

GOWERTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

CYNGOR CYMUNEDOL TREGŴYR

Minutes of the meeting held at Gowerton Con Club at 7.30pm on Wednesday 7 December 2022

PRESENT: Councillors, Susan Jones, Ann Guard, Matt Palmer, Barbara Small, Cllrs Brian Edy, Kaylie Ridgway., Lyneth Howells, Amanda Guard, Peter Morgan, Gareth Evans, Pat Evans
Ward Member Cllr Dai Jenkins, Clerk to the Council: Allison James.

In the absence of Cllr Ros Holt, Cllr Matt Palmer chaired the meeting.

67. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** – Cllrs Ros Holt, June Merrells
68. **DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST FROM MEMBERS:** None
69. **MEETINGS WITH:** None required
70. **TO RECEIVE ANY PUBLIC REPRESENTATION:** Mr Dean Mason from Gowerton Athletic club spoke about events planned for next year and how Community Council could get involved.
71. **COUNCIL MINUTES:** 2 November 2022
- a) The Minutes were accepted as a true record. Proposed by Cllr Sue Jones.. Seconded by Cllr Barbara Small.
b) Matters Arising: The written report of the Clerk regarding matters arising and subsequent actions taken were noted.
72. **TO RECEIVE THE REPORT OF THE WARD MEMBERS:**

REPORT FROM WARD MEMBER, COUNCILLOR SUE JONES

During this month I have attended many meetings both in the Council and as a Governor in both the Comprehensive and Primary Schools. It was with great pleasure I attended the Remembrance Service at the Comprehensive School where Miss Kath Lawlor spoke of the many Gowertonians that paid the ultimate sacrifice in the both World Wars. I would like to thank Gerald Burgess for his lone soldier carving, which is situated in the remembrance garden at the School. I also attended the remembrance service at the flag pole in the village where Rev.Alex Pye conducted the emotional tribute.

During this month the information Pod in the Elba was well attended, giving information on the Active Travel link between Gowerton and Loughor. The link is going to enter into the Elba via a new access from Pont y Cob. I have also had information on the missing section between Gowerton and Penclawdd.

"Thank you for passing on this query regarding active travel links between Penclawdd and Gowerton. We are aware of the 'missing link' of cycleway between Gowerton and Penclawdd and can appreciate the position this puts the resident of Cefn Styllle Road in, as the gap in provision sits across the junction of this road with the B4295 leading to and from Gowerton.

Swansea Council assessed options along this route some years ago looking at completing an active travel (walking and cycling) link to Penclawdd from the existing network in Gowerton. At the time there were cost and land considerations which meant that plans were put on hold. However, the Council is reviewing this area following feedback from members of the public, stakeholders and considering the context of proposed walking and cycling improvements between [Loughor and Gowerton](#) which would potentially compliment a link to Penclawdd.

The potential future route is identified in our recently approved 'Active Travel Network Map' (ATNM) which sets out existing and aspirational future routes. In the below screenshot, 'existing' routes are a solid pink line, 'potential future routes' are shown as a dashed purple line, and I've marked Cefn Styllle Road myself in yellow. Please note, the presence of potential future routes on the ATNM doesn't mean they will be delivered imminently, but it does allow Swansea Council to bid to secure Welsh Government grant funding to develop and consult on proposals.

You can view Swansea's ATNM on the Welsh Government's 'DataMapWales' website here: "[View map | DataMapWales](#)

I attended the Fayre which was held for the Temple which was well attended and raised much needed funds.

Walk and Talk are having their Christmas celebration this week at Y Shed and the Art Class Celebrations are being held in the Church Hall next week.

I was invited to talk to the Mothers Union and gave a history of my Community involvement in Gowerton since 1986. I was very nervous but the ladies were very friendly and welcoming.

The new Bus Shelter being established near the Coin Wash has caused much worry with the owner of the business because it will not allow customers to drop off and pick up their washing. I have contacted the Officer on this project and he has made alterations which I hope will address the fears. I have visited this business over the last few weeks ensuring that his voice is heard. I have a meeting there this week with an Officer to discuss.

Ongoing issues being explored to address the flooding problems of the village, with some meeting being arranged. After many years of trying to address this hopefully Councillor Dai Jenkins and I will make some progress.

I have also seen the proposals for the former Primary School site which will get rid of a vandalised building. I was pleased that the Candidate Site in that area of Woodland would hopefully remain.

There has been a vandalism issue in a electricity block in the Elba and this affected the lights along the access road of the Primary School and the electric barrier at the beginning of that road. The bill was directed at the School and to discuss this I have requested a meeting with relevant Officers.

I have purchased from my Community budget , a Signed Osprey Rugby Jersey and a Ladies Welsh Hockey vest for the Primary School to encourage all to participate in Sport and to have role models from our Community

This week I have attended the Brangwyn Hall to volunteer for "Together at Christmas" Apart from the delicious hot food (served expertly by the Leader and other Councillors!), a range of agencies had stalls where people could seek advice, and there was a good array of clothing and shoes available for guests to help themselves. Nurses were also available to administer Covid vaccination boosters to those who wanted it, or just general health advice. It was a pleasure to be part of this team. We had over 400 people come through the doors and served over 600 meals. A remarkable effort and clearly an increase in need over previous years

Unfortunately, I have not held my normal monthly surgery at the Library because I was away with members of St.John's Church in Torquay. During the month many issues from residents have been dealt with.

Lastly can I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Healthy 2023.

REPORT FROM WARD MEMBER, COUNCILLOR DAI JENKINS

Cllr Dai Jenkins – Monthly Report 1st November to 4th December 2022

I attended a meeting with Swansea City Council's Deputy Leader and management regarding the former Cefn Gorwydd Colliery Gowerton Swansea SA4 3AN following several complaints from nearby residents, and the concerns on access to and from the site when new residents use their motor vehicles. I have suggested a no right turn, so motorists leaving the new site would turn left and then go around a mini roundabout situated at the Bishwell Road Junction Upon visiting the site, management assured me that they and planning have no reason to be concerned, plus Gowerton Community Council have advised that the mini roundabout will cause more problems with traffic flow, I have withdrawn that avenue of enquiry. I am still not convinced though, but only time will tell when the site is up and running. If the no right turn was implemented, a new bus shelter would have been provided outside 121 Gorwydd Road, that will now not take place. The green benches in Park Road Park need painting. This is ongoing and will take place in the spring when the weather improves

Speeding of cyclists between Gowerton and Dunvant after several complaints from residents who feel too afraid to walk now on that path. I have chased this up via email and have asked for results and a forward plan before the end of the year.

Parking – Exploring the possibility of altering four parking spaces in Talbot Street to two hourly parking-This in on hold whilst residents explore other options, including extra parking permits for carers. Residents will monitor availability of parking and come back to me if that doesn't resolve issue. Complicating the issues is the fact Gwyr are considering a

pelican crossing on the area, although that idea had gone quiet when the cost was quoted. If Pelican crossing was to be implemented, then the four parking spaces will be dissolved and removed due to zig zag painting on the road in that area. Working hard to obtain a report for improvements of Cecil/ Gorwydd Road – asking if possible if the two sets of cushions with “gaps” where motorists just drive through, can be replaced with one single speed “ramp”. Any improvements will be sent to consultation before implementation. Also asking if any funds are available for road surfacing in near future? (Due to volume of other ward constituents using Gowerton’s roads daily). That report has been asked for by 1.12.22, due to a recent speed survey and awaiting those results. This report has not been made available. I hope to raise the question in a scrutiny meeting, if not I will escalate to a senior officer.

Mini Orchard has been paid for, and it will be situated diagonally between Tescos and the Elba Estate on the grassy knoll. I will be chasing to find out a firm delivery date this week and I have also secured two extra apple trees from Swansea City Council, and a volunteering team to help plant them round January time. I am aware that Gowerton Community Council, whilst fully in favour of a mini orchard, expressed concerns at my choice of area for the orchard, I therefore reached out and acquired advice on the matter with Summitgood and have been advised “*The apples trees you’ve ordered are on an MM106 rootstock which produces a very middle of the road tree. Classified as both “semi-dwarfing” and “semi-vigorous” it’s considered a good all-rounder. Although it’s possible it can grow quite tall (4/5m) - with appropriate pruning and orchard care you can keep these trees to a manageable 2-3m. You’re looking between 5-10 years to reach this kind of height.*

Complaints have been received about vans, buses, and cars parking on yellow lines in Elba and causing obstruction and danger to pedestrians and children. Online meeting has taken place with Road Safety Officer who has promised a site visit and forward plan. I also discussed the poor choice of parking in the estate opposite Gowerton Rugby Club i.e the cul de sacs off Fairwood Terrace, I am awaiting forward plan and site visit.

The Cleansing Team are doing a fantastic job in Gowerton and I have reported this month Ravensfield, Wood View, Brookside, Bishwell Road, Springfield Close, the lane from Cecil Road to Park Road, the lane from Talbot Green to Mount Pleasant and the edging on new shared cycle path from Alder Way to towards water works driveway road.

Attended Full Council meetings on 3rd November, before the 3rd of November’s meeting we were presented to the Full Council Fire Authority Presentation. On 4th November online discussion to having a new bin at George Manning Way and on Gorwydd Road near Bishwell Road (Instead of the missing Dog Litter Bin) On 8th November I was present at the AGM of Shaws Wood and Gowerton Open Spaces Community.

On 11th November I met with staff and management of Gowerton Library and laid a wreath on behalf of Gowerton Residents at the Ceremony at the Flag at Gowertons Triangle.

On 12th November I was present at the Climate Emergency change Rally Castle square. On 13th November I visited The Cenotaph on Swansea Bay Promenade with my wife for a remembrance service.

On 14th November Scrutiny Performance Panel on Development and Regeneration. On 15th November online presentation on Crimestoppers. 21st November Youth Officers meeting in Gorseinon for advice on reaching out to young people to gain views on where to place Youth Smart Bench in Gowerton. – later on, 21st special extraordinary Swansea City Council On 22nd November I reported a health and safety risk in lane just over Waunaryydd Boundary on Gowerton track to shared cycle/walk track through a wooded area to Countryside Access Officer.

Held a ward Surgery for all Gowertons residents at Rechabite Hall 25th November. An informative meeting took place with six residents who live in Bryn Y Mor Road. I have a number of action points to pursue in regard to flooding in this area. Initially, I will be meeting with Cllr Sue Jones on 16.12.22 at a residents address and walk the area to take photographs and consider a joint action plan moving forward on all action points, which relate to various issues around flooding on this area of Gowerton.

December 1st. I attended a scrutiny meeting online dealing with Road Safety scrutiny – offered up a report to study and forward questions before start of business 5th December at the Guild Hall. Later in evening on 1st December I appeared at a full council meeting at Guildhall. 4th December I submitted several questions to be asked at the Road safety scrutiny meeting of 7th December.

Supplementary cases and issues in the Gowerton Ward area include ~

1. On site visit with Cllr Sue Jones and Alan Ferris to discuss Pelican Crossing over Victoria Road, ongoing with ballpark figure of 60K. – Still no update from Alan – on going
2. . Request for a roundabout at junction of Bishwell Road, working on a fuller solution, which will incorporate a left turn only out of new Gorwydd Colliery estate – again in consultation with residents who are involved the most. Awaiting approval of my letter to residence. No update still ongoing
3. . Near Glanmorfa large trees on main road – ongoing. No update received

4. . Safer entrance to Oakwood Road shared cycle track / ongoing will take months to sort this one – will take up in the new year.
5. Gowerton park in Park Road, been approached by residents on and offline asking for improvements- trying to get external funding but will be using my community budget if not to upgrade. A bench has been ordered and paid for out of my allocation of Gowerton Ward budget. and photographs of extra equipment to place in Gowerton Park sent, ongoing as will depend on costs.
6. Queried patch 18 outside 81 Gorwydd Rd, and arranged for that ti be patched up, it was, but a gap was evident, so reported that to pothole team who shored that up
7. Reported issue with drains in Gorwydd Road after early November flooding.
8. CC'd into email for a request to upgrade Elba, waiting to attend a full forum meeting to discuss in detail.
9. Ask to pursue winter lighting in Gowertons section of shared cycle track and walking track on way towards Blackpill.. Email sent asking Active Travel if they have funds to support that ask.

73. REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN

None received.

74. REPORT OF THE CLERK

74a MISCELLANEOUS

1. Clerk to submit training plan for approval as per One Voice Wales guidelines.
2. Discuss disposal of files in storage cupboard.
3. Final orders and confirmation of Xmas Dinner on 14th December.
4. Discuss final arrangements for Santa parade.
5. Confirmation of next years' floral displays.
6. Dean Beynon from the Commercial has requested to be considered for Xmas lights for next year.
7. Xmas lights on what used to be The Man Cave – no access so no lights put up.
8. No lights on Motleys Pies as the box was taken down during refurbishment and not replaced. Motleys will need to replace the box before lights can be installed.

74b FINANCIAL MATTERS

Order Number	Payment type	Date	Creditor	Subject		Total
101	Bank Transfer	03/11/2022	HP Instant Ink	November	2.75	16.49
102	Bank Transfer	10/11/2022	Cllr L Howells	Reimbursement for materials		33
103	Bank Transfer	14/11/2022	HMRC	September - month 6		279.64
104	Visa Debit	15/11/2022	Amazon	Welsh Flag		5.89
105	Bank Transfer	15/11/2022	Clerk	Phone Allowance		38.99
						374.01
106	Bank Transfer	24/11/2022	Swansea Council	Floral Display 2022	434.67	2608.00
107	Bank Transfer	25/11/2022	Salaries	Nov-22		1345.67
						3953.67

74C CORRESPONDENCE

During the month of November we received approx. 200 emails.

These consisted of emails from Councillors, One Voice Wales, marketing emails etc which need no action.

Emails containing the weekly planning lists were all sent on to Councillors for information before the monthly meeting.

I have been copied into emails from Cllr Susan Jones regarding issues in the village she has received as Ward Member which she has reported.

We received an email from One Voice Wales giving the minutes of the Area Committee Meeting, which I attended online.

We received an email from a local resident who has been experience problems with cars parking outside her house and driveway. This has been passed on to Cllr Sue Jones who will contact the local PSCO if applicable.

We have received notification from Democratic services that we will be receiving an invoice for £255 for election charges.

An email received from a local resident in Woodlands asking that the bollards be removed.

An email from Cllr Lyneth Howells saying that there are old documents and files in the storage cupboard at the Rechabite Hall which need to be sorted and disposed off accordingly.

Our instagram account has 331 posts and 495 followers.

75. QUESTIONS RELATIVE TO COUNCIL BUSINESS

1. Cllr Lyneth Howells has made more snowflakes and will put them up over the weekend.
2. Cllr Kaylie Ridgway mentioned Parking on Elba at school times. Iain Ashton, head teacher is trying to sort out parking at the Elba with Parks Dept and Freedom Leisure, Cllr Sue Jones informed us.
3. Cllr Brian Edy – quality of service from bus service 116 has been bad. Buses turning up late – half an hour. Broken down etc. Doors not closing properly. Brian to raise the issues with the bus company.
4. Cllr Peter Morgan said that lorries are parking on the pavement and near entrance of Cefn Gorwydd.
Reported to PCSO that a drug deal took place at 2.30pm in the afternoon recently. Description given to police.
5. Cllr Gareth Evans said he has stood down as chair of policy committee on OVW. Resigned from OVW as not going back to face to face and migraine issues mean cannot continue.
6. Focus brochure – email sent to clerk and chair expressing disappoint that CC was mentioned in a political document. Gowerton CC prides itself on being non political. The Councillor involved appreciates the issues this could cause.
7. Cllr Pat Evans attended an exhibition on Farmers which raised the importance of supporting local farmers.
Litter pick – patches that are unacceptable. Meeting with deputy headmaster of Gwyr comp school, Gareth Jenkins to arrange a litter pick on 21 December. Pupils will help as part of DOE. Would like to offer welsh lessons, surfing the net lessons, regular litter pick.
8. Cllr Barbara Small - Cleansing team – can they clean the path by shaws wood next to Dan y Allt? Cllrs Sue Jones and Dai Jenkins to arrange.
If there is money towards Gowerton Park – can we have something like Waunarlwydd Park.
Farmer on Penyfodau is losing his farm due to Solar Farm. Because he rents it he doesn't have any option.

Cllr Brian Edy will go through their response in some detail and write a list of questions. Brian to visit the farm.

76. **PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

Application No: 2022/2252/FUL Date Registered: 25.11.2022 Electoral Division: Gowerton - Area 2 Status: Being Considered Map Ref: 259094 196274 Development Type: All Other Minor Dev Location: 88 Sterry Road, Gowerton, Swansea, SA4 3BW Proposal: Replacement shop front Applicant: Mr Stephen Brannigan Agent:

No Objection

Application No: 2022/2266/FUL Date Registered: 22.11.2022 Electoral Division: Gowerton - Area 2 Status: Being Considered Map Ref: 258963 196301 Development Type: All Other Minor Dev Location: Gowerton Dog Grooming, 51 Sterry Road, Gowerton, Swansea, SA4 3BS Proposal: Replacement front door and roller shutters Applicant: Ms Alison Davies

No Objection

Date of next meeting – 4 January 2023

Meeting closed 21.23

Chairperson

.....

