

CYNGOR CYMUNED GORSLAS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes for November Ordinary Monthly meeting held in Cefneithin Primary School on the 11th of November 2024

104.0 Agenda Item 1:

- **Present** – Cllrs N Beckett (Chair), K Jones (Vice-Chair), L Williams, M Gronow, E Goldsmith, A King, C Green, T Butler, C Wilkins, N Lewis
- **Others present** – H Jones (translator) C Williams (Clerk)
- **Apologies** Simon Martin, Clive Douch

Resolved to: note and record the position

105.0 General

- The chair welcomed everyone to the meeting which was declared open at 19hrs

Resolved to: proceed with business of the agenda

106.0 Agenda Item 2: Declaration of Interest

- No declaration of interest was made during the meeting

Resolved to: note and record accordingly

107.0 Agenda Item 3: Minutes of Previous Meetings

- The minutes of the ordinary October meeting held on 14th October 2024 were considered in detail by the members.
- Members identified 2 specific points to be changed to ensure clarity and accuracy.

Resolved to: Clerk to make relevant changes and present to chair.

108.0 Agenda Item 4: Opportunity Public to Address the Meeting.

- No members of the public present and no requests to address the Council received.

109.0 Agenda Item 5 County Council update – Cllr. Darren Price

- County Council - Budget – Carmarthenshire County Council have not received their budget yet from Cynulliad Cymru. Budget from Westminster was more positive than expected, but still funding/ budget will be difficult. Where cuts can/should be made and increases in Council Tax. £20 million shortfall with Carmarthenshire County Council. The budget given to the Local Authority will determine the increase in Council Tax. Education sector – deficit budgets within schools – Education department are working with schools to reduce their deficit budget and be more cost effective. Finalised budget will be completed by Cynulliad Cymru by the 25th of February – not much time for Local Authorities to set their precepts and budgets.
- Local issues – Old Gorslas School – previous plans for Cae'r Ffair or the Cylch Meithrin use some of the building has not happened. Other organisations have shown an interest in using the building - PlantDewi. Education Department have plans for the building. Cllr D Price has a meeting with Simon Davies to discuss the proposed plans.
- Roads – problem with potholes in both Brynlluan and Bron yr Ynn – plans have been discussed by Carmarthenshire County Council to make better/ fill in the potholes – there are plans to resurface part of the road in Bron yr Ynn.
- Safe routes to school – Drefach – work has started near the school. Puffin traffic lights have been erected but not in use yet. Work has completed on Heol Tyisaf and is continuing on Heol Blaenhirwaun. Work should be completed by March 2025.
- Gorslas – suggestion of a possible Pelican Crossing on Heol Cefneithin – speed of the traffic not a problem but the amount of traffic.
- Cefneithin – dropped kerbs in the Fron for mobility scooter access.
- Carwyn James event in Cefneithin 2nd of November 2024 – the event was a great success – thank you to all involved. Blue memorial plaque has been placed the house on Heol yr Ysgol where Carwyn James was born. Carwyn James would have celebrated his 95th birthday on the 2nd of November. A Day of events – unveiling the plaque, Cor Mynydd Mawr, Cefneithin School children reading extracts, Cefneithin RFC v Amman Utd RFC on Cae Carwyn and in the evening a play on the life of Carwyn James in 'Y Neuadd' - Cefneithin.
- Bron yr Ynn – consultation on the planning extension ending today the 11th of November. The land for the development is not part of Carmarthenshire County Council LDP strategy. Over 20 residents objected to the original planning proposal but not as many to this extension to the planning – disappointing.
- Bridge near Plasbach MaesyBont – bridge engineer visiting the site tomorrow 12/11/24.
- Members expressed concern over the potential dangerous of the development in Drefach with the access road on Heol Blaenhirwaun – over the years many accidents and near misses have occurred on the road and potentially this development could make the situation more dangerous.

Signed Chair Date 09/12/24

- ❖ Drefach Cricket Club – as part of the development of the Cricket Club, there will be improvements to the pavement and road to improve safety.
- ❖ Improvements to Capel Seion Road – speed restriction signs. Mary Street – widening of the pavements, but no plans for any other work to be undertaken. Work is being completed in stages to avoid disruption. All work will be completed by the end of March 2025.

110.0 Agenda Item 6: Corporate Matters.

110.1 Member Vacancies Cefneithin and Drefach Wards.

- No expressions of interest received for Cefneithin Ward nor Drefach Ward. Posters have been placed in noticeboards in Foelgastell, Cefneithin and Drefach and in the garage shop in Drefach.
- Contact organisations within the area Menedd, Drefach. Cefneithin School PTA + Drefach School PTA to ask if any interest to joining the Community Council.
- Most successful volunteer campaign – National Botanical Gardens – over 200 volunteers supporting the Gardens.
- Suggestion to hold a community event in early Spring – Hanes Beca in Drefach – Community Council more visible in the community.

Resolved to: members to seek possible representatives also Clerk to push social media posts to create some interest and contact Cefneithin + Drefach School.

110.2 CILCA/ ILCA

- ILCA – clerk working through the ILCA qualification. Module 2 near completion.

Resolved to: Receive and note.

110.3 General update

- Gorslas School Management Agreement – Clerk to have meeting with governor to go through the documents ready for the Governing Body meeting.
- Gorslas Park – security barrier vandalism security barrier – reported to the police and they are investigating. CCTV footage has been provided to the police. Police spoken to the person involved 30/10/24. No further update from the police.
- Gorslas Park Safety flooring under Multi-Play frame coming away from base - Sutcliffe representative site meeting acknowledged the problem. Clerk to speak to previous clerk to see what the agreement was with the installers
- Drefach Park - Hedge in the children's play park to be cut to approx. 3 metres height to help with maintaining the hedge. Residents have complained councillors regarding the tree bordering Brynglas. Suggestion to trim the side of the tree that over hangs into their garden. Clerk liaising with Darren Price regarding the matter as he has prior knowledge and has been in contact with the residents and the housing department In Carmarthenshire County Council have been involved regarding the matter of drainage. Quote of £180 obtain to trim the tree and dispose of the waste, accepted by the members.
- Land Registry/Title Deeds Update Solicitor is moving on with the matter – correct address for the Community Council has been provided to the solicitor. Notice of an application to change and address for service received. There will be a cost of £138.
- Bridge near PlasBach Maes-y-Bont – update from Cllr D Price – Bridge engineer to visit site 12/11/24
- 3 Parks – bike exercise equipment - Carmarthenshire County Council ground maintenance team have removed the bike from all three parks as it was deemed hazardous in the inspection report.
- PoblGroup – Leony Hall Arranged 1st drop-in session will be held in the Community Council office on the 8th of November and going forward will be held on the 1st Friday of every month. Posters will be created to advertise the service by Leony Hall.

Resolved to: receive and note information provided

111.0 Agenda Item 7: Park Matters

- Ground Maintenance SLA – inspection reports completed fortnightly as part of the SLA. From the report maintenance work has been identified – quote received for work of £1408 – general upkeep.
- Risk register created to note identified risk – updated regularly

Resolved to: Receive and accept quote for maintenance work to be completed as soon as possible.

112.0 Agenda Item 8: Members Reports:

- Cllr C Wilkins provided feedback on the 2nd Qtr. internal Financial review of payments made and received.
- Clarification had been sought in relation to minor issues. There were no areas of concern.

Resolved to: receive and note the information provided and thank Cllr C. Wilkins for his work.

- Ysgol Drefach – Cllr N Lewis has attended various events in Drefach School – Thanksgiving Service, Governor’s meeting + paned gyda’r pennaeth. Paned gyda’r pennaeth – open invite to parents and Governors to attend an informal opportunity to meet and chat with the headteacher and school Governors.

Resolved to: receive and note the information provided and thank Cllr N Lewis for attending the events.

- Cllr C Green attended and chaired a meeting with the Trustees of Cross Hands Hall and Cinema.

Resolved to: receive and note the information provided and thank Cllr C Green for attending the meeting and for all his work with Cross Hands Hall.

- Cllr M Gronow, Cllr S Martin, Cllr C Wilkins attended ‘An afternoon at the National Botanic Gardens of Wales’ event on the 5th of November 2024. It was an enjoyable afternoon, and they had an opportunity to see the new arboretum which will be in full bloom in 100 – 150 years.

Resolved to: receive and note the information provided and thank members for attending

- Drefach Welfare Association hut – Cllr C Green and Cllr T Butler have tidied and cleaned Drefach Welfare Association hut and as a result looks much better.

Resolved to: receive and note the information provided and thank members for their hard work.

- 10/11/24 – Cllr N Beckett and Cllr L Williams attended the Remembrance Service in Gorslas Church along with members of various organisations in the area.

Resolved to: receive and note the information provided and thank members for attending

113.0 Agenda Item 9: Consultation/Correspondence.

113.1 Consultation

- Consideration was given to the schedule of items of consultation received

Resolved to: receive and note the information provided

113.2 Correspondence

- Consideration was given to the schedule of items of correspondence received

Resolved to: receive and note the information provided

114.0 Agenda Item 10 One Voice Wales.

114.1 Correspondence

- One Voice Wales and the Society of Local Council Clerks (SLCC) are arranging a remote joint event to be held on 20 November 2024 and your clerk will already have received the invitation details circulated by the SLCC.
- Free places on training courses available – please contact the clerk to book a place
- Digital Health Checks and Community of Practice – completed self-assessment

Resolved to: receive and note the information provided

115.0 Agenda Item 11: Planning Matters/ Road Closures.

- 115.1 Planning Matters
- The following applications have been advised by the County Council

Ref	Type and Description	Location
PL/08352	Discharge of Conditions 6 on PL/07284 (Preliminary Reptile Assessment)	Plot 5, Clos Y Gorlan, Foelgastell, Llanelli, SA14 7EE
PL/08393	Variation of Condition 1 on PL/03471 (additional time to submit reserved matters)	Land between Bron-Yr-Ynn and Heol Blaenhirwaun, Drefach, Llanelli, SA14 7AH
PL/08454	Conversion of integral garage to habitable accommodation	51 Clos Maes Rhedyn, Gorslas, Llanelli, SA14 6SG

- **Resolved to:** receive and note the information provided. Information on planning consultation PL/08393 has been circulated to councillors due to the closing date 11/11/24.

115.2 Road Closures

The following notices of road closures have been received

- C2066 Maesybont, Llanelli, from a point approximately 1.1km southeast of the junction with the C2059 MaesyBont for a distance of 250 metres in a south easterly then south westerly direction -17 January 2025
- C2067 Heol Ddu, Drefach (SA14 7BL) from a point 52 metres Northwest of its junction with Mary Street for a distance of 30 metres in a North Westerly direction - Sunday 1st December 2024.

Resolved to: receive and note the information provided

116.0 Agenda Item 12 Finance.

Receipts/Payments Through Bank October

116.1 Income:

- 11/10/24 HMRC payment £1999.11
- **Resolved to:** receive and note the information provided

Expenditure: October

31 08 24	1488.00	105468	Danfo (UK) Ltd September
30 10 24	1,488.00	105393	Danfo (UK) Ltd October
30 10 24	1,286.40	105389	Wrenvale N+L Ltd October
30 10 24	1,532.69	105388	Catrina Williams – wages
21 10 24	38.00	D/D 02 OVO	Ovo Energy September
09 10 24	21.31	DD/04 Three	Three Mobile September
14 10 24	1,598.48	105383	HMRC Qtr 2 HMRC contributions
07 10 24	40.80	105384	C Williams - stamps
14 10 24	354.00	105386	The ARB Team – tree survey
14 10 24	300.00	105385	Wrenvale N+L Ltd Cutting of tree in Drefach Park
14 10 24	200.00	105387	Audit Wales
30 10 28	144.00	105390	Bevan & Buckland Payroll services
30 10 24	928.60	105391	Carmarthenshire County Council - repairs to Titan swing - Gorslas Park
30 10 24	1,274.77	105392	Carmarthenshire County Council SLA payment 1
31 10 24	68.27	105394	Swansea Fasteners & Engineering Supplies – paint - gates

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

116.2 Payment to be made - November

Payee	Description	£
OVO Energy – DD	Charge Electricity - P Conv Gorslas October	38.00
Three Network - DD	Monthly Charge - October	21.31
Carmarthenshire County Council	Play equipment maintenance	900.00
Wrenvale N&L Ltd	Monthly Grass Cutting Charge – November	1,286.40
Danfo UK Ltd	Monthly Toilet and Litter Charge - November	1,440.00
C Williams	Wages - November	1,532.30
STR ground Maintenance	Preparing + paint gates 3 parks	550.00
Ungoed King Thomas	Legal fees + deeds	138.00

- **Resolved to:** Approve the payments subject to satisfactory services/goods being received.

116.3 Applications for financial assistance/ Ceisiadau am gymorth ariannol

- The Council has powers to provide assistance to organisation where it is of the view that there is a benefit to residents or the area which is commensurate with the amount awarded.
- Capel Llanlluan Calvinistic Methodist Church, MaesyBont – request financial assistance to pay for maintenance work in the cemetery

Resolved to: receive and note the information provided and to award £250 to Llanlluan Calvinistic Methodist Church for the purpose outlined.

- Y Neuadd - request financial assistance to pay for essential maintenance work

Resolved to: receive and note the information provided and to award £250 to Cefneithin/Foelgastell Welfare Association for the purpose outlined

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Organisations Requesting Assistance but not Submitted Form

- Urdd – Adran Myrddin
- Canolfan Carwyn – Drefach
- Radio Glangwili

Resolved to: receive and note the information provided and to contact the organisations and ask for all applications to be completed on the relevant document.

116.4 Members expenses

I.R.P.W. Payment of £156 Per Annum and Refund of Expenses Payment. Communication has been received advising as follows:

(i) Annual Payment of £156. Will be exempt from income tax provided

- a) There must be a formal agreement between the Community Council and each individual Cllr.
- b) Each Cllr claiming the allowance must make a formal declaration that they regularly work from home.

Resolved to: receive and note the information provided. All members have been provided with relevant form to complete – declining or claiming expenses form must be completed and returned to the clerk.

116.5 Draft budget /Cyllid drafft 2025 – 2026

- Copies of draft budget prepared for the meeting. Quote from Danfo regarding 2025 – 2026 contact received.
- Budget Inflation Figures for the financial Year 2025/26 from Carmarthenshire County Council not received yet.

Resolved to: receive and note the information provided. Working group to meet 25th November 2024 to discuss budget.

116.6 Audit/Awdit 2023 - 2024

- 20/09/24 - Madison Bevan – Audit Wales - Requesting further documentation – Clerk has emailed the documents to Ms Bevan.
- 28/10/24 - Madison Bevan – Audit Wales - Requesting further documentation – Clerk has emailed the documents to Ms Bevan again and has asked for recognition Ms Bevan has received the documents and was able to access the documents.
- Further evidence needed – email 30/10/24 to be submitted by 6/11/24.
- The clerk has received verbal confirmation no further evidence needed.

Resolved to Receive and note the information provided and to wait for written confirmation/feedback.

116.7 New Financial Regulations

- New financial regulations received. Cllr C Wilkins has received a copy.
- Cllr C Wilkins to email copies of the New financial regulations + his recommendations to all members of the working group in preparation for the working group meeting.

Resolved to: Receive, working group to meet to discuss new financial regulations 25th November.

117.0 Next Meeting: 09.12.24 – Ysgol Gymunedol Gorflas.