

**Minutes of the Grovesend & Waungron
Community Council Meeting held on
Monday 12 May 2025**

Present:

Councillors
 Mr L Holloway (Chairperson)
 Mr A Hamilton
 Mrs H Talaat
 Mrs T Hardwick (Vice Chairperson)
 Mr M Jones
 Mrs S Morgan
 Mr W Erasmus

Clerk
 Mrs Y Hamilton

Public Attendance
 None

The Clerk read out 2 resignations that she received from I Llewelyn and P Card. Members were sorry to hear the news but accepted their reasons for resigning. **Action:** Clerk to write to both to thank them for their time serving as a Community Council and to wish them both well for the future. Clerk to contact Electoral Services to inform them of the vacancies and to advertise the vacancies on the notice board and our website.

Furthermore, the Clerk read out a letter from Mr Simon Bates applying for the position of Co-opted Community Council. Members discussed the letter and agreed that he would be a suitable candidate for the vacancy position with many of the members already knowing the individual and his family as they have lived in the village for many many years. **Decision:** It was agreed that the Clerk would contact Mr Simon Bates to offer him the position of co-opted Community Councillor.

3281. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from M Osborn.

3282. Disclosure of personal interest

None

3283. Minutes of the meeting held on 10 March 2025

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

3284. Matters arising from the minutes

Previous Minute Ref	Matters arising	Current Position
3239 (i), 3244, 3258, 3271	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)	W Erasmus proposed that we put some LED lights up on the	Update: The Clerk contacted street

	<p>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.</p>	<p>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.</p>
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3285. Ten-minute Public Questions

No public present

A number of residents had emailed the Clerk to report damage to the top entrance to the park off High Street. The gate had been knocked down causing damage to the signs with sharp edges, potentially a health and safety hazard. The Clerk contacted the Parks and Cleansing department to see if they could go and look at the site and make safe. She received a response advising that they were trying to establish who carried out the damage. **Action:** Clerk to chase up a response to see if the site had been made safe.

3286. Local Members Report

Nothing to report

3287. Friends of the Park Update

M Jones reported on the following: -

- Currently in talks with various departments within Swansea Council in relation to the location of the orchard. A consultation with members of the public to ask for their views has been put on Facebook.
- They are looking at holding a sports day prior to the Summer Fun Day. Further details to follow. Date to be agreed following discussions with Community Council and Pengelli Sports and Social.
- The left-over Easter Eggs were taken to the children's hospital in Morriston Hospital by the Clerk and Vivienne Jones. They were very grateful and said that the children will send a thank you letter.
- Drainage issues ongoing.
- Will be planting a Xmas tree but will still require delivery of one for this year.
- Applied for grant funding – further details to follow.
- Currently developing a drone photograph of the park with all potential projects highlighted.

3288. Planning Applications

No applications received

LDP2 Update

Following our last meeting the Clerk contacted the LDP2 team to ask if Swansea Council were putting any of their own sites through LDP2. She received confirmation that there were some sites that had been submitted by the Council and would follow the same assessment procedure as all other Candidate Sites that have been submitted.

The Clerk advised Members that she had received an email from a resident advising her that she was getting an undeliverable message when she was trying to submit their comments to the LDP email address. The Clerk sent the message to the LDP email account on behalf of the resident and received a confirmation response which she forwarded to the resident.

3289. Financial Update

The budget monitoring report was shared with Members prior to the meeting and provided an update during the meeting. **Decision:** Members approved the annual accounts for year ended 31 March 2025.

Prior to the meeting the Clerk shared the annual return for year ended 31 March 2025 with Members. A discussion was held and the Clerk shared an explanation of the variances and gave a breakdown of the documents required to be sent with the annual return. **Decision:** Members approved the annual return for year ended 31 March 2025. **Action:** Clerk to forward our annual return to Audit Wales.

Audit Wales has submitted the invoice for Audit Fees for 2023/24 at a cost of £527.00. The Clerk questioned the costs with Audit Wales as it was more than double what we paid the year before. The response from Audit Wales was that it was based on a 'full audit' rather than a 'basic audit' and therefore a lot more work was involved. **Decision:** Members agreed for the invoice to be paid based on the reasons for the increase and thanked the Clerk for her work involved.

Following our last meeting the Clerk applied to the Swansea Bay Foundation for funding to help with the VE Day 80 celebrations. The application was successful and a further £350 was awarded to the Community Council for the VE Day celebrations. Members thanks the Clerk for her work involved in securing the grant.

Zurich Insurance Company Ltd provided a renewal quote for insurance the period 30/06/2025 – 29/06/2026 at a cost of £300.00 based on a precept value of £10,000 - £20,000. **Action:** Clerk to contact them to let them know the new value of our precept for 25/26 to see if this makes a difference to the quote.

3290. Clerk's Report

The Clerk reported on the following: -

- (i) The Clerk received an email from Kevin Roberts regarding the dog mess that was continuing to be a problem in and around the park and asked whether we could place a couple more signs around the park. **Decision:** Following a discussion, it was decided that M Jones would take this up with Friends of the Park to see whether this could be fundraised through the Friends of the Park.
- (ii) The Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales was abolished on 31 March and the functions transferred to the Democracy and Boundary Commission Cymru. This means that all statements of payments for 2024-2025 should be forwarded to remuneration@dbcc.gov.uk by 30 September.
- (iii) The Democracy and Boundary Commission Cymru published its Policy and Practice document in preparation for the 2025 Electoral Review Programme
- (iv) One Voice Wales Updates: -
 - An updated version of the Model Financial Regulations for Community and Town Councils in Wales was shared with Members
 - Webinars
 - Effective Community Consultations – 20 May
 - Cost of Living Crisis Project – Information and Resources shared with Members
 - E-Bulletin information shared with Members
 - Better Together – Building networks for an alliance for stronger communities in Wales – 11 June
 - Results of the National Awards Conference for 2025 was shared
- (v) Grants / Funding: -
 - Keep Wales Tidy's Local Places for Nature grants are available.
- (vi) All community councils are required to complete and publish their Section 6 reports by the end of 2025. The report should detail all actions taken to 'Embed the consideration of Biodiversity' into all the functions of your council over the last 3 years. **Action:** Members to let Clerk know who is available to attend the next round of training. **Action:** Clerk to add to future agenda for approving our report and action plan.
- (vii) Funding Requests
 - Llangollen International Eisteddfod
 - Teenage Cancer trust

These were noted by Members.

3291. Health and Safety

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.

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.

It was reported that a green BMW was constantly speeding out of the new estate and concerns raised that there is an accident waiting to happen. **Action:** Clerk to report this to our local PCSO if it continues to be an issue.

3292. Any other business at the discretion of the Chair

(i) H Talaat informed Members that the VE Day celebration event held on 8 May at Pengelli Primary School was a great success and an amazing turnout. It was lovely to see the community coming together on such a special day. Corrin Casini entertained us by singing songs and the children all looked fantastic dressed up in their fabulous costumes. Afternoon tea was served to all including sandwiches and plenty of cakes which everyone enjoyed. L Holloway thanked H Talaat for hosting the event and for all the hard-work put in to make the event so successful.

(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.

3293. Date of next meeting

It was agreed that the next meeting will take place on Monday 9 June 2025 at the Miners Welfare Hall. Remote access is available for anyone wishing to attend remotely.