

MINUTES ARE IN DRAFT FORM UNTIL APPROVED AT NEXT MEETING Oct 4th 2023

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

Present, Cllrs (Chmn) C Rabiotti, P Griffiths, Pam Morgan, A Thomas, Ken Jones, S Rawle, Katie Jones, J Crowley, A Crowley, M Curtice, J Curtice, A Stevens, N Matthews.PCSO Suzanne Herbert.

Prior to meeting starting Cllr M Curtice notified Members of the sad bereavement of the Mayors mother recently. Members stood for a minute as a mark of respect .

35. APOLOGIES were received from Cllrs M Phillips, Joe Clayfield.

The Chairman presented a spreadsheet of Members attendance over the last 12 months. He expressed his disappointment that the July meeting did not take place as only 4 Members attended and was not quorate.Cllr M Curtice reminded Members that they were being **summoned** to attend meetings and felt that every effort should be made to attend if possible.

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

- a.Invitation was received for all Cllrs to attend the 100th anniversary of St Johns at New Lodge on Sat Sept 30 at 6.30pm. All Members present indicated they would attend, and Clerk was to notify St Johns accordingly.
- b. Winter/xmas initiative –hot meals suggestion was submitted from PCSO Elinor Pearce, who was looking for a suitable venue. Members suggested the St Catherines church Hall, and would notify her. A grant would be considered once a venue was secured.
- c.Rules on installing Town Mayor were clarified by the Chairman, who wanted the following introduced in future;
Photographs of the investment / A letter be sent to the new incoming Mayor , and past Mayor , as well as Former Town Mayors badges be sought,
Members agreed the proposed future changes to protocol
- d.Council discussed the need for a Caretaker/assistant Clerk be added to the staffing structure. Members asked for the Clerk to draw up a potential CV for discussion.
- e.Clerk had secured a quote for a Fire escape to be constructed for the top floor office of the building. He and Cllr A Crowley would meet Officers of Swansea Council on 7th Sept to discuss the positioning of the spiral staircase on the Library land adjacent.
- f. Newsletter . Chairman apologised that he had been unable to progress matter over last few weeks , but would now take matter forward and report to next meeting.
- g.Decky memorial and Penyrheol comp 50th anniversary had been represented by Mayor/Deputy and cheques presented.

37. POLICE MEETING. The Police were represented at the meeting by PCSO Sue Herbert, and the following stats were given for July/August 2023..
Gorseinon 30 incidents, (issues in Argyll Gdns and Asda), 37 Crimes of violence (this included verbal threats).
In July/Aug a few assaults were being investigated,, and there were no dwelling burglaries. In Penyrheol there were 5 ASB (and 22 crimes of violence),1 dwelling burglary reported to CID, with ASBs decreasing significantly.
Planning was being prepared for SAFER GORSEINON BUSINESS DISTRICT community watch to meet local shop owners on a regular basis, and SOUTH WALES LISTENS was a new initiative being set up to send out information from the Police to those who had been signed up following a 15 minute initial survey. A new PCSO Eleanor had started and could attend future meetings.
The new CCTV cameras in the bus station were a great help,

38. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. The Clerk presented the June 7 2023 minutes (which had been distributed previously) for approval, and which were approved without amendments.(Prop A Thomas,sec Cllr S Rawle).

39.PUBLIC SESSION. No Members of the public were present.

a. 20mph speed limit being introduced in Wales on Sept 17 2023. Clerk had received briefing note from Highways dept which was distributed to all Cllrs to brief them on likely questions being asked by Public over new speed limits being introduced in Sept.

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

- a. **Cllr N Matthews.** She raised issue of flags at Ty Newydd frontage, and Members agreed in future a diary of flags at time of year was to be produced and only one flag be raised at any time not 2. She advised Members of the forthcoming Mcmillans coffee morning.
- b. **Cllr Pat Griffiths.** Comments were raised about the ongoing difficulty of exiting onto the main road from the estate.
- c. **Cllr S Rawle** reported she had attended the LBGT+ conference in Cardiff organised by Welsh Govt, which she found very useful. Conference was hoping to get more local involvement in issues discussed. Her conference expenses were approved.
- d. **Cllr A Thomas** reported recent vandalism to the seat of the Zip Wire in Parc y Werin. Swansea Council would repair it this time but future damage would have to be funded by the Town Council.
- e. **Cllr Ken Jones** had generously contributed a cheque for £1500 to the Council as follows; £500 towards the Food with Friend budget, £500 towards Cllr Sue Rawles LBGT+ account and £500 towards the Decky Memorial fund organised by Cllr Stevens. Members applauded his generosity.
Cllr Jones noted how good the floral displays were this year, and noted a number of the damaged and vandalised trees around the town appeared to be resprouting.
- f. **Cllr Pam Morgan** note the Pop Up Café was thriving every Wed in the New Lodge. Donations had been forthcoming and half a ton of food supplies had recently been received from the Tesco store collection.

g. Cllr Stevens outlined Swansea Councils 20mph programme from Sept 17 when new speed regime introduced. Programme entirely funded by Welsh Govt so no impact on Council Tax. Most Trunk roads locally remained at 20 mph and there was a short period of grace for offences. Funds from prosecutions would go to HM Treasury.

Cllr Stevens advised of the new CCTV installations in the town and the new free wifi in the bus station.

h. Cllr K Jones had reported the accumulated rubbish bags on the new development of former Rollaclad building which was blocking pavement. Matter was being addressed by Swansea Council

41. CLERKS REPORTS

a. 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 were approved;

Food with Friends account had now been transferred by Cllr Jan Curtice. Members agreed to fund the future ongoing hire charges at New Lodge for the Pop up Café at £300 per quarter year. Cllr Nicola Matthews allocated her personal allowance of £208 towards the new budget as well, and Cllr Ken Jones had personally given £500 towards the account.

Loughor events committee re Xmas 2023 activities. Members resolved not to donate this year.

LoughorAge concern. Members resolved not to donate this year.

Christmas Hampers from the Sharing table. Members agreed to a donation of £ 400 towards the initiative. (Cllr N Matthews declared an interest and did not vote)

Parc Y Werin bowls club asked for a donation for putting a new door in the adjoining Pavilion facility to permit access to the toilets for the bowls players . Members expressed disappointment at the negative comments reported from the club regarding financial assistance from the Town Council and County Members, and resolved that despite the considerable financial support given in the past, none would be forthcoming at this time.

One Heart Drummers based in St Catherines church had asked to join the Xmas parade on Nov 30th.

Decky Memorial £300 had been donated towards event costs.

Penyrheol comp 50th anniversary events seeking sponsorship. £500 had been donated by Mayor to event during the recess.

b. Chairman and Clerk had asked Members to come up with a list of potential future projects (short/medium and long term) that the Town Council could build into a future capital programme. A spreadsheet had been distributed for Members to complete, and the issue was deferred until the next meeting for further ideas to be presented.

c. New Defibrulators on housing estate off Pontarddulais rd / “Well” chemists, Homebargains and surgery opposite St Catherines church site had now been delivered, and had been installed . Photo to be arranged outside surgery with the church officers who provided the defib there.

- d. Clerk advised Council that the new **Active travel** route between Penllergaer and Gorseinon was now completed to provide a dedicated footpath/cycleroute between both communities. Many complaints had been received about the traffic delays being caused by the roadworks, and the changed character of the streetscene. Cllr Stevens had advised the route was to be extended from Gorseinon to Kingsbridge following funding approval.
- e. Flagpoles on High street adjoining Notice Board had now been erected and 6 new flags would be ordered for the flagpoles.. Members discussed the flags needed in future and agreed the format of the new Town Council flag, to be council logo on white background as existing.
- f. Clerk reported the final cost of works for the new xmas tree installation in Chestnut Avenue Penyrheol. It had been agreed that C/Cllrs would fund 50% in year 1 and the Town Council fund all future xmas tree costs for the site.
- g. Clerk reported that initial work had started on Xmas 2023 activities, with the parade set for Thur Nov 30th. A joint meeting with Loughor TC was to be held as soon as practical. Clerk summarised the work that had been done to date to start the planning. Members raised concern at the escalating costs of the event, but agreed it would continue for the community.
- h. Special meeting of Town Council forum Mon 25 Sept Teams 11.30-12.30 Meeting re Community boundary review with reps of Boundary Commission for Wales. Cllr Jan Curtice was attending and would report back at October meeting.
- i. Remembrance week arrangements. Cadets involvement was reported. Members discussed proposed arrangements, and resolved marching parade would continue.
- j. Flagpoles High street adjoining Notice Board.. New flags were to be ordered retaining the existing logo and colours which had been designed by local school children. No alterations were to be made to its design..
- k. Annual report 2023 had been prepared by the Clerk and would be put on Council website.
- l. Ty Newydd Fire escape. New user RAF Assn had met in Ty Newydd recently on Tuesdays, and would appraise if it was to be a monthly event.

42. REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES.

1. Meeting received reports from the Council's Representatives on Outside Bodies/upcoming meetings . Clerk summarised outcome of following meetings already held.
 - a. Swansea Council Forum at Guildhall held on Wed June 21st Cllr M Curtice, A Thomas, and Clerk .
 - b. One Voice Wales Innovative Practice conference Bulth Wells July 5, Cllr M Curtice plus Clerk attended.
 - c. LGBT+ Conference Cardiff July 19 2023. Cllr S Rawle attending on behalf of Council..
 - d. OVW AGM /area meeting Guildhall 17 July Guildhall
 - e. Llanelli Pride July 15 2023,(Flags to be erected at TY Newydd).
 - f. OVW AGM / Conference Sept 30 Bulth. Cllrs Rabaiotti, M Curtice and Clerk to attend.Theme "Future of town/community Councils"

43.CORRESPONDENCE;

- a. One Voice Wales training courses were outlined in Sept 2023.
- b. Active travel route Penllergaer-Gorseinon was discussed further, noting the complaints being received from local residents.
- c. An E mail had been received from resident complaining about the pedestrian crossing on Alexandra rd/ /St Catherines church junction where vehicles were not stopping for pedestrians and accidents were likely. Members discussed the concerns and would monitor the situation with Highways dept.

44.ACCOUNTS

- a. Committee received the Income / Receipts summary statement from the Clerk and approved the payment of the following outstanding cheques for the ACCOUNTS dated 6th Sept 2023 (proposed A Thomas 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, and advice from external auditors to review charges annually.
- b. Members noted that Clerk had submitted accounts to DCK Beavers for formalising for financial year 2022/23. Accounts had been approved and had been submitted to internal Auditors. Internal Auditor had subsequently signed off the 2022/23 accounts and signed off the Annual statement. Clerk summarised the Auditors comments in the Annual statement. Annual statement 2022/23 was approved by Councillors, and signed off for submission to external auditor at Welsh Govt..
- c. 2023/4 Business rates Ty Newydd. Grant had now increase from 50% to 75% from Welsh Govt.
- d. Clerk advised of 2023/24 annual wage award for Town Clerks as received from SLCC which was accepted, to be implemented as from April 1 2023.

45.PLANNING MATTERS. (MEETING September 6 2023)

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](https://swansea.gov.uk/planning) prior to the meeting.

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

Parc Solar Caenewydd Land fronting A484/Swansea rd SA44LE Development of national significance. Solar farm consultation closes Aug 3

2023/1050 Full Detached dwelling land adj 11 Penybank Lane /single storey to rear.

2023/1316 Change Use ground floor from Ice cream Parlour to Hairdressers, and 1st floor from office to flat 2 Pontarddulais rd Gorseinon

2023/1473 23 Heol Gwili Conversion garage to residential, additional parking on drive

2023/1635 Amendment to 44 No dwellings Pencefnarda rd Penyrheol cond cond 7 to allow foul services to connect to new manhole

2023/1640 Amendment to 44 No dwellings Pencefnarda rd Penyrheol cond 19 to amend brick.

2023/1668/Ful 13 Lime st Reinstatement of fire damaged property

2023/1601 168 Frampton rd Penyrheol 1st floor rear extension 2023/1620/NMA 144 dwellings off Gower View rd. Remove cond 4 (Traffic reg order) of pp2019/2144

2023/1620/NMA 144 dwellings off Gower View rd. Remove cond 4 (Traffic reg order) of pp2019/2144

2023/1661/FUL Substation/screenwall Res Dev, Pencefnarda Farm, Pencefnarda rd Penyrheol

2023/1665/FUL Substitution of plots (ref 2019/2114) 109-112 Pobl res dev Off Gower View rd Penyrheol

2023/1692/FUL 17 Mydham Lane Penyrheol Increase roof to create 2 storey dwelling, solar panels, Juliet Balcony fenestration and extension to outbuilding.

2023/1753 Change Use from place worship to tanning salon, Tabernacle chapel Alexandra road Gorseinon

Discussion revolved around the number of hairdressers and Tanning salons that are gradually taking hold in the main shopping area, at the expense of traditional retail shops at the expense of the vitality of the shopping centre. Members asked is there a limit to the number of such outlets that can be sustained and is there any planning control over the numbers permitted.

2023/1843 114 Frampton rd Penyrheol Single storey extension

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

2023/0609 39 Penyrheol rd Penyrheol Rear extension/balcony/rooflights Approved 8 June 2023

2021/2644 7 Duffryn rd Gorseinon discharge cond 3 (ecological enhancement) appr. 5 June 23

2023/0491 Discharge cond 7 (boundaries) 9 (Landscaping) 12 9 (Travel plan), residential land off Gowerview rd. Pobl. Approved 14 June 2023

2023/0879 74 Heol y Pibydd Rear Extension Approved 15 June 2023

2023/1015 102 Lime st Gorseinon Rear extn, side extn, new access/parking, Approved 28 July 23.

2023/1316/PLD 2 Pontardulais rd Gorseinon Change Use ground floor from Ice cream parlour to Hairdresser and above offices to flat Determined Lawful 10 August 2023.

2023/1231 54 Princess St Two storey rear extension Approved 21 Aug 2023

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

2023/0826 91 Alexandre rd Gors. Conversion ground floor beauty salon to flat Refused 12 June 23

2023/1023 118 Frampton rd Penyrheol, 1st floor rear extension. Refused July 4 2023

2023/0428 /Ful 3 bed dwelling, land adj 8 Clos Tydfynnon Gorseinon Refused 8 Aug

2023/1226 Amendment to 44 No dwellings Pencefnarda rd Penyrheol for roof PV cells, Heat pumps and removal of dormers on 4 bed houses. Delegated officer refusal 22 Aug 2023

d. Notification of **Appeals** by Local Planning Authority;

Aldi, Millers drive, 2022/1173 Appeal against refusal of unrestricted deliveries. Written representations to Welsh Minister

APPENDIX A GORSEINON TOWN COUNCIL EXPENDITURE Aug 31 2023

Name	Net	VAT	Total (£)
HMRC Tax NI			DD 737.84
Stationery/Hall supplies/stamps// Microsoft365 fee			DD 130.58
Hall materials/xmas supplies/toilet drainage blockage- plumbers fee Aug	158.48	17.00	DD 175.48
Monthly HSBC Hall mortgage			DD 639.46
Monthly HSBC overpayment			DD 117.79
Hall business rates suite 1			DD 41.00
Hall business rates suite 2			DD 26.00
E.on gas hall			DD 112.45
BGas electric Hall			DD 60.96
Bank Charges			DD 22.00/8.00
Good housekeeping June/July cleaning			DD 240.00
Clerk travelling July aug sept			DD 126.10
Grant Penyrheol comp pta			500.00
BT MP office			DD 615.55
Festive lighting xmas lights High st phase 1 and 2	7257.45	1451.49	DD 8708.94
Vision ICT website hosting	216	43.2	DD 259.20
Food with Friends (500 Cllr K Jones 208 Cllr N Matthews)			DD 708.00
Office expenses June- Sept 2023			DD 453.66
Mr Flag 7 flags	420	84	DD 504.00
OVW conference 2 Cllrs Builtth			DD 120.00
SSE electric xmas lights bus station	87.25	4.36	DD 91.61
Donation from Cllr K Jones to Decky memorial			DD 500
Zurich Municipal insurance (3 tear deal)			DD 880.53
One Voice Wales subs 2023/4			DD 1705
Swansea council rent xmas tree base Chestnut Ave			DD 100
Mr Flag new flags	360	74	DD 444

CREDIT		
Swansea council precept 2		45248.00
Tinitus hire June		125.00
Tinitus hall hire July/August		200.00
IPSA Hall fee		1500.00
Loughor Rovers final loan payment		250.00
MPs office expenses Q2		1069.08

Gorseinon town council bank reconciliation August 31 2023		
Current account		9697
Treasurers account		158535
Current balance (precept 2 Aug and precept 3 dec not included) (plus future precepts in Aug/Dec)		168232
Mortgage balance		- 66985

Meeting closed at 8.00pm.....Chairman.....