

**CARMARTHEN TOWN COUNCIL**  
**MONTHLY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL**  
**HELD ON 29<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2022 AT 7.30PM**

The meeting was held in the Council Chamber, St Peter's Civic Hall and in accordance with the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021, enabling meetings of local authorities held from 1 May 2021 to be held by means of remote attendance.

The Mayor, Cllr. Miriam Moules presided over the meeting.

**PRESENT:** Councillors: Tom Defis, Heledd ap Gwynfor, Dai Evans, Peter Hughes Griffiths, Marc Ingram, Angharad Jones Leefe, Gareth John, Andy King, Alun Lenny (video), Ioan Matthews, Miriam Moules, Emlyn Schiavone, Russell Sparks (video), Jeff Thomas, Wyn Thomas and Barry Williams.

Emma Smith – Deputy Town Clerk and Finance Manager  
Catrin Llwyd – Translator

*One member of the public was present via video link*

**75. Presentation by HwbTywiHub**

The Mayor welcomed Fred and Jason from HwbTywiHub to the meeting and invited them to address council.

Fred gave the background to HwbTywiHub and explained the activities they had been undertaking to support vulnerable men suffering with poor mental health. Numerous projects had been run to engage with men, getting them involved in activities and meeting others, whilst providing an opportunity to talk. Positive results were reported making a difference to the lives of those who had joined the HwbTywiHub. Fred spoke of his gratitude for the use of the pavilion in Johnstown and noted that they were now running projects for women from there too.

Jason went on to detail more of the operational arrangements including opening days and activities, noting that they had engaged with over 70 men during the last four weeks.

The Mayor opened the floor to members for questions, who in turn expressed their appreciation of the hard work being carried out and the results of that work both for the community and the individuals who were supported. Thanks were expressed by the Mayor on behalf of Council for the presentation.

**76. Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were accepted from Cllr. Arwel Lloyd.

**77. Declarations of Interest**

Cllr. Andy King for item 92 *Co-option of a Member*.

**78. Questions from Members**

None

**79. Questions from the Public**

None

**80. To confirm and sign the minutes of the annual Meeting of Council held on 25<sup>th</sup> May 2022.**

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the annual meeting held on the 25<sup>th</sup> May 2022 be accepted as a true record.

**81. To confirm and sign the minutes of the monthly Meeting of Council held on 25<sup>th</sup> May 2022.**

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the monthly meeting held on the 25<sup>th</sup> May 2022 be accepted as a true record.

**82. To confirm and sign the minutes of the General Purposes Committee meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> June 2022.**

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the General Purposes meeting held on the 14<sup>th</sup> of June 2022 be accepted as a true record.

**83. Matters arising**

(i) Page 17: Item 50 – St David’s Church Cemetery.

Since the committee meeting had been held, correspondence had been received from the new Chair of the Thomas and Elizabeth Mayhook Charity that are responsible for the cemetery. The letter requested that the matter be deferred until later in the year allowing time for the new Chair to submit evidence and observations for Council’s consideration. Cllr. Gareth John proposed that the request for a deferment should be approved and was seconded by Angharad Jones Leefe. All members were in favour and Council **RESOLVED** to agree to the delay.

(ii) Page 17: Item 51 – Carmarthen Antiquarian Society

*Cllr. Tom Defis declared an interest in this matter due to his role at Capel Heol Dŵr.* **RESOLVED** that the request to support them in their bid should be supported in principle and any direct funding be considered when an application is received.

(iii) Page 18: Item 55 – Purchase of speed monitoring equipment

Cllr. Angharad Jones Leefe proposed to support the initiative with the purchase of a speed gun, seconded by Cllr. Emlyn Schiavone and **RESOLVED**.

**84. To confirm and sign the minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> June 2022.**

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held on the 16<sup>th</sup> of June 2022 be accepted as a true record.

#### **85. Matters arising**

The Deputy Clerk explained the background to this matter and the purpose of the power. Cllr. Ioan Matthews proposed that Council should declare itself an eligible council and elect to use the General Power of Competence. Cllr. Wyn Thomas seconded the proposal, all were in favour and Council **RESOLVED** to declare itself an eligible council.

#### **Town Clerk's Report**

#### **86. Planning**

- (i) **PL/04148** - 1 1/2 story side extension - 57, Hafod Cwnin, Carmarthen, SA31 2AT. **NO OBJECTION**
- (ii) **PL/03856** - Conversion of existing outbuilding to 2 no. holiday accommodation units - Castell Hywel Farm, Trevaughan, Carmarthen, SA31 3QL. **NO OBJECTION**
- (iii) **PL/04184** - Provision of car sale/car wash (Sui Generis) - Land at the former BRS Depot, Johnstown, Carmarthen. **NO OBJECTION**

#### **87. Highways**

None

#### **88. Licensing**

None

#### **89. Formal Launch of the Finance & Governance Toolkit for Community and Town Councils**

Members **NOTED** the report and the intention to progress the toolkit through committee.

#### **90. To receive the internal Auditor's report, Statement of Accounts and Annual Return to Audit Wales**

The Deputy Clerk presented the Statement of Accounts, Annual Return, and Internal Auditor's report to Council. The Deputy Clerk addressed the issues raised in the Internal Auditor's report and presented the Annual Governance Statement to Council for approval as part of the Annual Return. On the motion of Cllr. Tom Defis, seconded by Cllr. Angharad Jones Leefe, with all members in favour, it was agreed that the Internal Auditor's report should be **NOTED**, and the Statement of Accounts and Annual Return should be **APPROVED**.

#### **91. Mayor's Report**

Since the last meeting, the Mayor, Cllr. Miriam Moules reported attendance at the following engagements:

May  
27

National Botanic Garden of Wales – Official launch of the restored landscape

Carmarthen School of Art – 2022 Show

June

2

Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations in the Park

3

Royal Naval Association – Cheese and Wine Party to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee

11

LGBTQ+ Carmarthenshire – 'Pop up Pride Walk'

Carmarthen River Festival Committee – River Festival

14

Johnstown School – Present a certificate to a pupil for raising sponsorship money for the Mayor's Race

15

HwbTywiHub – meeting

17

Ysgol y Dderwen - Present a certificate to a pupil for raising sponsorship money for the Mayor's Race

University of Wales Trinity Saint David – 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations

Pwyllgor Apêl Caerfyrddin – Eisteddfod yr Urdd Sir Gâr – Concert

18

Plant Dewi – Coffee morning

Five Fields Allotments – 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations

23

Sinfonia Cymru

24

Mayor's Installation Ceremony

26

Mayor's Civic Service

Members **NOTED** the report.

## **92. Councillor Vacancy – co-option of a member**

Two applications had been received from members of the public. After much discussion and consideration, it was proposed by Cllr. Ioan Matthews and seconded by Cllr. Emlyn Schiavone that the deadline for applications should be extended until mid-July and considered in the next meeting. All members were in favour of the proposal and the matter was **RESOLVED**. Current applicants were invited to resubmit their applications.

## **93. Reports from Councillors as Council Representatives on outside bodies**

- (i) Cllr. Wyn Thomas recorded attendance at the bicentenary celebrations of the University of Wales Trinity St David.
- (ii) Cllr. Barry Williams noted that the Community Health were continuing to meet virtually and were now sending email updates to the Town Council.
- (iii) Cllr. Russell Sparks reported on the AGM of the Carmarthen Chamber of Commerce who had re-established itself after a period of time away during the pandemic.

- (iv) Cllr. Ioan Matthews noted attendance at the Ysgol Y Dderwen Governors' meeting with a positive report following a difficult couple of years for schools.
- (v) Cllr. Peter Hughes Griffiths noted that the Carmarthen Twinning Association was preparing for visitors from Lesneven in September, date TBC.
- (vi) Cllr. Tom Defis has been busy with the preparations for the Gŵyl Cyhoeddi'r Eisteddfod which will take place on the 17<sup>th</sup> September at Carmarthen Park and noted his appreciation for the support received from the Town Council officer involved.

#### **94. To confirm and sign the minutes of the Management Committee held on 9<sup>th</sup> June 2022**

Cllr. Angharad Jones Leefe proposed that the minutes were a true reflection of the meeting held on the 9<sup>th</sup> of June 2022, seconded by Cllr. Wyn Thomas and **RESOLVED**.

#### **95. Matters arising**

- (i) Training Plan.  
Cllr. Wyn Thomas proposed that the Training Plan should be approved, seconded by Cllr. Gareth John with all members in favour. **RESOLVED** that the Training Plan should be approved and published.
- (ii) Annual Salary Award  
Cllr. Ioan Matthews proposed that the salary award should be approved. Cllr. Gareth John seconded this proposal with all in favour the award was **APPROVED**.
- (iii) Staff salaries – Annual Review for Staff 2021-22  
Cllr. Ioan Matthews proposed that the salary award should be approved. Cllr. Gareth John seconded this proposal with all in favour the award was **APPROVED**.
- (iv) Job Evaluation  
After a lengthy discussion it was proposed by Cllr. Russell Sparks, seconded by Cllr. Ioan Matthews that the findings of the job evaluation carried out by an independent HR professional on behalf of One Voice Wales, should be approved. A vote was held, and 13 members were in favour, three abstained and the proposal was **APPROVED**.
- (v) Independent Remuneration Panel Wales report  
  
Cllr. Russell Sparks proposed that the recommendation of the Management Committee for the adopt of the IRPW determinations should be approved. Cllr. Angharad Jones Leefe seconded the proposal, all were in favour and the matter was **RESOLVED**.
- (vi) Retirement of the Town Clerk

**RESOLVED** to delegate the appointment of a new Clerk to Management Committee pending a report regarding the proposed recruitment process being considered by Full Council at its July meeting.

**The meeting closed at 9.25pm**

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