

CARMARTHEN TOWN COUNCIL
GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE
HELD ON 12 SEPTEMBER 2023 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 attended by means of remote attendance.

Cllr. Peter Hughes Griffiths presided over the meeting.

PRESENT: Councillors Dai Evans (Video) Peter Hughes Griffiths (Video), Angharad Jones Leefe (Video), Arwel Lloyd (Video), Miriam Moules (Video), Russell Sparks (Video), Wyn Thomas, and Barry Williams.

Mrs Emma Smith – Clerk to the Town Council

Mrs Wendy Dickson – Deputy Town Clerk and Finance Manager

Mr Tudur Jones – Translator (Video)

126. Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllrs. Marc Ingram, Alun Lenny, and Emlyn Schiavone.

127. Declarations of Interest

- (i) Cllr Russell Sparks for item 128 as a member of Carmarthenshire County Council's Planning Committee.

Town Clerk's Report

128. Planning Applications

i. **PL/06329** - Change of roof angle to create first floor bedroom accommodation and erection of attached garage - 7 Courtlands Park, Carmarthen, SA31 1EH – **MEMBERS DISCUSSED THE APPLICATION AND REQUESTED THAT THE TOWN CLERK COMMENT ON THEIR CONCERNS REGARDING PRIVACY ISSUES RAISED BY NEIGHBOUR.**

ii. **PL/06463** - Single story rear extension - 8 Waterloo Terrace, Carmarthen, SA31 1DQ – **NO OBJECTION.**

iii. **PL/06114** - 20 Residential Dwellings with associated highway improvements - Land North of Parc y Delyn, Carmarthen – **MEMBERS EXPRESSED CONCERN ABOUT THE ROAD ACCESS TO THE SITE, AS DISCUSSED FOR PREVIOUS APPLICATIONS FOR THIS DEVELOPMENT AND REQUESTED THAT THE PLANNING**

DEPARTMENT OF CARMARTHENSHIRE COUNCIL GIVE FAIR CONSIDERATION TO THIS MATTER.

iv. **PI/06486** – To replace existing signage and external lighting – The Queens Hotel, 10 Queen Street, Carmarthen, SA31 1 JR – **THERE WERE NO OBJECTIONS TO THE APPLICATION BUT MEMBERS NOTED THE PROVISION OF BILIGUAL SIGNAGE AS A SUGGESTED IMPROVEMENT TO THE PLANS.**

129. Highways Matters

The clerk confirmed that the new 20mph initiative was to commence as planned on the 17th of September 2023. Correspondence received from Carmarthenshire County Council noted that there were no changes to the proposed traffic orders that were consulted upon earlier in the year.

130. Licensing Matters

None

131. Unclaimed S106 funding for parks in the vicinity of Pentremeurig, Lime Grove and College Road

The Town Clerk reported on the planned improvements to Johnstown Park and Allt loan as discussed during the last meeting and confirmed that initial costings were an estimated £31,000 which would include the installation of the new equipment.

Cllr. Russell Sparks enquired as to whether residual funds could be allocated to providing a “dry area” for Johnstown Park and the Town Clerk agreed to source and cost options available.

Cllr. Angharad Jones Leefe raised concerns over some of the equipment at Carmarthen Park attracting anti-social behaviour and asked whether it would be possible to replace some of the offending items.

Cllr Russell Sparks proposed that the initial work be **RECOMMENDED** to Council, and this was seconded by Cllr. Wyn Thomas with all members in agreement.

132. Remembrance Day Arrangements

Members discussed the success of last year’s event, and it was proposed by Cllr. Wyn Thomas and seconded by Cllr. Arwel Lloyd that supporting the event this year should be **RECOMMENDED** to Council with all members in agreement.

133. Council Events 2024

The Clerk outlined the events scheduled for 2024 which, in principle are being funded by the SPF in addition to those events that the Town Council holds

annually such as the St David's Day celebrations and parade, Ras y Maer, Children's Climate Conference and Christmas celebrations.

Members discussed the 50th anniversary of the establishment of the Town Council which will take place in 2024 and agreed that they would consider options and report to the Town Clerk with suggestions.

Members **NOTED** the update.

134. Annual ROSPA Safety inspection of Council Play Equipment

During June 2023 the annual ROSPA inspection of all council managed play equipment at the various public parks took place, and a comprehensive report has been received from the consultant. Whilst there are no major findings there are several maintenance issues that need to be addressed.

Members **NOTED** the report.

135. Gŵyl y Daffodil update

Members discussed the forthcoming event with the Clerk confirming that 25,000 bulbs have already arrived which are due to be planted from the end of September onwards.

The Clerk commented that many community organisations and partners were involved which is key to ensuring that the event is a success.

Members **NOTED** the update.

136. Operations Officer Report

Members discussed the content of the report, paying particular attention to work that has been undertaken at Penllwyn Park changing rooms and recent issues regarding the boundary wall at Parc Hinds.

The Clerk informed Members that she had considered the lease paperwork and would like to seek legal advice before deciding how to proceed. There is also a separate issue which is affecting the sewer under a property at Parcel Terrace that backs on to the green area at Parc Hinds.

The Clerk reported that it would be pertinent to seek legal advice regarding the lease details and establish responsibility for the wall. The expertise of a surveyor was also requested to report on the extent and the source of the issue of the collapsed wall and to ensure public safety under work can be undertaken. Members **AGREED** that legal and expert advice be sought prior to reporting back to Council, and that a survey of the wall and an inspection of the sewer also be undertaken.

Cllr. Wyn Thomas suggested that Council Members visit the Town Council's managed sites.

Members **NOTED** the report.

137. Community Wellbeing and Events Officer Report

Members **NOTED** the report.

The meeting closed at 8:11 pm.