**`Minutes of Ordinary Meeting held at Gilwern Community Centre on Jul 21st 2025 at 6pm– Llanelly Community Council**

Present: Cllr R Dixon (Chair), Cllr K Rose, Cllr G Nelmes, Cllr H Stockham, Cllr S Harris, Cllr K James, Cllr D Williams, Cllr S Morris, Cllr M Fulton, Cllr A Thomas.

Attendance:

CCllr S Howarth, Clerk, N James, PCSO J Carey, P Claridge, H Brice, A Wilson.

The Chair welcomed Cllr Sara Morris to her first Council meeting since being coopted as a councillor last month.

1. **Apologies:**

Apologies were received, and accepted, from Cllrs M Wells and N Curtis.

1. **Declaration of Interest:**

There were no declarations of interest.

1. **Open Session**

Mrs Pauline Claridge had submitted a request to discuss the state of Gilwern playing fields and its surrounding area. Mrs Claridge was very much concerned with a number of issues regarding the state of the playing fields in Gilwern and surrounds. She had also noted that very few local youngsters used the fields as there was bullying and intimidation by a small group who had also vandalised parts of the woods and play equipment. In addition she mentioned that litter and dog waste were often left for others to pick up and speeding and parking were constant worries. There followed a general discussion on these issues as well as speeding in Gilwern especially along Common Road. It was noted that there was now a Community Speed Watch team which regularly set up in two areas in Gilwern. Mrs Claridge gave the Clerk her notes and the Council agreed to look at her concerns and respond accordingly to those areas not covered in the meeting. **Action: NJ.**

PCSO Carey stated that there were increased patrols in Gilwern at different times of the day and the police had recently attended the bike event and also visited Hopscotch Nursery to talk to the children and attended with their Community Gaming van where they engaged with children and parents. He addressed some of the concerns raised by Mrs Claridge and advised that increased patrols would continue and he would look to conduct speed checks in the areas identified by her although he pointed out that there were limited resources.

**4. Minutes of Previous Meeting**

The Minutes of the meetings of the 9th June were approved and signed by the Chair.

1. **Matters Arising**
2. Para 5b- the meeting had taken place to discuss Gilwern Common in which it was agreed that MCC would take control of the cutting frequency with increased liaison with LCC regarding the management of the Common. In this respect it was agreed that Cllr Harris, as the LCC Biodiversity member, would act as liaison. In addition, it was agreed that: MCC would do a hay cut in July; there would be a second cut in the Autumn when there would also be a seed spread which could involve the local School and Cllr Harris would work closely with MCC on this. The Council noted that it had been recently cut due to the fire risk and many commented how much better it looked.
3. Para 11a2 -the Chair, Clerk and 3 other councillors had met the MCC officer responsible for the field which had been identified over a year ago to provide a dog exercising area, given the new restrictions on the playing fields at Gilwern. Unfortunately MCC were now unable to agree to the initial plan and had offered three options: LCC to lease the whole field; LCC to install fences along both sides of the field; prevent use by any members of the public. After a short discussion it was agreed to consider the way forward and for councillors to bring back proposals to the next meeting. **Action: ALL.**

**6**. **Planning**

* 1. 25/23878/FUL- erection of a conservatory at 23 The Shires, Gilwern- no comments received.

**7. Finance**

1. Cheques/Payments –the following payments had been signed/authorised by Cllrs Dixon, Rose and Nelmes on behalf of the Council since the last meeting on the 9th Jun: **28-25/6** - SLCC Membership-190.00; **29-25/6** -S Plumley-84.00; **30-25/6 -**Cllrs All-156.00; **31-25/6** -ROSPA Inspection-480.00; **32-25/6-** S Bevan-pump track maintenance-300.00; **33-25/6**- Audit postage-5.60; **34-25/6-** SJ Davies- skate park**-**552.00**; 35-25/6-** HMRC-766.64; 36**-25/6**- Cllrs All- 1276.16; **37-25/6**- Cllr’s All= 524.80; **38-25/6 -**E Keen- 421.66; **39-25/6 -**King Ramps- 1650.00; **40-25/6-** Digital Systems – 16.09; **41-25/6-** Merlin Waste – 1093.68; **42-25/6** -Thomas Waste-65.20; **43-25/6**-S Plumley- 60.00; **44-25/6**- J Cranna- Clydach survey-250.00; **45-25/6**- N James- copy paper- 11.97; **Chq 3192**- Cllr’s All-156.00; **SO** – Country Bookkeeping – 15.00; **SO** – Salary –1022.30; **DD** -EON- 26.82; **DD** – Octopus Energy-4.57;**DD**- BT-353.05; **Bank Charges** -8.05.
2. The Clerk had circulated the Bank Reconciliation and Financial Report for the end of June and went through the main points.
3. Clydach Village Hall had forwarded a quote for work to refurbish the main iron gates there; Cllr James explained that the posts of one gate had rusted through and needed to be replaced as well as removal of rust throughout the two gates. As this work had alr3ady been approved by the Council a year or so ago it was agreed to go ahead with the work at the quoted cost of £1200.00. **Action: NJ.**

**8.**  **Reports from Members on Outside Bodies**

Cllr Nelmes advised that the parking trial introduced at the School by MCC was to be withdrawn by them from September.

**9. Report from County Councillors**

CCCllr Howarth raised concerns that he had been advised, as Cllr Nelmes had, that the School were going to permanently close the entrance gate by the Community Centre, and that the only entrance/exit to the School would be through the main entrance. Cllr Dixon also expressed concerns at this, since several minibuses drop off and pick up daily from the car park and those pupils use that entrance as well as children who walk over from Brynglas All councillors agreed with his proposal to contact the School to express the significant concerns of the Council. **Action: RD.** In addition CCllr Howarth raised concerns about the number of staff parking outside the School as the new security fencing had reduced the number of parking spaces within the School; that said, he noted last week there were spaces not being used.

**10.Correspondence Received**

1. OVW Training dates for Jun-Sep.
2. May/June Police Reports.
3. ROSPA Inspection Reports.
4. Report from structural engineer into the wall at Clydach. This had noted a significant bulge in the wall that needed to be addressed, Consequently, Cllr Rose had met with a stonemason on site, and a quote was awaited.

**11. Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on 8 Sep at Gilwern Community Centre. **Action: NJ.**

Given the absence of a meeting in August the Council gave its delegated authority to the Chair and Vice Chair to make any essential and immediate decisions without recourse to the full Council.

**R DIXON, Chair N JAMES, Clerk**