

CARMARTHEN TOWN COUNCIL
MONTHLY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL
HELD ON 27th 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 held by means of remote attendance.

The Mayor, Cllr. Wyn Thomas presided over the meeting.

PRESENT: Councillors: Heledd ap Gwynfor (Video), Dai Evans (Video), Peter Hughes Griffiths, Gareth John (Video), Andy King (Video), Alun Lenny (Video), Ioan Matthews, Miriam Moules (Video), Russell Sparks (Video), Jeff Thomas, Wyn Thomas, Luned Voyle.

Emma Smith –Town Clerk
Wendy Dickson – Deputy Town Clerk
Tudur Jones – Translator (Video)

153. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were accepted from Cllrs. Angharad Jones Leefe, Arwel Lloyd, Emlyn Schiavone, Barry Williams.

154. Declarations of Interest

Cllr. Ioan Matthews to Item 161(i) due to his employer sharing the same internal auditor.

Cllr Russell Sparks to Item 162 as a member of Carmarthenshire County Council's Planning Committee.

155. Questions from Members

None

156. Questions from the Public

None

157. To confirm and sign the minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Council held on 26th of July 2023.

It was proposed by Cllr. Heledd ap Gwynfor, seconded by Cllr. Russell Sparks and **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Council meeting held on the 26th of July 2023 be accepted as a true record.

158. To confirm and sign the minutes of the General Purposes Committee meeting held on 12th September 2023.

It was proposed by Cllr. Peter Hughes Griffiths, seconded by Cllr. Russell Sparks and **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Committee meeting held on the 12th of September 2023 be accepted as a true record.

159. Matters arising from the General Purposes Committee.

- i. Page 36: Item No 131 – Unclaimed S106 funding
- ii. Page 36: Item No 132 – Arrangements for Remembrance Sunday – 12th of November 2023
- iii. Page 36: Item No 133 – Council Events for 2024

Cllr Peter Hughes Griffiths drew the members' attention to the 50th anniversary of the Town Council in 2024 and asked Members to advise the Town Clerk should they have any suggestions as to how best to commemorate the occasion.

Members **RESOLVED** that the three recommendations noted above should be approved as noted in the General Purposes Committee minutes for the 12th of September 2023.

160. To confirm and sign the minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held on 14th September 2023.

It was proposed by Cllr. Andy King, seconded by Cllr. Gareth John and **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Committee meeting held on the 14th of September 2023 be accepted as a true copy.

161. Matters arising from the Finance Committee meeting.

- i. Page 40: Item 144 – Appointment of Internal Auditor 2023/24.
- ii. Page 40: Item 145 – Training Budget
- iii. Page 40: Item 146 – Replacement of floodlights in the park.

Members **RESOLVED** that the three recommendations noted above should be approved as noted in the General Purposes Committee minutes for the 14th of September 2023.

Town Clerk's Report

162. Planning

It was **NOTED** that Cllr. Russell Sparks took no part in discussions held regarding Planning applications due to his role as a member of Carmarthenshire County Council's Planning Committee.

- i. **PL/06531** – shop front sign with Company name and number – 45 Lammas Street, Carmarthen, SA31 3AL – Members **AGREED** with the comments made by Built Heritage Officer and also commented that bilingual signage should be encouraged.
- ii. **PL/06552** – double storey side extension – 20 Hafod Cwnin, Carmarthen, SA31 2AT – **NO OBJECTION** was made to the application due to the change in status from HMO which was welcomed by members to help alleviate parking issues on the street.
- iii. **PL/06557** - Self-contained flat, ground level consisting of a bedroom/w et room and a lounge/kitchen. Purpose built for disability access – 29/30 Longacre Road, Carmarthen, SA31 2AT – **NO OBJECTION**

163. Highways Matters

Cllr. Alun Lenny confirmed that the Carmarthen Link Road speed limit would remain at 30mph following the recent changes to speed limits across Wales.

164. Licensing Matters.

None

165. Shared Prosperity Fund- Sustainable Communities 3rd round of applications.

The Clerk shared with Members details of the proposed application that would fund a feasibility study for a community energy project, working in conjunction with several parties including Ynni Sir Gâr and Ynni Cymunedol Cymru. Permission was also sought for the Town Council to match fund to enhance the application. It was moved by Cllr. Ioan Matthews and seconded by Cllr. Peter Hughes Griffiths, and unanimously **DECIDED**, to submit an application. It was **AGREED** to match fund the application up to £3000.

166. Correspondence.

- i. Menter Gorllewin Sir Gâr – Letter of thanks to the Town Council for the financial assistance during the Gŵyl Canol Dre event on the 8th of July 2023.

The correspondence was **NOTED**.

- ii. Carmarthen Shopmobility – The Clerk summarised an email received from Shopmobility requesting financial support to allow them to continue to provide a service in Carmarthen.

Members considered the email and agreed that the matter should be **REFERRED** to the next Finance Committee meeting.

- iii. The Clerk informed the Members of a letter of resignation from Cllr. Marc Ingram noting his intention to resign with immediate effect.

Members **NOTED** the correspondence.

- iv. The Clerk advised members of an e-mail received regarding Civic Regalia and on the proposal of Cllr. Gareth John, seconded by Cllr. Alun Lenny it was **AGREED** that the matter be referred to both the Management Committee and Finance Committee for further discussion.

167. The Mayor's Report.

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

List of Mayor's Engagements up to 27th September 2023

July

29 Top of Town event – Draw raffle

August

6 Plas y Dderwen – Celebrating Mr Lewis Julian's 100th birthday
 18 Court of Admiralty - Meeting
 23 Mayor's Race – Present cheques
 28 River Festival – Present prizes
 31 Court of Admiralty – Inspect the river

September

16 Salvation Army – Concert
 19 Mayor of Llandeilo – Informal gathering
 21 World Peace Day – Raising Peace flag
 23 Christian Aid – Coffee Morning
 Carmarthenshire Historic Society – Launch of "QR" code regarding the history of Peter Williams
 27 Llyfrau Llafar Cymru – Open coffi morning

Members **NOTED** the report, but were made aware that Cllr. Heledd ap Gwynfor as Town Sheriff had attended the engagements on the 23rd of September on behalf of the Mayor due to ill health.

168. Reports from Councillors as Council Representatives on outside bodies.

- (i) Cllr. Russell Sparks noted attendance at an Induction Day at Model School as School Governor.
- (ii) Cllr. Andy King noted his attendance at St Peter's Civic Hall for the Raising of the Peace Flag on World Peace Day
- (iii) Cllr. Heledd ap Gwynfor noted her attendance at the Carmarthen River Festival and wished to congratulate all involved in ensuring that the day was a great success. Cllr. Heledd ap Gwynfor also noted her attendance in her capacity as Town Sheriff at the Court of Admiralty Inspection of the River, the Christian Aid Coffee morning and the event held by

Carmarthenshire Historic Society to launch the “QR” code regarding the history of Peter Williams.

169. To confirm and sign the minutes of the Management Committee meeting held on the 19th of September 2023.

It was proposed by Cllr. Luned Voyle, seconded by Cllr. Peter Hughes Griffiths and **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Committee meeting held on the 19th of September 2023 be accepted as a true record.

170. Exclusion of Public and Press – S.1(2) Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings Act 1960).

It was proposed by Cllr. Peter Hughes Griffiths, seconded by Cllr. Miriam Moules and **RESOLVED** that due to the confidential items on the agenda (i.e Application under the local agreement 1986) the press and public would be excluded from the meeting in accordance with Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings Act 1960).

The meeting closed at 8:20 pm.