MINUTES of the MEETING of GORSEINON TOWN COUNCIL, held on WEDNESDAY 3rd March 2021 remotely and at Ty Newydd Community centre, 17 West St. GORSEINON, at 7pm

Present, Chmn M Curtice, P Morgan, J Curtice, M Curtice, Andrew Thomas, Sue Rawle, Andrew Crowley, Andrew Stevens, Carlo Rabaiotti, K Roberts

**104.Apologies** were received from Cllrs, P Griffiths , Joe Clayfield , Ken Jones, Lee Anne Crowley

 Davies, Joanne Crowley.

**105**.**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**. No declarations of interest were received.

**106.MAYORS ANNOUNCEMENTS.** Clerk advised the Town Mayor had attended the following events;

 None attended during February.

**107.POLICE MEETING**. The Police were not represented at the meeting

**108.PUBLIC FORUM. No** members of the Public had raised any questions.

**109**. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES.**

 a. The Clerk presented the February 3rd 2021 **minutes** (which had been distributed previously) for

 approval. They were approved with no amendments. (Proposed by J Curtice , seconded by Cllr Sue

 Rawle).

**110. FEEDBACK FROM ALL MEMBERS**

 a. Clerk repoted letter regarding Swansea " UKs first defib Friendly region" (leaflet enclosed)

 b. **Cllr Andrew Stevens** reported provisional bids for new childrens play areas at Parc Melyn Mynach and

 Loughor Foreshore. (Loughor town Council area) as part of the initiative Improving play facilities

 across the City having a £1m fund. The proposed upgrade of Parc Melin Mynach had been supported

 and forwarded by the 3 local County members. A Town Council contribution had been confirmed as

 £25000 from next years budget. The overall cost of the Gorseinon project was £100000 towards an

 adventure playground type facility for youngsters 0-12 yrs. Details such as ground conditions would

 determine the final siting next to the existing facilities. The theme for the facility would involve local

 heritage and the Old Grist Mill nearby.

 c. **Cllr K Roberts** had offered thanks to all those who had helped locally with the Covid 19 response

 including 130 helpers, joint LA coordinators and Lucy Williams in particular. 10000 leaflets had been

 distributed to houses and over £30000 had been donated in a massive response. It was suggested the

 initiative be submitted to One Voice Wales for their Innovative Practice awards in 2021. She also advised

 over 130 Xmas gift bags had been donated for the Xmas appeal, up from 70 last year.

 d. **Cllr K Roberts** outlined the proposed new **Traffic regulation Order** / highway improvements being

 designed for Gorseinon Penyrheol streets as part of a new highways funded initiative from Swansea

 Council. It was noted the initiative was part of a £1m scheme to address highway safety in the community,

 and whilst some reservations were expressed about the consequences of 20mph limits and amounts of

 road humps, the overall initiative was understood and supported. The works were currently ongoing and

 should be finished by end of March 2021.

 **d. Cllr Andrew Stevens**

 A new Safe route to schools bid had been made for 2020, but it had not included a site locals had been asking for

 at the junction of Pencefnarda road and Frampton road. He asked Council to support the submission of the scheme

 to add to the existing programme. Following discussion, and concerns about "double taxation" it was agreed to

 make a contribution of up to £7000 to include the scheme for a pedestrian central road reservation at the junction.

 Motion proposed Cllr AS seconded Cllr KR, supported by all present. Cllr Stevens would ensure the scheme was

 added to the projects for inclusion with Swansea Highways dept..

 **e) Cllr Andrew Crowley** reported that he had been asked for a Xmas parade and Xmas tree to be

 planted on the Persimmon estate off Gower View road , Penyrheol. Financial support had not been

 awarded because of the legal issues and precedent created.

**111. CLERKS MATTERS**

a**) XMAS LIGHTING LOWER HIGH ST.** Clerk had received quote from Swansea Public lighting to replace 6

 lampstandards in lower High street to the accommodate new Xmas lighting features. The cost was £11556 for 6

 columns (no vat)and £15385 for 8 columns. Council agreed to order 6 new columns for the 2021 xmas features

 to be erected. Public lighting CCS had confirmed the lampstandards would be replaced during the Summer 2021

 ready for Xmas features in November

b) **Web site upgrade 2020**. Following advice from Swansea Council legal section, Cultivate media had

 withdrawn its website upgrade offer. Clerk had updated Members on current position re website upgrade,

 following 3 formal tenders which had been secured to upgrade the Councils website. It was agreed for the

 web site sub committee to review the position in 2021. A revised quote had been received from the

 current supplier Vision ICT for the bronze/silver package which was agreed to be examined further.

 Following debate it was confirmed that an updated website was the priority, with minimum management

 of the site required. Clerk was also to investigate the cost of members own (.gov) addresses on the site.

c) Grassed area **environmental scheme** at bottom of Lime street. Clerk had contacted Environmental groups and a

 meeting had taken place on Jan 14th on site with Swansea parks dept. It was suggested that trees planted on the

 grassed areas would be the best solution with ornamental pyramid planters close to the main junction. Further options

 were being examined, and quotes obtained from CCS for further trees on the bottom of Lime street and at bottom of

 Heol y Mynydd opposite the Cockle Shell. Members confirmed acceptance of the scheme which would be planted

 in Autumn/Winter 2021. 2 new Xmas trees would be planted for Xmas 2021, but would only be max 2-3m high at

 present. Attempts would be made to address the waterlogged conditions in Argyll Gardens which was the cause of

 the current xmas tree dying. The dead Xmas tree in Argyll Gardens was removed by Tree section CCS at a cost of

 £60 on 2nd Feb 2021..

d) Local Places for nature **wildlife Garden award** Argyll Gardens ( now reallocated to Penyrheol school).Clerk had

 formally asked if the project could be relocated to Penyrheol junior school, where the items would be more secure.

 The school Headmistress was grateful for the offer which would complement the schools programmes very well.

 Keep Wales tidy have now accepted the Penyrheol school site for the garden package - equipment was delivered

 to the school on 20 October for the caretaker/parents/pupils to install.

 Following 2 successful bids, 880 small Tree whips have now been delivered to Clerk from **Woodland Trust**–

 awaiting sites and planting. Members would consider the best sites for planting, and for planting schemes).

e) Members discussed the recent **IT upgrade** for all members to allow remote meeting to take place during the year

 ahead. At The AGM it had been agreed to move towards virtual meetings in the Covid crisis and to allow paperless

 meetings in future.

 The Clerk and Cllr Stevens had ascertained the IT need for existing Councillors and the purchase of appropriate IT

 equipment had been approved by the Chairman. Members approved the action taken. Cllr Andrew Crowley had

 received a new computer equipment to be loaned to him from the Council.

f) Clerk reported the **grants meeting** in February had received no funding requests too date and as such it likely to be

 postponed, as was the Mayors dinner 2021 due to Covid restrictions. Members had agreed earlier that the grant

 allocation would remain and be distributed to worthy causes throughout the year as the Covid pandemic eased.

 The Mayor asked Clerk to arrange for a contribution of £500 to each of his nominated charities ,Penyrheol Boxing

 club and British Legion New Lodge.

 Grants applications received from community 2020/21 Friends of Parc Melyn Mynach

g) Clerk had been contacted by community liaison officer at **POBL housing** re the new housing scheme in Penyrheol.

 In view of the community element to the scheme GTC was asked if it wanted to have an involvement . A future

 meeting was to be set up with appropriate officers from the developers to discuss further. Cllr Stevens and J Curtice

 were having separate meetings with Coastal over the Gwynfaen developments progress and issues such as

 repositioning of playground facilities.Regular monthly Zoom meetings had been set up to run from Feb 12th. Cllr A

 Crowley asked to be included in the meetings as he was involved in the setting up of the committee on his adjoining

 estate , and that group may have an involvement in the Hub being set up. Cllr Stevens would add him to the invites.

 Meeting with Gwynfaen Penyrheol developers Feb 12(Virtual)- Feedback note enclosed

h)  Clerk had received order form for **Summer hanging baskets** from Swansea Council. Members agreed to duplicate

 same order as 2020 with addition of new pyramid planter at bottom of Lime street adjoining Bug public House, and

 11 semi circular hanging baskets on the new lampstandards in High Street. In addition it was agreed to make a

 50% contribution towards the County Councillors funding of troughs outside shops in Frampton road and 50%

 contribution towards the wildflower planting on the Green off Gowerview road for 2021. Cllr A Thomas asked for

 troughs to be added to railings infront of new Parc y Werin school which would be added to schedule

 Cllr Pam Morgan requested the return of wild flowers on the embankement site Heol Y Mynydd if the ground

 conditions/soil was able to accommodate the planting . Clerk would discuss with Parks dept and include

 embankement Heol y Mynydd and the green off Gower view rd in the schedule for planting.

i**)** Clerk advised of the forthcoming One Voice Wales **awards scheme** 2020, with the virtual awards

 meeting at end of March. Members discussed submitting the Foodbank initiative for an award this year.

j) Closure of **HSBC bank** June 2021- meeting with AM/MP had been arranged for Feb 5th 2pm. A Briefing

 of the outcome had been arranged later at 3.30pm. Members discussed the implications of likely closures

 on the town and what would happen to the HSBC building itself as it was such a prominent feature in the

 streetscape.

k) **Highway upgrade works** around Gorseinon being done by Swansea Council was discussed

 The highway works included a New surfaced footpath across Heol Y Mynydd, and a new crossing opposite the

 swimming pool on Pontarddulais road which had been completed already.

l) Request had been received from CCS Active young people officer to set up Club for **BMX pump track** at

 Heol y Mynydd. Members felt the facility should be open to all local population at all times and clubs

 should not have exclusive use at any one time. The training sessions on Mondays were supported but

 exclusive club use for any one group would not be approved. Clerk to advise accordingly.

 m) Grants applications received from community 2020/21

 Friends of Parc Melyn Mynach

n) Closure of HSBC bank June 2021- Feedback from meeting with AM/MP

o) Meeting with Gwynfaen Penyrheol developers Feb 12(Virtual)- Feedback

p) New Children adventure playground Parc Melyn Mynach meeting Feb 17th Teams

q) Remuneration Panel Wales reviewing remuneration framework for Town/Community

 Councils ( to take effect post elections May 2022).

**112. REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES**.Reports were given on the following meetings that had taken place

 or were to be attended.

a. One Voice Wales area meeting Jan 14 2021 attended by Mayor and Clerk remotely.

b. One Voice Wales larger councils meeting Feb11 2021 to be attended by Mayor and Clerk remotely.

**113.CORRESPONDENCE;** Clerk reported availability of free training course webinars from One Voice

 Wales During Feb/March. Cllr A Crowley asked to attend courses on Councils and legal matters.

**114. ACCOUNTS**

a. Committee received the Income / Receipts summary statement from the Clerk and considered and

 approved the payment of the following outstanding cheques for the ACCOUNTS dated 3rd March

 2021 (proposed J Curtice seconded A Thomas ).

 After the meeting the cheques were signed by 2 authorised signatures having examined all relevant

 receipts. Clerk advised members on current Council spend against programmed targets.

**115.PLANNING MATTERS**

 Members made recommendations on the following planning applications received from Swansea

 City and County Council as the Local Planning Authority;

 a. No objection was raised to the following application,

 2021/0001 Single storey rear extension/porch 5 Pencefnarda rd Penyrheol

 2021/0297 Replacement detached garage 16 Brighton rd Gorseinon

 2021/ 0366 Unit 11 Market lane Gorseinon, Change of Use of commercial unit to childrens day nursery

 and pedestrian walkway to market lane.

 2021/0330 2 storey side extension, 5 Pencaecrwn rd Gorseinon

 b. Notification of **REFUSALS** by Local Planning Authority were Noted.

 2021/0086 Castle Ddu Farm Penyrheol Ground mounted solar panel & works (variation cond 1 granted

 2015/1786 Jan 2016 to extend time to commence by a further 1 year). Refused Feb 10

 2021.

 2021/0228 14 Bryngwastad rd Penyrheol pre application detached office building- NEGATIVE

 response

 c. Notification of **APPROVALS** by Local PlanningAuthority were Noted.

 2020/2503 Part 2 / part single storey rear extension 11 Spring Gardens Gorseinon, Appr 17 Feb 2021

 2021/0068 Single storey rear extn. 40 Brynteg rd Penyrheol Appr 17 Feb 2021.

 2021/0114 Landscape condn11, Gorseinon Primary Parc Y Werin school Gorseinon Appr 16 Feb 2021

 d. Notification of **Appeals** by Local Planning Authority; None reported.

 e. Enforcement matters. None reported.

The meeting closed at 9.15pm Chairman………………………………………

**APPENDIX A GORSEINON TOWN COUNCIL EXPENDITURE TRANSACTIONS FOR Feb 2021**

**Name particulars Net VAT Total**

Inland Revenue tax 457.18

NI 235.90

Clerks Salary Feb 21

Stationary/Admin& Hall supplies 41.19 3.35 44.54

monthly local mileage 109 mls 70.85

mortgage/overpayment 531.67

mortgage overpayment 117.79

Swansea council rates 17 west St Suite 1 suspended DD 146.00

 Suite 2 2018/19 suspended DD 94.00

Npower gas . DD 66.00

B Gas electric March DD 50.21

CCS Phase 2 High street lampstandard renewal 11556.00

BT MPs office (Jan feb march 2021) 366.60 73.32 439.92 MP

Chubb intruder alarm contract 150.38 30.08 180.44

FC Bookbinders Binding Council minutes 2004-2020 (16 books) 1485.00

Lighthouse electrical certificate works Ty Newydd 760.00 152.00 912.00

Lighthouse annual emergency lighting service 140.00 28.00 168.00

Swansea Council xmas tree removal/chipping 60.00

Centregreat xmas light installation High street 1749.30 349.86 2099.16

Mayors charity Penyrheol boxing club 500.00

Mayors charity British legion local branch 500.00

**GORSEINON TOWN COUNCIL BANK RECONCILIATION Feb 2021**

Current account Feb 28 2021 £ + 17900.79

2020-21 VAT to be reclaimed by end March 2021 £ + 5109.98

Treasurers account Feb 28 2021 £ + 88764.03

Balance £ + 111774.68

Mortgage balance Feb 28 2021 £ -79481.80

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CCS Phase 2 High street lampstandard renewal 11556.00

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