

**Minutes of the Grovesend & Waungron  
Community Council Meeting held on  
Tuesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> February, 2016**

**Present:** Mrs. C. Knox, Chair  
Mr. B. Williams  
Mr. W.B. Davies  
Mr. W.D. Merriman  
Mr. J. John  
Mr. M. Jones  
Councillor J. Curtice  
Councillor D. Cole  
Mr. J.I. Burge (Secretary)  
Cllr R. Stewart, Leader City & County of Swansea (item 2038 only)  
2 members of the public present

**2036. Apologies for absence.**

Apologies for absence were received from Mr. L. Jones, Mrs. S. Morgan  
Mrs. T. Morgan and Mr. A. Hamilton

**2037. Disclosures of personal interest.**

None.

**2038. Councillor R. Stewart, Leader of the City & County of Swansea.**

The Chair welcomed Cllr Stewart to the meeting and thanked him for taking the time to meet with Members of the Community Council.

Cllr. Stewart appraised Members of a number of areas and issues that were currently affecting Swansea, including:

- The recent budget settlement from Welsh Government was much better than first predicted, however, the Council were still required to save £25M from the 2016/17 financial year which was in addition to the £50M saved over the past two years. Priority had been given to vulnerable service areas such as Social Services and Education;
- The environment money given to each councillor would be raised to £20k per Member, allowing for issues that matter most to residents to be delegated and decisions made by local Ward Members entirely at their discretion;
- Currently £160M of trade was being lost to other areas and localities. A substantial redevelopment of the city centre has just been announced which will upgrade the city so that people will want to come to Swansea to shop, enjoy and live and not choose to go somewhere else;
- The sale of the Civic Centre is expected to generate a one-off income of around £60M. The purchase of a new building in the heart of the city to relocate the council's operations would cost around £1M, generating a

significant surplus to spend on other service areas. Penllergaer Civic building is also currently for sale which will generate a further one-off cash benefit;

- There was hope that the tidal lagoon would be signed-off shortly by officials in London;
- A redevelopment of Castle Gardens in Swansea would see a return of greenery to the city. The area would be handed over to a private contractor who would be obliged as part of the contract to maintain it for a set period of time. This would be a significant financial saving to the Council;
- A substantial change to the promenade around the Civic Centre area was being worked on. This would include restaurants and cafes for people to eat a meal, have a drink and enjoy the spectacular view over the bay.

Councillor Stewart conclude by saying that Swansea had a lot to offer in terms of its location and work already undertaken in the city. The next 5 years will see the largest redevelopment of the city since the Second World War.

The Chairman and Members thanked Councillor Stewart for attending the meeting and providing an update on a number of areas of current concern.

Following the departure of the Leader the Chair informed Members that she and the Secretary had met with Cllr Stewart prior to the main meeting in private and discussed the outstanding issue of the safe walking route to school and response by Cllr Jennifer Raynor, Cabinet Member for Education. Following a frank discussion by both parties the Chair advised that the matter had now been concluded.

#### **2039. Minutes of the meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> January, 2016.**

Approved.

#### **2040. Matters arising from the minutes.**

None.

#### **2041. Local Members Report.**

Councillor D. Cole reported on the following:

- (i) The proposal to remove part of the bank on Box Road to allow vehicles exiting the park to have a wider turning circle and use the road layout correctly had been approved. The works involved would cost £20-£25k and be jointly funded by Councillors D. Cole and J. Curtice environmental money;
- (ii) A press release had been organised in readiness for when the new pedestrian crossing lights were switched on;

Councillor J. Curtice added:

- (iii) That significant discussions were taking place at the Guildhall in relation to setting the 2016/17 budget;

- (iv) Resurfacing of the pavements through the village had been completed with an excellent job being done.

#### **2042. Ten-minute Public Questions.**

Mrs. Bronwen Webb and Mrs. M. Williams were present at the meeting and advised Members that she had experienced a further episode of flooding again last week. The Fire Brigade and Swansea Council had been called who between them pumped out most of the water. Cllr. J. Curtice advised that she was working with Swansea to address the root cause of the continued flooding problem as a matter of urgency. Members felt that this issue needed addressing as soon as possible.

#### **2043. Planning Applications.**

None

#### **2044. Secretary's Report.**

The Secretary reported on the following matters:

- i) He had received the One Voice Wales Membership renewal subscription fees for the year ahead at £135.

**Resolved:** Members agreed to renew the subscription for a further 12-month period;

- ii) He had received a late letter requesting financial assistance from Pontarddulais Community Car Scheme. Members were reminded that they had provide financial support in previous years.

**Resolved:** To provide £100 of financial support towards the scheme which was used by several elderly people of Grovesend;

- iii) Mrs. Tracey Morgan had asked him to raise in her absence a request that the Community Council considers a financial contribution towards the cost of a bench in memory of Haydn Bates that his wife Heather was organising. It was proposed that the bench would be made from oak and placed in the park for all the community to use. Members felt that given the significant contribution Haydn made to the village through his time as trustee of the welfare hall, involvement with Pengelli AFC, Pengelli Primary School and that he was a serving Community Councillor when he passed away, it would be appropriate to contribute towards a lasting memorial.

**Resolved:** To contribute £100 towards the bench.

#### **2045. Any other urgent business at the discretion of the Chair.**

Mr. D. Merriman reported that he had noticed an increase in the amount of dog fouling on the pavements through the village. Mr. W.B. Davies advised to report any instances to Swansea Council and they will come out within 2 hours to clean it up.

#### **Issues awaiting resolution**

<b>Issue</b>	<b>Key dates</b>	<b>Current Position</b>	<b>Action required by</b>
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> <li>● February, 2016</li> </ul>	Project completed	
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 produced by Traffic Section to</li> </ul>	Awaiting implementation by Swansea Council.	Swansea Council

	<p>be available early 2016.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Proposed scheme approved. To be financed from environmental monies of Cllrs D. Cole and J. Curtice, February, 2016</li> </ul>		
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> <li>● February, 2016</li> </ul>	Project completed	