

## **St David's Day**

Councillor Ben Owen-Jones has submitted a motion for consideration by Full Council. However, as all staffing matters have been delegated to the HR Committee, the motion has been passed to this committee.

### **Motion**

**To celebrate St David's Day by giving our staff the day off.**

Cllr Owen-Jones also submitted the following:

*St David's Day has been celebrated in Wales since the 12th Century. We should follow the lead of other councils and institutions in Wales by using the little bit of influence that we have to give our staff the day off.*

*With this, we can build a bigger annual celebration next year and use it as another chance to bring everyone together. Let's remind ourselves and our community to "Gwnewch y pethau bychain mewn bywyd" - "Do the little things in life"*

### **For information:**

St Andrew's Day and St Patrick's Day are extra public holidays in Scotland and Northern Ireland respectively.

The UK Government's Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy – which has responsibility for public holidays in England and Wales – has consistently refused to designate St David's Day and St George's Day as public holidays.

The UK Government has rebuffed repeated requests from the Welsh Government for it to devolve the power to denote 1 March a public holiday.

Last month, Gwynedd County Council voted to give all council staff one day's paid leave on St David's Day (if St David's Day falls on a weekend, staff will be given a day's paid leave on the following Monday).

Last week, Aberystwyth Town Council voted to give its Town Clerk a day's paid leave on St David's Day.

Neath and Port Talbot County Borough Council is currently compiling a report into the feasibility of giving staff St David's Day off.

Anglesey County Council has given staff St David's Day off for many years, but this is deducted from staff's annual leave entitlement.

Last month, Caerphilly County Borough Council considered a motion to give staff St David's Day off, but this was amended to merely lobbying the Welsh and UK Governments for 1 March to become a public holiday.