

CYNGOR CYMUNED GORSLAS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of an online meeting of the Gorslas Community Council

held on Monday, 12th April, 2021, at 19.00 hrs.

145.0 Agenda Item 1: Record of those Present/Apologies

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

145.1 General.

- The Chair stated that it was with great sadness members had learned of the passing of Cllr Linda Williams's father. On behalf of the Council the Chair extended to Cllr Williams and the family the sympathy and most sincere condolences of her fellow Councillors and staff.
- The meeting was formally declared open at 19:00hrs.
- **Resolved to:** Approve and accept the reasons for non-attendance.

146.0 Agenda Item 2 Declaration of Interest

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

Agenda Item	Councillors	Nature of Interest
153.0	Darren Price	Member of the County Council i.e one of the parties in the negotiation
149.8	Darren Price	Office Holder with a body proposing a possible similar activity 149.9
149.9	Darren Price	Office holder with the body corresponding with the Council.
149.8	Terry Jones	Office holder with a body proposing a possible similar activity to 149.9
149.9	Terry Jones	Office holder with the body corresponding with the Council.
153.0	Aled Vaughan Owen	Member of the Governing Body and County Council who are the other parties in the negotiation
149.10	Aled Vaughan Owen	Member of the body making the application
149.6	Wyn Edwards	Serves as the Council's representative on One Voice Wales.

- Item 153: It was noted that the County Councillors had a personal but not prejudicial interest in matters regarding the new school and thus could join in discussions and vote on such matters.
- **Resolved to:** Note and record the declarations of interest from members.

147.0 Agenda Item 3 Consider the Minutes of the previous Meetings of the Council.

- Members, under the direction of the Chair, examined in detail each page of the minutes of the previous meeting of the Council for accuracy.

Chair: _____ Date:.....

Page: 1

- **Resolved that:** The notes of the meeting, as revised, be confirmed as an accurate and true record of the discussions and decisions.

148.0 Agenda Item 4. Matters Arising from the Minutes.

- Members considered the updated information provided with the papers for the meeting.
- **Resolved to:** Receive and note the information provided and for any discussion relating to those matters to be undertaken under the appropriate agenda heading.

149.0 Agenda Item 5: Corporate Matters

149.1 Format of Future Meetings.

- Discussion took place in relation to the advice provided by Welsh Government in relation to the nature of future meetings in the light of the end of powers granted under Coronavirus legislation and the new Local Govt and Elections (Wales) Act coming into force.
- **Resolved to:**
 - (i) Continue with online meetings for the present.
 - (ii) Review in the light of any change to legal or social distancing requirements.
 - (iii) Enquire as to the possible future use of Zoom or One Voice Wales Star Leaf system.

149.2 Ward Meetings

- Members considered, and discussed, the reports of the recent Ward Meetings and a summary of a recent Teams survey of members.
- **Resolved to:**
 - (i) Receive and note the information and responses provided.
 - (ii) That members be appointed to serve on the Working Groups as follows: -
 - Asset Working Group. Cllrs T Jones, Anthony Rees, Clive Green and Nick Beckett.
 - Policy: Cllrs W Edwards, Linda Williams, Nia Lewis, Darren Price, Iestyn Llwyd.
 - Communication: Nia Lewis, Iestyn Llwyd, Aled Vaughan Owen, Andrew King, Tina Butler.
 - Engagement: All members to contribute as appropriate.
- Newsletter: The suggestions made by ward members be relayed to the Communication Group.
- Community Award: A request to be made to Llanddarog Community Council for information regarding their scheme with the aim of making an award in May.

149.3 Tenders for the Translation of Minutes.

- Invitation to tender had been issued to three suitable providers.
- Following an appraisal there was no reason why the contract could not be awarded to the contractor who submitted the lowest price Tenderer A at a price of £69 per thousand words.
- **Resolved to:** Award the contract to tenderer A i.e. Menter Cwm Gwendraeth/Elli.

149.4 Shared Clerking Arrangements Llanddarog Community Council to 31.05.22.

- Members considered the response from Llanddarog Community Council regarding the terms of the proposed agreement.
- **Resolved that:** The Council enter into the agreement with Llanddarog Community Council.

149.5 Clerks Contract of Employment.

- The Clerk indicated that he had been approached in relation to the possibility of applying for a part time position with another Council within Carmarthenshire.
- In accordance with the contract of employment there was a requirement to obtain permission from the Council in relation to employment with any other body or organisation.
- Following discussion, the Clerk then withdrew from the meeting and was notified of the decision upon his return.

Resolved that:

- (i) Due to the fact that there were a number of matters over the coming months which the Council wished to move forward and which would represent an additional call on the Clerk's time it would, regretfully, not be possible to accede to the request at this time.
- (ii) The Council would be prepared to review the position at the end of September, 2021, if that would assist the other Authority.

149.6 One Voice Wales Membership 2021/22.

- Cllr W Edwards declared an interest and withdrew from consideration of the matter.
- **Resolved to:** Renew membership for the 2021/22 year at a cost of £ 782.00.

149.7 Parks: Request to Hire Cefneithin MUGA.

- A request had been received from Plantos to be allowed to hire the MUGA and outside areas for fun and structured play activities for young children.
- **Resolved:** That the request be not granted as it would restrict access by the public to the facilities and thus could be considered to be at odds with the terms of the deeds and possibly the current designated planning use for the land.

149.8 Parks: Request to Use Part of Cefneithin Park Car Park.

- Cllrs D Price and T Jones declared an interest and withdrew from consideration of the matter.
- A request had been received from Alfie's Coffee Bar to be allowed to use and serve refreshments at the end of the school day from a mobile unit sited on the park car park.
- As with item 149.7 consideration was given to the possibility of the use of the land being contrary to the terms of the deeds and the current designated planning use for the land.
- **Resolved:** Not to approve the request.

149.9 Parks: Cefneithin Hall: Notification of Proposed Development.

- Cllrs D Price and T Jones declared an interest and withdrew from consideration of the matter.
- In accordance with the terms of the land transfer Cefneithin and Foelgastell Welfare Association had notified the Community Council of their intention to develop part of the transferred land.
- The proposal would see part of the land surrounding the hall developed as a picnic/social area for the community. Refreshments and snacks would be provided in the afternoon and evenings.

- The intention was to provide a place where the community could come together which was something which was not available currently. Any profit from the activity would go towards the upkeep of the hall or to provide events and activities for the community.
- The land is owned by the Association but is in close proximity to the park /park car park and play area which are owned by the Community Council.
- **Resolved to:**
 - (i) To receive and note the information provided.
 - (ii) Ask the Association to ensure that adequate measures are taken to cater for litter
 - (iii) Remind the Association that users of the park have priority in relation to the parking of vehicles in the park car park.

149.10 Parks: Drefach Request to resume use for Football Training.

- Cllr Aled Vaughan Owen declared an interest and withdrew from consideration of the matter.
- A request had been received from Drefach F.C. that the junior team to be allowed to resume use of the park for training.
- **Resolved:** To approve the request subject to adherence by the Club to any legal requirement relating to Covid-19 and/or guidance issued by the governing body for the sport.

149.11 Parks: Dog Fouling Signs.

- The agreed signs had been placed in all three parks.
- **Resolved:** To receive, note and approve the actions taken.

149.12 Parks: Replacement Planting of Trees.

- Replacement trees had been planted in all three parks on 10.04.21 as per contract requirements.
- **Resolved:** To receive and note the information provided.

150.0 Agenda Item 6: Park Issues.

150.1 Drefach: Leylandii Issue

- Concerns had been received regarding the potential of two Leylandii bushes in the vicinity of the play area to grow to an excessive height affecting neighbouring properties. A request had been made for the trees to be removed and plant alternative species
- **Resolved:** That the trees be removed and replacement native trees planted in their place.

150.2 Gorslas: Public Conveniences.

- It was noted during a site visit that one end of the door handle of the ladies unit had become detached due to severe corrosion in the area surrounding the fixing point.
- **Resolved:** To obtain a quotation for the replacement of the ladies door and, due to their condition, a second quotation for the replacement of all unit doors.

150.3 Gorslas Park Incidents

- Members were advised that a member of the Community Council had been confronted on the 7th April, 2021, by up to 6 teenagers at Gorslas Park who were making use of equipment in the play area which is designated for use by young children and prohibits access by persons over 12 years of age.

- A similar incident had occurred in the park on the 8th April,2021, involving teenagers from a property in the vicinity of the park. Both incidents had been reported to the local PCSO Officers
- **Resolved:**
 - (i) Councillors were concerned for the safety of the individual member and felt that their personal safety should be the highest priority.
 - (ii) Any member who was in a similar position and felt verbally or physically threatened was advised to walk away before matters escalated and report the matter to the Police.

151.0 Agenda Item 7: Urgent Local Matters.

151.1 Cefneithin, Drefach Gorslas Wards: Damaged Pedestrian Safety Fencing.

- Members were advised that the County Council had completed works to the pedestrian safety fencing near the entrance to Gorslas park, Cefneithin Primary School and at the crossing point at Henffordd Drefach.
- **Resolved to:** Receive and note the information provided.

151.2 Drefach Ward: Damaged Bollards site of former Ysgol Y Gwendraeth.

- It was highlighted that two bollards in the lay by of the former school had been reported to the County Council as damaged some time ago but no remedial action had been taken.
- Members were advised that the County Council had indicated that repairs had been scheduled.
- **Resolved to:** Receive and note the information provided.

151.3 Drefach Ward: Highway Condition Blaenhirwaun.

- It was reported that, following works on the highway, there were a significant residue of loose chippings in the road which were being sprayed onto parked vehicles and pedestrians by passing vehicles.
- The County Council members agreed to persue the matter with the Highway Authority.
- **Resolved:** To accept the offer from the County Councillors.

151.4 Drefach Ward: Overgrowth.

- Overgrowth on the footpath adjacent to Brynmair and also on land adjoining the Bus Shelter near the B4310 and Heol Blaenhirwaun junction.
- **Resolved to:** Draw the matter to the attention of the Highway Authority.

151.5 Drefach Park: Safety Concerns Householder Fencing.

- As a result of concerns received a letter had been sent to a householder of a property in the vicinity of the park where barbed wire formed part of the fencing. The arrangement presented the possibility of injury to a member of the public and possible action against the householder.
- To date a response had not been received
- **Resolved:** That a reminder letter be sent.

152.0 Agenda Item 8: Members Report

152.1 County Council Update: Cllrs Aled Vaughan Owen and Darren Price.

- Members received a summary update which included the following: -

a) County Council

- **Pandemic:**
There had been a notable increase in the number of vulnerable people seeking assistance in relation to their health and wellbeing.
- **Highways:**
 - (i) Speeding on the Capel Seion and Heol Caegwyn Roads.
 - (ii) Road surfacing issues on Heol Caegwyn.
 - (iii) Repairs of pedestrian barriers- as stated previously.
 - (iv) Quarry Traffic: There had been an increase in vehicles travelling through Drefach.
- **Llyn Lech Owain:**
 - (i) Consultation was taking place regarding a requirement for dogs to be kept on a lead.
 - (ii) Horse Riders: It appeared that a compromise arrangement had been reached in relation to access and the parking of vehicles.
 - (iii) Further development of the Llyn Llech Owain site was planned.
- **Environment:**
 - (i) There was a backlog of issues with a high number relating to dog fouling.
 - (ii) Consultation would take place later in the year on the Public Spaces Protection Order with guidance for any Council wishing to introduce a requirement for dogs to be kept on a lead.
- **Section 106 Monies.**
 - (i) The two County Council members had written to the Welsh Minister seeking a change in the processes whereby a developer could reduce payments due under a section 106 agreement.
 - (ii) The Minister had responded to the effect that they were satisfied with the current arrangements.
- **Resolved:**
 - (i) Receive and note the general information provided.
 - (ii) Accept Cllr Darren Price's offer to obtain clarification from the County Council regarding any agreement on travel routes for vehicles serving the local quarries.

b) Local Matters

- **Foelgastell:** It was with deep regret that Cllr Vaughan Owen reported that unfortunately a young man had passed away suddenly last week from a suspected heart attack.
- Tragically the family had lost a husband and the father to two young children
- The community had been stunned by the event and had rallied behind the family. They were seeking to purchase a defibrillator to try and prevent a similar re-occurrence and had asked, through members, if the Community Council could assist them in anyway.
- **Resolved:**
 - (i) That the Council would seek to assist the group where possible.
 - (ii) Cllr Andy King's offer to obtain details and prices regarding defibrillators be accepted.
 - (iii) Contact details for the Chair and Clerk be provided to the group representative.

153.0 Agenda Item 9: Correspondence.

- Members considered the items of correspondence detailed in the papers for the meeting.
- **Resolved:**
 - (i) To receive and note the information provided.
 - (ii) To write to Messrs Lloyd and Gravell to thank them for the significant amount of work and assistance that they have provided, free of charge, to help the Council and the local community over several months.
 - (iii) Atkins Consultation A48 Stage Two Proposals. To seek further details and an extension of time to respond.

154.0 Agenda Item 10: One Voice Wales.

- The monthly newsletter and correspondence from the association was considered by members.
- **Resolved:**
 - (i) To receive the information provided.
 - (ii) That places be reserved for the Chair and Vice Chair at the Annual SLCC/One Voice Wales online conference on the 13th May,2021.

155.0 Agenda Item 11: Planning Matters.

Ref	Type and Description	Location
PL/01377	Non- Material Amendment. Variation of condition 13 of planning permission W/34955 to revise the timing of the submission details.	Land adjacent to A48, Heol y Parc, Cefneithin, SA14 7DS
PL/01438	Full Planning Permission. Proposed replacement dwelling	Rosedale, 29 Cross Hands Road, Gorslas. SA14 6RR
PL/01440	Householder Planning Permission. Single storey flat roof extension to the rear of the detached property. Size approx. 6mtrs x 3. 8mtrs.New extension to come off the current lounge area to create a dining area with French door access into the garden. Roof lantern 2mts x 1mtr	Pant Yr Orfa, 42 Cross Hands Road, Gorslas., SA14 6RP.
PL 01548	Householder Planning Permission. Rear extension to domestic dwelling	Rose Cottage. St Mary's Street. Drefach. SA14 7BD.
PL/01609	Removal/Variation of Condition No 2 of W/40592	Nant Fach, 4 Church Road, Gorslas, SA14 7NF

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

156.0 Agenda Item 12: Finance

156.1 Audit of Accounts Procedures 2021

- Details of the timetable provided by the Auditor General for Wales were provided.
- The Auditor advised that revised audit arrangements would be delayed until the audit of accounts for the 2021/22 financial year.

156.2 Monthly Income/Expenditure

Paid /Received	Description	Amount £
Income	N/A	Nil
Expenditure		
WCVA	Monthly Payroll Charge March and Dec	37.10
Clerk	Wages and Travel	1,317.40
HMRC	Qtr 4 Employee / Employer Contributions	1,686.49
Dyfed Pensions	Qtr 4 Employee/Employer Contributions	1,869.00
Menter Gwasanaethau	Translation Jan/Feb/march	292.50
Bowen and Weaving	A4 Paper	21.00
Extreme Trees	Payment Cut Only	1,434.00
Paul Morgans	Painting	480.00
Vision Signs	No Smoking Sign	540.00
Vision Signs	Dog and Muga Signs	2,520.00
SWALEC	Gorslas P Conv Charges	88.33
Carms C.C.	Charges SLA Parks 2019/20	1,360.02
Carms C.C.	Charges Parks Works Previous Years	6,775.60
Carms C.C.	Charges Street Lighting 2019/20	6,349.82

157.0 Agenda Item 13: Next Meeting.

- The next planned meeting of the Council would be online at 7.00p.m on Monday 10.05.21.
- It was recognised that there might be a requirement to convene an additional meeting of the Council prior to the planned monthly meeting to consider tenders.
- There being no further business to transact the Chair declared the meeting closed at 21.05hrs.