

Chairmans Report for Term of Office 2019/2020.

I start with congratulating the residents, businesses, key workers, volunteers, emergency personnel through to the municipal workers who have maintained a sense of normality in our town the last few months, I cannot begin to express my gratitude, admiration or pride that Whitland really pulled together in what could be known as a national crisis. Behind the scenes also our Clerk, County Councillor and new Councillor Avril Wilson kept Whitland upto date with developments and in the early stages on advice and best practices for those shielding or self-isolating. Whitland economically has faced a huge challenge and as a whole with ongoing assistance will return. We are still nominated a Town of Growth by CCC(work temporarily paused- but still ongoing) and having attended a meeting in February with the Consultants am inspired that this return will be assisted and support offered where needed.

We enjoyed 2019 as the Year Of Culture for Carmarthenshire and the events that were organised really highlighted the diversity of Whitland, its History, Heritage, Past Businesses, Farming, Culture and most important its links to Religion.

2019 finally saw us take the Lease to Whitland Abbey and this project will no doubt allow us to once again shout about the importance of Cistercian Monks and their history and relevance locally, fundamental in the refurb of Tennis Courts in Parc Dr Owen, secured funds for a Play/Town Map so all can enjoy our wonderful walks and recreational activities that we offer.

As your Mayor of 2019/20 I was prividedged to be invited to so many events locally and regionally representing our Town, Mayoral Donations were given to several organisations including Chairman of CCC's Annual Charity and also to two local Charities The QT Dementia Club and Whitland and Llanboidy Ex-servicemens Club, so monies remaining locally and support locals.

So where to in 2020? Your council continues to work for the people of Whitland, the people that they took a pledge to support, we reviewed our Precept and implemented a small increase to ensure that all foreseeable expenditure would be covered without having to substantially increase like other towns, we are currently working on the transfer of Nazareth Cemetery to maintain this for generations to come but more importantly I hope to continue

working with CCC and their consultants on the way forward to help with our towns re-development and growth.

To my fellow Councillors and to the residents of Whitland I thank you for your support throughout the year and wish each and everyone all the best for the rest of 2020.

Kind Regards

B A Chapman

Chairman

Whitland Town Council 2019-2020.