

CYNGOR CYMUNED GORSLAS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Gorslas Community Council held at Drefach Welfare Hall on Monday, 9th January, 2017, at 7.00.p.m.

132.0. Agenda Item 1: Record of those Present/Apologies

- **Members Present:** Cllrs Wyn Edwards (Chair), Darren Price, Nia Lewis, Simon Martin, Brian Kirby, Anthony Rees, Terry Davies, Terry Jones, Janice Price, Tina Jukes, Clive Green and Aled Owen.
- **Others:** Llew Thomas Clerk to the Council, Mr Hefin Jones, Translator.
- **Apologies for absence:** Cllrs Gavin Griffiths, Ellis Davies and Huw Davies.

132.1 Welcome

- The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and in particular to Cllr Clive Green who was returning following his recent absence.

133.0 Agenda Item 2 Declarations of Interest

- Cllr T Davies declared a personal but not prejudicial interest in relation to his role as a County Councillor serving on the Local Authority's planning committee. Accordingly, he did not take part in discussions or decisions relating to those items.

134.0 Agenda Item 3. Exclusion of Press and Public.

- Agenda items did not require the exclusion of the press and public.

135.0 Agenda Item 4. Wellbeing of Future Generations Act.

- In the circumstances, it was resolved to defer discussion on this matter and re-schedule for a future meeting depending on the availability of the speaker.

136.0 Agenda Item 5 Consider the Minutes of Meeting of the 14th November, 2016.

- Under the direction of the Chair members proceeded to examine and consider each page of the minutes of the previous meeting for accuracy.
- Cllr T Davies advised that an amendment should be made in relation to item 112.18 to the effect that the plaques relating to sport had been re-located to Ysgol Maes Y Gwendraeth and that discussions were being held with the County Council in relation to the plaques commemorating the war.
- **Resolved:** Proposed by Cllr T Davies that, subject to the above amendment, and agreed by all present that the minutes of the meeting held on the 12th December, 2016, were a true and accurate record of proceedings and decisions.

137.0. Agenda Item 6. Matters Arising from the Minutes.

137.1 Asset Register

- The schedule had been amended to reflect the feedback from members.
- **Resolved:** That members undertake a final review of the schedule and that the revised document be forwarded to the insurers at the beginning of April which would allow for the inclusion of the Gorslas Public Convenience the ownership of which was being transferred building to the Community Council at that time.

137.2 Cefneithin Park. MUGA.

- The Clerk advised that the contractor had indicated that the completion date had been re-scheduled to Friday 13th January,2017.
- **Resolved:** To receive and note the information provided.

137.3 Cefneithin Hall. Lease

- Carmarthenshire County Council Legal Services Division have indicated that they would be able to undertake the work on a cost recovery basis.
- The Clerk advised that clarification has been sought in relation to the likely cost.

137.4 Cefneithin Park. Drainage.

- Estimated prices for improvement works to park drainage schemes at Cefneithin and Drefach parks had been received on the afternoon of the meeting.
- **Resolved:** That the matter be placed on the agenda for the next meeting.

137.5 Cefneithin Park – Future Schemes Development.

- Meeting to be convened in the new year.
- **Resolved:** To receive and note the information provided.

137.6 Gorslas Park. Titan Swing and Gyro Rotator.

- Following tendering the contract was awarded to Parks and Play with work due to commence early in the new year. The cost would be met from Section 106 monies.
- **Resolved:** To receive and note the information provided.

137.7 Gorslas. Teen Shelter

- Warning Signage has been fitted. Two further signs will be fitted shortly.
- **Resolved:** To receive and note the information provided.

137.8 Gorslas. Aerial Runway.

- Parks and Play will incorporate the work with those scheduled for the Titan Swing.
- **Resolved:** To receive and note the information provided.

137.9 Gorslas. Public Convenience – Vandalism Gents Cubicle

- Police have provided a crime reference number for the incident.
- **Resolved:** To receive and note the information provided.

137.10 Drefach. Multi Use Equipment:

- Following consideration by the Sub-Committee an order has been placed for the work to be undertaken.
- **Resolved:** To receive and note the information provided.

137.11 Drefach. Drainage Issues- Garden Plot

- The costings in relation to the drainage scheme has been received.
- **Resolved:** To place the matter on the agenda for the next meeting.

137.12 Community Council Website.

- One Voice Wales advise that the Welsh Language Commissioner has not yet produced standards for the sector.
- Guidance on the matter produced by One Voice Wales in summary advises that Councils should, as with any other policy, seek to ensure that the practice adopted reflects the needs of the community.
- As resolved at the last meeting cost for the translation of the relevant web pages have been received totalling £ 350.00 but which excludes translation of any documents such as minutes. The cost of updating the website itself would be £80. In total, therefore the costs for all aspects of the work are estimated at £430.00.
- **Resolved:** To proceed with the translation and updating of the website as indicated.

137.13. Community Councils 30th Anniversary Celebrations.

- The Sub-Committee proposes that invitations be issued to former Chairpersons of Gorslas Community Council as well as previous Clerks to the Council.
- Intended that the dinner to be held on or around the last week of April,2017.
- **Resolved:** To receive, note and approve the actions taken.

137.14 Foelgastell Road Condition/ Litter on Access Road to A48.

- The matter has been referred to the County Council who have acknowledged receipt and referred the matter to the relevant officers for investigation.
- **Resolved:** To receive and note the information provided.

137.15 Road Signs A48 Nantycaws Recycling Centre.

- The issue has been referred to the County Council but a response has not been received to date.
- **Resolved:** To receive and note the information provided.

137.16 Parking Prohibition Old Library Site Cross Hands.

- The County Council advise that the sign has been removed and the restriction lifted pending completion of the sale.
- In discussion members felt that, given the lack of parking places in the Cross Hands area, there would have been a considerable benefit to the wider community and businesses, if the County Council had retained the car park for the use of the public.
- **Resolved:** To receive and note the information provided.

138.0 Agenda Item 7 Public Convenience Gorslas Vandalism/Anti-Social Behaviour.

- Gorslas Toilets. The contractor undertaking the cleaning contract reported to the Clerk that on the evening of Monday 19th December at 9.00p.m. when seeking to lock up the facilities some four children aged between 8 and 10 years of age had locked themselves in the gents' toilet and refused to open the door.
- The contractor witnessed smoke being emitted from the cubicle, following further requests and a warning the door was unlocked. The children were given a warning relating to the danger which they placed themselves in had the building caught fire.
- Gorslas Park. On the evening of Monday 21st December, 2016, the Clerk received a report from Cllr T Davies of young people gathered in the park engaging in anti-social behaviour and also with a noticeable smell of alcohol being present.
- Following discussion with the Sub Committee temporary arrangements were introduced as from Wednesday evening, in the interests of safety, for the contractor to lock the facilities at 6.00 p.m. each evening until further notice and pending discussion by members at the January meeting.
- Concern was also raised in relation to the number of instances where it had been reported that the toilets had not been locked and or the car park barrier left unlocked.
- Resolved:
 - (i) To confirm the revision of the closing time to 6.00p.m. during the winter period
 - (ii) That the Clerk provide an update in relation to the number of incidents relating to operational issues over the previous year.
 - (iii) That representatives of the Community Council raise the issue of vandalism and anti-social behaviour in the park at the next PACT meeting together with the possibility of the Police introducing regular foot patrols of the park commencing at the Heol Yr Eglwys entrance.

139.0 Agenda Item 8 New Matters Parks and General.

139.1 Parks General- Annual External Inspection.

- A copy of the inspector's final report had been received by the Clerk.
- The report did not identify any areas of high risk at any of the three parks.
- An overview of the findings for each park has been summarised below.

| Park | Risk | Comments |
|-------------|-------------|---|
| Cefneithin | Low | All of the items inspected are deemed low or very low risk requiring only minor works |
| Drefach | Medium | All of the items inspected, apart from those listed below are deemed low or very low risk requiring only minor works. The Multi Play Junior Equipment is deemed a risk but has been non-operational since the summer. Remedial works are in hand. The other item deemed a medium risk relates to the timber support of the one bay two swing an instruction for the replacement of which has been issued. |
| Gorslas | Moderate | All of the items inspected, apart from those listed below are deemed low or very low risk requiring only minor works. Safety Surface Rotor Chair is worn. Remedial work already instructed. Safety Surface Rotor Gyro Spiral worn. Remedial work already instructed. Seat on Rotor Gyro is damaged and requires replacement. |

- **Resolved:** That the Sub Committee and Clerk schedule, determine and prioritise a programme of works and be authorised to implement the work programme within the finances available.

139.2 Gorslas Park. Ground Investigation Survey.

- Carmarthenshire County Council advise that they are to undertake further ground work tests in the park during the week commencing 3rd January,2017.
- **Resolved:** To receive and note the information provided.

139.3 Gorslas Public Convenience. Transfer of liability

- Electricity and Water Charges. Under the agreement, the Community Council will be liable for 100% of the charges as from 1st April, 2017.The County Council will arrange for the changes in billing to be implemented.
- Service Arrangements: During an inspection of the park it was drawn to the attention of the Clerk that a company - Wallgate had a six-monthly contract to service the equipment within the facility. Enquiries have been made of the County Council to ascertain costs and the period remaining of the contract

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

140.0 Agenda Item 9 Urgent Local Issues.

140.1 Car Parking at Site of Previous Ysgol Y Gwendraeth Drefach.

- Clarification was sought in relation to the parking of vehicles all day, in particular a minibus, in the bus bay of the former school.
- It was noted that there was no official prohibition notice and that there was public access to the facility.
- **Resolved:** To receive and note the information provided.

140.2 Parking Gorslas Industrial Estate.

- Members reported that vehicles, especially Heavy Goods Vehicles were parking overnight and at weekends within the industrial park.
- Members were aware that there were no parking restrictions on the public highway leading to the industrial park.
- **Resolved:** Cllr D Price kindly agreed to make enquiries.

140.3 Indiscriminate Parking Heol Yr Ysgol.

- Members reported that there were difficulties in relation to the parking of vehicles at no 52 Heol Yr Ysgol which was causing difficulties by blocking the vehicle turning area which resulted in vehicles mounting the pavements and causing damage to the kerbstones.
- Issues were also noted in relation to parking of vehicles at no 63 Heol Yr Ysgol with vehicles being parked on the pavement rather than making use of the parking facility. The issue was causing difficulties for parents taking children to school who were having to step off the pavement into the highway.
- **Resolved:** That the Community Council representatives bring the matter to the attention of the Police at the next PACT meeting.

140.4 Cross Hands to Cefneithin Link Road

- Concern was expressed at the speed of vehicles using the new link road and passing the school bus bays. It was noted that there were speed restriction signs in place however they were covered and not in use.
- Members were advised that the road had not as yet been adopted by the County Council. When that process had been completed then the signs and speed restrictions would come in to effect.
- **Resolved:** To receive and note the information provided

140.5 Proposed Road Improvements Heol Cwmmawr and Heol Cwmbach Junction.

- An enquiry was made as to the current position relating to the above scheme.
- The County Councillors were able to advise members that the scheme had been included for completion during the current financial year.
- **Resolved:** To receive and note the information provided.

141.0 Agenda Item 10 Members Report

- There were no items for discussion under this item.

142.0 Agenda Item 11 Correspondence.

(i) Consultation.

| No | From | Subject | Notes |
|------|------------|---|-----------------------------|
| 11.1 | Welsh Govt | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultation on proposals to ban the use of plastic microbeads in cosmetics and personal care products. • Further information on Welsh Govt website. | Closing 28/02/17 |
| 11.2 | Welsh Govt | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consulting on Bathing Water Review in Wales 2017. • Designation Traeth Glan Don Beach Gwynedd as bathing water | Closing 15/02/17 |
| 11.3 | Carms C.C. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultation on naming of estate of 16 plots off Heol Cwmmawr as Cwrt Glanfryn | Closing Date 19/01/17 |

- Resolved:
 - To receive and note the information provided in respect of each of the items included on the above schedule.
 - That in relation to item no 11.3 the Council respond to the effect that it is opposed to the proposed name in favour of an alternative suggestion of Cae Coch which is in accordance with the historic name given to the field and is in accordance with the tradition in the area of including colours in the name.

(ii) General Correspondence

| No | From | Subject | Notes |
|------|----------------------------|--|-------|
| 11.4 | Welsh Govt | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section 137 (4)(A) of the Local Govt. Act 1972 permits Councils to spend a specified amount on matters which it has no specific powers authorising it to do so. • The sum allocated under the Act for the 2017-18 financial year is £ 7.57 per elector. • The relevant sum for the 2017-18 year based on an electorate of 3593(County Council data) is £ 27,199.01 | |
| 11.5 | Older Peoples Commissioner | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Autumn Newsletter available on website http://www.olderpeoplewales.com/en/Publications/pub-story/16-12-12/Autumn_Winter_2016_Newsletter.aspx | |
| 11.6 | Carms C.C. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invitation to join the newly established Carmarthenshire Event Organisers Circle. | |

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| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The circle aims to put people organising events in touch with each other. Training opportunities will be provided and access to funding support for eligible projects. | |
| 11.7 | Llanelli and Mynyddmawr Railway | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Letter seeking funds to help restore and return to Cynheidre a steam engine currently housed at Llangollen. It would be the first steam train to run on the tracks since 1969. The tracks being themselves recognised as the first operating public railway authorised by the 1802 Act. A heritage centre will interpret the history of coal mining in the area and in particular the industry which the railway served | |
| 11.8 | Welsh Govt | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advise they are seeking to fill two vacancies on the Qualifications Wales Body. Further details from the Clerk. | Closing 20/01/17 |
| 11.9 | Welsh Govt | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Equality and Human Rights Commission are seeking to appoint members to a number of positions during 2017. Details available from https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/en/careers/wales-committee-members | |
| 11.10 | Welsh Govt | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Independent Remuneration Panel invite the Council to send two representatives, preferably Clerk and a Councillor, to a round table discussion on its remuneration framework. Lampeter 2nd February,2017. | |
| 11.11 | Welsh Govt | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ask Councils to display on their website a leaflet prepared by W.G. aimed at helping to raise awareness and encourage participation in the local Govt Elections in May | |
| 11.12 | Welsh Govt | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seeking 11 Members including Chair of Meat Promotion Wales. | Applications by 09/01/17 |
| 11.13 | Carms CC | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4th May 2017 Date of Ordinary Elections. Guidance and nomination papers available online at www.electoralcommission.org.uk. Notice of election published no later than 22nd March,2017. Date for receipt of Nominations Tuesday 4th April,2017 Date for notice of withdrawal – Tuesday 4th April,2017 Existing members will retire on the 8th May,2017, and new councillors will come into office on the same date. | |
| 11.14 | Arts Council of Wales | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Invitation for groups to apply for funding to hold a community event. The grant would cover performers fees. Income from ticket sales up to the level of the artist's fees would be repayable. | |

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| 11.15 | Battle's Over | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In commemoration of the end of the first world war on the 7th November 2018 at 7.00 p.m. a century after the guns fell silent, one thousand beacons will be lit throughout the country. The group is seeking confirmation as to whether or not the Council will be taking part in the beacon event | |
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- Resolved.
 - To receive and note the items of correspondence as per schedule.
 - Item 11.7 that the request be included for consideration in the next round of grant awards.
 - To assist applicants' information on the Council's website be modified to include the two occasions each year when the Council considers making awards.
 - Item 11.3 To note with regret that after many years of service to the community Cllr T Davies indicated that he would not be seeking nomination for re-election.
 - Subject to availability the Clerk seek to bring nomination papers for members to the next meeting. Nominees would need to return the form direct to the County Council.
 - Item 11.15. Given the location of the Council's parks there were other public spaces in the area which were better suited to the provision of a beacon which could be seen by a wide cross section of the population. It was felt that other opportunities would arise during the year which would allow the Council to participate in the commemorations.

143.0 Agenda Item 12 One Voice Wales.

- One Voice Wales Bulletin December edition available online or an electronic copy may be obtained from the Clerk.
- Resolved:** That it would be beneficial for the Clerk to forward the e mail address of members to One Voice Wales to facilitate the direct distribution of the bulletin.

144.0 Agenda Item 13 Planning Applications

144.1 Applications.

| No /Ref | Description | Location | Applicant |
|---------|--|---|---|
| W/34815 | Non-Material Amendment to W/34045(change to proposed floor plan and elevation) | 52 Heol Y Parc, Cefneithin, SA14 7DL | Mr S Roberts, 52 Heol Y Parc, Cefneithin. Agent. Prime Architecture Ltd. Cross Hands. |
| W/34842 | Full Planning. Construction of detached dwelling on plot 7 | Plot 7 Ffordd Werdd, Church Rd, Gorslas SA147NF | NBA Developments- Mr Neal Atkins. |

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|---------|---|--|--|
| | | | Agent: Asbri, Suite 4, Kings Rd, Swansea. |
| W/34855 | Outline Housing Development. | Land of Penygroes Road, Gorslas. | Union Tavern Estate, 8 Groesffordd Fach, Carmarthen. Agent: Harold Metcalfe Designs, Carmarthen |
| W/34856 | Full Planning. 2 Storey extension | 30 Heol Yr Ysgol, Cefneithin, SA14 7EA | Mrs Dolan Williams, Agent: Llangain Designs, Llangain. |
| W/34860 | Discharge of Planning Condition on W/29110(BREEAM Final Certificate) | Ysgol Maes Y Gwendraeth, 74 Heol Y Parc, Cefneithin. | Carmarthenshire County Council. Agent: Lawray Architects, Cardiff. |
| W/34879 | Full Planning. Erection of 1 st floor extension on to existing ground floor structure | 5 Penygroes Road, Gorslas. | Mr S Dyer, |
| W/34915 | Variation of Condition 2 of W/34035 (change of proposed floor plan and elevation) | 52, Heol Y Parc, Cefneithin | Mr S Roberts, 52 Heol Y Parc, Cefneithin |
| W/34933 | Outline Planning. Construction of 20 detached private market dwelling houses with integral garages and 2 semi-detached affordable houses all with on plot parking and private amenity site. Improvement and widening of existing adopted highway and construction of new adopted highways on land allocated in the local development plan for residential development. | Bron Yr Ynn, Drefach, SA14 7AH. | Mr Lewis, 16 Bettws Y Coes, Cyncoed, Cardiff. CF23 6PL. Agent: Roberston Francis Partnership, Jonathan Williams, 13 Cathedral Road, Cardiff, CF11 9HA |

- **Resolved:** To receive and note the applications scheduled. To register an objection to application W/34933 on the following basis: -

- (i) The proposal would create a road safety issue by creating a “rat run” through Bron Yr Ynn.
- (ii) Create a road safety issue due to the lack of visibility for vehicles travelling in an easterly direction and seeking to turn right into the proposed entrance.
- (iii) The proximity of the proposed access point to the school and the consequential adverse effect on the road safety improvements for pupils and pedestrians which had recently been undertaken.

145.0 Agenda Item 14 Sub Committee Reports

145.1 Internal Audit Review – Recommendations

- The Sub Committee reviewed the performance in relation to the key areas of Governance and Finance (including risk).
- The recommendations arising out of that review are as follows: -
 - (i) Governance: Register of Interests to be updated after May election and training provided for new members.
 - (ii) Finance: Review necessity for retaining two additional accounts relating to Section 106 monies.
 - (iii) Finance: Examine options for alternative bank accounts as no interest is being received at present.
 - (iv) Finance: That the Council creates a “sinking” fund to meet the cost of replacement equipment.
- **Resolved:** To adopt the recommendations of the Sub-Committee with the caveat that the “sinking fund” relate to the large items of equipment and also that a replacement/maintenance programme for seats and other equipment be considered.

145.2 Model Financial Regulations.

- The model regulations were adopted by the Council subject to a review by the Sub Committee.
- The regulations were reviewed in the light of the Council’s operational effectiveness needs and the need for accountability. The following amendments are put before Council for their consideration: -

| S.O. No | Proposed Amendment |
|---------|---|
| 2.2 | That the Chair sign a hard copy of the bank statements each month |
| 2.2 | Quarterly – Reporting of balances to Council |
| 3.1/3.3 | That the Council and its Sub Committee begins moving to three-year budgeting |
| 4.1 | Additional condition that the Clerk, following the agreement of the Chair, or in their absence the Vice Chair or Sub Committee, be authorised to incur expenditure of up to £1,000.00 in relation to any matter where there is a risk to persons or to the Council’s assets |

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|-----|---|
| 4.4 | Salary review. The removal of the requirement for the Chair and Clerk to sign a hard copy of the review. |
| 5.2 | To allow that only payments authorised in accordance with the Standing Orders be made. Details of all payments to be reported monthly to the Council and included in the minutes of the meeting. Removal of requirement for the provision of a schedule and requirement for Chair to sign schedule and be provided with copies of invoices monthly. |
| 5.7 | Requirement for two members to sign regular payments amended to two authorised signatories |
| 6.4 | Amended to require only two designated signatories to authorise cheque payments |
| 9.3 | Amend to require only an annual review of charges which are not covered by an existing contract or agreement |

- **Resolved:** That the recommendations of the Sub-Committee be adopted.

146.0 Agenda Item 15 Finance.

146.1 Expenditure December 2016

(i) Payments Made to Creditors

| Paid To | Description | Amount £ |
|-----------------------|---|-------------|
| Spencer Environmental | Grass Cutting Contract Payment - Nov | 795.48 |
| Menter | Charges Sept/Oct/Nov/Dec | 269.50 |
| Morgan and Morgan | Printer cartridge | 65.50 |
| Rodway | Custodial Gorslas P Conv and Park - Dec | 201.67 |

(ii) Income December 2016

| Received From | Description | Amount £ |
|---------------|--------------------------|-------------|
| Carns C.C. | Precept Final Instalment | 23,366.33 |

147.0 Agenda Item 16 Date Next Meeting.

- 13th February, 2017, at Cefneithin C.P. School.