

CYNGOR CYMUNED GORSLAS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Gorslas Community Council held at
Drefach Welfare Hall on Monday, 12th February, 2018, at 7.00p.m.

163.0 Agenda Item 1: Record of those Present/Apologies

- Members: Cllrs Wyn Edwards (Chair), Simon Martin (Vice Chair), Nia Lewis, Tina Jukes, Clive Green, Anthony Rees, Aled Vaughan Owen, Terry Jones, David Evans, Darren Price, Iestyn Llwyd, Andrew King.
- Others: P.C. Mathew Boswell, Cross Hands Police Station, Llew Thomas Clerk to the Council, Mr Hefin Jones, Translator.
- Apologies for absence: Cllrs Brian Kirby, Janice Price and Wynne Jones.

163.1 Welcome

- The Chair welcomed everyone and declared the meeting open at 7.00p.m.

164.0 Additional Agenda Item. PC Mathew Boswell.

- The Chair introduced and thanked PC Boswell for his attendance at the meeting.
- Following discussion, it was agreed by all that the order of business be altered to allow the Officer to address the meeting.
- P.C. Boswell thanked members and indicated that he was a member of the Neighbourhood Policing Team at Cross Hands Police Station.
- The team had set a high priority on engaging with community organisations in the area and intended to attend future meetings of the Council on a regular basis and to ensure that there was representation at the PACT meetings.
- In the spirit of encouraging dialogue PC Boswell offered members the opportunity to raise any issues or concerns they had relating to their respective wards. A summary of the issues raised by members is given below: -
 - (i) Drefach
 - PACT. The January meeting of PACT had been cancelled by the Police without any prior notice. This led to the unfortunate position whereby several members of the public and Community Council members were left waiting for some time in the car park of Cross Hands Hall.
 - PACT - PC Boswell apologised and indicated that it had been necessary to divert the officer who would have attended to deal with an unexpected Road Traffic Accident. It was the intention to ensure that there was a presence at future meetings.
 - Heol Cwmawr. Reports of members of the public not being able to use the pavement due to residents and contractors parking on the pavement. The Police indicated they would investigate and monitor the position.
 - (ii) Cefneithin
 - Dog Fouling at Y Fron and Y Glyn. Members highlighted that residents had raised concerns relating to the level and frequency of dog fouling in the area. Following

discussion, it was considered that such matters should be reported by residents to Carmarthenshire County Council.

(iii) Gorslas

- Park/Toilets. A high level of vandalism and anti-social behaviour had been reported to the Council during the course of the year. In recent months however the number of incidents had decreased significantly.
- Park/Toilets. The Police indicated that they were aware and had spoken to the individuals involved. A change of family circumstances had altered the position and the young person involved was no longer residing permanently in the area.
- Park Car Park. Complaints had also been received in relation to vehicles using the car park late at night causing nuisance to the residents of nearby properties through the playing of loud music as well as the vehicle headlights shining into the properties.
- The Police indicated that they were aware of both issues and had increased the number of regular patrols of the park and car park area.
- There being no further issues for discussion the Chair thanked PC Boswell on behalf of the Council for his attendance and input.
- The Officer thanked members for the opportunity to address the Council and then proceeded to leave the meeting.

165.0 Agenda Item 2 Declaration of Interest

- Declarations of personal, but not prejudicial interests, were declared in matters relating to the proposed new school by Cllrs Darren Price and Aled Vaughan Owen, as members of the County Council.
- The meeting was advised that dispensations had been received to enable the above named to participate and vote in any matter relating to the proposed new school.
- A declaration of interest was made by Cllr Aled Vaughan Owen and Wyn Edwards in respect of the discussion relating to Drefach Cricket and Football Club.
- A declaration of interest was made by Cllr Nia Lewis in relation to the provision of a defibrillator under matters arising due to a family connection with a company who had made a donation towards the cost of the item.
- **Resolved:** That the declarations of interest be recorded.

166.0 Agenda Item 3. Exclusion of Press and Public.

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

167.0 Agenda Item 4 Consider the Minutes of the January Meeting.

- Members proceeded, under the direction of the Chair, to examine each page of the minutes for both meetings for accuracy, including the notes on the exempted items.
- An amendment was proposed by Cllr Clive Green in relation to an alteration to the phrasing of the resolution recorded under item 154.7 (iii).
- Subject to the amendment it was proposed by Cllr Clive Green and seconded by Cllr D Evans that the minutes of the meeting held on the 8th January, 2018, were correct.

- **Resolved:** That, subject to the amendment indicated above, the minutes be approved and confirmed as an accurate record of the discussions and decisions made.

168.0 Agenda Item 5. Matters Arising from the Minutes.

168.1 Cefneithin Park. Lease of Land.

- Carmarthenshire County Council's legal department confirmed that they would be able to act for the Community Council in the matter at a cost of approximately £350.00.
- The process would involve agreement between the two parties on the Heads of Terms which would set out the broad principles and terms of a lease.
- A draft Heads of Terms document had been circulated to the Cefneithin ward members for comment by the 23rd February, 2018.
- A meeting of the Sub Committee would then be convened to consider the feedback and also the draft document prior to reporting back to the full Council.
- Discussions would then take place with the Cefneithin and Foelgastell Welfare Association on the draft Heads of Terms prior to formalising a lease.
- **Resolved:**
 - The County Council be appointed to act on behalf of the Community Council in the matter.
 - The Sub Committee be authorised to examine the Heads of Terms document and, following feedback from the Cefneithin members, report to full Council.

168.2 Gorslas Park. Titan Swing and Gyro Rotator.

- Section 106: The County Council advise that they are not able to refund part payment of the account.
- **Resolved:** To receive and note the information provided.

168.3 New School Gorslas Park.

- Formal notice had been served on the Community Council indicating that the County Council had submitted a planning application for the establishment of a new primary school at Gorslas Park.
- A response had not been received from the County Council in respect to a request for an update on the conditions put forward by the Community Council relating to the possible sale of the park land.
- **Resolved:** To receive and note the information provided.

168.4 Independent Review Panel Annual Allowance for Members.

- Guidance was awaited on whether, and how, any allowance would be payable.
- Notification has been received from 9 members that they would not wish to claim the allowance. Accordingly, provision had been made in the 2018/19 budget for payment of the expenses to 6 members.
- The Clerk advised that since the preparation of the update report notification had been received from a further member that they would not be seeking to claim the allowance. The budget figure would be adjusted accordingly.

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

168.5 Footpath FP31/16/1 Heol Yr Ysgol to Heol Y Parc via Ty Canol.

- The County Council report the path is open and accessible and was walked from end to end by a member of staff shortly before Christmas without any issue.
- It was noted however that a “Walking Man” sign was required at either end of the path. A job sheet for the work to be done has been logged however it was likely that this would take some time to be actioned as it was considered a low priority.
- **Resolved:** To receive and note the information provided.

168.6 Footpath FP 31/6/1 Foelgastell to Heol Blaenhirwaun

- It was noted that the path needs a new self-closing pedestrian gate and a small sleeper bridge installed across a ditch.
- The County Council have instructed that the work be undertaken with the task being rated as a medium priority and being actioned as soon as commitments allow.
- **Resolved:** To receive and note the information provided.

168.7 Local Development Plan. Invitation to County Council Officers.

- An invitation has been issued to the Officers to attend either the February or March meeting of the Council.
- The County Council have advised that they are anxious to engage with Communities however finding resources to do so is difficult and they have had to turn down a number of similar requests.
- An update was provided by the County Council members indicating that the shortage of resources to carry out the consultation process had been recognised and negotiations were taking place with an outside organisation to provide the service.
- **Resolved:** To defer consideration of the matter until the outcome of the negotiations relating to additional resources was known.

168.8 Defibrillator - Drefach

- Cllr Nia Lewis declared a personal interest in the matter and took no part in the discussion or decision.
- Members were advised of the significant amount of money which had been raised locally, which included sponsorship from local companies and organisations, towards the cost of purchase a defibrillator.
- It was reported that the sum required had increased to facilitate the purchase of a cabinet for the defibrillator resulting in a shortfall of approximately £200.
- **Resolved:** That having regard to previous discussions by the Community Council relating to the provision of a defibrillator, and the significant funds raised by individuals, a donation of £200 be made.

168.9 Gorslas Park Equipment Replacement.

- Section 106 A meeting with officers of the County Council to clarify the position has been arranged for Wednesday 14th February, 2018.
- Car Park and Play Park Area. Confirmation has been received from the County Council that these areas would not be required or affected should the proposal for a

new school on the site proceed. The works would not therefore impact on the timing of the replacement of any equipment in the park by the Community Council.

- It was noted that the Gorslas Welfare Association had met and were keen to work in partnership with the school and Community Council to progress matters.
- **Resolved:** To receive and note the information provided.

168.10 Gorslas Park Toilets

- It was reported that, as requested, the Gorslas Welfare Association had met and considered the cost and options for either retaining or closing the current facility.
- In summary it was the view of the Association that the toilets were a very useful, and well used, asset for the community.
- Accordingly, the Association felt that it would be essential to have a full 12-month usage figure prior to offering any observations on a preferred option.
- **Resolved:** To receive and note the views of the Gorslas Welfare Association and to make the data available at the appropriate time.

169.0 Agenda Item 6 New Matters Parks and General.

169.1 General. Appointment of Solicitors.

- As instructed quotations had been obtained from four solicitors in respect of acting on behalf of the Community Council in the prospective sale of land at Gorslas Park.
- Anonymised details of the costs from each of the four tenderers had been provided to members together with a summary of supporting statements from each provider.
- **Resolved:** That, should the proposal for the new school proceed, the work be allocated to tenderer A at an estimated cost of £750.00

169.2 Cefneithin Park. Drainage

- Concerns had been raised by local residents in relation to water entering the garden of a property following the heavy rains on Sunday 21st January, 2018.
- The Clerk and contractor visited the site the following morning. Following inspection, it was agreed that the drainage element of the park development scheme which would also assist the householder be brought forward and completed by Saturday 27th January, 2018.
- The Clerk visited the site on Saturday 27th January, 2018. The work had been completed and no water was entering the householder's garden. Due to heavy rainfall a further inspection was undertaken on the morning of Monday 29th January, 2018, and again no water was evidenced entering the householder's garden.
- Additionally, the position in respect of surface water would be re-assessed once the levelling of the wooded area had been completed and also issues related to the free flow of water once discharged into a neighbouring field had been resolved.
- It was also noted that there were difficulties in determining the ownership of the field however during the ensuing it was indicated that the land had at one time been part of Bancyffynnon Farm, Foelgastell.

- **Resolved:** To receive, note and approve the actions taken and that enquiries be made in relation to the possible ownership of the land as being part of Bancyffynnon, Farm.

169.3 Cefneithin Park. Fallen Tree

- It was noted during a site visit on Monday 29th January, 2019, that a tree had fallen across the footpath in the wooded area. Arrangements had been made for removal.
- **Resolved:** To receive, note and approve the actions taken.

169.4 Cefneithin Park. Hall Facility request to site Clothes recycling facility.

- A request has been received from the Welfare Association for permission to site a clothes recycling bin in proximity to the hall.
- **Resolved:** To approve the request subject to satisfactory placing of the facility so as not to compromise the safety of the building or users of the park, car park, hall or to cause a nuisance to neighbouring properties.

169.5 Drefach Park. Contract for Use of Park by Drefach Cricket and Football Club.

- Cllrs Wyn Edwards and Aled Vaughan Owen declared an interest as members of the club and took no part in the discussion or decision.
- As agreed at the January meeting negotiations had taken place with the Club in relation to the use of the park for the playing of mini football on Saturdays.
- Copies of the draft contract had been forwarded to Community Councillors and also to the club. The Secretary responded on behalf of the Club and had returned the contract to the Clerk duly signed.
- The Council's insurers have been notified of the arrangement which is acceptable to them subject to regular inspection of the land by the Community Council.
- **Resolved:** That the land be made available to the Drefach Cricket and Football Club on the terms specified in the contract for the term specified.

169.6 Gorslas Park. Public Lighting

- Complaints had been received that four streetlamps in the park were not working.
- A request for the matter to be rectified had been lodged with the County Council.
- Further complaint received of a lamp not working. Reported to the County Council.
- The reports did not indicate that these events were linked to incidents of vandalism.
- **Resolved:** To receive, note and approve the actions taken.

169.7 Gorslas Park. Land Transfer Request

- A householder and her husband donated land at the rear of their property and adjoining Gorslas Park to the Community Council some 13 years ago.
- It is maintained that at the time, the resident indicated that in return for the land donated to the Community Council they would appreciate a reciprocal arrangement whereby the Community Council transfer a portion of park land adjacent to the property they occupy into their ownership.
- Due to the proposal to establish a new school in the park and to use Church Road as an access point concerns relating to the expected traffic/congestion have led to a request for the Community Council to reconsider the original request.

- The resident is seeking for land equating to one and a half car widths and for the entire length of the property to be transferred to their ownership. This would facilitate the off-road parking of two vehicles thereby reducing congestion in Church Road and at the same time preventing damage to the resident's vehicles.
- **Resolved:**
 - (i) That enquiries be made to establish the historic context of the request.
 - (ii) Enquiries be made of the County Council to ascertain whether the transfer of the area of land requested would affect the proposals for the new school.
 - (iii) The matter be placed on the agenda for the next meeting.

170.0 Agenda Item 7 Urgent Local Matters.

170.1 Provision of Crime Statistics.

- Concern was raised that, in spite of previous requests, a response had not been received in respect of the Council's request for clarification on the cessation of the provision of crime statistics on a ward by ward basis.
- **Resolved:** That a further request be sent to the Commissioner seeking a response.

170.2 Facebook. Updating of Information.

- It was reported that the information on the Council's Facebook page was out of date and had not been updated for some time.
- Cllr Aled Vaughan Owen had sought to update the Facebook page on a voluntary basis however it was proving difficult and a request was made for any other member to take on the role on a voluntary basis.
- **Resolved:** To receive and note the information provided.

170.3 Community Council Website.

- Members were advised that there were telephone contact details missing for some members and an incorrect address given for one member.
- It was also noted that there were differences in the number of photographs displayed depending on the page used for access.
- Additionally, the Welsh language version of the website had no content and had been under construction for several years. The Clerk advised that provision had not been made in the 2018/19 budget for translation costs relating to the website.
- **Resolved:**
 - (i) Confirmation of details and permission be sought from the relevant members and addresses etc updated accordingly.
 - (ii) That members review the current English language pages on the website and submit suggestions for its updating.

170.4 Letter of Congratulations. Craig Winn.

- Members were pleased to note that Craig Winn, a former pupil of Gorslas C.P. School and Ysgol Maes Y Gwendraeth, had recently been awarded the prestigious King's Badge after passing training as a Royal Marine Commando.
- **Resolved:** That a letter of congratulations be sent to Mr Winn.

170.5 Drainage Cross Hands Road Junction Treventy Farm.

- It was reported that during the recent heavy rainfall the drain taking the water under the main Drefach to Cross Hands Road had been unable to cope with the volume of water.
- The excess water had thus flowed along the main road taking up to half the carriageway presenting a danger to traffic and other road users.
- The issue of insufficient capacity in respect of this drain had been raised previously by the Community Council at its meeting in April 2016.
- **Resolved:** To write to the County Council to draw their attention to the matter.

170.6 School Governing Bodies. Community Council Representative Feedback

- Discussion took place on the possibility of members who were nominated by the Community Council to serve as representatives on School Governing Bodies providing periodic summary reports to the Council in much the same way as members who represent the Council on other outside bodies currently do.
- **Resolved:** To obtain a current schedule of Community Council representatives serving on School Governing Bodies.

171.0 Agenda Item 8 Members Reports

171.1 Cross Hands Hall and Cinema Trustees Meeting 18th January,2018.

- Cllr Clive Green provided an update for members in relation to matters discussed at the meeting. These included the external decoration of the building planned for the coming summer period and the decision by the County Council not to grant the Trustees request for the naming of the slip road from Cross Hands West to Carmarthen Road, Cross Hands as Ffordd Y Neuadd.
- **Resolved:** To receive and note the information provided.

171.2 PACT Meeting 25th January, 2018.

- It was reported that Cllrs Clive Green, Brian Kirby and David Evans together with a number of other representatives of the public had turned up to the meeting which they later learned had been cancelled.
- The Police had apologised for having to cancel the meeting which was due to the relevant officer having to attend a Road Traffic Accident. They had also advised that it was their intention to seek to ensure that there was a presence at future meetings.
- **Resolved:** To receive and note the information provided.

171.3 Torcoed Quarry Liaison Meeting.

- Cllr A. Rees indicated that a meeting of the group had been scheduled for the 21st February,2018 which unfortunately he would not be able to attend.
- Cllr Wyn Edwards kindly agreed to attend the meeting.
- **Resolved.** To receive, note and approve the actions taken.

171.4 County Council Update.

- An update was provided by County Councillors Aled Vaughan Owen and Darren Price in relation to the above and which included the following matters: -

(i) County Matters

- **Budget:** A decision on the budget for 2018/19 was expected in the coming week. There was a requirement for the Council to reduce expenditure by some £ 9m for the year. The overall schools budget would not be cut with a standstill budget being provided. Overall it was expected that Council tax would increase by some 4.1%.
- **LED. Streetlighting Project.** The County Council were seeking to engage with the Welsh Government in relation to a programme to replace existing streetlights with LED units.
- **Resolved:** To receive and note the information provided.

(ii) Local Matters.

- **Gorslas Welfare Association.** Cllr Aled Vaughan Owen had attended the recent meeting of the Association and advised that the matters discussed included: -
- **Section 106 monies for the Park.** The Welfare Association welcomed the opportunity to be part of a discussion involving ward members, the school, and the Community Council in relation to replacement equipment.
- **New School MUGA.** The Chair and Headteacher of Gorslas CP School were supportive of the facility being made available for use by the community.
- **Gorslas Toilets.** The Association felt that given the importance of the facility that it would be preferable to be in possession of data on usage for a full 12-month period prior to offering observations on options for future provision.
- **Gorslas Link Road.** Work has started from the Carmel end on the link road.
- **Gorslas Road Llyn Llech Owain.** Reports had been received by members that there had been a number of incidents involving near misses caused by vehicles cutting a corner at a point near the park entrance on the approach from Heol Yr Eglwys. Discussions were taking place with the County Council in relation to providing central markings on the highway at the relevant point.
- **Drefach. Heol Ddu Speeding/Lorries.** County Councillors had met with Mr John McEvoy from the County Council in relation to the possibility of measures being taken to improve the safety of vehicles and pedestrians. Unfortunately, the pavement, at the relevant point, was not wide enough to allow bollards to be provided. The possibility of a priority give way system was also discussed.
- **Drefach. Speeding Heol Cae Gwyn.** Discussions had taken place with County Council Officers in relation to measures which could be taken to reduce the speed of vehicles. Members were advised that there were no funds available to undertake any large-scale schemes however attempts would be made to fund the re-marking of the “shark teeth” road markings.
- **Drefach. Cae Coch.** A meeting had taken place involving representatives of the Uwch Gwendraeth residents, County Council representatives and the developer. It was reported that a solution acceptable to all parties had been reached.

- **Cefneithin. Bus Shelter.** Agreement had been reached in relation to the siting of a bus shelter at a point opposite and near the entrance to Y Glyn.
- **Cefneithin Heol Y Parc/Rear Y Glyn.** Concerns were also being investigated regarding the use of a roadway and premises to accommodate HGV low loader vehicles.
- **Foelgastell. Parc Newydd.** Complaints had been received and were being investigated regarding the use of a driveway for commercial car valeting purposes.
- **Resolved:** To receive and note the information provided.

172.0 Agenda Item 9 Correspondence.

172.1 Consultation.

No	From	Subject	Notes
172.2	Carms C.C.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seeking views on matters which are important to secure the future prosperity of rural communities. Online survey on County Council website. 	Deadline 30.03.18
172.3	Welsh Govt/DEFRA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seeking views on measures to tackle poor performance and to introduce a fixed penalty system in the waste sector. • Consultation document and response details on W.G. website 	Deadline 26.03.18
172.4	Welsh Govt	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seeking views on draft statutory guidance requiring Local Authorities to prepare, consult and publish a local toilets strategy. Details and response form on W.G website 	Deadline 04.04.18
172.5	Brecon Beacons National Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invite input into their review of the 2007-2022 Development Plan. 	Report by June 2018
172.6	Natural Resources Wales	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Area Statements. Online questionnaire available to ascertain issues of concern to stakeholders 	Closing 09.02.18
172.7	Welsh Govt	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invitation from the Independent Review Panel to attend a meeting with them in Carmarthen on Tuesday 13th March, 2018 between 09:30 and 12:30. • The meeting will gather views on issues and areas which Community/Town Councils should deal with in the future. 	Meeting 13.03.18
172.8	Auditor General for Wales	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consulting upon a revised Code of Audit Practice • Four principles underpin carrying out the Audit function <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Focus on the public interest (ii) Be independent. (iii) Proportionate. Balance checks with need to deliver. (iv) Accountable for costs and meeting audit standards. 	Respond by 26.03.18
172.9	Carms C.C.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LDP for 2006-2021. The plan is subject to a periodic review. Details of the review report and conclusions are available on the Council's website or at libraries/ customer care centres. 	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft Delivery Agreement. Sets out a timetable and key stages for preparing the revised LDP. Includes details of how and when communities, public and stakeholder will be consulted. • Site Submission. Landowners, developers, stakeholders and the public can propose sites/areas which should be included, or alternatively protected from development within the plan. 	05.02.18 to 23.03.18 05.02.18 to 29.05.18
172.10	Welsh Govt	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Great Western Railway – consultation on how rail services will look in the future. • 13/02/18 between 2.00 and 4. 00p.m at The Atrium, Gorseinon Development Trust, Gorseinon. and • 13/02/18 between 6. 00p.m and 8.00 p.m Teifi Suite, Halliwell, Centre, UWTDs, Carmarthen 	13.02.18

- **Resolved:**
 - To receive and note the information provided.
 - Item 172.4 Consultation Public Toilets Strategy That the item be placed on the agenda for the next meeting and that the three Welfare Associations be advised of the of the opportunity to input into the consultation process.

172.11 General Correspondence

No	From	Subject	Notes
172.12	Carms C.C.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seeking nominations for 2018 Celebration of Culture Awards. 	
172.13	Media Wales	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offering an opportunity to purchase a sponsorship package for the 2018 Celebration of Culture Awards. Cost £1,000. 	
172.14	Carms C.C.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invitation to the St David's day parade commencing from Carmarthen Park at 11.00 a.m. on Saturday 3rd March,2018. 	
172.15	Friends of the Earth Cymru	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide information, on how the Council could join, and be accredited under the Welsh Govt's Bee Friendly scheme. 	
172.16	Carms C.C.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advise of temporary closure of a section of the C2066 at its junction with the TR A48 for a distance of 212mtrs. • The closure will be for 3 days commencing 29/01/18 between the hours of 08:00 and 17:00 hrs. • The work relates to signage and lighting works. 	
172.17	Carms C.C.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advise of temporary closure of Heol Ddu Foelgastell from its junction with TR A48 for a distance of 209 mtrs and the TR A 48 right Turn Lane. • The closure will be for 3 days commencing 05//02/18 between the hours of 08:00 and 17:00 hrs. • The work relates to signage and lighting works. 	
172.18	Carms C.C.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acoustic Survey connected to the proposed new school. Gorslas park between 6 and 9. 00p.m on 12/01/18 	
172.19	Dyfed Powys Local Resilience Forum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Home Office guidance document "Community Resilience Guidance for Practitioners" available on H.M Govt Website. 	

172.20	Future Generations Commissioner	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An online framework for considering well-being as part of a project. 	
172.21	City Farms and Community Gardens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> January newsletter available electronically from the Clerk 	
172.22	Welsh Govt	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As from 1st April,2018, Stamp Duty Land Tax and Landfill Tax will be replaced by the Land Transaction Tax and Landfill Disposals Tax in Wales. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> First Welsh taxes to be raised for 800 years 	
172.23	Welsh Language Commissioner	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Newsletter is available online or electronically from the Clerk 	
172.24	Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Newsletter is available online or electronically from the Clerk 	
172.25	Welsh Government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inviting applications for grants between £500 and £ 20,000 to fund projects linked with Women's Suffrage – Celebrating Women in Wales. 	Closing date 16.03.18
172.26	Welsh Government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Under an agreed memorandum of understanding Council's will not charge burial/cremation fees in respect of persons under 18. 	
172.27	Ombudsman Wales	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Newsletter chronicling the latest decisions available on their website or an electronic copy from the Clerk. 	

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

173.0 Agenda Item 10 One Voice Wales.

173.1 January 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.

173.2 Community and Town Council Review.

- A report summarising the main points raised by Councils as part of the all Wales consultation will be available in early February,2018.
- Observations for inclusion in the report may be submitted by Monday 15th January,2018.
- Following the completion of that process the Association will then submit responses on behalf of its members. It strongly urges each Council to submit an individual response.
- **Resolved:** To receive and note the information provided.

173.3 Subscription 2018/19

- An invitation to renew membership has been received at a cost of £640.

- **Resolved:** To renew membership and obtain clarification regarding the increase in the subscription over that charged for the previous year.

173.4 Wellbeing of Future Generations Act.

- Llanelli Town Council will give a presentation at the Town Hall on the 27th February, 2018 on how they approached and adopted the principles of the Act.
- **Resolved:** That members interested in attending contact the Chair.

174.0 Agenda Item 11 Planning Matters

174.1 Planning Applications.

No /Ref	Description	Location	Applicant
W/34933	Second re-consultation. Outline. Construction of 20 detached private market dwelling houses with integral garages and 2 semi-detached affordable houses. All with on plot marking and private amenity space, improvement and widening of the existing adopted highway and construction of new adopted highways on land allocated in the Local Development Plan for residential development	Bron Yr Ynn, Drefach	Bron Yr Ynn, Drefach
W/36716	Full Planning Erection of new 3-bedroom dormer bungalow	Plot 5, Heol Caegwyn, Drefach, SA14 7BB	Phil Davies, 43 Bethesda Road, Tumble. Agent: Cartrefi Redwood Homes, Maes Yr Haf, Pencader.
W/36717	Full Planning. Temporary Siting of Chalet for residential accommodation purposes(3years)	Banc Y Ffynnon, Heol Y Foel, Foelgastell, SA14 7EG	Mr and Mrs Denman, Banc Y Ffynnon, Heol Y Foel, Foelgastell. Agent: JCR Planning Ltd, Unit 2 Cross Hands Business Workshop, Heol Parc Mawr, Cross Hands
W/36307	Full Planning. Residential development of 5 new houses including new private drive following demolition of existing garage and proposed replacement garage.	Land adjacent to the paddocks, Heol Y Foel, Foelgastell, SA14 7ER	Mr Huw Priday.
W/35727	Appeal against refusal to grant planning permission	Land at Tir Bont Farm, Foelgastell. SA14 7 HL	M4 trailers – Phil Rees,

	Proposed Rural Enterprise Dwelling		
--	------------------------------------	--	--

- **Resolved:**
 - (i) To receive and note the information provided.
 - (ii) Application W/34933. To note that the observations as resolved in relation to the previous application have been re -submitted. It was noted that the County Councillors had also responded highlighting the fact that any section 106 monies relating to amenity space provision should be spent on the amenities in the public park and not to any provided by the developer.
 - (iii) Application W/36307. Noted that the application was a re-submission.
 - (iv) Cllr Andrew King left the meeting at this point due to work commitments.

175.0 Agenda Item 12 Finance

175.1 Precept for the Financial Year 2018/19: Sub Committee Report

175.2 General

- The Sub Committee and Clerk met on Wednesday 24th January, 2018, to consider and examine the proposed budget for 2018/19.
- Account had been taken of the factors which would impact on the budget such as contractual and legal obligations, the appropriateness of the level of reserves, comparison with precept charged and budget spend by other Community Councils as well as the impact of any increase on those having to pay the charge.
- Having done so the Sub Committee reported as follows: -

175.3 Factors Affecting the 2018/19 Budget.

1.0 Legal. Section 137 Limit.

- Local Council's require a legal basis for the provision of services and for the raising of a precept to fund that expenditure.
- Section 137 allows the Community Council to raise and spend money on matters for which it does not have a legal power specified under an existing act.
- The power is not an open ended one and there are limits placed on how much a Council can spend under section 137 and also on what it can be spent.
- In using the powers given to it under section 137 the Council must be satisfied that the expenditure is in the interests of and will bring direct benefit to the area, or any part of the area or all or some of the inhabitants and that the benefit is commensurate with the expenditure. Expenditure for certain charitable and other purposes is also included.
- The appropriate sum under section 137 for the 2018/19 financial year is £ 7.86 per elector. The electorate has been confirmed as 3,647.
- The section 137 limit for the 2018/19 financial year is therefore £ 28,665.
- The Council's relevant section 137 expenditure for 2018/19 is
 - (i) General Donations - £2,800.00

(ii) Events Christmas/Fireworks - £ 1,600.00
Total £ 4,400.00

(i) The Council is within the prescribed limits.

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

2.0 Contracts

(i) **Employees.**

- Contractual arrangement for wages review and consideration of incremental progression. One Voice Wales recommendation to provide for 2% pay increase.
- **Resolved:** To make provision within the estimates as outlined.

(ii) **Grass Cutting.**

- The current contract for the cutting of grass expires in September 2018, to coincide with the possibility of changes due to the proposed new school at Gorslas Park.
- The contract includes an option to extend the contract beyond September if necessary. And to vary the price to allow for land for the new school or for the inclusion of additional land in the wooded area at Cefneithin Park.
- **Resolved:** To extend the contract for a period of one year. To include costs at present level within the budget. Any variance being met, or transferred to reserves.

(iii) **Public Convenience Cleaning Contract.**

- The existing contract is to be reviewed on the 31st March,2018. The contract is operating well, to a consistently good standard representing value for money.
- **Resolved:** To extend the current contract for a period of one year on the same terms and conditions to allow for the consideration of options linked to the proposed new school. Provision to be made at the current rate in the budget.

(iv) **Public Convenience Equipment Service Contract.**

- Existing contract comes to an end in April 2018.
- **Resolved:** Renew contract if no alternative supplier found and make provision in the budget for a 3% increase in costs.

(v) **Litter Picking and General Maintenance Contract.**

- There has not been an increase in the litter picking prices for the last two years and maintenance works are priced individually to ensure value for money.
- **Resolved:** Continue with current arrangement for the foreseeable future and review when arrangements relating to the new school have been finalised.

(vi) **Parks Inspection.**

- SLA Agreement with the County Council expires on the 31st March,2018.
- Clarification sought on reporting arrangements and the SLA terms for 2018/19.
- **Resolved:** Renew if proposals acceptable. If not make alternative temporary arrangements. Include 3% increase in the budget.

3.0 Depreciation.

- The Council has a significant number of assets which are depreciating and will need replacement/repair. In total the cost of replacing all assets which have been fully depreciated would be in the region of £ 530,000.
- An amount of £8,162 has been calculated in respect of an annual depreciation charge i.e. an amount to be placed in a sinking fund for the replacement of equipment which is deemed to be beyond economic repair. No allowance has been made in the 2018/19 estimates for the creation of a sinking fund.

Resolved:

- (i) That an amount of £ 32k, to include the £2k set aside previously for the Cefneithin MUGA, should be set aside to form a sinking fund to replace assets.
- (ii) That, as from 2019/20 the precept includes additional specific provision each year of £2,500 be included in the budget each year.

4.0 Annual Maintenance Programme.

- Discussion took place in relation to the adoption of an annual maintenance programme with estimated costs being provided totalling some £ 4,250.
- It is recognised that there are a significant number of large items within Gorslas Park which need replacing. If the replacement items are to be funded directly, or on a refundable basis from section 106 monies, there would be a significant impact on cashflow, the reserves and also the budget spend for 2018/19.

Resolved:

- (i) That the availability and mechanism for funding section 106 works be clarified.
- (ii) The maintenance schedule be reviewed following clarification on item (i).

5.0 General Data Protection Regulations – May 2018

- New legislation is likely to come into force in May 2018 which will place onerous duties on Councils in relation to data protection which will include the appointment of an outside data officer or commissioning of services to provide the service.
- The full implications of the legislation are not known and neither are the costs or guidance on where these services may be procured from.
- No allowance is made within the current draft budget for these costs.

Resolved:

- Await further guidance in relation to the requirements.
- That additional costs be met from reserves for the 2018/19 year

175.4 Allocation of Reserves.

- The Council has taken steps to reduce its reserves to lessen the impact of increases in the annual precept and also to invest in enhanced provision mainly in the parks.

(i) Reserves Estimated position 31/03/19

- The table below shows the estimated position as at 31st March,2019, should the draft budget be approved and the precept not increased.

Reserves	2018/19	2017/18	2016/17
Brought Forward	46,346.91	77,437.41	70,882.00
Less Deficit/Surplus/ Budget Transfers	2,131.96	31,090.50	6,555.41
Est Balances At Year End	44,214.95	46,346.91	77,437.41

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

(ii) **Reserves Possible Allocation 31/09/19**

Estimated Balance 31 03 19		£44,214.95
Balance Cefneithin Development Fund	£ 4,928.00	
Commitments Previous Years	£ 1,854.00	
Depreciation (inc MUGA Fund)	£ 32,000.00	£ 38,782.00
Balance i.e Operating Reserve		£ 5,432.95

Resolved:

- That a sum of £ 32,000 be earmarked within the reserves as a sinking fund to help meet the cost of replacement equipment.
- That a sum of £ 2,500 be provided annually in the budget from 2018/19 onwards to transfer to, and be held within the reserves, as a sinking fund for the replacement of equipment.
- That the operating reserve level be monitored and reported upon in September.

175.5 Estimated Income and Expenditure Statements

- Statements of estimated income and expenditure items for the 2018/19 financial year had been provided to members prior to the meeting.
- A table showing the effects on the budget and reserves of different levels of precept had also been provided.
- Examples of charges made by neighbouring Authorities, those with similar budgets or levels of precept for 2017/18 were supplied for comparison purposes.

176.0 Determining the Precept for 2018/19

- Members considered, and discussed at some length, the estimated income and expenditure statements, the appropriateness of the levels of reserves, demand and relevance of services, legal and contractual obligations and the impact on individual households of any proposed increase.
- **Resolved:**
 - The precept income for 2018/19 be set at £ 81,289.56 representing an increase of some 4% bringing the Band D rate to £ 42.28.
 - To approve the 2018/19 Income and Expenditure Budget as detailed below.

176.1 Approved Income and Expenditure Budget 2018/19

Income	Estimate 18/19
Precept	81,297.25
VAT Refund	9,500.00
Lease Hall Cefneithin	0.00
Section 106	0.00
From Reserves	0.00
Other	1,360.00
Total Income	92,157.25
Expenditure	Estimate 18/19
Parks	
Total Parks Major Maint/New	8,000.00
Parks Grass Cut Total	15,000.00
Parks Litter Total	5,995.00
Total Park Minor Maint	9,000.00
Parks Other	0.00
Sub Total	37,995.00
Public Conveniences	
Toilets Major Maint /New	500.00
Toilets Custodial	5,500.00
Toilets Running Costs	600.00
Toilets Minor Maint	1,000.00
Toilets Other	0.00
Sub Total	7,600.00
Bus Shelters	
Bus Major Maint/New	0.00
Bus Clean Wages	220.00
Bus Minor Maint	500.00
Bus Other	0.00
Sub Total	720.00
Street Lighting	
Street Light Major Maint/New	1,000.00
Street Light Running	8,362.00
Street Light Minor Maint	0.00
Street Light Other	0.00
Sub Total	9,362.00
Seats	
Seats Major Maint/New	0.00
Seats Minor Maint	500.00

Seats Other	0.800
Sub Total	500.00
Admin and Office Exp	
New Provision	0.00
Admin Employee Total	23,250.00
Admin Office/ Corp Gov Costs	3,150.00
Council Insurance	1,700.00
Admin Other	0.00
Sub Total	28,100.00
Democratic	
Members Training/Course Conf Fees	350.00
Members Travelling/ Subsistence	200.00
Chairs Allowance	1,000.00
IRPW Mandatory Allowance Members	750.00
Demo Other	1,080.00
Sub Total	3,380.00
Other	
General Grants	2,800.00
Community Events	1,600.00
Other	0.00
Sub Total	4,400.00
Total Expenditure	92,057.00

Summary Income/Exp	2018/19
Income	92,157.25
Expenditure	92,057.00
Difference	100.25

Reserves	2018/19
Brought Forward	46,346.91
Less Deficit/Surplus/ Budget Transfers	100.25
Est Balance at Year End	46,447.16

177.0 Finance Payments

177.1 Payments Made to Creditors

Paid To	Description	Amount £
Spencer Environmental	Grass Cutting Charge January	1,476.07
DANFO	Gorslas P Conv Cleaning January	558.00
WCVA	Payroll January	22.20
Clerk	Wages January plus £29.70 travel	923.10
Bus Shelter Cleaner	Wages January	17.48
Drefach Welfare Assoc	Christmas Tree Charges	60.00
TBM	Litter Nov/Dec. Repairs Jnr Play Drefach/Wash Safety Surface Gors/ Path Cefneithin	1,870.00
T.B.M	Path/ Bases/Clearing/Levelling Cefn Part Payment	6,240.00
Drefach Welfare Assoc	Hire Hall Sub Ctte Meeting Jan	10.00
FLG	Drainage Works Cefn (inc VAT)	955.48
T.B.M	TBM Litter Jan Drain Cover	450.00
Pendragon Fireworks	Fireworks Event December	1,200.00

177.2 Income

Received from	Description	Amount £
Nil		

178.0 Agenda Item 13 Date Next Meeting

- The business of the meeting having been concluded the Chair declared the meeting closed at 9.10p.m.
- Next Meeting Monday 12th March ,2018, at Cefneithin CP School.