

JANUARY 2006

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT THE INFORMATION CENTRE
417 GOWER ROAD, KILLAY ON WEDNESDAY 25th JANUARY 2006 at 7.30 p.m

Members present: Cllr M.Jones in the Chair.

Cllrs: B.Brazil, M.Farley-Hills, E.Gunn, E.Ireland, C.Jenkins, F.Jenkins, B.Jones, R.Murphy, A.Thomas & P.Williams.

Apologies for Absence: There were none.

Prior to the meeting at 7pm Janet Hooper - deputy Head of Legal Services of City and County of Swansea, presented a detailed update on the Code of Conduct, Ombudsman Annual Report and Standards Committee procedure. The Clerk announced that Cllr Hillier had left a message to say she would not be addressing the Council this evening.

(1) Acceptance of the Minutes.

The Minutes of the Meetings held on 23rd November 2005 and 12th January 2006 having been circulated were agreed, accepted and signed as a true record.

(2) Declarations of Interest.

Members must declare an interest at the commencement of the matter being discussed or when the interest becomes apparent. Members disclosing an interest must enter the agenda number of the matter on the form supplied by the Clerk at each meeting.

At this juncture Community Police Officer Clive Jones addressed the meeting, gave a brief insight into recent incidents and assured members that higher profile policing was their priority.

(3) Matters Arising

re: Item 12 Chair said pot holes and raised area in Cygnet Close have been reported to Highways Dept.

(4) Correspondence

(a) Letter received from Killay & District Lunch Club thanking Council for £75 donation.

(5) (a) Chairman's & City Councillor's Report.

The Chair reported:

- (i) She had received a letter from a resident in Wimmerfield Avenue in relation to an incident involving youth annoyance - wrote to Police on this matter and other issues. Warning letters have been sent to homes of identified youths - next step - ASBO's; also complained of indiscriminate parking, in particular taxis in Goetre Fach Road.
- (ii) Had spoken to contractors carrying out tree cutting in Stephenson Road - only clearing bushes and scrub no trees with T.P.O's have been touched and the area has now been fenced off (reason unknown).
- (iii) Library coming on very well and attended 'Topping Ceremony' before Christmas unfortunately it is unsuitable for the pensioners to hold their meetings.
- (iv) Suggested in the Annual General Meeting we look at different ways that committees are set up - at some Community Councils all business is addressed in full Council meetings and members are then delegated specific tasks; as it was unfair on the same people doing everything as was the case at Christmas.

(5) (b) Clerk's Report

The Clerk reported:

- (i) Congratulations extended to Cllr Thomas on his becoming Governor of Dunvant School.
- (ii) Letter received from W.G.A.L.C. who are holding a meeting tonight to discuss disposing of their assets. Wrote back to give apologies for non attendance and wished to state the assets should be distributed equally among 31 Community Councils and not transferred to 'One Voice Wales'. Form received from 'One Voice Wales' for subscription fee for membership for £489. The Chair suggested we have someone from this organisation to speak to the Council - place on next Agenda.
- (iii) Three letters requesting donations (Kidney Wales Foundation, Alzheimers Society and Scott Riseborough) were noted.
- (iv) On 1st January £17.50 Lottery Registration fee was paid therefore proposed by Cllr Thomas seconded by Cllr Gunn that retrospective approval be given for payment to City & County of Swansea.
- (v) Letter received from Library Services stating no room for Notice Board inside library but intimated there could be room in foyer - agreed to wait until library open.
- (vi) Questionnaires distributed to Councillors to be completed in relation to Council Review of Working with Community Councils.
- (vii) Letter received from Swansea Museum in relation to a meeting held this Monday regarding proposed exhibition celebrating the 50th Anniversary of Gower as an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty - could not attend; Cllrs Farley-Hills and F.Jenkins agreed to attend any future meetings.
- (viii) Copy letters from Gower Society distributed regarding Sand Dredging - agreed to support any Public Enquiry.
- (ix) Complaints in Book recorded: in particular state of grass verge outside Village Diner - Cllr Farley-Hills said this area should be attended to - Chair said the business was partly responsible for driving over verge and if they wanted access for a cross over pavement they have to pay for it.

Cllr Williams left the meeting at 8.30 pm.

- (v) A large amount of literature received will be left in Information Centre - Chair said most of this should be read and having done so please initial front .

Clerical Expenses: £43.52

(5) (d) Planning Committee

Cllr M.Jones left the meeting and took no part in this item. Cllr Thomas read out all applications received to

which there were no observations. Letter received in relation to Taxi Call Centre being allowed to operate with conditions i.e. no taxis to enter or exit site, bollards to be placed outside - permission granted for twelve months - will be reviewed after this period. Also letter received stating Betting Shop plans and revised opening hours at 440 Gower Road have been approved. New Planning Handbook received from 'One Voice Wales' passed to Cllr Thomas. Cllr M.Jones re-entered the meeting.

(6) Reports (a) Communications Committee - Cllr Thomas asked committee to meet next Wednesday at 2.30 pm to discuss Newsletter and Information Card.

(b) Footpaths - nothing to report.

(c) Swansea in Bloom - Cllr Ireland was given permission to purchase polyanthus for planters. Clerk passed a letter to Cllr Jenkins asking shops to participate in hanging basket scheme; also showed photo of Cllr B.Jones receiving the award for first prize in Swansea in Bloom. Invoice received from City & County of Swansea for planters and barrier baskets (planting, maintaining, delivering and watering) in the sum of £1207.30 therefore proposed by Cllr Thomas seconded by Cllr C.Jenkins that retrospective approval be given for payment made by Clerk.

(7) Financial Report:

The Treasurer reported the following balances: Current Account £ 2545.16

No. 1 Account £ 9369.65

No. 2 Account £ 3626.98

Clerk reported Audit for 2004/05 completed - no problems whatsoever.

(8) Ratification of Precept 2006/07

Following on from precept meeting the Clerk distributed amended anticipated income and expenditure for 2006/07 and actual income and expenditure for 2005/06. It was therefore ratified that the precept be set at £19,500 as agreed in precept meeting.

(9) Standards Committee Report and Chairman's Response re: Cllr Farley-Hills

The Chairman stated that the investigation from the Ombudsman and Standards Committee has now been completed and the Committee determined that there was no evidence of any failure to comply with the code of conduct and no further action should be taken in respect of the matters which were the subject of the investigation. However the Committee strongly recommended that Cllr Farley-Hills clearly identified to them a lack of familiarity with Committee procedures and undertake training to rectify this. The Chair continued by saying that she was pleased that the process has been concluded after such a lengthy time and acknowledged that it has been a difficult time for Cllr Farley-Hills and her family and apologised unreservedly for herself and the Community Council and hoped we could all learn from this experience and move forward. Cllr Farley-Hills responded by stating "I accept the apology and hope lessons have been learnt from this debacle. As for the recommendation for training; I suggest all councillors could benefit from this as in the past decisions have tended to be made 'in the back room' and not fully discussed in Council prior to a vote *ie* the setting up of the shop. We'll put this behind us now and let bygones be

bygones and move forward to the benefit of the community at large”.

(10) Entertainments Committee Report - Christmas Lights and Events

The Clerk reported on an excellent evening when the lights were switched on and grotto in the precinct proved very popular. The Community Carol Service held in memory of Rev Gordon Lee was well attended and collection raised £520 - thank-you letter and receipt received from Cancer Research UK. Proposed by Cllr Thomas seconded by Cllr F.Jenkins that retrospective approval be given for payment made of £48 for lettering on safety jackets. Also proposed by Cllr Ireland seconded by Cllr B.Jones that retrospective approval be given for purchase of gazebo from The Range in the sum of £179.99. Will have to place this item on next months agenda as lights and electricity bills not received and six shops have not paid their contribution despite being reminded - will now leave to committee to seek payments.

(11) Killay Information & Tourist Centre Report

No committee meeting held; Clerk produced balance sheets and reported on excellent sales for November and December - stock taken end of December which showed 38.55% turnover. Proposed by Cllr Thomas seconded by Cllr B.Jones that retrospective approval be given for payment of phone bills to Post Office amounting to £68.31 and £68.63 = £136.94. Proposed by Cllr F.Jenkins seconded by Cllr Murphy that retrospective approval be given for payment made by Cllr Thomas to Tesco's for two computer cartridges amounting to £12.94. Proposed by Cllr Murphy seconded by Cllr Ireland that retrospective approval be given for payment made to British Telecom in the sum of £70.46 for 3 months Broadband. Proposed by Cllr C.Jenkins seconded by Cllr E.Gunn that retrospective approval be given for payment made to Cartridge World for £55 (debit card) for photocopier cartridge. Proposed by Cllr C.Jenkins seconded by Cllr Ireland that electricity bill be paid to SWALEC in the sum of £27.95.

(12) Forum Meeting Report

Cllr Jenkins gave a detailed report on Forum meeting attended at which two topics were the subject of discussion (1) Leisure Centre which remains on course to open in 2008 - very impressed with plans shown and (2) Consultation from Welsh Assembly re: Over 50's.

(13) School Governor's Report and Request for Help from Hendrefoilan Primary School

No report - Clerk distributed copy letter from school requesting financial aid on St David's Day. Cllrs M.Jones, C.Jenkins and R.Murphy declared interests and took no further part. Cllr T.Thomas was appointed acting Chair. The letter explained how the school will enlist a specialist mask maker to help the children design and make masks and oversee the construction of a dragon, or dragons which will form the centrepiece of a procession around Killay on St. David's Day. Proposed by Cllr F.Jenkins seconded by Cllr Ireland that we donate £350; a counter proposal was put forward by Cllr Thomas seconded by Cllr B.Jones that we donate £600. A vote took place and it was agreed by a majority that we donate £350.

(14) Eisteddfod 2006

The Clerk said two meetings had taken place one being when lights were switched on and second when our

precept meeting was held. Suggested we nominate a person to attend next meeting or was it the wish of the Council that we just donate a prize. Cllrs Farley-Hills and F.Jenkins agreed to attend next meeting which will be held in Commercial Inn on Wednesday 8th February at 7.30 pm.

(15) Any Other Business

Cllr C.Jenkins said Highways Dept are going to tarmac centre section of precinct. On Saturday 4th February at 10 am opening launch of the new Natural Health Therapy Centre (above Chaplins) and shops will be involved with tables and refreshments outside. Suggested we have a table and hoped at some time in the future there will be a flower cart in precinct.

Cllr Gunn said owing to water coming from wall at the Dell which was freezing over and dangerous had phoned Highways Department who attended immediately and dealt with problem with sand.

Cllr Ireland said she had informed Siloam that there was evidence of Japanese Knotweed growing in cemetery.

Cllr Farley-Hills asked Chair if builders could be asked to clean area around library as much debris was being dumped in stream.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.25 pm