

Minutes of the Grovesend & Waungron

Community Council Meeting held on

Wednesday, 9th February, 2011

Present:

Mr. L. Jones, Chairman

Mr. J. John

Mr. M. Jones

Mrs. T. Rees

Mr. B. Williams

Mr. A. Hamilton

Mrs. S. Morgan

Councillor D.I.E. Jones

Mr. J.I. Burge (Secretary)

Several members of the public present

1425. Apologies.

Apologies for absence were received from Mr. D. True and Mr. B. Moon. Councillor A. Jopling was absent.

1426. Disclosure's of personal interest.

None.

1427. Ms. Alison Gough, Safe Routes in the Community & Mr. Lyn Jones Team Leader for Traffic of the City & County of Swansea.

Ms. Gough and Mr. Jones were both present to discuss the Safer Routes in the Community Scheme.

The Secretary reminded Members that Grovesend had been waiting nearly 18 months to commence the application process to apply for a grant for a pedestrian crossing from the Welsh Assembly.

Ms. Gough explained that the main emphasis for the application needed to come from the School as this was the heart of the village and would carry more weight when considered by WAG.

A lengthy discussion took place as to the preferred type of crossing that was needed. The general consensus was one which involved traffic lights to force vehicles to stop such as a pelican crossing. It was also agreed that the best suited location for the crossing would be near to High Street and the Brynlliw Public House.

Ms. Gough explained that anything could be included in the grant application as long as there was encouragement for more people to leave their cars in favour of walking and cycling.

A steering group is to be created as soon as possible to progress the application.

Ms. Gough confirmed that WAG had assured that funding for the scheme was available for at least the next two years. She was hopeful to return to a future Community Council meeting in order to keep members updated as to progress.

The Chairman thanked Mrs. Gough and Mr. Jones for their attendance.

1428. Minutes of the meeting held on 12th January, 2011.

Approved.

1429. Matters arising from the minutes.

1417 (1405 1395 1391 iv) The Chairman informed Members that he had made the presentation to the winners of the annual Christmas card/poem competition at a recent school Assembly. The presentation went well and all were very thankful.

1424 (i) Mrs. S. Morgan informed Members that the potholes along Coalbrook Road and High Street had recently been repaired however some were already starting to reappear.

1430. Local Members Report.

Councillor D.I.E. Jones reported on the following items:

i) Budget issues remained a problem at Swansea Council. Several options were being considered to reduce costs including the need for an internal staffing restructure removing several posts.

ii) Discussions were still taking place regarding the merging of the Area Planning Committees into one larger one.

1431. Ten-minute Public Questions.

Concern was expressed by several Members of the public regarding the switching off of a number of street lights throughout the villages. The main cause of concern was for Coalbrook Road entering from the Gorseinon direction. There were a number of bends there and traffic is known to travel through at high speeds. It was reported that there was an accident there in the past week.

Resolved: That the Secretary would contact the Public Lighting Manager with a request that he re-evaluates the number and location of street lights that have been switched off.

1432. Planning Applications – Mrs. S. Morgan.

None.

1433. Secretary's Report.

The Secretary reported on the following matters:

A letter had been sent to all OVW Member Councils asking for nominations to be entered into a raffle with the winning Chairman and consorts receiving an invitation to the

Buckingham Palace Garden Party on 12th July.

The Secretary circulated a thank you card that he had received signed by the children of Mount Pleasant Church for the Community Council donation to enable them to attend the pantomime in Penyrheol.

An invoice for £1200 had been received from Swansea Council for the recent purchase and installation of the four grit bins.

Notification had been received from Swansea Council that the ground maintenance contract for 2011/12 to cut the grass by Box Road and Pentre Road had been received. The renewal premium was £455.

Resolved: Members agreed to renew the contract for a further year.

1434. Any Other Business.

i) Mr. J. John reported that there was a OVW meeting the following day. A debate was due to take place as to whether such meetings would continue give the continued poor attendance.

ii) Mrs. S. Morgan reported that she had recently attended a OVW planning workshop, unfortunately it was exactly the same event as she attended two years ago. The main points that came across from the day were:

- Each planning application submitted is considered on its own individual merits rather than one size fits all.
- A new Planning Aid Wales advisory service had been set up to assist those considering submitting applications to provide advice throughout the process.
- The LDP for the Swansea area was nearing completion.
- Booklets were available specifically to assist Community Councils with advice regarding planning matters.

iii) Mrs. S. Morgan informed Members that a shallow grave had recently been found in the area behind Valeo. Forensic Police Officers from Cardiff had examined the site, however, no remains were found. The Police were concerned as to why such a perfect and precise hole had been dug out in that area.

iv) Mrs. S. Morgan informed Members that the owners of the corner shop on Pontarddulais Road and Brynteg Road had recently been the subject of a robbery at knife point.

v) Mrs. S. Morgan reported that there had been a car crash on Coalbrook Road the previous weekend. Police had been pursuing the driver from Pontarddulais before the vehicle crashed and the driver fled the scene.

vi) Mrs. S. Morgan reported that the Police helicopter had been called out recently following another complaint of copper being burnt at the far end of Station Road. The Police arrested three people running away from the scene along the cycle track.