

**Minutes of the Grovesend & Waungron
Community Council Meeting held on
Tuesday, 7th April, 2015**

Present: Mr. B. Williams, Chair
Mr. W.B. Davies
Mr. M. Jones
Mr. L. Jones
Mr. W.D. Merriman
Councillor D. Cole
Councillor Mrs. J. Curtice
Mr. J.I. Burge (Secretary)
3 Youths of the village

1942. Apologies for absence.

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

1943. Disclosures of personal interest.

None.

1944. Presentation by youth petitioners regarding the cost of school transportation to Pontarddulais Comprehensive.

Three youths from the village were in attendance to request assistance with their campaign to have a free bus to take them to school from Grovesend to Pontarddulais. The current policy of Swansea Council meant that those living greater than 3 miles away from their designated secondary school were entitled to free transport, whilst those living less than 3 miles would not. Members were informed that currently it costs £1.50 for a single ticket and £2.50 for a return per pupil, which worked out at £490 per year per pupil. The pupils were concerned that the walking route to school was not safe and that they had to carry very heavy bags with books, sports kit and musical instruments for some pupils. If it was raining it would mean pupils sitting in class in wet cloths all day.

The Secretary advised Members that in the knowledge of the presentation by the youths at the meeting he had invited Cllr Jennifer Raynor, Swansea Council Cabinet Member for Education, to also attend to hear first hand the problems being experienced, however, she had declined the invitation. He had also asked for a copy of the current risk assessment for the 'safe route to school' and for a new assessment to be conducted taking into consideration the lack of pavement through Waungron and over the railway bridge, the overhanging hedges issues, lack of evening lighting on part of the road and significant increase in traffic over the past 30 years since Pontarddulais Comprehensive School became the feeder school for Pengelli Primary.

Mr. M. Jones suggested that the parents of the youths consider exploring the cost of contracting a private minibus for the journey as this might prove cheaper than the service bus. It was also suggested to the youths that they check with First Cymru to see whether they offer a season ticket which might reduce the cost further.

The youths were thanked for attending the meeting and bring the matter to Members attention. Members agreed that they fully supported the campaign.

1945. Minutes of the meeting held on 3rd March, 2015.

Approved.

1946. Matters arising from the minutes.

Minute 1933 (1929(iv)): Parking at junction of Coalbrook Rd and Plas Rd. Members suggested that if it was not possible to have a new Traffic Regulation Order for Plas Road then a request should be made for the kerb to be lowered to allow for wheelchair users in the hope that this would prevent inconsiderate motorists from parking at the junction.

Resolved: That the Secretary would make a request of Swansea Council to lower the kerb.

Minute 1941(iv): Fencing around the park. Mr. B. Davies advised that he had been made aware that there were grants and funding available for the development of public parks. He had passed on the contact details to the Secretary.

1947. Local Members Report.

Councillor D. Cole reported on the following:

- (i) The new 20mph zone through Grovesend was now in place and operational. He had received mainly positive comments to date;
- (ii) Further fly tipping had been removed from the far end of Station Road;
- (iii) A second mock hunt had taken place recently. Police had been advised in advance and although there were a number of cars in attendance parking was acceptable and there were no problems;
- (iv) A new PCSO had been appointed to the area. Cllr Cole was hopefully that they will attend a future meeting of the Community Council to introduce themselves to Members.

Cllr Mrs. J. Curtice reported on the following:

- (i) She had recently attended an LDP conference in Swansea along with Cllr D. Cole;
- (ii) She was following-up the request for zigzag lines outside the entrance to Pengelli Primary School on Tyrisha Road and Station Road;
- (iii) Both she and Cllr D. Cole have an open surgery for members of the public on Saturday in the Miners Club between 11.15-12.00.

1948. Ten-minute Public Questions.

See item 1944 above.

1949. Planning Applications.

In the absence of Mrs. S. Morgan, Planning Officer, the Secretary reported that he had received one late application from Mr. N. Romanello for a detached dwelling and detached garage at plot adjacent to Bryn Petrin, Station Road.

Recommendation: No objection.

1950. Application for financial assistance from Graig Merthyr Memorial Fund.

An application for financial assistance from the Graig Merthyr Memorial Fund was considered.

Resolved: To note the application.

1951. Secretary's Report.

The Secretary reported on the following:

- (i) He had received a letter from the Head of Democratic Services at Swansea Council as part of a consultation exercise asking for comments regarding the proposal to merge the City & County Standards Committee and Community/Town Council Standards Committee into one combined Standards Committee.

Resolved: Members felt this was a sensible proposal and had no objections.

- (ii) One Voice Wales were holding a series of consultation events regarding the Welsh Governments proposals to reform local government. The nearest event was on 13th April at 2.00pm in Bronwydd Hall, Carmarthen.

- (iii) The annual subscription for the Open Spaces Society had been received at a cost of £45.

Resolved: To renew the subscription for a further year.

1952. Any other urgent business at the discretion of the Chair.

- (i) Mr. D. Merriman advised Members that due to a 5% cut to the budget imposed by Swansea Council the financial position of Pengelli Primary School might result in a reduction in staffing.
- (ii) Mr. B. Williams advised Members that he had a request from a

member of the public for more daffodil bulbs to be placed on the hill leaving Waungron. Cllrs D. Cole and Mrs. J. Curtice said they would be willing to purchase some extra bulbs from their environmental monies.

Issues awaiting resolution

Issue	Key dates	Current Position	Action required by
Request for Pedestrian Crossing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Originally requested several years ago. • Followed-up: August, 2013 • Followed-up: October, 2013 • Site meeting in December, 2013 with Ward Members and Jeff Green • January, 2014 local Cllrs meeting with Jeff Green • May, 2014 funding rejected for 2014/15. • June, 2014 funding possible for 2015/16. 	Welsh Government advised that funding via Safe Routes to School was likely to be made available during 2015/16.	Welsh Government; Traffic Section, Swansea Council (Jeff Green).
Installation of Zigzag lines outside Pengelli Primary School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr J. Curtice to raise with Traffic Section: February, 2015 • Agreed to follow-up: April, 2015 	Cllr. J. Curtice making enquiries as to possibility of having the lines.	Cllr. J. Curtice
Alternations to Box Road/Park entrance junction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concern expressed of vehicles exiting Box Road the wrong way: September, 2014 • Police advise they have conducted a monitoring exercise: October, 2014 • Meeting between Comm Council, Traffic Section and Police to discuss concerns: November, 2014 • Drawings received from Traffic Section with proposal to reconfigure the boulders and access area to the park: January, 2015 • Cllrs. D. Cole & J. Curtice agreed to use some of their environmental monies: February, 2015 	Awaiting action by Swansea Council.	Swansea Council