

Minutes of the Grovesend & Waungron
Community Council Meeting held on
Tuesday 5th September 2017

Present: Mr W D Merriman, Chairman
Mr W B Davies
Mr D Gwynn
Mr M Jones
Mr B Moon
Mr D Cole
Mrs C Knox
Mr L Jones
Mr A Hamilton
Mrs. Y. Hamilton (Secretary)

2228. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Mrs S Morgan, Mrs H Talaat, Councillor J Curtice and Councillor A Stevens

2229. Disclosures of personal interest

None

2230. Minutes of the meeting held on 4th July and 8th August 2017

Approved

2231. Matters arising from the minutes

2203 (2191) (2186) (2216(i)) She had received the application from Cariad for the provision of 3 defibrillators to be placed in Grovesend and Waungron. Funding towards these will come from the Big Lottery Fund if the application is approved. Suggested areas are Waungron; Miners Club and one by the park.
Action: Secretary to complete the application on behalf of the Community Council. Secretary to meet with Cariad on 17 July to assist with the application.

Further Action: Cariad did not turn up on 17 July. Secretary contacted them again and has been given a new email address to contact them again.

2203 (2199(vi)) (2216) Mr D Merriman spoke on behalf of the trustees and mentioned that quite a bit of work needs to be done regarding the upkeep of the Miners Welfare Hall and asked for financial assistance.

Update: Further to the estimations received Mr A Hamilton asked who had already provided quotes for the removal of asbestos. Mr Merriman confirmed that reputable quotes had been received from a couple of employers and was being dealt with by Mr Kevin Roberts and Mr Roger Wilde.

2218 (ii) Mr W B Davies had received 3 complaints regarding the dog bins not

been emptied on a regular basis, especially the one at the top of the village. He also stated that it is impossible to contact the department to deal with it.

Action: Mr D Cole to forward an inventory of where the dog bins are located around the area.

2218 (iii) Councillor J Curtice advised that the wildflowers had yet to bloom and were very disappointing this year. She also mentioned that they were the same around Gorseinon. **Action:** Secretary to write a complaint to the Department.

Update: The secretary had received a response from Ceri Davies advising that the wildflowers weren't sewn until June so therefore wouldn't have bloomed until early July.

2223 (ii) Mr M Jones mentioned that the baskets along the railings on High Street had all been clumped together and that they should be more spread out.

Action: Councillor J Curtice to contact the relevant department to have them moved.

2232. Local Members Report

In Councillor A Stevens and Councillor J Curtice's absence Mr D Merriman read the following report: -

(i) Still negotiating with Road Safety on traffic works throughout the village Please see the following proposal from Jeff.

A. A reduced section of 20mph speed limit to include the area from Plas Road through the double bend to Clos Pengelli (basically covering the area where vulnerable road users are crossing to and from the School, playground, playing field and bus stop. (i.e. returning the speed limit to 30mph from approximately 72 High Street back to the existing 30mph towards Penyrheol). **[Estimated cost = £3,000]**

The 20mph speed limit within the side streets of Plas Road, New Road, Tyrisha Road etc would be retained.

B. A raised plateau area to cover the pelican/puffin crossing.) **[Estimated cost = £9,000]**

C. Change the Speed Indicator Display (SID) signs either side of Grovesend to ones that display actual speed) **[Estimated cost = £8,000]**

D. Longer term - A raised plateau area to cover the junction of Clos Pengelli). **[Estimated cost = £15,000]**

E. Longer term - A raised plateau area to cover the junction of Plas Road. **[Estimated cost = £15,000]**

We have queried the costs as they do seem expensive, especially the first one, there is also an option of the entire road being put back to 30 but with an advisory limit of 20 or 25mph. Jeff did stress to us that they are only approx. costs and the reuse of any signs etc would reduce the cost.

Also, we have requested that the longer term option of speeding plateaux at the junctions (if they are needed) come via section 278 agreement

should any development that could be forthcoming in the LDP get given the go ahead.

(ii) Golden grove park flooring

SCC are intending to fill the areas between the rubber safety surface and bring it up to the same level, but have such a back log that they cannot give us a timescale. They have re iterated their intentions that they will be carrying out the work. We questioned a future 106 agreement and the officer made us aware that he always requests a S106 contribution for nearby parks should any development be carried out in the area.

(iii) Work carried out behind High Street Golden Grove Park

We have negotiated with the parks department that a large area behind High street leading down to the football pitch is cut on a regular basis and are currently working on having the entire area maintained. We will be keeping a close eye to make sure it is in fact done.

(iv) Flooding Waungron

The response we received from Mike Sweeny was that it has been proposed that this area needs further investigation/hydrology study to evaluate flows discharging off the adjacent fields/rural catchment in the area and to ensure that the conveyance of the drainage network is checked for capacity to determine what improvements are needed. This will provide them with options to consider in terms of costs and affordability.

(v) LDP Update

The Council submitted the Swansea Local Development Plan 2010-2025 to the Ministers of the Welsh Government for independent examination on 28 July 2017.

Following formal acceptance of the submitted Swansea LDP on 4 August 2017, the Ministers of the Welsh Government have appointed Inspectors Rebecca Phillips BA(Hons) DipM MCIM MRTPI and Paul Selby BEng (Hons) MSc MRTPI to conduct the independent examination to assess the soundness of the LDP. On completion of the Examination, the Inspector will issue a Report for the Council giving recommendations for action which will be binding on the Council.

If considered necessary by the Inspector, the first meeting of the Examination will be a Pre-Hearing Meeting, which is likely to be held in the final quarter of 2017. This meeting will deal with any issues identified as requiring further investigation during the Examination. The content and merits of the Plan and the representations will not be discussed at the meeting.

The formal Hearing Sessions of the Examination will consider the content of the Plan and deal with the representations on the Deposit LDP that have been made during the public consultation process. Those that submitted

objections to the Plan will be contacted in due course by the LDP Examination Program Officer, who will in due course contact such individuals to discuss how they would like their objection to be taken forward – for example if they would like to give evidence at the formal hearings. The program officer Tracey Smith can be contacted on email: tracey.smith@swansea.gov.uk.

It is likely that the Hearings will initially last for around 6 weeks with one or two breaks. After the Hearings have been formally closed, the Examination remains open until the Inspector's Report is submitted to the Council.

(vi) The touch Rugby event was a success with over 750 attending and a massive £5200 was raised for the cardiac care at Morriston Hospital.

2233. Ten-minute Public Questions

None

2234. Planning Applications

The Secretary informed Members that a planning application had been received from the following: -

Mr M Morgan, Bryn Yr Arad Farm, Grovesend, Swansea, SA4 4WJ for a proposed agricultural building.

Resolved: No objection

2235. Friends of Golden Grove Park Update

Following the distribution of over 500 leaflets delivered throughout Grovesend and Waungron regarding the re-launch only 8 villagers turned up. However, it was still felt that the group could make the Friends of Golden Grove Park a success and had arranged for a further meeting to take place.

2236. Secretary's report

The Secretary reported on the following: -

(i) She had received the completed audit from BDO which she presented to the Council. The Annual Return was approved and accepted by all members. She explained the issues arising from the report and a discussion was held on how this will be addressed in the future. Members approved and accepted the Annual Return.

Resolved: The annual return and notice of conclusion of audit will be displayed on the notice board for 14 days.

(ii) She had received a NALC legal briefing which provided valuable information on changes to the data protection legislation. This was noted by all Councillors.

(iii) City and County of Swansea have sent a letter to all Councils in Wales to consider and adopt a local resolution process. One Voice Wales have drafted a local procedure for Town and Community Councils that we could adopt. A

copy of this was sent out to all members prior to the meeting and a discussion was held.

Resolved: Members agreed to adopt the protocol

(iv) The Local Government: Transformation and Partnerships, Welsh Government sent a letter regarding clustering: funding to support the initial setting up of joint arrangements and stated that a budget of £20K was available for 2017-18. Applications would need to be submitted by 13 October 2017.

Resolved: Noted by members

(v) She had received a letter from Clare Jenkins, Chief Office, Community Health Council regarding the Welsh Government White Paper Consultation “Services fit for the future” and requesting that we consider and respond to the proposals set. The consultation ends on 29 September.

Resolved: Noted by members

(vi) She had received a letter from Miss Summer Painter, Station Road, Grovesend requesting financial support to represent Wales as a gymnast in Vegas.

Resolved: Members agreed to support this opportunity by granting £200 towards the trip. Secretary to write a letter back to Summer Painter and to wish her well on her forthcoming trip.

(vii) She has received a letter from Mrs Heather Bates requesting any contribution towards a donation/raffle prize for a charity night that she was organising in memory of her late husband, Mr Haydn Bates. All funds raised will be donated to Ty Olywn/Cancer research.

Resolved: All members felt that this was a worthy charity and agreed to donate two £25.00 gift vouchers for the raffle. Mr Leighton Jones also agreed to donate a free pony morning session.

(viii) Following the last meeting she wrote to the Planning Department asking when the temporary accommodation that was granted to 152 Coalbrook Road would be reverted back to its original use. She received a reply from Martin Collison, Planning Officer, confirming that they could not find any granted permission at the site. He did advise that he had spoken to the Enforcement Team that a visit did take place at some point. He also stated that if the building is within the residential curtilage of the house then planning permission may not be required and that no further action can be taken.

2237. Any other urgent items of business at the discretion of the chair

(i) Since the new way of providing information regarding planning applications was implemented Mr D Cole asked if there was any way of bringing the planning applications to the meetings via access to a laptop/iPad

so that they can be discussed. This was discussed but at this moment in time would not be feasible as there is no Wi-Fi currently at the building.

(ii) Mr Merriman advised that he had been approached by a resident of 'Meadgate Homes' site asking whether the Community Council could help regarding the blocked ditches. A discussion was held and it was suggested that if they could find out the costs to have the works carried out that they could apply to us for financial support and that we could maybe match fund the works to be completed.

Resolved: Mr A Hamilton to provide a quote for the repairs to be carried out and inform the resident.

(iii) Health and Safety – Module 7 – 25 October 2017. Both Mr M Jones and Mr D Merriman expressed an interest on attending this course.

(iv) Mr D Cole informed members of the recent LDP meeting held at the Guildhall on 27th July when a list of alternative sites in Grovesend were mentioned. These were :-

1. Pantyblodau which we were aware of.
2. Land off Station Rd.
3. Land off Tyrisha Rd originally designated as PY012 Candidate Site.
4. Candidate Site PY011 already included.

(v) A complaint was raised regarding the state of the field around the football pitch. Although the actual pitch had been cut the area around it had been left and therefore made it difficult for people to go to the park if the grass is too long. It was felt by all that the Council should be maintaining the whole park and not just part. Mr W B Davies felt that 40% of the park had been lost as the trees have encroached most of the area.