

MINUTES ARE IN DRAFT FORM UNTIL APPROVED AT NEXT MEETING April 5 2023

**MINUTES of the MEETING of GORSEINON TOWN COUNCIL, held on WEDNESDAY
1 March 2023 at Ty Newydd Community Centre, 17 West St. GORSEINON, at 6pm**

Present, Cllrs Ken Jones(Chmn), M Curtice, P Griffiths, Pam Morgan, J Curtice, A Crowley, A Thomas.
C Rabiaotti. J Crowley, Joe Clayfield, N Matthews

141. APOLOGIES were received from Cllrs. A Stevens, M Phillips, S Rawle.

142. MAYORS ANNOUNCEMENTS. Clerk advised the Mayor had attended the following events

- a. 90th birthday for Mr Geraint Thomas, Penyrheol.
- b. Cawl @ Can event at Welfare Hall Loughor March 3 2023..

143. POLICE MEETING. The Police were not represented at the meeting and no stats had been provided.

Cllr Jan Curtice reported the recent Multi Agency meeting at which the Police were in attendance. Cllr Matthews advised that First Cymru bus company would be holding a public session in the Lime St car park on evening March 3rd to discuss the recent spate of anti social behaviour affecting buses in the community.

1. Members discussed reports of travellers moving onto the bottom site of 3Ms over weekend of Feb 11-12. Complaints had been received and forwarded to Swansea Council enforcement officer.
2. Members discussed the recent fire of property in Lime street on Feb 14 2023, and commended the Fire and Police agencies on their actions..

144. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a. The Clerk presented the Feb 1 2023 minutes (which had been distributed previously) for approval. (Proposed by J Curtice, sec Cllr A Thomas).

145. PUBLIC SESSION. Two issues raised.

- a. The Council received a presentation from Vicar Adrian Morgan on the future redevelopment proposals for St Catherines church site in Gorseinon. Members noted the plans and following questions the Chairman thanked the Vicar for keeping the Council informed. Members resolved to;
 1. Support the proposed redevelopment plans for St Catherines church/church hall.
 2. Offer a letter of support for the proposals and become a partner for the grant bids proposed.
- b. The Council received a presentation from Mr Clive Attwell who wished to promote the Over 50 s club meetings at the Welfare Hall Loughor on the Town Councils social media. Members noted the plans and following questions the Chairman thanked the Mr Attwell. Cllr A Crowley agreed to promote the event on the Councils Facebook page and Newsletter.

146. MEMBER REPORTS on Local Matters from Town and County Councillors

- a. **Cllr J Curtice** reported Mr Paul Tregembo had secured a grant of £750 for defibrillator around St Catherines church recently, and had asked to pass the fund to the Town Council to organise its installation in the local area. JC had checked with Surgery where to install the defib. Clerk confirmed the casing had now been bought and delivered.
A Defib. was to be positioned at top of Pontardulais rd on the estate. County Members would fund purchase & Council the future maintenance. Clerk would secure purchase initially. Cllr Crowley also asked for one to installed around the Homebargains/ Somerfield/chemist area in future.
JC advised that 20 mph road traffic restrictions were to come in on 20th Sept on every road with street lights, and many complaints and chaos was anticipated as a result. Links are available on Swansea Council website..
The County Members agreed that for future meetings only one of them would summarise County issues. County Council was increasing Community charge by 5.95% for 2023/4., and car park charge increases was deferred for 12 months.
- b. **Cllr Pat Griffiths**. Comments were raised about the ongoing difficulty of exiting onto the main road from the estate. She also thanked the Local Firebrigade for the prompt attendance at a recent fire in Whittington Terrace.
- c. **Cllr A Crowley** reported on sub committee meeting regarding future production of a Town Council Newsletter.. It was hoped to produce a number of copies each year for distribution to the community, covering Future events, local history, Youth Council input, local businesses. Ideas/feedback , internet links etc. to tell the community what the Town Council does. It would be funded by County Members and Town Council and include editorial from Mayor. Council needs to look to future with a positive outlook, and promote what a successful Town Council does for its community. Cllrs Crowley and Rabiotti were taking initiative forward.
- d. **Cllr Rabiotti** asked for a meeting of the Ty Newydd sub committee in late March to examine H&S and storage issues affecting the building. Members agreed and asked for focusing on Fire escape and risk issues in the building. Cllr J Curtice reported that the owner of the 2 garages at rear of Ty Newydd was no longer intending to sell the garages.
He asked that T shirts be purchased to support the LGBT+ walks in Swansea for the Town Council, and to support efforts of Cllr Rawle. The exact wording would be finalised by Cllr Rawle.
- e. **Cllr M Curtice** asked that bluebells be planted at the bottom of Lime st. on the green, and boulders be placed between certain trees to stop illegal parking by the Fairground vehicles..
- f. **Cllr A Thomas** advised the community Health walk was restarting shortly from Loughor foreshore.

147. CLERKS REPORTS

- a). A request for **financial assistance** had been previously been received from the following. Members had agreed in Feb.2022 meeting that the grant allocation would remain in place and be distributed to worthy causes through out the year as the Covid pandemic eased. The following grants had previously been approved;

Parc y Werin Bowls club towards grounds maintenance, £500 grant approved October meeting
Parc y Werin committee for bench. £650 grant for picnic bench approved Oct meeting
Cllr Andrew Stevens Decky Memorial run. £200
Cllr Joe Clayfield local cystic Fybrosis bike ride . £200 .
One Heart drummers, £200 Moving Forward Group, £250
Penyrheol amateur boxing club.£300 Eynon street allotments £300

Llwchwr Art group £300 Vision impaired west glamorgan(Gorseinon) £150
Childrens Wales Air Ambulance £250 towards the local Dafen branch of Air Ambulance
St Catherines church defibrulator crowdfunding. Agreed to help with full amount if needed.
Defibrulator for Bryngwyn estate had been requested but noted that a new one had recently
Been installed on the green within the estate.

Explorer scouts 25th World scout jamboree Korea 2023 - to be attended by 3 local scouts
Gorseinon AFC

Mr Hugh Quick over 60s cricket world cup Australia Sept 2022. £250 approved. Clerk
reported a thank you letter had been received from Mr Quick promising to give a presentation
following the trip.

Jubilee party at Llys Werin. £100 approved

Parc Y Werin bowls club. £350 approved

(Cllr Marsha Phillips had declared an interest and did not participate in discussion/vote)

Decky Memorial match Sun Aug 28.£250

Chromamusic community formed 2021 based St Catherine church hall. £200 agreed

New scrabble group Gorseinon Institute. More information requested

Loughor Events committee – xmas tree . £100 agreed

New community Halls funding opportunity from Welsh Govt CADW was noted.

West St Gym £250 awarded

One Heart Drummers (St Catherines) awarded £200.

Garden project Park rd complex. Members agreed a donation of £200.

Brisco fun run was explained by Cllr Stevens , and was programmed for end April 2023. The
Town Council had previously agreed to be a major sponsor of the annual event and Members
agreed to make a substantial contribution. The exact figure would be finalised at the Budget
meeting in January once detailed costings were known.

Mr Hugh Quick had submitted a letter thanking Council for financial support of his trip to
Australia in September to represent Wales cricket seniors. Members applauded his efforts and
success in representing the Country. Cllr Stevens would put acknowledgement on Facebook.

Visually impaired group Gorseinon Institute . Approved £100

Moving Forward group (Monday mornings at Ty Newydd centre.) Approved £300.

Clerk reported that POBL had funded the groups hall hire fees for 2023 at a cost of £260.

Mr **Chris Chapman** (Happy Chappy) who takes the Town Council photos had requested
financial support towards a new camera for Town Council purposes. Members agreed to a
contribution of £200.

Requests received for Jan/Feb 2023 - financial year 2023/4 approved the following;

Llwchwr art group £200

Recycled Teenagers £250 (Cllrs Jan Curtice, M Curtice declared an interest and did not vote).

Grovesend brownies . Whilst initiative was supported it was felt the local community Council
in Grovesend should be first source to provide financial support.

1. Pontybrenin school charity event to support Motor neurone disease in a local school pupils
parent. Members Agreed to donate £200 towards fundraising event.
2. Await email from Penyrheol junior school for park benches in the school.
3. A request to support an open air market on the Homebargains car park on 2nd Sunday of
month was discussed. Whilst the principle was supported the request to fund the legal costs
was opposed in view of the cost. (Cllr Jade Davies Pontarddulais)

b) Clerk has renegotiated a further 12 months lease for the front room of Ty Newydd with **Barclays**
Bank on Tuesdays and Thursdays . Members noted the arrangement which they supported.

c) Clerk advised he had been able to secure an additional 550 **tree whips** which were delivered
on Feb 2nd from “ Dig Trees”if local groups wished to take advantage of the opportunity.
There were now almost 1000 whips available for local groups. A large number had been
delivered to Penyrheol junior school for their use. Clerk had also purchased a few rooted
xmas trees for planting on sites that Members choose.

- d Clerk reported the **vandalism** to the Xmas tree in Argyll Gardens on 29 December which had damaged barriers and completely broken all the festoon lights on the tree. It had been decided to switch off the tree illuminations for safety reasons for the rest of the Xmas period. This came on top of damage to the planted xmas tree which had been snapped, the willow trees which had branches ripped off , the 85 Hydrangeas stolen, and the Pyramid planter which had all its plants taken in Summer. Members had discussed if initiatives should continue in Argyll Gardens with the vandalism happening.
- f) Clerk reported the advertising literature from Swansea Council for the former school in High street, that went to **auction** on December 15th. Council would be kept briefed on the sale by County Cllrs. Clerk advised the property had been sold by auction for £370000, to a builder. Members discussed how they could be involved in future plans for the site in the shopping centre..
- g) Clerk had received quotes from **Freshair fitness** for repair and replacement works to the equipment in Parc Y Werin Gorseinon. Members approved the quotes and asked the work be carried out as soon as possible.
- h).Clerk advised Council that the new **Active travel** route between Penllergaer and Gorseinon was now underway over the next 26 weeks, to provide a dedicated footpath/ cycleroute between both communities..Many complaints had been received about the traffic delays being caused by the roadworks.
- i) **Remembrance** service committee was discussed following comments received from Llchwyr Town Council. British Legion had written to the Clerk to ask for a committee to be set up to organise the future event. It was agreed to have 3 representatives from each organisation if needed. Clerk reported on outcome of meeting held on 22 Feb, and would check on cost of marshalling the event , road closures and insurance. A timetable of the week would be produced for all parties to use..
- j) **King Charles Coronation** May 6 2023. Members discussed if commemorative mugs were needed, or something more appropriate for youngsters. Range of options were discussed , and it was agreed to focus on primary school children only.. Clerk reported on quotes received for childrens piggy boxes and gym bags suitably printed , and it was agreed to not accept quote from “ Inspiration” because of cost and to just put flags up for the event.
- k) **Training Plan** 2023 was distributed & approved as the Councils Training programme for coming year. Clerk was authorised to forward to Swansea Council monitoring officer. OVW sessions were discussed and appropriate sessions booked for members and Clerk.
- l) Clerk reported on email regarding **sect 6 Environment Act 2016** requiring Biodiversity plans to be prepared. This had been done 3 years ago and would be updated and submitted, showing how the Town Council is addressing biodiversity issues in the area..
- m) A quotation from Swansea Council Parks for summer 2023 flower troughs etc was received in sum of £4889.5 inc vat, which was discussed and approved. The only variation was to place one of the Triangle planters from the top of Lime street to the pavement outside RJs at bottom of Lime street. Members discussed whether it was worth continuing with planter in Argyll Gardens due to vandalism, but it was agreed to try one more year initially.
- n) A quotation from Swansea Council Parks for summer 2023 **wild flowers** was received . which was discussed and approved. A site meeting was requested to finalise sites and mixes for the Summer. Discussions with Parks dept had confirmed additional sites to include Asda roundabout and frontage site at Frampton rd Junior school.

- o) Members were advised that the Penllergaer Valley woods volunteers had booked the Hall for Training and would be booking again shortly.
- p) Garage Purchase at rear of Ty Newydd. The owner of the 2 garages at rear of Hall was now not selling them, and the issue of purchasing was therefore abandoned.
- q) Clerk reported the Annual report from the Independent salary commission Wales , and its recommendations which were noted.
- r) Clerk advised Members of the exhibition for the proposed Solar wind farm at Llewitha in the Welfare Hall Loughor on March 6th.

148. REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES.

- a. Members agreed to hold a Ty Newydd sub committee in week 3 of March.

149. CORRESPONDENCE;

- a. One Voice Wales training courses were outlined in Feb 2023 – March 2023.
- b. Clerk advised Members of an Access to Information request received regarding correspondence over the Nov 24 2023 Penyrheol election polling cards matter, which had been responded to by the Clerk..
- c. Clerk reported email from organisation overseeing the new 20mph speed limit from Sept17th. It offered a package of assistance in getting message across to local community and its contents were Noted.
- d. Gwynfaen Newsletter was distributed and Noted.

150. ACCOUNTS

- a. Committee received the Income / Receipts summary statement from the Clerk and considered and approved the payment of the following outstanding cheques for the ACCOUNTS dated 1st March 2023 (proposed M Curtice 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. Members noted that Swansea Council had been advised of the precept from Gorseinon TC for financial year 2023/4 of £135744, equating to £42 per household per annum.
- c. Clerk reported invoice from Swansea Council for election held on Nov 24 2022 for a cost to the Town Council of £3812.97.
- d. Clerk reported the donation towards the Brisco fun run had been received at £3600. Members queried why the figure had risen from the £3000 initially agreed but were advised they had been billed for £3000 plus VAT.

151.PLANNING MATTERS. (MEETING March 1 2023)

Committee was asked to consider and make recommendations on the following planning applications received from Swansea County Council as the Local Planning Authority;

a. **NO OBJECTIONS** were raised to the following applications;

2022/ 2975 Res Dev. Land west Gower View rd development by POBL/Coastal Hsg .
Extension time for planning reserved matters 2019/0911 . Vary conditions
10.11.17

Clerk had received Advance Notice from the Agents, of the proposed large rear extension for storage at Bako Wales, Gorseinon road, Gorseinon . Detailed comments would be made once the formal planning application was submitted.

Advance Notice of upgrade telecom mast on boundary Gorseinon rugby ground, Lime st Gorseinon.

2022/0950 Discharge cond 3 (Env management plan) Former cross engineering site,
Frampton rd Penyrheol

2023/0402 Replace single storey rear extension, 25 Gower View road Penyrheol

2023/0388 102 Lime st. Gorseinon, Single storey rear extn./1st floor side extension,
extend drive/parking.

2022/1641 approved 11 Oct 2022. . Ecological enhancement measures, Penyrheol
Comprehensive school, Gorseinon

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

2023/0019 2 extractor fans/2 air con units Unit D J47 Retail Park Gors. for Greggs.

2023/0020 2 extractor vents/ 2 air con units, Unit D J47 Retail park Gorseinon rd
Gorseinon Appr 14 Feb 2023

2022/2975 Pobl/Coastal, Res Dev Land west of GowerView rd Penyrheol, To extend time
period for delivery conds 1,3,4 of pp 2005/2355. Approved 7 Feb 2023

2022/2976 Pobl/Coastal, Res Dev Land west of GowerView rd Penyrheol, To vary conds
10,11,17of pp 2005/2355. Approved 7 Feb 2023

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

2022/0070 Development 4 detached bungalows between 46-48 Mydham Lane, off Llys
Gwynfaen Refused 17 Feb 2023.

2022/2411 263 Frampton rd Penyrheol . Engineering works to front wall of garden Ref. 3
Feb 2023.

2023/0023 Change Use from Vets to flat C3/fenestration changes. Refused 24 Feb 2023

d. Notification of **Appeals** by Local Planning Authority; None received in January.

e. Enforcement matters. No items raised.

Name	Net	VAT	Total (£)
HMRC			DD 741.28
Stationery/Hall supplies			DD 91.45
Monthly HSBC Hall mortgage			DD 639.46
Monthly HSBC overpayment			DD 117.79
Hall business rates suite 1			DD 76.00
Hall business rates suite 2			DD 49.00
Npower gas hall			DD 56.00
BGas electric Hall			DD 97.40
Bank Charges			DD 15.00
Clerk travelling Jan Feb			DD 124.80
Good housekeeping hall cleaning			DD 210.00
Penyrheol election Nov 24			DD 3812.97
CCS wildflowers			DD 625.00
Lighthouse electrical xmas	5360	1072	DD 6432.00
Centregreat lights High st	3080	616	DD 3696.00
BT MPs office	531.9	106.38	DD 638.28
Frontrunner Brisco funrun	3000	600	DD 3600.00
Vision ICT webhosting			DD 283.20

CREDIT		
MPs office costs		888.62
Tinitus hire Jan		100.00
Barclays room hire		2496.00
SCVS Hire		10.00

Gorseinon town council bank reconciliation	FEB 28 2023	
Current account		+ 3435
Treasurers account		+ 126137
Current balance		+129573
Mortgage balance		- 69141

Meeting closed at 8.25pm.....Chairman.....