

**Minutes of the Grovesend & Waungron**  
**Community Council Meeting held on**  
**Tuesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> September, 2013**

**Present:** Mr. B. Williams, Chairman  
Mr. W.B. Davies  
Mr. J. John  
Mr. M. Jones  
Mr. D. Merriman  
Councillor D. Cole  
Mr. J.I. Burge (Secretary)  
No members of the public present

**1750. Apologies for absence.**

Apologies for absence were received from Mrs. C. Knox, Mr. H. Bates, Mrs. S. Morgan, Mr. L. Jones, Mrs. T. Morgan, Mr. A. Hamilton and Councillor Mrs. J. Curtice.

**1751. Disclosures of personal interest.**

None.

**1752. Minutes of the meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> July, 2013.**

Approved.

**1753. Matters arising from the minutes.**

Minute 1745(i) The Secretary informed Members that he had spoken to the area Manager for Royal Mail that morning who had given him a reassurance that a new pillar box would be installed nearer to the bus shelter on High Street/Pentre Road/Station Road within the next fortnight.

Minute 1745 (iii) Councillor D. Cole informed Members that further research into the ownership of land at the very end of Station Road had revealed that the land was actually owned by Mynydd Lliw Common Land Ltd and not the two Mr. Gwenter brothers. Swansea Council Officers had recently written to this company with a request that they restrict access to the area in an attempt to curb fly tipping.

Minute 1748(i) Members noted that over the summer period the floral display near at the entrance to Grovesend from the Gorseinon direction had been removed and replaced with a not so attractive planter box. The Secretary advised Members that two different Police Officers had visited the site prior to the removal of the original display with both reporting that it did not obstruct motorists vision and was not a factor in the recent nearby collision. Despite this, the Highways Department insisted the original display be removed on the ground of safety.

Minute 1748(ii) The Secretary advised Members that the £500 website development grant from the Welsh Government had been received and banked. Each Community Council had until the end of the financial year to determine how to spend the grant. Of the options the Secretary highlighted previously, Swansea Council were not going to develop anything internal for Community Councils and the Gower Website Committee were yet to consider the issue.

The Secretary would continue to update Members prior to a decision being made.

Minute 1748(iii) The Secretary informed Members that he had spoken to the Parks Section at Swansea Council regarding replacing the wall in front of the Park. He had been informed that under no circumstances should any work be carried out on property owned by Swansea without their permission first on the grounds of health and safety and public liability. The wall will be assessed for safety and if found to be dangerous or in need of replacing then Swansea would carry out the work.

Mr. B. Williams advised Members that he had spoken to various residents of Waungron regarding the original proposal who said they would be unhappy if the Community Council funded such a scheme as this would be double-taxation.

Minute 1749(i) Councillor D. Cole advised Members that he had spoken to the Traffic Section at Swansea Council who had informed him that the cost to install a pedestrian crossing was in the region of £25k with a further £2k a year required for maintenance. Councillor Cole advised that he would continue to press the Traffic Section to resolve the issue further.

Minute 1749(iii) The Secretary advised Members that during the summer recess period two planning applications had been received which Mrs. S. Morgan had dealt with. One was for the removal of a wall to enable off street parking at 34 High Street; and the second was for a rear and side extension at 151 Pentre Road, Waungron. No objection was raised to either application.

Issues awaiting resolution: Members noted that the Waungron and chevron signs had been replaced and that the no dogs aloud signs in the Park had been erected. The Secretary advised that he had made further enquires regarding the installation of new litter bins around the village to be informed that Members of the Cabinet at Swansea Council had refocused priorities towards recycling with the introduction of a new pilot scheme elsewhere in the City, therefore, resources that would have been used for the installation of litter bins had been redirected. Grovesend was still on the waiting list for new bins; however, that wait was likely to be sometime yet.

#### **1754. Local Members Report.**

Councillor D. Cole reported on the following:

- i) The footpaths along Coalbrook Road and High Street had now been resurfaced. Patchwork of other footpaths and roads in the area was currently taking place;
- ii) He had passed on complaints received to Swansea regarding the overgrowth of vegetation along Coalbrook Road;
- iii) Complaints had been received from residents of parking on Plas Road. These had been passed on to the PCSO for Gorseinon;
- iv) It had also been reported to the Police of poor parking by van drivers on High Street causing passing motorists to swerve onto the opposite side of the road;
- v) The Planning Department at Swansea Council had approved the next stage of the tidal lagoon application. Subject to further stages being agreed, the £650m scheme should be generating electricity by 2015;
- vi) The Cabinet at Swansea would formally hear and decide upon the five shortlisted Gypsy/Traveller sites on 21<sup>st</sup> October at an extraordinary meeting of the Council;
- vii) Swansea Council was offering to extend the planting of wild flower seeds in readiness for next summer due to the positive comments made across Swansea this year. Poppies would be the main flower planted to mark the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Great War in 2014.

**Resolved:** It was agreed to discuss suitable planting sites during the October meeting of the Community Council when, hopefully, more Members would be present. Suggested sites included the area of grass by Box Road/Pentre Road and near the green sub-station on Coalbrook Road.

#### **1755. Ten-minute Public Questions.**

None present.

#### **1756. Planning Applications.**

In the absence of Mrs. S. Morgan, Planning Officer, Mr. J. John informed Members that one application had been received from Mrs. Linda Jones, 21 Station Road, Grovesend, for a single storey rear extension.

**Recommendation:** No objections.

#### **1757. Swansea Council Local Development Plan (LDP) Update – Mr. J. John.**

Mr. J. John informed Members that the next phase of the LDP consultation had commenced by Swansea Council. The LDP had geographically divided Swansea into seven areas; with Grovesend and Waungron falling into the Greater North West area. The LDP was proposing that by 2025 17,000 new homes were needed across the County with 4,500 needed for this area. The LDP is due to be approved and implemented in 2016.

#### **1758. Neighbourhood Watch – Mr. J. John.**

Mr. J. John outlined to Members a letter that he had received from the Swansea Neighbourhood Watch Committee. In the letter it recommended that anyone taking old items to a scrap yard should ask for a receipt and pay via cheque, not cash, as new laws had recently been introduced.

#### **1759. Application for financial assistance from Shelter Cymru.**

An application for financial assistance from Shelter Cymru was considered by Members.

**Resolved:** That in accordance with previous decisions, the application was noted as there was no direct connection with Grovesend or Waungron.

#### **1760. Secretary's Report.**

The Secretary reported on the following items:

- i) He had received notification that a drop-in session had been arranged for 23<sup>rd</sup> September between 12.00pm and 6.00pm at the Gorseinon Centre to allow individuals the opportunity to have their say regarding public service governance and delivery in Wales. The session was being organised by the recently formed Commission on Public Services;

- ii) The Community Council 2012/13 accounts had been approved by the external Auditors with no concerns or issues being expressed;
- iii) He read out to members a late letter requesting financial assistance from Pengelli AFC.

**Resolved:** Members agreed to make a £200 financial contribution to Pengelli ACF. Members also requested that the Secretary ask for an up to date copy of the latest accounts from Pengelli for information and audit purposes.

**1761. Any Other Urgent Business at the discretion of the Chair.**

None.

*Mr. D. Merriman and Mr. B. Williams both provided their apologies for absence from the meeting scheduled for October.*

**Issues awaiting resolution**

<b>Issue</b>	<b>Key dates</b>	<b>Current Position</b>	<b>Action required by</b>
Litter bins required.	Reported by Sec: 15/10/12 Followed-up: 21/5/13 Followed-up: 11/6/13 Followed-up: 16/8/13	Budget shortfall, on lengthy waiting list amongst other Comm Council's. Cabinet refocus, resources redirected to new recycling pilot.	Environment Dept., Swansea Council (Daryl Joyce/Nigel Alli)
Hedges overgrown in Waungron and weeds encroaching onto pavement.	Reported by Sec: 14/8/13 Followed-up: 25/8/13	No response to date	StreetScene, Highways Dept., Swansea Council (Ian Jones)
Request for Pedestrian Crossing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Originally requested several years ago.</li> <li>• Followed-up: August, 2013</li> </ul>	Cllr D. Cole discussed issue with Traffic Section, informed crossing would cost £25k and £2k pa to maintain	Traffic Section, Swansea Council (Jeff Green)