



Email: clerk@whitlandtowncouncil.co.uk

To the Councillors, Whitland Town Council

1minutes of the General Meeting of Whitland Town Council held remotely, via the medium of Zoom, on Monday 14th November 2022, at 7.00pm.

The Public Participation session will commence at 7.00pm and will not normally exceed 15 minutes in length. Members of the public are welcome to ask questions or make representation relating to items listed on the agenda only.

Please note that Audio or Video recording of Full Council meetings is not permitted.

All Whitland Town Council meetings are regulated by its Standing Orders.

Present: Cllrs J Davies-Scourfield (Mayor), L Shipton (Deputy Mayor), J Blandford, M McDowell, R Jones and S Mc Dowell.

Also present – The Clerk

Meeting commenced – 19.00

2022/11 104 Apologies for Absence: Cllr R Davies

2022/11 105 To receive any personal and prejudicial Declaration of Interests as per the Code of Conduct.

None

2022/11 106 To receive the Mayors Report

Cllr Davies Scourfield reported that it had been a quiet month with the Service of Remembrance being well attended.

The charity Santa Fun Run will be held on Sunday 11th December 2022, starting at the Bowling Club, due to a prior appointment I am unable to start the run but Cllr Shipton will deputise for me.

2022/11 107 To Receive the Minutes of the Meeting Held on the 26th September 2022

Cllr Blandford proposed that the Minutes of the General meeting held on the 26th September 2022 be signed as a true record of the meeting; Cllr M McDowall seconded the proposal with all Cllrs in full agreement.

2022/11 108 Matters Arising from the Minutes – Information Only

Due to a technical error the agenda for the October 2022 meeting was not published electronically, therefore any resolutions made at that meeting are seen to be nil and void. The September 2022 Minutes have been re-received and approved. No other resolutions were made.

2022/11 109 To Receive the Minutes of the Meeting Held on the 10th October 2022

Cllr Blandford proposed that the Minutes of the General meeting held on the 26th September 2022 be signed as a true record of the meeting; Cllr Shipton seconded the proposal with all Cllrs in full agreement.

2022/11 110 Matters Arising from the Minutes – Information Only

None

2022/11 111 To acknowledge and approve account(s) for payment

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

Payments Made			
12.09.2022	1525	Llewellyn Davies - 3 years internal audit	£ 2,484.00
12.09.2022	1526	Re-Issue 1445 Kelly Duell Trevaughn Grounds Works	£ 240.00
12.09.2022	1527	J Davies Scourfield - Reimbursement for Whitland Week Buffett	£ 667.50
12.09.2022	1528	Jamie King - Internet hosting	£ 150.00
20.09.2022	1529	EDF Energy - electrics Public Toilets	£ 200.00
01.10.2022	1530	J Lewis Wages - September	£ 224.00
01.10.2022	1531	B and M Black Cloth	£ 14.99
01.10.2022	1532	M Priestley - Sept Sal New CiLCA rate	£ 949.62
17.10.2022	1533	HMRC PAYE July August and September	£ 1,135.78
17.10.2022	1534	Amazon - Mop Heads	£ 29.10
01.11.2022	1535	Rob Thomas Grass Cutting Sept, Oct and Nov	£ 1,440.00
			£ 7,534.99

2022/11 112 To consider and approve the bank/cash book reconciliation – See finance report

Cllr Shipton proposed that the bank reconciliation be signed as a true record of the Whitland Town Council's financial position; Cllr Davies Scourfield seconded the proposal with all Cllrs in full agreement.

Cash Flow			
31.08.2022-30.10.2022			
Balance	£	58,718.02	B/F
Payments Made	£	7,534.99	
Income Received	£	241.85	
	£	51,424.88	C/F

2022/11 113 To review the 2022/2023 Budget

All information presented was considered by all Councillors.

2022/11 114 Planning Application(s) Received – None

2022/11 115 To consider any planning application Notices received from the Carmarthenshire County Council - None

2022/11 116 Consideration of Correspondence Received

- The quotation for the Christmas lights to be supplied, erected, maintained and removed in the main street in Whitland is £4,500. The Clerk to arrange for such to be erected.
- All councillors confirmed that they had received the new pay scale for 2022/2023 as set out by the National Association for Local Councils and acknowledged the increase in the Clerks pay.
- The Christmas tree will arrive in Whitland on the 24th November 2022. Cllr Shipton to arrange for the erection of such.

2022/11 117 To Receive Any Reports from Working Parties

Grounds Management Working Party – Cllr L Shipton

- The Pocket Park annual inspection report has been received – there are several matters that require addressing. John will be able to carry out the requested tasks.
- The public toilets have been blocked several times over the past few weeks. Cllr Shipton and John have managed to clear the blockage each time. The items which seem to be causing the problem are disposable vapes being flushed.

- A bin has been placed in Parc Dr Owen – This is a heavier item which will hopefully not blow away.
- The tree survey will take place on Monday 5th December 2022– This will address a management program for the trees at Pocket Park which the Council has raised concerns about with Carmarthenshire County Council (the Landlords) due to their height and proximity to the road.
- The start date for the replacement of the safety flooring at Bryngwenllian play park is the week beginning 21st November 2022 and should be completed by Christmas.

The Parc Dr Owen Play Park Task and Finish Group

- The damaged artificial grass will be replaced within the next few weeks, while the contractors are working at Bryngwenllian.
- An Email has been received from the Council’s Solicitor advising that the Parc Dr Owen Trustees are requesting a term of 6 years for the park Lease, despite the Council previously being offered a 30 year rolling lease, or a survey to be carried out to enable a longer Lease to be offered. The Council agreed that further information be requested regarding a possible survey and also agreed that a 6 year lease would not afford the Council the ability to apply for further grants to progress the development of phase 2 of the play park.
- The CCTV will be installed at Parc Dr Owen before Christmas. The Council agree to the cost of circa £15 per month for the media card. Cllr Davies-Scourfield proposed that the contract for the media card should be set up in the Council’s name and paid by direct debit from the Council’s bank account; Cllr Shipton seconded the proposal with all Cllrs in full agreement.

2022/11 118 To Receive Reports from Council Representatives of Outside Bodies

○ Ten Towns - Digital Project

- The website is progressing and will hopefully be live by the end of the Year.
- Cllr Davies-Scourfield proposed that Whitland Town Council do not enter into the maintenance programme relating to the screens, to be placed within several businesses and request FixIt to try and sell the equipment to recuperate the cost to the Council; Cllr Shipton seconded the proposal with all Cllrs in full agreement.
- Ten Towns - LEADER funding (£100,000) and a possible additional car park within Whitland. No further information has been received from Carmarthenshire County Council regarding the possible re-fashioning of the coach park situate in North Road back into a car park. Cllr Davies Scourfield advised the Council that during a recent meeting between Carmarthenshire County Council Officers herself and the Clerk, once again, she was requested if the Council would reconsider supporting the site in St Mary’s Street for the installation of a car park. It was explained, once again, to the Officers that Whitland Town Council are not happy to use public money to subsidise such a project with costs to the Council being in the region of £100,000. The Officers explained that Carmarthenshire County Council may cover any additional costs.

Following consideration of the possibility that Carmarthenshire County Council MAY cover any additional costs Cllr Blandford proposed that due to the unsureness of Carmarthenshire County Council’s ability to cover additional costs, the fact that Whitland Town Council have been advised by Carmarthenshire County Council Officers that money was available for differing community projects and when applied for the money was not available, the fact that the developers will not communicate with Whitland Town Council and that the Council has previously stated that it is not in agreement to support this location, Whitland Town Council will not discuss this site any further; Cllr Shipton seconded the proposal with all Cllrs in full agreement.

2022/11 119 To receive any updates regarding the information received from Carmarthenshire County Council following a freedom of information request.

No information received to date.

2022/11 120 To consider and approve the Grass Cutting Tender Document – Once approved to confirm the tendering process to ensure a Contract is in place for March 2023.

All Councillors confirmed that they had received a copy of the draft Tender Document.

Cllr Blandford proposed that the document be adopted and the Council offer the contract for two years with an additional 3 years; Cllr Shipton seconded the proposal with all Cllrs in full agreement.

The tender to be offered in the new year.

Additional Agenda item added by the Chair -

Cllr Davies-Scourfield proposed that Whitland Town Council provide a section box to each child that attends the local school and biscuits and treats to the residents of the local Nursing Home; Cllr S McDowall seconded the proposal with all Cllrs in full agreement.

2022/11 121 Considerations for discussion at the next meeting

The Tree survey report – if received

The Draft Budget

Meeting closed 20.34