

CYNGOR CYMUNED GORSLAS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Gorslas Community Council held at Cefneithin C.P. School on Monday, 13th February, 2017, at 7.00.p.m.

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

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

148.1 Welcome

- The Chair welcomed everyone and thanked them for their attendance.

149.0 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.

150.0 Agenda Item 3. Exclusion of Press and Public.

- **Resolved:** That there was no requirement to do so.

151.0 Additional Item: Dyfed Powys Police Re Incidents at Gorslas Public Park and Public Convenience.

- The Chair welcomed PCSO's Beth Thomas and Sharee Treharne to the meeting.
- The officers advised that their attendance was in response to the concerns raised by the Community Council relating to the anti-social behaviour and vandalism caused by a group of young people who gather in the park of an evening.
- Members indicated that the latest incident had involved young people climbing onto the roof of the shop adjacent to the park and subsequently submitting the shop attendant to abuse when asked to come down from the roof for their own safety. The following day had also seen damage to the public toilets in the park.
- The local shopkeeper and attendant had relayed their concerns to Cllr T Davies who had reported the matter to the Police indicating that the CCTV system in the shop had recorded the images of the individuals involved.
- There was disappointment that even though several days had passed since the incident there had been no feedback on the matter.
- Officers indicated that operational issues had prevented an examination of the CCTV coverage to date but viewing was scheduled for the following day and would hopefully enable identification and follow up enquiries to be made.

- It was also stated that, as the coverage related to the shop only, it would not enable the identification of any individuals involved in any incidents in the park.
- Members enquired as to the possibility of increased patrols during the forthcoming school holidays. Officers indicated that staff shortages meant this was not possible.
- The Council had invested £70,000 in providing a new MUGA at Cefneithin Park and a request was made to extend patrols to include the facility helping to prevent vandalism which would be both expensive and in the worst instance lead to the de-commissioning of valuable asset. The request was duly noted by Officers.
- Officers advised that each incident report was logged and analysed with the number of reports being used to prioritise and allocate resources. It was in the interests of the Council and the public to report each incident thus increasing priority ranking. In this respect the system was a reactive rather than a proactive one.
- It was reported that the group were in the park at the time of the meeting. Officers volunteered to visit the park following discussion on this item to talk to the group.
- The Chair thanked the Officers for their efforts and for attending the meeting. The Officers then duly left the meeting at this point.
- **Resolved:** To receive and note the information provided.

152.0 Agenda Item 4 Consider the Minutes of Meeting of the 9th January, 2017.

- Under the direction of the Chair members proceeded to examine and consider each page of the minutes of the previous meeting for accuracy.
- **Resolved:** Proposed by Cllr T Davies and seconded by Cllr J Price and agreed by all present that the minutes of the meeting held on the 9th January, 2017, were a true and accurate record of proceedings and the decisions made.

153.0. Agenda Item 5. Matters Arising from the Minutes.

153.1 Wellbeing of Future Generations Act.

- The Chair reported that a talk by Mr Rob Venus on the matter had been scheduled for the March meeting. However as a request, had subsequently been received from the County Council in relation to progressing the new school it was suggested that the talk be deferred until the April meeting.
- **Resolved:** That the discussion on Wellbeing be deferred until the April meeting.

153.2 Cefneithin Park. MUGA.

- The majority of the work has been completed but there remain items outstanding.
- A joint inspection of the facility with the County Council is to be undertaken. Final payment will not be made any items identified by that process have been addressed.
- **Resolved:** To receive note and approve the actions taken

153.3 Cefneithin Hall. Lease

- The County Council had not provided a cost for preparing the lease.
- Cllr T Davies kindly agreed to contact the relevant solicitor to progress matters.
- **Resolved:** To receive, note and approve the actions taken.

153.4 Cefneithin Park. Drainage.

- An assessment was made by the contractor of the current situation and the options for improving the drainage on site.
- It was noted that the current land drain on the Heol Y Parc side of the field and also running through the wooded area drained into ditches on adjoining land.
- Unless therefore the drainage facilities on other properties were kept clear it would impair the effectiveness of the drains in the park.
- The preferred drainage solution was to lay a new pipe on the Heol Y Parc side draining into an existing manhole and taking water off site.
- Estimated costs had been received from two contractors
- Additionally, it would be advisable to clear the drainage ways in the wooded area by hand or small excavator to prevent damage.
- During discussion, it was reported that section 106 monies for projects at Cefneithin had been used for the MUGA.
- It had also been necessary to draw on the £20k Cefneithin Park Development fund allocated by the Community Council to meet planning and environmental charges as well as to establish a £2k sinking fund provision for the maintenance of the MUGA. This left the balance of £16,300.00 in the Cefneithin Park Development allocation.
- Resolved:
 - (i) To note and approve the actions taken
 - (ii) That the Clerk liaise with the Cefneithin Ward members as to whether or not they wished to proceed with the drainage scheme as part of the works funded from the Cefneithin Park Development Fund allocation.

153.5 Cefneithin Park – Future Schemes Development.

- Meeting to be confirmed

153.6 Gorslas Park. Titan Swing and Gyro Rotator.

- It was reported that, in addition to the necessity to repair the safety surface, it had been noted in the recent external inspection that the dimensions were less than those detailed in the guidance.
- Accordingly, discussions are ongoing with the contractor to ensure that the replacement surface meets in full the relevant guidance.
- Work will commence once this matter has been resolved.
- **Resolved:** To receive, note and approve the actions taken

153.7 Drefach. Drainage Issues- Garden Plot

- An assessment of the conditions at the park was undertaken by the contractor and a costing provided.
- The extent of the work provide drainage from within the play area through the garden plot running along the border with the Brynglas estate to an existing drainage point at the right-hand bottom corner of the park.
- Two quotations had been received in respect of the work.

- Resolved:
 - (i) To defer consideration of the matter pending determination of the precept.
 - (ii) To consider seeking the views of the Welfare Association on possible schemes.

153.8 Community Council Website.

- The Clerk indicated that prior to arranging translation there would be a benefit if members could review the content of the website and bring any amendments to the March meeting. The Clerk could then arrange for the translation to be undertaken.
- During discussion, it was noted that: -
 - (i) The Council's website the Cefneithin section showed a picture of Gorslas Park.
 - (ii) The Council's Facebook page had not been updated in respect of the new Clerk
 - (iii) The google search engine displayed the contact details of the previous Clerk.
- Resolved:
 - (i) That members review the website and provide any proposed changes to the Clerk prior to the March meeting.
 - (ii) That where possible administrators update the information provided.

153.9 Community Council 30th Anniversary Celebrations.

- Following further discussion with the Sub-Committee a provisional booking for a dinner at 7.30 p.m. on Friday 28th April,2017, has been made at the Cottage Inn Llandeilo for Friday 28th April,2017.
- The Chair stated that members would be most welcome to bring partners. It would be appreciated if confirmation of attendance and numbers could be provided to the Clerk as soon as possible.
- **Resolved:** To receive, note and approve the actions taken.

153.10 Parks General- Annual External Inspection.

- The items requiring attention have been summarised and a site visit with contractors has taken place A work package and costing is being prepared.
- **Resolved:** To receive, note and approve the actions taken.

153.11 Gorslas Park. Anti-Social Behaviour.

- The contractor has been advised that the Council has resolved that the temporary arrangement to close the facilities at 6.00 p.m. until further notice.
- **Resolved:** To receive, note and approve the actions taken.

153.12 Gorslas Public Convenience. Maintenance of Wallgate Hand wash Units

- The County Council has a contract which terminates on the 31st March,2017, for the twice-yearly inspection and servicing of four hand wash units at the facility.
- The company have advised that they are prepared to offer a 12-month contract to the Community Council to provide the same service.
- The cost per unit per year is £219.00 making a total of £ 876.00 plus VAT.

- **Resolved:** That the company be contracted to provide the services detailed at the cost indicated

153.13 Carmarthenshire C. C. Consultation on site name Cwrt Glanfryn, Drefach.

- As resolved at the January meeting the Council's objection to the proposed name was registered and an alternative of Cae Coch suggested. To date a response has not been received from the County Council.
- Cllr Clive Green advised that the County Council had responded to an objection which he had made as an individual advising that the developer had agreed to change the site name to Cae Coch. The Royal Mail had been advised accordingly.
- **Resolved:** To receive and note the information provided.

154.14 Proposed Road Safety Scheme B4310 Junction Heol Cwmmawr/Heol Cwmbach.

- Following discussion at the last meeting contact was made with the County Council in relation to progressing the scheme.
- Accordingly, a copy of a draft scheme was provided to the Clerk on the 17th January inviting comments and observations. Copies were circulated to members by e-mail seeking comments by the 24th January, 2017.
- There being no such comments in relation to the design the scheme the County Council were advised accordingly on the afternoon of the 24th January, 2017.
- An enquiry has been made as to whether or not the scheme would be completed during the current financial year but to date a response had not been received.
- **Resolved:** To receive and note the information provided.

154.15 One Voice Wales Direct Mailing of Bulletin to Members.

- A request was made for the bulletin to be mailed directly to members. The association advised that due to system limitations it could not currently provide the facility on an all Wales basis.
- The association indicated that the matter would be placed for consideration by senior management.
- **Resolved:** That pending any action by One Voice Wales on the matter that upon receipt of the bulletin the Clerk forward an electronic copy to members.

154.16 Planning Application W/34933 Bron Yr Ynn, Drefach.

- The Council's objections and concerns relating to the proposed developments have been relayed to the County Council as part of the consultation process.
- **Resolved:** To receive, note and approve the actions taken.

155.0 Agenda Item 6 Public Convenience Gorslas Vandalism/Anti-Social Behaviour.

- As part of the papers for the meeting members had been provided with background details and information regarding the operational issues which had arisen in running the facility.

- Concern was expressed by members in relation to the number of occasions when the service had not been provided.
- **Resolved:** That the Clerk seek advice in relation to the appropriate measures and procedures for assisting in ensuring a satisfactory level of service was provided.

156.0 Agenda Item 7 New Matters Parks and General.

156.1 Parks General

- It was noted that during the recent inspection a number of items had been reported as failing to comply with requirements which had come in to force subsequent to the items being purchased.
- At the time of purchase and fitting the items complied fully with the regulations which were in force at that time.
- As it was the usual practice that legislation did not apply retrospectively but only to new equipment fitted since the legislation came into force members sought clarification as to whether or this was the case in relation to the items identified in the inspector's report.
- Clarification was also sought in relation to the Council's liability should it amend an item of equipment to comply with the legislative requirements and an individual subsequently be injured.
- The Clerk advised that he had written to One Voice Wales seeking legal advice in relation to these issues. A reply was expected within the next three weeks.
- **Resolved:** To receive, note and approve the actions taken.

156.2 Cefneithin Park

156.3 Multi Play Equipment Jnr.

- The Park Inspector contacted the Clerk to advise that there was rust which required attention on the item.
- Arrangements have been made for the item to be inspected.
- **Resolved:** To receive, note and approve the actions taken.

156.4 Cefneithin Notice Board – Vandalism

- It had been reported that the Perspex cover for the notice board has been broken and is no longer watertight. TBM contractors to replace and re-seal.
- **Resolved:** To receive, note and approve the actions taken.

156.5 Drefach Park

156.6 Wooden Gate leading to Brynglas Estate.

- Details had been provided in the update report for the meeting relating to an incident at Drefach Park whereby a young mother with a toddler had become distressed as a result of not being able to open the gate at the lower end of the Park leading to Brynglas estate.

- The Clerk had visited the site on the same day as the complaint had been received and noted that damage had been caused to the gate fixing as a result of an action by a passer-by to free the latch. The actions meant that the gate could not be closed.
- Following discussions with the contractor a revision was made to the structure allowing the gate to close but to remain unsecured.
- The complainant was advised accordingly and was happy with the arrangement.
- **Resolved:** To receive, note and approve the actions taken.

156.7 Drefach Park – Multi Play Equipment Jnr Vandalism

- Following notification from the Park inspector it was found that the wooden boarding put in place to prevent access to the item had been forcibly removed leaving protruding screw heads and broken boarding strewn around the park.
- The item has been attended to and made safe.
- **Resolved:** To receive, note and approve the actions taken.

156.8 Drefach Park – Swings 1 Bay 2 Seat Flat.

- It was reported by an inspector to the Clerk that there were issues relating to a wooden leg support for this item.
- Following inspection by the Clerk it was noted that a section of the support had been forcible removed leaving exposed an area where a degree of rot was visible..
- It was recommended that the wooden support be replaced.
- **Resolved:** To receive, note and approve the proposal to replace the support.

156.9 Gorslas Park

156.10 Site Drilling Tests -23 January,2017.

- Larger scale drilling had taken place during the week commencing 23rd January,2017.
- Due to ground conditions this had led to some deep ruts where the vehicles had travelled however these were filled in by the contractor on the 26th January,2017. Re-seeding will take place later in the year.
- **Resolved:** To receive and note the information provided.

157.11 Phase 1 Ecological and Bat Survey.

- As part of the preparatory work the above survey was undertaken at the park on Monday 30th January,2017.
- **Resolved:** To receive and note the information provided.

157.12 General Wayside Seat Examination and Footpath Reports.

- In accordance with the Council's policies, the appointed inspectors are respectfully reminded that their spring inspection reports are due with the item being placed on the agenda for the March meeting.
- **Resolved:** That the inspections be undertaken and reports forwarded to the Clerk.

158.0 Agenda Item 8 Urgent Local Issues.

158.1 Provision of Waste Recycling Facility within the Cefneithin Ward.

- Following a request from local residents and in response to an enquiry from County Councillor D Price the Local Authority have written confirming that, subject to a suitable location being found, they would make such a facility available.
- A formal request for a meeting to consider possible locations has been made to the County Council.
- Resolved:
 - (i) That for safety reasons the facility should not be placed on the park/hall site.
 - (ii) The Cefneithin Ward members bring suggestions to the March meeting of the Council on a suitable site for the placing of the facility.

158.2 Possible provision of additional street light at Footpath Y Fron to Heol Y Dre.

- It is understood that the issue has arisen previously and that there is a desire to provide an additional light in this area which is poorly lit currently but heavily used by children and the wider public.
- A request has been submitted to the County Council to obtain a cost for the provision and running of an additional street lamp.
- **Resolved:** To receive, note and approve the actions taken.

158.3 Footpath FP31-6 Foelgastell exiting to Carmarthen Road.

- The matter relates to the need for the County Council to conclude negotiations with a landowner to permit access or agree a re-routing of a path.
- The County Council advise that the lack of manpower has delayed progress however they are hopeful that resources will become available shortly.
- **Resolved:** To receive, note and approve the actions taken.

158.4 Highway Verge Hole - Opposite 26 Cefneithin Road

- It has been reported that following the replacement of an electricity pole the contractor has failed to make good leaving a hole in the grass verge.
- The matter has been brought to the attention of the highway Authority who had taken the matter up with the relevant utility company.
- **Resolved:** To receive, note and approve the actions taken.

158.5 Gorslas Square - Water Authority manhole cover School side of A476

- It has been reported that the tarmacadam at this point is breaking up having several cracks in it.
- It is understood that the same problem has occurred several times previously with repairs being unsuccessful.
- The matter has been reported to the highway Authority who had taken the matter up with the relevant utility company.
- **Resolved:** To receive, note and approve the actions taken.

159.0 Agenda Item 9 Members Report

159.1 Canolfan Carwyn, Drefach.

- Cllr Aled Owen reported that he had attended, in a capacity other than that of a Community Councillor, a meeting of voluntary associations who were considering taking over a lease for the centre as from the 1st April.2017.
- The voluntary groups would like the Community Council to be involved in that process and would wish to extend an invitation for the Chair to attend the next meeting of the group which would be in March.
- The Chair would be advised of the date and time in due course.
- **Resolved:** To receive and note the information provided.

159.2 Gwendraeth Group of Councils Meeting Llansaint 24th January,2017 .

- Cllr C Green and B Kirby had attended the meeting on the Council's behalf.
- Members attention had been directed to grant support for projects up to £ 5k which was available from the Ammanford Office of the Bureau. Contact details would be forwarded to the Clerk.
- **Resolved:** To receive and note the information provided.

160.0 Agenda Item 10 Report of PACT meeting held in Cross Hands on 26/01/17.

Present: PCSO Jonathan Crayford + 8 members of the public.

Since the last meeting:

- Generally quiet over the Christmas period.
- Pontyberem ASB - still under investigation.
- Pontyberem - Problem of underage drinking being monitored.
- Tumble - Problem of drinking in the bus stop at Rhos y Deri.
- PC Parfitt has transferred from Cross Hands to Llandoverly.
- PC Gary Cutler transferred to Cross Hands from Kidwelly.

Crimes in January to date = 29.

Location of crimes:

- Cross Hands including Pont Abraham & A48 - 7
- Pontyberem - 7
- Tumble - 3
- Penygroes & Blaenau - 3
- Drefach - 0
- Gorslas - 0
- Cefneithin - 5 (Stalking in Foelgastell; criminal damage; theft; common assault x 2.)

Matters raised:

- Parking on Heol Yr Ysgol, Cefneithin.
- Speeding in Bryndu, Tumble.
- Parking issues on Heol Llethryd, Pontyberem.
- Vandalism in Gorslas park and toilets.
- Posters issued on " Look after your heating oil "
- Posters on new system of call tracking a crime are available from Cross Hands Police Station.
- **Resolved:** To receive and note the information provided.

160.1 Heating Oil Leaflets.

- Copies of a leaflet produced by the Police providing advice on measures which could be taken to prevent the theft of heating oil were made available to members with a request that they be placed in a prominent position within the community.
- **Resolved:** To receive and note the information provided.

160.2 Notice Boards

- Arising out of the discussion on the placement of literature within the community the option of approaching the County Council in relation to the Community Council taking ownership of the noticeboard located at the top of the former bus bay of the Ysgol Y Gwendraeth, Drefach was raised.
- **Resolved:** That the Clerk make enquiries of the relevant County Council department.

161.0 Agenda Item 11 Correspondence.

(i) **Consultation.**

No	From	Subject	Notes
161.1	Equalities Local Govt/ Communities Cttee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultation on Trade Unions (Wales) Bill. • Dis- applying certain elements of the UK Govt Trade Unions Act 2016 as they apply to devolved Welsh Authorities. In brief, they are: - • Removal of 40% ballot threshold for industrial action affecting important public services. • Powers to require the publication of facilities time and to impose requirements on public sector employees in relation to paid facility time. • Restriction on deduction of union subscriptions from wages by employers. • Views are sought on the intended or un-intended consequences of the proposals. • Full details on Welsh Assembly website. 	Response by 17/02/17

161.2	Welsh Govt	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consulting upon Reform of school governance regulatory framework. In summary, the main issues are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Changing regulations to allow Governing Bodies to be more flexible in relation to numbers and constitution to make it appropriate to the needs of their school. (ii) In deciding membership, a focus on the skills, the school needs. (iii) Update staffing regulations to ensure that, amongst other things, staff disciplinary hearings are impartial and that the best candidates are appointed to the position of Head or Deputy. (iv) Allow a change of school start and finish time to be made at the start of a school term subject to consultation and 3 months' notice being given. (v) Collaboration arrangements changed to allow transfer of electronic data and joint working on appointment of staff other than Head or Deputy. 	
161.3	Welsh Govt	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seek views on the White Paper- Reforming Local Government – Resilient and Renewed which is available on Welsh Government website and briefly summarised proposes: - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Measures to improve regional working (ii) Strengthen the role of Councils and Councillors. (iii) Provide a framework for future voluntary mergers. (iv) Detail the role of Community Councils. • Proposals in respect of Community Councils include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) That Local Authority Councils and Public Service Boards look to them to be the voice of the community. (ii) Represent and be representative of the community. (iii) Welsh Govt are to commission a comprehensive review of Community Councils to inform future structures and boundary changes. (iv) Introduce and Agenda for Action with W.G. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. providing a toolkit to identify what is needed in taking on new services or assets. b. Hosting a conference after the May elections to strengthen relations between Local Authorities and Community Councils sharing good practice. 	Deadline 11/04/17

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> c. Facilitate and provide some funding to support joint partnerships/ working between Councils. d. Commission Local Democracy and Boundary to draw up guidelines for Local Authorities on how reviews are to be conducted. e. Making General Powers of Competence available to innovative and ambitious Councils. f. Require Community Councils to identify, produce and regularly review a training plan. g. Ensure citizens are kept informed and have a right to make representations at meetings. 	
161.4	Carms C.C.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BT Phone Box Removal. The consultation undertaken earlier in the year is being re-started due to a failure by BT to place bi-lingual notices on the relevant kiosks. 	Deadline 20/03/17
161.5	NALC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invitation to participate in the formulation of a charter which will be launched on the 6th November,2017 and will concentrate on how trees and communities can best benefit one another. 	Deadline 28/02/17

(ii) **General Correspondence**

No	From	Subject	Notes
161.6	Energise Wales Network	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Energise Wales Newsletter January 2017 is available on their website including details of free courses. 	
161.7	Purple Routes Paly Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offer to provide open access play facilities after or in school holidays for a fee of £ 85 for a two-hour session including van and two play support workers 	
161.8	Welsh Govt	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Survey seeking information regarding: - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) services and assets for which the Council is responsible (ii) whether it is intended to take on additional services/assets. • The survey will help W.G. and One Voice Wales in the planning of future training/ support. 	
161.9	Auditor General Wales	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Press release indicating that Councils are not making the best use of the third sector in finding partnerships to deliver services for the future and there are poor reporting and evaluation systems. • The Auditor provides a toolkit to help assess provision and calls for increased scrutiny of this area by members 	

161.10	Wales Audit Office	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advise that a newsletter is available on their website or an electronic copy can be provided by the Clerk. • Amongst the topics covered are the profile of medicines in the Health Service, Progress by the National Library of Wales, and their draft strategy for 2017-20 	
161.11	Auditor General for Wales	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Press release indicating that the number of Community Councils receiving avoidable qualified audit approvals is too high (30%). • Key themes for future audits will be <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Implementation of Code of Conduct. (ii) The way reserves and balances are managed. 	
161.12	Welsh Govt	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advise of the launch of the 2017 programme of events to commemorate the first World War. • A National Service of Remembrance is to be held at the Welsh Memorial at Langemark to commemorate the battle of Ypres (Passchendaele). Interested parties must register by 26th March, 2017. • Attention is also drawn to a new gallery facility on the Cymru'n Cofio Wales Remembers 1914-18 website. 	Registration deadline 26/03/17
161.13	Pegasus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advise they have extended the consultation period relating to the siting of the mast at Wern Isaf Farm to the 6th February. • They have received a number of concerns from members of the public to which they are responding 	
161.14	Ann Picton	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Request that the Council considers objecting to the proposed enhancement of the M4 which will impact adversely on the Gwent levels. • It is maintained that although not directly affecting the Council the £1bn it will cost could be better used 	Deadline 07/02/17
161.15	Eiriol	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advise that their quarterly newsletter is available on-line or an electronic copy is available from the Clerk. 	
161.16	Teen Cancer Trust	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seeking financial support for the specialist Teenage Cancer Trust Unit in the University Hospital of Wales. 	
161.17	Kidney Wales	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The charity wish to invite the Council to organise a walk in the local area to be held on Sunday 23rd April, 2017. 	Event 23/04/17
161.18	Royal Welsh Agricultural Society	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carmarthenshire is the featured county for 2017. The society is seeking funding towards the building new stabling and improved capacity for the horses. 	

161.19	Royal Air Force Air Cadets.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seeking financial assistance to fund their activities and participation in the community 	
161.20	Tenovus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seeking financial assistance to enable them to provide support and help to clients throughout Wales. 	
161.21	British Heart Foundation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seeking financial assistance to fund research into the cause, diagnosis, treatment and prevention of heart and circulatory diseases 	
161.22	Menter Cwm Gwendraeth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advise that a new project Local Energy Action can provide an officer free of charge to work with interested groups to establish a fuel club and undertake money saving energy efficiency campaigns and activities 	
161.23	Ombudsman Wales	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The latest edition of the Ombudsman's Casebook is available on line or electronically from the Clerk. 	
161.24	Welsh Govt	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Royal Commission on Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales Invitations are invited to fill three positions of commissioner. Closing date 18/04/17. 	Deadline 18/04/17
161.25	Carms C.C.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pared Dewi Sant Saturday 25th February,2017. The Chair of the County Council extends an invitation to the Community Council members to the parade which starts at Carmarthen Park at 10.45 a.m. Chairs are invited to wear their chains of office 	
161.26	Carms C.C.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proposed new Gorslas School. The County Council have written seeking a meeting with the Community Council in relation to progressing the arrangements relating to the proposed new school. Meeting to take place after 3rd March,2017. 	
161.27	Cefneithin Growing Spaces Association	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An invitation had been received for the Chair to attend a ceremony at the allotments to mark the completion of works which had increased the number of beds available at the site. Details to follow. 	

- Resolved:
 - Applications for financial assistance be considered in the next round of awards.
 - Item 161.26 that:-
 - That the matter be placed for discussion for the March meeting of the Community Council and that the item would be considered as an exempted item.
 - A discussion paper would be circulated to members prior to the meeting the contents of which it was agreed would be kept confidential.

- c) That a separate meeting be arranged with the County Council Officers to discuss the matter following the March meeting of the Community Council.

162.0 Agenda Item 12 One Voice Wales.

162.1 Carmarthenshire Area Committee

- Cllr W Edwards had represented the Council at the recent meeting of the Carmarthenshire Area Committee.
- A very informative talk had been given by John Morgan a housing officer with Carmarthenshire County Council indicating that a target of some 2, 000 affordable homes had been set for the county over the next five years.
- Reference was also made to an innovative scheme adopted by Whitland Town Council who had pooled section 106 monies to finance the purchase of an affordable house with the tenant paying rent to the Town Council. The Council were considering the purchase of a second property under the same arrangement.
- **Resolved:** To receive and note the information provided.

162.2 Portal for Grant Funding CAVS

- One Voice Wales have forwarded a link to a useful Internet portal on community funding information via (Carmarthenshire 4 Community) can be accessed via <http://www.idoxopen4community.co.uk/cavs>
- **Resolved:** To receive and note the information provided.

162.3 Training Courses

- The Association has written asking that members attention be drawn to the need and availability of training courses with a peak demand for provision being expected following the May elections.
- Details of training courses and venues have been provided previously however the association does highlight the fact that they can provide bespoke training for a particular Council or for a group of Authorities at a fixed price. Details of costs are not provided.
- A further communication highlights a training course at St Peters Hall Carmarthen on the 21st February,2017, 6.30 pm to 9. 00p.m. on the Devolution of services.
- **Resolved:** To receive and note the information provided.

162.4 January Bulletin

- The January bulletin is available online or a copy may be obtained from the Clerk.

162.5 Membership 2017/18

- The Association has written inviting the Council to consider joining the association for the 2017/18 year. The fee is £ 585.00 an increase of £16 over the previous year.
- **Resolved:** That the membership be renewed for the 2017/18 year.

163.0 Agenda Item 13 Planning Applications

163.1 Applications.

No /Ref	Description	Location	Applicant
W/34955	Outline. Residential LED mixed use (Residential and Office).	Land adj to A48 Heol Y Parc, Cefneithin SA14 7DS. Family Housing Ltd c/o agent	Family Housing Ltd, Agent: Gez Willard, Paradise Farm, Main Rd, Hollington, ST10 4HX
W/35010	Prior Notification Demolition Garages	Demolition unused garages 2 & 4 adjacent to 16 Y Fron, Cefneithin.	Carms. C.C.

- **Resolved:** To receive and note the applications scheduled.

164.0 Agenda Item 14 Determine the Precept for the 2017/18 financial year.

164.1 Sub Committee Report

- The Chair advised that the Sub-Committee had met with the Clerk and scrutinised the proposed budget for 2017/18 and the commitments contained therein.
- As a result of that process the significant impact of the increase in the grass cutting tender on the budget was identified and the Clerk was duly instructed to seek a re-negotiation with the contractor to reduce costs.
- Through that process a saving in the region of £2k annually was identified with the frequency of taking the cuttings away reduced to three occasions a year.
- The Sub Committee also identified the ongoing maintenance commitment which the Council would face following the new MUGA at Cefneithin becoming operational. It was agreed that a contribution of £ 2k to be taken out of the Cefneithin Park Development Fund allocation be earmarked and contained within the reserves to create a sinking fund to cater for future maintenance on the MUGA.

164.2 Supporting Information.

- To aid the process of decision making members had received as part of the papers for the meeting a report detailing: -
 - (i) Income and Expenditure statements by service area for 2017/18 (estimated) and 2016/17(estimated) and 2015/16(actual)
 - (ii) The Reserves and the effect on reserves of various options.
 - (iii) The extent of the Council's liability for assets which had depreciated.
 - (iv) Options for setting the precept according to different budget levels.
 - (v) Comparative data for neighbouring Authorities in Carmarthenshire with similar budgets and Council's with similar Band D charges.

164.3 Determining the Budget

- Discussion took place in relation to the areas of income and expenditure and the extent to which the budget figures for 2017/18 reflected the expected pattern of income/expenditure.

(i) 2017/18 Estimated Budget Income

Income	Estimate 17/18
Precept	76,170.07
VAT Refund	5,000.00
Lease Hall Cefneithin	50.00
Toilets Grant	0.00
Interest	0.00
Other	0.00
Total Income	81,220.07

(ii) 2017/18 Estimated Expenditure Budget

Expenditure	Estimate 17/18
Parks Maintenance	
Grass Cutting	14,760.00
Litter	5,995.00
General Maint	16,620.00
Improvements Maintenance	0.00
Improvements New equipment	0.00
Public Convenience Gorslas	
Contractors Custodial Cleaning	2,420.00
Utilities	450.00
Maintenance	1,000.00
Improvements	0.00
Bus Shelter	
Wages and On Costs	210.00
Maintenance/Clean	500.00
Improvements	0.00
Other	
Maint Public Lighting	8,500.00
Improvements Lighting	0.00
Seats Maintenance	500.00
Seats Improvements	0.00
Democratic/Admin	
General Grants	2,200.00

Chairs Allowance	1,000.00
Christmas Lights/Tree	1,000.00
Training/ Courses/Exp	550.00
Wages and On Costs	22,500.00
Admin General	2,100.00
Insurances	1,500.00
Other	0.00
VAT Paid	5,000.00
Total Expenditure	86,805.00

(iii) **2017/18 Budget Summary Income/Expenditure**

Summary Income/Exp	2017/18
Income	81,220.07
Expenditure	86,805.00
Difference	5,584.93

- **Resolved:** That the income and expenditure budgets for 2017/18 as detailed above be approved.

164.4 Determining the Precept.

- Having determined the budget members proceeded to consider the various factors which would impact on the final level of precept to be set for the 2017/18 financial year. These included: -
 - (i) The extent of the Council's liability for the replacement of items of equipment which had fully depreciated and their replacement costs was examined as was the maintenance and replacement programme arising out of the new MUGA at Cefneithin and the transfer of the public convenience building at Gorslas.
 - (ii) Members also considered the value and use which members of the community placed on the parks and the equipment within those parks.
 - (iii) The reduction arising out of a change in the proportion of the section 106 funding which is allocated to Community Councils and which had funded maintenance works in the previous years was also a factor.
- **Resolved:** Following discussion and consideration of various options it was decided that: -
 - (i) The Community Council element of the precept for 2017/18 be set at £40.65 representing an annual increase of £ 1.94 for Band D households.
 - (ii) That the balance of expenditure over income be funded from reserves but that efficiencies and reductions be sought where possible.
 - (iii) That a separate sinking fund of £2,000.00 be earmarked within the reserves and drawn from the existing Cefneithin Park Development Fund allocation for the future maintenance/replacement of the MUGA at Cefneithin.

- (iv) That within the reserves a sum of £ 16,300.00 be specifically earmarked and allocated for the Cefneithin Park Development Fund.
- (v) That the balance of the reserves i.e. funds over and above the budget set for 2017/18 and the other earmarked reserves be held within the reserves and earmarked for the replacement of items as and when required and to meet any in year unforeseen operational requirements.

165.0 Agenda Item 15 Finance.

(i) Payments Made to Creditors January 2017

Paid To	Description	Amount £
Rodway	Public Convenience Contract – January	201.67
Spencer Environmental	Grounds Maintenance - Grass Cutting Dec	795.48
Bus Shelter Cleaner	Three Months Wages Bus Shelter Cleaning	52.00
Clerk	Three Months Wages and Travelling (£36) Clerk	2,576.77
HMRC	Three Months Employer/Employee Contributions	1,184.39
Dyfed Pensions	Three Months Employer/Employee Contributions	1,413.27
TBM	Litter Dec and Floor levelling washing bus shelter	750.00
Drefach Welfare	Christmas Grant	60.00
Drefach Welfare	Hire Hall Meeting 09 01 17	10.00
Cllr W Edwards	Travelling Cost June to Nov 16	87.75

(ii) Income January 2017.

Received from	Description	Amount £
N/A	N/A	N/A

166.0 Agenda Item 16 Date Next Meeting.

- 13th March, 2017, at Gorslas C.P. School.