

CYNGOR CYMUNED GORS-LAS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

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

held on Monday, 11th October, 2021, at 19.00 hrs.

85.0 Agenda Item 1: Record of those Present/Apologies

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

85.1 General.

- The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.
- **Resolved to:** Approve and accept the reasons for non-attendance by members.

86.0 Agenda Item 2 Declaration of Interest

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

Agenda Item	Councillor	Nature of Interest
90.2	D Price	Personal: Member of Carms C.C who are party to the negotiation.

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

87.0 Agenda Item 3 Consider the Minutes of the Previous Meeting of the Council.

- Members examined and considered in detail each page of the September minutes of the Council.
- **Resolved that:** The notes be confirmed as an accurate record of proceedings and decisions.

88.0 Agenda Item 4. Matters Arising from the Minutes.

- There were no additional items of discussion to those included in the progress report.
- **Resolved that:** The information and discussion take place as part of item 90.1.

89.0 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.
- **Resolved to:** Note and record the position.

90.0 Agenda Item 6: Corporate Matters.

90.1 Progress Report.

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

90.2 New Gorslas School Management Agreement.

- A response had been received from the Chief Executive of Carmarthenshire County Council to the Community Council's request for assistance in progress this matter.
- County Council Officers would arrange, and Chair, a meeting between representatives of the Governing Body and the Community Council as a matter of urgency.
- **Resolved that:**
 - (i) The Sub Committee be authorised to meet with the Governing Body representatives to discuss a draft management agreement.
 - (ii) The Sub Committee report back and make recommendations to the full Council..
 - (iii) Cllrs Aled Vaughan Owen and Darren Price be appointed as non-voting members of the Sub Committee for any matter related to the new school Management Agreement.

90.3 Park Inspection Arrangements.

- It was noted that Mr Gary Baxter had been appointed as Grounds/Cleansing Services Manager.
- Contact had been made with Mr Baxter in relation to procedural issues associated with the service and a meeting with the Clerk is to be arranged.
- **Resolved to:** Receive, note and approve the actions taken.

90.4 Strategic Review

- A discussion took place in relation to the review to the effect that the key points members wished to raise could be included within the Ward Meeting update.
- **Resolved:** That the matter be discussed under item as part of 90.5.

90.5 Ward Meetings.

- Details of the discussion at the different ward meetings was provided by members.
- Consideration and discussion took place in relation to the framework and effectiveness of the current sub-groups as outlined in the strategic document.
- **Resolved:**
 - (i) Ward Meetings: Each ward to determine the format of ward meetings and reporting.
 - (ii) Working Groups: The Asset, Communication and Policy groups be disbanded and the functions henceforth be undertaken by the Sub Committee.
 - (iii) Delegation of Functions: That a discussion paper be prepared to promote discussion regarding options for delegating functions to the Ward meetings.

90.6 CCTV Provision.

- The Clerk advised that there was a delay in progressing the matter as a result of additional information required by Carmarthenshire County Council Public Lighting Unit.
- **Resolved to:** Receive and note the information provided.

90.7 Proposed Works- Wooded Area.

- It was noted that, for the second time, no tenders in respect of the work had been received.
- The Clerk together with Cllr Simon Martin and a current grounds maintenance contractor had visited site on Thursday 7th October,2021 to discuss alternative options.
- A discussion took place in relation to the options and the merits and demerits of the proposals.

- **Resolved that:**
 - (i) Wrenvale be instructed to clear the existing boundary ditch to ensure that the excess water can be discharged into the existing culvert and ditch in the adjoining field.
 - (ii) The spoil/sediment from the ditch to be used to form a bank/ berm on the park side.
 - (iii) The cost to be approximately £1,200.
 - (iv) Additional fencing to be provided if necessary.

90.8 Concerns Regarding Water Gorslas Park.

- Following the heavy rainfall on Monday 4th October, 2021, concerns had been received from a resident regarding the possibility of water from the park entering their home.
- A site visit was undertaken on Tuesday 5th October when it was observed that the drainage channels in the park were functioning and unobstructed. There was no evidence of water emanating from the new school site.
- The resident indicated that there was a considerable volume of water entering the park from the adjoining industrial estate as well as from the footpath from the Brynlluan estate. The foundations of the new school could be diverting the water flow and exasperating the situation.
- To try and assist the resident Cllr D Price contacted Carmarthenshire County Council in relation to the water entering the park from the industrial estate via land owned by the County Council.
- The new school contractor was also contacted in relation to the matter with no water related difficulties being as being experienced on site.
- **Resolved:** To monitor the position and await the outcome of the County Council investigation.

90.9 Bus Shelter Maintenance Issues.

- Discussion took place in relation to the cutting back of overgrowth surrounding the bus shelters in the ownership of the Community Council.
- **Resolved:** Not to proceed with the works at this time.

91.0 Park Matters.

91.1 Parks Drefach: Anti-Social Behaviour

- The Police advised on 27.09.21 that they had received a a complaint from a member of the public that young people were riding bicycles on the park footpath causing worry to pedestrians.
- The incident was considered by Drefach Ward members who resolved to recommend that given the lack of information the matter be kept under review pending the installation of CCTV.
- **Resolved that:** The recommendation of the Drefach Ward members be adopted.

92.0 Agenda Item 8: Urgent Local Matters.

- Members were advised that a new wayside seat had recently been provided by the County Council at Heol Afallon Drefach.
- **Resolved:** To receive and note the information provided.

93.0 Agenda Item 9: Members Reports.

93.1 County Council Matters: Cllr Darren Price.

- A summary of the matters relevant to the area and electorate was provided and included: -
 - (i) Planning Department. An improvement plan and changes in staffing were being made.
 - (ii) Social Services: Reporting high levels of staff absences due to Covid 19 issues.
 - (iii) Education: Schools were under pressure due to Covid 19 issues. The issue of effective and safe air filtration systems was being pursued with Welsh Government.
 - (iv) Locally the recent period of exceptionally heavy rainfall had led to flooding issues across the wards and in particular Heol Penygroes where there was an issue related to Dwr Cymru.
 - (v) Heol Y Gelli : there was some progress, through the County Council, in resolving long standing issues which were preventing some owners from selling their properties.
- **Resolved to:** Receive and note the information provided.

93.2 Drefach: Mc Millan Coffee Evening 24th September,2021.

- Cllr Green thanked the members from all three wards who had attended and supported the event. In total it was estimated that some £900 had been raised.
- **Resolved to:** Receive and note the information provided.

94.0 Agenda Item 11 One Voice Wales.

- Training/Correspondence: Details of courses and correspondence
- Survey: Cllr Wyn Edwards drew members attention to, and requested that if possible, they complete the online survey by the association of Town and Community Council members.
- **Resolved to:** Receive and note the information provided.

95.0 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.

96.0 Finance

96.1 IRPW Report Draft Allowances Recommendations 2022/23.

- Members considered in detail the draft recommendations contained in the report.
- It was noted that as from May 2022 the group in which would be placed would include the budget spend/income for a particular year.
- Such a system did not provide for one off budget increases such as the receipt of grants or the replacement/ provision of new play equipment.
- It was felt that it would provide a more balanced and realistic representation of the work of the Council if the assessment was based on an average budget spend/income of two or three years.
- **Resolved to:** - Request the IRPW to change the criteria for grouping to include consideration of average budget spend over two or three years.

96.2 VAT Reclaim 2021/22

- To assist with cash flow a claim for qtr 2 had been submitted.
- **Resolved to:** Approve and confirm the actions taken

96.3 Monthly Transactions September

Paid /Received	Description	Amount £
Income	Gorslas Welfare Donation	6,000.00
	VAT Qtr 1 Refund	1,078.96
Expenditure		
WCVA	Payroll Charge September	24.60
Wrenvale	Grass Cutting Charge	1,116.00
Clerk	Pay Travel and Refund Payments Made	1,401.49
Thomas Glass	New Doors Gors P Convenience	6318.76
TBM	Qtr1 Litter Pick	1,560.00
Carms C.C.	Planning Cefn MUGA Fence	230.00
A King	Annual IRPW Allowance	120.00
SWALEC	Gors Electric P Conv	37.70
HMRC	Qtr2 Employee /Employer Contributions	1712.62
Dyfed Pension Fund	Qtr2 Employee/Employer Contributions	1,651.50

96.4 Audit 2020/21.

- Audit Wales have advised that they have not yet completed the audits and accordingly the relevant notice has been published on the Community Council website and in noticeboards.

96.5 Agenda Item 14 Next Meeting.

- The next ordinary meeting would be at 19:00hrs on 08.11.21 online.
- There being no further items of business the Chair declared the meeting closed at 20:40hrs.