

MINUTES IN DRAFT FORM UNTIL APPROVED AT NEXT MEETING 4 Dec 24

MINUTES of the MEETING of GORSEINON TOWN COUNCIL, held on WED 6th Nov 2024 at Ty Newydd Community Centre, 17 West St. GORSEINON, at 6pm

Present, Cllrs (Chmn) S Rawle, A Crowley, Pam Morgan, P Griffiths, Ken Jones, Town Clerk, Asst Town Clerk, P Evers. N Matthews

88. APOLOGIES from Cllrs, J Clayfield , J Crowley, Katie Jones, , A Thomas J Curtice, Andrew Thomas, M Phillips, A Stevens.M Curtice.

Clerk raised issue of the non attendance of Cllr Katie Jones for the last 9 meetings of Council. Members discussed the absence and resolved to write to the Cllr asking for an explanation, before further action is considered.

Clerk raised that Katie Jones has been allowed to remain on the Council until AGM for the coming year, in view of her extenuating circumstances.

89. MAYORS ANNOUNCEMENTS. Clerk advised Mayor had/ would attended the following ;

Nov 18th Institute 12-3 Xmas stress buster hub by local PCSOs. Clerk explained the details from the LACS. Christmas St Michaelmas fair Pembroke .

Sept 17 St Catherines Mothers Union- History talk / Sept 26 Penuel chapel talk

Sept 24th Service St Catherines church/ Sept 27 Macmillan coffee morning

St Johns carol service Sun 1 Dec 5.30@St Davids /St Catherines harvest service 10am Sun 13 Oct. Institute long service presentation Sat 26 Oct.

19th Oct retirement at the institute

AC fed back the general information from the conference on Digital awareness and the sense of community. 07 Nov Leigh Halfpenny awards at Penyrheol.

EE have asked councillors if they would like ten of their staff to be volunteered for any project for members to consider.

90.To receive a report on **Police Matters** within Gorseinon and Penyrheol. No Police presence but brief reports submitted. New Police chief Antonia Lambley. 1 Sept – 30 Sept Gorseinon beat 64 occurrences, 9 ASB, 10 violence against person, no dwelling burglaries

91.PUBLIC Session for Public to raise items of local relevance during 15 minute session. No issues raised.

92. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. The Clerk presented the Oct 2 2024 minutes (which had been distributed previously) for approval, which were approved (Prop P Griffiths, sec Cllr P Morgan).

93. Environmental scheme Railway Terrace. site meeting 23 July with architect.

Clerk updates councillors on £100,000 budget for draft scheme for the whole scheme. Councillors' comments around design features included possibly suggesting a stainless-steel feature where the current wall is, and/or railway line across road. Architect to produce Draft for comments.

Discussions around current plans 1,2 with clerk and members reflecting the historical features of the site. Clerk went further around the proposals. Master plan stages were discussed and the edge of the site. Some form of boundary features? Landscaping and tree planting and colour palette. The working men's club may need to be painted with a more vibrant in colour and possibly sheltered seating. Or sheltered cycle. Mayor discussed potential for siding to reflect the station. Councillors felt proposal 2 was more in line with the member requests.

Feedback requested by architects required and agreed from Council.

Members felt designs were not adequate and requested more detailed design and more formal presentation. With a rough costing at this phase one. Members felt a price was needed to assess how much could be done in phase 1.

94 MEMBER REPORTS on Local Matters from Town and County Cllrs ;

a. County Councillor reports

NM- Welsh govt given per person draft budget was given over to Welsh Govt.

PE – Lodge are happy to help in any way. Thanks to the Lodge. Also, a large park is being proposed in the Lodge grounds. Seeking advice around process. Clerk advised getting a local leisure firm to plan and get planning before grant applications.

PM – food bank and pop-up café are being used well and quite a few people are using both

PG Seat needs replacing opp Cockle shell in stone wall., opposite Morgans garage the vegetation is overgrowing on to the road causing an obstruction to pedestrians. Garngoch new roundabout noted but why no roundabout at bottom of Gorseinon?

AC Attended Craft fair at Institute for a members retirement.

Nov 10th Joseph and Technicolor Dreamcoat– Joan Lewis MBE invited Mayor to concert. Traffic issues around Gorseinon primary double parking.

NM requesting members for names of families who may be needing Xmas hampers.

Clerk - Vote clarified by members to fund new BMX expansion . Proposed £40k into the project from this years budget was reaffirmed. Unanimously agreed by members.

b. Town Councillors reports;

AC – attending coffee mornings etc.,

KJ – mention last week street lights outside scouts are not working and it is dark in the morning when they are not working.

Memorial Clock - all the face was renewed a few years ago. KJ noted clock was a

few minutes out of sync.

PG – approach about Ebenezer chapel church down by her home, potential apartments suggested but not flats. Clerk showed members the plans for conversion of the church.

Cllr Phil Eyres; Remaining Sign work now done to remove covering on MPs plaque outside Ty Newydd.

Cllr Ken Jones highlighted some lights in Argyll Gardens not working. He was asked to identify the lamp standard specific numbers.

95. CLERKS REPORTS Members had agreed in Feb.2024 meeting that grant allocations would remain in place and be distributed to worthy causes throughout the year . Mayor asked that at the Jan 2025 budget meeting the Council reviews its budget allocation for worthy local groups.

a. Grants applications from community - financial year 2024/5

Chromamusic community group, Parc Werin VAT order for equipment
Parc Y Werin Bowls club response. Email received from Parc Y Werin Bowls club asking for response to queries raised about their members comments re the Council. It was discussed further and Clerk instructed to reply further and ask for financial accounts.

Response received from John Phillips, grant aid, enquired about allegations towards the bowls club. Discussion around clearing up the confusion/ misinterpretation in the email to and from council. Chair - Agreed this may be a misunderstanding. Council agreed that accounts do need to be provided when grants are requested. Requested that they reapply with accounts and what they want.

Bowls club has made a request for £709 request for purchases of new equipment They have responded to the request for additional information and responded with relevant information and income expenditure etc. Dave Phillips, their Treasurer provided the request for petrol mower and strimmer. Members felt that council should support considering their ongoing relations and recommend we purchase on their behalf saving the bowls club the VAT. £300 plus offer of VAT recouped. P- Andrew Crowley, S – Nicola Matthews.

Xmas Tree grant request from the vicar of St Catherines as they are financially challenged after spending issues as they are paying all their proceeds to complete the renovations to St Catherines.

Proposed funding an extra tree at £400 and extra electrical lights from Lighthouse Electrical. A Stevens will transport and provide the JCB to lower the tree in to the

holder already in place at St Catherines church. Council requested to support this proposal. NM requested if this could be recognised by a plaque under the tree or in the newsletter. Members agreed the proposal to support St Catherines church with a Christmas tree. Prop – PE. Sec - NM.

One heart drummers - £300 would like to offer their sessions free to anyone who wants to attend. Would GTC support to keep the sessions free. The sessions provide a valuable Community based session and the well being benefits of the session were listed by the clerk. Prop PE, Sec PG £300 grant

Sharing table – Andrew Coxen

Sharing table are Requesting £220 for Xmas hampers, 150 hampers assembled in St catherines on Christmas eve. Veg is from Shepherds. Carls butchers, this is a valuable Gorseinon centred project. Agreed £330- Prop PG, sec AC

Nicola proposed that the Mayor could present the cheque during the hamper's session on Christmas Eve.

b. AS had highlighted that a grant towards the lantern parade was available through the local regeneration fund. This was placed by the clerk and GTC was awarded nearly £7000. Clerk was congratulated on his extensive application process and approved for Lantern parade.

c.Xmas parade meeting completed on 05 November. All arrangements for the night are in hand and Phil, Andrew C and Ken will assist Dai on the night. Dai will supervise the order of vehicles and groups with their assistance.

All the arrangements for the marquee Grotto and all extras needed are already purchased.

Workshops will be on Friday at Loughor welfare hall in the evening and Saturday mornings at Ty Newydd for the two weeks leading up to the parade.

d. Lighthouse electrical- Panels are up in the high St, they will be lit mid-November. Phil offered to transport the barriers.

e.Fire escape discussions will be continued going forward.

f. Leigh Halfpenny Awards evening will be held Nov 07, attended by Mayor Clerk and Assistant Clerk.

g.Remembrance Sunday will commence at New lodge and approx. 9.30 march past ty Newydd to Gorseinon cenotaph where they will pause for the salute. Assumed that Jan Curtice will be outside Gorseinon cenotaph to take the salute in place of MC. Clerk agreed to oversee road closures needed.

h. Defibs need to be renewed, details of the service level agreement. Discussion around current contract and if we have other options with ' Life Support' . Independent advice could be suggested. Assistant Clerk to look into alternatives to our defib situation. PE and NM to share information.

i.Hanging baskets to discuss locations as normal. Possibly going up in cost this year and discussions around locations for the baskets. Assume the locations are the same.

j. **Swansea boundary review.** – Final recommendations being sent off to Welsh Govt. Final recommendations report has objections from Grovesend amounting to over 1000 signatories objecting to integration in to Gorseinon. This has been accepted.

Gor central, west, east, 7082 up from 6996. Councillor numbers would be reduced and boundaries would stay the same.. Councillor numbers to be reduced 15 now 13 seats in Gorseinon. Waugron dropping to 7 from 11 councillor's.

k. Oct One voice Wales AC represents OVW on the Swansea public service board. Essentially for a type of workshop youth and human rights act, police and fire service attended. Swansea health and drug use being monitored, Swansea was going in the right direction. still needs to identifying new funding sources locally .

l. Penyrheol Xmas tree lighting up 12th December.

m. Lighthouse electrical/ 30 road barriers/ Container?

Clerk advised that 30 road barriers had now been bought outright rather than hiring them annually for formal road closures . Clerk was in discussion with LE overuse of containers they had on their new HQ in Garden Village. Storage of both barriers and Xmas panels was being explored. Possible garage to rear of Ty Newydd may become available in November.

n. Fire escape Ty Newydd centre. Design/quote following new site meeting with 2nd contractor. Amended plans to be drafted to meet Library concerns.

o. Canva application update. Agreed to include councillor AC and AS and develop newsletter, posters etc.

p. Update on clock chimes repair West St –

Jonathan Hathaway who is overseeing funding has communicated are commissioning a firm have installed in copperworks, there are plans to complete installation of another clock in Morryston? and proposal to do GTC clock at the same time.

q.. Order received from Swansea Council for 2025 hanging baskets.

r. Barclays update -Using the building and having more physical presence while they are there. Cover needed while they are there as they cannot be the only person in the building. No longer allowed to take responsibility for the keyholders. Discussion 9-5 Tues and Thurs, they could change to a Wednesday. There is a presence in the building. Assistant Clerk will be able to cover this period during the coming weeks and months.

96. Assistant Clerk / Information officer David Walters – work programme

All quotes now in for Broadband with Wi-Fi at Ty Newydd. Assistant Clerk informed members of the comparisons and the best overall company would be SA1 solutions

for this service with a one year contract initially to ascertain the effectiveness, before committing to a longer term contract. Members agreed to the proposal and dates for installation will now be arranged.

Also will arrange a meeting with Andrew Crowley to discuss all quotes for the new website on 08/11 and agree which is the best combination package before going ahead with the initial stages with the chosen company.

10th Sept attended OVW IT Forum where there was a presentation from Detective Inspector Paul Hall from the Cyber Resilience centre - show slides,

97. To receive reports from the Council's Representatives on Outside Bodies/upcoming meetings

Swansea Council Forum Sept 30 discussed arrangements for reviewing the Charter.

The upcoming Open National OVW Conference Oct 16 Builth wells showground.

5 Councillors, including the Clerk and Ass. Clerk expressed a wish to attend.

Pembroke Fair Oct 10th.

One Voice Wales area meeting Guildhall Mon Oct 14th

Penyrheol Comp awards evening Nov 7th

Remembrance week events

Joint Xmas parade meeting Ty Newydd 6pm Oct 8th and Nov 5th 2024

One Voice Wales Conference, Builth Wells Wed 16th Oct

Audit Wales 2021/2 audit fee was currently in dispute over a fee of £2600 Audit had forwarded an email outline the breakdown of costs which had now been paid. Majority of costs were on staff apportionment of time.

98 Correspondence.

Ombudsman correspondence requesting information on current case. Information is currently with the Ombudsman and they are looking at the case at this time, awaiting final report on the outcome. Clerk had attended 2 hour session with Ombudsmans dept to discuss case details on Sept 19th.

99 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 November 2024 (proposed N Matthews 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.. 2024 pay award . from April 1 2024 an increase of £1290 on pay pts 2-43 (pro rata for part time employees). Members noted the pay award and authorised its implementation.

100. PLANNING MATTERS.

PLANNING MATTERS. (MEETING NOVEMBER 6TH 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;

Advance notice Abri Planning 50 affordable homes and associated works ,land north of Brynafon rd Penyrheol
Latest development Pobl scheme will be a flagship scheme across Wales. With a project at it centre. Comments will be made at the next stage of development.

2024/1815 37 Grenfell Ave , Single storey side extension

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

2023/0920 6A West st Gorseinon Retention 2 flats Deemed lawful 23 Sept

2024.0105 Cond 5 (materials) Res dev , land off Gower View rd Penyrheol
Approved 25 Sept 2024

2024/1568 28 West st Gorseinon, driveway and crossover Approved 21 Oct

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

d. Notification of **Appeals** by Local Planning Authority; None reported

e. **Applications withdrawn** For information None reported

INCOME EXPENDITURE Oct 30 2024			
Expenditure			
SALARIES 001/002			
HMRC Tax NI 001/002			DD 539.56
Stationery/Hall supplies/ xmas workshops	195.82	17.45	DD 213.27
Good housekeeping cleaning sept oct			DD 270.00
Monthly HSBC Hall mortgage(671.56 FROM Dec)			DD 688.12
Monthly HSBC overpayment			DD 117.79
Hall business rates suite 1 (incudes 45 discount) £61x11from June			DD 61.00
Hall business rates suite 2 (includes 45% discount)£95x11from June			DD 95.00
Corona energy gas/electric Hall	175.97	8.8	DD 184.77
Recycled teenagers grant			DD 300.00
Bank Charges sept			DD 10.00
BPS gas maintenance 2024/5	284	56.8	DD 340.8
Clerk travelling Oct/nov			DD 100.75
Canva subs			DD 270.00
Poppy appeal			450
Leigh halfpenny bursary 1			250
Leigh Halfpenny bursary 2			250
CCS rental xmas tree tube Chestnut ave			50
Chubb fireextinguishers	156.04	31.22	DD 187.26
Gower fresh xmas tree	391	78.2	DD 469.20
Xmas chocolats			DD 199.00
Income			
MP office			+ 1500.00
MP Office			+ 1585.20
Prcept August no 2 next Dec 30 no 3			+ 49830.00
Tinitus hire Oct			+100.00
Bank interest Oct			+285.97
Bank reconciliation Oct 31 2024			
Current account			+7403
Treasurers account			+165894
Current balance (plus precepts Dec)			+173297
Mortgage balance outstanding			-61933

Meeting closed 8.43pm

Chairman.....