

**Minutes of the Grovesend & Waungron  
Community Council Meeting held on  
Tuesday, 7<sup>th</sup> July, 2015**

**Present:** Mrs. C. Knox, Chair  
Mr. W.B. Davies  
Mr. W.D. Merriman  
Mrs. S. Morgan  
Mr. J. John  
Councillor D. Cole  
Councillor Mrs. J. Curtice  
Mr. J.I. Burge (Secretary)  
6 members of the public present

**1974. Apologies for absence.**

Apologies for absence were received from Mr. M. Jones, Mr. L. Jones, Mr. H. Bates, Mr. B. Williams and Mrs. T. Morgan. Mr. A. Hamilton was absent.

**1975. Disclosures of personal interest.**

None.

**1975. Minutes of the meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> June, 2015.**

Approved.

**1976. Matters arising from the minutes.**

Minute 1966 (1956 1944): Presentation by youth petitioners regarding the cost of school transportation to Pontarddulais Comprehensive. The Secretary advised Members that he had spoken to the Transportation Officer at Swansea Council who had advised him that following the completion of a new safe routes to school risk assessment she would be recommending to the Cabinet Members for Education and Director of Education that the route was not safe for pupils to walk to school and that free transportation should be provided in readiness for September.

The Chair and Members thanked Jâc Scott, who was present at the meeting, for raising this as an issue in the first place and congratulated him on a success that benefits all pupils from Grovesend and Waungron that attend Pontarddulais Comprehensive School. The Chair also informed Members that this was a good example of where the Community Council represents and fights for its residents with a fantastic outcome for many people.

Minute 1966 (1956 1946 (1941 (iv))): Fencing around the park. The Chair informed Members that she had visited the park recently to see first-hand the fence and felt that it was unsafe and potentially dangerous. The Secretary reported that he had received information from the Parks Department that the cost to replace the fence with a rounded top would be £47.50 per meter

(approx. £5k). Cllrs Cole and Curtice advised Members that they would be prepared to contribute a third towards the cost of the replacement from their environmental money if Swansea Council would contribute a third and the remaining third cost paid for by the Community Council.

**Resolved:** That subject to the provision of a full costing provided by Swansea Council, Members agreed to progress the scheme of replacing the fencing at the park.

Minute 1973 (iii): Bench at corner of High Street/Plas Road. The Secretary reported back to Mr. B. Davies as why the seat had not been purchased and put in place. He reminded Members that in January, 2014 they had agreed to purchase two seats for the village, one for this site and a second for Box Road and for both to be purchased and installed via Mr. A. Hamilton. In February, 2014 Mr. Hamilton reported that his regular supplier has ceased selling the seats and the lowest available price he could acquire them from an alternative provider was £700 each. The Secretary reported that on top of the purchase price Swansea Council had advised an excavation licence would need to be applied for at a cost of £120 per location and that they required a specific public liability insurance to be in place whilst the work was being carried out by the contractor. At the same time an opportunity arose to repair the seat on Box Road which negated purchasing a new one, therefore, Members' discussion turned away from the High Street/Plas Road seat.

**Resolved:** Members present recalled the above background and determined that given the expensive cost of installing a new seat they would not progress this any further.

Minute 1973 (iv): Emptying of dog litter bins. The Secretary advised Members that he had spoken to Daryl Joyce, of Swansea Council, who confirmed that the dog litter bins were collected on a weekly basis and there was currently no problem with the collection service. Mr. Joyce advised that any resident who did encounter a problem to ring the environment department call centre number on 635600.

Dropped Kerb. The Secretary updated Members regarding a discussion during the May meeting of the Community Council to ask Swansea to drop the kerb that crosses the road at the junction of Plas Road/Coalbrook Road. He had received a response from Mr. Huw Daniel of Swansea Council to say that the cost of dropping a kerb was in the region of £2500-£3000, which covered the advertising, planning, materials and installation. With limited funding available Mr. Daniel advised that his budget could only afford 15 crossings a year for the entire Swansea area and each crossing was prioritised based on an assessment of need. Mr. Daniel agreed to survey the site and complete an assessment of need in the following few weeks.

In the meantime, Cllrs D. Cole and J. Curtice agreed to speak to the Police regarding the dangers that exist of parking so close to the junction. A member of the public present at the meeting informed Members that she had recently witnessed an elderly lady walking down the middle of the road as she was unable to walk on the pavement with her shopping due to the cars parked on it.

**Resolved:** That Cllrs. D. Cole and J. Curtice would make contact with the Police regarding the issue of parking on the pavement and blocking pedestrian access and Members would await the outcome of the assessment by Mr. Daniel.

#### **1977. Creation of a Friends of Grovesend Park Committee.**

The Chair reported that there was an excellent turn-out of villagers at the public meeting held earlier that evening to discuss the creation of a friends group. A number of names had been provided of those interested in being on the committee and willing to help. Both she and Mrs. Cherry Hinton would assess the list to ensure a fair balance of representation and call the first meeting of the committee in the next week or two.

The Chair asked for a representative from the Community Council to be on the committee, however, there were no nominations, therefore, the Chair agreed she would represent the Community Council for the time-being.

#### **1978. Local Members Report.**

Councillor D. Cole reported on the following:

- (i) The frequency of the bus service had changed from three an hour to one an hour. He was aware that the Cabinet Member for Transport was involved and Cllr Cole was awaiting a response to a letter to First Cymru asking that they reconsider this decision to at least two services an hour;
- (ii) The pedestrian crossing near the park had been delayed due to Swansea Council officers' time being re-directed to the redesign of the Kingsway following the increasing number of accidents there and this being prioritised. A reassurance had been given to him that the crossing would be installed during the current financial year;
- (iii) A speed comparison survey would be undertaken in the next few weeks on High Street;
- (iv) A site survey took place by Members of the Planning Committee considering the next stages of the LDP. The Committee approved the sifting exercise and the application will now progress through to the next stage of the LDP.

Councillor Mrs. J. Curtice reported on the following:

- (i) She attended a meeting of the WLGA the week previous with the First Minister and Leighton Andrews AM, where the announcement had

been made to reorganise the 22 Councils in Wales. The meeting had been heated in part with the attendance of all the Leaders of the Councils;

- (ii) An agreement had been received that the zigzag lines outside Pengelli Primary School will be painted at the same time as the lines painted for the new pelican crossing on High Street.

**1979. Planning Training Session for Members – Cllr. D. Cole.**

Councillor D. Cole shared with Members some of the key points learnt from the recent training session that he had attended in his role as a Member of the Planning Committee at Swansea Council and circulated a handout of the slides discussed. One area highlighted was the grounds and reasons to object to a planning application. Planning rules meant that objections could only be valid if they contained material considerations and were out of sync with the current planning policy document UDP.

**1980. Ten-minute Public Questions.**

Mr. Brian Moon raised the issues of speeding traffic through the village and parking on junction of Coalbrook Road/Plas Road. He advised that recently a gentleman on a mobility scooter couldn't pass on the pavement due to a parked van so was forced to go onto the road against oncoming traffic to go around the vehicle.

The Secretary informed Mr. Moon of the advice received from Swansea Council and their objection to creating a new traffic regulation order (TRO) due to cost. The double yellow lines currently painted on the road, despite being shorter than they were previously, cannot be extended without a new TRO being put in place. Cllr D. Cole suggested to Mr. Moon that where pedestrians cannot pass safely then they should dial 101 and report the issue to the Police.

**1981. Planning Applications – Mrs. S. Morgan.**

None received.

The Secretary asked Members to give permission for delegated authority to Mrs. S. Morgan and the Chair to consider any low level planning applications received during the summer period.

**Resolved:** That delegated authority to determine planning applications is given to Mrs. S. Morgan and the Chair during the summer period.

**1982. Secretary's Report.**

Nothing to report.

**1983. Any other urgent business at the discretion of the Chair.**

Mrs. C. Knox informed Members that she had written the Community Council Newsletter and that the Secretary was in the process of printing them for distribution by Members. Mrs. Knox expressed her disappointment that despite asking for suggestions and articles to include in the newsletter no Member had contributed to its content.

### 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> </ul>	Agreement reached for lines to be painted at same time as pedestrian crossing installation.	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: January, 2015</li> <li>• Cllrs. D. Cole &amp; J. Curtice agreed to use some of their environmental monies: February, 2015</li> </ul>	Awaiting action by Swansea Council.	Swansea Council
Dropped kerb at Coalbrook Rd/Plas Rd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• May, 2015 Request made to Swansea Council for dropped kerb</li> <li>• June, 2015 Advised that site survey assessment required, however, unlikely to qualify due to limited funding.</li> </ul>	Awaiting site survey assessment by Swansea	Swansea Council (Huw Daniel)