

**MINUTES ARE IN DRAFT FORM UNTIL APPROVED AT NEXT MEETING 5 June 2024**

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

**Present,** Cllrs (Chmn) C Rabiotti , S Rawle, A Crowley, Town Clerk, Pam Morgan, Ken Jones  
P Griffiths, M Curtice, I Walters.. J Crowley. J Curtice, N Matthews, M Phillips. A Stevens,

**153 APOLOGIES** received from Cllrs J Clayfield, A Thomas, Katie Jones

**154. MAYORS ANNOUNCEMENTS.** Clerk advised the Mayor had attended the following Events in April May.

- a. Clerk reported the recently published portrait of the Monarch had been received and had now been to put up in Ty Newydd.
- b. Mayor had been invited to Chromamusic family concert in St Catherines on May 12 2024. Cllr Rawle would attend.

c. Appointment of Deputy at AGM and investigation into written accusations against Councillor. Mayor read out minutes of meeting held on May 1<sup>st</sup> with Mayor/deputy and Clerk into written allegations against Cllr AT. Advice had been received from One Voice Wales/ Swansea Council that an informal meeting should take place with AT to obtain his responses to the accusations. AT denied the accusations and initially tendered his resignation to the Mayor, but subsequently withdrew the request on May 3<sup>rd</sup>. He had been asked to confirm in writing , but refused and consequently still remained a Councillor, as resignations had to be in writing.  
Members discussed in detail the issues which were alarming, and raised concern about how AT had been treated in the interview and whether he needed support. Cllr AC advised that a Restraining Order did not constitute a criminal record. Members resolved the following actions;

- a. Clerk was asked to forward the accusations to Swansea Council monitoring officer for comments, and investigation now they had been reported to the Clerk..
- b. Whilst investigation was being carried out into accusations Cllr AT would be asked to temporarily stand down from Town Council duties.
- c. Cllr AT would be offered support if he felt it was needed.
- d. The appointment of Deputy Mayor 2024/5 would be deferred at the AGM.
- e. Council decided it would be sensible for all Cllrs to have a DBS check carried out in future.

**155. POLICE MEETING**

- a. 01/04/24 – 31/4/24 there were 89 occurrences reported in Gorseinon (2023 there were 99). 4 of these occurrences were occurrences of antisocial behaviour . Focus of activity old school High st and Police currently liaising with owner to ensure site secure. Furthermore 24 of the 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. Penyrheol had 50 reported occurrences,and 11 of these occurrences were crimes of violence,

There were 3 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 area at bottom of Lime street. The vehicles had now been successfully removed. No offences were disclosed. The area will continue to be monitored PCSO Elinor Pearce.

Cllr Andrew Stevens had also been very proactive in having the showmens vehicles removed from the grassed area and was thanked for his efforts.

#### **156. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

a. The Clerk presented the April 3 2024 minutes (which had been distributed previously) for approval, which were approved with a few minor amendments as supplied by Cllr Phillips. (Prop J Curtice, sec Cllr A Crowley).

**157. PUBLIC SESSION.** No Members of the public were present.

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

a. County Councillor reports. Cllr Andrew Stevens

1. ( proposed new scheme Lower Gorseinon Cllr Andrew Stevens) . Architect now appointed for the £100k scheme at bottom Lime street. Once plans drawn up they would be presented to Council for observations. Scheme would reflect the railway/industrial heritage of the town.
2. Resurfacing of pavement road at Railway Terrace was now completed, and more pedestrian friendly.
3. Funding had now been received for resurfacing the bowls club surrounds at Parc Y Werin.
4. Brisco Fun Run was on May 19th
5. The impending amendment to 20mph legislation was awaiting Wesh Govt guidelines.. Some signage on roads was currently being covered over. All costs to be borne by Welsh Govt.. Some 20mph roads would be redesignated.

b. **Cllr S Rawle** advised of the Swansea Pride March 18 May , leaves top Wind st 11am heading for Guildhall. Invite made to all Councillors.

c. **Cllr Andrew Crowley** attended and assisted ALN group. Cllr Crowley also visited the new community garden in neighbouring Council. He expressed how much he liked the project and put forward the idea of Gorseinon's own community garden which he believes will improve; skills for people, intergenerational interaction and will create a nice community area. Additionally, he has recently spoken to a local woman who is looking to start a group for young disabled children and wishes to assist her in the creation of this group.

Cllr A Crowley Litter collection initiative. Blue Peter badges were to be given to those getting involved in litter collection initiatives for kids under 15.

Afterschool club at Gorseinon Primary was under threat due to cost cutting. AC had arranged to use the St Catherines Hall facility as an option, providing it could be run by volunteers.

d. Cllr Joane Crowley advised she had been appointed the ALM exercise coordinator, and was organising local walks.

e. Jan Curtice advised the Social Centre in Princess street was looking to set up gardens to grow food for supplying the local Foodbanks.

**159. CLERKS REPORTS** a. Members had agreed in Feb.2024 meeting that the grant allocation would remain in place and be distributed to worthy causes throughout the year .

**a. Grants applications received from community - financial year 2023/4**

New application for May 3Ms Road Runners were granted £200.

**b. 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. Following the latest meeting with Fabricators in March an amended design and quote had now been received. Members wanted it implemented, but cost was deemed excessive, and alternative quotes were asked for initially.

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

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

**e.** New plaques/badges for presentations were being sought.

**f.** Builders of the BMX track Parc Melyn Mynach had offered to carry out a maintenance visit which was agreed and was to be arranged.

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

**h.** Clerk reported the Remuneration Panel 2024/5 recommendations – no change was highlighted for Community and Town Councils.

**i.** Clerk reported successful application for Business rate relief for Ty Newydd for 2024/5 from Welsh Govt reduced 75% to 45%,

**j.** Plumber work to external drains Disabled toilet had now been completed and resolved the blocked disabled toilet issue. Quote was awaited for cost of relocating radiator for fire escape door....

**k.** Ty Newydd-

- CCTV installation at Ty Newydd was approved. May 20th install was now programmed.
- New group Monday afternoons alternate weeks. Art group from Library were to be advised of potential use by MPs office of adjoining room 1 for interviewing.

**l.** CCS Grass maintenance of BMX track 2024/5 was quoted at £808, which was accepted by Council for 9 cuts annually..

**160.** Assistant Clerks report. Asst/Clerk reported on the following matters;

- a. Content of the Newsletter was discussed. The agreement was made that in order to include everything the council wanted, the Newsletter would be expanded to a 4 page leaflet. Content including, council spending, council member photos, signposting of community groups and upcoming/past Council projects.
- b. A Ty Newydd committee will be created to allow for more nuanced discussion over the management and maintenance of building due to time constraints of the main monthly meeting.
- c. No contact has been received by Gorseinon College on the topic of youth council. College open day later in year would have a youth council stall that could be used as a contact point for further discussion.

- d. As this was Isaacs last meeting , Mayors on behalf of Members offered his thanks and best wishes on behalf of Councillors for last 6 months. Gifts were presented and best wishes given for his new post teaching in Japan.

**161.** Advert for new post of Information Technology Officer to specifically develop Website, social media, IT Newsletter etc for Council. Draft job description was enclosed for approval and following discussion and amendments Council approved the Job description and pro rata salary grade, for advertising and interview.

**163.** **Local Development Plan 2** timetable was outlined from Swansea Council which described the Vision, objectives and 4 options for growth - Timetable of exhibitions at end May at County Hall library was outlined to Members..

#### **164. 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.

a. **OVW area meeting** Mon 15 April 7pm Guildhall. Presentation given by Auditor dept.

b.**OVW Innovative Practice conference** July 3rd.

#### **165.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. New kitchen bins had now been acquired by the Clerk to meet new legislation, for users to utilise accordingly.

#### **166. 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 8<sup>th</sup> May 2024 (proposed J Curtice 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 had now submitted and received back accounts from DCK Beavers for formalising for financial year 2024/5.

c. 2023/4 end of year Financial accounts from Accountants DCK Beavers. Annual Return 2023/24 was signed by Chairman and Clerk for return to internal Auditor.

d. Data protection fee 2024/5 was authorised for payment £35.

**167.PLANNING MATTERS. (MEETING May 8 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;**

To consider and make recommendations on the following planning applications received from Swansea City and County Council as the Local Planning Authority;

2024/0615 114 Frampton rd Penyrheol, Roof extension includes gable and rear dormer  
2024/ 0703 Station hotel.117 High st Gorseinon, Conversion 1 flat & public house function room to  
2 self contained flats

Councillors viewed the ground and first floor layouts in detail. Whilst the upstairs flats were supported the relationship between the ground floor flat and adjoining bars and

public house related activities raised concerns, and unless being used by the landlord was deemed unsuitable for any other public rental

2024/0784 10 Grenfell Avenue Penyrheol single storey side extension (proposed lawful dev)  
2024/0411 Outline single 3/4 bed dwelling land adj 44 Penyrheol rd Penyrheol  
21/1588 20 High st Gorseinon Change use shop/1<sup>st</sup> floor flat to café bar application WITHDRAWN

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

2024/0372 2 Condensers on roof, 117 High street Gorseinon.App 15 April  
2024/0418 2 Pontardulais rd/89 High St Replacement shopfronts.  
2024/0373 62 Alexandre rd Gorseinon Single storey rear ext. Approved 2 May 2024.  
2024/0405 68 Park rd Gorseinon Single storey rear ext/porch App1 May 24  
2024/0773 Miners Welfare club Brighton rd Cert lawful use solar panels Lawful approval 1 May  
2024/0784 10 Grenfell Ave Gorseinon single storey side extension, Approved 1 May Lawful devt.

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

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

2023/0846 Land rear of 19 Mydham Lane and 46-48 Llys Gwynfaen Penyrheol following refusal  
planning consent. Appeal starts 25 April 2024.

**GORSEINON TOWN COUNCIL EXPENDITURE April 30 2024**

	Net	VAT	Total (£)
HMRC Tax NI			DD 658.74
Stationery/Hall supplies/	53.03	6.16	DD 59.19
Good housekeeping cleaning March april 24			DD 240.00
Monthly HSBC Hall mortgage			DD 688.12
Monthly HSBC overpayment			DD 117.79
Hall business rates suite 1 (incudes 45 discount) £61x11from June			DD 63.64
Hall business rates suite 2 ( includes 45% discount)£95x11from June			DD 93.36
Corona energy gas/electric Hall			DD 200.00
OVW annual subs 2024/5			DD 1794
Bank Charges			DD 8.00
Radio Tircoed			DD 200.00
Clerk travelling			DD 139.75
CCS rent Chestnut Ave			DD 50.00
Plumbers Hall work			DD 192.00
Data protection fee 2023/4			DD 35.00
Bay security CCTV installation	1098	219.6	DD 1317.6
BT	528.33	99.94	DD 599.62
CCS Argyll Gdns lighting			DD 4200.00
Office printer	158.33	31.67	DD 189.99
AGM Member allowances £208/ Mayors allowance			Chq 4162.00
Quilters hire			40.00
PRECEPT 1 April 30			49830.00
Tinitus hire April 2024			100.00
<b>Gorseinon town council bank reconciliation April 30 2024</b>			
Current account			11672.47
Treasurers account			180472.54
<b>Current balance at end year (plus future precepts in Aug Dec 2024)</b>			<b>192145.00</b>
Mortgage balance			64175.00

Meeting closed at 8.00pm.....Chairman.....