

Minutes of the Grovesend & Waungron
Community Council Meeting held on
Monday 9 June 2025

Present: **Councillors**
Mr L Holloway (Chairperson)
Mrs T Hardwick (Vice Chairperson)
Mr M Jones
Mr W Erasmus
Mr S Bates
Mr M Osborn
 Clerk
Mrs Y Hamilton
 Public Attendance
Zara Simisker
Mair Huntley

Prior to the start of the meeting L Holloway welcomed our new Co-opted Community Councillor to the meeting. S Bates signed the Acceptance of Office form and was looking forward to joining the Community Council.

3294. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from A Hamilton, H Talaat and S Morgan.

3295. Disclosure of personal interest

None

3296. Minutes of the meeting held on 12 May 2025 including the AGM meeting

The minutes were approved as a true and accurate record. This was proposed by T Hardwick and seconded by M Jones.

3297. Matters arising from the minutes

Previous Minute Ref	Matters arising	Current Position
3239 (i), 3244, 3258, 3271, 3284	L Holloway mentioned that he felt entering our village was not very defined and suggested putting white fences up at the entrances into the village depending on what the costs would be. Members agreed that this would look good and could also help with the speed issues through the village as it would kind of give off a warning that you were now entering a village, for example. Action: Clerk to enquire on what the costs would be and if it would meet Swansea Council's planning policies, etc. Update: A Stevens spoke to Highways and advised that this was a possibility but would want to do a site visit to see where the best position would be. He was also waiting for information regarding the costs to install and would get back to us with further details.	Update: Ongoing
3279 (iii), 3284	W Erasmus proposed that we put some LED lights up on the street lights during the Xmas period and suggested that we apply for funding for this. Action: Clerk to contact Swansea Council to find out if it is possible and what the procedure is. The Clerk contacted street lighting who advised that we were unable to put any lights on wooden poles which were positioned in the middle of Grovesend. There was a possibility of putting them up as you enter / leave Grovesend. Action: Clerk to continue communicating with Street Lighting for further details.	Update: Clerk sent some suggested lamp-post numbers to Street Lighting to get an estimate of costs.

3291 (i)	L Holloway brought up the footpath on Coalbrook Road between Grovesend and Gorseinon and asked if we could explore with Swansea Council regarding widening the footpath due to the issue with the hedge and people passing. This is not suitable for people in wheelchairs or children in pushchairs. Action: Clerk to speak to Swansea Council again.	Update: Ongoing
3291 (ii)	It was reported that the gully at the end of Plas Road was becoming a problem. Action: Clerk to report to Highways on receipt of a photo from L Holloway.	Update: Ongoing
3292 (ii)	A Hamilton mentioned that he had spoken to Mark Williams regarding the drainage issues in the rear gardens on Station Road that appears to be caused from the field behind. He believed that the issue could be resolved if someone went in for one day to carry out some maintenance. As M Williams did not accept responsibility for the issue he was not prepared to pay for the remedial action, but would consider allowing the residents to pay for the work required to clear the ditch. Action: M Jones to speak to the residents on Station Road to see if they would be willing to pay for the work.	Update: Ongoing

3298. Ten-minute Public Questions

Zara Simisker introduced herself and thanked us for allowing her to attend our meeting to give an account of what her role is within the community. Local Area Coordinators are there for the whole community with a vision 'All people live in welcoming communities that provide friendship, mutual support, equity and opportunities for everyone'. They are available for anyone who needs support in the area. M Jones asked if they would be able to assist with funding applications for Friends of the Park. She advised that this wasn't something that they could do; however, she suggested that SCVS may be able to assist.

3299. Local Members Report

Nothing to report

3300. Friends of the Park Update

M Jones reported on the following: -

- They are looking at holding a sports day prior to the Summer Fun Day. Clerk asked if they had someone to put the programme together and offered her assistance if there was no-one available. They were hoping to include traditional activities and a 'turf wars' competition.
- 2 trees that had recently been planted had been damaged due to vandalism. The Council has agreed to replant them but a discussion took place as to how we can avoid this happening again. **Decision:** It was agreed to have a discussion with the schools to see if they can bring up the subject in assembly. **Action:** Clerk to invite local PCSO to attend our next meeting.

3301. Planning Applications

No applications received

3302. Financial Update

Clerk contacted Zurich Insurance Company Ltd to update them on our precept value. This has resulted in an increase of £96.00 to our insurance quote and is now £396.00. **Decision:** All Members agreed to renew the insurance at £396.00 for the coming year 30/06/25 – 29/06/26.

Clerk received a revised quote from Swansea Council regarding the Hanging Basket Scheme for 2025 with an additional charge of £90 from the original quote accepted of £2052. This was due to them placing a small base planter instead of the 2 hanging baskets by the bench. **Action:** Clerk to contact the parks department to raise this additional charge due to not be notified of the changes prior to them displaying the planter.

Due to low interest for the talent competition scheduled to take place on 12 June the working group had met and decided to change the event to a Social Afternoon which would hopefully be more

welcoming for our residents and members of the public. The Community Council had originally agreed a budget of £600.00 for the event and the Clerk had also received a further £200.00 from our County Councillors. The cost of the event was a little higher than the budget allowance and a request for an additional £100.00 to cover the costs was proposed. **Decision:** A discussion was held and it was agreed that if we could reduce the numbers for the planned buffet allowance from 100 to 60/70 this would reduce the expenses. However, it was noted that the Caterers may have already purchased the stock as the event was happening in a couple of days. L Holloway proposed that if we are unable to amend the buffet order then the Community Council agree to a further £100.00 to cover the costs. This was seconded by M Jones. All members agreed.

The Clerk asked if she could apply for a debit card as at present, she could only make payments via cheque (which was becoming the least choice with suppliers) and via BACS. It also meant that some purchases had to be made by herself and then claimed back through BACS. **Decision:** It was agreed that the debit card would be useful and beneficial for the Community Council. This was proposed by L Holloway and seconded by T Hardwick.

Summer Fayre – 23 August 2025

The Clerk would set up a working group to include representatives from the Community Council, Friends of the Park and Pengelli Sports and Social to plan the Summer Fayre. **Action:** Clerk to ask our County Councillors, Friends of the Park and Pengelli Sports and Social for a financial contribution. **Decision:** A budget of £3000 had been approved by the Community Council.

An application had been submitted to COAST funding for financial support towards our Summer Fayre. If the funding gets approved it will hopefully allow us to hold a free event for the public to attend.

3303. Clerk's Report

The Clerk reported on the following: -

- (i) One Voice Wales Updates: -
 - Welsh Government is currently undertaking post-legislative scrutiny of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. Responses are invited by 11 June and One Voice Wales will be preparing a response and submitting evidence.
 - Webinars
 - Bridging the Gap: Tackling rural cost of living challenges together – 24 June
 - Supporting wellbeing in a cost-of-living crisis – 10 July
 - Cost of Living Crisis Project – Information and Resources shared with Members
 - E-Bulletin information shared with Members
 - One Voice Wales – Innovative Practice Conference ‘Planning ahead for a challenging future’ will be held on 2 July at the Royal Welsh Showground
 - National Awards Conference Report 2025 was shared
- (ii) Training Updates: -
 - H Talaat will be attending Biodiversity Training on 11 June.
 - S Bates attended the Code of Conduct training on 2 June and will be attending the New Councillors Induction training on 23 June.
- (iii) Current consultations: -
 - To improve the administration and enforcement of Council Tax in Wales. Responses to be received by 23 July 2025.
- (iv) Prior to the meeting the Clerk shared our latest Safeguarding Policy for approval. **Decision:** T Hardwick proposed that we adopt the policy and was seconded by L Holloway. All Members agreed.
- (v) The Standards Committee of Swansea Council is seeking applications from Community / Town Councillors within the Swansea area to sit as the Community / Town Councillor representative on the Committee. Applications to be submitted no later than noon on 7 July 2025.
- (vi) The call for an election expired on 3 June and as no-one requested an election we can co-opt for 2 new Community Councillors. **Action:** Clerk to place adverts on social media, our

website and notice board.

3304. Health and Safety

M Osborn reported overgrown trees on Box Road by the gate. **Action:** Clerk to report to Highways to see if they can be cut back.

3305. Any other business at the discretion of the Chair

(i) A discussion took place regarding this year's Garden Competition. Entries need to be in by 10 July with judging taking place some time in August (exact date tbc). **Action:** W Erasmus to speak to someone to help out with the judging. **Decision:** It was decided that you could only enter one category this year. An additional category would also be added 'Kids Garden'. A budget of £300.00 had been previously approved. Sweets would be given out to every child who enters and garden vouchers and rosettes would be given out to the winners.

3306. Date of next meeting

It was agreed that the next meeting will take place on Monday 14 July 2025 at the Miners Welfare Hall. Remote access is available for anyone wishing to attend remotely.