



Chairs Annual Report 2012/13

by

Councillor Sue Allen

Following the first election for Town Councillors in twenty eight years we have had a very positive year with Councillors working together to progress Whitland and support individuals and groups.

During this year the Town Council has resolved to :-

- *Manage the Public Toilets opening them full time with a twenty pence charge.*
- *Adopt the Railway Station as a very important strategic asset. Bridge painting is underway and the Town Council will work with Network Rail and Arriva to improve the Town Centre site.*
- *Work with the Dairy site owners to provide some interim car parking to be managed by the Town Council.*
- *Create a new website to promote the Town and include Town Council agendas / meeting minutes and links to organisations, clubs, services and business.*
- *Work with St Clears Town Council to share a grant aided Officer post for one year to promote both Towns equally.*
- *Develop and support links between the Cattle Market area and the main Town to encourage footfall to the Town Centre.*
- *Employ a part time Handy Person to ensure the Town looks its best to include things such as painting of Town seating, upkeep of notice board for visitors, minor repairs that are not undertaken by the County Council.*
- *Contribute to the new school uniforms for Ysgol Llys Hywel.*
- *Place a central Notice Board to support visitors*
- *Work with Dyffryn Taf pupils on Community Projects*
- *Continue working with the Tourism Cluster group on promotion of Whitland trails by funding a leaflet of the Abbey Walk coordinated by the Hywel Dda Centre*
- *Instigate a Town Flood strategy to cope with the issues related to surface water.*
- *Adopt model Standing Orders to streamline meetings. Join "One Voice Wales"*

Visitors to the Town Council and Mayors Parlour have included:-



- *Mrs Nia Ward the Head of Ysgol Llys Hywel who presented her vision for the school and new rules based on the laws of Hywel Dda.*
- *Mr Simon Hart the Member of Parliament who has his Office based in Whitland.*
- *Mr Paul Jennings who explained his concept for sustainable living and how he wished to progress this in Whitland.*
- *Members of the Public raising concerns about the scale of the Solar project on dairy farm land.*

- *Young people who represented Whitland with sporting achievement and signed the book of achievements held at the Mayors Parlour.*



- *The new Rainbow Club leader who received a Donation from Councillors.*



- *Carnival Queen*





Councillor Bentley Evans with pupils of Dyffryn Taf who worked extremely hard on community projects within the Town including the much complimented dragon bus stop. Thank you to all of the pupils involved.



Councillors enjoyed an interesting site visit to the Proper Welsh Milk Company in the Autumn and could see the fledgling business now overseen by Dairy Crest.



Pensioners benefited from a kind donation of salt from Councillor Derek Rees and this was useful in the prolonged cold weather over the winter.



The updated fairy lights agreed by the 2011/12 Town Council were a big success and the switch safety issue is to be resolved ready for 2013. Pictured is Councillor Michelle Williams who assisted Santa.

Mayor Events

This has been very good fun and thank you to Councillors for giving me the opportunity to experience the role. For incoming Mayors I would suggest there are only two essential duties one being the laying of the poppy wreath on behalf of the Town Council and the other is to sit on the Carnival float on the first Saturday in August. To give a flavour of the other events there is a list below and you may see that the majority of events take place on a Saturday or Sunday so it is not too onerous. I have attended nearly every event on your behalf and a number of the events listed were unique and will not be repeated in 2013/14.

My consort was not always available and Mr Bentley Evans kindly stepped in so I thank him for his support.

The Mayors allowance was used to support Whitland community projects and groups with lesser donations to other Towns. No travel expenses are claimed.



I wish the new Mayor every success



Pipriac twinning group at the Town Hall

