

## CYNGOR CYMUNED GORSLAS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

### Minutes of the meeting of the Gorslas Community Council held at Gorslas C.P. School on Monday, 12<sup>th</sup> June, 2017, at 7.00p.m.

#### 39.0 Agenda Item 1: Record of those Present/Apologies

- **Members:** Cllrs Wyn Edwards (Chair), Brian Kirby (Vice Chair), Nia Lewis, Tina Jukes, Clive Green, Janice Price, Aled Owen, Simon Martin, Darren Price, Terry Jones and David Evans.
- **Others:** Llew Thomas Clerk to the Council and Mr Hefin Jones, Translator.
- Apologies for absence: None.

#### 39.1 Welcome

- The Chair declared the meeting open at 7.00p.m. and thanked everyone for attending.

#### 40.0 Agenda Item 2 Declarations of Interest

- The following declarations of interest were made: -
  - (i) Item 7. Proposed New School Gorslas
    - Councillors D. Price and Aled Vaughan Owen who are also County Councillors with Carmarthenshire County Council declared interests which were personal but not prejudicial and could thus speak and vote on the matter.
    - Councillor Janice Price through her role as a member of the Governing Body of Gorslas C.P. School had a personal but not prejudicial interest in the matter.
  - (ii) Item 11. Correspondence Telecommunication Mast Drefach.
    - Cllr W Edwards declared a personal interest due to its proximity to his residence.
  - (iii) Item 11. Application by Gorslas Welfare Association
    - Cllrs Janice Price and Aled Vaughan Owen declared a personal but not prejudicial interest as members of Gorslas Welfare Association.
  - (iv) Item 14 (iii). Grants to outside organisations.
    - Cllr David Evans as a member of the Cefneithin Growers Association.

#### 41.0 Agenda Item 3. Exclusion of Press and Public.

- **Resolved:** That it was not necessary to exclude members of the press and public.

#### **42.0 Agenda Item 4 Consider the Minutes of the Annual General and Ordinary Meetings of the Council both of which were held on the 8<sup>th</sup> May, 2017.**

- Members proceeded, under the direction of the Chair, to examine and consider separately each page of the minutes of both the Annual General Meeting and the subsequent Ordinary Meeting of the Council.
- It was proposed by Cllr Clive Green and seconded by Cllr Simon Martin and agreed by all present that the minutes were an accurate reflection and record of the discussions and decisions made.
- **Resolved:** That the minutes of both meetings be approved and confirmed as an accurate reflection and record of the discussions and decisions made.

#### **43.0. Agenda Item 5. Matters Arising from the Minutes.**

##### **43.1 AGM**

##### **43.2 Return of Declaration of Interests Forms by Members**

- The Chair reminded members of the importance to return the forms to the Clerk.

##### **43.3 Sub Committee**

- Following discussion, it was **resolved** that:
  - The Sub Committee membership remain as previously at three members but that an opportunity for one member from each ward to attend meetings of the Sub Committee as non-voting observes be made.
  - That a decision relating to the appointment of the individuals to serve as observers be deferred until the new members representing the Gorslas Ward had been appointed and were in attendance.

##### **43.4 Ordinary Meeting**

##### **44.5 Cefneithin Hall Lease**

- A signed copy of the Cefneithin and Foelgastell Welfare Association constitution had been received and forwarded to the County Council.
- Clarification was sought by Cllr Clive Green in relation to the fact that in correspondence reference was made both to the Cefneithin Hall Committee and at other times to the Cefneithin and Foelgastell Welfare Association. It was felt that a standardisation of terms would be helpful.
- It was explained by Cllr Darren Price that, given the significant involvement of the Association in running the Hall it was referred to locally as the Hall Committee. The correct title was however the Cefneithin and Foelgastell Welfare Association.
- **Resolved:** That in future references will be standardised using the correct title of association i.e. the Cefneithin and Foelgastell Welfare Association.

##### **44.6 Cefneithin Park. MUGA.**

- An e mail has been sent to Ruth Mullins the Chief Officer of the relevant department conveying the appreciation of the Community Council for the assistance received from County Council officers in the planning and delivery of the MUGA at Cefneithin.

- **Resolved:** To receive and note the information provided.

#### 44.7 Cefneithin Park Future Schemes.

- As resolved the Clerk met with members and the maintenance contractor on site on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> May ,2017, following which agreement was reached on the number, specification and placement for the benches and picnic tables to be provided.
- The Clerk then proceeded to invite tenders from 5 contractors for the supply of 6 benches with armrests and 2 picnic tables to be constructed from re-cycled materials with prices including delivery to site and security fixings.
- Having evaluated the tenders one of the five contractors, one failed to meet the specification in terms of providing seats with armrests and another in respect of a wheelchair picnic table. They were not therefore included in the evaluation.
- Two options were available from the lowest tenderer with the difference relating to different dimensions. Both options were available in either brown or black.

- **Option 1**

- 6 x Smaller Benches(1500mm)
    - 1 x 1500mm picnic table
    - 1 x wheelchair table 1800mm
    - Cost £ 2,781.25

- **Option 2**

- 6 x Larger Benches (1800mm)
    - 1 x2000mm picnic table
    - 1 x wheelchair table 1800mm
    - Cost = £ 3,112.25

- **Resolved:** That the Council proceed to place an order for the items as specified in option 2 in the colour black.

#### 44.8 Gorslas Park. Titan Swing and Gyro Rotator.

- Members were advised that following the completion of repairs to the safety surfaces of the above items a joint inspection had been undertaken by a representative from the County Council and the Community Council on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> June,2017.
- As a result of the inspection issues were identified in relation to undulations in the surface as well as with the sloping of the embankment.
- To assist in resolving the matter it was suggested that the Community Council obtain a levels survey identifying the undulations in greater detail and also that, in view of the work undertaken so far that an interim payment of 50% be made to the contractor.
- Following the meeting the Clerk advised the contractor of the concerns and the proposed payment.
- **Resolved:** To note and approve the actions taken and to instruct that an interim payment of 50% of the total cost be made to the contractor.

#### **44.9 Operational Issues Public Convenience Gorslas**

- The contractor has advised that the toilet facilities were closed on the 20<sup>th</sup> April following the discovery of offensive and inappropriate graffiti in the cubicles.
- The contractor later successfully removed the graffiti in the gents and ladies cubicle and those units were reopened. It has not been possible to remove the graffiti in the disabled block thus far and they remain locked.
- Complaints had also been received that the facility had not been open to the public during the afternoon on the 7<sup>th</sup> June and 8<sup>th</sup> June, 2017.
- The contractor has responded that there was a personal issue which delayed the opening in the morning by some 40 minutes.
- The contractor also advised that on occasions when he arrived in the morning the facility had already been opened and on occasion found it had been locked prior to his arrival. He had enquired as to whether or not anyone else had keys to the facility.
- It was agreed that enquiries be made as to whether or not any other persons had keys and Cllr Janice Price kindly agreed to enquire with the local shop owner as to whether or not they had been provided with keys.
- **Resolved:** That the matter be noted and the proposed actions approved.

#### **44.10 Wayside Seat/ Footpath Examination Reports.**

- It was reported that repairs have been carried out to the relevant units.
- Regrettably, due to the type of fixing, it was not possible to relocate a unit from Bron Yr Ynn to Brynlluan.
- **Resolved:** To receive, note and approve the actions taken.

#### **44.11 Gorslas Public Convenience – Store Room Doors**

- The Clerk advised that the successful contractor had been notified of the award of contract.
- **Resolved:** To note, receive and approve the actions taken.

#### **44.12 Service Level Agreement - Fortnightly Park Inspections.**

- It was confirmed that the County Council have been notified of the continuation of the arrangement.

#### **44.13 Cefneithin Park MUGA Operational Issues - Signage.**

- Discussion took place on a variety of options which should be included on signage.
- Given the diverse and range of potential activities which could be prohibited it was difficult to find wording which was all- encompassing but clear and concise.
- **Resolved:** To seek advice and guidance from other organisations with similar facilities and issues prior to making a final decision.

#### **44.14 Payroll Processing**

- Pay Connect have been advised of the decision to contract with them in relation to payroll services.
- **Resolved:** To receive, note and approve the actions taken.

#### **44.15 Finance. Authorised Signatories**

- The process of changing signatories has commenced.
- **Resolved:** To receive, note and approve the actions taken.

#### **44.16 Old Pharmacy Drefach.**

- Following the referral of concerns relating to the above to the County Council the Building Control Services division have undertaken a site visit and have written to the owner in relation to the matter.
- **Resolved:** To receive, note and approve the actions taken.

#### **44.17 Drefach – Old Noticeboard.**

- The Clerk confirmed that the item had been removed.

#### **44.18 Gorslas Park – Vandalism.**

- Repairs have been completed in respect of damage to benches and fencing.
- **Resolved:** To receive, note and approve the actions taken.

### **45.0 Agenda Item 6 New Matters Parks and General**

#### **45.1 General. Renewal Annual Insurance Policy**

- Revised asset schedules, which included the addition of both the MUGA for Cefneithin and the Public Conveniences at Gorslas as well as a revised valuation for the Toll House at Drefach had been submitted to the insurer.
- The changes resulted in a premium for the year of £ 1,640.72 an increase of £432.18 over the previous year.
- **Resolved:** To receive, note and approve the actions taken.

#### **45.2 General. Dispensation for Members**

- Applications had been submitted to the County Council Standards Committee in respect of all participation by members in relation to discussions and decisions relating to the Welfare Associations, School Governorship.
- Dispensation had also been sought in respect of the involvement of County Councillors in respect of the proposed new primary school at Gorslas Park.
- **Resolved:** To receive, note and approve the actions taken.

#### **45.3 General. Identity Cards.**

- As part of their role members routinely engage with members of the public in an official capacity as part of their role as a Community Councillor.
- This may involve interaction with children and young persons in situations such as in one of the three parks which the Council owns.
- It is appreciated that such interaction can give rise to concerns to parents and young people if they do not know and recognise the individual concerned as a Community Councillor or indeed as an officer of the Community Council.
- The view has been put forward that it would act as a re-assurance to parents, young people and indeed to members and officers if the Community Council were to issue

identity cards confirming that the individual is a member of the Community Council.

- **Resolved:** That enquiries be made in relation to the provision of identity cards for those members who require them.

#### 45.4 Parks Treatment of Japanese Knotweed

- Elements of the plant have been found in the three parks and an instruction has been issued to the County Council to treat the affected areas.
- **Resolved:** To receive, note and approve the actions taken.

#### 45.5 Parks – Grass Cutting Contract.

- The Clerk had met, on site, with the contractor on Thursday 25th May,2017, to check on and ensure that there was a mutual understanding and agreement in relation to the areas to be cut and the frequency of the cuts in all three parks.
- **Resolved:** To receive, note and approve the actions taken.

#### 45.6 Cefneithin and Gorslas Parks.

- It was reported that request to be allowed to use the parks had been received from the following: -
  - Cefneithin CP School are seeking to hold their annual sports day at Cefneithin Park on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> June,2017 and
  - The Cefneithin and Foelgastell Welfare Association are seeking permission to hold a fun day at the park making use of the car park and part of the field on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> August,2017.
  - Gorslas CP School are seeking to hold their annual sports day at Gorslas Park on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> June,2017.
  - Gorslas Welfare Association are seeking to hold a carnival at the park on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> September,2017.
  - Advance notice has been received from Gorslas Welfare Association that will be seeking to hold an event in the park on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December,2017, and are requesting that the Council's help in relation to the arrangements and the provision of the fireworks and Christmas tree.
- Cllrs Janice Price and Aled Vaughan Owen declared a personal but not prejudicial interest in the matter as members of the Gorslas Welfare Association.
- **Resolved:** That the requests for the use of the parks be approved subject to:
  - the organisations undertaking and implementing adequate safety risk assessments,
  - having their own insurance cover and
  - meeting any re-instatement costs arising out of the activities.

#### 45.7 Gorslas Park – Car Parking Issues.

- Residents of Cwm Mwyn have drawn attention to the fact that a significant number of vehicles park in the car park and are there late at night. Due to the fact that the barrier has not been locked.
- The Police have been called on occasions. However, the problem persists.
- The contractor engaged by the Community Council has been instructed to close the gates at 6.00p.m. but not to do so if there is a vehicle in the car park.
- The instruction was given by the Council following a previous occasion when damage to the grass verge was caused by a vehicle exiting the car park after the barriers were closed and it had become locked in.
- **Resolved:** That: -
  - The park and car park barrier be open from 8.00 a.m. to 8.00p.m. each day.
  - The contractor not lock the car park barrier should there be a vehicle in the car park at locking up time.
  - In response to information received by the Council a Cwm Mwyn estate resident be advised of the safety and legal implications of locking/unlocking the barriers.

#### **45.8 Gorslas Park and Toilets Anti-Social Behaviour**

- Reports of teenagers accessing the children's play area and engaging in behaviour which caused concern to adults who were in the park with young children were received.
- The concern was such that the member of the public contacted the Police who attended the park however the individual involved reported to the Council that they were disappointed by the Police response which they felt did not address the seriousness of the matter.
- A further concern was reported to the Council in regard to an incident involving a young girl who was in danger of harming herself and other children.
- The matter was reported to the Police who advised that the staff in the local shop should take the child home as she was known to them. The complainant was not happy with the response from the Police.
- Both these matters have been relayed through the Council's representatives on PACT to the Police at the May meeting.
- **Resolved:** To note that these matters had been relayed by representatives from the Community Council to the Police at the PACT meeting.

#### **45.9 Gorslas Park – Access for Maintenance of Church Wall.**

- A request has been received for permission for a maintenance contractor undertaking repairs to the Church Walls to be allowed access through the park to undertake the work. The work should be undertaken over the summer period.
- **Resolved:** To approve the granting of the access subject to suitable safety measures being taken and the making good of any damage to the park.

#### **46.0 Agenda Item 7 Discussion Proposed New School on the site of Gorslas Park.**

- Declarations of personal but not prejudicial interests were made by Cllr Janice Price as a Governor of Gorslas C.P. School and by Cllrs Darren Price and Aled Vaughan-

Owen as members of Carmarthenshire County Council i.e. the body putting forward the proposal for the new school.

- Discussion took place in relation to the above following which it was **resolved** that:
  - A meeting be convened with Officers of the County Council on the 26<sup>th</sup> June, 2017, at Gorslas C.P. School.
  - That, following a decision on the appointment of co-opted members to fill the three vacancies on the Gorslas Ward, relevant papers and a briefing session be held with the new members to appraise them of the current situation. The Chair, Vice Chair, the County Councillors, Cllr David Evans and the Clerk to attend.
  - Valuations be sought on the value of the park with, or without the covenant.
  - That copies of the deeds and covenant be forwarded to members if possible.

#### **47.0 Agenda Item 8 Urgent Local Matters.**

##### **47.1 Defibrillators.**

- As members may recall the Council was addressed last year by Cariad in relation to the possible purchase of defibrillators.
- Cariad had agreed to survey the area and come back with recommendations in relation to suitable locations and also agreed to make a grant application on behalf of the Community Council.
- To date the matter has not progressed and the position is in need of a review.
- It was relayed to the meeting that Cariad were of the view that the delay had been caused by confusion over the provision of information. The Clerk was unaware of any request by Cariad for information from the Council.
- **Resolved:** To write to Cariad to clarify the position.

##### **47.2 Heol Yr Ysgol**

- Two street lights have been reported to the County Council as being out of order.
- **Resolved:** To receive, note and approve the actions taken.

##### **47.3 Heol Yr Ysgol**

- A report was made to the County Council's Housing Department of damage caused by a delivery lorry to County Council property namely footpath steps.
- **Resolved:** To receive, note and approve the actions taken.

##### **47.4 Cefneithin – Hall Weeds and Entrance Gate.**

- Concerns had been raised relating to the growth of weeds in the Hall car park and also the lack of visibility caused by the pillars and wall for vehicles leaving the car park.
- **Resolved:** To obtain a cost on the likely cost of any remedial works.

##### **47.5 Drefach Overgrowth of Trees /Ash Tree Dieback**

- It had been reported that the growth of trees on a stretch of road between Dan Y Lan Quarry and Dan Y Lan property is overgrown with the possibility of causing damage to vehicles. The matter was reported to the County Council.



- Concerns were also raised by a resident in relation to ash tree dieback with the possibility of damage to power cables and vehicles using the public highway.
- The resident was advised to contact Western Power in connection with the danger to cables and the matter relating to the highway was relayed to the County Council.
- Additionally, contact details were provided in relation to the reporting of ash tree disease to the Forestry Commission.
- **Resolved:** To receive, note and approve the actions taken.

#### **47.6 Gorslas Filling Station Application for 24hrs a day Licence to Sell Alcohol.**

- A member of the public had advised that a notice has been displayed in Gorslas indicating that the filling station is seeking a licence to sell alcohol for 24 hours a day and has asked if the Council is aware and has commented on the application.
- The Clerk indicated that the Council had not been notified of the application and had thus not submitted any observations.
- Enquiries made by the Clerk of the County Council indicated that that they did not consult routinely with Community Council's in relation to such matters however the Council could submit an observation and also that for future applications it could be included in an e mail circulation list of County wide applications for licensing.
- Applications could be viewed online at <http://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/media/2017240/public-register-doc.pdf>
- **Resolved:** To convey to the Authority that the Council opposed the proposal to grant a licence for the sale of alcohol for 24 hours a day on the grounds of its proximity to Gorslas Park, the incidents of anti-social behaviour in the park, its availability from other suppliers in the area and the detrimental effect of alcohol on the health of individuals.

#### **47.7 Gorslas and Cefneithin Car Park Areas.**

- A report of weeds growing in the car park areas has been received.
- The contractor has been instructed to remove them.
- **Resolved:** To receive, note and approve the actions taken.

#### **47.8 Gorslas A476 Bus Shelter near Gorslas School Cross Hands Road.**

- A complaint has been received that members of the public waiting in the bus shelter are getting splashed by vehicles going past, due to rainwater gathering in an undulation in the highway.
- The matter has been reported to the County Council.
- **Resolved:** To receive, note and approve the actions taken.

#### **47.9 Cefneithin. Residents Concern relating to Roaming Wildlife.**

- Cllr Darren Price reported that residents in Cefneithin had conveyed to him their concerns in relation to a number of peacocks who were roaming the village entering people's gardens and causing damage and frightening some of the residents.
- **Resolved:** To write to the appropriate County Council department relaying the concerns of the residents and seeking their assistance in resolving the issue.

## 48.0 Agenda Item 9.0 Members Report

### 48.1 Canolfan Carwyn

- The Chair had attended a meeting on Monday 5th June,2017, with interested parties including Squash, Drefach Cricket and Soccer Club, a boxing Club and representatives from Garreg Lwyd Unit in connection with the closure of the facility at the end of August,2017.
- The intention was to examine the feasibility of an organisation being set up to run the facility. Landlord costs would be met by the Council but all other building running costs which amounted to £7,000.00 per annum would have to be met by the organisation running the establishment. No staff costs would transfer.
- To help progress matters copies of documentation received from organisations in Llandeilo and Pontyberem who had established such associations would be forwarded to the members of the group.
- The group was due to meet shortly again to progress and firm up proposals. The Chair was mindful however of the fact that he was a lifelong member of Drefach Cricket and Soccer Club which was likely to be part of the association running the new venture and could thus benefit from the involvement or a financial contribution by the Community Council. There was therefore the potential for a conflict of interest to arise. To avoid any such possibility and ensure fairness it was proposed that another member represent the Council at such meetings.
- **Resolved:**
  - To receive and note the information provided and
  - That Cllr Tina Jukes represent the Council at future meetings of the group.

### 48.2 Update by County Council Members

- Cllr Darren Price indicated that following discussions with County Councillor Aled Vaughan Owen it had been agreed that they would take it in turns to provide the update.
- Accordingly, Cllr Price advised members as follows: -
  - There had been one meeting of the County Council since the election.
  - As no one party had an overall majority a coalition between Plaid Cymru and Independent members had been formed.
  - Within the management framework Cllr Aled Vaughan Owen had responsibilities including Community and Environmental and Public Protection Scrutiny Cttees
  - Cllr Darren Price had responsibilities including Chair of Education and Children Scrutiny, Joint Scrutiny Committee Education and Children and Social Care and Health and Joint Scrutiny Committee.
  - Canolfan Carwyn. The County Council and its members had been involved in seeking to facilitate the takeover of the center by a collective association.
  - Brynglas. Severe flooding had taken place affecting properties on the estate. The County Council had surveyed the drains using CCTV equipment and they felt confident that they had identified the difficulty. The County Council would also

be seeking the assistance of the owner of an adjacent field to improve the drainage situation.

- Capel Seion Speeding. Discussion took place at this point in relation to alleged speeding by vehicles using Capel Seion Hill. It was noted that there was a “pinch point” on the road which worsened the situation. Clarification was sought in relation to an alleged previous agreement with the quarry that they would use a one-way system for lorries accessing or exiting the quarries. It was agreed that any such arrangement had been voluntary and had been some considerable time ago.
- **Resolved:**
  - To receive and note the information provided.
  - To request that the speeding issue referred be brought up at the next meeting of the Torcoed Quarry Liaison Group.

#### **49.0 Agenda Item 10 PACT Meeting Held in Cross Hands Hall on 25<sup>th</sup> May, 2017.**

##### **49.1 Report**

- Present: PCSO Beth Thomas and 10 members of the public including Councillors Brian Kirby, Terry Jones & Clive Green from Gorslas Community Council.
- Issues raised previously – Update. No updates as last two meetings had been cancelled.
- Crimes: Before imparting the information on local crimes over the previous month, Beth Thomas advised that the Police had introduced a new method of collecting this type of information. It was noted that there had been absolutely no information or consultation with PACT member on this subject. The Police were reminded that the initials PACT stood for Police and Communities **Together**.
  - In the locations of Tumble, Cross Hands, Llanon, A48 and Pont Abraham there had been 10 incidents. In Pontyberem Council area
  - 5 incidents; Penygoes 8; Llanddarog Council area 6. Information given for the Gorslas Council area could not be broken down into the relevant communities and also included incidents which had occurred in the Co-op, which is in Cross Hands (Llanon Council area).
- Issues raised: Incidents in Gorslas Park were raised. Also, the quarry lorries passing through Drefach unsheeted - nothing has happened on this yet.
- SID (Speed Indicator Device) Exercises with local schools – These had been carried out in Cefneithin and Drefach but no information on the outcomes was available.
- Drop –In Surgeries: These were going to be trialled in some local communities, including Cefneithin.
- Next meeting – 27 July 2017.

##### **49.2 Feedback**

- Cllr Clive Green provided members with feedback on what had been the most disappointing PACT meeting he had attended.

- The group had been complimented as being one of the best attended in the forces area and believed they had worked well as a Police/Community partnership.
- Members had been surprised therefore to learn that the Police had unilaterally and without consultation with partners decided to change the crime recording system for the area. The basis for the new areas was not clear with members surprised to learn that the figures would now include data relating to areas outside of those administered by the Community Councils.
- The change had therefore diminished the relevance and usefulness of the information to the local community and statutory bodies.
- Considerable disappointment was also expressed that there had been no consultation on the change with the Police representatives being reminded that the acronym PACT stood for Police And Community Together. Sadly, the unilateral decision to change the basis of the crime recording data had not supported the ethos of PACT that the agencies would work together.
- The view was also expressed that the PACT arrangement was no longer a priority for the Police with the new drop in surgeries replacing them.
- The representatives from the Police Authority agreed to convey the comments and feelings of the group to the senior managers.
- **Resolved:** That Councillor Green and the Clerk formulate a letter to the Chief Constable relating the Council's disappointment at the change in the crime statistics recording and the lack of consultation.

#### 49.3 Gorslas Toilets – Incident of Graffiti/ Vandalism

- The issue of graffiti at Gorslas Toilets had been raised by the Council's representatives at the PACT meeting.
- The PCSO's subsequently advised that they have not received a formal notification from the contractor in relation to the recent incident however it would be necessary to call 101 or make a request online via the data protection act to make sure.
- **Resolved:** To receive and note the information provided.

#### 49.4 Drefach. Incident of stone spillage from lorries.

- The issue of stone spillage from quarry lorries travelling through Drefach had been raised by the Council's representatives at the PACT meeting.
- The PCSO subsequently advised the Clerk that confirm that they have spoken to the owner of Gower plant hire regarding the stones on the road in Drefach.
- The proprietor had not been made aware from any of his drivers regarding stones spilling onto the road. It was stated that his lorries if the load is full should have cover sheets on them.
- Regrettably without a vehicle registration number and exact time/ date the Police were unable to take the matter further.
- **Resolved:** To receive and note the information provided.

## 50.0 Agenda Item 11.0 Correspondence.

### 50.1 Consultation

No	From	Subject	Notes
50.2	Clarke Telecom	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consultation regarding siting of radio base station transmitter on land at Ty Isaf Farm, Drefach, SA14 7AN to provide a new 4G and improved 2G and 3G sites.</li> <li>• The document contains details of 8 alternative sites which were considered and rejected and are: -</li> <li>• Woodlands Service Station</li> <li>• Lewis Drefach Cash and Carry.</li> <li>• Watkins Timber,</li> <li>• Street works on Heol Cwmmawr</li> <li>• Arqiva Mast, Dulais Farm, Porthyrhyd.</li> <li>• Warehouse off Gwendraeth Road, Drefach.</li> <li>• Gwendraeth Valley Sports Centre.</li> <li>• Berllan Farm, Capel Seion.</li> </ul>	Closing Date 16/06/17
50.3	Mid and West Wales Fire Service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Invite the Council or individual members to respond to an online survey relating to the service provided and where any cuts in service should be made.</li> </ul>	
50.4	National Business Crime Centre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is a Police led organisation centre of excellence encouraging innovation and co-ordinating national activity to help businesses?</li> <li>• The survey seeks to establish               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) which areas of crime affect an organisation and how it affects the organisation.</li> <li>(ii) The type of crime expected to be a challenge for the organisation over the next 2-5 years and how it affects the organisation.</li> <li>(iii) Is the organisation involved currently in crime reduction measures and how effective are they?</li> <li>(iv) Are there any crime reduction measures in the area which would benefit others nationally?</li> <li>(v) Would the organisation wish to be involved with this NBCC initiative in future?</li> </ol> </li> </ul>	Closing Date 16/07/17
50.5	Welsh Govt	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advise that the Consultation on Draft Integrated Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report is out for consultation.</li> <li>• Report available on Welsh Govt website.</li> </ul>	Closing Date 21/07/17

- **Resolved:**
  - To note and receive the information provided and

- That individual members respond to the consultations should they so wish.
- In relation to item 50.2 from Clarke Telecom that Cllr Darren Price check with the Headteacher of Drefach CP School that they were aware of the matter.

## 50.6 General Correspondence

No	From	Subject	Notes
50.7	NALC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Request for the Council to plant a tree as part of the Tree Charter and to sign up for a newsletter.</li> </ul>	
50.8	Independent Inquiry in To Child Sexual Abuse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Seeking to appoint Research Ethics Committee Professional Practitioner.</li> <li>• The body investigates whether public bodies and stakeholders have taken seriously their responsibilities for child protection.</li> </ul>	
50.9	South Wales Chamber of Commerce	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advise that funding has become available in respect of the following: -</li> <li>• Food Business Investment Scheme</li> <li>• Tourism Amenity Investment</li> <li>• Micro Small Business Fund</li> </ul>	
50.10	Academi Wales	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An electronic or hard copy of the bulletin is available from the Clerk.</li> <li>• The Academi offers a variety of training and educational training courses</li> </ul>	
50.11	Welsh Government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Workforce Matters Two Tier Code of Practice.</li> <li>• The code is designed to ensure that where a service is outsourced to a third party and staff are transferred that TUPE has been applied and the terms and conditions of all staff working on the contract are no less favourable than those of the staff transferring.</li> </ul>	
50.12	C.E. W	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community Energy Wales May newsletter available electronically or by hard copy from the Clerk.</li> </ul>	
50.13	Cynnal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• May newsletter is available electronically or by hard copy from the Clerk.</li> </ul>	
50.14	Carms C.C.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nominations are invited to serve as a Community Council representative on Carmarthenshire County Council Standards Committee.</li> </ul>	Deadline 30/06/17
50.15	Community Health Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Between January and March ,2017 the Council heard from some 500 individuals on what could be done to make the lives of dementia sufferers and their families better.</li> <li>• The replies have been included in a report to Welsh Govt consultation on a dementia strategy for Wales.</li> </ul>	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The report is available online at <a href="http://www.wales.nhs.uk/sitesplus/documents/899/Dementia%20Care%20%28One%20Simple%20Thing%29%20BCHCW%20final%20.pdf">http://www.wales.nhs.uk/sitesplus/documents/899/Dementia%20Care%20%28One%20Simple%20Thing%29%20BCHCW%20final%20.pdf</a> <a href="http://www.wales.nhs.uk/sitesplus/899/home">http://www.wales.nhs.uk/sitesplus/899/home</a></li> </ul>	
50.16	Gorslas Welfare	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>An invitation to the Chair, members and Clerk to attend the Gorslas Carnival which will be held on Saturday 9th September,2017 in the park</li> </ul>	
50.17	Seafarers UK	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>An invitation for the Council to fly the Red Ensign on Merchant Navy Day i.e. 3rd September.</li> <li>The intention is to raise awareness of the country's reliance on seafarers/shipping for food, fuel and imports.</li> </ul>	
50.18	Eiriol	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The mental health charity's quarterly newsletter is available electronically or in hard copy from the Clerk.</li> </ul>	
50.19	Carms CC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Inviting proposals for the 18/19 Safe Route to Schools schemes.</li> </ul>	
50.20	Welsh Govt	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Advise that sections of the Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2016 come into force on the 31/05/17 that: -</li> <li>Simplify consultation process,</li> <li>give interim protection during consultation,</li> <li>deal with recovery of emergency costs</li> <li>Requires Minister to maintain records of historic environment record for each Local Authority area.</li> </ul> <p>Website <a href="http://www.cofiadurcahcymru.org.uk/arch/">http://www.cofiadurcahcymru.org.uk/arch/</a></p>	
50.21	Gwendraeth Group of Community Councils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Advise that next meeting of the group will be in Llanddarog Hall on 27/06/17</li> </ul>	
50.22	Mid Wales Fire and Rescue	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>May newsletter available from Clerk electronically or in hard copy</li> </ul>	
50.23	City Farms and Community Gardens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Advise they have free places on the All Wales course which will be on the 23/24<sup>th</sup> June,2017, Bangor</li> <li>8<sup>TH</sup> July Organic Field days – details on the association's website.</li> </ul>	
50.24	Carms C.C.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Notification of Off Street Parking Places Consolidation (Amendment of Charges) Order 2017.</li> <li>Gives notice of increases in charges for various off-street parking facilities in the County including</li> </ul>	

		Llyn Llech Owain. Charges will increase by 10p for any Saturday over 1 hour. Seasons tickets for parking will cost £ 25. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Full details available from the Clerk.</li> </ul>	
50.25	Menter Cwm Gwendraeth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advise that Local Energy Action is holding a fuel conference at Tumble Hall between 10.00 am and 3.00 p.m. on the 19<sup>th</sup> June with speakers from NEST, West Wales Credit Union, Carmarthenshire Energy and representatives from oil suppliers</li> </ul>	

- **Resolved that:**
  - To note and receive the information provided and
  - Members link with the Clerk in relation to applications and in particular as to how such schemes could be developed in tandem with the proposal for the new school.
  - Cllr Brian Kirby would attend the Local Energy Action meeting at Tumble Hall.
  - New Members be provided with a list of training courses.

## 51.0 Agenda Item 12 One Voice Wales.

### 51.1 May Newsletter

- A copy of the latest newsletter has been circulated electronically to members however a hard copy is available upon request to the Clerk.
- Resolved: To receive and note the information provided.

### 51.2 Training

- The training course for new Members planned for the 25<sup>th</sup> May had been cancelled.
- Details had been provided to members in the update report accompanying the papers for the meeting of the training courses available for the mid -year period. Courses run from 6.30p.m. to 9. 00p.m, Cost £40 per delegate:
- **Resolved:** That a place be reserved for Cllr David Evans on the new member course on the 20<sup>th</sup> July,2017 at Ammanford.

### 51.3 Larger Councils and Innovative Practice Awards Conference 5<sup>th</sup> July, Royal Welsh Showground

- A range of events will take place with speakers, discussion groups and exhibitors present.
- Subjects covered by speakers will be: -
  - Good practice in Community/Place Planning
  - Devolution of Services and Assets.
  - Group discussion will cover: -
    - Bio Diversity Approaches
    - Day Care Management
    - Achieving Green flag for Town Cemetery
    - Designing Annual Report.
    - Review 2015/16 Accounts and Changes to Audit regimes



- Sharing Innovative Practice
- Making the most of Council website and Social Media.
- Cost £ 50 per delegate.
- Resolved: To receive and note the information provided.

#### **51.4 Model Local Resolution Protocol for Community Councils**

- The Public Services Ombudsman has agreed to the principle of referring some complaints against members back to Community Councils for resolution.
- Issues to be resolved through the revised protocol: -
  - Minor complaints by Members about Members
  - Minor complaints from Officers about Members.
  - Members alleged not to have shown respect and consideration for others – either verbally or in writing.
- Issues which should not be considered under this protocol and should be referred to the Public Services Ombudsman: -
  - Complaints instigated by members of the public.
  - Serious complaints – breaches of the Code of Conduct/ failure to disclose interests/ bullying/ abuse of position or trust/ repeated breaches.
  - Complaints made by the Clerk/Proper Officer.
  - Vexatious or malicious or frivolous complaints.
  - Member’s complaints about Officers which should be dealt with using the Council’s internal complaints process.
  - Repetitive low-level complaints.
- Process.
  - The complaint will be made formally to the Clerk.
  - The Clerk will determine whether or not it is a matter which can be determined by this process or should be referred to the Ombudsman.
  - The Clerk to liaise informally with the individual members to try and resolve the matter.
  - If that does not resolve matters then the formal process is to be implemented.
  - If the complaint is made by a member or an officer and does not involve the Chair then the Chair and Clerk will meet individually with the complainant and the person who is the subject of the complaint to seek a resolution. They do not adjudicate on the matter but are to seek to resolve the matter on an amicable basis.
  - If the matter involves the Chair in any capacity then the Vice Chair and the Clerk will seek to resolve the matter with the various parties as described above.
  - If the complaint has been made by the Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer then it is best practice to refer the matter to the Public Services Ombudsman.
  - Outcome. If no agreement can be reached then the member or individual has the right to refer the matter to the Public Service Ombudsman.
- **Resolved:** To receive, note and adopt the model protocol.

## 52.0 Agenda Item 13 Planning Matters

### 52.1 Public Footpath 31/14 Heol Y Parc, Gorslas, Public Path Diversion Order 2015

- The path is one that was diverted as a result of works to the Maes Y Gwendraeth School.
- Cllr Terry Davies, on behalf of the Community Council, registered an objection in Novemebr,2015, to the alteration on the basis that the gradient was unacceptable and of poor lighting.
- The footpath has now been in use for a year. The County Council has enquired as to whether the concerns raised originally by the Community Council remain so.
- The matter is to be considered by the Planning Inspectorate in the near future.
- **Resolved:** That the County Council be advised that the concerns relating to the slope and lighting remain.

### 52.2 Planning Applications.

No /Ref	Description	Location	Applicant
W/35481	Non-Material Amendment to W/28022(Removal of condition 4,5 and 6 of Code for Sustainable Homes)	Plots 13,14 and 15 Caeffynnon, Drefach.	Mr A Aga, 9 Caeffynnon, Drefach Agent: JCR Planning, Crosshands
W/35482	Non-Material Amendment to W/34389	Land adjacent to 32 Heol Yr Ysgol, Cefneithin,	Nigel Ward c/o Agent. Agent Prime Architecture Ltd, Cross Hands
W/35522	Outline Planning detached dwelling	Land at Ty Penybanc, Black Lion Road, Gorslas, SA14 6RU	Mr and Mrs M Evans & TS Greville Evans Ty Penybanc, Black Lion Rd Agent: JCR Planning, Cross Hands

- **Resolved:** That there were no objections or observations to be submitted in respect of the above.

## 53.0 Item 14 Finance

### 53.1 Annual Audit and Report 2016-17

- The Internal Auditor's report concludes that, having undertaken the prescribed tests in relation to internal control systems there are no matters which need to be brought to the attention of the Council.
- **Resolved:** To receive and note the report by the Internal Auditor.

### 53.2 Appointment of Internal Auditor for 2017/18

- Lyn Llewellyn has confirmed acceptance of the offer to undertake the 2017/18 internal audit on behalf of the Community Council.
- **Resolved:** To receive, note and approve the actions taken.

### 53.3 Audit Themes for 2017/18

- The Auditor general has indicated that the themes for the 2017/18 audit will be the effectiveness of the Internal Audit and the use of reserves.
- **Resolved:** To receive, note and approve the actions taken

### 53.4 Payments Made to Creditors May 2017

<b>Paid To</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Amount £</b>
Rodway	Public Convenience Contract May	201.67
Spencer Environmental	Grass Cutting May	1,476.07
Aon Insurance	Policy Renewal 2016/17	1,640.73
W Edwards	Refund Travelling Expenses	9.00
W Edwards	1 <sup>ST</sup> Instalment Chairs Allowance	500.00
Lyn Llewellyn	Internal Audit Fees 2016/17	350.00

### 53.5 Income May 2017.

<b>Received from</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Amount £</b>
Cllr W Edwards	Refund unspent portion Chairs Allowance	126.64

### 53.6 Consideration of Requests for Financial Assistance

- A schedule of requests received for financial assistance had been provided and included in the papers for the meeting.
- The schedule was considered by members and it was **Resolved** that: -
  - Consideration be given in next year's allocation to supporting local eisteddfod events
  - Cllrs Clive Green and Aled Vaughan Owen prepare a draft application form for organisations seeking funding from the Council.
  - The following awards be made: -

<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Amount £</b>
Llangollen International Eisteddfod	100.00
Royal Welsh Agricultural Society	100.00
Cross Hands & District Bowls Association	50.00
Cefneithin Growers	50.00
Curriad Y Cwm	50.00

<b>Burial Ground Maintenance Grants</b>	
Capel Seion	250.00
Eglwys Gorslas	250.00
Capel Tabor	125.00
Capel Llanlluan	250.00
Capel Tabernacle	250.00
Capel Peniel	250.00

#### **54.0 Agenda Item 15 Co-Option of Members to Represent the Gorslas Ward.**

- As resolved at the May ordinary meeting of the Council notices were placed and nominations sought in respect of the three vacant positions for Councillors to represent the Gorslas Ward.
- At the end of that process three individuals have written seeking to be considered as suitable persons to represent the ward.
- Each person was issued with a form to be completed and provided with background information relating to the Council and on the eligibility requirements for representing the ward.
- Please note that in respect of individual B they do not reside within the Gorslas Ward however legally this does not prohibit them being considered or appointed by the Council as a suitable representative for the Gorslas Ward.
- An anonymised summary of the applications was provided by the Clerk for members consideration.
- **Resolved:**
  - Following careful consideration and discussion of the anonymised information provided it was resolved that the three individuals be invited to serve on the Community Council as representatives of the Gorslas Ward.
  - Following the decision, the Clerk advised that the individuals who had applied to represent the Gorslas Ward were: -
    - Mr Wynne Jones,
    - Mr A King
    - Mr Iestyn Llwyd,
  - That the Clerk write to the individuals concerned formally inviting them to join the Council and to attend the next meeting of the Council to confirm acceptance.

#### **55.0 Item 16 Date Next Meeting**

- Monday 26<sup>th</sup> June, 2017, at Gorslas C.P. School.

#### **56.0 Closure of Meeting**

- The business of the meeting having been concluded the Chair declared the meeting closed at 9.25p.m.