

CYNGOR CYMUNED GORS-LAS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of an online meeting of the Gors-las Community Council

held on Monday, 13th September,2021, at 19.00 hrs.

70.0 Agenda Item 1: Record of those Present/Apologies

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

71.1 General.

- The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.
- Members were advised that Cllr T Jones was unable to attend due to illness and that a communication had been sent on behalf of the Council wishing him a speedy recovery.
- The Clerk checked and confirmed to members that the meeting was quorate.
- **Resolved to:** Approve and accept the reasons for non-attendance by members.

72.0 Agenda Item 2 Declaration of Interest

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

Agenda Item	Councillors	Nature of Interest
76.9	Aled Vaughan Owen	Personal but not Prejudicial. Member of Governing Body and County Council who are party to negotiation.
83.2	Aled Vaughan Owen	Personal but not prejudicial. Member of body being considered for financial assistance.
83.2	Wyn Edwards	Personal but not prejudicial Member of an association being considered for financial support
83.2	Clive Green	Personal but not prejudicial. Member of an association being considered for financial support

- It was noted that Cllr Aled Vaughan Owen had a personal but not prejudicial interest in matters regarding the new school and thus could join in discussions and vote on such issues.
- In relation to items it was noted that Cllrs who were also members of the Welfare Association had a dispensation to speak and vote in relation to those matters.
- **Resolved to:** Note and record the declarations of interest from members.

73.0 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 July and August meetings of the Council.
- **Resolved that:** The notes of the July and August meetings of the Council be confirmed as an accurate and true record of discussions and decisions.

74.0 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.

75.0 Agenda Item 5: Opportunity for the Public to address the Council.

- There were no requests from members of the public to speak at the meeting and there were no members of the public present.
- **Resolved to:** Note and record the position.

76.0 Agenda Item 6: Corporate Matters.

76.1 Progress Report.

- An update was provided regarding progress in implementing previous Council decisions.
- **Resolved to:** Note the information provided.

76.2 Lifting of Coronavirus Restrictions/ Guidance on holding Council Meetings.

- Details were provided regarding the implications and actions taken following discussion with members regarding the lifting of Coronavirus restrictions as from Saturday 7th August,2021.
- Members were also advised of the requirements regarding facilitating remote attendance at future Council meetings.
- **Resolved to:**
 - (i) Confirm the decision to refit swing seats as from Saturday 7th August,2021.
 - (ii) Retain the signage provided in parks and play areas regarding Coronavirus measures.
 - (iii) To continue to meet online for the foreseeable future but to keep the position under review.

76.3 Section 106 Monies.

- Confirmation had been received from the County Council that the application for the release of funds had been approved and the following amounts awarded:
 - (i) Cefneithin Park Proposal: £ 19,428.96
 - (ii) Gorslas Park Proposal: £ 74,440.00.
- Acceptance of the offer had been made. Works to be completed and paid for by 30.11.21.
- The successful contractor had been instructed to proceed. Estimated fitting date between 25.10.21 and 01.11.21.
- Gorslas Welfare Association had also been advised and thanked for their contribution.
- **Resolved to:** Confirm and approve the actions taken.

76.4 Assets: Benches/ Bus Shelters.

- Following consultation with members repairs, cleaning and painting of certain of the wooden benches had been undertaken. It was noted during discussion that there were a considerable number of seats on the asset register but which were located on County Council land.

- An assessment had been undertaken by the Clerk and a builder in relation to the condition of the Bus Shelters which were recorded on the Council’s asset register. No issues of concern to public safety had been noted but certain works were required. Details to a future meeting.
- **Resolved that:**
 - (i) Details of the seats and bus shelters on the asset register be forwarded to members for discussion at the October meeting.
 - (ii) The technical and legal difficulties in progressing the provision of a new seat at Y Glyn Cefneithin be paused pending the outcome of the review and an examination of options.

76.5 Maintenance: Cefneithin Park MUGA

- A quotation had been received from a specialist company to undertake the work.
- **Resolved to:** Re-examine the position with a view to the work being undertaken in April 2022

76.6 Insurance Cover: Toll Bar

- Discussion had previously taken place in relation to an option of using a lockable key box to allow Drefach Football Club to facilitate an arrangement for accessing the Toll Bar for storage.
- The Council’s insurers have responded to the effect that the policy would not respond if the loss was as a result of someone accessing the key box and accessing the property.
- Cllr Aled Vaughan Owen advised members that the Club had made alternative arrangements for the storage of the equipment and access to the Toll Bar would therefore no longer be required.
- **Resolved to:** Receive and note the information provided.

76.7 Strategic Review.

- Members were of the view that discussion should be postponed to the October meeting.
- **Resolved that:** The matter be placed on the agenda for the October meeting.

76.8 Ward Meetings.

- Details of the ward meetings had been forwarded to members prior to the meeting.
- Discussion took place in relation to the nature, purpose and format of future ward meetings and the different approaches in the three wards.
- **Resolved to:** Receive and note the information provided.

76.9. Gorslas New School Management Agreement.

- It was noted that unfortunately there had not been a response from the Governing Body regarding convening a meeting to discuss the matter.
- An initial meeting had taken place on the 5th April, 2021, between representatives of the Community Council, the Chair and Headteacher to discuss a draft agreement prepared by the Community Council.
- The Governing Body discussed the matter at their meeting on the 9th April, 2019, and agreed in principle to community use of certain school facilities.
- Following notification of the Governing Body’s decision the Community Council resolved to donate the land for the new school to the County Council for nothing but with a legal requirement that there would be a Management Agreement relating to the use of the facilities.
- The Community Council had made several requests over a two-year period to meet with the Governing Body to discuss and agree a management agreement.

- Members were disappointed at the lack of progress, feedback or alternative proposals. The new school was progressing well and there was now limited time to finalise an agreement and put the practical arrangements in place to facilitate the use by the community of the facilities.
- **Resolved that:** Having regard to the imminence of the new school opening and the lack of progress the Clerk write formally to the Chief Executive of Carmarthenshire County Council seeking her assistance in bringing the matter to a conclusion.

76.10 Gorslas New School CCTV.

- Confirmation had been received from the new school contractor that the plans for the new school included provision for CCTV coverage of the MUGA area,
- **Resolved to:** Receive and note the information provided.

76.11 Grass Cutting Contract.

- Following discussion with members and concerns from residents the meadow area in the park has been re-instated in the contract to be cut monthly. Additional cost £60 per cut.
- **Resolved to:** Confirm and amend the contract to cater for the revision and additional cost.

76.12 Cefneithin Wooded Area Works.

- It was noted that the tender for the above works would close on 23.09.21.
- **Resolved that:** The Sub Committee be authorised to consider tenders received, to decide and award the contract.

77.0 Park Matters.

77.1 Parks General.

- Multi Agency meetings regarding anti-social behaviour were held in each of the three parks on Friday 23.07.21. Members of the public attended and spoke to representatives from the Police, Fire Service, Youth Service as well as Gorslas Community Council about their concerns.
- **Resolved to:** Receive and note the information provided.

77.2. Gorslas Park

77.2.1 Anti-Social Behaviour.

- Three old scrap bicycles had been dumped in the park. Removed by contractor.
- Teen Shelter- report received of individual taking illegal substances. Reported to Police.
- Teen Shelter Litter Bin – damaged. Request for newer heavier bin.
- **Resolved to:** Receive and note the information provided and to monitor the position relating to the teen shelter bin.

77.2.2 Public Convenience.

- It was reported on 17.08.21 that the disabled toilet lock door had been broken.
- Following discussion with members resolved not to repair as new doors are to be fitted.
- **Resolved to:** Confirm the decision not to repair the lock.

77.3 Cefneithin Park

77.3.1 Dog Fouling Children's Play Area.

- Complaint of dog fouling in the play area received on 12.08.21, leading to the mess being picked up on the shoe of a young child. Play area and park site checked on 13.08.21. nothing found.
- **Resolved to:** Receive and note the information provided.

77.3.2 Lost Property.

- A member of the public reported finding a mobile phone in the park. The item was handed in to the Police.
- **Resolved to:** Receive and note the information provided.

78.0 Agenda Item 8: Urgent Local Matters.

78.1.1 Emergency Road Closure: C2060 Gorslas to Llanarthne.

- CCC advise that the road will be closed for a period of 3 days commencing 31.08.21.
- **Resolved to** receive and note the information provided.

78.1.2 Brynglas Bench.

- Concern had been received that a bench on the Brynglas site was potentially unsafe.
- The matter had been referred to Carmarthenshire County Council.
- **Resolved:** To receive and note the information provided.

79.0 Agenda Item 9: Members Reports.

79.1 County Council Matters: Cllr Aled Vaughan Owen.

- Whilst there had not been any County Council meetings during the month of August an update was provided for members of relevant matters which included: -
 - (i) Planning Department. A major re-organisation and turnover of staff was underway to address shortcomings. This had temporarily reduced the departments enforcement role.
 - (ii) Schools: A scheme to place ozone machines in classrooms to reduce Covid infection rates was on hold following concerns regarding respiratory issues. UVC machines being considered as an alternative.
 - (iii) Speeding: General concerns in the area but particularly with at Heol Caegwyn, Drefach.
- **Resolved to:** Receive and note the information provided.

79.2 Adoption Issues Hen Ffordd/Uwch Gwendraeth.

- Cllr Green relayed to members an update which he had received in relation to recent progress regarding the 30-year dispute over the adoption of the roads and public lighting units at the sites.
- The County Council had indicated that they were hopeful that ongoing discussions with the contractor regarding the site road and the need to bring the public lighting units up to current day standards would be successful thus allowing the Council to adopt the road and lighting units.
- **Resolved to:** Receive and note the information provided.

79.3 Television Programme Cynefin.

- It was pleasing to report that the programme had featured interviews with two former Community Councillors as well as featuring items regarding the area and its history.
- **Resolved to:** Receive and note the information provided.

79.4 Cross Hands Public Hall and Cinema.

- The cinema would be re-opening to the public with a film showing on the 5th November, 2021.
- **Resolved to:** Receive and note the information provided.

80.0 Agenda Item 10: Consultation/ General Correspondence.

- A schedule of consultation documentation and correspondence received since the July which formed part of the papers distributed for the meeting was considered and discussed.
- **Resolved to:** Receive and note the information provided.

81.0 Agenda Item 11 One Voice Wales.

- Details of correspondence from the association were considered and discussed.
- Cllr Wyn Edwards advised that, due to personal circumstances, he had been unable to attend the National Executive Meeting on the 3rd September, 2021.
- **Resolved to:** Receive and note the information provided.

81.1 Training.

- The Clerk relayed a request from Cllr N Lewis to attend a “Chairs Training” course.
- **Resolved to:** Approve the application.

82.0 Agenda Item 12: Planning Matters.

- Consideration was given to the schedule of applications provided for the meeting.
- **Resolved to:** Receive and note the information provided.

83.0 Finance

83.1 Budget Review

- Following the award of section 106 funds and matters such as CCTV, Toilet Doors, MUGA fencing, Wooded Area it is necessary to revisit the 2021/22 budget allocations.

83.1.1 Income Budget

Budget Heading	Original Budget	+/-	Revised Budget
Precept	111,155	0	111,155
VAT Refund	6,980	+ 24,090	31,070
Grants Section 106	0	93,870	93,870
Other 1	0	5	5
Other 2	0	6,000	6,000
External Income	118,135	123,965	242,100

From Reserves	0	7,125	7,125
Total Income Budget	118,135	131,090	249,225

83.1.2 Expenditure

Parks	Original Budget	+/-	Revised Budget
Major Works	10,970	+110,635	121,605
Minor Works	9,000	- 4,290	4,710
Grass Cutting	11,160	+240	11,400
Litter	7,760	0	7,760
Other	0	0	0
Total	38,890	106,585	145,475
P Convenience	Original Budget	+/-	Revised Budget
Major Works	0	+5,265	5,265
Minor Works	305	-305	0
Custodial	6,630	Nil	6,630
Running Cost	510	Nil	510
Other	0	0	0
Total	7,445	+4,960	12,405

Bus Shelters	Original Budget	+/-	Revised Budget
Major Works	0	0	0
Minor Works	510	-510	0
Cleaning	0	0	0
Running Cost	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0
Total	510	-510	0

Seats	Original Budget	+/-	Revised Budget
Major Works	0	0	0
Minor Works	510	370	870
Other	0	0	0

Total	510	+370	870
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Street Lighting	Original Budget	+/-	Revised Budget
Major Works	2,015	0	2,015
Minor Works	0	0	0
Street Lights Running	7,500	-835	6,665
Other			
Total	9,515	-835	8,680

Admin and Office	Original Budget	+/-	Revised Budget
New Provision	0	0	0
Admin Employee Total	28,150	0	28,150
Admin Office/Corp Gov	11,990	-475	11,515
Insurance	1,735	-105	1,630
Admin Other	0	0	0
Total	41,875	-580	41,295

Democratic	Original Budget	+/-	Revised Budget
Members Training/Conf	355	0	355
Members Trav/Expenses	205	0	205
IRPW Allowance	2,250	0	2,250
Chairs Fund	1,000	0	1,000
Demo Other	0	0	0
Total	3,810	0	3,810

Other	Original Budget	+/-	Revised Budget
Donations Grants	3,850	0	3,850
Community Events	550	0	550
Other	0	0	0
Total	4,400	0	4,400

VAT	Original Budget	+/-	Revised Budget
Expenditure	8,915	23,375	32,290

Chair: _____ Date:.....

Total	8,915	23,375	32,290
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83.1.3 Income /Expenditure Summary

Income	Original Budget	+/-	Revised Budget
Income External	118,135	123,965	242,100
From Reserves	0	7,125	7,125
Total Income Budget	118,135	131,090	249,225
Expenditure			
Expenditure External	115,860	133,365	249,225
Transfer to Reserves	3,125	0	3,125
Total Expend Budget	118,985	133,365	252,350

83.1.4 Overview

Budget	Revised Budget	Falling on Reserves
Income	242,100	
Expenditure	249,225	
Difference		7,125

83.1.5 Reserves

Reserves	Opening	+	-	Closing
Brought Forward	96,240			
Add MUGA Sinking Fund		3,125		
Less Cefn Wooded Est			-7,125	
Balance Carried Forward				92,240

- **Resolved:** Following consideration and discussion to approve the revised budgets.

83.2 Financial Assistance /Donations 2021/22.

- Members considered and discussed applications for the provision of financial assistance.

- In considering such requests the Community Council is required to take into account whether or not the award would be commensurate with the benefit to the community and/or inhabitants of the area.
- For the purposes of clarity, the community or inhabitants of the area would be defined as those within the electoral wards of Gorslas Community Council.
- The Clerk advised the meeting as to the section 137 limit for the year and the relevant budgets.
- **Resolved:** That the following awards be made following completion, payment and the refunding of the play equipment works: -

83.2.1 General Financial Assistance Fund

Organisation	Amount £
Gwendraeth Mensshed	200
Capel Seion	250
Capel Tabor	125
Capel Llanlluan	250
Capel Tabernacle	250
Capel Peniel	250
Eglwys Gorslas	250
Total	£1,575

83.2.2 Community Events Fund

Community Events	Amount £
Cefneithin Welfare Assoc	£ 175.00
Drefach Welfare Assoc	£175.00
Gorslas Welfare Assoc	£175.00
Total Community Events	£525.00

83.3 VAT Reclaim 2021/22

- To assist with cash flow a claim for qtr1 has been submitted in the sum of £1,068.00
- **Resolved to:** Approve and confirm the actions taken

83.4 Community Cohesion Grant.

- An application for assistance from the fund towards the cost of CCTV provision has been made.
- **Resolved to:** Approve and confirm the actions taken.

83.5 Monthly Transactions July and August

Paid /Received	Description	Amount £
Income	Interest Savings Account	1.20
	Precept 2 nd Installment	37,051.33
Expenditure		
WCVA	Payroll Charge July	21.30
WCVA	Payroll Charge August	21.30
Wrenvale	Grass Cutting Charge June	1,116.00
Wrenvale	Grass Cutting Charge July	1,116.00
Clerk	June Wages and Travel	1,254.75
Clerk	July Wages/ Travel refund parts Titan Swing	1,364.20
Clerk	August Wages/Travel/Refund Website	1,170.20
Wrenvale	Tree branch cut and removal Cefneithin.	48.00
GB Spares	Titan Swing Parts + Artificial Grass	270.06
GB Spares	Chains GL Jones Swing Cefn	127.08
Towy Works	2 x Padlocks – Gorslas and Drefach	54.36
Danfo	May and June	1,354.20
Danfo	July	688.20
Lampeter Trees	Fallen Tree Gorslas Sat 22.05.21	324.00
H A Rees	Toll House Works	914.00
HA Rees	Repairs Painting Seats	870.00
Vision Signs	Signage Teen Shelter	120.00

84.0 Agenda Item 14 Next Meeting.

- The next ordinary meeting would be on 11.10.21 online.
- There being no further items of business the Chair declared the meeting closed at 21:06