CCC of the afore mentioned in relation to planning PL/10352 with no objection to the planning applications PL/10378.**

**RESOLVED to report obstruction of A-frame signage outside Ice Vapes.**

- (ii) Carmarthenshire County Council, like all local authorities across Wales, is facing difficult decisions as it plans its budget for the coming financial year. The Council is currently facing a shortfall of £25 million in its draft 2026/27 budget. Over three quarters of the Council's net revenue budget, which funds essential day-to-day services such as social care and education comes from grants from the Welsh Government, which in turn gets an annual block grant from the UK Government.

[Have your say on the Council's plan to address budget pressures - Carmarthenshire County Council](#)

Detailed information on the Revenue Budget Strategy 2026/27 to 2028/29 can be found via this link and the Council values your input

[\(Public Pack\)Agenda Document for Cabinet, 15/12/2025 10:00](#)

- (iii) Invitation to attend Community & Town Councils County Liaison Forum via Teams on 27<sup>th</sup> January 2026 at 5.30pm.

- (iv) Proposal to close Ysgol Gynradd Meidrim notice letter.

- (v) Installation of lamp post banners in the town (carpark light columns).

## **2. One Voice Wales**

- a). Training Dates circulated

b). **Survey on Social Care.** The Older People's Commissioner for Wales is looking at how social care services in Wales could be improved and wants to hear from older people across Wales about their experiences of receiving care and support. Support to live independently at home, support while living in a care home, or communitybased support such as day centres.

Please find below the bilingual links to the stakeholder pack, which includes the survey:

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074468456077 [clerk@stclearstowncouncil.co.uk](mailto:clerk@stclearstowncouncil.co.uk)

<https://olderpeople.wales/wp-content/uploads/2025/11/Gofal-Cymdeithasol2025-Pecyn-adnoddau-i-randdeiliaid.docx>

<https://olderpeople.wales/wp-content/uploads/2025/11/Social-Care-2025-Stakeholder-Resources-Pack.docx>

The closing date for responses is **30 January**.

c). **Public Appointments**. The Welsh Government is committed to improving the diversity of public appointments in Wales. The [Welsh Government Anti-racist Wales Action Plan and Diversity and Inclusion Strategy for Public Appointments](#) sets out a vision and actions aimed at supporting delivery of this key Ministerial priority for Wales. We are keen to work with our external partners to build a pipeline of individuals who are interested in applying for a board position.

To view the latest advertisements for public appointments in Wales, please visit:

[Two Non-Executive Board Members – Hybu Cig Cymru \(HCC\) - Meat Promotion Wales Board - \*\*Welsh Desirable\*\* - Welsh Government \(Cais\)](#)

[Two Non-Executive Board Members – Hybu Cig Cymru \(HCC\) - Meat Promotion Wales Board - \*\*Welsh Essential\*\* - Welsh Government \(Cais\)](#)

**Closing date for the above appointments is 23/01/2026 at 16:00**

d). Welsh towns have a unique opportunity to showcase and celebrate their history with this exciting opportunity to bid to become a Town of Culture! Click on the link to find out more: [Galw Trefi Cymru: Could a Welsh town be crowned the first UK Town of Culture? - GOV.UK](#) Let's put our communities on the map!

e) **Friday 23 – Sunday 25 January 2026**. The biggest garden wildlife survey in the world is back. Across one weekend in January, hundreds of thousands of nature lovers will gather to count the birds that they can see in their gardens, balconies, yards and parks. It's fun, free and a great way to connect with nature. It only takes 1 hour and can be completed anytime during the weekend.

[Register to take part](#)

[Find out more](#)

[Watch the video](#)

f) Invitation to participate in the Digital Inclusion Teams within Hywel Dda University Health Board research project, who are currently undertaking research in partnership with **University of Wales Trinity Saint David (UWTSD)** to better understand the barriers people face around digital inclusion across our communities. Your organisation's insight is invaluable to this work. We'd like to invite your support in three ways:

**i. Contribute to Interviews (January/February)**

We'd like to arrange a short Teams interview with a member or members of your team who work with individuals experiencing digital exclusion.

- Duration: Minimum of 30 minutes and maximum 60 minutes.
- Format: A structured conversation with set questions to ensure consistency across all interviews.
- Purpose: Understanding the challenges and needs in our communities is vital for shaping future services and support. Your input will help us identify gaps and develop practical solutions that make a real difference. (Please see attached the Focus Group Participation Information Sheet)

Please let us know a suitable date and time. Once agreed, we will set up the Teams invite and send it over to you along with a consent form for you to complete. We really appreciate your time and input in supporting this piece of research.

**ii. Community Group Engagement (January onwards)**

Face-to-face sessions with community groups to hear directly from service users. Could you help us identify relevant groups and support us in arranging access? If so, we welcome you to share dates and times with us so that we can join you in your usual activities and speak directly to your service users and wider population. If you could kindly share dates and times with us, we would love to come and join you and engage with the population. We are particularly keen to engage with:

- Older people
- People living in rural or isolated areas
- Individuals with disabilities or sensory impairments
- Carers and those they support
- People experiencing poverty or financial hardship
- Those with low digital confidence or skills
- Minority ethnic communities
- People with mental health challenges
- Families

Please see attached consent form for interview and focus group participants:

[FOCUS GROUP INTERVIEW CONSENT FORM – Fill in form](#)

**iii. Survey Participation**

If you are unable / would not like to partake in interviews or focus groups (if you are happy to take part in interviews or focus groups, please also share our survey), we'd be immensely grateful if you could share our research survey with your group/service users. The survey's purpose is to capture organisations and individuals' perspectives:

- Online survey link: [Hywel Dda Digital Access and Inclusion Survey](#)
- Paper copies are available, please see a downloadable version attached which you can print off (both Welsh and English attached), or, alternatively please let us know and we can send a paper copy out to you.

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- 3. SLCC** – Membership renewal confirmation and offer to contribute to the Clerk magazine.
- March magazine (Greener councils): print edition is now full. Copy deadline for the digital edition only is 10 February.
  - May magazine (Planning events with safety in mind): 25 February
  - July magazine (No special feature): 30 April
  - September magazine (Double special feature - Devolution and local government reorganisation in England / Community reviews in Wales): 1 July
  - November magazine (Double special feature - Councils as trustees / Maintaining community assets): 1 September

SLCC is always looking for other features too, therefore, if the council is doing a project or similar that doesn't fit within a special feature topic, please still consider submitting an article/case study if you think it worthwhile sharing with your fellow clerks / local council officers.

**4. Other**

South West Wales Corporate Joint Committee - Consultation on the Strategic Development Plan Draft Delivery Agreement

The South West Wales Corporate Joint Committee (CJC) is a regional government body established to improve economic well-being through enhanced collaboration and strategic planning across South West Wales. It brings together four Local Authorities and two National Park Authorities to address key regional priorities.

CJCs were established following the implementation of Regulations by Welsh Government in April 2021. One of their statutory duties, set out in the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 and the associated Strategic Development Plan Regulations, is to prepare a Strategic Development Plan (SDP).

The first stage in the Strategic Development Plan process is for the CJC to prepare a Delivery Agreement for the SDP. This has two main parts to it: a Statement of Community Involvement which sets out how the plan will be produced and who will be involved and how; and a detailed timetable that sets out how long it will take to prepare the plan, following all of the stages set out in Welsh Government regulations and guidance.

Welsh Government has identified types of consultees in the Strategic Development Plan Regulations who the CJC should attempt to engage with, and you and/or your organisation is one of those consultees. You can view the draft Delivery Agreement [HERE](#) as a link to the document on the CJC website, and I would be grateful if you could indicate your interest in the SDP and also find time to review the Delivery Agreement and make any comments and suggestions on it. The consultation period will run for 5 weeks, from 19<sup>th</sup> January 2026. The deadline for comments is 5pm, 20<sup>th</sup> February 2026.

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b) Accent is carrying out a survey on behalf of Ofwat, the regulator for the water sector in England and Wales. Ofwat would like your help in understanding how water and sewerage companies deal with their business customers. The information will be used to help Ofwat understand how your water company is performing. The survey will take around 5 minutes to complete. Your responses will be treated in the strictest confidence and Accent abides by data protection laws at all times.

You can find out more information about Ofwat's surveys and what is done with the information that is collected in the Privacy Policy on Ofwat's website

<https://www.ofwat.gov.uk/publication/privacy-policy>

**2025.0170. To approve the schedule of payments for January 2026**

Cllr IThomas-Wigley proposed and Cllr GEdwards seconded the motion that the January 2026 schedule of payments be approved. **RESOLVED to approve the January 2026 schedule of payments.**

SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS			20 January 2026		
Cheque/BACS/DD	Pagee	Details	Cost (inc VAT)	Gate	VAT £
BACS326	JN Williams	Ground Maintenance and delittering @Welfare field	984.00		164.00
BACS327	JN Williams	Ground maintenance	963.00		160.50
BACS328	Topper	Wet floor/slip sign		27.54	4.59
BACS...	SCTC staff	Reimbursement, salary etc.	3059.17		2.60
BACS332	Wembley Storage	Storage Container (Dec).	110.00		
BACS333	City Illumination	Christmas lights	3019.50		503.25
BACS...	Y Gât staff	Reimbursement, Salary etc.		1164.65	
BACS336	EDF	Electricity usage		1775.70	295.95
BACS337	SLCC	Membership Fees	316.00		
BACS338	w3Designs Ltd	Website Annual Hosting etc	298.00		
BACS339	Carmarthenshire County Council	Replacement of Lanterns	2043.30		340.55
BACS340	J. Rees (town Mayor)	Reimbursement of Mayoral Donations	150.00		
BACS341	Carmarthen Cleaning Service	Cleaning at Y Gât		360.00	60.00
BACS342	Voneus	Wireless 250	0.00		
	DD CwM	General Waste Y Gat	37.44		7.50
	DD CwM	Mixed Waste Y Gât	77.70		12.96
	DD Total Energies	Gas usage		340.61	16.22
	DD Xero	Digital Accounting	44.40		7.40
	DD Three	Mobile phone	6.00	8.77	2.46
	DD Carmarthenshire County Council	Gate Rates £5708.40 01/04/25_31/03/26 monthly fee		190.00	
	DD Welsh Water	Water Rates		52.50	
			<b>11108.51</b>	<b>3919.77</b>	<b>1577.98</b>
<b>NOTES</b>					
<b>Receipts since last meeting date :</b>					
	<b>Pagee</b>	<b>Details</b>	<b>TOTAL AMOUNT</b>	<b>GATE</b>	
CCC		Precept	39885.59		
		<b>Total</b>	<b>£39,885.59</b>	<b>£0.00</b>	
		<b>Monies transferred since last meeting</b>	<b>£0.00</b>		
<b>Corrections from December 2025</b>					
	DD Carmarthenshire County Council rat	£190 not £189.40			
	DD Three (Y Gât mobile)	£11.28 not £8.77			
	DD Welsh Water	£216 not £52.50			

**2025.0171. To consider the 2026/27 budget for Council.** Budget figures were presented to Council and following deliberations it was **RESOLVED to increase the budget by 6.5%** in line with Carmarthenshire County Council's proposed increase and to reflect increases in costs to salaries, goods and services and future projects such as park improvements at St Clears and Bancyfelin. **RESOLVED to request a precept**

**of £127,434.46 (One hundred and twenty-seven thousand, four hundred and thirty-four pounds and forty-six pence).** An increase of £6.89 on a BAND D property from £84.54 to £91.43. Equivalent to 0.69pence per month over ten months.

**2025.0172. To consider financial and Community Chest Event grant requests Financial Assistance – RESOLVED to donate the following amounts:**

- a. Marie Curie - £50
- b. Young Farmers (County level) - £0 contribute to local branch and show.
- c. HUTS workshop, Newcastle Emlyn - £0
- d. Carmarthen Youth Opera - £50
- e. Wales Air Ambulance - £50
- f. Cerebral Palsy - £50
- g. URDD (National) - £0 as contribute to local branch
- h. Y Cardi Bach - £75

**Community Chest Event: RESOLVED to request further information from Daves Owls Conservation & Rescue in respect of the proposed tabletop sale events.**

**2025.0173. To consider the Council’s Christmas Tree tender for 2026, 2027, 2028.** Council considered the Christmas Tree tender for future years as the current rolling tender terminated in 2025\_26. Council considered the different locations and the need for alternative lights at the Town Hall following the disconnection of electricity supply. **RESOLVED to publish the tender on the Council’s website with a closing date of 5pm on Monday, 16<sup>th</sup> February 2026 and forward to City Illuminations, Blachere Illuminations and Western Services Ltd who have shown an interest in tendering.**

**2025.0174. To form a response to Carmarthenshire County Council’s draft budget consultation. NOTED, no major objection to proposals.**

**2025.0175. To clarify the complaints sub-committee’s decision. RESOLVED that the sub-committee’s outcome stands as a true and accurate reflection of the Council’s decision and will be reviewed at the appropriate time in accordance with the Council’s policy.**

**2025.0176. To consider the vacant seats on the Council. One application received.** The chairman read the applicants co-option letter and following a discussion and unrecorded vote it was **RESOLVED to co-opt Keith Major to St Clears Town Council.**

**2025.0177. To receive reports from representatives on meeting of outside bodies, seminars etc. Cllr GEdwards attended Governing Body meetings at Bancyfelin school.**

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**2025.0178. To receive the Town Mayor’s Report on civic events, engagements etc. NONE.**

**2025.0179. Matters for the next agenda (exchange of information only)**

- Christmas Tender
- Planters
- Risk Management policy
- Review of Policies

**There being no other business the chairman closed the meeting at 10.17pm**