

**MINUTES IN DRAFT FORM UNTIL APPROVED AT NEXT MEETING 5 Feb 2025**

**MINUTES of the MEETING of GORSEINON TOWN COUNCIL, held on WED 8<sup>th</sup> Jan 2024 at Ty Newydd Community Centre, 17 West St. GORSEINON, at 6pm**

Mayor was ill so the presentation of Gideons bible to the Town Mayor by Mr Jeff Bowen was deferred to Feb 5th meeting.

**114. Present,** Cllrs (Chmn), J Curtice, Pam Morgan, P Griffiths, Ken Jones, P Evers, M Curtice., A Stevens, M Phillips, J Clayfield, K Jones, Town Clerk, Asst Town Clerk,

As Cllr Rawle was ill Members appointed Cllr J Curtice to take the Chair for the meeting. Proposed that Cllr J Curtice to chair in absence of the Mayor S Rawle.

**115. APOLOGIES** from Cllrs, J Crowley, Katie Jones, A Crowley, Nicola Matthews. A Thomas. The Previous minutes were approved for Dec. 4<sup>th</sup>.

**116. MAYORS ANNOUNCEMENTS.** Clerk advised Mayor had/ would attended the following events attended in Dec/Jan;

Mayor had attended a number of concerts and xmas events during December. Mayor to update in next meeting, Xmas award for best illuminations were as follows;

Best shop front on High St, White Rabbit Wool shop.

Best House is still pending. Members requested to put candidates forward; Jan C proposed that we donate to charity if none identified.

**117.** To receive report on **PoliceMatters** within Gorseinon/ Penyrheol in December Nothing to report as there was no attendance or report this month by police.

**118. PUBLIC** Session for Public to raise items of local relevance during 15 minute session. (Please notify Clerk in advance of issues to be raised at the meeting). No issues had been raised prior or during the meeting.

New complaint re the delivery lorries cannot turn around by Aldi's due to Fairground parked lorries. Cllr. A. Stevens commented that highways had served a 7 day notice and the lorry was moved during that time.

Persimmon can place lines there but Local Auth cannot until it is adopted. The entrance to Aldi's is the issue. All Cllr's agreed to Approach Persimmon to place yellow lines at the location?

**119a.** County Councillor reports.

b. Town Councillors

**Councillor Malcolm Curtice** brought up the condition of Argyll Park and its state becoming poor over the last several years. More video surveillance has been installed. Councillors had expressed concerns before. Possibly large schemes could be looked in to in years to come.

Council will not be able to maintain Argyll Park going forward. Toilets were locked at 3pm due to various issues over the last several years such as, anti social behaviour, etc.

Cllr J Clayfield asked if GTC could request a key when we have a large events so we can open up the toilets? Clerk to enquire with Swansea Council

Cllr Andrew Stevens informed councillors that the parking area along Park rd. which is now not limited in time, will soon be a two hour maximum parking zone. It will be residents permit holders only also. This will come in to effect in the coming months.

**120.** Draft proposals 1 and 2 for Environmental upgrade at bottom of Lime street.

Committee was awaiting the revised proposals for the environmental scheme to upgrade the bottom of Lime street. Comments have been returned to architect and awaiting a response with a revised design.

**121.** Clerks Matters

- a. Visual impaired support asked for support and are based at Gorseinon Institute. £200.00 agreed.
- b. Constituency report, prop to incorporate areas has been dropped. Concerns about being incorporated have been listened to and concerns have been alleviated.
- c. Container issue is ongoing, and Lodge is imminent, but no dates and no developments yet.  
Lighthouse electrical/ Container? Lighthouse electrical are continuing to look in to having one remaining container at their base to store our Christmas lighting.  
Clerk updated members on the possibility of possibly being able to rent a container which is on route to The Lodge at this time to store our barriers. Members suggested possibly using the barriers for the 10k funrun with GTC logo on advertising it is supported by GTC. All agreed this was a good use of the Barriers.
- d. Discussion around possible reindeer to be reinstated in the lantern parade. Councillors agreed it was generally a good idea, but that it might also be a contentious issue with residents, this was tabled for future discussion and agreement.
- e. Update given on clock chimes repair West St –  
Swansea office confirmed negotiations are ongoing with company and clock is now three times the original price, but is still going ahead.  
The appraisal is going ahead regarding the repairs to Gorseinon clock.
- f. Flowers 2025 CCS –  
Swansea council quote –Members had previously agreed Council will continue To sponsor both wild flower and street baskets/lamp standards by Gorseinon Town Council, as provided by Swansea Council quotes. Confirmed to go ahead.

g. Defibrillator maintenance –

Assistant Clerk updated members on potential savings to GTC after advice from NHS. This included a comprehensive table of suggested defibs to replace the existing defibs which are coming to the end of their usage. These would have a greater lifespan and need less maintenance.

New defibs could be virtually maintenance free and Assistant clerk could undertake three monthly checks on all defibs in the area to ensure this. There would be an initial cost for the new defibs, but the contract could potentially not need renewing. Correspondence from NHS to be forwarded to members for their consideration. Members proposed that Assistant clerk go ahead with plans to replace existing defibs.

NHS area executive (Marc Gower) had discussions with Ass Clerk and conclusions were relayed to members who agreed this would be recommended to be under GTC control in future. The support from Marc would be ongoing with no cost to GTC. Marc would make recommendations for replacing certain defibs and any maintenance needed. Marc also stated that he would support GTC and they could identify a Guardian to be the point of contact for checking the defibs on a three monthly basis.

All materials and on-site support would come from Marc and continue going forward. Councillors discussed the current situation with the defibs and agreed to go ahead and end the current contractor and request he transfer the guardianship over to the Assistant Clerk. Assistant Clerk will liaise with Marc Gower going forward and return a action plan for councillors to in the next meeting. The current contract is at an end. Cost savings to GTC would be the current cost of the contractor over the contract period.

h. Budget meeting January 8th -

Barclays is a potential income increase, members felt some other users or new users could be charged more. Could there be a change in the approach to Barclays? Depending on the approach and the new contract which is due in Jan 2025. We could negotiate and propose they access Ty Newydd on alternate days when MPs staff were already in the building. Clerk to approach and feedback to members.

**122.** Assistant Town Clerk reports . Website and internet connection Ty Newydd. New broadband and WIFI service is now up and running with two WIFI options. One for staff with its own password. Assistant Clerk suggested to members that this staff WIFI be for Councillors and regular users of Ty Newydd. Agreed.

The second WIFI would be for all Guests with its own password displayed free to use around Ty Newydd. Users could log on daily, but this password would have to input each time to avoid too many users at one time. Also there is a disclaimer that would pop up once members of the public accessed the free WIFI service to comply with current legislation. Both WIFI options would have a filter embedded in them to limit users from accessing inappropriate websites.

New website plans are in their final stages with a launch expected in the New Year. Members would be expected to have input in to its format and style in the next meeting. Assistant Clerk to present to council.

Final feedback to the provider has almost concluded, there are a few additional questions from us which the Ass Clerk is awaiting a response about. Hopeful to have design options for members in the next meeting.

**123.**To receive reports from the Council's Representatives on Outside Bodies/upcoming meetings . Scheme bottom Lime street meeting wed 4<sup>th</sup> Dec 3.30 had discussed the submitted proposals and gave feedback for the architect to proceed.

**124.**Correspondence. Ombudsman /deputy mayor. Awaiting Ombudsman's report. Ombudsman decision still pending a decision from them around Dept Mayor. Told they are fast tracking it and the annual general meeting is not long away and the recommendations from them may mean that the decision may be deferred until the following Town Council year.

**125** To receive Financial **Accounts** report from Clerk .

a. Committee received the Income / Receipts summary statement from the Clerk and approved the payment of the following outstanding cheques for the ACCOUNTS dated 8<sup>th</sup> January 2025 (proposed P Griffiths 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,

b. Members agreed to appoint Auditing Solutions as auditors for the 2025/6 annual accounts.

c. Next Monday area One Voice Wales meeting. Mon 13 Jan 7pm Zoom.

d. Contractor meeting at 11am this Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> to try and bring the fire escape inside our property external area to avoid using library property area and potentially save on costs?

## **126 PLANNING MATTERS.**

**PLANNING MATTERS. (MEETING January 8<sup>th</sup> 2025)** 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;**

2024/2301 44 West st Gorseinon New shopfront

2024/2295 New dwelling plus associated garden works 48 Llys Gwynfaen  
Penyrheol

2024/2269 Extension to Tyrfelin surgery Cecil rd Gorseinon

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

2024/0727 Jayplas , Heol Mynydd Demolish part building extn and build  
new for new machinery/ door and ramp./ Approved Dec 4

2024/1601 Canolfan centre, Change Use of Café to nursery with  
extension/ramp. Approved Dec24

2024/2076 22 Brynhyfryd Air source heat pump at rear. Approved Dec 23

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

2024/1654 Pre application .Ebenezer chapel, Chapel st. .Chapel to self  
contained flats.. Negative response from Planners 23 Dec

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

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

INCOME EXPENDITURE Jan 6 2025				
<b>Expenditure</b>				
SALARIES 001/002				
HMRC Tax NI 001/002				DD 539.56
Stationery/Hall supplies/ xmas workshops	195.82	17.45		DD 213.27
CCS sleigh hire				DD 400.00
Monthly HSBC Hall mortgage( 671.56 FROM Dec)				DD 652.41
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				DD 212.46
Circus eruption xmas				DD 420.00
Bank Charges Dec				DD 8.00
TY Newydd cleaning Nov dec				DD 210.00
Clerk travelling nov/dec/jan				DD 105.95
CCS rental xmas tree tube Chestnut ave				DD 100.00
Corona electric				DD 270.57
SLCC subs 2025				DD 190.00
Tech Wales IT	403	80.6		DD 483.60
Cleaning hall nov/dec				DD 210.00
Commercial marquis xmas				DD 150.00
Office costs Q3				DD 531.65
Xmas best shopfront				Chq 100.00
Willows xmas 2025	121.5	44.58		DD 166.08
<b>Income</b>				
Precept no 3				+ 49830.00
Tinitus hire Dec				+125.00
CCS band rebate				+100.00
Bank interest Dec				+226.86
IPSA				+1500
IPSA Q3 expenses Ty Newydd				
<b>Bank reconciliation Dec 30 2024</b>				
Current account				10634
Treasurers account				186215.27
Current balance (plus precepts Dec)				196849.27
Mortgage balance outstanding				-61173

Meeting closed 7.03pm

Chairman.....