

Minutes of the Grovesend & Waungron
Community Council Meeting held on
Tuesday 5th March 2019

Present: Mr W D Merriman (Chairperson)
Mr D Gwynn
Mr W B Davies
Mr B Moon
Mr D Cole
Mrs S Morgan
Mr A Hamilton
Mr M Jones
Mr L Jones
Councillor J Curtice
Councillor A Stevens
Mrs Y Hamilton (Secretary)

2433. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Mrs H Talaat and Mrs C Knox.

2434. Disclosures of personal interest

None

2435. Minutes of the meeting held on 5 February 2019

Approved

2436. Matters arising from the minutes

2425 (2413) (2400) (2387) (2361) (2350) (2338) (2330) It was brought to the attention of the Council that a caravan had been placed on Plas Road. This was an enforcement issue. Update: Secretary informed Members that she had received a letter from the enforcement team informing her that an Officer had been allocated to look into the matter and aims to complete an individual investigation within 12 weeks. **Further Update:** Secretary informed Members that she had spoken to Ryan Thomas for an update and he confirmed that this is still ongoing. He advised that this is a difficult case as normally homeowners are allowed a caravan on their property if, for example its like an overflow; however, if it is because they are renting out their home and living in the caravan it then becomes an enforcement issue.

2425 (2413) (2400) (2387) (2374) (2361) (2356) (iii) Mr M Jones mentioned that there was a number of artic lorries going down Box Road and was becoming a concern as it goes to a single-track road. Update: Alan Ferris, Senior Traffic Engineer, Swansea Council advised that each sign would cost around £250 and a further £200 to cover traffic management to allow for the erection of the signs and our fee for officer's time in designing the works and would have to be funded from the Community Budget. Further Action: Secretary to find out why the costs are so expensive and to find out whether

these costs could be funded elsewhere. **Further Update:** Councillor Andrew Stevens suggested contacting the residents on Box Road to see how much of a concern it was and report back.

2425 (2413) (2400) (2387) (2374) (2362) Action: Councillor J Curtice to invite PCSO to attend a Community Council meeting. Update: Councillor J Curtice will invite them again. **Further Update:** Tom O'Neil will be taking over from Sergeant Phil Morris so she will invite him to attend the next meeting.

2425 (2413) (2400) (2387) (2374) (2367) The issue regarding flooding in Waungron is becoming more apparent especially as the Winter is coming. Action: Secretary to find out who the Area Highways Manager is and request an update. **Update:** Secretary informed Members that she had received the report from Mike and confirmed that the Area Highways Manager is Nigel Fitzgerald. Mike advised that Nigel had instructed a gully crew to attend the site. **Further Action:** Secretary to write a letter to Rebecca Evans and copy Mike and Nigel in.

2425 (2413) (2408) (i) It was brought to the Council's attention that there is a man who is continually working on a number of cars which are parked on Plas Road and who may be repairing them as a business. This is an enforcement issue. Update: Secretary informed Members that she had received a letter from the enforcement team informing her that an Officer had been allocated to look into the matter and aims to complete an individual investigation within 12 weeks. **Further Update:** Ongoing

2425 (2414) A discussion took place regarding the Community Speed Watch Scheme which gave a mixed response on whether this was something that our Community Council should be involved in. Councillor Jan Curtice reiterated that the reason why the police will not police our village is because it is a 20-mph zone. Action: Mr W D Merriman, Mr D Cole and Mrs H Talaat (on behalf of Pengelli Primary School) have agreed to take part in this scheme and have been given an application form to complete. **Action:** Councillor Jan Curtice to contact the police to find out how many collisions there has been in Grovesend and Waungron over the last 3 years. **Further Update:** Secretary to assist the Members with the completion of the application forms.

2429 (v) Hanging basket scheme for the Summer ahead. **Action:** Members agreed that the displays around the village look great and agreed to have the same as last year with an additional base unit (planter) to go at the other end of Grovesend (Coalbrook Road) at a cost of £1218.00. Secretary to send payment and order form off but to ask to meet up with Alan Hughes to show where to place them this year. **Update:** Mr D Merriman and Mrs S Morgan met with Alan to agree the new positioning of the hanging baskets and extra planter.

2429 (vi) Wildflower planting scheme in 2019. Members felt that over the past couple of years they had not been as vibrant and colourful as previous years and felt that it would look better if more daffodils were placed around the area. **Action:** Secretary to put on the agenda for discussion in July. **Further Action:** Secretary to contact parks department to ask what they recommend

could be planted as opposed to the wildflowers.

2429 (vii) She had received a quotation from Michael Owens regarding the completion of works at the Miners Welfare Hall following the excavation of the trees. This included fencing, installing a pipe and landscaping the area. The total cost to complete this would be £2750. **Decision:** Members agreed to pay £1300 towards to costs following their previous commitment of spending £2500. **Action:** Mr Merriman would speak to the trustees to see if they were in a position to contribute to the rest. **Update:** Mr Merriman informed Members that the trustees were unable to contribute to any further costs to the works required. **Decision:** Members agreed to put this on hold until an alternative suggestion is provided.

2429 (viii) A request from Pengelli football club had been received asking if the Community Council could donate anything towards the rising costs of pitch fees, training facilities, referees fees etc. **Decision:** Members agreed to support the club by donating £500 once a copy of the accounts has been received. **Decision:** Pengelli Football Clubs provided the Community Council with a financial report. Members agreed to donate £500 towards the running costs.

2431 (i) It was mentioned that the bench by the gas box on Coalbrook Road had become rusted and was looking a little worse for wear. **Decision:** Members agreed to have the bench repainted. Secretary to purchase some paint. **Update:** Following an inspection of the bench it was decided that the bench was irreparable and would need to be renewed along with the bench on Station Road.

2437. Local Members Report

Councillor Andrew Stevens reported on the following: -

- (i) All the defibs have now been installed apart from the one in Waungron, although the post has now been installed.
- (ii) Cariad had sorted out some training on the defibs in Grovesend and Penyrheol. A poster of venues and dates is published on the notice board.
- (iii) The notice board is now been used and anyone that wants anything displayed can contact Councillor J Curtice or Councillor A Stevens. A key has also been given to the Secretary for access.
- (iv) They are hoping to get a small gate installed at the side of the double gates to allow members of the public to access the park on Box Road rather than walking all the way round.
- (v) The raised crossing outside the post-office in Penyrheol is currently out for consultation.
- (vi) The LDP and budget have both been signed off.
- (vii) They are hoping to get a handrail installed by the steps on the right-hand side for safety reasons. They have requested this in black to work with the other equipment already in place. The lock has been removed from the gate by the Parks Department.

2438. Ten-minute Public Questions

None

2439. Planning Applications

Application No. 2018/2720/FUL - Demolition of the existing buildings on site and redevelopment of site to provide 60 residential units comprising 6 detached dwellings, 21 pairs of semi-detached dwellings and 12 flats in 3 x two storey blocks with associated access, parking, landscaping, pumping station and ancillary works.

Following the last meeting the Secretary had spoken to the planning department who confirmed that the admin team do not get confirmation of whether an application will be on the planning committee until a few days before. She advised Members that representatives supporting the application and objecting the application get five minutes in total regardless of how many individuals want to speak and that whoever wants to speak need to contact the planning committee no later than 12 noon on the working day before the meeting.

A discussion took place and it was noted that the developers had submitted some changes to the application but some Members felt that this was still leaving major problems regarding the access.

There was also a discussion regarding Section 106. Councillor A Stevens gave an explanation of Section 106 and advised that different departments can put in a request.

2440. Ward Litter Pick

This was agreed to be deferred until the next meeting.

2441. Policy for funding requests

A discussion took place as to what Members wanted to include in the policy.

Action: Secretary to draft a policy for approval at the next meeting.

2442. Secretary's report

The Secretary reported on the following: -

(i) She had received an email from the Parks services confirming that cutting back the branches had been completed in Waungron on the B4296. They did state that there were some dead elm trees that still require felling but require Western Power to switch off their lines. **Action:** Secretary to find out when this work will be completed.

(ii) She had received an email from the Highways Department regarding the damaged and deteriorated road off Pentre Road, Waungron advising that they did not have any additional capacity to programme any treatment using PATCH during the financial year. They confirmed that it would take at least two, possibly three days to carry out the work and that each ward are allocated five days per year to carry out PATCH. **Action:** Secretary to ask Councillor J

Curtice and Councillor A Stevens if they are able to look at this area when they allocate their five days for the work to be completed.

(iii) Having sent the amended Charter to be adopted by the City and County of Swansea to Members prior to the meeting, she asked if they were happy to adopt the recommendations. **Decision:** All Members agreed to adopt the amended Charter.

(iv) She shared the Statutory guidance on the Well-being on Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 with Members and advised that the Act places a duty on certain community and town councils to take all reasonable steps towards meeting the local objectives included in the local well-being plan. Community or town councils are subject to this duty if its gross income or expenditure was at least £200,000 for each of the three financial years preceding the year in which the local well-being plan is published.

(v) She provided Members with a copy of the finalised Annual Report in respect of 2019/2020. Determination 40 states that 'All community and town councils must make available a payment to each of their members of £150 per year as a contribution to costs and expenses. **Action:** Secretary to get some guidance on what to do if Members do not wish to accept this payment.

(vi) Letters from Wales Air Ambulance Charity, Urdd and Llangollen requesting financial donations had been received. These were noted by Members.

(vii) She had received an invoice from Vision ICT for the website hosting and support for April 2019 to March 2020 at a cost of £150.00. **Resolved:** Members agreed for the invoice to be paid.

(viii) She has received the Annual Contract for 2019/20 from the Parks Department for the annual maintenance including grass cutting for Box Road/Grove Farm Road at a cost of £622.00 which is a very slight increase on the previous year. **Resolved:** All Members are in favour to renew the contract for a further year.

(ix) She had received the One Voice Wales Membership renewal subscription fees for the year ahead at £152.00. **Resolved:** Members agreed to renew the subscription for a further 12-month period.

(x) She informed Members that the lights on Box Road were still out and the Council have been unable to contact the landowners about cutting back the overgrown trees so that Western Power are able to carry out the works required. **Action:** Secretary to continue to chase this up.

2443. Health and Safety

Nothing to report

2444. Any other urgent business at the discretion of the Chair

(i) Mr D Cole reported 3 drain lids missing along Station Road. Highways department made safe the defect immediately and agreed to repair the issue permanently as resources allow.

(ii) Mr M Jones informed Members that the Friends of the Park were currently

putting together a full development plan.

(iii) Mrs S Jones informed Members that motorbikes were constantly using the cycle track between Grovesend and Gorseinon and were becoming a concern.

Action: Secretary to report this issue to the police.

2445. Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 2 April 2019.