

CARMARTHEN TOWN COUNCIL
MONTHLY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL
HELD ON 28th SEPTEMBER 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 Deputy Mayor, Cllr. Wyn Thomas presided over the meeting.

PRESENT: Councillors: Heledd ap Gwynfor, Dai Evans (video), Peter Hughes Griffiths, Marc Ingram (video), Gareth John (video) Andy King (video), Alun Lenny (video), Ioan Matthews, Emlyn Schiavone, Russell Sparks (video items 170-174 only), Jeff Thomas, Wyn Thomas, Barry Williams and Luned Voyle.

Emma Smith – Deputy Town Clerk and Finance Manager
Tudur Jones – Translator

170. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were accepted from Cllrs. Angharad Jones Leefe, Arwel Lloyd and Miriam Moules

171. Declarations of Interest

None

172. Questions from Members

None

173. Questions from the Public

None

174. Warm banks

In accordance with Standing Order 9.1a the Chair proposed that agenda Item 13 be brought forward to this point in the meeting to allow a contribution from Cllr Russell Sparks who was unable to attend the whole meeting. Members were in favour.

A discussion was held around the idea of warm banks and how the Town Council could support the community this winter. Cllr. Russell Sparks presented his proposal which included a bid for funding from the Shared Prosperity Fund of Carmarthenshire County Council which could achieve several aims drawing together the Mayor's loneliness project and providing warm places. Cllr. Peter Hughes Griffiths shared information from Carmarthenshire County Council who would be co-ordinating support through 'warm banks' this winter and were seeking support from town and community councils. All members were in favour of supporting the community through the winter months and discussed how this could best be done, with many partner organisations in the community willing to support the effort. Cllr. Gareth John

proposed that the Clerk should contact Carmarthenshire County Council to express interest in being part of a co-ordinated effort to provide warm spaces for the public this winter. Cllr. Tom Defis seconded the proposal, and with all members in favour the matter was **RESOLVED**.

175. To confirm and sign the minutes of the monthly Meeting of Council held on 27th July 2022.

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the monthly meeting held on the 27th of July 2022 be accepted as a true record.

176. To confirm and sign the minutes of the special Meeting of Council held on 8th of September 2022.

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the monthly meeting held on the 8th of September 2022 be accepted as a true record.

177. To confirm and sign the minutes of the General Purposes Committee meeting held on 21st September 2022.

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the General Purposes meeting held on the 21st September 2022 be accepted as a true record.

178. Matters arising

(i) Page 46: Item 159 – The Pavillion at Johnstown Welfare Field

Cllr. Ioan Matthews proposed that the recommendation to prepare a lease for the use of the Pavilion should be approved, seconded by Cllr, Arwel Lloyd and **APPROVED**.

(ii) Page 46: Item 161 – Business Case extending Hanging Basket Waterer role into a pe

Cllr. Arwel Lloyd proposed that the position should be made permanent as recommended and was seconded by Cllr. Gareth John with all members in favour, the recommendation was **APPROVED**.

(iii) Page 47: Item 163 – Carmarthen Regeneration Forum

Cllr. Gareth John proposed that in addition to the recommendation that the Clerk should report to full council, minutes from the forum should also be shared with members. All were in favour and the recommendation as amended was **APPROVED**.

(iv) Page 47: Item 166 – CCTV policy

(v) Page 47: Item 167 – Safeguarding policy

(vi) Page 47: Item 168 – Memorial Safety Policy

(vii) Page 48: Item 169 – Publication Scheme

RESOLVED that the four policies noted above should be approved as recommended by the General Purposes Committee.

Town Clerk's Report

179. Planning

- (i) **PL/04645** - 2x signs attached to the existing timber gate - 24 Russell Terrace, Carmarthen, SA31 1SY. **NO OBJECTION**
- (ii) **PL/04627** - Residential development of 92 dwellings and associated landscaping and infrastructure - Land at Frondeg, Carmarthen West, Carmarthen, SA31 3EA. Members **RESOLVED** to comment on the application about the inclusion of play facilities for children as part of the development. A further, separate letter should also be sent to the Chief Executive of Carmarthenshire County Council to query the development of facilities and services for the site such as a school, shop etc.
- (iii) **PL/04233** - Existing Shed and Porch Extension - 35 Pentrefelin Street, Carmarthen, SA31 1RJ. **NO OBJECTION**
- (iv) **PL/04665** - Remedial and Alterations to Existing Outbuilding - Castell Hywel Farm, Trevaughan, Carmarthen, SA31 3QL **NO OBJECTION**

180. Highways

None

181. Licensing

None

182. Financial Matters

- (i) To authorise the signing of the Order for Payment of Accounts Schedule July 2022.
 - Town Council. Members considered the payments and were satisfied with the schedules for August and September 2022. Councillor Tom Defis proposed that the schedule of payments totalling £66,861.86 for August and £62,693.03 for September should be approved and signed by two members of Council and the Clerk. Cllr. Peter Hughes Griffiths seconded the proposal. All members agreed and it was **RESOLVED** that all payments should be approved.
 - Tea Shop. Members considered the payments and were satisfied with the schedule. Councillor Tom Defis proposed that the schedule of payments totalling £3440.20 should be approved and signed by two members of Council and the Clerk. Cllr. Peter Hughes Griffiths seconded the proposal. All members agreed and it was **RESOLVED** that all payments should be approved.
- (ii) Financial Report

Council's Bank balances on the 31st of August 2022 were as follows:

	£
HSBC Current Account	315,532.54
HSBC Reserve Account	358,738.65
Total Cash in Bank	674,271.19

Balances in Other Accounts on 31st August 2022:

Mayor's Allowance	-	£3,240.00
Mayor's Fun Run	-	£6,072.13
Carmarthen Park Tea Shop	-	£27,346.01

- Gross expenditure for the period 1st April to the 31st of August 2022 totalled £286,372.02
- Income for the same period, including the Park Tea Shop, totalled £64,981.68. The overall net expenditure is therefore £221,390.34.
- The Net Budget/Precept requirement for 2022/23 is £788,855, of which £525,917.72 has been received. Members will note from the above that Council was within budget on 31st August 2022.
- A transfer of £200,000 was made from the current account to the reserves account on the 8th of September, following receipt of the 2nd precept instalment on the 31st of August 2022.

The report was **NOTED**.

(iii) Bank mandate update

Following a proposal from Cllr, Tom Defis, seconded by Cllr, Arwel Lloyd, members **APPROVED** that changes could be made to the mandate. The Clerk's details would be changed following the recent appointment of a new Clerk/RFO and previous members of Council will also be removed from the mandate.

183. To appoint representatives to school governing bodies and outside bodies.

- (i) One Voice Wales. **RESOLVED** that Councillors Tom Defis, Peter Hughes Griffiths and Jeff Thomas share the role as representatives to One Voice Wales.
- (ii) Shopmobility. **RESOLVED** that Tom Defis be appointed as additional representative to Shopmobility along with Cllr. Miriam Moules.
- (iii) St Mary's RC School Governing Body. **RESOLVED** that Cllr. Emlyn Schiavone be appointed to the role until a representative from the community can be identified.

184. Town Council Strategy 2022-2027

Council **RESOLVED** to appoint the last Mayor, current Mayor and Deputy Mayor along with Councillors Heledd ap Gwynfor, Marc Ingram and Luned Voyle to form a sub-group to work with the Clerk to prepare a strategy for council.

185. Mayor's Report

Since the last meeting, the Mayor, Cllr. Miriam Moules provided a report of attendance at the following engagements:

August

8	Carmarthenshire Libraries – Wales and the Battle of Britain Historical Exhibition
12	Court of Admiralty
15	Salvation Army – Present Mayor's Race cheque
20	Teddy Bears Picnic
27	'Diolch o Galon' event

September

11	Carmarthenshire County Council – Proclamation of the new Sovereign
24	Tanzania Project fundraiser

Members **NOTED** the report.

186. Reports from Councillors as Council Representatives on outside bodies

- (i) Cllr. Wyn Thomas recorded attendance at Carmarthen and District's Twinning Associations event with visitors from Lesneven, at the Guildhall and reception at St Peter's Civic Hall.
- (ii) Cllr. Emlyn Schiavone also recorded attendance at the twinning event and thanked those involved for continuing the relationship with Lesneven. Cllr. Peter Hughes Griffiths echoed these sentiments.
- (iii) Cllr. Tom Defis had attended the Urdd's march and proclamation ceremony in the park and thanked the Town Council for their contribution to the day.
- (iv) Cllr. Ioan Matthews had also attended a reception with visitors from Lesneven at St Peter's Civic Hall and recorded his thanks for an enjoyable occasion.
- (v) Cllr. Andy King noted his pleasure in attending the Urdd proclamation and twinning events.

The meeting closed at 20.45pm