

CYNGOR CYMUNED GORS-LAS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Monthly meeting of the Gors-las Community Council

held at Hebron Vestry Drefach on Monday, 11th July, 2022, at 19:00hrs.

54.0 Agenda Item 1: Record of those Present/Apologies

- Councillors: Nia Lewis (Chair) Simon Martin (Vice Chair) Clive Douch, Gareth Jones, Chris Wilkins, Tina Butler, Kevin Jones, Wyn Edwards, N Beckett, Andrew King, Linda Williams. Melody Gronow and Elinor Goldsmith.
- Others: County Councillors Aled Vaughan Owen and Darren Price, Llew Thomas, Clerk to the Council and Martin Davies (Translator).
- Apologies for absence: Cllrs Roy James and Clive Green
- **Resolved:** To note and accept the information provided.

54.1 General.

- The Chair welcomed members and the two County Council members to the meeting which was declared open at 19.00hrs.
- Congratulations were extended on behalf of the Community Council to Cllr Darren Price on being elected Leader of Carmarthenshire County Council and also to Cllr Aled Vaughan Owen on being appointed as cabinet member for Climate Change.
- **Resolved:** To revise the order of business to facilitate input from the two County Councillors prior to their leaving the meeting.

55.0 Agenda Item 2 Declaration of Interest

- Item 57; Cllr Nia Lewis, as a resident of Heol Cae Gwyn, declared a personal but not prejudicial interest in the matter.
- Item 57: Cllr Kevin Jones, as a resident of Heol Cae Gwyn, declared a personal but not prejudicial interest in the matter.
- Item 59.1: Cllr Nia Lewis declared a personal but not prejudicial interest in the matter as one of the residents who has raised a concern is a family member.
- Item 67.4 Cllrs Wyn Edwards, Clive Green, Nia Lewis and Tina Butler declared a personal, but not prejudicial, interest in the matter as members of the Drefach Welfare Association an organisation which could benefit from a decision.
- Item 67.4: Cllr Wyn Edwards declared a personal and prejudicial interest in the matter as an official of Capel Seion an organisation which could benefit from a decision.
- **Resolved to:** Note and record the position.

56.0 Agenda Item 3 Consider the Minutes of the Previous Meetings of the Council.

- The minutes of the previous meeting of the Council held on the 13th June,2022, were examined in detail by members.
- **Resolved:** The minutes be confirmed as an accurate record of proceedings and decisions.

57.0 Agenda Item: 9 Members Reports

- Cllrs Aled Vaughan Owen and Darren Price provided feedback to members on County Council and Local Matters which included the following: -

a) Attendance: If agreeable the County Councillors would seek to attend future meetings of the Community Council on a bi-monthly basis.

b) County Council Strategic: Discussion was taking place next week to formalise a vision for the new Council with final consideration likely to be in the Autumn.

In response to a question, it was confirmed that the vision statement would tie in with their Corporate Strategy.

c) Climate Change Brief: This was an exciting new role and one which would touch upon the work of almost every County Council Department including: -

(i) Frequency and nature of grass cutting at different locations.

(ii) Dog fouling. Consideration of a scheme introduced by an Authority in England whereby fines of £100 were issued for non-possession of dog excrement bags.

d) Drefach: The County Council were still pursuing issues relating to Uwch Gwendraeth.

e) Drefach: Speeding: Cllr Price had met with representatives of the Police, Highway Authority and Community Councillor Kevin Jones on site and advised that: -

(i) The Police had undertaken speed checks in the area using a motorcycle.

(ii) Developments in the Autumn included the introduction of 20m.p.h limit.

It was requested by members that, in relation to Heol Caegwyn, consideration be given to the creation of a pedestrian island at the halfway point of the carriageway.

f) Local: A high number of neighbour disputes and housing issues were being reported.

g) Section 106. Clarification was sought by members as to the relationship between the granting of planning developments, the effect on local services and charges levied under section 106 monies. The County Councillors confirmed that they were linked at a strategic level by the County Council. It was also highlighted that the proposed development sites in the new Local Development Plan were relatively small and not expected to have a major impact on local facilities.

h) Cefneithin CP. Members advised that local pupils were being refused admission due to the school having reached its legal capacity. Councillors enquired as to the possibility of making changes to the current building to help the situation. The County Councillors advised that the best course of action was for the school to contact and discuss options with Mr Simon Davies in the Education Department.

i) Dog Fouling: Members raised the use of CCTV in relation to helping to resolve dog fouling incidents. In response members were advised that the County Council were exploring the possibility of using mobile CCTV at known hotspots in the same way as it was being used to detect fly tipping.

58.0 Agenda Item 6: 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.

59.0 Agenda Item 7: Corporate Matters.

59.1 Excess Water Issue: Gorslas Park.

- The Chair, Vice Chair, Cllr M Gronow and Clerk met with two residents of properties adjoining the park in relation to concerns over water entering the rear of their properties.
- Residents were of the view that the source of the excess water related to: -
 - a) The displacement of the previous drainage system in the park arising from the construction of the new school.
 - b) Large quantities of excess water emanating from the industrial estate.
 - c) Changes made by properties adjoining the park which adversely affected the drainage systems in the park.
 - d) A change in the nature of rainfall. There had been an increase in the number of heavier shorter downfalls which overwhelmed drainage systems.
- As a number of the issues relate to matters in the control of the County Council feedback was provided by members to the two County Councillors relating to the matter and on how best to progress matters.
- **Resolved that:**
 - (i) A meeting be arranged as soon as possible County Council to discuss the matter.
 - (ii) That the County Council Officers responsible for the drainage systems at the industrial estate and the new school be in attendance together with Messrs Lloyd and Gravell, the two residents, Community Council representatives and the two local members.

59.1.1 Procedural:

- County Councillors Aled Vaughan Owen and Darren Price left the meeting at this point.

59.2 Progress Report.

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

59.3 Payment of an Attendance Allowance for Members.

- Following a meeting of the Sub Committee on Thursday 23.06.22 it was decided to make the following recommendation to Council: -
 - (i) that no scheme or payments be adopted or made during the 22/23 financial year.
 - (ii) that the matter be considered by the Sub Committee in the Autumn for consideration as part of the 2023/24 financial year.
- **Resolved:** To accept and adopt the Sub Committee's recommendations in full.

59.4 Safety Surfaces: Drefach Park Play Area.

- Regrettably the Carmarthenshire National Lottery Co-Ordinator had indicated that it had not been possible to identify external funding to support the proposal and thus he had been unable to accept the invitation to attend the meeting.

- Consideration was given to the draft specifications for works and the provision of new equipment at Drefach park play area.
- **Resolved:**
 - (i) That the Council proceed to tender the work and the play equipment on the basis of the documentation provided as a matter of urgency.
 - (ii) That the tender value for the contract be set at £ 45,000
 - (iii) That the works be funded from a mixture of amounts from reserves and any funding available from the current year's budget.
 - (iv) That with regard to future funding any amount over 3 months precept income and not otherwise allocated by the Council be transferred to the earmarked future equipment/replacement reserve fund.
 - (v) That the allocation within the annual budget for the purchase of new equipment be increased by £1k a year for each financial year from 2023/24 to 2028/29.

59.5 School Management Agreement New Gorslas CP School

- The Chair and Clerk met with officers of the Education Department together with a representative of the Governing Body on Monday 11th July to progress matters.
- It had been a positive meeting with both parties in agreement that an initial meeting involving School Governing Body Representatives and Gorslas Ward members and the Gorslas Community Council Sub Committee representatives be held on Thursday 14.07.22
- **Resolved to:** Receive, note and approve the actions taken.

59.6 Strategic Document Review.

- The Strategic Document was reviewed by the Sub Committee at its meeting on Thursday 07.07.22. Members discussed and considered the changes which had taken place since the document had been prepared two years prior.
- The Sub Committee resolved to recommend to the Council that they review the document further prior to submitting recommendations on possible amendments.
- **Resolved to:** Note and accept the recommendation of the Sub Committee.

59.7 Council Priorities for 2022/23

- Feedback from the respective ward meetings had been considered and discussed by the Sub Committee at its meeting on 07.07.22 which had resulted in the formulation of an agreed list of priorities for the Council to be included in the Annual Plan.
- Copies of the Sub Committee's final priority list had been forwarded to full Council members prior to the meeting.
- **Resolved:** That the priority listing, as recommended by the Sub-Committee be accepted.

59.8 Training Plan.

- Following the introduction of new legislation there was a requirement for Councils to produce a training plan for members and staff by November 2022.
- Resolved:
 - (i) That the provision made by One Voice Wales form the basis of the plan.
 - (ii) The Clerk prepare and circulate to members proposals for a training plan.

59.9 Use of Parks: Cefneithin Park 25th August,2022.

- An application form had been completed by Plant Dewi to hold an event in the park and also making use of the car park on 25.08.22.
- **Resolved:** That approval be given subject to the necessary risk assessments and insurance cover being in place.

59.10 Use of Parks: Gorslas Park Various Dates during August,2022.

- An application had been received from Impact 242 for the use of part of the park on the following dates 10/11/12/17th and 24th August,2022.
- **Resolved:** That approval be given subject to the necessary risk assessments and insurance cover being in place.

60.0 Agenda Item 7: Park Operational Matters.

60.1 Antisocial Behaviour Gorslas Public Conveniences 02.07.22

- Danfo contractors reported that the metal wall mounted toilet roll dispenser in the ladies' cubicle had been damaged and toilet paper thrown in the cubicle and the ground outside.
- The Clerk reported the matter to the Police.
- A separate report had been made that there were groups of young people repeatedly coming in and out of the gents and ladies' cubicles within a short period of time.
- PCSO's together with the Clerk viewed CCTV footage in relation to both incidents with the Officers expressing concern and intending to liaise with school-based support staff to take the matter further in relation to the individuals identified.
- **Resolved:** To receive and note the information provided

60.2 Anti-Social Behaviour Cefneithin Park.

- Members relayed concerns received they had received in relation to the behaviour of individuals using the MUGA causing disturbances to neighbours late into the night.
- **Resolved:** To examine the possibility associated with the opening and locking of the Cefneithin MUGA in conjunction with the arrangements for the new Gorslas MUGA.

61.0 Agenda Item 8: Local Matters.

- There were no items reported.
- **Resolved:** To note and record.

62.0 Members Reports.

- There were no items reported.
- **Resolved:** To note and record.

63.0 Agenda Item 10 Correspondence and Consultation.

- Members considered the schedule of correspondence received.
- **Resolved:** To receive and note the items of correspondence received.

64.0 Agenda Item 11: One Voice Wales.

64.1 Annual Meeting and Carmarthen Area Committee

- Cllr Wyn Edwards provided feedback to members on the joint Carmarthen Area Committee and Annual Meeting of the Association held online on the 23rd June.2022.
- Cllr Kim Broom had been appointed Chair and Vincent Warlow Vice Chair for the year.
- A presentation had also been given on defibrillators and follow up training on first aid.
- **Resolved:** To receive and note the information provided. member interested in a training course should contact the Chair and Clerk.

64.2 Monthly Training Courses.

- Details of training courses offered by One Voice Wales for the month had been circulated to members.
- **Resolved:** Any member wishing to undertake a course to contact the Chair and Clerk.

64.3 Wales Nature Week.2nd July to 10th July,2022.

- Councils were invited to forward details of any activities or events they have held to celebrate nature week.
- **Resolved:** To note and record the information provided.

64.4 Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021.

- The Association had forwarded guidance issued by Welsh Government to Community Councils in relation to the implementation of the legislation.
- Members considered and discussed the information provided.
- Resolved: To receive and note the information provided.

65.0 Agenda Item 12: Planning Matters.

65.1 Revised Local Development Plan (L.D.P.) 2018-2033

- The County Council had advised that a Revised Deposit L.D.P. was currently being prepared which would be consulted upon in December 2022 or early January 2023.
- **Resolved:** To receive and note the information provided.

65.2 Planning Applications

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

66.0 Procedural.

- Cllr Kevin Jones made his apologies and left the meeting at this point.

67.0 Agenda Item 13 Finance

67.1 Annual Regular Payment Schedule 2022/23

- Following discussion by the Sub Committee at its meeting on the 7th July,2022, it was thought that it would assist the Council meet the requirements of the Council's Financial

Regulations, as well as assist members in their monitoring role if a schedule of regular payments was provided.

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

67.2 Schedule of Monthly Payments: July and August.

- On the same basis as outlined above in 66.1 it was felt that a schedule of amounts to be paid during the months of July and August could be considered by members.
- Accordingly, the schedule of payments had been provided to members in the update report.
- **Resolved:** To approve the payments as outlined.

67.3 Monthly Payments

Paid /Received	Description	Amount £
Income		Nil
Expenditure		
WCVA	Payroll Charge May	21.30
Wrenvale	Grass Cutting May	1,164.00
Clerk	Pay/ Trav	1378.03
Danfo	Toilets Cleaning etc.	720.00
HMRC	Qtr1 Employee/ Employer Contributions	1,775.39
Dyfed Pensions	Qtr1 Employee/Employer Contributions	1,680.42

- **Resolved:** To receive, note and approve the payments made.

67.4 Financial Assistance.

- Cllr Wyn Edwards, Clive Green, Nia Lewis and Tina Butler declared a personal, but not prejudicial interest. in the matter as members of the Drefach Welfare Association.
- Cllr Wyn Edwards also declared a personal, and prejudicial, interest in the matter as an official of Capel Seion Chapel and took no part in proceedings or discussions.
- Members considered the applications received and the obligations.
- **Resolved:**
 - (i) Not to make any awards at the present time.
 - (ii) That applications had to be made using the Community Council’s Application form.

68.0 Delegation of Authority during the Summer Recess.

- Members considered and discussed the fact that there were no Council meetings scheduled for the month of August but that there was a need to ensure that operational services were available and delivered.
- **Resolved:** That Authority to decide and carry out operational related matters up to £1.5k be delegated to the Sub Committee.

69.0 Agenda Item 14. Next Meeting.

- To be held at Hebron Vestry on Monday 12.09.22. at 19:00hrs
- There being no further business the Chair thanked members for their attendance and declaring the meeting closed at 21:25hrs.