

CARMARTHEN TOWN COUNCIL
MONTHLY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL
HELD ON 17 DECEMBER 2014

The Mayor, Cllr Arwel Lloyd, presided over the monthly meeting of Carmarthen Town Council held in the Council Chamber, St Peter's Civic Hall, on Wednesday, 17th December 2014, at 7.30 pm.

PRESENT: Cllrs: Dorothy Bere, Reverend Tom Defis, Dr. Dewi Evans, Richard Edwards, Baba Gana, Philip Grice, Peter Hughes Griffiths, Alun Lenny, Arwel Lloyd, Kenneth Lloyd, Douglas Rose, Alan Speake, Wyn Thomas and Barry Williams,

373. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs: Non Edwards, Anthony Jenkins, Catrin Howells Lloyd and Dr. Ioan Matthews

374. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No interests were declared.

375. TO CONFIRM AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON 26TH NOVEMBER 2014

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the Council held on the 26th November 2014, amended accordingly, be accepted as a true record.

376. MATTERS ARISING:

No Matters arose.

377. QUESTIONS

No questions were reported.

378. TO CONFIRM AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF THE GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE HELD ON 9TH DECEMBER 2014

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the monthly meeting of the General Purposes Committee held on the 9th December 2014 be signed and accepted as a true record.

379. MATTERS ARISING

(a) Minute 355 : Re-instatement of a Post Box in King Street, Carmarthen

Council had received a letter from Royal Mail informing Council that due to under-usage of the previous Mail Box they would not be re-instating it in King Street.

After discussion it was **RESOLVED** that Cllr. Alun Lenny draft a further letter to Royal Mail outlining Council's requirements to re-instate a Post Box in King Street.

(b) Minute 356 : Carmarthen Cemetery

Cllr. Ken Lloyd requested clarification regarding burial arrangements at the Cemetery. The meeting was informed that a report would be presented to a future meeting of the General Purposes Committee.

380. TO CONFIRM AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE HELD ON 9TH DECEMBER 2014

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the monthly meeting of the Finance Committee held on the 9th December 2014 be signed and accepted as a true record.

381. MATTERS ARISING

(a) Minute 365 : Draft Budget 2015/16

Members were pleased that this would be the eighth year except for one that the Council's precept had not increased and commended the Officers and Budget Committee on their deliberations.

It was **RESOLVED** that the standstill draft Budget for 2015-16 be adopted.

(b) Minute 369 : Cemetery – Mini Excavating Machine

Members concluded that to purchase the machine outright would produce a saving for the Council in the long term.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Mini Digger be purchased outright.

(c) Minute 371 : Applications for Funding

Due to grants to organisations already been made during the year there was only a small amount left in the Budget to March 2015. It was on this basis that only a few applications could be granted financial assistance.

It was **RESOLVED** that the following contributions be made under Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972.

Carmarthen Breakthrough Caerfyrddin - £50
 'Christmas – The Story' – Town Joint Denominations - £50
 Menter Gorllewin Sir Gar - £50

382. PLANNING MATTERS: CURRENT APPLICATIONS

With the Chairman's consent, the Town Clerk tabled notices received since circulation of his report.

W/31325 – Post Office – 9-10 King Street – Relocation of War Memorial plaque for Post Office to nearby Royal Mail delivery office.

W/31332 - Unit adjacent to 12 Cillefwr Industrial Estate, Johnstown – Change of use from B1 offices to B2 microbrewery.

No objections to both Applications.

383. HIGHWAYS MATTERS

No applications received

384. LICENSING MATTERS

No applications received

385. VACANCY - SOUTH WARD

Formal notice had been received from Cllr. Catrin Howells Lloyd that she would be resigning her seat at the end of December. Members thanked her for her service to the Council and wished her well for the New Year. The usual Notice of a Vacancy prepared by the County Council will be published on 12th January 2015.

386. REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS AS REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES, TOGETHER WITH THE MAYOR'S REPORT

The Mayor, Cllr. Arwel Lloyd, referred Members to his previously circulated list of engagements.

Cllr Barry Williams , referred to proposed new changes to the Community Health Board .In addition, a Working Group has been set up to monitor the intake of patients attending A&E Departments during December and January.

Cllr Douglas Rose , Johnstown CP ,of which he is Chair of Governors, has been requested to host the first Canolfan meeting whereby children interact with each other in both Welsh and English.

387. EXCLUSION of PUBLIC and PRESS

It was **RESOLVED**, in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960, that the public and press be excluded from the meeting in view of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

388. TO CONFIRM AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON 4TH DECEMBER 2014

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting of the Management Committee held on the 4th December 2014 be signed and accepted as a true record.

389. MATTERS ARISING

No matters arose

390. CARMARTHEN BOWLS CLUB.

A very comprehensive report (circulated as **Appendix 4**), prepared by an independent firm of Accountants was presented to the meeting. The Mayor, Cllr Arwel Lloyd requested that a decision on this matter must be taken at the meeting. A number of Councillors spoke on this important subject and a long debate ensued. One of the main obstacles for proceeding with the scheme was the transfer of the asset. The County Council was not prepared to transfer the freehold in its entirety, they had only offered the Town Council a long term lease instead. Members also felt that due to some of statements contained in the report, Council could be taking on a business which could become a drain on its resources for a few years to come and were not prepared to commit the Carmarthen Town taxpayers to take it on when perhaps there were other projects/schemes to undertake.

Following a vote it was **RESOLVED** not to go ahead with the Carmarthen Bowls Club scheme.

The meeting closed at 8.42 pm.