

MINUTES IN DRAFT FORM UNTIL APPROVED AT NEXT MEETING 2 April 2025

**MINUTES of the MEETING of GORSEINON TOWN COUNCIL, held on WED
5th March 2025 at Ty Newydd Community Centre, 17 West St. GORSEINON, at 6pm**

140. Present, Cllrs (Chmn) Sue Rawle, J Curtice, P Griffiths, P Morgan, Ken Jones, M Curtice., A Thomas, N Matthews, M Phillips, J Clayfield, K Jones, Town Clerk, Asst Town Clerk,

141. APOLOGIES from Cllrs, Katie Jones,. A Stevens, P Eyers, A Crowley, J Crowley, The Previous minutes were approved for Feb 5th 2025 (app Cllr J Curtice,sec Cllr M Curtice).

142.MAYORS ANNOUNCEMENTS. Clerk advised Mayor had/ would attended the following events attended in Feb;

Feb 20th Feb

Participated in the Dementia Listening Campaign- Emma Heatley.

25th Feb

Attended St Catherines Pop up Cafe.

New venue from 4th March, St Davids Loughor while St Catherines Hall is refurbished.

For the next several months the location of Pop up café in St. Davids

And the Food bank will be located in Gorseinon Institute during this time.

143.To receive report on **Police Matters** within Gorseinon/ Penyrheol in February

PCSO Sue Herbert attended to give the police report;

Please find enclosed the stats for the month of February

Beat of Gorseinon 75 occurrences

4 Anti-Social Behavior related. Land at Melyn Mynach creating problems . Youths gathering at the location which officers will patrol at optimum times.

18 occurrences recorded as Violence Against the Person

0 dwelling burglaries

Beat of Penyrheol 55 occurrences

1 Anti-Social Behaviour related

17 occurrences recorded as Violence Against the Person

0 dwelling burglaries

There are currently no trends of concern within the Penyrheol area. PCSO added there are problems in Melin Mynach with setting fires.Police will be focusing on the area from nowon.

Cllrs. asked about violence against a person and Sue advised around this.

Patrols have increase and behaviour management is being implemented.

Discussions around the pop-up café relocating to St Davids.Assistant Clerk to look on new poster for advertising Fire service proposal was agreed, and discussions will be ongoing to make arrangements and plans.

144. NOMINATIONS FOR MAYOR/DEPUTY 2025/6 AT AGM MAY 7th

a. Members noted the need for nominations for both deputy and Mayor for 2025/6 at the April meeting and AGM in May. Clerk had emailed Ombudsman re the concern over delay to investigation over Cllr A Thomas and a prompt reply had been promised. Interest expressed by Cllr Joe Clayfield in the Deputy post for 2025/6 and by Cllr Jan Curtice who offered to cover for the vacant Mayors position if needed.

Provisional candidates for Deputy Mayor and Mayor for the coming year.

Cllr. Andrew Thomas is awaiting discussions with his consultants before committing to a decision and awaiting reply from Ombudsman which is still pending. They have replied they will deal with this asap and respond with their advice. This will inform the position going forward. Members agreed not to decide at this meeting, but to await Cllr. Andrew Thomas decision. AC has been advised he may want to defer for a year.

The other candidates, Cllr. Andrew Crowley has too many commitments with ALN and has stepped down.

Cllr. Joe Clayfield has sent a letter to be considered for Deputy Mayor. Clerk read the letter to members.

Town Mayor.

Cllr. Jan Curtice has put her name forward as Mayor to offer to take the post for the coming year.

145. 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).

a. One issue had been raised prior the meeting on behalf of the Parc Y Werin Friends
A presentation was given by Ms Sue O' Connell on the future of the group.

'Friends of Parc y Werin'. Relaunch on 11 March 2025 at 6.30pm in the pavilion. Aims of the new group to develop more additions to the parc around nature, Access improvements underway for disabled access. Events have been successful previously but would like to offer more events for families and children.

Community garden is ongoing and asking for volunteers to help with this. Would like to become more of a hub for the community with families spending more time there. Help with; protect what's left of the parc from any development. Develop a path around the whole site. Help with volunteer drives also. Lots of plans developing the old garden where the pavilion is. County Cllrs. will be liaising with them going forward also.

Five committee members. The old structure was just fundraising for events. New group want to take over the building over from CCOS. And making more community involvement. Such as bowls group to be part of the committee as a joint venture.

Waiting for more information form CCS and bowls about the finances, this is ongoing.

GTC have supported previously. Mayor asked for another update once the launch is completed.

b Clerk reported a request had been received from the Foodbank meeting at St Catherines church Hall. Because of refurbishments over next 9 months they needed to find a new venue. New venue from 4th March, St Davids Loughor while St Catherines Hall is refurbished. For the next several months the location of Pop up café in St. Davids and the Food bank will be located in Gorseinon Institute during this time.

c. Cllr N Matthews presented proposal on behalf of Police rep regarding an intended project to organise a bus trip for the local communities for 11-15 year old to local venues in the summer holidays. There would be a charge levied to cover entry into the venue. Police proposal from Police Youth engagement Officer(Laura). Discussing proposals for engaging comprehensive schools' years with trips through the summer holidays. Engaging in our local areas.

146. County Councillor reports.

Melin Mynach pump track which will be an extension and new youth track
Nicola Matthews had had Vape shop reply that spot checks would be carried out at the premises. Concerns around their continued risk in the area. It will be taken to licencing Department to address this issue. Bans on disposable vapes is in force for underage.

a. Town Councillors

Cllr. M Curtice – queried details re launch of the scheme at the bottom of Lime st Gorseinon, Cllr. A Stevens has reported back and funding contributions have been agreed. £150,000 in total. Architects have been commissioned. GTC have requested a better drawing presentation of the scheme. Currently awaiting revised scheme from architects for GTC approval. Bluebell /Bulb scheme will be incorporated into the scheme.

Cllr. P Griffiths – any progress broken Concrete seat down bottom of Gorseinon.

147. Clerks Matters

a. Grants applications received 2024/5. Members approved the following donations:

- a. Grants applications received 2024/5. Members approved the following donations;
 - £ 300 SA Radio.
 - £ 200 Llchwyr guides meeting in Institute
 - £ 1000 Charity bike ride by Cllr Joe Clayfield Berlin- Gorseinon

Branding and marketing discussions with Ass. Clerk and potential vat reclaim. Saturdays spent in ASDA trying to get sponsorship and funding. Clerk asked if members knew of any other funders locally. Members gave their suggestions.

Clerk advised Members current to spend on grants was £8680. An increase to £9000 has been agreed for the coming year.

b. **Independent remuneration panel for Wales Annual report 2025/6** . Clerk reported the determinations of the panel highlighting there would be no financial changes to Members allowances for the coming financial year.

c. Lighthouse electrical/ New Lodge Container? Xmas lights had been dismantled from mid February when cherry picker was hired. 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. A Planning application has been submitted which has recently been approved. Clerk updated members on the possibility of also 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. Meeting with Fire escape contractors Fri Jan 30 11am had taken place to show the new revised plans at side and rear of Ty Newydd. Clerk had subsequently shown plans to Library managers who had approved the design met their requirements. Plans had now been costed in detail, and once licensing forms had been exchanged with Swansea Council work would commence..

e. **Defibrillator maintenance -**

Almost all the defibs in GTC patch are now operational. Our defibs apart from two are all located in their boxes. Marc Gower from has kindly donated on extended loan to GTC, three new defibs which can also be used in heated cabinets. Marc joined both the Clerk, Ass. Clerk and Loughor Town Council Clerk in a meeting where he also donated several pads for both councils to ensure they can be used immediately.

Assistant Clerk to report in April meeting with a schedule showing the status of the defibs. In the intervening period all relevant works will be undertaken, and new installations will take place.

Gorseinon Fire station are organising an open day on 22nd Mar called Brew With the Crew. Open to all who want between 11am and 2pm. There will be defib awareness training available. Assistant Clerk shared the poster for the event with members.

f. 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. Contractors would be on site end Feb. to carry out the repairs. The works have been partially completed as the clock now works but has no chimes. The company have responded and have been unable to repair the chimes and are sourcing a replacement part.

148. Asst Town Clerk reports.

Website/internet connection Ty Newydd. New broadband and WIFI service is now up and running with two WIFI options. WIFI is working as intended.

New **website** plans are in their final stages with a launch expected in the coming days/weeks.

Assistant clerk would be able now training is complete to change and update website independently meaning, an improvement in editing and any changes to the website which may be needed. Assistant Clerk to work closely with Mayor and photographer to upload any events much more efficiently. 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 agendas and policies uploaded soon to ensure the website is compliant before going live.

Grants. There are three grants currently being looked in to completing.

The 'Swansea Rural Anchor Grant Scheme', The Swansea Welsh Church Act Trust Fund, and National Lottery Heritage Grant. The first two are dependent on opening and submission deadline dates. They would be targeting grants to support any works on the Ty Newydd building.

The lottery Grant may be available for longer term projects as this can take up to two years to secure the funding due to its size. Are members happy to go ahead with all of these? As well as this there are resubmissions for grant aid for the Solar panel project for Ty Newydd.

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

- a. OVW area meeting Mon Jan 13 2025 7pm Ty Newydd Zoom meeting
Deadline for OVW awards presentation GTC entries 2025 was discussed. Members agreed to submit an entry if possible. Cllr Andrew Crowley had considered an entry for an initiative he was exploring but had not proceeded with it this year.

150. Correspondence.

- a. 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.

151 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 5th March 2025 (proposed P Griffiths seconded J Curtice). 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. One Voice Wales annual membership 2025/6 was reported for 4402 dwellings at a cost of £1892. Members approved the annual renewal.

152 PLANNING MATTERS.

PLANNING MATTERS. (MEETING March 5th 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 prior to meeting.

a. NO OBJECTIONS;

2024/2025/0186 Installation of heat pump,18 Frampton rd Penyrheol

2025/0352 55-56 High street Gorseinon CofUse from retail to food/drink, café/diner ground floor. Rear extractor,awning.

2025/0357 /Pre app Use of garage as salon 9 Ffordd y Coegylfinir

2025/0346 Pencefnarda Farm Penyrheol, discharge cond 9 (verification report) cond 20 (internal road Maintenance)

2025/0298 /pre app detached dwelling rear of14 Pencefnarda rd Penyrheol

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

2024/2301 44 West st Gors Renewal shopfront. Approved 10 Feb 2025

2024/2345 46 High St Gorseinon CofUse retail A1 to mixed use dry cleaning. Approved 24 feb 2025

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

d. Applications withdrawn For information None reported

INCOME EXPENDITURE Feb 28 2025		nett	vat	
Expenditure				
SALARIES 001/002/ NI employer/employee				
HMRC Tax NI 001/002				
Stationery/Hall supplies		66.87	3.58	DD 539.56/ DD 70.45
Sa radio				DD 300.00
Monthly HSBC Hall mortgage				DD 662.41
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				DD531.22/197.25
CCS				DD 5005.00
Bank Charges feb				DD 10.00
TY Newydd cleaning jan feb				DD 240.00
Clerk travelling feb				DD 86.45
Xmas best shop				Chq 100.00
Xmas foodbank				Chq 100.00
Grant scrabble club				DD 200.00
CCS wildflowers				DD 987.00
BRISCO RUN				DD 3000.00
Tech wales				DD 164.97
BT				DD 595.33
SA RADIO GRANT				DD 300.00
3M roadrunners grant				DD 300.00
Chromamusic				DD 300.00
Centregraet xmas				DD 3360
H Grant				DD 300.00
M W Stevens xmas tree installations x3				DD 1188.00
Vision ICT				DD 1188/288
Knight Brenchley				DD201.6/180
Gors band				DD 300.00
Defibrulator repairs/new parts				DD 1836.00
Income				
CCS xmas parade grant				+ 7000
CCS SWANSEA				+ 400
Tinitus hire feb				+137.50
Bank interest feb				+257.12
Bank reconciliation FEB 28 2025				
Current account				4148
Treasurers account				166748
Current balance				170896
Mortgage balance outstanding				-60411