

MINUTES IN DRAFT FORM UNTIL APPROVED AT NEXT MEETING

5 March 2025

MINUTES of the MEETING of GORSEINON TOWN COUNCIL,  
held on Wed. 5<sup>th</sup> Feb 2025 at Ty Newydd Community Centre, 17 West St.  
GORSEINON, at 6pm.

Presentation;

Mr Mark Kelleher a member of 'Good News for Everyone' (formally The Gideons) from West Glamorgan branch, presented a bible to The Current Town Mayor, Cllr. Sue Rawle

**127.** Present, Cllrs (Chairman), J Curtice, P Griffiths, Ken Jones, P Eyers, M Curtice.

N Matthews, M Phillips, J Clayfield, K Jones, A Crowley, J Crowley, Town Clerk, Asst Town Clerk,

**128.** Apologies from Cllrs, Katie Jones, A Thomas. A Stevens, Pam Morgan.

The Previous minutes were approved for Jan 5<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

Approved by Cllr Joe Clayfield, seconded Cllr P Eyres.

**129.** Mayors announcements.

Clerk advised Mayor had/ would attended the following events attended in Dec/Jan;

Mayor had attended several concerts and Xmas events during December.

Xmas award for best illuminations were as follows;

Best shop front on High St, White Rabbit Wool shop.

December.

St Johns Xmas concert, Talkie Thursday & forget me not club (Gower Lions),

Warm hub Ty Newydd, Movement for health Xmas buffet-The Lodge,

Shrek the musical Gower college, Travel House high st. events,

St Catherines pop up café, Penuel Newydd Xmas service,

Cheque presentation white rabbit wool best shopfront,

St Catherines cheque, Andrew Copson & Xmas box delivery,

St Catherines carol service by candlelight,

Jan 20<sup>th</sup> Cymanfa ganu Evan Roberts, Penyrheol & local primary schools

Feb 1<sup>st</sup> Cheque present Morgans army, 5<sup>th</sup> Dementia hub Gorseinon library

As the best Decorated House for Christmas was not awarded for 2024. It was agreed the

£100.00 donation would go to the food bank. The Mayor Attended Dementia Hub on 05/02/2025. The Mayor awarded a Cheque to Gorseinon Rugby Club where funds were continuing to be raised. In all, £6000, in total has been raised towards Gorseinon fun run so far.

**130.**To receive report on Police Matters within Gorseinon/ Penyrheol in January

Please find enclosed the stats for the month of January

Beat of Gorseinon 68 occurrences

4 Anti-Social Behaviour related. Land at Heol y Mynydd being a location of off-road motorcycle nuisance which officers will patrol at optimum times.

11 occurrences recorded as Violence Against the Person

0 dwelling burglaries

Beat of Penyrheol 37 occurrences

1 Anti-Social Behaviour related

13 occurrences recorded as Violence Against the Person

0 dwelling burglaries

It is worth noting that recently across the County we have seen a rise in vehicle related crime both theft of and theft from vehicles. We ask that all car keys and fobs are kept secure with any anti-theft devices fitted or activated to prevent theft. Also, we would remind car owners to make sure their vehicles are locked with no valuable items left on display or retained in the vehicle and if possible, to park in well illuminated areas reporting any suspicious activity.

131. FORWARD PLANNING BRIEF REPORT ENCLOSED. APPENDIX 2.

**a.** Members noted the need for nominations for both deputy and Mayor for 2025/6 at the April meeting and AGM in May. Clerk had emailed Ombudsman re the concern over delay to investigation over Cllr A Thomas and a prompt reply had been promised.

Deputy position is an ongoing issue, and Clerk has asked for expediency in a decision from Ombudsman. Response is they will Fastrack this for GTC.

Two names Cllr A Thomas on seniority and Cllr J Clayfield. Position of Mayor is now different from normal as the Mayor is leaving as of AGM. Five years is the standing order with GTC and Clerk asked for discussion to consider that any new members may want to consider. Joe Clayfield asked to be considered to be Dept. Mayor;

A Crowley could not commit to it as his work commitments are too heavy at this time.

Jan Curtice offered to be Mayor if no others would want the role. Members will consider this for the next meeting.

**b.** Members discussed in detail the proposals in the report by the Clerk.

The termination of Barclays contract was noted from 20 Feb and the new uses for room 1 were discussed.

**c.** Re the A/clerk review the A/C was asked to leave the room whilst discussion took place re modifications and review of his contract. Following discussion, the revisions were accepted and the new additional duties of Hall and grants officer were accepted, to take effect as from 1<sup>st</sup> May 2025.

Voting was unanimous with no abstentions. The changes to the A/Clerks contact would mean him moving from part time 24hrs to full time from March 1 2025 on the same pay band scale LC2 pt 18 £30559 but now full time . The new duties would be reviewed after the initial 12 month probation period.

132. Public Session for Public to raise items of local relevance during 15 minute session. (Please notify Clerk in advance of issues to be raised at the meeting).

No issues had been raised prior or during the meeting.

### 133. County Councillor reports.

#### a. Cllr Jan Curtice regarding County news –

Minor design issues with new Junior skate park in Melin Mynach. There should be slight changes but all are happy with application approval. Update to follow shortly. Clerk showed members the current plans.

As mentioned previously, Cllr 3 County Members and the Mayor attended the Presentation in Rugby Club and had a warm welcome. The event was a great success.

There will be a County Budget meeting this Saturday and more information would be feedback to members after the meeting this coming Saturday 08/02/2025.

Mayor asked members, rather than going around each member for an update or to bring up any issues as GTC has done previously, it was suggested members from now on, who have points to raise, should indicate if they wish to bring a subject forward. This would save valuable time during the meeting. Members could either bring this up at this meeting or propose a matter to be discussed at the next meeting.

Cllr Phil Evers brought up about planning for vape shops, Cllr Nicola Matthews has ongoing discussions with the Police, and they will be undertaking ad hoc inspection by both police and trading standards, who have already inspected. Agreed that both Cllr Nicola Matthews and Police are being proactive.

Cllr Andrew Crowley brought up about young people being served underage and parents confronted the shop owner about the issue, without any resolution to the issue. The matter is being monitored as mentioned in the previous note.

### 134. Clerks Matters

**a** Gorseinon road runners 3M Requesting financial assistance - £300 Proposed Cllr Jan Curtice, seconded Cllr. Malcolm Curtice.

**b** Morgans Army GTC have already committed £3000

**c** Gorseinon brass band representative, Sharen Norbury, has requested financial support as they need to purchase new band jackets and would like to also purchase a

band banner to promote the band etc. Town Council have supported the band previously –

**d.** Cllr Phil Eyers proposed £300 , Cllr Malcolm Curtice seconded. Also proposed by members that the band could be invited to attend the next Gorseinon Lantern Parade in some capacity. Clerk to contact. .

**e.** A request from Hugh Quick, a local resident living at 113 Sixmills Avenue, Gorseinon, and representing Gorseinon Seniors cricket club, for over 60's cricket. Hugh is also First team manager at Gorseinon cricket club. He has been chosen to compete at 'The Africa Cup' representing Wales senior cricket team.

Hugh is requesting financial aid to attend the event. Attendance at the event must be self-funded. Cllr. Jan Curtice proposed £300, but that the Clerk could also suggest he also seek financial support from County. Cllr. Malcolm Curtice seconded.

**F.** Chroma Music request for financial support – this has been delayed since Oct. 2024, Chroma thanked GTC for previous grants. Application for financial assistance for community groups and events, Cllr. Jan Curtice proposed £300, seconded by Cllr. Andrew Crowley.

**g.** Scrabble club at Gorseinon institute. GTC have awarded a grant previously, Cllr. Jan Curtice proposed £200, seconded, Cllr. Malcolm Curtice.

Members also agreed we should purchase a large plastic cheque when making presentations of each grant thereby promoting GTC more in the community.

**a.** Awards nominations.

Cllr. Jan Curtice suggested Dyllis Beavers, who does a lot of work for Penuel and SOS.

Members agreed that an award should go to 'The Newbees' who do a lot of charity work by raising funds from selling items on their stand at car boot sales and fairs.

Cllr. Nicola Matthews suggested Chris Chapman the photographer, who gives his time at all our events.

Members suggested Jane Davies, who works in Gorseinon Asda as community champion.

Members agreed the glass award that is presented by Loughor council made of glass would be a lovely design. Ass. Clerk to look to contact Loughor Clerk for information.

**b.** Lighthouse electrical/ New Lodge Container?

Still awaiting delivery with New Lodge. No update as lighthouse is also awaiting planning consent for their container to be permanent on their worksite.

c. Flowers 2025 CCS – all booked same as last year.

d. Defibrillator maintenance update –

Ass. Clerk updated members that all is going well, but that some of the defibs need urgent replacement parts according to advice from Marc Gower(Save a Life Cymru).

Save a Life Cymru has appointed six first-of-their-kind community co-ordinators to transform CPR and defibrillation access – including one based in south west Wales – who will work to support their local communities.

Marc has been working with the Ass. Clerk to bring the defibs under GTC remit up to standard and support GTC to have a reliably maintained network of available, registered working defibs.

Members agreed and authorised Ass. Clerk to go ahead with any urgent replacement parts asap.

e. Meeting with Fire escape contractors Thur Jan 9 11am

Members were updated by Clerk on recent site visit with a representative from the company constructing and fitting the new fire escape. The Ass. Clerk also attended the site visit.

The design will exit from upstairs office door on the library side of Ty Newydd and will follow the building around to the rear, always staying on the grounds of Ty Newydd.

This proposal design has been sent to Library higher management via the library manager, after a meeting with the Clerk to explain the changes. The updated design will not touch the ground between the two buildings at any point, being connected to Ty Newydd with wall braces at regular intervals.

Hopefully this will be acceptable to the library management. The Clerk is awaiting a response from them before going ahead with payment and construction. Members viewed the amended design and all agreed to go ahead with the plans pending agreement from Library management.

f. West st. Clock visit Feb 26 9.30am repair

Clerk to contact building manager to inform them of the dates planed so the building is open to the company to carry out the work needed on the clock.

g. Ty Newydd charitable status application.

Clerk proposed that TY Newydd could potentially request to have charitable status. This could result in expanding the potential grants applications available to GTC. This could fund or partially fund any programme of works over the coming years.

Clerk requested that Ass. Clerk to investigate the feasibility of this and if there were any implication around tax relief as GTC can currently request tax relief on purchases. Members agreed with this proposal and Ass. Clerk to feedback to Council with conclusions.

**135.** IT Forum, Photos for archives page from Members. Signing new IT contract - website and internet connection Ty Newydd.

Website;

This is in its final stages and Ass. Clerk showed the design to members who approved with its new look. The new website will go live once the policies, agendas, minutes sections are completed. Once this takes place and the new website goes live the old website will be closed.

WIFI; Is up and running and there are two WIFI options for members.

The first is open access Guest WIFI for the public. This does have filters on it so it cannot be used to access prohibitive websites. The name and WIFI password are posted around Ty Newydd for the public to use.

The second WIFI is for staff/ Councillors only and has open access and a separate name and password.

**136.**To receive reports from the Council's Representatives on Outside

Bodies/upcoming meetings .

a. OVW area meeting Mon Jan 13 2025 7pm Ty Newydd Zoom meeting

Deadline for OVW awards presentation GTC entries 2025 was discussed. Members agreed to submit an entry if possible. Cllr. Andrew Crowley agreed he would be able to place an entry in the coming days and send it to the Clerk.

### 137. Correspondence.

a. Ombudsman /deputy mayor. Awaiting Ombudsman's report. Ombudsman decision still pending a decision from them around Dept Mayor. Told they are fast tracking it and the annual general meeting is not long

away and the recommendations from them may mean that the decision may be deferred until the following Town Council year.

b. Email received 5 Feb from a resident, Robert Smith, highlighting speeding traffic on Heol y Mynydd, and asking for speed restrictions to be introduced on the road. Email forwarded to C/Cllr Stevens.

c. Access to Info request received by Clerk on 18 Dec from Mr Glyn Alan John for info on Members expenses, which had been replied to.

### **138.** To receive Financial Accounts report from Clerk .

a. Committee received the Income / Receipts summary statement from the Clerk and approved the payment of the following outstanding cheques for the accounts dated 5<sup>th</sup> February 2025 (proposed P Griffiths seconded P Morgan). After the meeting the cheques were signed by 2 authorised signatures having examined all relevant receipts. Clerk advised members on current Council spend against targets

### 139 PLANNING MATTERS.

Planning matters. (Meeting Feb 5<sup>th</sup> 2025) Committee was asked to consider and make recommendations on the following planning applications received from Swansea County Council as the Local Planning Authority; Members were advised that all applications could be viewed on [Swansea.gov.uk/planning](http://Swansea.gov.uk/planning) prior to meeting.

#### **a. NO OBJECTIONS;**

2024/2391 50 new dwellings Pobl housing , Land north Brynafon rd Penyrheol

No objections in principle to the development but representations have been received by a resident living in the existing properties asking for a redesign of those properties opposite his and neighbours residence , to retain their outlook, as the multi storey proposal would block existing views of estuary.

Cllr. Jan Curtice brought up that one resident has been in contact to report that the proposed buildings that would be built would be too tall, and his view will be affected. Requested that Council could request these taller buildings could be reconsidered in another part of the estate and be replaced with bungalow type houses instead?



2024/2345 46 High st. Gorseinon, Changed of use from retail A1 to Launderette

Queries around parking from members, but it was approved as there is parking along the main road.

2025/0041 PENYRHEOL COMP, Caretakers house, retention of container for storage for Skills centre.

Members did question whether sea containers, currently in car park are suitable for a residential curtilage, and sited in this high profile location at entrance to school site. An alternative location out of site within school grounds is deemed more appropriate. Noted

2025/0087 Junior pump track, Parc Melyn Mynach, ( plan enclosed with Agenda)

See above comments above from Cllr. Jan Curtice

2025/0115 Single storey rear ext. Rear 82 High St Gorseinon, conversion outbuilding, additional treatment room, office, gym Noted

2025/0116 135 Frampton rd Penyrheol Single storey rear extension Noted

2024/2345 46 High st Gorseinon, Changed of use from retail A1 to Launderette.

b. Notification of **APPROVALS** by Local Planning Authority. For information

2024/1815 37 Grenfell Ave, single storey rear extension. Approved 17 Jan 2025

c. Notification of **REFUSALS** by Local Planning Authority. For information

d. Applications withdrawn For information None reported

INCOME EXPENDITURE Jan 31 2025				
Expenditure				
SALARIES 001/002				
HMRC Tax NI 001/002				DD 539.56/700.35
Stationery/Hall supplies				DD 28.05
CCS Sleigh				DD 400.00
Monthly HSBC Hall mortgage				DD 662.41
Monthly HSBC overpayment				DD 117.79
Hall business rates suite 1 (incudes 45 discount) £61x11from June				DD 61.00
Hall business rates suite 2 ( includes 45% discount)£95x11from June				DD 95.00
Corona energy gas/electric Hall				DD 247.56
Sharing table				Chq 330.00
Bank Charges Dec				DD 9.00
TY Newydd cleaning Nov dec				DD 210.00
Clerk travelling nov/dec/Jan				DD 106.60
Xmas best shop				Chq 100.00
Xmas foodbank				Chq 100.00
Hall metal shelving				DD 112.14
Safestyle security Xmas Marshalls				DD 2808.00
Cleaning hall nov/dec				DD 210.00
Mayors expenses				Chq 22.00
CCS grass cutting parc MM				DD 808.00
Vision impaired				DD 200.00
Brisco fun run Morgans army				Chq 3000.00
BT feb				DD 638.28
Income				

CCS Xmas parade grant				+ 7000
Precept no 3 Dec 31				+ 49830.00
Tinnitus hire Dec Jan				+100/125.00
Red kite sponsorship				+1000.00
Bank interest Jan				+257.12
Llwchwr Xmas contribution				+4500
IPSA Q3 expenses Ty Newydd				+1013.53
Bank reconciliation Jan 31 2025				
Current account				8651
Treasurers account				186472
Current balance				195123
Mortgage balance outstanding				-60797

Meeting closed 8.10pm

Chairman.....