

CARMARTHEN TOWN COUNCIL
FINANCE COMMITTEE
7.30pm 11 FEBRUARY
VIA VIDEO LINK

The meeting was held in accordance with the Local Authorities (Coronavirus) (Meetings) (Wales) Regulations 2020, enabling meetings of local authorities held before 1 May 2021 to be held by means of remote attendance.

The meeting was chaired by Cllr Tom Defis.

PRESENT: Cllrs: Julia Ault, Tom Defis, Gareth John, Ken Lloyd, Miriam Moules, Emlyn Schiavone, Jeff Thomas, Matthew Thomas and Wyn Thomas.

Mr Alun Harries – Clerk to the Town Council
Mrs Melanie Phillips-Rees – Committee Services Officer
Mrs Emma Smith, Deputy Town Clerk (designate)

229. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Ioan Matthews.

230. Declarations of Interest

No interests were declared.

**231. Matters arising from minutes of the previous Finance Committee Meeting
14 January 2021**

None.

**232.To authorise the signing of the Order for Payment of Accounts Schedule
for February 2021**

The Clerk drew the attention of Members to a payment of £2,700.00 made to 'Complete Containers'. Payment was authorised by Full Council in November to purchase a storage container for the cemetery depot and a supplier was identified. The transaction occurred on 22nd January 2021. It has now transpired that this was a fraudulent operation, and the matter has been reported to Dyfed Powys Police and the HSBC Bank.

Following discussion, the Clerk's report was **NOTED** by Members.

It was proposed by Cllr Ken Lloyd and seconded by Cllr Emlyn Schiavone and **RESOLVED** that the accounts included in the schedule submitted and amounting to £41,942.19 for the month of February 2021 be hereby approved and that the schedule be signed by two Members of Council and the Clerk as authority for payment of the respective sums.

Town Clerk's Report

233. Financial Report

Council's Bank balances as at the 31st January 2021 were as follows:

	£
HSBC Current Account	40,014.92
HSBC Reserve Account	315,572.26
Total Cash in Bank	355,587.18

The Clerk stated that there had been a transfer of £200,000 from the current account to the savers account on 5th January 2021.

Balances in Other Accounts on 31st January 2021:

Mayor's Allowance	-	£ 5,040.64
Mayor's Fun Run	-	£ 6,959.75
Carmarthen Park Tea Shop	-	£22,161.17

The Town Clerk's report was **NOTED**.

234. Schedule of Monthly Income

The schedule was **NOTED**.

235. Annual Review of Council Insurances and Risk Management Scheme

RECOMMENDATION: Following discussion it was proposed by Cllr Ken Lloyd, seconded by Cllr Wyn Thomas, and recommended that the policy be adopted for the 2021/22 period, with a change to Appendix 1 regarding earmarked reserves to be increased to £150,000.

236. Annual Supply of Plants, etc for Town Centre Borders

RECOMMENDATION: Following discussion, it was proposed by Cllr Ken Lloyd, seconded by Cllr Wyn Thomas and agreed that the plants will be procured as planned this year, but to look at other possibilities for future years.

It was also proposed by Cllr Wyn Thomas, seconded by Cllr Gareth John and agreed that the hanging baskets should be provided free of charge this year to all those who purchased them during 2019.

Cllr Tom Defis stated that the Red Court Solar Farm funds be used to contribute towards the costs of procuring the above.

237. Purchase of Vehicle for the Maintenance Team

RECOMMENDATION: Following consideration of the paper provided by the Clerk, it was proposed by Cllr Jeff Thomas, seconded by Cllr Ken Lloyd, and agreed that in principle the vehicles should be replaced as reported in the Town Clerk's report.

238. Annual Audit 2020/21

The Town Clerk's report was **NOTED**.

239. Request for Financial Assistance - "Only Blue Skies: The Town that Margaret Loved".

DECISION: Following discussion it was proposed by Emlyn Schiavone, seconded by Cllr Jeff Thomas and agreed by all that a contribution of £750 be made towards the publishing costs, with a view that the Town Council support in the marketing and promotion of the book when ready.

The meeting closed at 8.40 pm.