

MINUTES

Minutes of the General Meeting of Whitland Town Council held remotely, via the medium of Zoom, on Monday 13th September 2021, at 7.00pm.

Members of the public were given the opportunity of joining the meeting by Emailing the Clerk and requesting the meeting details (Email: clerk@whitlandtowncouncil.co.uk)

Present: Cllrs Jenny Davies-Scourfield (Chair), Len Shipton (Deputy Mayor), Ffion Scourfield, Mathew McDowall, Jonathan Blandford, Natasha West and John Dobson

Cllr Barry Chapman joined the meeting late due attending a meeting regarding Whitland Town WiFi.

Also present – The Clerk

Meeting commenced at 19.06

2021/07 77 To accept Apologies for Absence - Cllrs, Julie Jones, Enfys Eynon, Frank Connor-Hughes, Rhys Davies and Raymond Jones

2021/09 78 To Receive any Personal and Prejudicial Declaration of Interests

Cllr L Shipton declared a personal interest in agenda item 2021/09 86 (A) due to the applicant being a relative of Cllr Shipton

2021/09 79 To Receive the Minutes of the Meeting Held on the 12th July 2021

Cllr Shipton proposed that the Minutes, as presented, be accepted as a true record of the meeting held on 12th July 2021 and be signed by the Mayor as such; Cllr Davies-Scourfield seconded the proposal with all Cllrs in full agreement

2021/09 80 Matters Arising from the Minutes – Information Only – None that are not covered within the Agenda

2021/09 81 To Receive the Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting Held on the 22nd July 2021

Cllr Davies-Scourfield proposed that the Minutes, as presented, be accepted as a true record of the meeting held on 22nd July 2021 and be signed by the Mayor as such; Cllr Blandford seconded the proposal with all Cllrs in full agreement

2021/09 82 Matters Arising from the Minutes – Information Only None that are not covered within the Agenda

2021/09 83 To Receive the Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting Held on the 16th August 2021

This agenda item has been carried over to the October 2021 meeting

2021/09 84 Matters Arising from the Minutes – Information Only

This agenda item has been carried over to the October 2021 meeting

2021/09 85 To consider any account(s) for payment

All Councillors confirmed that they had received the financial report and information.

Cllr Scourfield proposed that all invoices, as presented, be paid in full; Cllr McDowell seconded the proposal with all Cllrs in full agreement.

It was brought to the Councils attention that a donation had been made, by the Chair, at an event that she had recently attended. Cllr Scourfield proposed that the Chair be reimbursed for the donation made in the sum of £75 to the ??????????????(Welsh school name!!) and also that the Chair be reimbursed for the

payment made for the Whitland Week Buffett from the Mayors allowance up to the value of £450; Cllr McDowell seconded the proposal with all Cllrs in full agreement.

Cllr Davies-Scourfield thanked the Council for the proposal regarding the reimbursement of the buffet cost and that she would discuss such with the Clerk. Cllr Davies-Scourfield also added that any food which was left after the event was taken to the Cricket Club and enjoyed by its members.

To Be Paid			
03.09.2021	1327	(August Wages)	£ 671.67
13.09.2021	1328	(August Wages)	£ 405.90
13.09.2021	1329	Copier & Broad Band 2mths July and August	£ 45.43
13.09.2021	1330	Robert Thomas - Grass Cutting Contract (September 2021)	£ 480.00
13.09.2021	1331	Amazon - Stamps and Diary and paper	£ 46.13
13.09.2021	1332	Davies Builders Merchants - Bench Repair Materials	£ 77.85
13.09.2021	1333	B P Building Supplies - Bench and Flower Planter Repair Materials	£ 26.09
13.09.2021	1334	EDF Energy - Electric Account	£ 35.26
			£ 1,788.33

2021/09 86 To consider the Financial Report and Bank Reconciliation

Cash Flow			
30.06.2021 - 30.08.2021			
Balance	£	55,689.68	B/F
Payments Made	£	9,472.72	
Income Received	£	18,674.25	
	£	64,891.21	C/F

Following consideration of the information provided and the answering of any queries raised, Cllr Shipton proposed that Whitland Town Council accept the figures, as presented, as a true record of the Council's finances to date; Cllr Blandford seconded the proposal with all Cllrs in full agreement.

2021/09 87 Planning Application(s) Received

All planning application information has been Emailed to all Cllrs prior to the meeting

A	PL/02258	2 Westernville, West Street, Whitland, SA34 0AD	2 storey rear extension to dwelling house
https://carmarthenshire-pr.force.com/en/s/planning-application/a0b5J000000d8UU			

Following consideration of all the information provided by the Planning Authority Cllr McDowell proposed that Whitland Town Council support this planning application; Cllr West seconded the proposal with all Cllrs in full agreement.

2021/09 88 To consider any Planning Applications received after the publication of the agenda (for any updates please contact the Clerk prior to the meeting) - None

2021/09 89 To receive any Planning Decision Notices from the Carmarthenshire County Council

- PL/02113 10 Park Street, Whitland – Proposed rear conservatory Extension with accessible wet room - Granted
- PL/01621 13 Llys Y Crofft, Whitland – Removal of existing lean-to storage shed, retention of sun room for ancillary accommodation and alterations to dwelling to facilitate internal layout changes and additional headroom – Granted

- PL/02263 Newark, Spring Gardens, Whitland – Proposed single storey rear extension and internal alterations - Granted

2021/09 90 Consideration of Correspondence Received

- Chairs Report – (Inadvertently left off agenda)

Jens Bit!! – Can you add what you would like to say please??

- Letter received from Carmarthenshire Young Farmers Club requesting a donation towards County expenses – Whitland Town Council have a policy to give to local courses only and will consider a donation for the local Young Farmers Club.
- Email received regarding the lighting of beacons along the coast line to honour the Queens Platinum Jubilee – As Whitland is not on the coast it will not be lighting a coastal beacon

2021/09 91 To receive County Councillor’s Report

None received -

Cllr Shipton proposed that the Clerk write to Cllr S Allen requesting an update regarding the bus park construction on North Road; Cllr Davies-Scourfield seconded the proposal with all Cllrs in full agreement. *(Email sent 15.09.2021)*

2021/09 92 To Receive Any Reports from Committees/Working Parties

Grounds Management Working Party – Cllr L Shipton

Access Gate – Cllr Shipton proposed that Whitland Town Council purchase the second-hand access galvanised gateway from Saundersfoot Community Council for a price of £150 to be placed to access the land at Trevaughan; Cllr McDowell seconded the proposal with all Cllrs in full agreement. Cllr Shipton will pick the gate up at his convenience.

It was noted that certain works had been undertaken to clear brambles and ivy from the wooden fencing.

Site visits to be arranged to consider trees works at the Pocket Park and to assess the possible replacement of the wooden fencing to the land at Trevaughan.

The Clerk to source several No Dogs Allow signs to be erected on the fence around the land at Trevaughan.

Following discussion Cllr Blandford proposed that the Clerk contact the Environmental Services Department, and copy Cllr Sue Allen into the Email, advising of the current situation along the main street of Whitland Town; Cllr Shipton seconded the proposal with all Cllrs in full agreement.

It was reported that a service covering, within the pavement outside the cricket club, had dropped and the tarmac around such was cracking and breaking away causing a trip hazard and the possibility of such dropping and making a void in the pavement. Cllr Dobson to forward photographs of such to the Clerk who will then forward such to Carmarthenshire County Council.

Cllr Davies-Scourfield brought agenda items 97 and 95 forward as Cllr Shipton had to leave the meeting due to work commitments.

2021/09 97 To consider the recent Email received from Carmarthenshire County Council regarding the fencing along St Marys Street

This is a matter which the Whitland Town Council have been actively pursuing, on behalf of the residents of St Mary’s Street, since October 2020 and discussed in meetings over a number of years.

Concerns have been raised by the residents and listed within a separate report drafted by an independent Health and Safety Professional on behalf of the resident. This report along with numerous Emails have been sent to various departments at Carmarthenshire County Council culminating in an Email to the Chief

Executive of Carmarthenshire County Council. The response to such forwarded to all Councillors for their consideration.

Councillors expressed their frustration with the situation and the responses received over the past ten months.

Cllr Shipton proposed that the letter sent to the Chief Executive along with the response to such be posted on the Whitland Town Council's website; Cllr Blandford seconded the proposal with all Cllrs in full agreement.

2021/09 95 To consider the request received for a monetary donation towards an event to promote the Abbey Ruins

Councillors considered that £800 has recently been paid for tree works within the Abbey site and that the Abbey is not situate within the Whitland Ward. On the 14th July 2021 Whitland Town Council relinquished the Lease following extensive consideration regarding the return to Whitland Town if the Abbey site was maintained by the Whitland Town Council.

It was brought to the attention of the Council that the Abbey site could potentially bring business to Whitland Town and help promote Whitland.

Cllr Dobson proposed that Whitland Town Council make a donation of £100 towards the open event to be held at the Abbey site. This proposal was not seconded.

Cllr Chapman proposed that, at this point in time, Whitland Town Council do not offer a donation towards the open event to be held at the Abbey site; Cllr Shipton seconded the proposal with a majority vote in favour of such. (seven votes in favour and one vote against such)

Cllr Shipton left the meeting.

2021/09 93 To Receive Reports from Council Representatives

Cllr Chapman – Ten Towns Growth Town Wifi (Report please Barry)

2021/09 94 To consider the recent incident damaging the commemorative stone structure situate in the entrance to the Pocket Park

It has been brought to the Councils attention that the commemorative structure at the entrance to the Pocket Park has been hit by a tractor, with a loaded hay Traylor, reversing (as witnessed by a member of the public). The severity of the damage was not noted until later inspection.

The Clerk has been given the details of a tractor with a hay trailer which was seen within the Pocket Park area at the time of the accident.

It was confirmed that the structure is safe and has been taped off.

The Clerk to report the accident to the Police and take the advice offered regarding pursuing any insurance claims to rebuild, and possibly reposition such.

If any members of the public have any further information as to this incident, could they please contact the Clerk – clerk@whitlandtowncouncil.co.uk

2021/09 95 To consider the request received for a monetary donation towards an event to promote the Abbey Ruins - as above

2021/09 96 To consider the recent meeting regarding the Nazareth Cemetery and to arrange a date for the Working Party to meet and prepare a report to be presented to full Council

Unfortunately, on the morning of the meeting the Clerk received a phone call advising that 6.30 pm was too early for members of the Chapel and could the meeting be rearranged and that Anne would now be lead contact for the Nazareth chapel?

Councillors are aware that this is a very emotive situation and that the Clerk along with Cllr Davies-Scourfield should have a meeting with Anne to go through any paperwork she may have. Following which any outstanding information will be requested, a meeting of the working party held and a report, including financial information, be brought back to full Council at the October 2021 meeting for consideration as to whether it is feasible for the Whitland Town Council to take over the management of the Nazareth Cemetery.

2021/09 97 To consider the recent Email received from Carmarthenshire County Council regarding the fencing along St Marys Street- as above

2021/09 98 Considerations for discussion at the next meeting

- Policy Working Group – consideration of a Donation Request Procedure/Policy
- Report following the site meeting – Land at Trevaughan and Pocket Park trees
- Update regarding 'Ron's Plaque'

Meeting closed 20.45

DRAFT