



Email: clerk@whitlandtowncouncil.co.uk

Minutes of the General meeting of Whitland Town Council held via Zoom on Monday the 10th January 2022 at 7pm.

This meeting was open to the public via a live Zoom link, available on request to the Clerk.

Present: Cllrs J Davies-Scourfield (Chair), L Shipton (Vice Chair), F Scourfield, B Chapman, M Mc Dowell, and R Davies (Joined meeting after agenda item 2022/01 176).

Also present – The Clerk

Meeting commenced – 19.06

2022/01 171 To accept Apologies for Absence - Cllrs J Blandford, R Jones, J Jones, E Eynon, and J Dobson

2022/01 172 To Receive any Personal and Prejudicial Declaration of Interests - None

2022/01 173 To Receive the Minutes of the Meeting Held on the 13th December 2021

Cllr Davies-Scourfield proposed that the Minutes of the General meeting held on the 13th December 2021 be signed as a true record of the meeting; Cllr Scourfield seconded the proposal with all Cllrs in full agreement.

2022/01 174 Matters Arising from the Minutes – None

2022/01 175 Mayor's Report

Cllr Davies- Scourfield reported that, due to the change in Covid Restrictions and to ensure the safety of her family and the residents of Whitland she did not attend any events over the Christmas period.

2022/01 176 To consider any account(s) for payment

The Clerk advised that she had found a discrepancy on one of the invoices received and had questioned such with the supplier.

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

The Council were advised that an invoice had been received appertaining to flood water being pumped away for dwellings in Velfrey Road during the recent heavy rainfalls. It is unclear who requested this service to be provided but the council are very thankful for such taking place. The invoice amounted to £300 plus VAT.

Cllr Shipton proposed that the invoice be paid in full but the contractor be advised that, prior to the service being carried out in the future, the Clerk be advised that such will be carried out; Cllr Chapman seconded the proposal with all Cllrs in full agreement.

2022/01 177 To consider the Financial Report and Bank Reconciliation

All Councillors confirmed that they had received the financial report.

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

2022/01 178 To consider any Planning Applications received after the publication of the agenda.

None received prior to this agenda being published.

(for any updates please contact the Clerk prior to the meeting)

None

2022/01 179 To receive any Planning Decision Notices from the Carmarthenshire County Council

None

2022/01 180 Consideration of Correspondence Received

Emailed to all Councillors for their consideration:

- letter from the Minister for Finance and Local Government about the Eligible Community Councils (General Power of Competence) (Qualifications of Clerks) (Wales) Regulations 2021
- Survey of public attitudes: - Councillor remuneration and citizen engagement with councillors
- Remote training sessions that are taking place in January, February and March being offered by One Voice Wales to Councillors and Employees.

No comments or considerations for the above correspondence.

2022/01 181 To receive County Councillor's Report

None received – The Clerk confirmed that an Email had been sent to Cllr Allen (10.02.2022) advising of the meeting with the agenda affixed thereto, requesting confirmation that she will be attending the meeting or not. No response has been received to date.

2022/01 182 To Receive Any Reports from Committees/Working Parties

Cllr Shipton on behalf of the Grounds Working Party

Cllr Shipton advised

- the Council that a response is awaited from Carmarthenshire County Council regarding the large popular trees aligning the Pocket Park and the management thereof. – The Clerk to chase Carmarthenshire County Council for a response.
- Vehicles are being parked in front of the recycling units, placed within the car park, for use by members of the public. This impedes the use of such and also causes issues for the lorries emptying such. The Clerk to write to Carmarthenshire County Council, copying the County Councillor into such, requesting that this matter be monitored.
- The proof of Ron's plaque was forwarded to all Councillors prior to the meeting. Cllr Davies proposed that the proof of Ron's Plaque be accepted and the Clerk to place the order for such; Cllr Davies seconded the proposal with all Cllrs in full agreement.

2022/01 183 To Receive Reports from Council Representatives – None

2022/01 184 To receive any updates regarding the Ten Towns Growth Project

The Clerk advised the Council that the requests for meetings to discuss the Terms of the proposed Lease for part of the land known as 'The old Dairy Site' had not been responded to. Cllr Chapman proposed that Whitland Town Council do not enter into a legal contract regarding the Leasing of part of the land known as 'the Old Dairy Site' at a cost of £10,000 per annum, with the consideration being reviewed; Cllr Scourfield seconded the proposal with all Cllrs in full agreement.

The Clerk to advise the appropriate parties.

The possibility of using part of Parc Dr Owen to provide much needed car parking spaces and electric charging points for both cars and bicycles was discussed.

The possible issues regarding access and egress were noted.

Cllr Chapman proposed that the Clerk, on behalf of Whitland Town Council, correspond with the Trustees of the Parc to try and move this project forward, noting that all concerns will be addressed by the relevant authorities if this project moves forward; Cllr McDowell seconded the proposal with all Cllrs in full agreement.

2022/01 185 To consider the recent resignation of two Councillors – Section 89(3) of the Local Government Act 1972 states that when the vacancy occurs within six months before the day on which the Councillor whose office is vacant would regularly have retired, an Election shall not be held under Section 89(1) of the above Act, and the vacancy will be filled at the next ordinary Election of Councillors on the 5th May 2022.

The Council may choose to fill the vacancy for the period until that election.

Cllr Davies proposed that Whitland Town Council fill any vacancies through the Election Process in May 2022; Cllr Davies-Scourfield seconded the proposal with all Cllrs in full agreement.

2022/01 186 Update regarding access to the Whitland Town Council installed CCTV – Consideration to the Clerk having remote access to such

Cllr Davies-Scourfield advised the Council that Llewelyn Davies would take advice from their IT team and revert back with further information on the best way forward to afford remote access to the Clerk.

2022/01 187 To consider the removal of the trees along Whitland Main Street (currently 3)

Cllr Shipton advised the Council that the three trees situate along the main shopping street in Whitland are causing slip hazards and flooding issues when the leaves fall in winter and it left to grow much more the roots will, in all probability, start to push through the cobbled pavements.

Cllr Shipton proposed that the three remaining trees be removed and replacement trees planted elsewhere on land in the ownership of the Whitland Town Council; Cllr McDowell seconded the proposal with all Cllrs in full agreement.

The Clerk to Contact Carmarthenshire County Council to ensure that no special permission is required to fell such.

2022/01 188 Considerations for discussion at the next meeting