

CARMARTHEN TOWN COUNCIL
FINANCE COMMITTEE
HELD ON 14th MARCH 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 attended by means of remote attendance.

The meeting was chaired by Cllr. Luned Voyle.

PRESENT: Councillors: Tom Defis, Andy King, Wyn Thomas, Aled Williams and Luned Voyle.

Emma Smith – Town Clerk

Wendy Dickson – Deputy Town Clerk and Finance Manager

Catrin Llwyd - Translator

368. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Councillors Heledd ap Gwynfor, Gareth John, and Jeff Thomas.

369. Declarations of Interest

Cllr. Tom Defis to Item 373 (i) due to his association with the movement.

Cllr. Tom Defis to Item 373(ii) as his grandson attends the Cylch Meithin.

Cllr. Tom Defis to Item 374 as the Treasurer of Ynni Sir Gâr.

370. To authorise the signing of the Order for Payment of Accounts Schedule for March 2024.

Members scrutinised the payments and were satisfied with the schedule and

RESOLVED that the payments totalling **£97,067.37** should be approved and signed by two members of Council and the Clerk.

Town Clerk's Report

371. Financial Report

Council's Bank balances on the 29th of February 2024 were as follows:

	£
HSBC Current Account	54,296.89
HSBC Reserve Account	555,378.98
Total Cash in Bank	609,675.87

Balances in Other Accounts on 29th of February 2024:

Mayor's Allowance	-	£2,457.15
Mayor's Fun Run	-	£7,695.12

- Gross expenditure for the period 1st April to the 29th of February 2024 totalled £829,453.47.
- Income for the same period totalled £177,583.81. The overall net expenditure is therefore £651,869.66.
- The Net Budget/Precept requirement for 2023/24 is £793,011 which has all been received. Members will note from the above that Council was within budget on 29th of February 2024.

The financial report was **NOTED**.

372. List of Debtors

The schedule was **APPROVED** by Committee.

373. Applications for Small Grants and Financial Assistance

Six applications were presented to committee and the following contributions were **RESOLVED**:

- (i) Urdd Gobaith Cymru – Cllr. Wyn Thomas proposed that a contribution of £200 should be made and this was seconded by Cllr. Andy King, and all members **AGREED**.
- (ii) Cylch Meithin Myrddin– Cllr. Wyn Thomas confirmed that he had been invited to an Easter Egg hunt at the Nursery in his capacity as Mayor and would be making a donation of £100 from the Mayor's fund so members **AGREED** that a contribution from the council was already in place.
- (iii) Carmarthenshire YFC - Cllr. Andy King proposed that a contribution of £100 should be made and this was seconded by Cllr. Wyn Thomas, and all members **AGREED**.
- (iv) Carmarthen Youth Opera – Cllr. Wyn Thomas confirmed that he had donated a sum of £100 to the Youth Opera in his capacity as Mayor. Members **AGREED** that the council has already contributed to this cause.
- (v) British Heart Foundation - No contribution at this time but a reply should be sent to enquire about local operations of the charity and potentially reconsider when more information is received.
- (vi) 621 Squadron Air Training Corps – Cllr. Wyn Thomas proposed that a contribution of £100 should be made and this was seconded by Cllr. Aled Williams, and all members **AGREED**.

374. Appointment of a Sustainable Energy Professional to undertake a community energy feasibility study.

The Clerk presented the application made by “Ynni Sir Gâr, YnNiTeg” to Members. The Clerk informed members that the project was being funded by SPF funding. Members discussed the application and **RECOMMENDED** that they should be appointed as consultants for the Community Energy Feasibility study.

375. Replacement of RTV vehicle for the cemetery.

The Committee considered options for purchasing an RTV vehicle for the Cemetery. The Clerk informed members that a vehicle similar to the one in Appendix 6 was being used in another Council and that enquiries would be made as to its suitability and reliability. Cllr Wyn Thomas suggested that additional quotes should be requested, and the matter brought to the full Council at the end of the month for further discussion.

Members agreed that a replacement vehicle would be hired for the short term to allow services to continue and to allow time for further quotes to be obtained.

The meeting closed at 8:10 pm.