

**Minutes of the Grovesend & Waungron  
Community Council Meeting held on  
Tuesday, 1<sup>st</sup> December, 2015**

**Present:** Mr. B. Williams, Chair  
Mr. W.B. Davies  
Mr. W.D. Merriman  
Mr. J. John  
Mr. A. Hamilton  
Mr. M. Jones  
Councillor D. Cole  
Mr. J.I. Burge (Secretary)  
1 member of the public present

**2014. Apologies for absence.**

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

**2015. Disclosures of personal interest.**

None.

**2016. Minutes of the meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> October, 2015.**

Approved.

**2017. Matters arising from the minutes.**

Minute 2008 (1997 1986 1976 1966 1956 1944): Presentation by youth petitioners regarding the cost of school transportation to Pontarddulais Comprehensive. The Secretary advised Members that the Leader's Secretary had been in touch to ask for the Chair and Secretary to meet with the Leader, however, setting a date where all were available was proving difficult.

Minute 2008 (1997 1986 1976 1966 1956 1946 (1941 (iv))): Fencing around the park. Mr. W.B. Davies informed Members that he had recently spoken to John Hopkins at Swansea Council who advised that the new fence around the park should be erected before Christmas.

Minute 2008 (2001): Armistice Day Service. It was reported that there was an excellent turnout at the Armistice Service at Mount Pleasant and Members thanked Mr. J. John for organising the event. Mr. D. Merriman suggested that Members consider a donation to the church to cover the cost of the heating and lighting for the evening as the entire collection money gathered that evening was given to the Royal British Legion.

**Resolved:** Members agreed to make a £100 donation to the church to cover the cost of the heating and lighting.

Minute 2008 (2002): Christmas. Mrs. H. Talaat, Headteacher of Pengelli Primary was present at the meeting and thanked Members for the offer to pay for selection boxes for the children which came to £100.

Minute 2008 (2004(ii)): Permanent Christmas tree in park. Mr. A. Hamilton advised Members that he planted a 10 foot Christmas tree in the park recently, however, that night someone had purposefully damaged it snapping the tree in half. He had since replaced the tree and erected 6 foot panels around it to prevent it happening again.

Mr. A. Hamilton had spoken to several contractors regarding lights for the tree and it was felt the best method would be to rent the lights from a contractor who would install and maintain them for the duration they are up. Members agreed that they would pursue this option in advance of next Christmas.

#### **2018. Local Members Report.**

Councillor D. Cole reported on the following:

- (i) The Traffic Section at Swansea Council were currently working on an alternative drawing for the box road issue of exiting from the park. This drawing plan should be available for Members to view early in the New Year;
- (ii) He had visited the Bryn Siriol pig farm recently and met again with the owners. He had been given assurances that the owners wanted to address any problems of foul smells and had started using lime to control the smells. All waste skips had been moved further away from the neighbours towards the back of the site;
- (iii) All wildflowers patches had been removed and the sites cleared up for the winter;
- (iv) The hedging along Coalbrook Road had been cut by Swansea Council where an excellent job had been done;
- (v) The issue of opening a bank account for the Friends of Grovesend Park had finally been sorted and income deposited. The committee were now working on some events to gather pace and start generating funds.

#### **2019. Ten-minute Public Questions.**

No questions.

#### **2020. Planning Applications.**

None

#### **2021. Application for financial assistance from Marie Curie Nurses.**

An application for financial assistance from Marie Curie Nurses was discussed.

**Resolved:** To note the application.

## **2022. Secretary's Report.**

The Secretary reported on the following matters:

- i) In discussion with Mrs. C. Knox, Chair, he had purchased a fruit basket for Mr. H. Bates given his current poor health.

**Resolved:** To refund the cost of the fruit basket to the Secretary.

- ii) He provided Members with an update of the Welsh Government proposals to restructure local government following the release of a consultation document a few days previous. He advised that:

- There was a recommendation to reduce principal councils from 22 to either 8 or 9;
- If agreed, this will take effect on 1<sup>st</sup> April, 2020 with elections being elected in May, 2019 to allow for shadow councils to be created in the lead-up;
- Several items in the draft consultation paper issues 6 months ago have been removed from the latest consultation paper including, the limit on the number of councillors per council and the £200,000 minimum precept income to be eligible to be a community council although the Community Area Committees made-up of various stakeholders remain in the latest consultation document;
- In specific relation to Community Councils it is proposed that:
  - mandatory training for Community Councillors is introduced (understanding of planning laws highly likely to be one area);
  - new 5 year terms of office will be introduced (although the first term will be 6 years so future elections don't sit on other national election dates);
  - a review of the work of community councils will be conducted by the Local Democracy and Boundary Commission instead of the new principal councils. This will be done by 1<sup>st</sup> April 2020;
  - legal requirement for community councils to produce an annual report to its electorate;
  - introduction of performance management objectives for the Clerk;
  - the repeal of the current ability for the electorate to call for a Community Poll and replaced with on-line petitions which will be administered by the principal council.

- iii) He had received a late letter requesting financial assistance from Mrs. C. Hodgson, owner of the Brynlliw Bar & Restaurant. The letter explained that given the closure of the Welfare Hall the Brynlliw would continue the tradition of a children's Christmas party and was seeking financial support towards the cost of this.

**Resolved:** Members were mindful that the Brynlliw was a

commercially operated business, as opposed to the Welfare Hall which was run as a charity; however, they agreed to continue the funding for the benefit of the children from the village. Members agreed to donate up to a cost of £200 upon the production of receipts for audit purposes and providing there is was no charge for entry in order to gain profit.

**2023. Any other urgent business at the discretion of the Chair.**

Mr. D. Merriman and Mrs. H. Talaat recommended to Members that given the current absence of Mr. H. Bates, community council governor representative, that Mrs. Tracey Morgan be moved from her position of community governor to community council governor freeing up her position and allowing the school to appoint into that post. Members were advised that it was important to have a full complement on the governing body.

**Resolved:** Members agreed that this was a practical solution and that Mrs. T. Morgan would represent the community council as governor.

### Issues awaiting resolution

Issue	Key dates	Current Position	Action required by
Request for Pedestrian Crossing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Originally requested several years ago.</li> <li>• Followed-up: August, 2013</li> <li>• Followed-up: October, 2013</li> <li>• Site meeting in December, 2013 with Ward Members and Jeff Green</li> <li>• January, 2014 local Cllrs meeting with Jeff Green</li> <li>• May, 2014 funding rejected for 2014/15.</li> <li>• June, 2014 funding possible for 2015/16.</li> <li>• May, 2015 Funding agreed by Welsh Government</li> <li>• July, 2015 Project delayed</li> </ul>	Confirmation received via Cllrs D. Cole and J. Curtice that Welsh Government had agreed the funding via Safe Routes to School. Installation delayed due to prioritisation being given to the Kingsway.	Welsh Government; Traffic Section, Swansea Council (Jeff Green).
Installation of Zigzag lines outside Pengelli Primary School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cllr J. Curtice to raise with Traffic Section: February, 2015</li> <li>• Agreed to follow-up: April, 2015</li> <li>• May, 2015</li> <li>• July, 2015</li> <li>• Oct, 2015</li> </ul>	Agreement reached for lines to be painted at same time as pedestrian crossing installation. Notice advertising the painting of lines to be displayed in November.	Cllr. J. Curtice to fund from environmental monies.
Alternations to Box Road/Park entrance junction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Concern expressed of vehicles exiting Box Road the wrong way: Sept, 2014</li> <li>• Police advise they have conducted a monitoring exercise: October, 2014</li> <li>• Meeting between Comm Council, Traffic Section and Police to discuss concerns: November, 2014</li> <li>• Drawings received from Traffic Section with proposal to reconfigure the boulders and access area to the park: Jan '15</li> <li>• Cllrs. D. Cole &amp; J. Curtice agreed to use some of their environmental monies: Feb '15</li> <li>• Mr. D. Merriman, Mr. B. Davies and Mr. A. Hamilton site visit to assess work and costs involved: Oct '15</li> <li>• Cllr D. Cole pursuing Jeff Green for action: Oct '15</li> <li>• Alternative drawings being</li> </ul>	Awaiting action by Swansea Council.	Swansea Council

	produced by Traffic Section to be available early 2016.		
Dropped kerb at Coalbrook Rd/Plas Rd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• May, '15 Request made to Swansea for dropped kerb</li> <li>• June, 2015 Advised that site survey assessment required, however, unlikely to qualify due to limited funding.</li> <li>• August, 2015 Results of site survey assessment received</li> </ul>	Confirmation that dropped kerb will be installed during the current financial year.	Swansea Council (Huw Daniel)