

CYNGOR CYMUNED GORS-LAS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

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

held online on Monday, 19th December, 2022, at 19:00hrs.

106.0 Agenda Item 1: Record of those Present/Apologies

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

106.1 General.

- In the absence of Cllr Nia Lewis Cllr Simon Martin chaired the meeting.
- Cllr Martin welcomed everyone to the meeting which was declared open at 19.00hrs.
- **Resolved:** To note and proceed with the business of the meeting.

107.0 Agenda Item 2 Declaration of Interest

- There were no declarations of interests made by members.
- **Resolved to:** Note and record the position.

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

- The minutes of the November meeting of the Council were examined by members under the direction of the Chair.
- **Resolved:** The minutes be confirmed as a correct record of proceedings and decisions.

109.0 Agenda Item 4: Opportunity for the Public to address the Council.

- There were no requests from members of the public to speak at the meeting.
- **Resolved: To record and note.**

110.0 Agenda Item 5: Members Reports.

110.1 Carmarthenshire County Council: Cllr Aled Vaughan Owen.

- An overview of recent County Council matters relevant to the area and residents was provided by Cllr Vaughan Owen which included the following: -
 - (i) **Budget::**
 - a) Confirmation of the Annual Budget Settlement from Welsh Government had been received last week and was slightly better than expected.
 - b) A meeting to review the implications would take place on Wednesday 21.12.22.
 - c) A demand for some 2,000 new additional Council homes to rent had been identified.

- (ii) **Precept:** The Fire and Rescue Authority were seeking an increase in their element of the precept of between 13% and 16% to meet increased costs.
 - (iii) **Public Spaces Order:** Scrutiny Committee was considering two different approaches to the issue. The first being a County Wide order prohibiting dogs in public spaces. The second being a site-by-site approach. Further information would be provided in a forthcoming newsletter.
 - (iv) **Uwch Gwendraeth Adoption of Site Road:** In response to a request for clarification on the latest position Cllr Vaughan Owen stated he would investigate the matter and provide an update.
- **Resolved:** To receive and note the information provided.

110.2 Procedural.

- County Councillor Aled Vaughan Owen was thanked for his attendance and the information provided. And left the meeting at this point.

110.3 County Council Town and Community Council Forum: Cllr W Edwards.

- Cllr Edwards advised that the next meeting of the forum was scheduled to take place online on the 19th January, 2023.
- It was an important and useful forum and he encouraged the nominated Community Council representatives to attend
- **Resolved:** To receive and note the information provided.

110.4 Official Opening Gorslas New Primary School.

- Cllr N Lewis had attended the official opening of the new school on Wednesday 14.12.22 at 9.30a, m.
- It had been a notable event with the singing by the schoolchildren being especially noteworthy. The Director of Education, Gareth Morgans, Cabinet Member for Education, Glynog Davies and Leader of the Council Darren Price also addressed the children and those present.
- The Community Council had been thanked for its donation of land to enable the new school to be built and the arrangement providing access to the community to facilities at the site had also been mentioned and welcomed.
- The contractor. Messrs. Lloyd and Gravell had also thanked everyone for their assistance and help during the build process.
- It had been an enjoyable and memorable event which the Chair had thoroughly enjoyed.
- **Resolved:** To receive and note the information provided.

111.0 Agenda Item 6: Urgent Local Matters.

111.1 Wayside Seats.

- Discussion took place in relation to the ownership and condition of seats
- **Resolved:**
 - (i) That seats based on County Council owned housing estates be regarded as being in the ownership of the County Council unless proved otherwise.
 - (ii) That a schedule of these seats, in the Drefach area, whose condition had been identified as being of concern be forwarded to the County Council.

111.2 Speed Indicator Sign.

- It was reported by members that the speed indicator sign at a point on Heol Cwmmawr opposite the old post office was not working correctly.
- **Resolved:** To advise the relevant County Council Department of the issue.

111.3 Black Lion Road/New Road Scheme.

- Concerns had been received from an individual in relation to safety assessments undertaken by the County Council for new road schemes and a failure to consider the needs of horse riders when preparing such schemes and in particular the new road scheme in the Black Lion Road area.
- Danger from speeding vehicles was also identified as an issue on that section of the highway.
- Safety issues for horse riders and other road users from a lack of access for vehicles conveying or carrying horses to the Llyn Llech Owain site.
- **Resolved:** The concerns be noted and the individual advised to contact the relevant agencies.

111.4 Land to the East of Bron Yr Ynn. Site Works.

- It was reported that works were being undertaken by the developer on the site.
- Members were advised that the County Council had granted outline planning permission at the site. Application W/34933. Concerns had been lodged by both the Community Council and County Council members regarding the proposals at the time of application.
- Given that outline planning permission had been granted in relation to the site then the developer could undertake preparatory work on the site in accordance with the permission granted.
- **Resolved:** To request an update on the current position from Cllr Darren Price.

111.5. Road Closure C2061 Cefneithin SA328PS.

- The County Council has advised of an emergency road closure on Thursday 01.12.22 whilst BT undertake installation works. The closure will last one day.
- **Resolved:** Receive and note.

112.0 Agenda Item 7: Corporate Matters.

112.1 Progress Report.

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

112.2 New Play Equipment Drefach Park.

- Members were provided with details of the tenders received in respect of the above.
- **Resolved:** To defer consideration of the matter until the next meeting of the Council.

112.3 New Signage for Parks.

- Details of the design and pricing had been provided for members in relation to the Safety/Information Signs, the Interpretation Panels, and the Cefneithin Dog/Litter Signs
- Resolved:
 - (i) Purchase, design, supply and place the Safety/Information Signs at the prices submitted.

- (ii) Proceed with the design of the Interpretation Boards at the prices quoted.
- (iii) Proceed with the consultation/design phase of the Cefneithin Dog/Litter signage as submitted.

112.4 Fencing Garden Area Plot Drefach Park.

- The fencing forming the boundary with the play area and a further section between the car park and the garden area has fencing which is deteriorating and insecure.
- A contractor has been instructed to remove the current fencing, at a price of £100, and a price will be sought in the New Year for a replacing the fencing along the car park edge only.
- Resolved:
 - (i) The fencing be removed for safety reasons
 - (ii) A price be obtained in from a contractor for replacement of fencing on the car park edge only.

112.5 Gorslas Park New Footpath Church Side

- Notification had been received of further issues of excess water on the footpath at locations not previously reported.
- Matter to be discussed with Lloyd and Gravell.
- **Resolved:** To receive, approve and note the actions taken.

112.6 Gorslas Park: Compensation Claim.

- A further communication has been received from Aviva, the Council’s Insurance regarding the claim for compensation following an incident in the park on 06 06 21.
- **Resolved:** To receive and note.

112.7 Members Dispensation:

- School Governing Bodies: Confirmation has been received from the County Council of dispensations granted to Cllrs Nia Lewis, S.D. Martin, Roy James, E Goldsmith to speak and vote in relation to matters relating to schools within the Community Council’s area.
- Welfare Associations: Confirmation has been received from the County Council of dispensations granted to Cllrs Wyn Edwards, Clive Green, Tina Jukes and Nia Lewis to speak and vote in relation to matters relating to the Drefach Welfare Association within the Community Council’s area.
- **Resolved:** To receive and note.

113.0 Agenda Item 8: Park Matters

113.1 Cefneithin Park: Picnic Table.

- During a site visit it was noted that the wooden surface of the table had rotted and had broken. The remaining structure of the picnic table was also deteriorating.
- The most cost-effective way to proceed was to remove the current table and replace with new.
- A quotation for a new picnic table made from recycled material is being obtained.
- **Resolved:** To remove existing picnic table and obtain prices for a replacement recycled table.

113.2 Drefach and Gorslas Parks: Information Board.

- It was noted during a site visit that the fixings of one of the Information Display Board had worked loose and there was a danger of the board falling over in high winds.
- A contractor was instructed to make temporary repairs that day and permanent repairs asap.
- **Resolved:** To approve the actions taken.

114.0 Agenda Item 9: Consultation/ General Correspondence

- Members considered and discussed the schedule of correspondence received since the previous meeting...
- **Resolved:** To receive the information provided.

115.0 Agenda Item 10 One Voice Wales.

- A schedule of correspondence received from One Voice Wales since the last meeting of the Council was considered and discussed by members.
- **Resolved:**
 - (i) To receive the information provided.
 - (ii) Training: Any member interested in undertaking one of the courses notified by One Voice Wales contact the Chair and Clerk.

116.0 Agenda Item 11 Planning Matters.

- Members considered a schedule of the planning applications relevant to the area
- **Resolved:** To receive and note the information provided.

117.0 Agenda Item 12 Finance:

117.1 Monthly Payments/Receipts November

A) Income: Nil

B) Expenditure

Chq No	Payee	Description	£
105069	McMillan	Donation Chairs Fund	25.00
105083	Cllr A King	I.R.P.W. Payment	120.00
105078	ARB Team	Tree Survey	534.00
105082	Clerk	Wages October	1,212.74
105084	Cllr Chris Wilkins	I.R.P.W Payment	120.00
105099	OVO Energy	Gors P Conv to 06 11 22	33.72
105079	Bowen &Weaving	Printer Ink	46.50
105076	Gorslas Church	Poppy Appeal	25.00
105077	Bevan & Buckland	Payroll	85.20
105087	Gorslas Church	Donation Community Work	250.00
105092	Carms C.C.	Chair Fund Toy Box	25.00

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

117.2 Schedule of Payments for December 2022

A) Income

From	Description	£	Profile
Carms C.C.	Precept Final Inst	39,256.00	As profile
Barclays Bank	Interest	.058p	As profile

B) Expenditure

Cheque No	Payee	Description	£	Profile
105093	Peniel Chapel	Donation Graveyard Maint	250.00	Yes
105094	Tabernacle Church	Donation Graveyard Maintenance	250.00	Yes
105095	Llanlluan Chapel	Donation Graveyard Maintenance	250.00	Yes
105096	Drefach Welfare Assoc	Donation Christmas Event	175.00	Yes
105097	Cefneithin Welfare Assoc	Donation Christmas Event	175.00	Yes
105098	Carms YFC	Donation	50.00	Yes
105100	Drefach CP PTA	Donation Christmas Fair Chair Fund	50.00	Yes
105101	Dyfed Alarms. Ltd	Part Payment CCTV Cefneithin -£1k retained. Awaiting Electrical Contractor.	4,500	No
105102	TBM	Litter Qtr. 2	1,680.00	Yes
105103	Carms C.C.	Part Payment SLA Park Inspection	918.96	Yes
105104	Carms C.C.	Payment Park Works	223.20	Yes
105105	Wrenvale N& L Ltd	Monthly Grass Contract installment	1,164.00	Yes
105106	Clerk	Pay December/Arrears from April 2022	1,893.18	Yes
105107	HMRC	Qtr. 3 Employee /Er Contributions	2,178.33	Yes
105018	Carms C.C.	Qtr. 3 Employee/Er Contributions	2,024.09	Yes
105019	Welsh Water	Account Gors Toilets 31 05 to 25 11.22	178.87	Yes

- **Resolved:** To approve the schedule for payment subject to any minor variations and subject to the goods and services being provided in a satisfactory manner and as per contract.

117.3. Requests for Financial Assistance

- The Council considered requests for financial assistance from the following organisations.
- Members were reminded that in considering applications they had a legal duty to ensure that any award of money was commensurate to the benefit it would provide for residents or to the area.

117.3.1 Capel Seion, Drefach

- Cllr Wyn Edwards declared a personal and prejudicial interest in this matter as an official of the organisation seeking assistance. Cllr Edwards withdrew from the meeting and did not participate in the discussion or decision.
- The Organisation had made a request for assistance of £250 towards the cost of maintaining the Burial grounds. The facility provides for families and residents within the Community Council's Area.
- **Resolved:** To approve an award of £250 to the organisation for the purposes stated.

117.4 Precept and Budget Setting 2023/2024.

- There was a need for the Council to consider the budget and precept for the 2023/24 financial year.

- **Resolved:** That a working group comprising of Sub Committee members meet, consider the matter and make a recommendation to the full Council on the budgets and precept level for 2023/24 and four subsequent years.

118.0 Agenda Item 13 Next Meeting.

- Discussion took place on the possibility of revising the format of meetings for certain of the winter months to an online meeting to facilitate attendance and reduce the risks arising from attending a physical venue during periods of inclement weather.
- **Resolved:**
 - (i) Format of Future Meetings: That the Council continue to meet at a physical location whenever possible however that, where severe weather was forecasted for the date on which the Council was scheduled to meet that the option of an online meeting be adopted.
 - (ii) January Meeting: That, unless circumstances dictate otherwise, the next meeting of the Council be held at 19:00 hrs on Monday 09.01.23 at Hebron Vestry, Drefach. `
- There being no further items of business to transact the Chair thanked members for their attendance and wished them a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. The meeting was closed at 20.05hrs