

CARMARTHEN TOWN COUNCIL
MONTHLY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL
HELD ON 28th FEBRUARY 2024 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: Tom Defis, Dai Evans (Video), Peter Hughes Griffiths, Andy King (Video), Alun Lenny (Video), Arwel Lloyd (Video), Ioan Matthews, Russell Sparks (Video), Jeff Thomas, Wyn Thomas, Aled Williams, Barry Williams.

Emma Smith –Town Clerk
 Wendy Dickson – Deputy Town Clerk
 Catrin Llwyd - Translator (Video)

The Mayor, Cllr. Wyn Thomas welcomed Cllr. Aled Williams to his first Council meeting.

343. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were accepted from Cllrs. Gareth John, Angharad Jones Leefe, Miriam Moules, Emlyn Schiavone and Luned Voyle.

344. Declarations of Interest

Cllr. Russell Sparks to Item 352 as a member of Carmarthenshire County Council's Planning Committee.

Cllr. Tom Defis to Item 352 (i) due to the proximity of the development to his home.

Cllr. Alun Lenny to Item 356 (ii) as Cabinet Member for Resources at Carmarthenshire County Council.

345. Questions from Members

None

346. Questions from the Public

None

347. To confirm and sign the minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Council held on 31st of January 2024.

It was proposed by Cllr. Alun Lenny, seconded by Cllr. Russell Sparks and **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Council meeting held on the 31st of January 2024 be accepted as a true record.

348. To confirm and sign the minutes of the General Purposes Committee Meeting held on 6th February 2024.

It was proposed by Cllr. Peter Hughes Griffiths, seconded by Cllr. Barry Williams and **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Committee meeting held on the 6th of February 2024 be accepted as a true record.

349. Minutes arising from the General Purposes Committee

- i. Page 94: Item 328 – To consider the rule concerning headstone colours at the Cemetery.
- ii. Review of the gate closure at Penllwyn Park.
- iii. Risk assessment Policy.

Members **RESOLVED** that the three recommendations noted above should be approved as noted in the General Purposes Committee minutes for the 6th of February 2024.

350. To confirm and sign the minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting held on the 8th of February 2024.

It was proposed by Cllr. Tom Defis, seconded by Cllr. Andy King and **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Committee meeting held on the 8th of February 2024 be accepted as a true record.

351. Minutes arising from the Finance Committee.

- i. Page 97: Item 341 – Risk Assessment and Risk Management policy 2024/25.

Members **RESOLVED** that the recommendation noted above should be approved as noted in the Finance Committee minutes for the 8th of February 2024.

Town Clerk's Report

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.

352. Planning

- i. **PL/07186** - The proposal is for the construction of an agricultural storage shed - Mile End, Carmarthen, SA31 3QL – Members wish to submit **NO OPINION** on this application.
- ii. **PL/07266** - Conversion of Ground Floor Retail Shop to Self-contained Residential Flat, with Alterations to Front facade to facilitate access to

Existing First floor Residential Flat - 100 Priory Street, Carmarthen, SA31 1NB – **APPLICATION SUPPORTED**

- iii. Pre-planning notification –
**Construction of 12 Industrial Units (B1 and B8 Use)
 At Land Between A40 and Railway, Llanllwch, Carmarthen**

Members of the public, statutory bodies, and other third-parties, have a minimum period of 28 days within which to make representations in respect of the proposed development, in this instance, by not later than **18th March 2024 – MEMBERS SUPPORTED THE APPLICATION.**

- iv. Revised Carmarthenshire Local Development Plan 2018-2033. Further consultation on the Integrated Sustainability Appraisal & Habitats Regulation Assessment. As you may be aware, we are preparing a

Revised Local Development Plan (LDP) and, as part of this process, we are required to assess its potential impacts upon people, the environment, and the economy, amongst other issues. Therefore, I would like to inform you that we have published the following assessments for consultation:

- Integrated Sustainability Appraisal (ISA)
- Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA).

Members **NOTED** the plan.

353. Highways Matters

Members discussed at great lengths the proposed Introduction of a 40 M.P.H Speed Limit on the Trevaughan to Plough and Harrow Road in Carmarthen. On the proposal of Cllr. Alun Lenny, it was agreed that Council would object to the proposed reduction on the stretch of road beyond the residential area. This motion was seconded by Cllr. Andy King and members voted 6 against 3 in favour with two abstentions.

354. Licensing Matters.

Application Type: **Minor Variation Application**

Premises Name and Address: **Lidl, Friars Park, Carmarthen, Carmarthenshire, SA31 3AW**

Details of the application: **Amendment to internal layout of premises. Amend condition on premises licence.**

Consultation period begins: **28/02/2024** Any representations regarding this application must be submitted within **10 working days** of the above consultation start date – **NO OBJECTION**

Application Type: **Minor Variation Application**

Premises Name and Address: **Grain, 11-12 Queen Street, Carmarthen, Carmarthenshire, SA31 1JR**

Details of the application: **Application to allow sale of alcohol for consumption off the premises 12:00 – 22:00.**

Consultation period begins: **23/02/2024** Any representations regarding this application must be submitted within **10 working days** of the above consultation

start date – **NO OBJECTION.**

355. Nomination of Town Council Leaders for the Civic Year 2024/25

- i. On the motion of Cllr. Arwel Lloyd, seconded by Cllr. Jeff Thomas, it was **RESOLVED** that Cllr. Emlyn Schiavone be elected as Town Major of Carmarthen for the year 2024/2025.
- ii. On the motion of Cllr. Ioan Matthews, seconded by Cllr. Tom Defis, it was **RESOLVED** that Cllr. Heledd ap Gwynfor be elected as Deputy Mayor 2024/2025.
- iii. On the motion of Cllr. Alun Lenny, seconded by Cllr. Peter Hughes Griffiths, it was **RESOLVED** that Cllr. Russell Sparks be appointed Sheriff of the Town for 2024/2025.

356. Correspondence.

- i. The Clerk shared information received from Carmarthenshire County Council promoting the work of Scrutiny Committees within Carmarthenshire and to invite greater participation from the Town Council.

Members **NOTED** the Correspondence.

- ii. The Clerk advised that a request had been received from the Directors of the Nurture Centre in Carmarthen for Members to become part of a new steering group to help secure the future of the Centre. Members were made aware that the lease on the building was in the process of being reviewed and agreed that a decision would be deferred pending the outcome of these discussions.

357. 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 28th February 2024

February

10	Plant Dewi – Coffee Morning
15	Capel y Priordy – Prayer for Gŵyl Dewi service Carmarthen Youth Opera – Performance of 'Our House'
16	Mayor's Race Committee
25	Welsh Churches and Chapels of Carmarthen Town – St David's Service

Members **NOTED** the report.

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

- (i) Cllr. Barry Williams noted attendance at a “Meet your Army” event at the University of Wales Trinity Saint David. The event offered an opportunity to engage with Army personnel and learn about life within and after the Army.
- (ii) Cllr. Peter Hughes Griffiths noted attendance at a meeting of the Lesneven Twinning Committee and advised members that a contingent from Lesneven would be visiting Carmarthen towards the end of May.
- (iii) Cllr. Alun Lenny reminded Members of the St David’s Parade on the 2nd of March.
- (iv) Cllr. Russell Sparks advised members that he had attended his first Oriel Myrddin meeting as a member of the board. He also advised that he had attended his first meeting as a school governor for Queen Elizabeth High School in Carmarthen.
- (v) Cllr. Andy King advised that he had also attended the “Meet the Army” event at the University of Wales Trinity Saint David and had found the event very informative.

The meeting closed at 8:23 pm.