

Minutes of the Grovesend & Waungron Community Council Meeting held on Monday 14 September 2026

Present:

Councillors
Mr S Bates
Mr R Hardwick
Mrs T Hardwick – Vice Chairperson
Mr M Jones
Mrs S Morgan

County Councillors
Mr A Stevens

Clerk
Mrs Y Hamilton

Public Attendance
E Richards

3470. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from L Holloway, A Hamilton, M Osborn and H Talaat. W Erasmus and D Thomas were absent.

3471. Disclosure of personal interest

None

3472. Minutes of the meeting held on 13 July 2026

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

3473. Matters arising from the minutes

Previous Minute Ref	Matters arising	Current Position
3415, 3421, 3434, 3447, 3460	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. 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 conducted. Update: Clerk informed Members that A Hamilton had completed the work; however, it was suggested that following further discussions with Chris Dale from Rights of Way, it was agreed that a better solution would be to extend the existing ramp, reduce the gradient, and add an additional ramp to provide access to the park from both directions. As a result, the need for a handrail was removed. Concern was raised from Members that for Health and Safety reasons the need for a handrail was still required. Action: Clerk to contact A Hamilton for further comment.	Update: Prior to the meeting A Hamilton shared an explanation as to why a handrail was not installed and the preferred solution of reducing the gradient and extend the existing ramp. He also expressed that this was not a public right of way and the work completed by the Council provides a significant benefit to the community. Decision: A couple of members were still concerned with this approach but agreed to monitor the situation.
3423, 3434, 3447, 3460	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.	Update: Clerk provided a quote she had received from Swansea Council to replace the bench. Decision: Members agreed to the cost to replace the bench but asked if we could hold the quote until nearer to the end of the financial year.

3454, 3460	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 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 conducted. Update: It was noted that the front had been cut so no further action was required at this time.	Update: This was brought up again as a member of the public had contacted a councillor to say that this was a Health and Safety issue and something needs to be done. Clerk asked if the Councillor could ask for photos of the concerns that she could send to the relevant department in Swansea Council.
3467 (i)	Clerk informed Members that she had received a message from a concerned member of the public regarding human faeces had been left in the children's play tunnel in the park. She had immediately contacted the parks department to address this urgently. They came out the following day and cleaned up the mess including pressure washing the area. The Clerk thanked them for their fast response in dealing with this matter. Action: Clerk to publish a notice on Facebook in relation to antisocial behaviour happening around the park and asking for everyone to respect this shared community space.	Update: Clerk shared a post on social media
3467 (ii)	H Talaat reported that parents were parking across residents drives on Station Road during the school drop off and collection times and if anything could be done. It was suggested that the school could contact GoSafe to request some support. Action: Clerk to share information to H Talaat.	Update: Ongoing
3467 (iii)	The recent house fire on Box Road was discussed because the fire services could not access the stop clock for a period of time due to it been covered. This was extremely dangerous and access should be available at all times. Action: Clerk to contact Fire Services to ask them for best practice information to share in our next Newsletter.	Update: Clerk to contact S Richards to get a contact within the Fire Prevention team to see if they can put together a Safety list of Do's and Don'ts that can be shared on social media.
3468	Newsletter – Action: Clerk to put together a draft newsletter for approval at the next meeting. All to share ideas with the Clerk.	Update: Members went through the draft newsletter and agreed that it was eye catching and covered a lot of details. Clerk provided Members with a quote she had received and explained that the adverts would also generate an income. Decision: T Hardwick proposed that we accept the draft and was seconded by S Bates. All members agreed to go to print and approved the newsletter. Action: Members to let Clerk know who is available to deliver.

3474. Ten-minute Public Questions

E Richards attended the meeting and again raised concerns regarding why Councillor W Erasmus remains able to serve as a Community Councillor. She stated that she was speaking on behalf of a number of concerned members of the public and advised that she had also attended a meeting in Gowerton where the matter had been raised.

The Clerk advised that she had sought advice from Democratic Services and had been informed that the Community Council must await the decision of the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales in relation to the complaint.

3475. Local Members Report

A Stevens reported on the following: -

- Work on the installation of the Climbing Track was started on 8 September. He thanked the

Community Council and Friends of the Park for all the work involved in sorting this out.

- They have sorted out an additional new feature to go alongside the Climbing Track and will be in place shortly. Further details will follow.
- A new bulb planting scheme has been agreed so from early next year different bulbs will be planted alongside the usual daffodils and additional areas identified will also be included. **Action:** A Stevens to contact Pengelli Primary School as they have bulbs available for each primary school in the area.
- Continuing to replace old and worn street signs in Grovesend.
- The PATCH team are still doing the rounds to if there are any areas requiring attention, please let them know.

3476. Friends of the Park Update

M Jones reported on the following: -

- Friends of the Park are very pleased with the extra funding provided by Councillors for the new Climbing Track.
- Currently in discussions to put large planters in the park for members of the public to take responsibility of maintaining the upkeep. Further discussions to take place.
- Santas Parade and Xmas Light Switch – The event will take place on 5 December 2026. Further details to follow.

3477. Planning Applications

No new planning applications received.

3478. Financial Update

Committed Spend already approved since our last meeting

£2192.00 – Swansea Council – Hanging baskets

£255.92 – Swansea Council - Wildflowers

£1743.43 – Expenditure for Summer Fayre 2026

£8.50 – Bank charges

£200.00 – Pengelli AFC

£2125.00 - Defibs

£200.00 – Audit Wales

£310.00 – Garden Competition

£100.00 – Internal Auditor

£70.00 - Halloween

Income received

£1125.00 – C C Swansea – Donation for Defibs

£6305.00 – C C Swansea – Donation towards Climbing Frame

£80.00 – Donation from stall holders for Summer Fayre

£300.00 – Donation from Friends of Pengelli Park for Summer Fayre

£7833.33 - Precept

Clerk received the following invoices: -

Kingsbridge Print – 560 A4 12pp format newsletters - £397.00 – **Decision:** All Members agreed to pay the invoice.

-The Clerk informed Members that she had worked additional hours in connection with public liaison activities and requested payment for 8 hours of additional work. She explained that she had, in fact, worked considerably more hours than those claimed. **Decision:** Members agreed that the payment was acceptable and confirmed the additional hours worked.

-The National Joint Council for Local Government Services has agreed the new pay scales for 2026-27 to be implemented from 1 April 2026. **Decision:** All Members agreed to the new pay rate on the same scale and to be backdated from 1 April 2026.

-The Clerk read a letter received from Pengelli AFC thanking the Council for the donation of £200.00.

-Following the Summer Fayre and sale of raffle tickets and donations £920.01 was given to Friends of Golden Grove Park towards the development of the park.

-The total cost of the climbing track was £26305.00 plus VAT. Following the Lottery funding of £20000.00 plus a donation of £6305.00 from County Councillors there was still a balance of £5261.00.

Decision: It was agreed that this would be paid by Grovesend and Waungron Community Council.

-Clerk requested that the budget provisionally set for Halloween events be increased to £450.00 due to the Halloween Disco also being provided. **Decision:** Following an account of estimated costs to run all the events confirmed T Hardwick proposed that we accept the request to increase the budget as long as we have the funds available. R Hardwick seconded this. All Members agreed.

-Following the approval of the grant from Welsh Government for the St David's Day celebration the Clerk provided a full report of expenditure and objectives met. She received confirmation from Welsh Government that they are content with all that we have incurred and defrayed all costs against our claim, and that no further action will be taken.

-She had received a funding request from Cerebral Palsy Cymru's Annual Council Appeal. **Decision:** Members noted this.

3479. Remembrance Service

This year's Remembrance Service is 8 November but following previous years it was agreed that we would put on a service midweek. **Decision:** It was decided that this year the service would be 4 November at 6:00 p.m. It was agreed that the following donations would be made - £150.00 donation to Mount Pleasant Chapel and £50.00 donation to the Royal British Legion. **Action:** Clerk to contact the British Legion to see if they could attend with a Beuglar and Flag Bearer. Clerk to contact Pengelli Primary School to see if they could take part in the service. Clerk to contact D Merriman and C Knox to see if they would read the names of the fallen soldiers. Clerk to advertise the event.

3480. Halloween Competition

A discussion was held regarding the annual Halloween competition, following feedback received from last year's event. Last year's prizes were: - 1st Prize – £75.00, 2nd Prize – £50.00, 3rd Prize – £25.00. It was noted that boxes of chocolates would also be provided to the runners-up. **Decision:** It was agreed that the judging for the Halloween competition would take place at 5:00 p.m. on 31 October 2026. It was also agreed that a Halloween Disco, in conjunction with Pengelli Sports and Social, would be held at 2:00 p.m. on 1 November 2026. A Best Decorated Pumpkin Competition would also be held as part of the Halloween activities. **Action:** The Clerk to advertise the competition on the organisation's social media pages and website.

3481. Clerk's Report

The Clerk reported on the following: -

- (i) One Voice Wales Updates: -
 - E-Bulletin issue 29 information shared with Members.
 - Funding newsletter – Potential Grant Opportunities shared with Members.
 - Cost of Living Crisis Project – Information and Resources shared with Members.
 - Innovative Practice Conference will take place on 30 September 2026. Joint One Voice Wales / SLCC Event will take place on 18 November 2026. Members to let the Clerk know if they wish to attend.
 - Provided Members with an update following the decision from the Cabinet Minister regarding the Community Boundary Review and the representation that One Voice Wales submitted.
 - Motions for 2027 Annual General Meeting need to be submitted by noon on 4 December 2026 for consideration by the AGM Motions Committee on 11 December 2026.
 - A number of Practice Development Notes was shared with Members.
- (ii) Police States – Beat of Grovesend – for the month of July – 10 occurrences in total.

1 ASB report – Off road motorbike nuisance, 2 Violence Against the Person reports, no dwelling burglary report – there are no current trends which are a cause for concern within the locality.

For the month of August – 13 occurrences in total

No ASB reports, 1 Violence Against the Person reports, no dwelling burglary report – there are no current trends which are a cause for concern within the locality.

- (iii) Audit Wales shared information regarding a notification of their participation in the National Fraud Initiative.
- (iv) Public Engagement on Gorseinon Hospital – information regarding public engagements on the future of Gorseinon Hospital was shared with Members.
- (v) Swansea Council are hosting an online stakeholder workshop as part of the ongoing consultation on the Active Travel Network Map (ATNM) for Swansea. **Action:** Clerk to complete the online survey and requesting the inclusion of widening the footpath on Coalbrook Road.
- (vi) Swansea Rural Renewable Energy Grant is available where projects can receive up to £25,000. **Action:** Clerk to forward details to the Trustees of the Welfare Club.

3482. Health and Safety

- (i) T Hardwick mentioned that there was a huge wasp nest in the trees along the path in the park.

Action: Clerk to report it to the Parks Department / Environmental Department to see if anything can be done.

3483. Any other business at the discretion of the Chair

- (i) M Jones and the Clerk provided Members with an inventory of the stock we have in store for various Community Events and that they were currently stored in a 20 ft container at Mike's yard. The Clerk suggested that a donation be given to M Jones for the storage of these goods. **Action:** Clerk to find out the current rates of storage costs and report back at the next meeting.

3484. Date of next meeting

It was agreed that the next meeting will take place on Monday 12 October 2026 at the Miners Welfare Hall.