

MINUTES ARE IN DRAFT FORM UNTIL APPROVED AT NEXT MEETING 10 July 2024

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

Present, Cllrs (Chmn) S Rawle, A Crowley, Town Clerk, Pam Morgan, P Griffiths, M Curtice,
J Crowley. J Curtice, N Matthews, Andrew Thomas, A Crowley 3 Members public

24. APOLOGIES received from Cllrs J Clayfield, Ken Jones, M Phillips, A Stevens,

Clerk reported that he had received in writing on May 14th a letter of resignation from former Cllr Carlo Rabaiotti. Members noted the letter and contents and approved the formal advertising of the vacancy once approved by Swansea Council. As a request for an election had now been received following the advert the Town Council would now proceed to an election to appoint a new Cllr for Penyrheol, and cost of election to be born by Town Council.

25. MAYORS ANNOUNCEMENTS. Clerk advised Mayor had attended the following Events in May.

- a. Mayor had attended the Chromamusic family concert in St Catherines on May 12 . Mayor had attended the Brisco Fun run on May 19 and presented the medals to Participants. The event was a great success with great community support, and the Town Council was well promoted.
Mayor reported on the Swansea Pride March 18 May, which left top Wind St 11am heading for Guildhall. Invite had been made to all Councillors.
- b. Investigation into written accusations against a Councillor. Clerk reported that following advice received from One Voice Wales/ Swansea Council and instructions given at the May 8th meeting of Council, he had referred the accusations to the Monitoring Officer of Swansea Council on 10th May. The Council had advised the matter be reported to the Ombudsman, which had been done on 23 May by the Clerk.
- c. Whilst Council had considered it would be sensible for all Cllrs to have a DBS check carried out in future, on existing and new Cllrs, advice from Swansea Council implied that we should only do that for Cllrs that would be directly involved with children in their work. A schedule would be produced outlining those Members already in possession of a DBS either as a County Cllr or school governor, and those in need of a new certificate could be highlighted.
- d. Mayor suggested raising the grant budget for the coming year to support local charities and community groups. Members resolved to discuss at the Finance meeting in Jan 25
- e. Members agreed that Cllr Andrew Crowley would review the CCS Safeguarding policy template and amend the wording to suite the Town Councils requirements.

26. POLICE MEETING

- a. 01/05/24 – 31/5/24 there were 125 occurrences reported in Gorseinon (2023 there were 104). 6 of these occurrences were occurrences of antisocial behaviour. Focus of activity was increased motor bike nuisance and action is being taken when riders are identified. Over same period in 2023 there were 14 reports.

Furthermore 29 of the occurrences were crimes of violence compares with 28 in 2023. There were 0 dwelling burglaries, same as 2023.

Penyrheol had 66 reported occurrences, (61 in 2023) and 11 of these occurrences were crimes of violence,

There were 5 cases of antisocial behaviour. (7 in 2023) The number of crimes of violence was 19 a slight increase from 17 in 2023. There were no dwelling burglaries.

27. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a. The Clerk presented the May 8 2024 minutes (which had been distributed previously) for approval, which were approved (Prop J Curtice, sec Cllr A Crowley).
- b. The Clerk presented the May 8 2024 AGM minutes (which had been distributed previously) for approval, which were approved (Prop J Curtice, sec Cllr A Crowley). As Cllr Rabaiotti had subsequently resigned, his place in appropriate committees would have to be reassigned.

28. PUBLIC SESSION. 3 Members of the public were present, wanting to discuss the proposed Boundary changes affecting the Grovesend/Waungron communities, which were being proposed in the draft report to be incorporated in the new enlarged Gorseinon town boundary. Comments from the Public present were not in support of the draft proposals and they expressed their opposition to the changes proposed as they affected the Grovesend / Waungron community council area.

They discussed the consequences of the boundary changes proposed and sought reassurances from the Town Council that the initiatives being pursued in their community would not be prejudiced. The Mayor gave reassurances that there would be further meetings to discuss all the implications of the boundary review for both communities.

29. Local boundary Commission report. Clerk had distributed the draft report outlining the proposed boundary changes to all Members as part of the distributed agenda. which affected Gorseinon/Penyrheol. Members noted the comments in the draft report which reflected the comments originally made by the Clerk in his submission to the Boundary Commission made originally on Oct 4 2023, on behalf of the Council.

The draft proposals would increase the boundary of the Gorseinon Town ward by incorporating the Grovesend/Waungron Community area. The total councillors would be 13 from Gorseinon TC and 2 from Grovesend Waungron CC. giving 15 in total..

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

- a. County Councillor reports. County Members were subject to election restrictions.
- b. Cllr M Curtice. Asked that Highways dept reallocate Cross street purely for disabled parking in view of the difficulty of disabled parking on High street where traders are using the disabled spaces for themselves. County Members requested more regular visits by the traffic wardens to address issue.

He asked for an update on the clock at rear of War Memorial. Clerk advised Cllr A Stevens had submitted the scheme for grant aid using the available ERF funds. Clerk would ask for an update.

Members again complained about the dilapidated state of Alberts Café in High street , its appearance and impact upon adjoining properties. Another complaint to Environmental Health dept CCS was requested.

- c. **Cllr S Rawle** reported on the Swansea Pride March 18 May , which left top Wind st 11am heading for Guildhall. Invite had been made to all Councillors.

- d. **Cllr Andrew Crowley** reported on the ongoing activities in St Catherines church Hall for community support,

including Sight Life group (Institute wed10-12), and ongoing volunteer work. He was compiling a questionnaire asking residents what they want to see in the town.

31. CLERKS REPORTS Members had agreed in Feb. 2024 meeting that the grant allocation 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 received from community - financial year 2023/4

Application for May 2024 3Ms Road Runners were granted £200.

New application for June ;

Loughor events committee Lighting up Xmas Fri 29 Nov. No funds allocated.

Thursday Talkie Thursdays £200 allocated.

Chris Chapman photographer £150 (Jan 25 2024)

b. REVIEW OF HIRE CHARGES TY NEWYDD CENTRE. Council discussed the existing hire charges for the community centre rooms, noting they were currently the cheapest in the town by far. It was agreed that the annual review of charges would increase the hire charges as follows with immediate effect;

Community events morning/afternoon or evening sessions £12

Commercial events morning /afternoon/evening sessions £20-£25

c. 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 from Forge fabricators. Members wanted it implemented, but cost was deemed excessive, and alternative quotes had been requested, and new plans displayed which the Clerk reported. Members agreed to proceed with the new cheaper design from Door fabrications, based on submitted quote, and also seek amended design to cover a security gate on the stairs..Library manager to be notified of proposed revised design..

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

e. Summer wildflower planting scheme was agreed for 2024. Sites had been discussed with CCS and location were now being prepared.

f. New plaques/badges for presentations were being sought.

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

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

i Ty Newydd-

- CCTV installation at Ty Newydd was installed on May 20th. Police were to be advised that the building now had CCTV coverage.

- 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.

j. CCS Grass maintenance of BMX track 2024/5 was quoted at £808, which was accepted

by Council for 9 cuts annually

k. National election July 4th. Clerk advised Members of the rules relating to forthcoming election.

l. Clerk had contacted Councils defibrillator suppliers re the maintenance of local defibs. He asked for a new pads to be installed in the New Lodge defib.

m. Clerk reported invite from Celtic flowers in Penllergaer for Councillors to visit the site on July 3rd for a tour . Members asked for 6 bookings to be made.

32. 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. Clerk reported The interest in the advert currently with closing date on June 30th.

33 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..

34. 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 Innovative Practice conference** July 3rd. Clerk asked for interested parties to advise him to book places. 3 places were to be booked.

35. 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.

36. 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 8th 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 Beavers. Annual Return 2023/24 had been signed by Chairman and Clerk for return to internal Auditor.

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

d. Clerk reported the Internal Auditors had now approved the 2023/4 Annual report and signed off the Annual return. Council thanked Clerk for his work involved in preparing the audit.

37. PLANNING MATTERS. (MEETING June 5 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.

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

a. NO OBJECTIONS;

2024 /0727 Jayplas Park, Heol y Mynydd Gorseinon, Demolish part existing building , extension at rear for new machinery , new doorway. Notification of **APPROVALS** by Local Planning Authority.

b. APPROVED For information

2024/0743/PRE 135 Frampton rd Gorseinon Pre app for single storey rear extension.

Decision Mixed comments

2024/0898 117 High St Gorseinon, Discharge cond 3 (ecological enhancement) approved 29 May 2024 (app 2024/0372).

2024/0615 114 Frampton rd Penyrheol Roof extension/gable/rear dormer Approved 21 May 2024

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

e. Notification of Application withdrawn.

2024/0135 DNS Solar Farm , land fronting A484 Swansea rd at SA44LN Withdrawn 10 May 2024

GORSEINON TOWN COUNCIL EXPENDITURE MAY 31 2024			
HMRC Tax NI			DD 658.74
Stationery/Hall supplies/			DD 108.02
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 61.00
Hall business rates suite 2 (includes 45% discount)£95x11from June			DD 95.00
Corona energy gas/electric Hall	322.89	16.14	DD 339.03
OVW annual subs 2024/5			DD 1794.00
Bank Charges			DD 8.00
CCS grass cutting BMX track			DD 808
Clerk travelling			DD 115.70
CCS rent Chestnut Ave			DD 50.00
Welsh water			DD 117.61
Zurich Insurance 2024/5	824.26	98.90	DD 923.16
Bay security CCTV installation	1321	264.20	DD 1585.20
BT	528.33	99.94	DD 599.62
CCS Argyll Gdns lighting			DD 4200.00
Wales audit 2023			DD 205.00
AGM Members allowances £208/ Mayors allowance £1250			Chq 4162.00
Income			
MP Office			+1585.20
Precept 1 April			+49830
Tinitus hire May			+100
Bank reconciliation May 31 2024			
Current account			+3855
Treasurers account			+172724
Current balance (plus precepts Aug, Dec)			+179331
Mortgage balance outstanding			-63810