

Whitland Town Council Minutes



Minutes of the General meeting of Whitland Town Council held via Zoom on Monday the November 2021 at 7pm.

This meeting was open to the public.

Present: Cllrs J Davies-Scourfield, L Shipton, B Chapman, M Mc Dowell, R Jones and J Blandford.

Also present – The Clerk

Meeting commenced – 19.03

2021/11 121 To accept Apologies for Absence

Cllrs F Scourfield, N West, R Davies, J Jones, E Eynon, F Conner-Hughes and J Dobson

2021/11 122 To Receive any Personal and Prejudicial Declaration of Interests

None

2021/11 123 To Receive the Minutes of the Meeting Held on the 11th October 2021

Cllr Blandford proposed that the Minutes of the General meeting held on the 11th October 2021 be signed as a true record of the meeting; Cllr McDowell seconded the proposal with all Cllrs in full agreement.

2021/11 124 Matters Arising from the Minutes – Information Only

None Raised

2021/11 125 To Receive the Minutes of the Meeting Held on the 18th October 2021

Cllr Shipton proposed that the Minutes of the Extraordinary meeting held on the 18th October 2021 be signed as a true record of the meeting; Cllr McDowell seconded the proposal with all Cllrs in full agreement.

2021/11 126 Matters Arising from the Minutes – Information Only

None Raised

2021/11 127 Chairs Report

Cllr Davies-Scourfield reported that she had attended the Remembrance service and laid a wreath on behalf of Whitland Town.

Cllr Davies-Scourfield also reported that she and her husband had been invited to attend the Whitland Town Choir's celebratory Dinner.

2021/11 128 To consider any account(s) for payment

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

2021/11 129 To consider the Financial Report and Bank Reconciliation

All Councillors confirmed that they had received the financial report.

Cllr Davies-Scourfield proposed that the finance report be signed as a true representation of the Whitland Town Council's finances to date; Cllr Shipton seconded the proposal with all Cllrs in full agreement.

2021/11 130 To review the 2021/2022 Budget

All Councillors confirmed they had received a copy of the Budget Review Report.

Following consideration of the information provided within the Budget Review it was considered that no amendments are required at present. A meeting to be held to draft a budget (2022/2023) to be presented at the December 2021 General meeting for consideration and to confirm the Precept request.

2021/11 131 To consider any planning applications

- A. PL/02908 - Construction of dwelling and garage for domestic use - Plot adjacent to Aelwyd, North Road, Whitland, Carmarthen, SA34 0BB

<https://carmarthenshire-pr.force.com/en/s/planning-application/a0b5J000000SYTH>

Following consideration of all the information presented by the Planning Authority, Whitland Town Council do not have any concerns or objections to this application.

- B. PL/02934 - Outline (major) application for residential development (including affordable element) together with new vehicular access and associated parking and landscaping (all matters reserved except highways) - Land adjacent to Spring Gardens, Whitland, SA34 0HP

<https://carmarthenshire-pr.force.com/en/s/planning-application/a0b5J000000SYXJ>

Following consideration of all the information provided, Whitland Town Council no major concerns or objections regarding this application. Cllrs are pleased to note that Section 106 Agreement includes an affordable housing element along with provisions for outdoor play/open space.

2021/11 132 To consider any Planning Applications received after the publication of the agenda.

Planning Application received regarding Willow Park – A meeting to be held 22.11.2021 to consider such.

Cllr Shipton left the meeting.

2021/11 133 To receive any Planning Decision Notices from the Carmarthenshire County Council

None

2021/11 134 Consideration of Correspondence Received

- It has been noted that the newly installed hand dryers, in the public toilets, are showing signs of rust sport – the Clerk has requested information from the installers to have such replaced under warrantee.
- It was reported that the plumbing in the toilets had become disconnected and in need of attention. The Clerk arranged for such to be rectified by a plumber. (Works have been successfully completed.)
- Email forwarded to all Councillors advising of the training being offered, by One Voice Wales, to all Councillors and employees.
- Email received from Mudiad Meithrin thanks the Whitland Town Council for the donation of £75
- Email received from NHS Wales Collaborative advising of the Welsh Government Defibrillator Fund – offering free defibrillators to certain bodies.
- Email received from the Westover Park requesting the Whitland Town Council to assist in the providing of a defibrillator to be situated within the Park – It was agreed to forward the information in the above Email.
- Various Consultations forwarded to all Councillors for their consideration.

2021/11 135 To receive County Councillor's Report

None received

2021/11 136 To Receive Any Reports from Committees/Working Parties

Grounds Management Working Party – Cllr L Shipton

It was reported that:

- The pedestrian access gate, to be located at Trevaughan, is in storage. Cllrs Shipton, R Jones and Chapman along with the Clerk to attend on site to ascertain the best position for such to be installed. *(Post meeting note – It was considered that there is a length of fence that requires replacing – this will be included in the 2022/2023 budget and the gate will be installed at the same time, opposite the dropped kerb)*
- Pocket Park – Consideration of the tree management - It is noted that the trees bordering the pocket park are in need of attention. A site meeting to be arranged with an Officer from Carmarthenshire County Council to ascertain if any assistance is available with the management of such.
- Bryngwenllian Park – The safety surfacing is in need of replacement – an estimate of £8,000 has been received. This figure will be used in the 2022/2023 budget.

2021/11 137 To Receive Reports from Council Representatives

Cllr Chapman – One Voice Wales

Report Requested

2021/11 138 Update regarding the Christmas Arrangements for Whitland – and confirmation of the draft Notice to be published on the Facebook page and Council Website

Following careful consideration of all the information available regarding the increase of Covid 19 cases locally, Whitland Town Council will not be holding a Christmas event this year. The following Notice to be placed on the Council Website with a link to such on Facebook.

Following careful consideration and with the ever-increasing number of reported Covid 19 cases in and around Whitland, Whitland Town Council, with great sadness, have resolved that unfortunately there will not be a public event surrounding the lighting up of the Christmas tree this year.

The Mayor of Whitland Town Council - Cllr Davies-Scourfield would like to wish everyone a Happy Christmas and a safe New Year.

Cllr R Jones proposed that Whitland Town Council purchase sweets (selection boxes) and biscuits to be distributed at Ysgol Llys Hywel and Waungron Mansion Residential Home; Cllr Shipton seconded the proposal with all Cllrs eligible to vote in full agreement.

Cllr McDowell declared a personal and prejudicial interest in the above proposal as he has children who attend the school.

2021/11 139 To consider the preparation of the initial application to be made for the Ten Towns Growth Plan

– Consideration to be given to the fact that Whitland Town Council have only been given six weeks to prepare the report of a two-year ongoing project. (The Clerk has requested all information gathered by Cllr Sue Allen to be passed onto the Town Council to enable such a report be drafted- nothing received to date)

Following discussion, it was agreed that the several proposed project will be managed as follows:

- LEADER – Digital and Website to be project managed by Cllr B Chapman and Kit Rothwell
- Electric Bike Chargers and storage facility to be project managed by Cllr J Davies-Scourfield
- Car Parking Area to be project managed by Cllr L Shipton, Mr Geraint Phillips BSc (Hons), MArch, PgDip Arch Architect and the Clerk

The above will be supported by Officers from Carmarthenshire County Council.

2021/11 140 To receive any updates regarding the planning stages of the new Play Park at Parc Dr Owen

The Clerk advised the Council that locating play equipment that satisfies the Section 106 Agreement criteria, regarding renewable energy, is proving difficult and requested that the Council considers installing play equipment in stages as funds are secured. Once the first play equipment is installed the drainage problems will be addressed prior to addition equipment being installed.

Cllr McDowell proposed that the play equipment be installed in stages and following stage one the drainage works be a priority; Cllr Blandford seconded the proposal with all Cllrs in full agreement.

2021/11 141 Considerations for discussion at the next meeting

Trees in the River Taff – The Clerk to contact Natural Resources Wales and report such.

DRAFT