

**MINUTES of the MEETING of GORSEINON TOWN COUNCIL, held on WEDNESDAY
11 May 2022 at Ty Newydd Community centre, 17 West St. GORSEINON, at 7pm**

Present, M Curtice,P Morgan,P Griffiths,Carlo Rabaiotti,Sue Rawle,A Thomas, Gail John, Marsha Phillips

139. APOLOGIES were received from, A Stevens, Joe Clayfield, J Curtice, N Matthews, vacant 3 seats.

The Clerk reported the sad recent passing of former Town Clerk Alistair Borthwick. Members stood for a minutes silence in his memory.

140.MAYORS ANNOUNCEMENTS. Clerk advised the Mayor had attended the following events

- a. **Queens Jubilee** . presentation gifts for local schools had now been purchased and would be presented to all local school children in June by the incumbent Town Mayor.

Concept of **slate plaque** as a memorial to Covid victims in community was discussed. Clerk had met with local stonemasons to discuss the options and likely costs of installing a memorial stone. He presented a draft of the plaque for front of Ty Newydd which members approved for purchase and installation, cost £778.

b. **Community /Town Council elections 2022 -**

The Clerk reported on the outcome of the **May 2022 local elections**. Copies were distributed to Members present, As 12 Members were returned unopposed there had not been need for an election to be held in the Gorseinon/Penyrrheol wards. There remained 3 vacant seats which had been advertised for cooption. 4 applications had been received from;

Mr Ken Jones, Mrs Joanne Crowley, Mr Robert Smith, Mr Jason Lovell.

Members agreed to invite all 4 persons to be interviewed on May 16th prior to the AGM on 18th..

Council agreed to defer consideration of next Mayor/deputy until after cooption seats had been filled.

141.POLICE MEETING. The Police were not represented at the meeting, and no crime figures had been forwarded for April 2022.

142.PUBLIC FORUM. No members of the Public had raised any questions before the meeting.

143.APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a. The Clerk presented the **13th April 2022 minutes** (which had been distributed previously) for approval. They were approved with one amendment. (Prop by A Thomas, sec Cllr P Griffiths). Cllr Rawle noted min 147g should refer to LGBT+ flag being displayed on April 30 at Ty Newydd for Swansea Pride day.

144. MEMBER REPORTS on Local Matters from Town and County Councillors

a.Clerk reported on the arranged funding of presentations to youth club re knife crime/violence in community. Mayor had approved cost of £250 for a seminar for local youth on dangers of knife crime. Cllr K Roberts had liaised with PCSOs regarding the presentations.

b.Defibrillator training sessions had been being organised in April at various venues around the town.

c. **Cllr P Griffiths** raised concern about the access into the lower estate Chapel street area off the main

Gorseinon road. Complaints had been received about exiting the residential area, and the need for a mini roundabout there. It was agreed a petition be arranged initially to lobby the Highway Authority to make a case for a mini roundabout there.

PG asked that the street sign at end of Whittington Terrace be repainted or replaced as it was not readable. Clerk to write to Highways asking for replacement.

d. **Cllr Pam Morgan** reported on the success of the Drop in Café in New Lodge and the number attending on Wednesday afternoons recently. Funding the group was discussed and whether a bank account was needed to make donations. Hire cost of venue was £25 each week. She also noted that Welsh poppy seeds had been planted with the new daffodils in Argyll gardens.

e. **Cllr C Rabiotti**. He asked if an informal visit to the School Council at Penyrheol Comp. could be arranged as it would be more productive speaking to youth directly, rather than in Council meeting. Clerk noted GTC had a youth council committee that could be utilised. Clerk asked to write to school requesting a visit /meeting with youth Council.

f. **Cllr Gail John**. Was concerned about current statistics for Swansea area, highlighting social poverty, criminal justice and homelessness in particular. She noted MP Tonia Antoniazzi was championing certain initiatives and asked how Town Council could get involved. Chairman outlined procedures and that Councils focus was more on local issues affecting our residents. Our 3 County members had direct access to County Council services of Social Services, housing and education.

g. **Cllr A Thomas**, Updated Members on the Elf walk every Thursday from Aldi at 1pm, returning to the Mardy for Coffee at the end. Approx 35 attended last week. He also commented on need for traffic wardens to scrutinise High street, especially near Wetherspoons roadside where parking on double yellow lines was common. Clerk was asked to write to Council Leader CCS.

h. **Cllr M Curtice** commented that people were asking for benches to be placed along the cycle/footpath between Grovesend and Gowerton. Members agreed to fund the installation of new benches.

i. **Cllr Sue Rawle** advised she had walked with Leader of CCS at front of parade with Swansea Pride banner on April 30th in Swansea. She had attended LGBT+ forum run by CCS ending with coffee/chat at café in Swansea marina, and had been invited to a LGBT+ forum re National day against homophobia on 17 May.

145 CLERKS REPORTS

a). A request for **financial assistance** had been previously received from the following. Members had agreed in Feb. meeting that the grant allocation would remain in place and be distributed to worthy causes through out the year as the Covid pandemic eased. The following grants had previously been approved;

Parc y Werin Bowls club towards grounds maintenance, £500 grant approved October meeting

Parc y Werin committee for bench. £650 grant for picnic bench approved Oct meeting

Cllr Andrew Stevens Decky Memorial run. £200

Cllr Joe Clayfield local cystic Fibrosis bike ride. £200.

One Heart drummers, £200 Moving Forward Group, £250

Penyrheol amateur boxing club. £300 Eynon street allotments £300

Llwchwr Art group £300 Vision impaired west glamorgan (Gorseinon) £150

Childrens Wales Air Ambulance £250 towards the local Dafen branch of Air Ambulance

St Catherines church defibrillator crowdfunding. Agreed to help with full amount if needed.

Defibrillator for Bryngwyn estate had been requested but noted that a new one had recently

Been installed on the green within the estate. Clerk would check if a further one was still needed.

New requests received for May 2022 included the following, - financial year 2022/23

Explorer scouts 25th World scout jamboree Korea 2023 - to be attended by 3 local scouts
Gorseinon AFC

Mr Hugh Quick over 60s cricket world cup Australia Sept 2022. £250 approved

Jubilee party at Llys Werin. £100 approved

Parc Y Werin bowls club. £350 approved

(Cllr Marsha Phillips declared an interest and did not participate in discussion/vote)

- b) New Childrens adventure **playground** Parc Melyn Mynach Update from Members was given with Official opening having taken place on Tue March 15 2022.
- c) **Woodland Trust** had delivered 420 saplings for a wild woodland to the Clerk. They had been delivered on November 25, and were available for planting now. Potential sites were discussed further. Clerk to liaise with potential recipients.
- d) Clerk advised of tree planting that had taken place with Swansea Council for 3 New oak trees and numerous others in **Argyll gardens** including 2 Weeping willows, to try to soak up the damp conditions on the grass area, as well as 5 replacement trees in bus station, and 49 Trees at the bottom Lime street/ Heol y Mynydd. Planting had taken place in Jan/Feb 2022. Clerk advised that the 100 Hydrangea plants had now been planted in Argyll Gardens, and a large strip of daffodils in front of them, all funded by the Town Council.
- e) Following closure **Barclays bank** Gorseinon Feb 1 2022, & temporary vehicle Lime st car park, Barclays Bank had requested use of Ty Newydd centre room 1 on 2 days per week for assisting the public. No financial transactions would take place. A contract had been signed and the bank staff member was now in attendance on Tuesdays and Thursdays.
- f) **Xmas lights & Xmas trees.** Locations requested for a few spare small Xmas trees in the area. Members discussed the need for enclosure of the Xmas tree circle in Argyll gardens for H&Safety requirements in future. Clerk had contacted Ogilivies for a suitable barrier but costs were prohibitive. Clerk was asked to look at cheaper options reflecting services on 4 panels NHS, Forces, soldiers, sailors, nurses and airmen.
- g) **Queens jubilee 2022.** Members had received 2000 ballpoint pens suitably inscribed from Insignia plus drinks canisters and crayon packs for infants, for presentation to local schools which had now been delivered to Clerk. Instead of beacons being lit, illuminating the community centre 9pm Thur June 2nd for Jubilee commemorations had been proposed. Clerk advised Welsh Govt were to present commemorative books to all school children in Wales.
- h) Clerk had discussed with Cross Engineering for the fabrication and installation of an **external stair case** for the top floor of Ty Newydd building. Detailed drawings were needed before quotes could be given.
- i). Update on extension of **cycletrack** to Pontarddulais given with work well under way. Following requests to Mayor for benches, Members had agreed to fund some benches between Grovesend and Gowerton along the path. Siting and numbers were to be finalised initially.
- j) A request from Lord Lieutenants office to include our tree planting programme in Queens list of planting initiatives in UK to commemorate Jubilee had been received and Council agreed that all recent tree planting would be submitted for the National survey record.. Jubilee flags had been bought & Community centre would be illuminated for the festival.
- k) Members discussed the **Summer planting** programme submitted from Swansea Council and agreed to contribute to the 2022 sites for wild flower planting. Some reservations were raised about the wild flowers but following a meeting with Swansea Council staff/ Clerk/ Cllr Pam Morgan it was agreed the new sites and flower mixes were to be planted to create maximum impact. Quote was discussed and approved for payment. Preparatory work was underway on site by CCS.
- l) Clerk advised that a new **Notice Board** had now been installed by the play ground in Gowerview road Penyrheol by the developers of the new housing site. A new Noticeboard and flagpoles had also been purchased for the Gorseinon east locality. Members agreed to the siting at the Cockle shell green area near the junction

subject to the landowners approval.

Siting of new Notice board and 2 flagpoles on Gorseinon road opposite Bug public house were discussed.

- m) Fresh Creative painting boxes had now been installed in Pontarddulais road, and Council had agreed to contribute 50% of the cost at £593.28
- n) Clerk advised of new legislation coming in 2022. There was a requirement for Annual reports to be published post April 2022, and a requirement for Training plans to be produced post April 2022. Members noted the new legislation.
- o) Clerk reported that Swansea Council had confirmed that they owned the footpath lane at the side of Ty Newydd to the car park. Requests had been made to Cllr K Roberts to have it better lit at night.
- p) Ty Newydd business rates 2022/23. 50% business rate relief had been successfully applied following submission by the Clerk.
- q) License agreements had been signed with CCS for tree installation on green off Gower view rd.
- r) Clerk advised that British Gas were no longer providing business gas contracts for businesses from May 2022. A new service contract for Ty Newydd building would have to be secured, and was being discussed.
- s) Clerk advised of new funding opportunities from WCVS and Local Places for nature 2022.
- t) Updated website had now gone live from May 2022. www.gorseinontowncouncil.gov.uk

146. REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES.

- a) Meeting with Llŵchwr ATC squadron on Monday May 9 to discuss parade through town following Freedom of Town awarded to the squadron in February. Parade arrangements had been made for 18 June 2022, to include official salute outside War Memorial in West street and Buffet for cadets at New Lodge afterwards. Dignitaries to meet at Ty Newydd centre initially at 11.30am for salute at 12.00.
- b) One Voice Wales area meeting (remote) Monday April 25 2022. Minutes were summarised
- c) Minutes from Cllr Kelly Roberts re Multi Agency meeting April 29 were summarised (minutes enclosed).

147. CORRESPONDENCE;

- a. An email had been received from the Developers of the Gwynfaen housing development off Gower View road advising that Coastal Housing were no longer involved in the scheme which was to be developed solely by POBL in future.. Members discussed the scheme and whether the café/hub would still be included in the development.

148. 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 11th May 2022 (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 programmed targets.
- b. Clerk reported the submission of the **2021/22 accounts** to the Accountants for scrutiny. Members had accepted the end of year statements for submission.

149. PLANNING MATTERS. (MEETING MAY 11 2022)

To consider and make recommendations on the following planning applications received from Swansea City and County Council as the Local Planning Authority;

- a. **No objections** were raised to the following applications

2022/0810 2 storey extension, single rear extension, rooflights, access 102 Lime street Gorseinon

b. **Objections** were raised to the following applications

2022/0861 Rear roof extension 94 Frampton road Penyrheol.

Members raised objection to the scale and appearance of the proposed roof extension and potential impact upon amenity of surrounding properties.

2022/0714 Gorseinon workmens club Brighton rd Gorseinon, Change of use car park for Courier/building company to use. 2 portacabins for storage/office use and increasing boundary fence to 2.25 mts with 2.4mt palisade fencing and entrance gate.

Members raised objection to the proposal which is located in a densely located residential area. The introduction of a commercial activity in this position is opposed. The impact of loss of car parking for the Workmens club would lead to additional on street parking for locals, and leave insufficient off street parking for the Club itself. The anticipated noise/disturbance and early hours activity is deemed not acceptable in a residential area, and the adjoining rear lanes are well used by parents/children on route to the nearby school, which could be a H&S concern, with vehicle conflict.

c. Notification of **APPROVALS** by Local Planning Authority. For information- Noted

2022/0457 70-72 Alexandre road Gorseinon. Approval of ecology condition 4 of pp 2021/2337
 2021/2290 Siting of mobile catering unit, Former Cross fireplace/marble centre Gorseinon rd

d. Notification of **REFUSALS** by Local Planning Authority. None received in April

e. Notification of **Appeals** by Local Planning Authority; None received in April

f. Enforcement matters.

APPENDIX A GORSEINON TOWN COUNCIL EXPENDITURE April 30 2022

Name	particulars	Net	VAT	Total
Inland Revenue / tax/Employers NI salary (new NI rate)				DD 737.74
Stationary/ cleaning supplies				DD 39.82
Feb/March/April mileage				DD 137.80
Monthly HSBC mortgage				DD 521.65
Monthly mortgage overpayment				DD 117.79
Good housekeeping Wales maintenance clean				DD
Stationery/ supplies Hall/				DD 39.82
Swansea council rates 17 west St Suite 1	restarts 1 apr 2022 50% reduction			DD 78.37
Swansea council rates 17 west St Suite 2	restarts 1 apr 2022 50% reduction			DD 47.19
Npower Eon gas monthly				DD 56.00
B Gas electric monthly				DD 80.03
CREDIT				
Tinitus hire April				100.00
Barclays bank room 1 hire				173.33
MP office rental 3 months				1841.64

GORSEINON TOWN COUNCIL BANK RECONCILIATION April 30 2022

Current account Apr 30 2022	£ + 12640
Treasurers account Apr 30 2022	£ +139063
Remaining precept Aug/Dec	£ + 87680
Mortgage balance Apr 30 2022	£ - 72875

Meeting closed at 8.55pm.....Chairman.....

