



Minutes of the General Meeting of Whitland Town Council held remotely, via the medium of Zoom, on Monday 11th March 2024, at 7.00pm.

Correspondence and planning documents have been Emailed to Councillors prior to the meeting.

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.

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.

Present: Cllrs M McDowell (Vice Chair), J Davies-Scourfield, S McDowell, R Jones, E Morgans, A Cornick, A Smith, R Davies and J Blandford.

Also present –The Clerk

Meeting commenced 19.00

2024/03 175 To accept apologies for absence– Cllr L Shipton (Mayor) and D Rutter

2024/03 176 To receive any updates regarding the Co-option process - None

2024/03 177 To acknowledge any declarations of interest, as per the Code

Cllr R Jones declared an interest in agenda item 2024/03 183 b) Cllr Jones is a member of the Mart Committee.

2024/03 178 To Receive the Minutes of the Meeting Held on the 12th February 2024

It was proposed and seconded that the Minutes of the meeting held on the 12th February 2024 be accepted as a true record of the meeting. Vote taken – all Cllrs eligible to vote in full agreement.

2024/03 179 Matters Arising from the Minutes – None

2024/03 180 To consider and acknowledge invoices for Payment

2024/03 181 To acknowledge and approve the Bank Reconciliation

It was agreed that agenda items 2024/03 180 and 181 be discussed at the Extraordinary Meeting to be held before the end of March.

2024/03 182 To formally acknowledge the report received from the Auditor General for Wales relating to the 2022/2023 Audit.

All Cllrs confirmed that they had received a copy of the External Auditors report and all accompanying documentation.

Whitland Town Councillors acknowledge receipt of the Auditors Report and that it is an unqualified report with no recommendations. The Council thanked the Clerk for all her hard work in preparing and presentation all the information required to the Auditors.

2024/03 183 Planning Application(s) Received

a) PL/07187 - Brondeg, North Road, Whitland

Proposed alterations and extension to form open plan kitchen/dining/living area and external alterations to garden

Following all the information provided by the Planning Authority, it was proposed and seconded that Whitland Town Council support this planning application. Vote taken – all Cllrs eligible to vote in full agreement.

b) PL/07170 - Whitland Livestock Market, West Street, Whitland

Proposed replacement canteen

Following all the information provided by the Planning Authority, it was proposed and seconded that Whitland Town Council support this planning application. Vote taken – all Cllrs eligible to vote in full agreement.

2024/03 184 To consider any planning applications received after the publishing of this agenda – Please contact the Clerk for further information. - None

2024/03 185 To consider any planning application Notices received from the Carmarthenshire County Council

PL/06480 1 Millfield, Whitland, SA34 0QN

To reduce the height of kerbs to allow off-road parking

Householder Granted 12/02/2024
Delegated Decision

2024/03 186 To consider any correspondence received –

- Information relating to a First Aid in the Work Place course – for the Clerk to attend. – It was agreed that the Clerk should attend a training course and that Manorbier Community Council contribute to the cost of such.
- Email to Carmarthenshire County Council regarding the blocked drop Kerbs at the North end of Spring Gardens, just off the roundabout – The Planning Enforcement Team and the Access Team have been advised.

2024/03 187 To Receive Any Reports from Working Parties

- Grounds Management Working Party
 - Update relating to the granting of the proposed Lease at Parc Dr Owen for land to house the community play park (Phase 2 funds being held by Carmarthenshire County Council until the Lease is in place) – The Clerk confirmed that the draft Lease had been received from Redkite Law but there were a couple of clauses that required alteration/calification. Once the Council's Solicitor has received a response from the Parc's Solicitor the Clerk will advise accordingly.
 - Update relating to the site visit by Carmarthenshire County Council Officers and the assessment of the problematic drains along St Johns Street (agenda item 2024/02 172) – It was agreed that there is a problem with water pooling in certain areas along St Johns Street and the Officer who attended the site has agreed that several additional drains will be installed along the drain route. These works to be carried out in the next financial year.
 - Update relating to the forthcoming pressuring washing and tree maintenance at Pocket Park – A local firm has agreed to provide one days free pressure washing, once the site has dried up. It is too wet to do any works on at present.

2024/03 188 To Receive Reports from Council Representatives of Outside Bodies

To include reports from the:

- Ten Towns – LEADER Funding
 - The Council to consider its financial commitment to the community building known as the Studio, King Edward Street, should the purchase come to fruition. The rental value of the whole building is £6,900

It was agreed that due to the possible commitment of the Whitland Town Council the above agenda heading should be discussed at length during the meeting to be held next week.

2024/03 189 To receive the report from the Development Officer

The Cawl evening was a great success with over 50 persons attending, who enjoyed the Cawl supper and listening to the Children from Ysgol Llys Hywel sing and recite poetry, as well as browsing the local produce being sold by local businesses.

Thanks to everyone who made this event such a success including but not limited to the Co-op who donated all the bread and cheese, the Air Cadets who assisted with the serving of the cawl and ensuring the hall was left clean and tidy, Catherine and Richard Walker, from the Chamber for trade, for making the Cawl, Cllr Len Shipton for assisting in the logistics of the event, Beth McDowell for manning the raffle and name the bear and the 'washerupers' – Cllr Eleri Morgans and Peter.

Cawl Evening 1st March 2024							
Monies received	Receipts			Monies spent		Invoice	
Sale of tickets Pre event	1, 2, 3 and 5	£	85.00	Cheese and bread		N/A	FOC
Sale of tickets at door		£	37.50	Meat	Andrew Rees and Sons	1	£ 58.52 Cash
Stalls (receipts 06 - 10)	6, 7, 8, 9 and 10	£	90.00	Veg, Flowers, vegan cheese and flowers	Asda	2	£ 25.09 WTC
Donation for meat	4	£	20.00	Salt, matches and Corn flour	Co-op	3 and 4	£ 2.74 Cash
Raffle		£	38.00	Invoice book	Ebay		£ 9.50 WTC
Name the Bear		£	23.00	Receipt book	Ebay		£ 7.50 WTC
				Table Cloths	Terry's Textiles		£ 36.29 WTC
				Disposable table cloths	The Range		£ 11.09 WTC
				Teddy bear	Ebay		£ 10.00 WTC
				Room Hire	Whitland Town Hall		£ 36.00 WTC
		£	293.50				£ 196.73
				£ 96.77	To be ringfenced for future events		
				Grant Purchases - to claim back through grant			
				Banner	Vistaprint		£ 40.24 WTC

Future events include –

- Easter colouring-in competition
- Remembering D-Day at St Davids Avenue – 6th June 2024
- Outdoor cinema – venue to be confirmed - Summer 2024
- Christmas Fayre – a weekend event

I have also been invited to attend the –

- Whitland OAP Association April 2024 meeting
- Whitland 2420 (Whitland and District) Squadron RAF Air Cadets Committee meeting

2024/03 190 To consider and acknowledge the scope of works being considered by Carmarthenshire County Council - Tackling Towns initiative – Prices are being sought for the following works

- Provide new small planters – 5 no.
- Provide new bins – 5 no.
- Replace existing steel benches with new recycled plastic benches – 3 no.
- Repaint existing finger-posts – 3 no.
- Repaint existing steel bollards – 27 no.
- Resurface tarmac around the seating area by the train station.
- Repair the wall surrounding the seating area by the train station.
- Re-fresh all line markings.
- General clean, weed and pressure wash the paved footways along the whole street.
- Clean road sign at the top of St. John Street.
- Take down the old Post office sign.
- Provide new bilingual village name plate signs – 4 no. approaches.

Note - the above works haven't been formally approved as yet.

The above works are acknowledged and it was agreed that such will uplift the Town.

It was proposed and seconded that once the above has been confirmed by the Carmarthenshire County Council Officers the Whitland Chamber for Trade to be requested to consider the upkeep of the planters.

2024/03 191 Considerations for discussion at the next meeting

None

Meeting closed 19.55

Extraordinary Finance Meeting – Thursday 28th March 2024 7.30 pm in the Whitland Town Hall.