

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 13th May 2024, at 19.30 hrs.

24.0 Agenda Item 1: Record of those Present/Apologies

- Cllrs: Nick Beckett (Chair), Kevin Jones (Vice Chair) Simon Martin Nia Lewis, Chris Wilkins, Catrina Williams, Clive Douch, Melody Gronow, Elinor Goldsmith, Andrew King, Linda Williams, and Clive Green.
- Others: Two members of the Public, County Cllr. Darren Price, Hefin Jones, Translator and Llew Thomas, Clerk to the Council.
- Apologies for absence: Cllr Tina Butler.
- **Resolved to:** Record and note and approve the reason for absence provided by Cllr Butler.

24.1 General.

- The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting which was declared open at 19.30hrs.
- **Resolved to:** Proceed with the order of business.

25.0 Agenda Item 4. County Council Update County Cllr Darren Price

- With the agreement of members, the agenda was revised to allow consideration of the above item. Cllr Price provided a summary of issues which were relevant to the area and included:
 - a) Schools. There had been a focus on the recent incident where staff and a pupil were stabbed at Ysgol Dyffryn Aman.
 - b) School Modernisation: A major investment in modernising a school in the Llanelli area is having to be cancelled due to the non-provision of funding from Welsh Govt.
 - c) Cycle path. Dyffryn Tywi scheme progressing to tender stage. Start planned for March 2025.
 - d) Grant Funding: Shared Prosperity Funds would be available in 2026.
 - e) County Council: A number of senior postholders retiring. Recruiting to commence in October.
 - f) School Transport Maes Y Gwendraeth. An issue in that a service conveying pupils living less than 3 miles from the school was being withdrawn. Officers were looking at alternative options.
 - g) Revision 20mph speed limit. The County Council had established a website facility whereby suggestions could be made for reviewing the 20mph speed limit in an area. Welsh Govt will release regulations in July 2024, regarding the processes for bringing about any change.
 - h) Planning Cefneithin. Residents had conveyed their concern regarding a planning application to establish pitches for six Romany Family members together with a packaging facility in the village. Concerns were expressed that residents, who were not on social media would not be aware of the application. Accordingly, the two County Council ward members had prepared and would circulate a letter to residents advising them of the proposal and how they could convey their observations on the matter to the Planning Committee should they wish to do so.
 - i) Drefach Brynglas. County Council Officers were in the process of examining the possibility of works at the site which will help address the issue. The Officers would liaise with the Clerk.

- Community Councillor Catrina Williams asked that a declaration of personal and prejudicial interest be recorded against item 25 h) as the proposed development could potentially affect a property which was in her ownership together with a further property which was owned by a family member.
- **Resolved:** To receive and note the information provided by County Councillor Darren Price.

26.0 Agenda Item 2: Declaration of Interest

- Minutes Ref 25 h), 28.1, 28.2 and 36.1. Cllr Catrina Williams declared a personal and prejudicial interest in relation to the items as the proposed development could potentially affect a property in her ownership as well as a property in the ownership of a family member.
- Minute Ref 33.2 Cllr Kevin Jones declared a personal and prejudicial interest in the Cefneithin aspect of the matter as an office holder with Capel Y Tabernacle, Cefneithin, which was affected by the issue.
- Minute Ref 33.1 Cllr Clive Green declared a personal and prejudicial interest in the item as an office holder of the organisation which was the subject of the item.
- **Resolved to:** Note and record accordingly.

27.0 Agenda Item 3: Minutes of Previous Meeting.

- The minutes of the previous meetings of the Council held on 08.04.24 and 25.04.24 were considered in detail by members.
- **Resolved to:** Approve the minutes as being an accurate record of discussions and decisions made.

28.0 Agenda Item 5: Opportunity for the Public to Address the Meeting.

- In response to an enquiry from the Chair both members the members of the public present advised that they wished to address the Council in relation to a planning application in the Cefneithin area.
- At the request of the Chair the Clerk outlined for the members of the public the procedures regarding addressing the Council.

28.1 First Member of the Public. Planning Application PL/07648 for the Creation of Six Family Pitches for Romany Travellers and packaging plant. Heol Y Parc, Cefneithin

- The member of the public outlined their concern regarding the proposed development. These included matters related to traffic, infrastructure, the lack of local need for any such provision and the effect on the character of the village.
- Councillor Catrina Williams declared a personal interest in the matter and did not participate in the discussion or decision.
- **Resolved to:** Receive and note the information provided.

28.2 Second Member of the Public. Planning Application PL/ 07648 for the Creation of Six Family Pitches for Romany Travellers and packaging plant. Heol Y Parc, Cefneithin.

- The second speaker indicated that they shared the concerns expressed previously but also that the proposal would:
 - Adversely affect properties on Heol Yr Ysgol.
 - The loss of an existing public right of way across the land.
 - Should the proposal be approved it would open the way for the further development of land adjacent to the proposed development.
 - Residents could not identify a local need for the development.

- Councillor Catrina Willaims declared a personal interest in the matter and did not participate in the discussion or decision.
- **Resolved to:** Receive and note the information provided.

29.0 Procedural.

- The Members of the Public and County Councillor Darren Price were thanked by the Chair for their attendance and contribution following which they retired from the meeting.

30.0 Agenda Item 6: Corporate Matters.

30.1 Clerk/RFO Vacancy.

- An update was provided for members in relation to the recruitment of candidates for the post.
- It was also reported that another Community Council were seeking to fill a similar position.
- **Resolved that:** The Clerk contact the relevant Community Council to ascertain whether they would be prepared to enter discussions on the possibility of a joint approach to the filling of the posts.

30.2 New Model Contract of Employment for Clerks/RFO.

- A new model contract for administrative staff had been received from One Voice Wales.
- **Resolved that:** The revised contract at a future meeting.

30.3 General Update.

- A schedule detailing progress on implementing previous decisions had been provided for members.
- An enquiry was made in relation to item 15 on the schedule regarding the fitting of a replacement slate for the Toll Bar.
- The Clerk reported to th effect that there were difficulties in obtaining a contractor to undertake small items of work, but efforts were continuing.
- **Resolved:** To receive and note the information provided.

31.0 Agenda Item 7: Park Matters

31.1 Signage Parks: General

- The Council had previously resolved to rationalise and update the numerous different signs which were displayed in the parks and play areas to present a cohesive, clear, and targeted message.
- **Resolved:** That the contractor, A Williams, provides draft signs for consideration.

31.2 Gorslas Park Car Park Gates: Damage to Vehicle on Monday 15 04 24.

- A report was received that a vehicle had been damaged on the morning of Monday 15 04 24 by the park gate. CCTV coverage of the incident has been downloaded.
- The Council's insurance company have been notified and their details forwarded to the driver.
- Additional measures have been taken to secure the fixings.
- **Resolved to:** Receive, note, and approve the actions taken.

32.0 Agenda Item 8: Urgent Local Issues.

32.1 Temporary Road Closure B4297 Maesybont.

- Notification had been received that a section of the road is to be closed for a 6-day period commencing 26 04 24 to accommodate works by Welsh Water.
- **Resolved to:** Receive and note.

32.2 Temporary Road Closure C2066 Maesybont.

- Notification had been received that a section of the road will be closed for 3 days as from 15.07.24 to accommodate works by Welsh Water.
- **Resolved to:** Receive and note.

32.3 Drefach: Yr Hafan.

- A report was received that a section of the boundary fence was in need of repair.
- As the fence is located on land which is not in the ownership of the Community Council it was advised that householders should contact the County Council, as the landowner, to report the matter.
- **Resolved to:** Receive and note.

33.0 Agenda Item 9: Members Reports:

33.1 Cross Hands Public Hall and Cinema Meeting 24.04 24: Cllr Clive Green.

- Cllr Green declared a personal and prejudicial interest in the matter as an office holder in the organisation, and provided a summary of the meeting for members which included the following:
 - (i) Audience numbers remained below the pre-Covid levels.
 - (ii) The ticket price could not be increased significantly due to competition from larger providers.
 - (iii) The Treasure had advised that should the financial position not improve then the cinema could be facing closure at the end of December 2024.
 - (iv) A Just Giving Page had been created to assist the cinema which, to date, had raised some £700.
- **Resolved:** To receive and note the position.

33.2 Cefneithin and Drefach Wards Parking Concerns: Cllr K Jones

- Cllr Jones declared a personal and prejudicial interest in the matter as an office holder with Capel Tabernacle, Cefneithin. The item was for information only with no decision by the Council required.
- Cllr Jones had spoken to the local community policing team regarding the matter. They advised that the parking issue was one for the County Council. They would however seek to progress the issue with County Council representatives on behalf of the community.
- **Resolved:** To receive and note the information provided.

34.0 Agenda Item 10: Correspondence.

34.1 Consultations/Survey.

- Consideration was given to the schedule of items received for the period which had been provided.
- **Resolved:** To receive and note the information provided.

34.2 Correspondence.

- Consideration was given to the schedule of items received for the period which had been provided.

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

35.0 Agenda Item 11 One Voice Wales.

35.1 Training Courses.

- Details of courses available had been forwarded to members.
- **Resolved:** Interested parties to contact Chair and Clerk.

36.0 Agenda Item 12: Planning Matters.

36.1 Planning Applications.

- Councillor Catrina Willaims declared a personal and prejudicial interest in application PL/07648 as the proposed development could affect a property which she owns as well as a property of a family member. Cllr Williams did not participate in the discussion or decision on item PL/07648.
- Members considered the schedule, and updated information regarding the planning applications received by the County Council since the ordinary April meeting of the Community Council
- **Resolved to:** Receive and note the information provided.

37.0 Agenda Item 13 Finance.

37.1 Finance: Quarterly Review by Cllr Chris Wilkins Financial Examiner

- Cllr Wilkins had completed, and reported on, a review of the income and expenditure for Quarter 4 of the 2023/24 financial. No items of concern were identified.
- **Resolved to:** Thank Cllr Wilkins for his work and to receive and note the information provided.

37.2 March Receipts/Payments Through Bank

37.2.1 Income:

From	Description	£
Carms CC	Precept Installment 1	44,000.00
HMRC	VAT Refund	3,374.50

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

37.2.2 Expenditure

Chq No	Payee	Description	£
D/D	OVO Energy	Charge P Conv	38.00
D/D	Three Network	Charge September	20.40
105293	Staff	Wages March	1,306.94
105302	Cefneithin School	Hire Room Interviews	43.87
105307	Carms C.C.	Works Cefn Park	234.20
105308	Carms C.C.	Works Parks	290.94
105304	Carms C.C.	SLA 23/24 Qtr. Installment	964.90
105295	Carms CC	Qtr. 4 Employee /Er Contributions	1,787.85
105301	Carms C.C	Street Light SLA/ Energy Charge	6,910.16
105306	Dyfed Alarms	Annual Service Gors CCTV	120.00
105294	HMRC	Qtr4 Cont. Employee/Employer	1,724.71
D/D	H3	Monthly Sim Charge March	20.40
105314	Carms C.C	Park Works	269.00

105298	A Williams	Signs Gorslas Park Car Park	1,223.00
105300	Capel Seion	Hire Hebron Vestry	30.00
105290	Dynevor Trees	Tree Works	490.00
105281	Bevan & Buckland	Quarterly Payroll Charge	81.60
105272	Cresta Regalia Ltd	Civic Regalia Chain for Chair	744.00
105315	Carms C.C	Park Works	254.45
D/D	Ovo Energy Ltd	Monthly Electricity Chare P Conv	38.00
105303	Menter Cwm Gwendraeth Elli	Translation to March 2023	299.50
105305	Centreprise International Ltd	Provision of Lenovo Laptop	852.00

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

37.3 Payment Approval

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

38.0 Agenda Item 14 Next Meeting:

- Next Ordinary Monthly Meeting: 10.06.24 – Venue to be advised.
- There being no further items of business the Chair declared the meeting closed at 20:25hrs.