

Minutes of the Grovesend & Waungron Community Council Meeting held on

Tuesday, 2nd July, 2013

Present:

Mr. B. Williams, Chairman

Mr. W.B. Davies

Mr. J. John

Mr. M. Jones

Mrs. S. Morgan

Mr. A. Hamilton

Mr. L. Jones

Councillor Mrs. J. Curtice

Mr. J.I. Burge (Secretary)

No members of the public present

1741. Apologies for absence.

Apologies for absence were received from Mrs. C. Knox, Mr. D. Merriman, Mr. H. Bates and Councillor D. Cole.

1742. Disclosures of personal interest.

None.

1743. Minutes of the meeting held on 4th June, 2013.

Approved.

1744. Matters arising from the minutes.

Minute 1735 (1731(i)) Mr. W.B. Davies informed Members that the "no dogs permitted" and "dog littering" signs were erected in the park yesterday.

Minute 1739(i) The Secretary informed Members that he had spoken to the Elections Officer at Swansea Council that afternoon regarding the casual vacancy that exists on the Community Council to enquire whether there had been any requests for an election. He had been informed that the closing date was noon the following day; however, as of that moment no requests had been received.

The Secretary also informed Members that Mr. Bates had spoken with Mrs. Tracey Morgan of High Street prior to him going on holiday who confirmed that she would like to be nominated for co-option.

Resolved: That subject to the Elections Officer at Swansea Council confirming no formal ballot was required, Members agreed to the co-option of Mrs. Tracey Morgan.

Minute 1740(ii). Mr. B. Williams informed Members that the lampposts in Waungron just passed the motorway bridge were now in working order.

1745. Local Members Report.

Councillor Mrs. J. Curtice reported on the following:

i) The Royal Mail post-box on High Street was to be removed at the request of the homeowner and relocated nearer to the bus shelter on High Street/Pentre Road/Station Road. It was hoped that this would be carried out within about six weeks' time.

ii) Swansea Council were aware of the knotweed problem on Station Road and were addressing the issue. Mrs. Cherry Hinton had reported to her that individuals were being refused mortgages due to this issue.

iii) Swansea Council have identified that the land at the very bottom of Station Road where fly tipping was taking place belonged to the Gwenter brothers. Swansea have cleared what was currently dumped there and will be asking both Mr. Gwenter's to restrict the area so to avoid any further fly tipping.

1746. Ten-minute Public Questions.

None present.

1747. Planning Applications – Mrs. S. Morgan.

Mrs. S. Morgan reported that she had received two applications this month from:

i) Ms. S. James, 132 Pentre Road, Waungron, Removal of existing front wall to allow for parking.

Recommendation: No objections.

ii) Miss. Tebury & Miss. Taplin, Rose Cottage, Grovesend, Single side storey extension.

Recommendation: No objections.

1748. Secretary's Report.

The Secretary reported on the following items:

i) He read out an email that he had received making a complaint that the new floral display at the entrance to Grovesend from the Gorseinon direction was blocking motorists view and could potentially lead to an accident.

Members disagreed with this opinion and felt the display was sufficiently away from both the road and junction not to block the safe view of motorists. Members also considered that prior to the placing of the display Swansea Council would have carried out a risk assessment of the area.

ii) The Welsh Government had agreed a £500 grant to be provided to all Town and Community Councils to enable individual websites to be created. A condition of the grant is that it must be spent by the end of the financial year.

The Secretary outlined four options that he saw as available to the Community Council:

Option 1 – Sign up to the One Voice Wales nationally procured website deal with a

company called Vision ICT;

Option 2 – Develop the current website in partnership with Gower Community Council's;

Option 3 – Enquire whether Swansea Council were going to develop something internally;

Option 4 – Go alone and do our own thing.

The Secretary recommended that a decision was deferred pending receipt of the grant and further information regarding the options and costs involved being made available.

iii) Prior to the meeting Mr. A. Hamilton provided him with three quotes for work to be done to replace the wall in front of the park. The quotes ranged from £700 for re-pointing work to £4000 to rebuild the entire wall.

Concern was expressed by some Members as why the Community Council should pay for such work at all when maintenance of the wall was an issue for Swansea Council. Villagers might complain that this was double taxation. Other Members felt that the Community Council was looking to undertake a project and that this was a worthy option.

Resolved: Following a discussion it was agreed that the Secretary would contact the Parks Department of Swansea Council to see if they could assist, or at the least provide match funding towards the cost of the work.

1749. Any Other Urgent Business at the discretion of the Chair.

i) Mr. W.B. Davies informed Members that the Traffic Section of Swansea Council recently conducted a further traffic survey on High Street. The results showed that almost 30% of vehicles passing southbound were speeding and nearly 40% northbound. The average percentile speed was 36mph.

Resolved: Councillor Mrs. J. Curtice agreed that she would make enquiries directly with the Traffic Section at Swansea to see if something could be done to resolve this long-standing problem.

ii) Mr. B. Williams advised Members that the hedges throughout Waungron were once again overgrown and in need of cutting back. Additionally the weeds were encroaching more and more onto the pavements restricting access for pedestrians.

Resolved: That the Secretary would ask Swansea Council to address the matter.

iii) With the Community Council not meeting over the summer period the Secretary asked Members to consider delegating authority for any planning applications received to Mrs. S. Morgan, Planning Officer, in consultation with Mrs. C. Knox, Chair.

Resolved: Members agreed to the delegated authority over the summer period.

Issues awaiting resolution

Issue	Key dates	Current Position	Action required by
<p>Waungron sign needs fixing in place and new chevron sign needed.</p>	<p>Reported by Sec: 21/4/13  Followed-up: 7/5/13  Followed-up: 21/5/13</p>	<p>Resolved: July, 2013</p>	
<p>No dogs allowed signs needed in park area.</p>	<p>Reported/requested by Mr. W.B. Davies: May '13</p>	<p>Resolved: 1/7/13</p>	
<p>Litter bins required.</p>	<p>Reported by Sec: 15/10/12  Followed-up: 21/5/13  Followed-up: 11/6/13  Followed-up: 16/8/13</p>	<p>Budget shortfall, on lengthy waiting list amongst other Comm Council's. Cabinet refocus, resources redirected to new recycling pilot.</p>	<p>Environment Dept., Swansea Council (Daryl Joyce/Nigel Alli)</p>
<p>Hedges overgrown in Waungron and weeds encroaching onto pavement.</p>	<p>Reported by Sec: 14/8/13  Followed-up: 25/8/13</p>	<p>No response to date</p>	<p>StreetScene, Highways Dept., Swansea Council</p>