

**MINUTES OF THE GORSEINON TOWN COUNCIL FINANCE MEETING HELD ON WED. 3rd January 2024 at the Ty Newydd Community Centre 17 West St. GORSEINON, commencing at 8pm.**

**Present;** Councillors Ken Jones( Chairman), Jan Curtice, M Curtice, Andrew Thomas, C Rabiaotti , P Griffiths N Matthews, Sue Rawle, Pam Morgan, A Crowley, J Crowley, K Jones.

**125. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.** None raised initially.

**126. APOLOGIES** were received from Cllrs, J Clayfield, A Stevens, M Phillips

**127.** Clerk reminded Members of the Town Councils revised 5 year priorities which were discussed and reconfirmed with the addition of the following new priority,

“The Town Council should aim to champion diversity, and Well Being in all its forms within the local community”

**GORSEINON TOWN COUNCIL 5 YEAR PRIORITIES 2022-27**

- a. Explore opportunities to acquire / lease a **new multi user base** for the Town Council and community groups, that meets the Town Councils needs and is both accessible and affordable for all residents of Gorseinon / Penyrheol wards.
- b. Aim to improve **communication** with local residents and groups, work with local partnerships, and represent views of the community. as well as better explaining what the Town Councils role is, and what can be done for the local community.
- c. Deliver projects for the area that will engender and strengthen both **pride and respect** in the communities of Gorseinon and Penyrheol.
- d. Deliver projects that will improve the **physical appearance** and environment of our town centre & residential suburbs.
- e. **Support** worthy community groups / local initiatives and community projects, focused on sporting/social and cultural activities, particularly for the youth/elderly of the area.
- f. The Town Council should aim to champion **diversity**, and **Well Being** in all its forms, within the local community.

**128.**Members then discussed in detail and approved the **Draft 2023/4 budget as enclosed, totalling £156,150.** Priorities were discussed, and the main changes were agreed as follows;

It was agreed that reinstalling some new form of **CCTV coverage** in the town to address the ongoing issues of anti social behaviour . Professional advice would be sought in conjunction with the Police and Swansea Council on the most efficient and cost effective technology needed.

The **landscaping of the grassed area at the bottom of Lime street** was discussed and supported, but a Scheme needed to be drawn up initially and costed to establish costs and likely support from surrounding businesses and pub.

It was agreed to try to seek more sponsorship and support from local businesses for production of a Newsletter and Xmas Lantern parade, and to set up discussions with local businesses, in an attempt to keep costs down for the community.

To take the opportunity to purchase the 2 garages at the rear of Ty Newydd as the owner is now willing to sell. To look at grant funding to carry out maintenance work on the Community centre including a fire escape for the top floor office.

To review standing charges for hire of rooms at Ty Newydd Community centre.

**129.**Following on from approving the budget, Members discussed the **2023/4 precept. It was Resolved to set a precept of £135744 (Option C) in order to deliver the stated projects in the community,** and the Clerk was instructed to notify Swansea Council accordingly. The proposed budget for 2023/4 was £156,150 so the shortfall would be drawn from Council reserves. The precept equates to a figure per household for 2023/4 of £42 per household per annum (proposed Cllr Jan Curtice, seconded Cllr Pam Morgan, agreed by all Members present).