

**MINUTES of the MEETING of GORSEINON TOWN COUNCIL, held on WEDNESDAY  
1<sup>st</sup> June 2022 at Ty Newydd Community Centre, 17 West St. GORSEINON, at 7pm**

**Present**, Cllrs Ken Jones(Chmn), M Curtice, P Morgan, P Griffiths, Carlo Rabaiotti, Sue Rawle, A Thomas,  
Marsha Phillips, A Crowley, J Curtice, N Matthews A Stevens,  
**Public** Mr Wayne Erasmus, Mr Davies

**42. APOLOGIES** were received from, Joe Clayfield, Gail John, Pat Griffiths

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

- a. Formal opening of the **Gorseinon Hospital garden** on May 24<sup>th</sup> 2022.
- b. **Queens Jubilee** . presentation gifts for local schools had been purchased and would be presented to all local school children in June by the Town Mayor. All 4 local schools had been contacted and would make arrangements after half term.
- c. Concept of **slate plaque** as a memorial to Covid victims in community had been discussed previously. Clerk had met with local stonemasons to discuss the options and likely costs of installing a memorial stone. The plaque had now been delivered for front of Ty Newydd at a cost of £778. Clerk had arranged to install the plaque on front wall of Ty Newydd centre during June.

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

The Clerk had previously reported on the outcome of the **May 2022 local elections**. He advised that Letters had been received from the unsuccessful applicants querying the election process and asking for a rerun of the election for the 3 vacant seats that were advertised for cooption. As 12 Members were returned unopposed there had not been need for an election to be held in the Gorseinon/Penyrrheol wards, but there remained 3 vacant seats which had been advertised for cooption and had been filled following interview on May 16<sup>th</sup> by;

Mr Ken Jones, Mrs Joanne Crowley, Mr Andrew Crowley.

Cllr Rabiaotti (Dep Chairman) raised concern about accusations that had been made regarding Members integrity, the supposed political biased of Council and the blatant mistruths appearing on social media formats in the last month.

The Chairman invited Mr Erasmus and Mr Davies to outline their concerns which focused on the Protocol that had taken place during the cooption interview and claimed political biased.

Council discussed the concerns that had been raised , and the process that had taken place and felt that the applicants had been fairly interviewed, and no political biased was evident . As the interview Committee had known and worked with the other candidates for the last 5 year term , they felt they could reach a balanced view, even though not all applicants were in attendance, it was felt that the outcome had been fairly reached. ( Mr R Smith had Covid on the night, Cllr Joanne Crowley who was an NHS nurse had been urgently called to hospital for work and Cllr KJones had been unavailable).

Clerk was asked to advise those concerned about procedure in reaching the Councils view, and following discussion Councillors resolved not to readvertise the vacancies. Mr Davies asked for the Clerk to provide a chronological order diary of the events leading up to the selections, which was agreed would be done. It was made clear by Council that this would be provided in confidence to Mr Davies, on the understanding it was not to be distributed or viewed by others, or publicised in any media campaign.

Council finished the discussion by expressed disappointment that concerns of new Councillors were being aired on social media, rather than being raised and discussed with Councillors in a Council meeting.

**44. POLICE MEETING.** The Police were not represented at the meeting, and no crime figures had been forwarded for April or May 2022. Cllr A Crowley asked in future if comparative figures could be provided over 12 months of crime figures to see how trends were going.

**45. PUBLIC** Mr Wayne Arasmus and Mr Davies (Plaid Cymru treasurer) attended and Chairman gave them the opportunity to ask questions of the Council. Their comments were listed in Min 43 above regarding the recent cooption protocol. Council agreed that Clerk would forward the requested information.

#### **46. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Prior to minutes being approved Cllr C Rabiaotti (Dep Chair) sought clarification on the following points.

a. He wanted it confirmed that when sub committees meet, the outcome of the meeting has to be referred back to the following Full Council meeting for approval/amendment and actioning. This was confirmed that it is already part of Council Standing Orders as currently approved, and was the way committees/sub committees should operate.

b. Following approval at AGM May 18 a **youth Council** had been reaffirmed. It was clarified that it was appropriate that only one person, namely Cllr Carlo Rabiaotti as Deputy Chairman, should be tasked with meeting the pupils at Penyrheol Comprehensive. It was considered this would lead to better interaction with youth Council reps at the school rather than a large group turning up.

c. At the AGM there had been a proposal regarding a **Youtube** channel being established. Members discussed this option and unanimously felt that there was no place for a Youtube channel being set up, as there was great scope for it being abused and wrongly used by individuals. Members felt that social interaction with the local community would be via Council website and Council Facebook via a controller. They would look at the option of a paid person to oversee the input into these media formats in future.

The 2 points raised above were put to Members and unanimously agreed to be implemented in future.

d. The Clerk presented the **11<sup>th</sup> May 2022 minutes** (which had been distributed previously) for approval. They were approved with no amendment. (Prop by J Curtice, sec Cllr S Rawle).

e. The Clerk presented the **16<sup>th</sup> May 2022 minutes** (which had been distributed previously) for approval. They were approved with no amendment. (Prop by M Curtice sec A Thomas,).

f. The Clerk presented the **18<sup>th</sup> May 2022 AGM minutes** (which had been distributed previously) for approval. They were approved with no amendment. (Prop by C Rabiaotti, sec Cllr J Curtice).

#### **47. 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. Former Mayor had approved cost of £250 for a seminar for local youth on dangers of knife crime. Former Cllr K Roberts had liaised with PCSOs regarding the presentations.

b. **Cllr Jan Curtice** advised that County Members were currently undergoing training post election. She advised with pride that she had been selected as Presiding Member of Swansea Council and was duly congratulated. She reported on the great turnout at the Pop up café event at New Lodge today.

c. **Cllr J Crowley** asked for missing dog baskets to be replaced on GowerView road. Cllr Stevens advised that Swansea Council were replacing all bins with new multi purpose bins shortly.

d. **Cllr Pam Morgan** reported on the success of the Drop in Café in New Lodge and the number attending on Wednesday afternoons today had hit 80 from all age groups. Funding the group was discussed and whether a bank account was needed to make donations. Hire cost of venue was £25 each week

e. **Cllr A Thomas**, had updated Members on the Health 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.

f. **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 in conjunction with County Cllrs.

He advised that the **Remembrance Parade** was now back on subject to C/Cllrs contributing to any road closure costs..

g. **Cllr Sue Rawle** advised she had been requested to reintroduce the **Family history workshops** in the Library from September. She was also starting a feature on the shop widows in the High street for future exhibitions.

h. **Cllr A Crowley** advised he had been asked about speed humps on Gowerview rd again. Cllr Stevens reported on recent vehicle surveys had shown average speed was 26mph on road. He advised of forthcoming speed surveys to be carried out on local streets by Highways dept.

AC advised that Mr Phil Rosser would be setting up foodbank for baby supplies shortly and may be seeking financial support from the Town Council.

Requests had been received for a defibrillator in the Retail Shopping park area.

i. **Cllr Nicola Matthews** noted the training being undertaken and advised she had been appointed with Cllr K Roberts as joint chairs of Climate change committee.

j. **Cllr A Stevens** noted he had been appointed as Cabinet Member for Environment and Infrastructure including roads /biodiversity/flowers etc and was the regional rep for waste issues. Members congratulated him on his promotion.

k. **Cllr Ken Jones** asked about the reintroduction of the community lunches held in St Catherines church hall. Cllrs would investigate with the church on future options for its reintroduction.

l. **Cllr Marsha Phillips** reported on complaint received from Mr Erasmus to the MPs office re election protocol. She also clarified that Ty Newydd was owned by The Town Council, and the MPs office on the top floor was a tenant.

Members asked for update on Alberts café in High street, and noted the SPAR had reopened. They asked for update on status of school in High street, and were advised the nursery site was to be sold by the County Council in due course.

#### **48 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  
 Llchwyr 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 defibrulator crowdfunding. Agreed to help with full amount if needed.  
 Defibrulator for Bryngwyn estate had been requested but noted that a new one had recently  
 Been installed on the green within the estate.  
 New requests received for May/June 2022 included the following, - financial year 2022/23  
 Explorer scouts 25<sup>th</sup> 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. Clerk reported a thank  
 you letter had been received from Mr Quick who promised to give a presentation to Council following  
 the trip.  
 Jubilee party at Llys Werin. £100 approved  
 Parc Y Werin bowls club. £350 approved  
 ( Cllr Marsha Phillips had declared an interest and did not participate in discussion/vote)

- b) **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 2<sup>nd</sup> for Jubilee commemorations had been proposed. Clerk advised Welsh Govt were  
 to present commemorative books to all school children in Wales.  
 All 3 local schools had been contacted and arrangements were being made for the presentations to  
 be made to pupils by the Town Mayor.
- c) 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.
- d) Clerk reported on discussions from Cllr Wendy Fitzgerald with CCS re the new cycle route being  
 funded and planned from Penllergaer to the Cockleshell roundabout Gorseinon. Public meetings  
 had taken place in Penllergaer regarding the adverse impact upon local residents but it appeared  
 the initiative which was Welsh Govt. funded was to go ahead this year.
- e) 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.  
 Preparatory work was underway on site by CCS.
- f) Ty Newydd business rates 2022/23. 50% business rate relief had been successfully applied  
 following submission by the Clerk.
- g) License agreements had been signed with CCS for tree installation on green off Gower view rd.
- h) Updated website had now gone live from May 2022. [www.gorseinontowncouncil.gov.uk](http://www.gorseinontowncouncil.gov.uk)

Cllr Stevens had been in touch with Vision ICT re costings and had recommended members be  
 allocated specific dedicated email addresses and that the licencing of the site be purchased. Council  
 agreed to request dedicated website addresses for all members and SLL certificate.

#### 49. REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES.

- a) **Meeting with Llchwyr 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
- b) Meeting 6<sup>th</sup> June 10.30 with **Llchwyr 360 squadron** ATC re parade arrangements for 18 June 2022

Lodge afterwards. Dignitaries to meet at Ty Newydd centre initially at 11.30am for salute at 12.00 .  
Ways to advertise the event were discussed.

c) One Voice Wales area meeting Mon April 25 ( minutes were enclosed and duly Noted.)

## 50.CORRESPONDENCE;

a. Clerk gave an update on the POBL development at Gwynfaen site Gower View rd. Public consultation was currently being undertaken on future use of the Hub facility in the centre of development and that it would be used for . Comments from Public were invited.

## 51.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 1<sup>st</sup> June 2022 (proposed J Curtice 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.  
Auditing solutions were to carry out internal audit during June 2022.

## 52.PLANNING MATTERS.(MEETING JUNE 1 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;

2022/0950 Discharge cond 3 (Env management plan) Change Use to car sales lot, Ex Cross Eng. site Gorseinon rd

2022/1189 Discharge cond 5 (Env mngt)13(site waste)15 (ext lighting)21 (vis splays) Pobl housing site off Pencefnarda Farm Penyrheol (Cllr A Stevens declared an interest and did not participate)

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

2022/1173 Removal original 2008/2225 cond re delivery hours, Aldi store Millers Drive, Gorseinon  
Members felt the removal of restricted hours delivery could have an adverse impact upon the residents of surrounding residential streets nearby the store, if deliveries were occurring through the night..

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

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

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

f. Enforcement matters. None raised

**APPENDIX 1****GORSEINON TOWN COUNCIL BANK RECONCILIATION****May 31 2022**

Current account May 31 2022	£ + 5823
Treasurers account May 31 2022	£ +119067
Remaining precept Aug/Dec	£ + 87680
Mortgage balance May 31 2022	£ - 72473

**APPENDIX A GORSEINON TOWN COUNCIL EXPENDITURE****May 30 2022**

<b>Name</b>	<b>particulars</b>	<b>Net</b>	<b>VAT</b>	<b>Total</b>
Inland Revenue / tax/Employers NI salary ( new NI rate)				DD 737.74
Stationary/ cleaning supplies/ plaque fixatives		24.93	1.48	DD 26.41
travelling mileage May				DD 146.25
Monthly HSBC mortgage				DD 521.65
Monthly mortgage overpayment				DD 117.79
Good housekeeping Wales maintenance clean	March & April			DD 270.00
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
Slate plaque				DD 778.00
Welsh Water Ty Newydd				DD 76.27
Kingsbridge print letter heads		151	30.20	DD 181.20
CCS License fee xmas tree /surveyors fee 50x2 Gowerview rd				DD 100.00
Mike Cole signwriter				60.00
DCK Accounting 2021/22 accounts		480	96.00	DD 576.00
Marshall for ATC parade June 18				
Refreshments New Lodge for ATC				
Mayors/deputy Mayors allowance £1250/250 and Cllr allowances £150 for2022/23 approved at AGM May 18th				

**CREDIT**

Tinitus hire May	100.00
Barclays bank room 1 hire	173.33

Meeting closed at 9.15pm.....Chairman.....

