

**GOWERTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL**  
**CYNGOR CYMUNEDOL TREGŴYR**

**Minutes of the meeting held at Gowerton Con Club at 7.30pm on Wednesday 9 November 2022**

**PRESENT:** Councillors Ros Holt, Susan Jones, Ann Guard, Matt Palmer, Barbara Small, Cllrs Brian Edy, Kaylie Ridgway, June Merrells, Lyneth Howells, Amanda Guard, Peter Morgan, Ward Member Cllr Dai Jenkins

Clerk to the Council: Allison James.

**57. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** – Gareth Evans, Pat Evans

**58. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST FROM MEMBERS:** None

**59. MEETINGS WITH:** None required

**60. TO RECEIVE ANY PUBLIC REPRESENTATION:** None

**61. COUNCIL MINUTES:** 7 October 2022

a) The Minutes were accepted as a true record. Proposed by Cllr Barbara Small. Seconded by Cllr Amanda Guard.

b) Matters Arising: The written report of the Clerk regarding matters arising and subsequent actions taken were noted.

**62. TO RECEIVE THE REPORT OF THE WARD MEMBERS:**

**REPORT FROM WARD MEMBER, COUNCILLOR SUE JONES**

The last month has seemed so quick. Again it has been busy. There have been a number of Scrutiny meetings which you can either attend in person or on Teams on the computer. There was a celebration of former Councillors being given the status of Aldermen which I attended. We honoured Former Councillors June Burtonshaw, Des Thomas, Mark Child's, and Gareth Sullivan. They served Swansea for many years and was good to see this being recognised.

I also dealt with many issues for individual residents. I attended the funeral of a former Mayoress Iris Richards wife of former Mayor Ioan Richards. I have been made Vice Chairperson on the Governing body of Gowerton Primary School and attended a meeting at the School for the first time for over 2 years.

Myself and Councillor Jenkins met with Officers to discuss the rerouting of the buses in the village to connect the bus provision to the train station. Active Travel are giving grants to encourage people to use the public transport and not their cars. We discussed

1. Two new bus shelters, one between the lights of the Doctors surgery and C.K's lights on the inner relief road - this will make it easier for the Penclawdd patients to access the surgery and one outside the Coin Wash for easier access to the Train Station. There will be digital information at these to advertise the bus and train times.
2. Alterations to the crossing provision at the CK lights.
3. Digital information on the bus stop outside Nomad's.

During the meeting we also discussed the following issues -

1. Speeding buses along Sterry Road.
2. The bus parking on Mansel Street ( which is a long standing issue)
3. Mini buses mounting the pavement in Park Rd causing a danger to children at the end of the school day.
4. Buses parking in Park Rd from 1.00pm daily.
5. Mini buses now parking on the lay-by off Pen y Dre waiting for the end of day pick ups at Park Rd.
6. Replacement of the bus shelter at the bottom of the Bishwell.

The Art Class is busy making poppies to decorate the Church for Remembrance Day service. The Church now displays the gift of the display of tiles of poppies made by the pupils from Gowerton Comprehensive School. I would like to thank the Headteacher Kath Lawlor and the pupils for their kind gift to the village. Could I also thank Mr. Gerald Burgess for his gift of a soldier plaque in remembrance of the World Wars which I have given to Gowerton Comprehensive School to add to their Remembrance Garden which is situated in the heart of the School. Gowerton Comprehensive annually have a very emotional service in the school to remember local heroes from surrounding villages.

There has been some anti-social behaviour at the start of the Cycle Path at Alder Way which has resulted in the destroying of the litter bin and it's housing bars. They have been located in the river? This mindless vandalism has been reported to the Police and I have asked for a replacement bin.

I am in discussion with the Primary School regarding parents parking on the double yellow lines in the Elba Sports Area at the collection times at the end of the School day. I would appeal to the parents to park in the carpark and not to cause concern for the safety of all children. The provision of parking facilities is more than adequate in the carpark.

I have to apologise to the family who requested a memorial bench on the cycle path between Gowerton and Gorseinon because the information that this is licensed land and this would not be considered has been challenged. Councillor Jenkins has organised a joint provision of a bench between Gowerton and Gorseinon, and Councillors from both wards are contributing to the cost through their Community budgets.

I helped with "Messy Church" for the "Pont Gors Fawr Benefice" in St. Barnabas Church over the weekend and was disappointed that no one from Gowerton attended. It is a safe environment for children and their parents to do craft and activities which is associated with the teachings of the Church. They also provide a snack for all to eat together.

Some new Businesses have opened in the village - Honeybee Home Interiors and Avanni Kitchens. Also a new Sweet Shop ,Yummy Bears ,which is opening soon on the corner of Talbot Street. I wish them all well in their business ventures.

The Bridge at the Rugby Club has again been hit this evening (Tuesday the 1st of November) the vehicle didn't stop. I have reported to the Highway Department. The debris was cleared quickly by the Police and Railway personnel.

I am holding my monthly surgery on Saturday the 5th of November 2022 from 11.00 am to 12 noon at Gowerton Library. No appointments necessary and all welcome.

## **REPORT FROM WARD MEMBER, COUNCILLOR DAI JENKINS**

### **Cllr Dai Jenkins – Monthly Report 4<sup>th</sup> October to 31<sup>st</sup> October 2022**

I am liaising with officers regarding the former Cefn Gorwydd Colliery Gowerton Swansea SA4 3AN on several complaints from nearby residents, and the concerns on access to and from the site when new residents use their motor vehicles. The green benches in Park Road Park need painting so have asked for "neat" team to help. If not, will ask for volunteers. I am investigating- with help of officers- apparent speeding of cyclists between Gowerton and Dunvant after several complaints from residents who feel too afraid to walk now on that path. Attended Farming Community Network organisation in South Gower to see a great display on the work they do to help all the farming community, especially Farmers with Mental Health Issues. Visited Sight Life at coffee shop in Grand Theatre and introduced to how blind, and visually impaired residents are affected by everyday issues (especially buses).

Parking – Exploring the possibility altering four parking spaces in Talbot St to two hourly parking, so health visitors who visit the nearby residents have somewhere to park to assist our residents 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. Any news before then I will advise.

At Rechabite Hall on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> October I ran a surgery for residents and the next surgery is 25<sup>th</sup> November between 10.00am and 11.00am- all welcome. Mini Orchard has been paid for, and it will be situated diagonally between Tescos and the Elba Estate on the grassy knoll. Complaints have been received about vans, buses, and cars parking on yellow lines in Elba and causing obstruction and danger to pedestrians and children. Liaising with officer on advice to tackle residents' concerns. Suggested a new idea for a trial of Five Fuel Friends, but that may be superseded with Warm Hubs in Swansea Community – Liaising with officers to see if one can be arranged for Gowerton.

I received online training into "County Lines" on how to spot vulnerable residents being used as drug mules and their environments and homes being exploited by out of area drug gangs. Consulted Cockett Ward Cllr Mark Durke to discuss and "pick his brain" on advice about better equipment for teenagers in the Gowerton area of Park Rad and Elba. Additionally liaised with Parks and sent photographs of Gorseinon Park set up, with hope of raising funds or using some of the community Budget to enhance Gowerton's parks. A zip wire would be the most expensive. If installed, I will

coordinate with nearby residents initially, and of course the children and teenagers who will use it. Ongoing long-term project which I will update here from time to time, and I have meetings with Youth Officers set for November. Helped a resident with a planning issue, attended full council at the Guild Hall and assisted in laying of some wood chipping in Shaws Wood. Joined with my wife Michelle the Gowerton Twinning organisation.

### **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. I was excited to gain permission via an Officer for use of leased land between Gowerton and Gorseinon to place a permanent bench situated at the halfway point between our two villages (Wards) on the shared cycle and walkway. A big thank you to the following Councillors who shared the cost of this bench with me to make this happen – Cllr Sue Jones (Gowerton Ward) and Cllr Rob Smith, Cllr Kelly Roberts & Cllr Adam Smith (All Gorseinon Ward)
7. Arranged for cleansing team to visit Pen Y Dre- Excellent job done.

### **63. REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN**

I visited the train station and sent off reports. I have written to Transport for Wales to express disappointment at only two people receiving one ticket for travel and explained that we have several volunteers who may not have registered and requested advice on registering. No reply has been received as yet.

We decorated the church with poppies for Remembrance Day with the art group. I also put up poppies in the Square along with Cllr Susan Jones and Pam Evans. The poppies were kindly made by Mrs Viv Davies.

I am glad to see some parts of the roads being re-surfaced though we are still receiving complaints regarding the speed bumps.

It is nice to see positive comments on social media regarding the politeness of children and young people going around on Halloween.

I would like to express our condolences on behalf of Gowerton Community Council to former Councillor Lynne Carey, and her husband, Peter and their family on the very sad loss of their daughter Helen.

I shall be attending Remembrance Services at the Comprehensive School, then at the Flagpole at 10.45am and later at St Johns Church.

### **64. REPORT OF THE CLERK**

#### **64a MISCELLANEOUS**

1. I have emailed Peter Carey, Gowerton Con Club to ask if they would like payment when we hold our monthly meetings to help towards the rising cost of utility bills. I have since heard the sad news of the passing of Peter and Lynnes daughter. Gowerton Community Council would like to offer their condolences at this sad time.
2. I attended the Area meeting of One Voice Wales. It was mentioned that we should look into speaker systems in the event we have requests for people to join the meeting remotely so they can hear what is being said.
3. I have sent invoices out for the cost of hanging baskets supplied to businesses. I have not yet received an invoice from the Parks Dept.

4. Discuss Xmas lights/tree dates.
5. Viv Davies has kindly made poppies to put around the village and will put up the poppies in their usual places.
6. Cllr Lyneth Howells has bought materials for snowflakes. Reimbursement of £33 approved.
7. Councillors wishing to receive the remuneration fee will need to provide NI numbers as it will need to be declared for tax purposes and paid through payroll system. This is according to One Voice Wales guidance.

#### 54b FINANCIAL MATTERS

Order Number	Payment type	Date	Creditor	Subject	Total	
95	Bank Transfer	03/10/2022	HP Instant Ink	October Ink	16.49	GA
97	Bank Transfer	03/10/2022	Clerk	Office Expenses Qtr 2	200	CE
98	Bank Transfer	17/10/2022	Clerk	Phone Allowance Oct	38.99	CE
99	Bank Transfer	17/10/2022	Bay Landscapes Ltd	September Invoice	243.5	GM
		24/10/2022	Gowerton RFC	Hanging basket payment	-82.5	Receipt
		24/10/2022	Evercoat Home Imp	Hanging basket payment	-123.75	Receipt
100	Bank Transfer	25/10/2022	Salaries	October	873.49	S
		27/10/2022	Phone Link	Hanging basket payment	-82.5	Receipt
<b>Total for October</b>					<b>1083.72</b>	

Balance as at  
31/9/22 29363.09

Balance as at  
1/10/22 29363.09

Balance as at  
17/10/22 29445.59

Balance as at  
30/10/22 28279.37

#### authorisation Forthcoming payments in October for

Bay Landscapes	Month of October	£243.50
Clerk Salary	November	£873.49
Instant Ink	Monthly cost	£16.49
Phone Allowance	November	£38.99

Invoices expected for Floral Display – will chase up with Parks Dept.

#### 64c CORRESPONDENCE

During the month of October we received approx. 150 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.

I have emailed Mr Dean Mason to invite him to our meeting to discuss possible events for next year.

I have emailed the list of questions that Cllr Brian Edy put together for the Taiyo group.

I received an email from Gowerton Comprehensive School invited Community Council to attend an assembly for Remembrance Day on 11 November 2022, which has been passed onto Councillors.

I received an email inviting Councillors to an exhibition about the hardships Farmers face. This was in the Gower Sports Club. Cllr Pat Evans attended.

Our instagram account has 325 posts and 481 followers.

## **65. QUESTIONS RELATIVE TO COUNCIL BUSINESS**

1. Cllr Peter Morgan commented on Cllr Dai Jenkin's report – mini roundabout will cause problems with traffic flow near Cefn Gorwydd site.
2. Put list of questions to Tayo on website and send to councillors to post on social media.
3. Cllr Brian Edy brought up subject of bus shelters. One outside Laundrette on Gorwydd Road. One on inner link road near doctors surgery. One at bottom of Bishwell needs to be replaced. Cllr Dai Jenkins said plans to replace.  
Write about bus stop that they want to put outside the laundry. Problems with parking and people stopping to drop off laundry. Also, too near the traffic lights. Simon L Jones – Active Travel.  
Request someone from Active Travel would come talk to us.
4. Dean from Commercial – will do a pub quiz on evening of 11<sup>th</sup> Dec to carry festivities on. Cllr Lyneth Howells to contact Linda Bolchover to sort xmas decs from Rechabite hall.  
Cllr Kaylie Ridgway volunteered to buy chocolate bars to give out to children in the grotto. Kaylie to go on carriage. Paul Emmerton to be santa on carriage. Phil to be santa in grotto.
5. Update on flooding. Local residents experienced extensive flooding. Drainage system is not adequate. £50k been spent on culvert on Brynymor road but residents are chucking garden waste over fences and clogging this.  
Gwyr putting carpark above library is going to cause drainage problems. Houses in George Manning way is causing more problems. Drainage system is Victorian and not adequate.  
  
Write to NRW/Planning/Welsh Water to raise concern about recent floods. Cllr Peter Morgan is to compose a letter. Cllr Morgan has concerns about water running from Cefn Gorwydd from River Llan – contaminated with diesel etc. Water is going to go near railway line or bottom end of development.  
Cllr Sue Jones has called into the site and spoken to site manager. Local resident had complained about flood washing muck onto the pavements. Site manager will arrange for clean up.
6. Cllr Matt Palmer compiled letter to the Fire Service on behalf of Community Council to thank them for their assistance during the recent floods in Gowerton.
7. Cllr Ann Guard said there is a lot of rubbish by the bridge. Cllr Dai Jenkins has reported it. He will chase it up.
8. Cllr Sue Jones requested that we buy a new Welsh flag for the flag pole.

## **66. PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

**Application No: 2022/2191/FUL Date Registered: 26.09.2022 Electoral Division: Gowerton - Area 2 Status: Being Considered Map Ref: 259137 196267 Development Type: All Other Minor Dev Location: 98 Sterry Road, Gowerton, Swansea, SA4 3BW**  
Proposal: Retention of four retractable awnings to rear pergola Applicant: Mr Sam Richards Agent:

**Application No: 2022/2296/NMA Date Registered: 11.10.2022 Electoral Division: Gowerton - Area 2 Status:**  
Pending Decision Map Ref: 257296 196517 Development Type: NMA Location: 14 Cefn Style Road, Gowerton,  
Swansea, SA4 3QS  
Proposal: Detached dwelling (Variation of condition 2 of planning permission 2018/2346/FUL granted 19th December  
2018) to allow for grey upvc windows and white upvc rainwater goods Applicant: Ms Carol-Ann Mabbett Agent

**Date of next meeting – Wednesday 7 December 2022.**

**Meeting closed at 21.20pm**

**Chairperson**

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