

# CYNGOR CYMUNED GORS-LAS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the September Ordinary Monthly meeting of the Gors-las Community Council  
held at Hebron Vestry, Drefach on 4<sup>th</sup> September, 2023, at 19:00hrs.

## 67.0 Agenda Item 1: Record of those Present/Apologies

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

## 67.1 General.

- The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting which was declared open at 19:00hrs.
- **Resolved:** To proceed with the order of business.

## 68.0 Agenda Item 2: Declaration of Interest

- None declared.
- **Resolved to:** Note and record the position.

## 69.0 Agenda Item 3: Minutes of Previous Meeting.

- The minutes of the July meeting of the Council were considered in detail by members.
- **Resolved:** To approve the minutes as being an accurate record of discussions and decisions.

## 70.0 Agenda Item 4: Opportunity for Public to Address the Council.

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

## 71.0 Agenda Item 5: Update County Council Matters by County Councillor Darren Price.

- A summary on local and County wide issues was provided which included the following matters:
  - a) Tenders: The County Council are holding meetings to help local companies apply for work.
  - b) RAAC Concrete: No schools in the County had been identified as having an issue.
  - c) Examination Results: Grade A pass percentages had returned to pre Covid levels.
  - d) Stradey Park Hotel Protests: No further developments.
  - e) Revision Speed Limits to 20m.p.h. The change would come into force on 17.09.23. Some flexibility likely during first few weeks following introduction.
  - f) Old Age Bungalows: Significant rise in demand for accommodation.
  - g) Foelgastell: Residents seeking 50mph limit on stretch of A48 to reduce traffic noise.
  - h) Housing: Problems reported at Gorslas.
  - i) Anti-Social Behaviour Cefneithin: Police to contact Community Council re CCTV footage.
  - j) Mens-shed Drefach: Expanded to use part of the old Gwendraeth School Hall.
  - k) Black Lion Road: New Speed restriction sign.
  - l) Uwch Gwendraeth: No further movement by the company to enable adoption and no means of forcing the company to do so. Cllr Green to relay the position to residents.
  - m) Maes Yr Eithin Retail Park Road. Inconsiderate Parking along the section of the road running from the Snap Fitness Centre side towards Maes Y Gwendraeth Bus Bay was

causing safety concerns in terms of narrowing the road and restricting the vision of motorists and pedestrians. Cllr Price noted the issue and would pursue the matter.

n) Gorslas Park and Car Park matters related to new school build: Cllr Price would seek to obtain an update from the relevant County Council Officers on progress.

- **Resolved:** To receive and note the information provided and thank Cllr Price for his attendance.

#### 71.1 Procedural:

- County Councillor Darren Price left the meeting at this point.

#### 72.0 Agenda Item 6: Corporate Matters.

##### 72.1 Member Vacancies Cefneithin and Drefach Wards

- It was noted that the relevant notices have been published.
- No enquiries or expressions of interest had been received to date.
- **Resolved that:** Members in the relevant wards consider suggestions for nomination.

##### 72.2 Annual Plan 2024/25.

- To align with the budget setting cycle there was a need to establish objectives for the Annual Plan.
- As part of that process it was proposed that a consultation event be trialled at Drefach to allow the community to have an opportunity to input into the setting of the Annual Plan.
- **Resolved that.**
  - (i) The setting of objectives be discussed at ward meetings.
  - (ii) As many members of the Drefach Ward attend the upcoming Mc Millan's coffee morning at Hebron Vestry and seek to engage with the members of the public present. Cllr Green to confirm and circulate details of the date and time.
  - (iii) The matter be placed on the agenda for the next meeting of the Council.

##### 72.3 Review Financial Regulations and New Model Standing Orders.

- An initial appraisal of the documentation had been undertaken by Cllr Chris Wilkins with copies of his observations and proposed amendments circulated to Working Group members.
- **Resolved:** That a further meeting of the Working Group be held to progress the matter.

##### 72.4 Community Use Agreement: Gorslas CP School.

- Following discussion between the Headteacher and Clerk it was agreed that no contribution would be payable by the Community Council for the use of the facilities for the 2022/23 school year.
- It was noted that a new Headteacher had been appointed to commence duties on 01.09.23.
- **Resolved:** That the Council seek a meeting between members of the Sub-Committee and the new Headteacher as soon as practical.

##### 72.5 Civic Regalia: Chair.

- The Council has, in previous years, provided a small gold bar engraved with the name of the Chair for each municipal year. The bar being attached to a ribbon carrying the Council's official pendant.
- The issue had been raised previously of exploring alternative options for recognising the office of Chair and possibly of past Chairs.
- **Resolved that:**
  - (i) The costs of alternative options be sought.

- (ii) A photograph of the full Council be undertaken at a suitable time.
- (iii) The matter be placed on the agenda of the next meeting for discussion.

**72.6 Remote Access to Meetings Arrangement.**

- Discussion took place in relation to the Council’s responsibilities regarding the provision of remote access to meetings and possible changes arising out of the purchase of a mobile phone.
- **Resolved:**
  - (i) That the current arrangement with Llanarthne Community Council be brought to an end.
  - (ii) The Council be thanked for the kind assistance which they had provided over the years.

**72.7 Contract of Employment: Clerk/ Responsible Financial Officer**

- It was noted that due to a change in circumstances a revision of the current contract of employment was necessary. These included additional leave as part of the 2022/23 pay award, the occupation of an office at the new Gorslas School and the purchase of a mobile phone with internet access.
- **Resolved:**
  - (i) To note, accept and approve the changes.
  - (ii) A revised letter of employment be issued to the Clerk/RFO to accord with the changes.

**72.8 Gorslas Park and Car Park: New School Associated Works.**

- Representatives of the Community Council had met with County Council Officers and the new school contractors at Gorslas Park on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> August,2023, to discuss the concerns raised regarding the safety of pupils using the car park as well as the other issues identified as arising out of the new school build.
- **Resolved:** As per item 71.0 (n) to accept Cllr Darren Price’s kind offer to progress the matter.

**72.9 Code of Conduct Training.**

- An updated training session in relation to the requirements of the code was recently provided by the County Council and attended by Cllrs A King and Chris Wilkins.
- Copies of the presentation had been forwarded to all members for information.
- **Resolved to:** Receive and note the information provided.

**72.10 General Update**

- An update relating to progress on previous decisions and actions of the Council had been provided to, and was discussed by, members.
- **Resolved to:** Receive and note the information provided.

**73.0 Agenda Item 7: Park Matters**

**73.1 Training Requirement: Diisocyanates.**

- The requirements regarding the product were discussed and noted.
- **Resolved that:** That note be taken of the requirement in engaging contractors for relevant work.

**73.2 Cefneithin Park: Infill Picnic Table Play Area.**

- It was noted by the Park Inspector that there were gaps in between the concrete base and surrounding surface which could represent a trip hazard.
- Price for material and laying - £50. Instruction issued following consultation with members

- **Resolved to:** Confirm the decision and approve the actions taken.

### **73.3 Cefneithin Park: MUGA Temporary Fence Removal.**

- The cleaning contractor advised that the temporary panel on the MUGA had been removed.
- The panel has been refitted by the Clerk.
- **Resolved to:** Approve and confirm the actions taken.

### **73.4 Drefach Park. Edging of New Tarmacadam.**

- Following the laying of new tarmacadam in the play area members were consulted on the option of providing a new wooden edging to those areas to preserve the integrity and structure of the edging.
- A quotation of £ 250 was provided by the maintenance contractor for the work which was acceptable to members. An instruction for the work had been issued.
- **Resolved to:** Approve and confirm the actions taken.

### **73.5 Gorslas Park: Incident Between the 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> July, 2023**

- The Police had contacted the Council requesting CCTV footage on the dates specified above in connection with an ongoing investigation.
- The Clerk together with Cllr Beckett downloaded the relevant footage which was subsequently provided to the Police.
- **Resolved to:** Receive and note the information provided.

### **73.6 Gorslas Park: Theft of Scooter 10.07.23**

- A report was received from a parent of a child's scooter being taken from the play area.
- The scooter was returned to the child a few days afterwards and the matter was resolved.
- **Resolved to:** Receive and note the information provided.

## **74 .0 Agenda Item 8: Local Issues.**

### **74.1 Gorslas: Temporary Road Closure C2060.**

- The County Council had advised that an application had been received to close the C2060 for a short period at a point 380mtrs south of the junction with the C2222 to allow the cutting of trees.
- **Resolved to:** Receive and note the information provided

### **74.2 Drefach: Safe Routes in Communities Application.**

- Confirmation had been received from Cllr Aled Vaughan Owen that the bid had been submitted.
- The County Council advised that following an assessment an is to be provided by mid-September.
- **Resolved to:** Receive and note the information provided

## **75.0 Agenda Item 9: Members Reports;**

### **75.1 Cross Hands Cinema and Hall: Cllr Clive Green.**

- Members were provided with a summary update of a meeting of the Trustees which had taken place on 26.07.23. and which included the following items:
  - (i) Cllr Melody Gronow had joined the Board of Trustees of the Cinema.
  - (ii) Cinema attendance was below pre Covid levels.
  - (iii) Payments of amounts due were now being received from the Church in Wales.

- (iv) The process of arranging for the name of the Trust to be changed was being progressed.
- (v) Next Meeting of the Trustees is to be held on 25.10.23.

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

**76.0 Agenda Item 10.0 Correspondence.**

**76.1 Consultation.**

- Details of the consultations received were considered and discussed by members.
- **Resolved:**
  - (i) To receive and note the information provided.
  - (ii) That the Clerk forward the link to Cllr Clive Green regarding Boundary Changes..

**76.2 Correspondence.**

- Details of the correspondence received was considered and discussed by members.
- **Resolved that:**
  - (i) The information provided be received and noted.
  - (ii) That the attendance of the Chair at the Mayors meeting on 19.09.23 be confirmed.

**77.0 Agenda Item 11 One Voice Wales.**

**77.1 Area Committee Meeting**

- The next meeting of the Committee would take place on 26.10.23.
- **Resolved to:** Receive and note.

**77.2 Training.**

- Details of the September Training programme had been forwarded to members.
- Confirmation of successful completion of the Chairs Training by Cllr Becket had been received.
- **Resolved to:** Receive and note the information provided.

**77.3 Example Town Plan: Pontypridd 2023-27.**

- An electronic copy of the plan had been provided by the Association and was available for members.
- **Resolved to:** Receive and note.

**78.0 Agenda Item 12: Planning Matters.**

**78.1 Planning Applications.**

- Details of the planning applications received from Carmarthenshire were provided for members.
- **Resolved to:** Receive and note the information provided.

**79.0 Agenda Item 13 Finance:**

**79.1 July 2023 Receipts/Payments**

**79.1.1 Income:**

From	Description	£
N/A	N/A	Nil

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

### 79.1.2 Expenditure

Chq No	Payee	Description	£
D/D	OVO Energy	Charge P Conv July	46.00
D/D	Three Network	Charge June	24.35
D/D	Three Network	Charge July	24.35
105165	Danfo UK Ltd	Charge P Conv Clean March 2023	744.00
105176	Danfo UK Ltd	Charge P Conv Clean April	810.00
105181	HMRC	Qtr 1 Employee/Employer Cont	1,781.84
105182	Carms.C.C.	Qtr 1 Employee/Employer	1,794.99
105183	Staff	June Pay /Trav/Refund Exp	1,456.72
105184	Danfo (UK) Ltd	P Conv Contract May	837.00
105185	Wrenvale N+L Ltd	Grass Cutting Contract June	1,164.00
105191	Williams Crwbin Quarries	Tarmacadam Drefach Play Area	5,5588.35
105192	Wrenvale N+L Ltd	Knotweed Spraying	288.00
105202	Carms C.C	Park Equipment Works	74.40
105193	Sutcliffe Play Ltd	New Park Equip/ Safety Surface	58,186.80
105203	Carms C.C.	Park Equipment Works	186.00
105194	Wrenvale N+L Ltd	Grass Cutting Charge July	1,164.00
105195	Danfo UK Ltd	P Conv Charge June	810.00
105196	Danfo UK Ltd	P Conv Charge July	837.00
105197	Staff	July Wages Travel/ Refund	1,473.33
105198	Touchline Ltd	Drefach Markings	1,068.00
105200	Touchline Ltd	Cefneithin MUGA Lines Repair	1,500.00
105201	Carms. C.C.	Park Equipment Works	372.00
105202	Carms C.C.	Gors Play Equip Work	74.40
105203	Carms C.C	Cefn Park Footpath Repair	186.00
105204	TBM Ltd	Litter Picks etc Qtr 1	1,560.00
105205	Clr C Wilkins	I.R.P.W Payment 2023/24	148.80
105206	Clr A King	I.R.P.W Payment 2023/24	124.80
105207	One Voice Wales	Training Cllr Beckett	38.00
105208	Alan Williams Design	Office Postboxes Design and Fit	300.00

- **Resolved to:** Note, receive and approve the payments made

### 79.2 August 2023 Receipts/Payments.

#### 79.2.1 Income

From	Description	£
HMRC	VAT Refund Qtr 1 23/24 y	11,801.23
Carms C.C.	Precept Instalment 2	40,942.67

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

#### 79.2.2 Expenditure

Chq No	Payee	Description	£
D/D	OVO Energy	P Conv Gors August Charge - reduction from £46	38.00
D/D	Three	August Mobile Phone Charge	20.40
105210	Capel Seion	Hire Vestry June July Meetings	35.00
105211	Wrenvale N+L Ltd	Grass Cutting Charge August	1,164.00
105212	Danfo UK Ltd	P Conv Charge August	837.00

105213	Staff	Wages August	1,285.16
105214	Carms C.C.	Drefach Refit Basket Swing	148.80
105215	Alan Williams	Design Supply Fit Door Graphic	450.00
105218	Carms C.C.	Installment 1 SLA Inspections	964.90
105220	Menter Cwm Gwendraeth	Translation June/ July	174.50

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

### 79.3 Payments Due for September

- A schedule of payments for the month of September was considered and discussed by members.
- **Resolved To:** Approve the payments subject to satisfactory service and goods being received.

### 80.0 Agenda Item 14 Next Meeting:

- 09.10.23 Hebron Vestry 19:00hrs.
- There being no further items of business the Chair declared the meeting closed at 20.20hrs