

Minutes of the Grovesend & Waungron Community Council Meeting held on

Tuesday, 3rd April, 2012

Present:

Mr. L. Jones, Chairman

Mr. J. John

Mr. M. Jones

Mrs. T. Rees

Mr. B. Williams

Mr. A. Hamilton

Mrs. C. Knox

Mr. B. Moon

Mrs. S. Morgan

Mrs. T. Morgan

Mr. D. True

Councillor D.I.E. Jones

Mr. J.I. Burge (Secretary)

4 members of the public present

1570. Apologies.

Councillor A. Jopling was absent.

1571. Disclosure's of personal interest.

Mr. A. Hamilton and Mrs. T. Morgan declared an interest in Agenda item 8: HM the Queen's Diamond Jubilee request for financial assistance.

1572. Minutes of the meeting held on 6th March, 2012.

Approved.

1573. Matters arising from the minutes.

1560 (1553(i)) The Secretary informed Members that he had received an email from Mr. Stewart Comley, resident at Clos Pengelli, to inform Members that a site meeting by Barchester Health Care had now taken place to assess the possibility of creating a small car park at the nursing home. A formal planning application was in the process of being put together for submission to Swansea Council.

1560 (1553(ii)) Mr. D. Cole informed Members that due to a few minor building issues the

opening of the new coffee shop had been delayed by a few weeks.

1567(ii) The Secretary informed Members that nomination forms were now available for the Community Council elections on 3rd May. The period in which forms were obtainable to the deadline of submission back to Swansea was limited to just one week. This extremely tight deadline has been set by Swansea Council.

1569 (ii) The Secretary informed Members that the Highways Section at Swansea Council had flatly refused the request to bolt down the grit bins to the pavement to prevent them being turned upside down by youths. The explanation given was due to funding and staffing issues.

1574. Local Members Report – Councillor D.I.E. Jones.

This being the last Community Council meeting prior to the elections was also the last meeting of Councillor Jones attendance prior to his retirement.

The Chairman thanked Councillor Jones for his unparalleled support to the Community Council and residents of Grovesend and Waungron over a very long and successful career as the local ward member for the area.

Members of the Community Council thanked Councillor Jones most sincerely with the presentation of a tankard and bottle of whiskey to mark his retirement and a bunch of flowers was presented to Councillor Jones wife.

Resolved: To refund the Secretary the cost of the tankard, engraving, whiskey and incidentals at a cost of £50.98 and to refund Mrs. S. Morgan £30 for the cost of the flowers. The buffet was provided free of charge by courtesy of Mrs. M. Williams, Mrs. C. Knox and Mrs. T. Rees. All three were thanked by the Chairman.

1575. Ten-minute Public Questions.

None.

1576. Planning Applications.

None.

Mr. A. Hamilton and Mrs. T. Morgan declared an interest in the following item and left the room.

1577. HM the Queen's Diamond Jubilee request for financial assistance.

The Secretary informed Members that in addition to the letter received from Mrs. Yvonne Hamilton requesting financial assistance towards the cost of a fun day to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee, a late letter from the Grovesend Miners Ladies Section had been received requesting financial assistance to support a Jubilee fun day they were organising along with a children's disco for Easter.

Resolved: Members agreed to support both applications equally by providing £300 financial assistance to each.

1578. City & County of Swansea Community/Town Council Forum Meeting Feedback – Mr. J. John.

Mr. J. John reported back to Members following his recent attendance at the Forum Meeting. Mr. Carl Humphrey's, Head of Highways, had given a presentation on the

"Maintenance of Assets".

Mr. Humphrey's reported that in order to bring the standards of all the roads and pavements throughout Swansea up to the required standard would cost in the region of £135million.

Community Councils were informed of the re-surfacing schedule for the next three years which showed that Coalbrook Road and High Street were due to be re-surfaced during 2013.

Members were pleased to learn that extensive repair work to the highway was due to begin imminently throughout Waungron.

1579. Application for financial assistance for new IT equipment from the Headteacher of Pengelli Primary School.

The Secretary read out a letter that he had received from the Headteacher of Pengelli requesting financial assistance towards the cost of the leasing new laptops as the current computer lease was due to expire. The cost of leasing 15 Laptops was circa £2000 per year.

Resolved: Members discussed the request and agreed that given the large commitment involved and that a new Council would be elected within a month it should be for that new Council to consider such a request rather than commit the Council for something that maybe unaffordable.

1580. Renewal of One Voice Wales Membership for 2012/13.

The Secretary informed Members that he had received notification from OVW that the membership subscription was due for renewal. The cost for the year ahead was £122. This is based on the number of properties in the area.

Resolved: All agreed to renew the membership as it represented good value for money.

1581. Secretary's Report.

The Secretary reported to Members on the following:

i) He had received a letter from the Co-ordinator of the Gorseinon Food Festival for the Chair and himself to attend a short-notice meeting to discuss the forthcoming Food Festival. Unfortunately the letter arrived when he was away on holiday.

Mrs. J. Curtice, Town Councillor for Gorseinon, who was present at the meeting, informed Members that she was also a Member of the Gorseinon Food Festival Committee and that the purpose of the meeting was to ask all neighbouring Community Councils to pledge financial support should the Food Festival not make a profit this year. It was not currently envisaged that a loss would be made; however, due to an enormous cost last year for the hire of the marquee (£12,000) Gorseinon Town Council had to provide additional funding to cover a shortfall.

Members had some concern that previously they had agreed that the Community Council would only provide financial assistance to organisations and activities that directly benefited the village, although Members acknowledged that many residents from Grovesend and Waungron enjoyed attending previous Food Festivals at Gorseinon.

Resolved: To give further consideration to the request from the Food Festival when it is

known whether there is a loss and by how much.

ii) That the Chair and Vice had used their authority for authorising urgent actions outside of meetings to agree to the Community Council re-joining the Open Spaces Society. The urgent requirement was needed so the Society could support the opposition to the planning application for a recycling plant at Allt-Y-Graban.

Mrs. C. Knox informed Members that the planning application had been rejected by Swansea Councillors against the recommendation of Senior Planning Officers.

Resolved: To refund Mrs. C. Knox £52 cost of re-joining the Open Spaces Society.

1582. Any Other Business.

i) Mrs. S. Morgan informed Members that a new motor museum opened last weekend to the public in the former Valeo building. The museum houses vintage cars, fire engines and other well preserved vehicles.

The Secretary reminded Members that due to the elections on 3rd May, the next Community Council meeting would take place on Tuesday, 8th May.