

**MINUTES ARE IN DRAFT FORM UNTIL APPROVED AT NEXT MEETING May 3 2023**

**MINUTES of the MEETING of GORSEINON TOWN COUNCIL, held on WEDNESDAY  
5 April 2023 at Ty Newydd Community Centre, 17 West St. GORSEINON, at 6pm**

**Present,** Cllrs Ken Jones(Chmn), M Curtice, P Griffiths, Pam Morgan, J Curtice, A Crowley, A Thomas.  
C Rabiaotti., S Rawle

**152. APOLOGIES** were received from Cllrs. A Stevens, M Phillips, J Crowley, Joe Clayfield, N Matthews,  
Katie Jones.

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

- a. Cawl @ Can event at Welfare Hall Loughor March 3 2023..
- b. Coronation thanksgiving St Marys church Swansea 30 April pm
- c. Llwehwr Town Council Mayors dinner 21 April 2023 7 for 7.30pm

**154.POLICE MEETING.**The Police were not represented at the meeting and no stats had been given.  
Cllr Jan Curtice reported that the Police had successfully apprehended youths who had recently damaged a defibrulator outside Gorseinon Junior school opposite the hospital, and damaged cars, following her making a call to the Police by Cllr J Curtice.

**155. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- a. The Clerk presented the March 1<sup>st</sup> 2023 minutes (which had been distributed previously) for approval, and which were approved. (Proposed by J Curtice, sec Cllr A Thomas).
- b. The Clerk presented the March 22<sup>nd</sup> Hall management committee minutes (which had been distributed previously) for approval, and which were approved.(Prop J Curtice, sec Cllr A Thomas).
- c. The Clerk presented the Feb 22<sup>nd</sup> Remembrance committee minutes (which had been distributed previously) for approval, and which were Noted. (Prop by J Curtice, sec CllrA Thomas).

**156.PUBLIC SESSION.** 2 Members of the Public present.

- a. Mr Phil Rosser gave a presentation on the activities of the baby Toddlers clothes bank which had grown rapidly in recent years to help all persons in need of clothes/equipment for young children. Whilst based in Penderry ward of Swansea it assisted all parents around the area and further afield. All 14 helpers were volunteers and the local Gorseinon/Penyrrheol wards were included. Contact details would be forwarded to the Clerk later. (City church baby and toddlers clothes bank Tuesdays 10-12am).
- b. A local resident from 12 Duffryn road attended to complain about the on street parking from those attending the West St Gymnasium. It was out of hand and despite request for parents to park in the nearby Lime street car park little notice was being taken. He noted the Planning consent stipulated that users of the gym should park in the Lime st car park. Clerk was asked to write to the gym requesting better parking manners from the parents of users, and that future funding would be stopped if the situation did not improve.

## 157.SWANSEA REPLACEMENT LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN TIMETABLE

Clerk reported letter from Swansea Council advising of timetable for consulting on the replacement Development Plan for Swansea area. Clerk was asked to write to Swansea Council commenting on need for improved road and services infrastructure as part of future growth plans. Schools and health facilities were struggling already and funding should be provided via new S106 agreements as part of any further future land releases. The environmental impact upon sensitive local protected areas was also of local concern.

**158.** Clerk provided schedule to consider nominations for Mayor / deputy Mayor 2023/4 at the AGM Meeting in May . Clerk presented schedule of Cllrs experience as background for selecting next years Mayor/deputy with a minimum of 5 years experience being a requirement for selection. Following discussion the following was agreed as being placed before the AGM Chairman/Mayor 2023/4 Cllr Carlo Rabiotti Deputy Mayor 2023/4 Cllr Sue Rawle

## 159.MEMBER REPORTS on Local Matters from Town and County Councillors ;

a. It was agreed only one County Cllr would report on County Council matters in future.

**Cllr J Curtice** reported a lot of Facebook complaints re local potholes in the roads, but she responded that if complaints were properly made to the Authority they would be addressed the following day in reality. An extra £5.5 m had been allocated to address local problems of potholes.

Mr Paul Tregembo had secured a grant of £750 for defibrillator around St Catherines church recently, and had asked to pass the fund to the Town Council to organise its installation in the local area. JC had checked with Surgery where to install the defib. Clerk confirmed the casing had now been bought and delivered.

A Defib. was to be positioned at top of Pontardulais rd on the estate. County Members would fund purchase & Council the future maintenance. Clerk would secure purchase initially. Cllr Crowley also asked for one to installed around the Homebargains/ Somerfield/chemist area in future.

The Brisco Fun Run was to take place on 30<sup>th</sup> April from Penyrheol Comprehensive .

b. **Cllr Pat Griffiths.** Comments were raised about the ongoing difficulty of exiting onto the main road from the estate. She also thanked the Local Firebrigade for the prompt attendance at a recent fire in Whittington Terrace. She noted that a new road sign for Whittington Terr. had now been installed.

c. **Cllr A Crowley** reported on sub committee meeting regarding future production of a Town Council Newsletter.. It was hoped to produce a number of copies each year for distribution to the community, covering Future events, local history, Youth Council input, local businesses. Ideas/feedback , internet links etc. to tell the community what the Town Council does. It would be funded by County Members and Town Council and include editorial from Mayor. Council needs to look to future with a positive outlook, and promote what a successful Town Council does for its community. Cllrs Crowley and Rabiotti were taking initiative forward.

He also raised concern about the unhelpful parking of trade vehicles at the entrance to the new housing development off Gower View road, which was causing concern with local residents, and asked for an update on the proposed new CCTV cameras which were pending in the town centre..

d. **Cllr Rabiotti** had asked for a meeting of the Ty Newydd sub committee in late March to examine H&S and storage issues affecting the building. Members agreed and asked for focusing on Fire escape and risk issues in the building. Cllr J Curtice reported that the owner of the 2 garages at rear of Ty Newydd was no longer intending to sell the garages.

He asked that T shirts be purchased to support the LGBT+ walks in Swansea for the Town Council, and to support efforts of Cllr Rawle. The exact wording would be finalised by Cllr Rawle.

e. **Cllr M Curtice** asked that bluebells be planted at the bottom of Lime st. on the green, and boulders be placed between certain trees to stop illegal parking by the Fairground vehicles..

He complained about the indiscriminate parking of the Fairground residents at the bottom of Lime street again .He asked that the flags be erected either side of the Notice Board at bottom of High street. Clerk to contact Swansea Council.

f. **Cllr S Rawle** reported on costings for Pride T shirts, which Members should contact her if wanted. She outlined details of the forthcoming Pride march in Swansea on 29 April which would start at top of Wind Street again. Council also approved her attendance at the forthcoming LGBTQ+ conference in Cardiff in the summer to represent the Town Council.

g. **Cllr A Thomas** reported the vandalism to the new fitness equipment installed recently in Parc y Werin, where a large section of the new equipment had been unbolted and removed. New bolts were to be ordered and a new additional Fitness skier was to be purchased to replace the original damaged one.

## 160. CLERKS REPORTS

a) A request for **financial assistance** had been previously been received from the following. Members had agreed in Feb.2023 meeting that the grant allocation would remain in place and be distributed to worthy causes throughout 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 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.

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 promising to give a presentation 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)

Decky Memorial match Sun Aug 28.£250

Chromamusic community formed 2021 based St Catherine church hall. £200 agreed

New scrabble group Gorseinon Institute. More information requested

Loughor Events committee – xmas tree . £100 agreed

New community Halls funding opportunity from Welsh Govt CADW was noted.

West St Gym £250 awarded

One Heart Drummers (St Catherines) awarded £200.

**Garden project Park rd complex.** Members agreed a donation of £200.

**Brisco fun run** was explained by Cllr Stevens , and was programmed for end April 2023. The Town Council had previously agreed to be a major sponsor of the annual event and Members agreed to make a substantial contribution. The exact figure would be finalised at the Budget meeting in January once detailed costings were known.

**Mr Hugh Quick** had submitted a letter thanking Council for financial support of his trip to Australia in September to represent Wales cricket seniors. Members applauded his efforts and success in representing the Country. Cllr Stevens would put acknowledgement on Facebook.

Visually impaired group Gorseinon Institute . Approved £100

Moving Forward group ( Monday mornings at Ty Newydd centre.) Approved £300.

Clerk reported that POBL had funded the groups hall hire fees for 2023 at a cost of £260.

Mr **Chris Chapman** ( Happy Chappy) who takes the Town Council photos had requested financial support towards a new camera for Town Council purposes. Members agreed to a contribution of £200.

Requests received for Jan/Feb 2023 - financial year 2023/4 approved the following;

Llchwyr art group £200

Recycled Teenagers £250 ( Cllrs Jan Curtice, M Curtice declared an interest and did not vote).

Grovesend brownies . Whilst initiative was supported it was felt the local community Council in Grovesend should be first source to provide financial support.

1. Pontybrenin school charity event to support Motor neurone disease in a local school pupils parent. Members Agreed to donate £200 towards fundraising event.
2. Await email from Penyrheol junior school for park benches in the school.
3. A request to support an open air market on the Homebargains car park on 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of month was discussed. Whilst the principle was supported the request to fund the legal costs was opposed in view of the cost. (Cllr Jade Davies Pontarddulais)

Requests received for March 2023 - financial year 2023/4. Council approved the following;  
**Parc Werin Bowls club** for maintenance of mowers, As County Members had given grant it was asked if funding could be given for fertilizer instead which had doubled in price in last year. Members declined the request as grant had been given to fund a new mower.

**Moving Forward group** for day trips. £250 approved

**Penyrheol Comp 50 year** commemoration grant towards marquis on the day £200 approved.

**New Lodge pop up café** rent for next 2 months £200 agreed

**City church baby and toddlers clothes bank** £200 agreed

- b. Remembrance service committee minutes of 22 Feb meeting were discussed and Noted..

**Remembrance** service committee was discussed following comments received from Llchwyr Town Council. British Legion had written to the Clerk to ask for a committee to be set up to organise the future event. It was agreed to have 3 representatives from each organisation if needed. Clerk reported on outcome of meeting held on 22 Feb, and would check on cost of marshalling the event , road closures and insurance. A timetable of the week would be produced for all parties to use..

- c. King Charles coronation May 6 2023 was discussed. No additional action was planned. Cllr M Curtice provided an invitation for Cllrs to attend Commemorative buffet for coronation in May, on behalf of British Legion .
- d. New Defibrulators on housing estate off Pontarddulais rd / “Well” chemists, Homebargains site had now been ordered, and would be installed shortly.
- e. Letter of support to St Catherines church redevelopment had been requested by Vicar, and had been provided by the Clerk.
- f. Fresh Air Fitness equipment Parc Y Werin . Clerk had received quotes from **Freshair fitness** for repair and replacement works to the equipment in Parc Y Werin Gorseinon. Members approved the quotes and asked the work be carried out as soon as possible. Work took place on March 22<sup>nd</sup>. But one item could not be repaired and a quote had been given for its replacement , which was approved.
- g. Wildflower seeds quote £990 +vat ( Heol Mynydd areas. Melyn Mynach, Chestnut Ave, Asda 1&2 and roundabout) was reported and approved. Members approved the quote from Swansea Parks dept for grass cutting April- Sept 2023 of the BMX track on Parc Melyn Mynach. A site meeting had finalised sites and mixes for the Summer. Discussions with Parks dept had confirmed additional sites to include Asda roundabout and frontage site at Frampton rd Junior school.
- h. Gowerton community Council . An email had been received to raise awareness of major new development off Fairwood Terr. which was Noted.
- i. Clerk advised he had been able to secure an additional 550 **tree whips** which were delivered on Feb 2<sup>nd</sup> from “ Dig Trees”if local groups wished to take advantage of the opportunity. There were now almost 1000 whips available for local groups. A large number had been delivered to Penyrheol junior school for their use. Clerk had also purchased a few rooted xmas trees for planting on sites that Members choose.
- j. Clerk reported the advertising literature from Swansea Council for the former school in High street, that went to **auction** on December 15<sup>th</sup>. Council would be kept briefed on the

sale by County Cllrs. Clerk advised the property had been sold by auction for £370000, to a builder. Members discussed how they could be involved in future plans for the site in the shopping centre..

- k. Clerk advised Council that the new **Active travel** route between Penllergaer and Gorseinon was now well underway over the next 26 weeks, to provide a dedicated footpath/cyclerooute between both communities. Many complaints had been received about the traffic delays being caused by the roadworks.
- l. Clerk had reported on email regarding **sect 6 Environment Act 2016** requiring Biodiversity plans to be prepared. This had been done 3 years ago and would be updated and submitted, showing how the Town Council is addressing biodiversity issues in the area..
- m. Clerk reported the Annual report from the Independent salary commission Wales , and its recommendations which were noted.
- n. Clerk advised Council that AGM would be held on May 3rd at 6pm, following the main meeting.

#### **161. REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES.**

- a. Members had held a Ty Newydd sub committee on March 22 2023. Report was discussed and fire escape for top floor and storage shed were needed. Members discussed future contract negotiations with the MPs office for renting the top floor of the building.
- b. One Voice Wales area meeting Mon April 17 7pm at Guildhall room 5. Cllr M Curtice/Clerk to go.

#### **162.CORRESPONDENCE;**

- a. One Voice Wales training courses were outlined in April/May 2023.
- b. Clerk reported notification from Welsh Govt that support for business rates grant would be increased in 2023/4 from 50% to 75%.. Clerk had applied and been successful in getting the reduction. Members thanked the Clerk for securing the reduction.
- c. Active travel route Penllergaer-Gorseinon was discussed further, noting the complaints being received from local residents.

#### **163.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 5th April 2023 (proposed M Curtice seconded J Curtice ). 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.
- b. Members noted that Clerk had submitted accounts to DCK Beavers for formalising for financial year 2022/23. Audit submission was needed by start of June to Council Auditors.
- c. 2023/4 Business rates Ty Newydd. Grant increase from 50% to 75% from Welsh Govt.
- d. Conclusion of 2021/22 Audit by Welsh Govt (year 1 of 3 year Welsh Audit GTC in year 1 was Noted. Report was awaited.

**164. PLANNING MATTERS. (MEETING April 5 2023)**

Committee was asked to consider and make recommendations on the following planning applications received from Swansea County Council as the Local Planning Authority;

a. **NO OBJECTIONS** were raised to the following applications;

- 2023/2435 Demolition of all industrial units, Gorseinon. Business Park, West St Gorseinon
- 2023/0484 Replacement shopfront 94 High St Gorseinon
- 2023/0587 Front porch 12 Heol Gwili Penyrheol
- 2023/0588 Garden room 12 Heol Gwili Penyrheol
- 2023/0592 50 Alexandre road Gorseinon Change of Use Vets to residential apartment with fenestration changes
- 2023/0660 Change of Use Vets to Hair/beauty salon, 50 Alexandre rd Gorseinon
- 2023/0586 15 Pencefnarda rd. Single storey rear ext. to replace conservatory, rooflights for loft conversion, front porch
- 2023/0703 Discharge cond 4 (ecological measures), Res Dev 24 Mydham Lane pp 2022/0220.
- 2023/0648 89 High St. Gors, Change Use 1<sup>st</sup> floor estate agents to 2 bed flat (Cert lawful use)
- 2023/0647 2 Pontardulais rd. Change Use 1<sup>st</sup> floor Offices to 1 bed flat.
- 2023/0485 Advert 94 High St. New internally illuminated sign to replace existing.
- 2023/0718 Change of Use flat to stores 61 High street Gorseinon

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

- 2022/2997 17 Mydham Lane Penyrheol Increase ridge height, dormer, balcony, flat roof dormer at rear.. Approved 27 Feb 2023.
- 2023/0088 Metal sculpture on railway line (Active travel route) sculpture, Pentre rd Grovsend
- 2023/0388 Pre app enquiry, 102 Lime st Gorseinon, Rear/side extensions - view positive 7 Mar 23
- 2021/2284 Rear extension Pentre Farm Pentre rd . Application withdrawn 7 March 2023

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

d. Notification of **Appeals** by Local Planning Authority; None received in March

e. Enforcement matters.

**APPENDIX A GORSEINON TOWN COUNCIL EXPENDITURE**

**March 31 2023**

Name	Net	VAT	Total (£)
HMRC Tax 470.18 NI 154.83			DD 625.01
Stationery/Hall supplies/stamps/ Accident book			DD 77.95
Monthly HSBC Hall mortgage			DD 639.46
Monthly HSBC overpayment			DD 117.79
Hall business rates suite 1			DD 76.00
Hall business rates suite 2			DD 49.00
Npower gas hall			DD 56.00
BGas electric Hall			DD 97.40
Bank Charges			DD 10.00
Clerk travelling Feb March			DD 113.75
Good housekeeping hall cleaning feb /march			DD 270.00
Office expenses Jan 1- March 31 2023			DD 365.20
2000 Bluebells Springwood Nurseries			DD 184.00
Lighthouse electrical emergency lighting inspection 8 March annual survey			DD 168.00

<b>CREDIT</b>		
Barclays hire 2023/4		2496.00
Tinitus hire Jan		100.00
Loughor rovers ( 1 payment remaining)		250.00
VAT Claim		6844.00
IPSA Hall		1500.00

Gorseinon town council bank reconciliation	March 31 2023	
Current account		9200.45
Treasurers account		116240.82
Current balance at end of Financial year		125441.22
Mortgage balance		- 69140.60

Meeting closed at 8.20pm.....Chairman.....