

Minutes of the Grovesend & Waungron Community Council Meeting held on Monday 8 June 2026

Present:

Councillors
 Mr L Holloway – Chairperson
 Mr S Bates
 Mr A Hamilton
 Mrs T Hardwick – Vice Chairperson
 Mr M Jones
 Mrs S Morgan
 Mrs H Talaat
 Mrs D Thomas

Clerk
 Mrs Y Hamilton

Public Attendance
 County Councillor – A Stevens
 County Councillor – N Matthews
 County Councillor – J Curtice
 Steve Richards

3444. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from R Hardwick and M Osborn. W Erasmus was absent.

3445. Disclosure of personal interest

None

3446. Minutes of the meeting held on 18 May 2026

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

3447. Matters arising from the minutes

Previous Minute Ref	Matters arising	Current Position
3357, 3368, 3382, 3395, 3408, 3421, 3434	W D Merriman asked if the trees in the park could be cut down as it was affecting the football games. W Erasmus interrupted and said that he was constantly turning up to meetings and repeating himself. Action: A Stevens and M Jones will discuss this issue outside the meeting and report back.	Update: Ongoing
3415, 3421, 3434	M Jones mentioned that a member of the public had approached him to ask whether a handrail could be positioned by the kissing gate on Box Road. A Hamilton suggested the cost would be £250-£300 to supply and install this. Action: Clerk to contact parks department. Update – Clerk waiting for a response from Swansea Council	Update: Clerk informed members that the Council had reached out to Hamiltons Contracting Services to provide a quote and has given the go ahead for the work to be carried out.
3423, 3434	He suggested that the bench in Waungron had seen its days and could do with being replaced. Action: A Stevens to let Clerk know the cost to replace this to see if we have the funds available in this financial year.	Update: Clerk to ask A Stevens for costs to replace the bench.
3435 (ii)	She received a further email from W B Davies requesting that we discuss the speeding issues throughout the village following a 'near miss' on the stretch of road between Grove Farm Road and Waungron. He shared information that he had received back from Swansea Council advising that there have been no collisions in the last 5 years where injury has occurred within Grovesend and Waungron and in these circumstances it is	Update: Clerk informed Members that no volunteers had come forward to date. Decision: Members felt that we had reached out to the public and unless we get the volunteers to assist taking part in the Speedwatch Scheme there is no further action. It

	unlikely that road safety measures will be prioritised. They suggested raising concern with GoSafe. During our meeting we discussed the concerns. Decision: It was agreed that the Clerk would contact the GoSafe team to find out more about the Community Speedwatch Scheme and what involvement it would require. It was also suggested that individuals who are experiencing issues with speeding should report these incidents with the licence plate (where possible) to the police, as an increased number of complaints may encourage further action to be taken. Action: Clerk to raise this issue in a Facebook post to draw community attention on how to report these incidents.	was agreed to include an article in our next newsletter and to share a poster on our noticeboard to reach out to the community.
3435 (iii)	Clerk received a message from a resident asking why the grass has not been cut for nearly 2 months. Action: Clerk to contact Swansea Council to ask when the grass is scheduled to be cut and how frequently it will be done.	Update: Clerk has requested a copy of the area that is included within the contract to confirm which areas should be cut.
3442	T Hardwick asked if we could look at the costs to purchase poo bags and storage box to be positioned within the park. Decision: All Members thought this was a good idea. Action: Clerk to get some costs and report back.	Update: Clerk provided Members with the cost to purchase these at a cost of £142.98 for 4 including bags. Decision: S Bates proposed that we purchase two and was seconded by M Jones. All Members agreed. M Jones had already spoken to Friends of the Park and agreed to also purchase a further two to go around the park area.

3448. Ten-minute Public Questions

(i) The Chair welcomed Steve Richards to the meeting and thanked him for attending. Steve thanked Members for the opportunity to present his proposal regarding the installation of defibrillators along the cycle track to improve public safety.

He advised that he is a Community Councillor with Gorseinon Town Council and outlined plans to install three defibrillators along the cycle track between Grovesend and Gorseinon. He explained that, through a contact at Heartbeat Trust, he had obtained a quotation of £6,375 for the supply and installation of three defibrillators, including cabinets and a care package. The package would also include three bleed control kits and training provision.

Members welcomed the proposal and recognised the potential benefits to the local community. It was suggested that public training sessions could also be arranged to enable residents to become familiar with the use of the equipment.

Steve asked whether the Council would be willing to contribute towards the project costs. It was noted that costs could be shared equally between this Council and Gorseinon Town Council, or alternatively between three councils should Loughor Town Council also participate, resulting in a contribution of £2,125 per council.

The Clerk advised that, whilst no specific budget allocation had been made for this project within the current financial year, there were limited funds available within reserves. Councillors A. Stevens, J. Curtice and N. Matthews each offered to contribute towards the Council's share of the project costs, reducing the financial impact on the Council.

Decision: That the Council supports participation in the project and contributes its share of the costs. The proposal was made by H Talaat, seconded by M Jones, and unanimously approved.

The Chair thanked the Councillors for their generous offers of support towards the project.

(ii) The Clerk informed Members that she had received enquiries from several members of the public regarding the recent court case involving Councillor W Erasmus. Concerns had been raised as to why he remained a Community Councillor in light of matters reported publicly and that the Ombudsman would not consider their complaint.

The Clerk advised that she had sought guidance from both the Ombudsman and Swansea Council. The advice received from the Ombudsman was that only a single complaint would be actioned for any

investigation. Swansea Council advised that Members of the public with concerns should be directed to the Ombudsman.

Members discussed the matter and expressed concerns regarding the allegations and their potential implications for the Council. It was noted that there was a view among Members that the reported conduct may constitute a breach of the Code of Conduct and that the situation could have a detrimental impact on the reputation of the Community Council.

Members further noted the significant level of public interest in the matter and agreed that a resolution through the appropriate process is awaited as soon as practicable.

3449. Local Members Report

A Stevens reported on the following: -

- He congratulated those involved on the successful application for Lottery Funding and was happy to fund the shortfall for the installation of the Climbing Track. The Chair thanked the Councillors for the continued support on the development of the park.
- Work would be imminent on the weeds at the entrance into Grovesend. Members to let them know of any additional areas that need further cleansing.
- Delays on the upkeep of the verges was discussed but following discussion with the Parks Department work should commence shortly.

Clerk congratulated J Curtice and her husband on their lifetime achievement award from Gorseinon Town Council. All Members concurred.

3450. Friends of the Park Update

M Jones reported on the following: -

- The application for funding submitted to the Lottery Funding has been successful for the Climbing Track with the shortfall of the costs to be covered by Town Councillors which they were extremely grateful for. He thanked the Clerk for her assistance in completing the application.
- Currently in discussion with the Company that supplied the Orchard sign to get costs for supplying picnic tables.
- Reaching out to the public for volunteers to join the Friends of the Park – only 3 active members at present.
- The statement of account for 2025 was given to the Clerk.

3451. Planning Applications

No new planning applications received.

S Morgan asked if there was any update of the LDP. A Stevens said there had be no further updates and was going through the process.

3452. Financial Update

Committed Spend already approved since our last meeting

£200.00 – Donation to year 6, Pengelli Primary School

£310.59 – Expenditure for Summer Fayre 2026

£4.25 – Bank charges

Income received

£2000.00 – C C Swansea – Donation for Summer Fayre 2026

£60.00 – Donation from stall holders for Summer Fayre

£20000.00 – Grant from Lottery funding for the Climbing Track

Garden Competition 2026 – A discussion was held and Members felt that it was a great way to encourage community involvement and bringing neighbours together and hopes to achieve the promotion of wildlife-friendly gardening to support bio-diversity, building community spirit and recognising residents' efforts. **Decision:** It was decided that this year the categories would include: - Overall large garden, overall small garden, vegetable garden, hanging basket, children's gardening award and best wildlife-friendly garden. The competition will be open to all village residents and it was agreed that a nominated

entry will also be allowed providing permission has been received. Prizes will be garden vouchers and rosettes and sweets will be purchased. A budget of £300.00 was agreed by all. **Action:** Clerk to contact the allotment in Gorseinon to see if there is someone there that could assist with the judging.

Planning of this year's Summer Fayre is well underway and the Clerk has set up a small group to help with the organisation of the event. Further planning and discussions have taken place. We have also submitted an application to Swansea Council for the Summer Wellbeing Grant and awaiting a decision.

3453. Clerk's Report

The Clerk reported on the following: -

- (i) One Voice Wales Updates: -
 - E-Bulletin issue 25 information shared with Members
 - Funding newsletter – Potential Grant Opportunities shared with Members
 - Upcoming Online Events Cost of Living Crisis Team
 - Information shared relating to Biodiversity Packages and upcoming rounds of applications to apply
- (ii) Police States – Beat of Grovesend – for the month of May
0 ASB reports, 2 violence against the person reports, no dwelling burglary report – there are no current trends which are a cause for concern within the locality.
- (iii) Information regarding the revised Carmarthenshire Local Development Plan (LDP) 2018 – 2033 was shared with Members.

3454. Health and Safety

M Jones drew Members attention to the former shop premises at 1 Station Road and the condition of the building frontage. The Clerk reminded Members that this matter had been discussed approximately one year ago. At that time, the Environmental Department advised that they would contact the property owner to request that the frontage be tidied; however, they had no powers to enforce such action. **Decision:** It was agreed that a Community Councillor would attempt to contact the owner to ascertain whether the issue could be addressed, or whether there were any circumstances preventing the necessary work from being carried out.

3455. Any other business at the discretion of the Chair

A discussion was held regarding the current remote access arrangements. Several Members expressed concerns that the system had not operated effectively and had, at times, proved disruptive to meetings. It was noted that, since the introduction of remote access, no members of the public had utilised the facility and it had only been used on a limited number of occasions by one or two Community Councillors.

Decision: S Bates proposed that remote access should be permitted only in exceptional circumstances. The proposal was seconded by Cllr T Hardwick and unanimously approved by all Members present.

Action: Clerk to update the Standing Orders with the following: -

Remote attendance at meetings shall be permitted only in exceptional circumstances, subject to reasonable notice being given and at the discretion of the Chairperson. The Council is under no obligation to provide facilities for remote access.

Where a member is unable to attend a meeting in person the absence shall be recorded as a Non-attendance.

Meetings shall not be recorded due to data protection considerations and the costs and practicalities associated with the storage and management of video recordings.

3456. Date of next meeting

It was agreed that the next meeting will take place on Monday 13 July 2026 at the Miners Welfare Hall.