

CYNGOR CYMUNED GORSLAS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of an online meeting of the Gorslas Community Council

held, on Monday, 11th May, 2020 at 19.15 hrs.

17.0 Agenda Item 1: Record of those Present/Apologies

- Members: Iestyn Llwyd (Chair), Andrew King (Vice Chair), Darren Price, Simon Martin, Terry Jones, Brian Kirby, Tina Butler, Nia Lewis, Wyn Edwards, Clive Green, Aled Vaughan Owen, Linda Williams. Nicholas Beckett.
- Others: Llew Thomas, Clerk to the Council.
- Apologies for absence: Cllrs Janice Price and Anthony Rees.

17.1 General.

- The Chair welcomed everyone and explained how the online meeting would be conducted.
- The meeting was therefore declared open at 19.25hrs.
- **Resolved:** To accept the apologies for absences which had been received.

18.2 Agenda Item 2 Declaration of Interest

- The following declarations of interests were declared by members: -

Agenda Item	Councillors	Nature of Interest
21.2.2	Aled Vaughan Owen	Personal not prejudicial. County Councillor and member of Gorslas C.P. School Governing Body. Both being parties to the Management Agreement.
21.2.2	Darren Price	Personal but not Prejudicial as a County Councillor being the body which is building the new school.
20.17	Clive Green	Trustee of Cross Hands Hall which rents facilities at the hall to the organisation seeking assistance.

- The Clerk advised that there was a dispensation for the County Councillors to speak in relation to matters related to the new school.
- Cllr Green took no part in the discussion or decision relating to the item
- **Resolved:** To note and record the declarations of interest from members.

19.0 Agenda Item 3 Consider the Minutes of the April Meeting of the Council.

- Members proceeded, under the direction of the Chair, to examine each page of the minutes of the April meeting of the Council for accuracy.
- **Resolved:** Proposed, seconded and accepted by all that the minutes were a true and accurate record of the discussions and decisions made at the April meeting of the Council and to confirm the actions and decisions taken at that meeting.

20.0 Agenda Item 4. Matters Arising from the Minutes.

- The following update was provided in relation to matters arising from the minutes: -

Ref	Item	Update
20.1	Member Vacancies Gorslas and Cefneithin.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Letter of invitation to accept the office and to attend the AGM and May meetings sent.
20.2	Cefneithin Park Land and Hall Disposal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reminder re valuation format sent to Valuer Not progressed due to current restrictions.
20.3	Gorslas New School Management Agreement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not progressed due to current restrictions. Meeting cancelled.
20.4	IRPW Allowance Issue	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Awaiting response.
20.5	Website	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not progressed due to current restrictions.
20.6	Replacement Equipment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not progressed due to current restrictions.
20.7	Cefneithin MUGA - Rust	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Awaiting progression.
20.8	Parks Tree Planting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Awaiting responses from Associations.
20.9	Coronavirus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Website updated.
20.10	Gorslas New School Wayleave	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Referred to solicitor. Reminder issued. New school build to recommence 06.05.20. Footpath near park car park to be fenced off Contractor assurance any damage resulting from works would be made good
20.11	Gorslas New School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contractor advised as to the relocation of teen shelter/ exercise equipment etc. Temporary water supply approved. Contractor advised of CCTV and Public Lighting issues. Work to re-commence Monday 11.05.20.
20.12	Footpath – Y Fron	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> T.B.D
20.13	Drefach Damage Traffic Island Lighting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> T.B.D
20.14	Carmarthenshire Energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enquiry to C.C.C. regarding charging points at new school. See Parks/ General for company response
20.15	Gorslas. Land slippage.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No further communication
20.16	Wayside Seats	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Linked with Mensshed Drefach.
20.17	Applications for Financial Assistance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Donation of £ 250 made to Llannon C.C. in relation to Food Bank Cross Hands. Request and reminder for details of organisation sent in respect of an application for assistance relating to a foodbank.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clarification sought from the Cross Hands Hall and Cinema Trustees in respect of an application for assistance.
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- Item 20.17 Cllr Clive Green declared a personal and prejudicial interest as the Chair of the Board of Trustees of Cross Hands Hall and Cinema Trust who were letting facilities at the hall to the organisation seeking financial assistance and took no part in the discussion.
- Cllr Green also indicated that a response to the issues raised by the Community Council regarding the Trustees request for financial assistance would be provided in time for the June meeting of the Council.
- Resolved:**
 - That a reminder be sent to the organisation where further information had been requested.
 - To receive and note the information provided in relation to the other items and that, where necessary, those items be considered further under the relevant agenda heading.

21.0 Agenda Item 5. General and Park Matters.

21.1 General

21.1.1 Governance: Local Government (Coronavirus) (Meetings) (Wales) Regulation 2020.

- A summary of the key points of the Regulations, which came into force on the 22nd April,2020, had been provided for members as part of the documentation for the meeting.
- The summary, and the legal, procedural and practical implications arising out of the regulations were considered and discussed in detail.
- Resolved:**
 - That the changes in the regulations were welcome and be adopted.
 - The relevant sections of the regulations be used to facilitate remote meetings and the continuation of the Council's usual functions and operations wherever possible.

21.1.2 Operational Matters Impacted by the Coronavirus (Covid19) Emergency.

Operational Service	Current Position
Parks Children's Play Areas and MUGA Cefneithin	Closed 23 rd March,2020
Public Conveniences Gorslas	Closed Contract Suspended
Grass Cutting	Recommended 30.04.20

- Resolved:** To receive, note and confirm the actions taken and to review the position in relation to the increased costs of the grass cutting, as a result of changes in working practices arising from the current epidemic, and also the standard of contract delivery.

21.1.3 Annual Insurance Policy.

- The Council's insurers have been advised of the change of use at Cefneithin Hall.
- The Annual policy fixed term policy has been renewed and the appropriate payment made.
- **Resolved:** To receive, note and approve the actions taken.

21.1.4 Changes to Employment Contracts.

- Changes to legal requirements relating to contracts of employment have been introduced as from the 6th April, 2020 relating to Terms of Employment, Working hours and days, parental bereavement and holiday entitlement calculation.
- The issue of the number of hours worked by the Clerk was also raised and discussed.
- **Resolved:**
 - (i) Draft documentation relating to the above be prepared for members to consider.
 - (ii) An item be placed on the next agenda regarding the hours worked by the Clerk.

21.1.5 Provision of Electrical Vehicle Charging Points. Carmarthenshire Energy.

- The company would meet all installation and running costs apart from the electricity charges.
- Cars would take between 30 mins and 2 hours to charge on a fast charge. The cost of electricity was estimated at £1 per hour per vehicle.
- Alternative option to purchase equipment: Chargers £5k plus £500 running costs per annum.
- Location: The charging bays would need to be near a building or power source.
- New School: No response from CCC on school charging points.
- **Resolved:** To note the information provided and defer consideration pending developments.

21.1.6 Children's Play Areas. Warning Signage

- To comply with Government legislation signs prohibiting entry to the play areas were prepared by Cllr Aled Vaughan Owen and put in place by Cllrs Terry Jones for Cefneithin and Gorslas Play Areas and for Drefach Play Area by Cllr Wyn Edwards.
- **Resolved:** To receive and note the information provided and thank members for their help.

21.2 Parks.

21.2.1 Drefach Park, Request from Resident Regarding Removal of Earth on the Boundary.

- A request has been received from a resident, who is of the view, that their boundary wall has been damaged by earth on the park side of the boundary resting against the wall.
- They seek clarification on the matter and request that the Council consider removing the earth.
- Members noted and considered the issues raised by the resident as well as the Council's legal obligations and duties as a public body and owners of the adjoining park land.
- **Resolved:** That an appropriate response be provided allowing the resident to undertake the works, in a safe and legal manner, within a specific timescale but without cost to the Council.

21.2.2 Gorslas: New School Meeting and Photoshoot.

- Carms C.C. advise that due to the current emergency the photoshoot planned for the 12th May,2020, has had to be cancelled. It will be re-arranged in due course.
- The Council also advised that the meeting with the Governing Body and Officers of the County Council to progress the Management Agreement had been cancelled.
- **Resolved:**
 - (i) To receive and note the information relating to the cancellation of the photoshoot.
 - (ii) That an enquiry be made of the County Council as to the possibility of a remote meeting with representatives of the Governing Body to progress a Management Agreement.

21.2.3 Gorslas: New School Site Security

- A report had been received conveying concerns regarding individuals who had been witnessed exercising their dog within the secure area fenced off for the building of the new school.
- The contractor had been advised of the position and was investigating.
- **Resolved:** To receive, note and approve the actions taken.

22.0 Agenda Item 6 Urgent Local Matters.

22.1 Cefneithin: Emergency Road Closure

- The County Council advise of an emergency road closure near 72 Heol Y Parc on the road leading to the new estate due to a requirement to remove an old “missile”. The closure would be effective from the 22nd April for a short period whilst the item was made safe.
- **Resolved:** To receive and note the information provided.

22.2 Drefach: Emergency Road Closure Capel Seion, Drefach.

- The County Council advise that as from the 27th April,2020, a section of road from a point ³/₄ of a mile north west of its junction with the B 4310 for a distance of 128 meters in a north westerly direction is closed to traffic. The closure will allow Welsh Water to undertake emergency repair work.
- **Resolved:** To receive and note the information provided.

22.3 Gorslas: Emergency Road Closure.

- Closure of W173 at Cross Hands along Heol Stanlyd for a distance of 60mtrs in a South Easterly direction for a period of 14 weeks from the 10th August,2020. To allow Welsh Water to replace a water main.
- **Resolved:** To receive and note the information provided.

22.4 Cefneithin: Access to Footpaths

- Clarification was sought as to, in the light of social distancing requirements, there was public access to footpaths which went through an area of land within a private property and which would be in close proximity to the children residing at the property playing.
- **Resolved:** To accept Cllr Darren Price’s kind offer to obtain clarification on the matter from the relevant County Council Officer.

23.0 Agenda Item 7. Members Reports.

- Cllrs Aled Vaughan Owen and Darren Price provided an update for members on County Council matters relevant to the wards and constituents and which included the following: -
 - (i) Virtual meetings of the Council had taken place.
 - (ii) Recycling Centers: Anticipated that these would be open to the public in June
 - (iii) Free School Meals: Support had been arranged for pupils who were entitled to free school meals.
 - (iv) Neuadd Y Gwendraeth: Increased use of the facility for the storage of food parcels. .
 - (v) Local Volunteers: Some 70 individuals in the area had volunteered their services helping some 20 individuals being provided with assistance.
 - (vi) Community/Social Cohesion: The County Council and other agencies were engaged in monitoring and addressing any issues of heightened tensions or concerns in the community related to the prolonged period “lockdown”. Members were asked to advise the County Councillors of any such issues of which they were aware.
 - (vii) Community Halls: The County Council were seeking to identify funds which could help village halls address the lack of income arising from the current restrictions. Cllr Darren Price agreed to forward an e mail containing the relevant information to Cllr Simon Martin.

24.0 Agenda Item 8. Correspondence.

General Correspondence		
24.1	Hywel Dda CHC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Electronic copy of newsletter available from Clerk.
24.2	Hywel Dda CHC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Survey regarding how treatment has been affected by the current emergency and how it could be improved.
24.3	Welsh Hearts Charity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased need for Defibrillator/ advice on funding.
24.4	Cllr Clive Green	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The distillery at the White Heart Llanddarog will refill a container with cleansing /sanitizing alcohol free of charge.
24.5	Carms C.C.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain a central record of volunteers to assist people in the community and to record resources available locally. • Contact Points; Lorena Alvarez and Stephen Morgan.
24.6	Carms C.C.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning Officers will work from home and continue to progress applications- unless the staff are deployed to undertake priority work in other departments.
24.7	Job Centre Near Me	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Private company investing profits to help people find a job center. Requesting that a link be placed on the Council’s website directing people to the Job Centre Near Me website.
24.8	Learnyay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Private company providing details of free courses and apprenticeships to individuals. Request that a link directing people to their site be placed on the Council’s website.

24.9	Medicine Direct	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offer facemask for sale. Minu mum order 500.
24.10	Post Office	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reminder organisation can provide cash payments at Post Offices for individuals who do not have bank accounts. Bar coded letter from the organisation.
24.11	Carmarthenshire Energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advise of free tree planting pack from the Woodland Trust.
24.12	S4C	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seeking stories and contacts relating to individuals who have been the subject of scams related to the current emergency.
24.13	Astra Broadband	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offer services for communities who have slow broadband speed and are outside of the current upgrade programme.
24.14	Cefneithin Resident	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provided details of organisations and suppliers who can assist individuals during the current emergency.
24.15	Natural Resources Wales	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Electronic copy of the latest newsletter available from the Clerk
24.16	Llannon Community Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communication received thanking the Council for the contribution towards the foodbank.
24.17	Welsh Govt	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weekly bulletins regarding the coronavirus outbreak are available to the Council by email.
24.18	Welsh Govt	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coronavirus briefing which includes the following: - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Guidance and clarification regarding exercise. (ii) Measures to be used when judging infection/transmission rates. (iii) Principles to be used to judge any easing of the restrictions. (iv) How surveillance and response systems will be used to track the virus during any easing of restrictions. (v) Guidance on Public Rights of Way /access land
24.19	W.L.G.A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coronavirus update. Electronic copy available from Clerk.
24.20	Foodbank Cross Hands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Electronic copy of poster regarding the service available from Clerk.
24.21	Welsh Govt	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Land Release Fund. Funding for small scale development schemes for energy efficiency to be delivered during 2020/21
24.22	Tarian	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inviting contributions towards purchasing PPE equipment for Health Service Workers.
24.23	C.A.VS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advise of electronic guide regarding good practice and safeguarding for those arranging volunteers.
24.24	C.A.V.S.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Questionnaire seeking details of volunteers in the area. • Volunteer groups could be eligible for free training or grants.

24.25	WLGA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advise of electronic copy of guidance on nutritional standards for those preparing and distributing food parcels.
24.25	Fire Service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spring edition of electronic newsletter available from Clerk.

- Resolved:**
 - To receive and note the information provided.
 - Items 24.7 and 24.8. No to approve the requests.

25.0 Agenda Item 9 One Voice Wales.

25.1 Area Committee Meetings

- The Association advise that future meetings are cancelled until further notice.
- Resolved:** To receive and note the information provided.

25.2 Remote Meeting Guidance

- A copy of a document prepared by the Association regarding the conduct of remote meetings had been forwarded to members with the papers for the meeting.
- Resolved:** To receive and note the information provided.

25.3 Covid-19 Financial Impact Survey.

- The Association has forwarded a survey regarding additional cost incurred by the Council due to the current emergency.
- Resolved:** To receive and note the information provided.

25.4 National Awards 2020 Community and Town Councils.

- The ceremony and event were cancelled however the awards in each of the relevant categories have been provided on the Association's website.
- Resolved:** To receive and note the information provided.

25.5 Question and Answer Paper on Coronavirus Bill.

- Advise of the availability of the paper which is intended to help local Councils.
- Resolved:** To receive and note the information provided.

26.0 Agenda Item 10 Planning Matters

26.1 Planning Applications.

No /Ref	Type and Description	Location
W/40469	Full Planning. Change of use of land to be used in connection with existing funeral director's operations. Construction of extension for garaging, workshop and ancillary facilities for existing funeral director's operations.	Waun Ddewi, 43 Cross Hands Road, Gorslas, SA14 6RR
W/40477	Full Planning: Insertion of window in front elevation.	2 Parc Treventy, Heol Treventy, Cross Hands, SA14 6TN.

W/40502	Reserved Matters. Submission of details for approval of reserved matters of scale, layout, access, appearance and landscaping pursuant to outline planning permission W/40158 for one detached dwelling house.	Land at rear of Ty Penybanc, Black Lion Rd, Gorslas, SA14 6RU.
W/40529	Outline Planning permission for a building plot	Land adjacent to 20 Heol Y Dre, Cefneithin, SA14 7DR.

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

27.0 Finance Agenda Item 11.

27.1 Discretionary Expenditure Limit 2020-21 Section 137(4) Limit 2020-21

- The County Council has confirmed that the electorate for the Community Council area is 3,931 persons. This equates to a discretionary expenditure limit for 2020/21 of £ 32,706.
- The Community Council's planned expenditure for 2020/21 is within the prescribed limit.
- **Resolved:** To receive and note the information provided

27.2 Audit 2019/20

- Following discussion with the Council's Independent Auditor a process has been agreed whereby electronic copies of all payments/ invoices, reports, insurance certificates, pay authorisation forms, and minutes have been forwarded to the Auditor.
- Once the Auditor's report has been finalised then the 2019/20 Annual Return details, together with his report will be provided for members.
- **Resolved:** To receive and note the information provided

27.3 Monthly Income and Expenditure/ Receipts and Payments

(i) Income

- Received: £ 33, 493.92 (Precept First Installment.)

(ii) Expenditure

Paid To	Description	Amount £
WCVA	Monthly Payroll Charge	21.30
Clerk	Wages and Travelling	1,085.20
Spencer Environmental	Feb and March	2,316.10
Llannon C.C	Donation Foodbank	250.00
BHIB Insurance	Annual Insurance Policy	1,678.83
Information Commissioner	Annual Registration Fee	40.00
SLCC	Annual Subscription	180.00
One Voice Wales	Annual Subscription	744.00
Total		£ 6,315.43

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

27.4 IRPW Members Expenses Annual Return.

- The legal requirement to complete and return to the IRPW the form detailing the allowances and expenses claimed by members during 2019/20 had been met.
- **Resolved:** To receive and note the information provided.

28.0 Closure of Meeting.

- The Chair advised that the next meeting of the Council would be held online at 19:00hrs on Monday 8th June,2020.
- There being no further items of business the Chair declared the meeting closed at 20:40hrs