GOWERTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

**CYNGOR CYMUNEDOL TREGŴYR**

**Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council**

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

**on Wednesday 6 November 2024**

**PRESENT**:

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

Pat Evans, Lyneth Howells, Susan Jones, Barbara Small, Wayne Erasmus,

Lynne Carey,

**Clerk to the Council:** Allison James

**80 Apologies for absence** – June Merrells, Gareth Evans, Ros Holt

**81** **Disclosures of Personal & Prejudicial Interests**

In accordance with the Code of Conduct adopted by Gowerton Community Council, interests were declared by Cllr Dai Jenkins in regard to the planning application for 12 Alderway, Gowerton.

**82** **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 2 October 2024

**83 Announcements of the Chair of Council**

The chair announced that no election had been requested following the advertisement of the vacancy for a councillor.

**84 Public Question Time**

No public questions.

**85 Record of Payments**

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|  |  |  | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | **Balance as at 26/9/24** | **32342.67** |  |
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|  |  | |  |  | **Total for September** | **-7880.08** | **124.82** | **-7755.26** |  |  | **Reserves balance** | **13067.09** |  |
| **PO** |  | | **Date** | **Payee** | **Description** | **Net** | **VAT** | **Gross** |  | **Code** |  |  |  |
| 58 |  | | 02/10/2024 | Clerk | Reimbursement for paper | 8.3 | 0 | 8.3 |  | GE |  |  |  |
| 59 |  | | 03/10/2024 | HP Instant Ink | October | 15.41 | 3.08 | 18.49 |  | GA |  |  |  |
| 60 |  | | 03/10/2024 | Cllr Pat Evans | Travel Expenses | 54 | 0 | 54 |  | T |  |  |  |
| Oct |  | | 15/10/2024 | Clerk | Phone Allowance - Oct |  | 0 |  |  | CE |  |  |  |
| 62 |  | | 16/10/2024 | HMRC | 6/9/24-5/10/24 | GDPR | 0 | GDPR |  | HMRC |  |  |  |
| 63 |  | | 25/10/2024 | Clerk | Salary - Oct | GDPR | 0 | GDPR |  | S | **Balance as at 31/10/24** | **30992.22** |  |
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|  |  | |  |  | **Total for October** | **1347.37** | **3.08** | **1350.45** |  |  | **Reserves balance** | **13067.09** |  |
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It was resolved that:

1) The Payments & Receipts be noted.

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

Payments to be authorised for November 2024

Bay Landscape Ltd November £243.50

Clerk Salary November £952.06

Nest Pension £103.66

HP instant Ink Sept £18.49

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

**Correspondence for the month of October 2024.**

Emails from OVW giving details of training courses and other information.

Emails from Dean Mason regarding Autumn Fun updates.

Planning applications from Swansea Council have been forwarded on as applicable

Letter sent an Email received from Gowerton Caravan Club as per last meeting’s agenda item.

Email correspondence from Swansea Council Officer regarding Pelican Crossing. Still awaiting full answer on the question of when it will be in place.

Phone call from Vision ICT apologising for being so late in sending out the final invoice for the website design. They have been experiencing staffing problems.

Email from Viv Davies kindly offering to put the plastic poppies up as per usual in November.

Spoke to Rev Ben Jones re remembrance service on 11/11/24.

Email from Bay Landscapes Ltd stating that if weather conditions allow, they will do the work around the flagpole before the service. If not, then it will be afterwards, but they won’t leave it in a state of repair for the service.

An email from Huw Evans, Democratic services giving information about the Review of the Charter between Swansea Council and the Community / Town Councils within its area.

The Forum agreed to establish a Sub-Group to review the Charter and in due course to outline its suggestions / recommendations back to the Forum.

Cllr Wayn Erasmus has volunteered to join the subgroup.

An email from One Voice Wales giving the new paygrades following the agreed pay award.

An email from One Voice Wales attaching the new model financial regulations for 2024 to be agreed and adopted at the meeting then displayed on the council website.

**87. Planning Matters**

**Application No: 2024/1917/TPO**

Date Registered: 14.10.2024 Electoral Division: Gowerton - Area 2

Status: Being Considered Map Ref: 258428 196426

Development Type: Tree Preservation Orders Location: 23 William Bowen Close, Gowerton, Swansea, SA4 3HE

Proposal: To lop four Oak trees covered by TPO No: 451

Applicant: Mr Peter Hayman Agent: Mr Robin Cantellow

**TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACTS 1990-2004**

**NEIGHBOUR CONSULTATIONS**

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| **Application No:** | 2024/1594/FUL |
| **Site Location:** | 71 Sterry Road Gowerton Swansea SA4 3BN |
| **Proposal:** | Change of Use of part of ground floor from a Shop (Use Class A1) to a communal Living Room for upper floor House of Multiple Occupation, together with Change of Use of First and Second Floor Gym/Flats (Class D2/C3) to a 14 Bed House of Multiple Occupation and fenestration alterations (Amended plans and decription) |

**87 Gowerton Ward Councillors Update**

**Cllr Susan Jones**

The month started with the Planning Committee meeting on the application for 216 houses in Fairwood Terrace.  The Committee refused the request for this application and now we have to wait for an appeal to be made by the developer and follow further process.

During this month the free activities have started organised by the Summer of Fun Committee.  Circus Eruption were in the Conservative Club and both children and adults that attended gave very positive feedback on the event. The leaflets were delivered in the village and my thanks to Amanda Guard, Ros Holt, and Dai Jenkins for their help.  Look out to the future events in the village.  On Saturday the 8th of November at The Commercial a silk painting event which is also free.

 I have visited Gwyrosydd Primary School with Education Scrutiny Panel.  The group were welcomed by the Acting Headteacher, Staff and the Children.  We were given a presentation and a tour of the School.

I also visited The Palace in High Street prior to the opening on November the 7th.  It has been renovated to a high standard with many original features being kept.  It has a Coffee Area on the ground floor and numerous meeting rooms on all levels for business meetings.  It is great to see this building coming back to life.

I attended a meeting with Officers and Councillor Dai Jenkins on the Elba to discuss the skateboard area.  There should be an announcement on the future development at the Elba.  It has been problematic to remove the dangerous skate park with children accessing even when fencing restricting the area was installed.

Meeting of the Governors of Gowerton Primary School took place during the month.  Also training of Safeguarding process was attended by Governors.  The Primary School are organising a "Cuppa Club" which allows parents to have a chat with a number of organisations who attend.  The pilot that was organised was well received by all that attended and is being progressed.

The Art Class have been involved painting poppies and decorating St. John's Church for the Remembrance Service on Friday the 8th of November at 6.00pm.  The class is held at the Church Hall on a Tuesday from 10.30 am to 12.30 pm.  New members always welcomed.

There have been many complaints about parking in both the Elba and Fairwood Terrace at the weekends and could I appeal to motorists to have empathy with the residents in both areas.  It is great to see so many adults and children involved with sport but consideration for others is essential.  Both Councillor Jenkins and I have requested the areas to be monitored by the parking observation van.  I have also contacted Freedom Leisure to make assessments on the permits being issued to the leagues.  Freedom Leisure have also asked the leagues to encourage car sharing.

Gowerton welcomes the new Pizzeria into Sterry Road and best wishes to Fabio and Ester on their new business.  I am sure the village will support this venture.

 I have held a surgery on the first Saturday of the month at Gowerton Library.  I have also dealt with many individual resident issues e.g. safeguarding, conflict, complaints.

**OCTOBER REPORT 2024 Cllr Dai Jenkins Monthly Report**

**Save Gowerton from Gridlock** – Outline planning is refused by Swansea City Council. Persimmon could “amend” their application and try again, or appeal on original outline planning to Welsh Government inspectorate. It’s a waiting game now.

**Gowerton Park Road Park and ELBA uplifts** – Site meetings took place in both areas. More news when full details are available probably now spring 2025 onwards due to weather for Park Rd Park apparatus and implementation of Skate Park down Elba.

**Path from Fairwood to Station Road** – Escalated to leader Rob Steward who has escalated to his heads of department and senior officers at Network Rail.

**Mobility access** - Awaiting news off cabinet member, but great news on George Manning Way.

**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.

**BACK TO 20** – Campaign launched asking Gowerton Residents which streets they wish to remain at 20MPH or which, in their opinion, need to revert to 30mph. Following publication of revised guidance by the Welsh Government, a further review of roads in Swansea is underway which focuses on roads which are potentially affected by the new guidance,

The WG published the new guidance at the end of July and since then traffic officers in the city have looked at the potential for returning further roads or sections of roads back to 30mph.Residents can now get in touch with Swansea Council's traffic team and put forward suggestions for roads they feel could be included, in line with the newly published guidance - [https://www.gov.wales/new-framework-support-councils-20mph#content](https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.gov.wales%2Fnew-framework-support-councils-20mph%23content&data=05%7C02%7CJason.Rogers%40swansea.gov.uk%7Cbcdf7093671242b7d32508dcc0222c1a%7C4c2e0b76d4524d358392187fac002efe%7C1%7C0%7C638596500204428790%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=jB1e3vgiLpkhf6w%2BGUFF5e%2B9xY6tthWgW8OR5n065%2FQ%3D&reserved=0)

If you want to put forward suggestions for inclusion in the ongoing review, please email [traffic@swansea.gov.uk](mailto:traffic@swansea.gov.uk)

Making Gowerton Look Great & Safe Again

**Fairwood Terrace –** Issues with land being used for number of years as storage site, site visit end of November or beginning December arranged.

**Penclawdd Rd –** Just before the sign to Mrs Moyes Gower horse carriage school on right had side footpath, it’s collapsed, please be careful when walking towards Penclawdd- it’s been reported.

**Fairwood Terrace & Lliw Valley Close-Parking issues -** yellow lines are now painted. However, cars and vans are continuing to park on yellow lines, a record is being kept and they have been reported. Four tickets have been issued thus far, I am reporting many examples to try and drive motorist away from their poor choice of parking.

**Alder Way – Overgrowing trees opposite number 8 10 –** Not responsibility of Swansea Council, however they have been helpful and instrumental in contacting a solicitor acting on behalf of the owners who are shortly to deploy a company to cut back the trees, which are hitting bin lorries now. Spoke with officer in charge who will issue notice of intent if trees are not cut very soon.

**Cleansing Team** – More great work in the ward awaiting work on Ravensfield and stinging nettles near top shop.

**Gowerton Glitterati** –I am working closely with Gowerton Glitterati as the ward councillor and additionally am an advisor to the team. On 1st November Gowerton Glitterati awarded 1st prize for best Halloween Display (visible from pavement) to Kelly and the “kids” Bryn Y Mor Road. Certificates for commendations on runners up will be distributed by The Glitterati shortly.

**Gowerton Summerfun –**. First events taken place with Circus Eruption at Con Club 26th October – Two events November on 9th Con Club for silk painting, and 27th Nomads for Quiz, where world famous internationally renowned quiz team “The Three Amigos’” have entered a team, the challenge is can you beat them? Why not turn up and try?

**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.

**Miscellaneous** – Parking, boundary fence issues, lane disputes, one to one meetings, Culvert issues, active travel enquiries, tree topping requests, cleansing requests.

**MEETINGS**

1.10.24 Planning meeting Guild Hall.

2.10.24 Community Council Con Club.

3.10.24 Full Council Guild Hall.

4.10.24 Gowerton Glitterati Commercial Hotel.

16.10.24 Elba procurement meeting.

26.10.24 Rechabite Hall monthly surgery.

26.10.24 Murder Mystery evening Con Club.

29.10.24 Park Rd Park procurement meeting.

**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**– Pavement planters are now on order, fingers crossed in place by Christmas.

**Motley Mount** – Cllr Jones and I are working with active travel to enhance the green area outside Motley Pies, with sculptures, picnic bench, and bike stands, plus a reference sign highlighting that Gowerton South Railway station was in that vicinity. Delay caused by procurement issues and change of staff. Looking more like Spring 2025 now or hopefully before, will be worth the wait.

**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.

**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. Meetings on 1st February 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 or cycle path - new** walking path behind Pobl development Gorwydd Road{on-going}

**Glanmorfa Tree Cutting** – Chased this for half term week, but officer now working in schools, has promised to look into cutting trees now in November or December if the weather is suitable and safe for climbers..

**Ward Surgery** – Rechabite Hall November 30th 10am to 11am all welcome. Alternatively, please email [cllr.dai.jenkins@swansea.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.dai.jenkins@swansea.gov.uk) for any issues or drop me a direct message on Gowerton Guardians on Facebook

**88. Pedestrian Crossing – Gorwydd Road.**

Resolved: Chase up the council again. Road has been done.

Clarification from Council when this will be done and what type of crossing it will be?

Sign needed either side to warn of crossing. Email Highways (Alan Ferris).

Update – Alan Ferris has confirmed that it will be a parallel zebra crossing but has not confirmed a timescale of when this will be put in place.

Pathway at Cefn Gorywdd – concern about electric scooters/bikes. Please can we have a risk assessment.

Clerk to escalate this to Cllr Andrew Stevens.

**89 Planning application on the former LN building, Sterry Road**

Object on grounds of parking is not adequate. Try to contact owner to ask what it will be used for?

**90** **Remembrance Day**

Contact Rev Ben Jones to advise what is happening on Monday 11 November. Rev Jones confirmed he will lead a service. Simon Wilkens from Temple Church was also contacted and will attend.

Update – The service was well attended and we would like to give our thanks to Bay Landscapes Ltd who completed the work around the flagpole in time and to a very high standard.

**91 Xmas Event - 8 December.**

June to ask Phil to be Santa again. Events to be arranged at the Commercial for this year. Need to

revisit arrangements for next year.

Sweets from yummy bears. Cllr Susan Jones to lead the Xmas events, assisted by Cllr J Merrells,

Cllr A Guard and Clerk.

We will review the Xmas event in January 2025.

Update – Phil cannot be Santa. Commercial confirmed we can go there.

**92. Updated 2024 version of Financial Regulations**

The 2024 version of Financial Regulations was agreed and adopted.

**93 Set date of next meeting.**

The next meeting will be on Wednesday 4 December 2024 at the Con Club in Gowerton.

**Meeting closed at 20:52**

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

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

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