

MINUTES ARE IN DRAFT FORM UNTIL APPROVED AT NEXT MEETING 3 April 2024

**MINUTES of the MEETING of GORSEINON TOWN COUNCIL, held on WEDNESDAY
6 March 2024 at Ty Newydd Community Centre, 17 West St. GORSEINON, at 6pm**

Present, Cllrs (Chmn) C Rabiotti , S Rawle, A Thomas, A Crowley, Town Clerk, Ken Jones, PCSO Elena Pearce, Pam Morgan, P Griffiths, M Curtice

127. APOLOGIES received from Cllrs M Phillips, A Stevens, I Walters. Katie Jones, J Clayfield, N Matthews, J Curtice. J Crowley.

128. MAYORS ANNOUNCEMENTS. Clerk advised the Mayor had attended the following Events in February/March ;

- a. Mayor had attended the 90th birthday of Mrs Elizabeth Morgan on Feb 5th Pencefnarda road Penyrheol.
- 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. 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 had met Officers of Swansea Council on 7th Sept to discuss the positioning of the spiral staircase on the Library land adjacent. Library staff expressed concern about vandals climbing the stairs onto the roof of library and an alternative design was requested. Fire escape approved in principle by Swansea Council and awaiting further site visit to determine design.
- d. Request had been received to acquire the recently published portrait of the Monarch to put up in public buildings. Orders had been placed.
- e. On the 7th of February the Mayor spoke with the Sightlife group who expressed in interest in supporting the development of the council's website through advising the accessibility of the website.
- f. In order to reduce paper waste, the Mayor will now allow for all future Council monthly meeting agendas to be delivered electronically.
- g. Llchwyr TC CawlAChan on Fri March 15th 6.30 for 7 at Welfare Hall Loughor. Deputy would represent the Council in Mayors absence.
- h. David Brown Llchwyr Art group cheque presentation planned for April 3rd

129. POLICE MEETING

- a. PCSO E Pearce advised that a new Sgt Molly Llewelyn would take up appointment on 11 March 2024.
- b. 01/02/24 – 31/2/24 there were 110 occurrences reported in Gorseinon. 19 of these occurrences were occurrences of antisocial behaviour around ASDA, High Street and Tai Kitchen premises. Police were liaising with

owner to install new shopfront to help address issues from youths and front door problems. Furthermore 19 of the 110 occurrences were crimes of violence. There were 0 dwelling burglaries. This shows a reduction in the total amount of occurrences from the same period last year, where 113 occurrences were reported.

Penyrheol had 43 reported occurrences, and 8 of these occurrences were crimes of violence, There was 1 cases of antisocial behaviour. The number of total occurrences has seen a slight decrease from occurrences last year during the same period.

Police were asked to investigate the damage and unauthorised parking of vans by the Fairground personnel on the grassed areas at bottom of Lime street.

130. COUNCIL PROTOCOL FOR MAYOR/DEPUTY

a. Clerk had previously distributed draft document outlining the protocol for the Town Council Mayor and Deputy. Members briefly discussed the new document and referred discussion to next meeting for comments provided by Deputy Mayor to be incorporated.

131. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. The Clerk presented the Feb 6th 2024 minutes (which had been distributed previously) for approval, which were approved with no amendments. (Prop A Thomas, sec Cllr A Crowley).

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

133. MEMBER REPORTS on Local Matters from Town and County Cllrs ;

a. **Cllr S Rawle** reported that she will be holding history talks and displays in the Library in future. She also attended the St Catherines Coffee mornings as a volunteer.

b. **Cllr Andrew Crowley** reported that there have been numerous complaints over parking on double yellow lines in Penyrheol. Highways department have been notified. Additionally, Cllr Crowley informed the council of the recent neighbour dispute in Penyrheol. Police are aware of the matter. Andrew Crowley also assisted the ALN group with grant applications.

c. **Cllr Ken Jones.** Had reported recent incident with youths and electric bikes in Argyll Gardens. The Police had attended the incident and a number of youths that were recognised had been arrested following coverage of CCTV cameras. Vandals had also damaged the willows and the daffodil displays in the Park.

d. On 13 Feb at Ty Newydd a Business briefing for High street occupiers had taken place organised by Cllr Nicola Matthews. The event had gone down very well.

e. Cllr M Curtice raised concern re lack of traffic wardens in the town and abuse of parking rules in the High street. The Police present clarified their responsibilities re parking .

f. Cllr Pam Morgan reported the ongoing success of the Pop in café at the New Lodge facility, with ever increasing numbers in attendance.

134. 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 had been 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.

Decky Memorial £300 had been donated towards event costs.

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

One Heart Drummers based in St Catherines church ,had asked to join the Xmas parade on Nov 30th. Members discussed a request for financial support and agreed a donation of £250.

Garden village brownies. Members discussed a request for financial support and agreed a donation of £100.

Children with additional needs. Members discussed a request for financial support and agreed a donation of £350.

An Evening of Music - New Lodge. vent would be promoted on website as requested. Wales Air Ambulance £250

Sponsor seniors cricket world cup. Mr Hugh Quick £200

Chromamusic Community group £250

Gower & Llŵchwr Lions club- Tree of Light appeal was given £100

Gower & Llŵchwr Lions club- Fees for Talkie Thursdays in New Lodge £100

St Catherines church Xmas tree installation.£200 Recommend contact County members

100 year old birthday Bronwen from Penyrheol to be attended by Mayor.

Movement for Health, Brighton road Gorseinon

Dementia club New Lodge should be notified to club looking for a facility in Gorseinon.

New grants approved at the meeting, and Members discussed criteria for giving grants to groups outside boundary but still helping locals. It was accepted a nominal £100 would seem appropriate in those circumstances.;

a. Grants applications received from community - financial year 2023/4
Eisteddfod 2024 Margam Park support to be decided.

Institute Llŵchwr Art Group £200

One Heart drummers were seeking a new venue for their practicing in the Community, the council will advise that both the Catholic church and TheLlŵchwr Workmas club have appropriate venues to rent.

Sightlife group £200

St Catherines Coffee morning group £200

Loughor Rovers for upgrade of football facility New Lodge. On hold following invite to attend future meeting to discuss in detail.

b. Bluebells. Clerk asked for potential location of newly acquired stock of Bluebells, and Members discussed potential sites. Council also approved the **floral order** from CCS for 2024 season (as 2023) but noted extras may be added or deleted in due course, to reduce costs, and the 2 pyramid planters were suggested to save £1200..

c. Ty Newydd Fire escape meeting had taken place with Library staff. They were concerned about access to roof of building and asked for an amended design initially, which was being drawn up by fabricators.

d. Future training programmes from One Voice Wales was outlined for Members that wished to participate.

e. Revised contract with **Barclays bank** for 2024/15 had been negotiated with the Clerk and a contract for a further 12 months had been signed with hours extending from 9-5pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

f. Festive Lighting xmas panels new contract quotes 2024 had been received. Members had agreed to extend the existing contract for a further 2 years.Clerk advised the 2 GTC logo panels were remaining in situ at either end of High street.

g. Summer wildflower planting scheme was agreed for 2024.sites were to be discussed with CCS.

h. Calon Health CPR Training had been offered. Cllr M Curtice asked for the Recycled Teenagers meeting in the Bug to have a training session.Clerk was asked to organise.

i. Clerk updated Members on grant application for installation of **Solar panels** on roof of Ty Newydd centre. A grant of £25000 had been applied for.

j. **Swansea Council policy on Safeguarding policy** was reported and noted, to be adopted at next meeting.

k. Clerk reported on discussions re New hiring on wed mornings Ty Newydd mental health consultant. A formal response was awaited from the consultant.

l. New plaques/badges for presentations were being sought.

m. Builders of the BMX track Parc Melyn Mynach had offered to carry out a maintenance visit which was agreed.

n. Xmas parade date confirmed Thur Nov 28 2024, because the sleigh had to be booked early with CCS..

o. Clerk reported the Remuneration Panel 2024/5 recommendations – No change was highlighted for Community and Town Councils.

135. Assistant Clerks report. Asst/Clerk reported on the following matters; Deputy Clerk was currently abroad and would report on update of following items at next meeting.

a. Due to how limiting the Vision ICT website service is the Council agreed to allow the Assistant Clerk to create a new website in house.

b. Mayors diary has been created and will now act a record of all Council members activities.

c. The possibility of a youth council has been discussed with Gorseinon Collage. Members agreed to allow a budget of £1000 for this . Additionally it was agreed that members of this Council can be from outside of Gorseinon and Penyrheol. However, all decisions and funding must be made and used inside our local community.

136. REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES.

Meeting received reports from the Council's Representatives on Outside Bodies/upcoming meetings . Clerk summarised outcome of following meetings already held.

Mon 4 March CCS forum Guildhall 5pm . Presentations received on Swansea Councils role re climate initiatives locally and briefing re Monitoring officers role.

One Voice Wales National awards conference wed 27 March 2024 Builth Wells . Clerk was asked to book places for Members to attend.

137. CORRESPONDENCE;

a. Clerk reported Notice from CCS regarding commercial waste disposal from April 2024 re the new legislation. Members discussed the initiative and costs and decided they would segregate waste within the building and dispose of it at the local

Amenity site, rather than arrange a formal collection, as so little waste is generated within the building.

138. 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 March 2024 (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 would shortly be submitting accounts to DCK Beavers for formalising for financial year 2024/5.

139. PLANNING MATTERS. (MEETING March 6 2024)

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 meeting.

a. NO OBJECTIONS;

2024/0258 8 Heol Dyfed 1st floor extension over garage for 2 additional bedrooms

2024/0240 Illuminated fascia sign 17 Pontardulais rd Gorseinon

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

2023/2339 12 Alexandre rd Gorseinon new rear access/ gate/hardstanding Approved 15 Feb 2024

2024/0148 7 Alexandra rd Gorseinon Replacement shopfront Approved 23 Feb 2024

2024/ 0210 pre 68 Park rd Gorseinon Single storey rear extension-Positive comments 27 Feb 2024.

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

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

APPENDIX A GORSEINON TOWN COUNCIL EXPENDITURE Feb 29 2024

Name	Net	VAT	Total (£)
HMRC Tax NI			DD 658.74
Stationery/Hall supplies/envelopes/printpaper/90 th birthday	36.43	4.61	DD 41.04
Sleigh hire CCS xmas 2023			DD 400.00
Monthly HSBC Hall mortgage			DD 688.12
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 153.14
BGas /Corona energy electric Hall			DD 958.66
Bank Charges			DD 9.00
Office costs Q1 2024			DD 453.66
Clerk travelling			DD 104.00
Fronrunner 10k	1000	200	DD 1200.00
Wales audit 2021/22			DD 300.00
Lighthouse electrical xmas			DD 1632.00
Lighthouse electrical			DD 5952.00
Vision impaired grant			DD 200.00
Knight Brenchley barriers			DD216/182.4
Centregreat xmas lights			DD 3570.00
Moving Forward grant			DD 200.00
Radio tircoed			

CREDIT		
Tinitus hire Feb 2024		100.00
Chubb refund		215.18
Hall Hire Moving forward		220.00

Gorseinon town council bank reconciliation Feb 29 2024	
Current account	5202.69
Treasurers account	140190.17
Current balance (plus future precepts in April Aug Dec)	145392.86
Mortgage balance	64910.41
Likely VAT reclaim 2023/24	8700.00

Meeting closed at 7.30pm.....Chairman.....