

## **CARMARTHEN TOWN COUNCIL WINS SIX AWARDS AT NATIONAL CONFERENCE**

Carmarthen Town Council has been formally recognised for its outstanding service in a number of categories during the One Voice Wales<sup>1</sup> Annual Awards Conference held at Builth Wells on 29<sup>th</sup> March.

Submissions were made by Carmarthen Town Council in six of the ten categories and the results as follows:

1. Best Heritage Project (Carmarthen Velodrome Redevelopment) - **1st**
2. Best Sustainability Initiative (Red Court Solar Farm Grants Scheme) - **1st**
3. Best Environmental Project (Red Court Solar Farm Grants Scheme) - **1st**
4. Best Community Engagement Initiative (social media – use of Twitter, Facebook and Instagram) – **Highly Commended**
5. Best Local Council Service (Carmarthen Tea Room & Summer Events Programme) - **Commended**
6. Best Annual Report - **Commended**

Councillor Ken Lloyd, who represents Carmarthen Town Council on One Voice Wales said:

‘I am immensely proud to have been able to represent Carmarthen Town Council with Mr Huw Thomas the Parks Officer at the ceremony and to receive these awards. To be recognised as one of the leading local councils in Wales speaks volumes for the work of the Council and the small team of staff who deliver the service to local people’.

The Mayor of Carmarthen Councillor Alun Lenny said:

‘As Mayor of Carmarthen I am thrilled that many of the services provided by the Town Council have been recognised nationally in this way and the people of the town can be very proud of its local town council. We will certainly enjoy this recognition but we are working to continuously improve our services and we will be embarking on a public consultation later this year in order that local people

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<sup>1</sup> One Voice Wales is the national representative organisation for Community and Town Councils throughout Wales. It currently has over 600 councils in membership, representing some 82% of all community and town councils in Wales.

can help us decide our future priorities and influence what they want us to do for the good of the town and local communities’.

Carmarthen Town Council’s main duties include:

- Managing Carmarthen Park and all the events that take place there, including the recently redeveloped velodrome, the rugby ground which is the home of Carmarthen Quins RFC, and the tea shop
- Supporting local organisations with financial grants and other forms of assistance
- Managing St Peter’s Civic Hall and making it available for public use as often as possible
- Managing and maintaining the recreational facilities at the town’s other public parks and play areas - Penllwyn Park, Johnstown Park, Parc Hinds and Heol Rudd
- Managing and maintaining Carmarthen Town Cemetery
- Decorating the town with hanging baskets and other floral displays during the summer
- Preparing and maintaining the Christmas lights in Carmarthen each year and running the Christmas lights ‘switch on’ activities and annual reindeer parade through the town
- Running and hosting the Mayor’s annual fun run every May Day Bank Holiday
- Reviewing planning applications received by the County Council in respect of Carmarthen Town and making recommendations about them
- Considering licensing applications regarding licensed premises and opening hours
- Assessing certain road and highways proposals such as the closure of streets or parking restrictions
- Promoting Fairtrade and other measures to improve sustainable development and the environment
- Carmarthen Town Council is also an integral member of the Carmarthen Town Regeneration Forum which was established in October 2013 to provide a strong point of contact between Carmarthenshire County Council and the town’s key stakeholders in terms of development and delivery of future plans to grow the town’s economy.

Carmarthen Town Council embraces its responsibility of improving the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Carmarthen by

taking action, in accordance with the sustainable development principle, aimed at achieving the ‘well-being of future generations’ goals, which are: a prosperous Wales, a resilient Wales, a Wales of equal opportunities, a healthier Wales, a Wales of Cohesive Communities, a Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language, and a globally responsible Wales.

In addition to the above the Mayor undertakes hundreds of visits to different organisations and people throughout the year as part of his/her civic responsibility, often also helping them financially.

The Town Council consists of eighteen Members<sup>2</sup> (Councillors) covering three Wards<sup>3</sup>. North Ward has seven Members, South Ward five and West Ward six. The Council elects a Mayor, a Deputy Mayor and a Sheriff every year, and is supported by a service delivery team consisting of 19 operational and administrative employees.

The Council operates on a committee structure with the three main elements being the General Purposes, Finance and Management Committees. All Committees report to the Full Council, which meets in public on the last Wednesday in each month (excluding August).

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<sup>2</sup> The Town Council currently consists of 12 Plaid Cymru members, five Labour and one Independent.

<sup>3</sup> North Ward covers most of the areas in the town west of a line from Limegrove Avenue to Water Street but north of Catherine Street and Richmond Terrace, including Pentrefelin, Russell Terrace and Park Hall. It also includes the areas of Tanerdy, Bronwydd Road and the Glangwili Hospital. North Ward has seven councillors.

South Ward consists of those areas to the south of Catherine Street/Richmond Terrace and Priory Street, and also Johnstown and Llanllwch, and it has five town councillors.

West Ward includes Travellers Rest, Pentremeurig, Trinity Saint David, Bro Myrddin, College Road, Sycamore Way and the area west of Water Street and Limegrove Avenue, up to Trevaughan. West Ward has six councillors.



Councillor Ken Lloyd and Mr Huw Thomas, Parks Officer at Carmarthen Town Council receive one of the awards at the recent One Voice Wales Best Practice Conference.



Carmarthen Mayor Councillor Alun Lenny and Councillor Reverend Tom Defis present a grant on behalf of Carmarthen Town Council during its annual presentation evening.

**Alun J Harries - Clerk, Carmarthen Town Council**  
**6<sup>th</sup> April 2018**