

CYNGOR CYMUNED GORS-LAS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the May Ordinary Monthly meeting of the Gors-las Community Council
held at Hebron Vestry, Drefach on 15th May, 2023, at 19:40hrs.

23.0 Agenda Item 1: Record of those Present/Apologies

- Councillors: Simon Martin (Chair), Nicholas Beckett (Vice Chair), Nia Lewis, Chris Wilkins, Kevin Jones, Tina Butler, Elinor Goldsmith, Melody Gronow, Linda Williams, and Clive Green.
- Others: Llew Thomas, Clerk to the Council.
- Apologies for absence: Cllrs Clive Douch, Roy James and Andrew King.
- **Resolved:** To accept and approve the apologies for absence and the reasons provided.

23.1 General.

- The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting which was declared open at 19:40hrs.
- **Resolved:** To receive and note.

24.0 Agenda Item 2: Declaration of Interest

- Item 180.21 Cllr N Lewis. As a resident whose property could be affected by the proposal
- **Resolved to:** Note and record the position.

25.0 Agenda Item 3: Minutes of the April Ordinary Meeting of the Council.

- Members considered the minutes of the April meeting of the Council.
- **Resolved:** That the minutes be accepted and approved as an accurate record of decisions.

26.0 Agenda Item 4: Opportunity for Public to Address the Meeting.

- There were no members of the public present.
- **Resolved:** To note and record the position.

27.0 Agenda Item 5: Corporate Matters.

27.1 Annual Plan 2023/24.

- Discussion took place in relation to items for inclusion in the Annual Plan for 2023/24.
- **Resolved:** That ward members forward proposals to the Clerk for inclusion with the papers for the June meeting of the Council.

27.2 Community Use Agreement New Gorslas CP School.

- An update was provided in relation to the current position relating to the community use agreement following the Governing Body Meeting on 02 05 23
- The advice of the Council's insurers in relation to the provision of insurance cover for the community use of the facility. Whilst a response had been received further clarification was required in relation to certain matters prior to implementing any agreement.
- Resolved:
 - (i) That the Clerk contact the Headteacher to ascertain feedback from the Governing Body Meeting.
 - (ii) That the facilities would not be made operational until those matters have been clarified.

27.3 Anti-Social Behaviour Cefneithin Park MUGA

- In accordance with a resolution by the Council advice has been sought in relation to limiting the use of the MUGA to that of Cefneithin CP School Pupils only.
- A response has now been received from the County Council's Planning Officer.
- In summary the advice was that, to accord with the aims of the provision of section 106 monies, which funded the facility, the use of the facility by the general community should not be restricted.
- **Resolved:** To receive and note.

27.4 Governance: Vacant Member Posts Cefneithin and Drefach Wards.

- Carmarthenshire County Council had been notified of the vacancies and had produced the required public notices allowing the electorate to request that an election be held.
- The closing date for the receipt of such requests was Friday 19th May, 2023.
- Should ten or more such requests not be received then the Community Council could fill the vacancies by co-option. following publication of the necessary notices in the relevant wards.
- Interested parties would be invited to contact the Clerk for an application form and an information pack. Members could, then invite interested parties for a discussion with the Council or could make their decision based upon the information provided in the application form.
- Resolved:
 - (i) That should an election not be called the necessary notices be published as soon as possible and the application form and supporting papers be issued to interested parties.
 - (ii) The notices remain in situ and the item feature on the monthly meeting agenda until the vacancies were filled.

27.5 Gorslas CP New School: Community Council Office.

- As resolved at the April meeting of the Council the Clerk has purchased the minor items of office equipment in readiness for the occupation of the facility at a cost of £49. 80..
- The resolution to purchase a Samsung A14 5G 64GB has also been actioned together with a protective case at a total cost of £ 256.98 including VAT.
- A technical issue had arisen in relation to the receiving of signals at the new office. The solution was dependent on the County Council installing an internet connection at the office.
- Members checked the signal reception of various networks at the Hebron Vestry with a good reception being received by all the networks.
- The Clerk also wished to thank Cllrs Simon Martin and Chris Wilkins for their kind assistance in sorting out and disposing of out-of-date records and correspondence held in the Council's files.
- Resolved:
 - (i) Approve the payment for the purchase of the minor items of office equipment.
 - (ii) Continue with the current arrangements until the situation relating to the receiving of signals at the New Office have been resolved by the County Council.
 - (iii) That the appreciation of members also be recorded for the actions of Cllrs Simon Martin and Chris Wilkins in disposing of the out-of-date records.

27.6 SLCC Membership 2023/24.

- The Council has met the cost of membership of the society which provides support and advice in relation to legislative, procedural, and operational matters relating to Councils throughout the UK.

- **Resolved:** That membership be renewed for the 2023/24 year at a cost of £ 187.00.

27.7 Annual Dinner held on Wednesday 26.04.23

- The first annual Council dinner for some 3 years was held at the Smiths Arms Foelgastell.
- Eight Councillors, together with the Clerk, were joined by County Councillor Darren Price and Mrs. Nia Edwards.
- The Chair addressed those present briefly to formally acknowledge the retirement of Cllr Wyn Edwards from the Community Council and to thank him for some 42 years of service in representing the community and residents of Drefach. An invaluable contribution had been made by Cllr Edwards and his knowledge, experience and contribution would be greatly missed. On behalf of the Council she wished him a long and happy retirement.
- Councillor Edwards responded by thanking the Chair most sincerely for her kind words and to his fellow members for their help and support in what had been a long and very interesting period in public life. It had been a pleasure and a privilege and it was pleasing to see new members take up the mantle and continue the ethos of service to the community.
- The Chair, also thanked Cllr Chris Wilkins for kindly arranging the dinner which had been a great success and, as a private function, had been funded by the attendees themselves.
- **Resolved:** To receive and note the information provided.

27.8 Free Code of Conduct Training. Carms C.C. June and July 2023

- Members were advised that the County Council was providing free training sessions on the 12.06.23 and 24.07.23 on the Code of Conduct.
- **Resolved:** Members were all encouraged to attend and those wishing to do so should contact the Clerk asap to make the necessary arrangements.

27.9 General Update

- Consideration and discussion took place in relation to the general update report which provided details of the current position in relation to previous decisions of the Council.
- **Resolved:** To receive and note.

28.0 Agenda Item 6: Park Matters

28.1 Gorslas Park: Report of Cyclists coming into contact with a Pedestrian.

- A report had been received on 04 05 23 of an incident whereby cyclists had come into contact with a pedestrian on one of the footpaths in the park.
- **Resolved:** To help avoid a similar incident occurring again the two local County Councillors be contacted to establish whether it would be possible to provided marking on the footpath separating pedestrian and cyclists.

29 .0 Agenda Item 7: Urgent Local Issues.

29.1 Bus Shelter B4310 Heol Blaenhirwaun, Opposite Llwyn Onn.

- Following discussion at the April meeting of the Council clarification has been sought in relation to the use of the facility as an operational bus shelter.
- **Resolved:** That a notice be placed in the facility notifying individuals of a proposal to remove the facility and providing a one-month period for the receipt of objections/observations.

29.2 Drefach: Welsh Water Manhole Cover Issue.

- A report was received on Friday 05.05.23 of a manhole cover, near the Compton House, Drefach not having been replaced following works by Welsh Water.
- The Clerk contacted Welsh Water and the County Council regarding the matter and advising of the situation and danger to pedestrians.
- **Resolved:** To receive and note.

29.3 Llyn Llech Owain: Anti-Social Behaviour.

- Dyfed Powys Police advised of concerns regarding anti-social behaviour by young people who were gathering and driving vehicles quickly around the Llyn Llech Owain car parks in the evening.
- The facility is owned by the County Council and accordingly the Clerk contacted County Councillor Aled Vaughan Owen regarding the matter. It was advised that a meeting had taken place on site the previous week and technology was being put in place to monitor vehicle usage with the aim of introducing CCTV. The Police were advised of the position.
- **Resolved:** To receive and note.

30.0 Agenda Item 8: Members Reports;

30.1 Cross Hands Hall and Public Cinema: Cllr Clive Green.

- Members were advised that a meeting of the Trustees had taken place on 03.05.23 with 3 new volunteers coming forward to take up positions with the Trust.
- Progress had also been made in resolving the invoicing issues with the archbishop.
- On a less positive note the Trust had also become aware of the need to repair the cinema roof at an estimated cost of between £650 to £700. A go funding page had been established to raise funds towards the work.
- **Resolved:** To receive and note the information provided.

30.2 Drefach Speeding: Cllr Kevin Jones.

- An update on the activities of the Go Safe exercises held in the Drefach area for the period 01 01 23 to 31 03 23 was provided for members.
- Heol Caegwyn: Checks had resulted in 8 Notices of Intended Prosecution.
- Heol Ddu: Checks had resulted in 12 Notices of Intended Prosecution. There had also been one accident believed to involve brake failure on a minibus.
- **Resolved:** To receive and note the information provided.

31.0 Agenda Item 9 General Correspondence.

31.1 Consultation on Location of New Hospital.

- Members were advised that the consultation period in respect of the above had been extended.
- In view of the importance of the matter members were urged to participate in the consultation.
- Consideration was given to the other items of correspondence received since the previous meeting.
- **Resolved:** To receive and note the information provided.

32.0 Agenda Item 10 One Voice Wales.

32.1 Training

- Details of training courses had been forwarded to members.
- **Resolved:** Members interested in attending courses to contact Chair and Clerk.

32.2 Innovative Practice Conference Royal Welsh Showground. 5th July,2023.

- Invitation to attend the conference.
- **Resolved:** Not to send a representative to the conference.

32.3 Motions for 2023 O.V.W. Annual General Meeting on 30.09.23

- The Council was invited to propose a maximum of two motions for debate at the AGM.
- The motions had to relate to a national issue and be accompanied by a short explanatory note.
- **Resolved to:** Receive and note the information provided.

32.4 Nabod Natur

- Advise of free places for Community Groups and Volunteers on an online course about nature.
- **Resolved to:** Receive and note.

32.5 Communications Officer.

- The Association had appointment an individual to the post.
- Interested in Councils who wish O.V.W. to promote the organisation or use it as an exemplar.
- **Resolved to:** Obtain further details about services offered and costs.

33.0 Agenda Item 11: Planning Matters.

33.1 Planning Applications.

- Members were provided with details of the planning applications received since the last meeting.
- **Resolved:** To receive and note the information provided.

34.0 Agenda Item 12 Finance:

34.1 Annual Return 22/23.

- Copies of the Annual Return for 2022/23, signed by the Responsible Financial Officer, and providing details of the Councils financial position was provided for members.
- The information and statements were considered and discussed by members.
- The return, signed by the Responsible Financial Officer, together with supporting documentation would be provided for examination by the Independent Auditor.
- Members were reminded that the Council is required to re-examine the Annual Return and consider any comments made by the Independent Internal Auditor prior to the 30th June,2023.
- **Resolved:**
 - (i) To receive, note, and approve the statements and information provided.
 - (ii) Consider re-scheduling the June meeting to 26.06.23 to meet the audit deadline.

34.2 I.R.P.W. Payments 23/24 (To be implemented as from 01 04 23)

- The Independent Review Panel has produced its final report for the year 2023/24.
- It was noted that a new payment of £52 per year to refund members for the cost of consumables was payable.
- **Resolved:**
 - (i) That payments be made for the same categories as in previous years with the amounts revised as stated in the report.
 - (ii) The re-imburement of consumables be paid at the end of the municipal year for which they are payable and based on the evidence e.g. receipts of the expenditure incurred. Pro rata payments to be made where a member leaves or joins the Council during a municipal year.
 - (iii) Paper copies of documentation would not be provided for members claiming re-imburement of expenditure under this provision.

34.3 Monthly Payments/Receipts April 2023

1.0 Income:

- Precept Installment 1 - £ 40,942.66

2.0 Expenditure

Chq No	Payee	Description	£
105170	Wrenvale N+L Ltd	Grass Cutting Contract Inst April	1,164.00
105169	Clerk	Wages/Trav and Refund April	1,295.93
105171	Bevan & Buckland	Payroll Charge Feb to 30.04.23	75.90
105172	Bowen & Weaving	Stationery	49.80

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

35.0 Agenda Item 13 Next Meeting:

- Monday 12.06.23 at 7.00pm at Hebron Vestry unless resolved otherwise.
- There being no further items of business the meeting was declared closed at 21:00hrs.