

CYNGOR CYMUNED GORS-LAS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

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

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

111.0 Agenda Item 1: Record of those Present/Apologies

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

111.1 General.

- The Chair welcomed everyone and declared the meeting open at 19:00 hrs.
- **Resolved:** To Approve and accept the reasons for non-attendance by members.

111.2 Passing of Cllr T Jones.

- The Chair also noted that sadly Cllr Terry Jones had passed away on the 10th November, 2021. Condolences had been sent to the family.
- Members had very fond memories of serving and working with Cllr Jones on the Community Council over very many years. They paid tribute to the work he had undertaken and his commitment to the area where he was held in very high esteem. He would be greatly missed

112.0 Agenda Item 2 Declaration of Interest

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

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

- Cllr D Price had a personal but not prejudicial interest in matters regarding the new school and thus could join in discussions and voting on the relevant items.
- **Resolved to:** Note and record the declarations of interest.

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

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

114.0 Agenda Item 4. Matters Arising from the Minutes.

- There were no matters arising from the minutes discussed at this stage.
- **Resolved that:** The information be noted and discussion take place as part of relevant item

115.0 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.

116.0 Agenda Item 6: Corporate Matters.

116.1 Progress Report.

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

116.2 New Gorslas School Revised Management Agreement.

- Feedback was provided for members from the Sub- Committee meeting on the 7th December, 2021, where the draft Agreement was discussed.
- **Resolved to:** Adopt the recommendation of the Sub Committee that: -
 - (i) The individual concerned be thanked for their work in progressing the matter.
 - (ii) That, during the periods when the Community Council were managing the facilities that there would be open access for the public with no exclusive use pre-booking arrangements.
 - (iii) The Clerk meet with and discuss technical/operational aspects of the agreement with the Governing Body Representative.
 - (iv) Subsequently the Sub Committee meet with the Designated representatives of the Governing Body to discuss and progress the Agreement.

116.3 Consultation on Future Use of the Current Gorslas CP School Site.

- It was anticipated that the site of the current school would become available during the Autumn of 2022 following the re-location of the school to the new building at Gorslas Park.
- Carmarthenshire County Council were undertaking consultation to ascertain if there was interest in making use of the building for community use. The closing date for responding is 22.01.22.
- Cllr Darren Price advised that, together with Cllr Aled Vaughan Owen, they had contacted local organisations and also distributed letters to households in the ward advising of the consultation.
- A wide-ranging discussion took place in relation to the possible future use of the site in relation to community, social and commercial use.
- **Resolved to:** To allow time for further consideration, discussion and the identification of options the matter be included as an agenda item for the January meeting of the Council.

116.4 New Play Equipment.

- An update was provided for members in relation to the installation of equipment at Gorslas and Cefneithin Parks.
- The works at Gorslas had been completed on the 9th December,2021. A check had been made on contract compliance, a safety inspection by the County Council inspector, and a post installation inspection report received. An invoice had been received in respect of the works.
- There was a delay in receiving parts relating to an item at Cefneithin Play Area and as such the required checks and reports had not been undertaken.
- **Resolved to:**
 - (i) Approve payment of the accounts received in respect of the equipment and works undertaken at Gorslas and Cefneithin Play areas.
 - (ii) Payment be released following a confirmatory review by the Sub Committee being satisfactory.
 - (iii) Authorise the submission of section 106 claims for recovery of the relevant amounts.

116.5 Member Vacancy.

- In the light of events outlined previously there was a vacancy for a member to represent the Cefneithin ward.
- There was also currently a vacancy for an observer member from the ward to serve on the Sub Committee.
- The Clerk advised that having consulted with the Electoral Services Division of Carmarthenshire County Council it had been confirmed that, due to the May ,2022, elections the Council could fill the vacancy if it wished but there was no legal requirement to do so.
- **Resolved:**
 - (i) Not to fill the ward member vacancy.
 - (ii) To appoint Cllr Simon Martin to the Sub Committee as the observer member for the Cefneithin Ward.

116.6 Procedural.

- Cllrs Aled Vaughan Owen and Simon Martin joined the meeting at this juncture.

116.7 Delegation Report.

- Members considered and discussed the options provided within the report regarding the possibility of delegating decision making within the Council.
- **Resolved that:** The current model be retained.

116.8 Annual Report and Priorities for 2022/23

- Members considered the change in legislation which required the provision of an Annual Report and setting of priorities for the forthcoming year.
- **Resolved that:**
 - (i) The Sub Committee meet to consider budget priorities.
 - (ii) In so doing consideration be given to the aims and objectives outlined in the Council's Strategic Document as well as suggestions arising from ward meetings

116.9 Public Spaces Protection Order 2016 (Dog Control) - Proposed Extension.

- A consultation was currently being undertaken by Carmarthenshire County Council in relation to the proposed extension of the above order for another three years.
- The order included areas such as the three play areas at Cefneithin, Drefach and Gorslas Parks.
- **Resolved to:**
 - (i) Respond that the Council supports the proposal to extend the order for three years.
 - (ii) That the response includes a statement that the Council would wish to see, and have an involvement in, further consultation on proposals to extend the order to requiring owners to keep dogs on a lead whilst in public parks.

116.10 Community Council Website.

- As resolved at the November meeting contact had been made with the suppliers recommended by One Voice Wales and the Society of Local Council Clerks.
- The two companies are experienced in establishing websites for Community and Town Councils and ensuring they meet the legal requirements. The indicative costs are similar however the final costs would be dependent on the features the Council decided it required.

- **Resolved that:** The Sub-Committee meet to consider and progress the matter.

116.11 Carmarthenshire County Council: Cross Hands Ten Towns Initiative.

- Feedback was provided for members by attendees of the consultative meeting which had been held on Monday 29th November,2021.
- Discussion took place in relation to the proposals which had been made thus far, the geographical area which the scheme would cover and the levels of funding.
- **Resolved:**
 - (i) Cllr Andrew King be nominated to represent the Council on the Growth Plan Team.
 - (ii) That the team consult extensively with business owners in the area, in particular those on the Gorslas Industrial Estate, regarding the proposal and the possible introduction of the Business Improvement District.
 - (iii) Depending on the outcome of consultation currently being undertaken on the future use of the current site of Gorslas C.P. School – if no viable option has been identified that the Ten Towns initiative include the site and its potential in any assessment or strategic planning of community, economic, business or social future provision or development.

116 .12 Ward Updates.

116.12.1 Drefach Ward Members Meeting Wednesday 8th December ,2021.

- Details of the issues discussed at the above meeting had been forwarded to members previously.
- Street Lighting: Request that lighting be provided on a section of road to the east of the village towards Cross Hands. The County Council members agreed to persue the matter with officers.
- Parking: Concerns had been received of a Heavy Goods Vehicle parking on the Heol Afallon/ Cwmbach junction and blocking the view of vehicles using the junction. The County Councillors agreed to look into the matter.
- Grants: It was proposed that the National Lottery grants officer be invited to a future meeting
- **Resolved:**
 - (i) To receive and note the information provided.
 - (ii) That an invitation be extended to the National Lottery Officer to attend a future meeting.

117.0 Agenda Item 7: Park Operational Matters.

117.1 Cefneithin Park: Fallen Tree.

- Following storm Arwen an inspection had been made by the Clerk of the park on 29 11 21 during which it was noted that a tree in the wooded area had fallen across the footpath.
- A contractor had been instructed to cut and remove the tree from the path.
- **Resolved to:** Receive, note and approve the information provided and the actions taken.

117.2 Drefach Park: Fencing Yr Hafan.

- It was reported by the park inspector that the wooden fencing adjacent to the park footpath and also the car park side was in a poor state of repair and in need of replacing.
- **Resolved that:** The fencing be removed and replaced with a post and rail type arrangement.

117.3 Drefach Park: Litter

- Reports had been received over a number of months that the litter bin on the middle footpath in the park was frequently full leading to litter, including dog waste bags, being strewn around that part of the park.
- Following discussion with members it was agreed that a second litter bin be provided at the same location to provide increased capacity.
- **Resolved to:** Receive, note the information provided and approve the actions taken.

118.0 Agenda Item 8: Urgent Local Matters.

118 1 Emergency Road Closure B4556 Penygroes Road Gorslas.

- The County Council advise that a section of the road from the junction with the A476 to its junction with Gate Road would be closed for a period of 4 days as from 05.12.21.
- **Resolved to:** Receive and note the information provided.

119.0 Agenda Item 9: Members Reports.

119.1 County Council Matters: Cllrs Aled Vaughan Owen and Darren Price.

- A summary of the matters relevant to the area and electorate was provided and included: -
 - a) Social Care: A contract for social care provision in the area had been handed back to the County Council due to staff shortages. Alternative arrangements were being made.
 - b) Public Lighting: Repairs had been undertaken on units along Blaenhirwaun. The County Council Scrutiny Committee were looking at the issue of public lighting. In total the County Council looks after some 20,000 units of which 5,000 are for Community or Town Councils. Some 304 k of cable were not in conduits. Bids were being made for funds to address the issue
 - c) Nantdydderwen: Concerns had been received over the height of grass on a particular piece of land. The County Council had resolved the issue.
 - d) Fly Tipping: Noticeable increase in the incidents of fly tipping in the area.
 - e) Bench at Y Glyn: Further discussions with County Council Officers scheduled for the new year.
- **Resolved to:** Receive and note the information provided.

120.0 Agenda Item 10 Correspondence and Consultation.

- Members considered the schedule of correspondence received.
- **Resolved to:** Receive and note the items of correspondence received.

121.0 Agenda Item 11: One Voice Wales.

121.1 Policy Committee: Cllr W Edwards

- Cllr Edwards provided an update in relation to the meeting which he attended on behalf of the Community Council on Friday 10th December,2021. Items discussed included: -
 - (i) Audit Fees. Concerns had been received from members in relation to the increase in fees for audit inspections. Negotiations were in progress for the fees to be part of the direct funding the Commission received from Welsh Government as is the case for Principal Councils.

(ii) Cilca: Councils had received a number of resignations from Clerks in relation to a requirement for Clerks to be Cilca qualified. The requirement however only related to Clerks where the Council wished to exercise the General Power of Competence.

- **Resolved to:** Receive and note the information provided.

121. 2 Training/Correspondence: Details of courses and correspondence

- Details of upcoming courses had been provided to members.
- **Resolved that:** Any member wishing to attend a course contact the Chair and Clerk direct.

122.0 Agenda Item 12: Planning Matters.

- Consideration was given to the schedule of planning applications which had been received
- **Resolved to:** Receive and note the information provided.

123.0 Agenda Item 13 Finance

123.1 Monthly Transactions November

Paid /Received	Description	Amount £
Income		Nil
Expenditure		
WCVA	Payroll Charge September	21.30
Wrenvale	Grass Cutting Charge	1,116.00
Clerk	Pay/ Trav/ Refund of Payments	1,297.60
Danfo	P Convenience	666.00
TBM	Litter July/Aug/Sept	1,560.00
TBM	Drefach Fence/Cefn Bases etc	1,620.00

- **Resolved to:** Receive, note and approve the actions taken

123.2 Section 137 Limit for 2022/23.

- Welsh Government advise that the section 137 limit. i.e the amount the Community Council can spend on items where it does not have any other powers is £8.82 per elector.
- **Resolved to:** Note the information and to use it in the budget setting process for 2022/23

123.3 Precept Requirement for the 2022/23 Financial Year.

- Consideration was given to the budget and setting of the precept for the 2022/23 year.
- **Resolved that:** That the Sub Committee be authorised to consider the matter and bring recommendations to the full Council for consideration and to be determined.

14.0 Agenda Item 14 Next Meeting.

- The next ordinary meeting would be at 19:00hrs on 10.1.22 online.
- There being no further items of business the Chair wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. The meeting was declared closed at 20:50 hrs.