GOWERTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

**CYNGOR CYMUNEDOL TREGŴYR**

**Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council**

 **Held at The Con Club at 7.30pm**

 **on Wednesday 5 February 2025**

**PRESENT**:

**Councillors**, **Chair** Matt Palmer, Amanda Guard, Dai Jenkins, ,

Pat Evans, Barbara Small, Lynne Carey, June Merrells, Ros Holt, Susan Jones, Wayne Erasmus

**Clerk to the Council:** Allison James

**108 Apologies for absence** – Lyneth Howells, Gareth Evans,

**109** **Disclosures of Personal & Prejudicial** – None declared.

**110** **Minutes of Council**

**Resolved** that the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on the following date be approved and signed as a correct record.

(i) Wednesday 4 December 2024

**111 Announcements of the Chair of Council**

Cllr Palmer spoke about voting of prospective new Councillors.

**112 Public Question Time**

Joe Muldoon spoke about encouraging Active travel to complete the cycle route from Gowerton to Penclawdd.

**113 Record of Payments**

It was resolved that:

1) The Payments & Receipts be noted.

2) The Clerk be authorised to pay the Payments Raised at the Meeting.

3) Qtr 3 budget from December agenda was agreed.

Cllr Erasmus asked if following Clerk achieving CiLCA qualification, is she being properly remunerated for achieving this?

Clerk to check with SLCC. To be reviewed at annual appraisal in May 25.

**114. Correspondence The actions / comments made as in relation to the correspondence reported:**

Email from a local resident complaining about the state on the roads. I forwarded an email that Cllr Susan Jones had received from Highways Dept at Swansea Council to her question about pot holes on the roads.

I attended the OVW quarterly meeting. I shall forward on the minutes when I receive them.

An email from Joe Muldoon requesting to give a presentation at the meeting.

Emails from Dean Mason giving updates regarding Autumn Fun events.

Sent an email to Finance Dept at Swansea Council to confirm precept request.

Emails from Swansea Council giving details of planning applications.

**115. Planning Matters**

**Application No: 2025/0029/FUL**

Date Registered: 22.01.2025 Electoral Division: Gowerton - Area 2 Status: Being Considered Map Ref: 259502 195964 Development Type: Householder

Location: 97 Gorwydd Road, Gowerton, Swansea, SA4 3AN

Proposal: Retention and completion of removal of hedge and fence to create front parking area and vehicle access

Applicant: Mr Dave Charlesworth Agent:

Gowerton Community has no objection.

**116 Gowerton Ward Councillors Update**

**Cllr Susan Jones**

Happy and Healthy New Year Wishes to All..

                This month has started with the completion of the Autumn Activities organised by Dean Mason and the team:

1. Quiz Night at Nomads on the 8th of January was a well-attended night enjoyed by all.
2. Air Assault was held in the Conservative Club on the 11th of January
3. Collagraph Printing on the 18th and the 25th of January also held at the Conservative Club.

 The feedback has been very positive and enjoyed by all that attended.  The grant was to encourage increased footfall for the businesses in Sterry Road.  All businesses are finding it difficult at this time and hopefully they appreciate the effort made by the team.  It was an effort to put on activities for all the community which I hope has been appreciated.

                 There has been further vandalism episodes in the village e.g. damage to a window and damage to a car, also the Elba has experienced motorbikes damaging the sports fields.  The Police have been informed on all occasions.  Myself , Councillor Jenkins and Communiy Councillor June Merrells have had a meeting with the PCSO's looking at facilities for the youth of the village. We look forward to working together to improve facilities.

                   Again a meeting has been held at the Rugby Club to look at solutions on the parking problems at Fairwood Terrace.  The Rugby Club is essential to facilitate sport for the young people of the village and encourage away teams to play at Gowerton.

                   The Primary School has had an inspection this month and I would like to thank all the Staff and children for their hard work during that time.  It was a very positive experience and we await the report. The inspectors were at the School for three days and visited many of the classes, spoke to all Staff, spoke to many children.  They also interviewed the Chair and Vice Chair of Governors and the Headteacher (Mr. Richard Jones).

                    I have also visited Bishop Gore Comprehensive School with the Education Scrutiny Panel where we were given a presentation by pupils, staff and Headteachers of the feeder Primary Schools.  I have an emotional attachment to this School because my husband taught there for 38 years. It was a pleasure to go back to this School.

                     The broken fence on the inner link Road has been reported, also the damaged trees in the Elba Sports Area, both are on the  list after the winter storms. The damaged fence on the walkway between Alder Way and Fairwood Terrace has been reported to Rees Richard’s for them to repair.

                    During Full Council last week, all the Councillors stood for a minute in silence, to show respect for the Deputy Lord Mayor , Councillor Wendy Fitzgerald , who passed away on January the 1st.  She was my friend and fellow Independent Councillor who I had the privilege of knowing.  She was a great advocate for her Penllergaer village and will be a hard act to follow.  Her determination to fight for the ward is undoubtedly recognised by all.  She will be missed by so many. My condolences to her husband, Fitz, and the family.

                   The opening of The Old Mill took place this morning, it was declared open by the Lord Lieutenant (Louise Fleet) who spoke about the good work of the charity.  I was great to see so many people there to support.  My best wishes to all the volunteers, Sarah and Suzanne for the future.

                  I have helped a number of individuals with issues over the month, also held my monthly surgery at the Library making myself available to all.

  Cllr Dai Jenkins Monthly Report

JANUARY REPORT 2025: Cllr Dai Jenkins Monthly Report

**Save Gowerton from Gridlock** – Outline planning is refused by Swansea City Council Persimmon have now appealed to Welsh Government, awaiting further details.

**2024/2348/FUL** 27 Homes proposed for land at Crwys Farm Three Crosses SA4 3PX, rejection letter sent due to traffic build up on Cae Mansel Road.

 **Gowerton Park Road Park and ELBA uplifts** – More news in the spring of 2025.

 **Path from Fairwood to Station Road** – Agreements have been secured between Swansea City regional contractors and preferred third party contractors used by Transport for Wales / Network Rail, for work to commence early 2025. As nothing has been achieved in January, I have escalated to leader of Swansea City Council.

**Mobility access** – Will chase in Spring of 2025 if not implemented by then.

**116 New Route** – No further forward regrettably.

**PUP** – Pick up Poop campaign launched in Gowerton for residents to report to me any dog poo now picked up so I can report and keep a record, posters placed around the village to support campaign, on-going campaign.

Making Gowerton Look Great & Safe Again

**Fairwood Terrace –** Storage area stays due to length of time operated; neighbours have erected high security fence for safety and extra privacy.

**Penclawdd Rd –** Just before the sign to Mrs Moyes’ Gower horse carriage school on right hand side, footpath has collapsed. Barriers now in place, will chase Spring 2025 if no permanent solution by then.

**Fairwood Terrace & Lliw Valley Close-Parking issues –** Traffic wardens are now patrolling on a regular basis, hopefully the ticketing of law-breaking motorists will discourage this anti-social behaviour.

**Missing Yellow Line** Either the developer assumed that as they had the S278 traffic regulation order drawing that they could arrange for the onsite implementation, or there has been miscommunication between the Development Engineer and the Developer concerning the status of the traffic regulation order. It’s all now resolved, and the yellow lines have been completed

**Cleansing Team** – Superb service with work being completed at Mill Street / Gorwydd Road by traffic lights, Springbourne Close, Gorwydd Road pavements between numbers 137 and 157 , Lane from Cecil Road to Park Road and Clos Trafle roundabout.

**Gowerton Glitterati** – Will be running Gowerton Dog Show in April in conjunction with Llys Nini.

**Gowerton Summerfun –**. Next meeting February 13th to discuss summer events.

**Daffodils** –Should see the benefit of these throughout the village come the spring.

**Trespassing on Railway** – Working towards a talk in local schools, awaiting availability of all stakeholders. Unfortunately, no emails have been received yet from schools to have a talk about this, awaiting replies.

**Miscellaneous** – Parking, one to one meeting, active travel enquiries, tree pruning requests Health & Safety issues x 2, ‘Housing issues, Police complaints, broken bus shelters. potholes, broken sign, CWOT reports, potholes reported. School bus issue, Anti-social behaviours. Privacy fencing.

**MEETINGS**

9.1.25 Highways officer one to one Gowerton.

10.1.25 Parking solutions meeting at Gowerton RFC.

10.1.25 Attended as consultant to Gowerton Glitterati meeting.

13.1.25 Gorwydd Road planted plants in planters.

14.1.25 Service improvement scrutiny meeting Guild Hall.

16.1.25 Cheser John Clare (pcso) Cllrs Sue Jones Cllr June Merrell (Gowerton RFC)

17.1.25 Gorwydd Road resident and Morganstone liaison meeting.

24.1.25 Meeting officer at Elba regards new benches.

27.1.25 Grants scrutiny meeting (on line)

30.1.25 Full Council meeting Guild Hall.

**Coming Up.**

**New Road Surface Gorwydd Road opposite Pobl Development** – An inspection of the new Road surface will take place after the Pobl developments ends and any damage rectified.

**Enhancing Safety in Gorwydd Road**– Planters are in place; flowers and shrubs planted by myself and my wife.

**Radar Key** – Liaising with freedom to leisure to hopefully facilitate a toilet facility using disability radar key down the Elba. Awaiting update

**Motley Mount** – Cllr Jones and I are working with active travel to enhance the green area outside Motley Pies, the train sculpture is in place. There will be a new picnic bench, bike stands, plus a reference sign highlighting that Gowerton South Railway station was in that vicinity, these will be in place between Spring and Summer 2025.

**Smart Bench** – Smart Bench is evolving and may well be a covered small seating meeting area, when that’s installed, I will be looking at securing a wi-fi charging station, I want this in the Elba, will liaise with Freedom to Leisure as area highlighted now for larger Skate Park. I have liaised with officer and am awaiting quotes and artists impression.

**Large Skate Park** – Now in the pipeline, but it’s going to take at least 18 months to sort this, as Swansea wants to be the skateboard capital of Wales, with many areas throughout Swansea seeing new and upgraded skate parks for our youngsters (and seniors!) to enjoy.

**Pelican Crossing** - On site visit with Cllr Sue Jones and Alan Ferris to discuss Victoria Road, ongoing with ballpark figure of 60K. – Still no update from Alan – ongoing- Complicated by fact new Fairwood Development have offered to deal and pay for a crossing if they gain planning permission for their new development. Long term project on going. (Persimmon have lost outline planning, but awaiting result if/when they appeal to Welsh Government)

**Missing walk/cycle link on B4295.**  Working with fellow Gowerton Councillor Susan Jones and Penclawdd Councillor Andrew Williams plus missing link action group. it has been agreed that the route it will take is alongside the pavement, taking the old railway line route where possible. A survey, costings and report will now be produced and then passed for funding. This process is going to take a good two years to implement, but we will appraise you all whenever there is an update. (ongoing)

**Walking and cycle path – new** walking path behind Pobl development Gorwydd Road{on-going}

**Glanmorfa tree cutting-** Some trees have been cut but then the tree cutters haven’t been back, working with Community Councillor Mrs Small on this- ongoing

**Ward Surgery** – Rechabite Hall February 22nd, 2025, 10am to 11am all welcome. Alternatively, please email cllr.dai.jenkins@swansea.gov.uk for any issues or drop me a direct message on Gowerton Guardians on Facebook

**117. Grants – (Cllr Erasmus)**

Cllr Erasmus is looking into what grants are available. Ongoing.

**118. Tree protectors in the Culvert on Bryn y Mor Road. (Cllr B Small**).

Swansea Council have been notified again.

**119. Pedestrian Crossing at Gorwydd Road**

 – ongoing. No further information from Cllr Andrew Stevens or Highways Department at Swansea Council. This has been followed up twice and still no response from Cllr Stevens.

**120. Elba gates (Cllr B Small)**

Elba gates at the childrens park is dangerous. One gate opens out and is so loose anyone can move it.

Another gate is jammed open on tarmac. Contact Ceri Davies at Swansea Council to report.

**121. 18/19 Audit bill (Cllr P Evans)**

It was agreed to pay the outstanding bill of £1380. The correct audit procedure is being followed to ensure this will not happen again.

**122. Voting to fill the vacancy for Councillor.**

Vote for conducting the vote for councillor at the meeting – 2 against. 1 abstain, 7 for.

Private vote was undertaken.

Katharine Jennings won the vote to be co opted on.

Agenda item to be put on next months meeting for procedure for voting on councillors.

**123.** Active travel links from Gowerton to Penclawdd. Joe Muldoon has requested to speak at the beginning of the meeting.

Community council agreed to support and write to Steve Williams.

**124 Set date of next meeting.**

The next meeting will be on Wednesday 5 March 2025 at the Con Club in Gowerton.

**Meeting closed at 20:38**

**Signed\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (Chairperson)**

**Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

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