

**Minutes of the Grovesend & Waungron
Community Council Meeting held on
Tuesday, 6th September, 2016**

Present: Mr. J. John, Chairman
Mr. W.B. Davies
Mrs. S. Morgan
Mr. M. Jones
Mr. A. Hamilton
Councillor D. Cole
Councillor J. Curtice
Mr. J.I. Burge (Secretary)
1 Member of the public present

2104. Apologies for absence.

Apologies for absence were received from Mr. B. Williams, Mr. L. Jones and Mr. W.D. Merriman. Mr. D. Gwynne was absent from the meeting.

The Secretary informed Members that he had been advised by Ms. Carey Knox that due to relocating she had tendered her resignation from the Community Council with immediate effect. The Secretary also informed Members that he had received notification from Mr. Phillip Card that after due consideration he had decided not to join the Community Council.

Members were once again invited to consider appropriate nominations for the two vacancies that existed with the matter would remaining on the Agenda for the time-being.

2105. Disclosures of personal interest.

Mrs. S. Morgan declared an interest in item 5 on the Agenda - Planning Applications.

2106. Minutes of the meeting held on 5th July, 2016.

Approved.

2107. Matters arising from the minutes.

Minute 2097 (2088): Waungron flooding. It was reported that following the heavy rain experienced over the weekend there were problems with flooding in Waungron. Cllr J. Curtice reported that she was actively pursuing Mike Sweeney from the Council to address the problem, however, was meeting with resistance. She had also discussed the issue with the Director of Environment.

Members felt that with the onset of autumn and winter the problem at Waungron was becoming more urgent with action now needed following many months of promises by Swansea. It was agreed that Cllr J. Curtice would attempt to make progress with Mr. Sweeney one last time prior to the

Community Council highlighting the problem with the local AM or MP.

Minute 2099 (vii): Zigzag Lines. Mr. W.B. Davies asked Cllr. J. Curtice for an update as to the awaited zigzag lines on New Road. Cllr. Curtice advised that for some unknown reason the Highways Department had painted the zigzag lines at the Station Road entrance to the school but had forgotten to paint the lines at the New Road entrance. Cllr. Curtice has been informed that this additional work will be completed by the end of September.

2108. Local Members Report.

Councillor D. Cole reported on the following:

- (i) There was a near accident on Box Road recently after a football game with Pengelli. Cllr. Cole has reported the incident to Jeff Green of the Transport Section who has confirmed that the work to change the junction will commence late September/early October.
- (ii) The cycle track between Grovesend and Gorseinon has been swept a few times over the summer period by machine. Further cleaning will take place over the autumn as leaves start to fall.
- (iii) The NEET team have cleaned up the left-hand side of Coalbrook Road and have sprayed weed-killer along the pavement.
- (iv) Richard Davies, the new Local Area Coordinator has started in post. Cllr. Cole will arrange to invite him to a future meeting of the Community Council so he can introduce himself.
- (v) A rare species of butterfly known as a Fritillary has been identified on common land in the area. Monitoring of the butterfly will continue for the time-being.
- (vi) On 19th September the Garngoch and Clyne tips will become recycling centres only. Disposal of black bag will only be accepted at the Llansamlet site. Car parking and the flow of traffic in and out of the centre will also be improved.
- (vii) The LDP consultation process has ended. Responses were being assessed and evaluated and will be known prior to Christmas.
- (viii) Temporary traffic lights will be used in Waungron shortly to allow Wester Power to cut some trees/branches so they don't grow into or damage the powerlines.
- (ix) He has been advised that hedge cutting will take place through Waungron and up Pentre Hill in a few week time.

Councillor J. Curtice added:

- (x) She had witnessed a car parked across the new disabled kerb on Plas Road recently. She had taken a photograph of the offending vehicle and passed the details to the Police.
- (xi) Over the bridge at Allt-y-Graban 30 empty boxes of diazepam and empty cans of alcohol had been found dumped. Cllr. Curtice advised that she had report these to the Police.
- (xii) She had attended a meeting on waste/recycling recently that discussed

the changing of Garngoch, Clyne and Llansamlet centres.

2109. Appointment of Secretary to the Community Council.

The Secretary advised that the advert for his replacement hadn't been released yet as he had been attempting to clarify from HMRC as whether or not the salary was below the threshold required to pay tax and national insurance. The HMRC website provided contradictory advice saying in one-part tax and NI contributions were exempt if weekly earnings were below £112 per week, yet in another part of the website it stated that the Community Council needed to register as an employer and make relevant contributions.

In addition, he had been assessing the number of hours required in order to fulfil the role and researching what other Community Councils of similar size paid their Clerk's and discussed the issue with One Voice Wales.

Resolved: It was agreed to release the advert for a new Clerk pending the advice from HMRC based on a notional 10 hours per month and at a rate of £9.64 per hour which followed the National Joint Council for Local Government Services, Spinal Point 19.

2110. Ten-minute Public Questions.

Mrs. H. Talaat, Headteacher of Pengelli Primary School, was present at the meeting and asked Members if they would be considering appointing a replacement Governor now that Tracey Morgan had resigned. Mrs. Talaat asked that given the increasing pressure on Governors to attend for various meetings and also classroom observations, that the individual selected had the time to fully commit to the role.

Mrs. S. Morgan advised that she would consider undertaking the role and advise Members of her decision at the next meeting.

Resolved: To consider a suitable appointment at the next meeting.

Mrs. S. Morgan declared an interest in the following item and left the room whilst a discussion took place.

2111. Planning Applications.

The Secretary informed Members that a planning application had been received from Mr. C. Morgan, Bryn-Yr-Arad Farm, Plas Road, Grovesend for a house extension and alterations.

Resolved: No objection.

2112. Secretary's Report.

The Secretary reported to Members that he had been advised by the Auditors that although there were no issues in relation to the actual accounts for 2015/16, they felt the Community Council needed to tighten its procedures on the budget setting process by setting out clearly the expected income and expenditure for the year ahead and also an administrative issue where the accounting form that is submitted to the auditor had been formally signed off as accurate at a different meeting to when they had been approved. The auditor also raised a recommendation that the internal auditor should be supplied with an appointment letter setting out their role and expectation.

Resolved: Members noted the comments of the Auditor and agreed to take these on-board for future years.

2113. Any other urgent business at the discretion of the Chair.

- (i) Mr. B. Davies reported to Members that the owner of a house on Station Road had removed a hedge and replaced it with a new fence that had been erected across part of the pavement.

Resolved: That Cllr. J. Curtice would visit the site and report any issues relating to the pavement being blocked.

- (ii) Mr. J. John reported Members that the rubber surface area of the park was broken, uneven and represented a safety risk. Mr. A. Hamilton advised that there was funding available from a number of grants to upgrade playground equipment and rubber floorings. Members felt this was the exact type of activity that the Friends of the Park should be undertaking.
- (iii) Mr. A. Hamilton reported to Members that the Christmas tree he planted last winter had died. It would be replaced with a new smaller tree which would have a better chance of survival.

Issues awaiting resolution

Issue	Key dates	Current Position	Action required by
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 ● May, 2015 ● July, 2015 ● Oct, 2015 ● April, 2016 – Delayed due to two objections ● July, 2016 ● Sept, 2016 	Cllr. J. Curtice advised that the lines should be painted by end of September.	Cllr. J. Curtice to fund from environmental monies.
Alternations to Box Road/Park entrance junction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Concern expressed of vehicles exiting Box Road the wrong way: Sept, 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: Jan '15 ● Cllrs. D. Cole & J. Curtice agreed to use some of their environmental monies: Feb '15 ● Mr. D. Merriman, Mr. B. Davies and Mr. A. Hamilton site visit to assess work and costs involved: Oct '15 ● Cllr D. Cole pursuing Jeff Green for action: Oct '15 ● Alternative drawings being produced by Traffic Section to be available early 2016. ● Proposed scheme approved. To be financed from environmental monies of Cllrs D. Cole and J. Curtice, February, 2016 ● Legal Team drafting public notice of intention for advertising, April, 2016 ● Public notice placed in May 2016. Awaiting works to commence. ● Sept '16 	Cll. D. Cole advised that the alternation work should commence at the end of Sept/early Oct.	Swansea Council