

## **Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Mumbles Community Council held on 09 July 2024 at 6.30pm (Hybrid Meeting at the Ostreme Centre and via Teams)**

**Members Present:** Cllrs Martin O'Neill (Chair), Will Thomas (Vice-Chair), Rob Marshall, Francesca O'Brien, Rhian Evans, Ian Scott, Mike Parkin, Helen Nelson, Emilia Cox, Pamela Erasmus, and Carrie Townsend Jones,

**Officers Present:** Paul Beynon – RFO and Ian Hughes – CSO

**C02407-01 Apologies for Absence:** Cllrs Sara Keeton, Tim Zhou, Angela O'Connor and Phil Keeton.

**C02407-02 Declarations of Interest:**  
Cllr Richard Jarvis stated that he had a personal interest with Mumbles Yacht Club and left the meeting between 7.37pm and 7.39pm whilst the grant application was discussed (**C02407-13** refers).

**C02407-03 Public Participation**  
Dr Stewart Eyres attended in relation to disabled access in Mumbles, relevant correspondence had been circulated to Council members prior to the meeting.

Phil and Caroline Slater attended the meeting in relation to the installation of 5G masts in Mumbles, again relevant correspondence had been circulated to Council members prior to the meeting. In addition to Mr and Mrs Slater, Steve Paris and Angel Garden of Able News Media were present to film the discussion surrounding the installation of 5G masts in Mumbles.

The Chair Cllr O'Neill welcomed all the members of the public and invited Dr Eyres to present his concerns in relation to disability issues in Mumbles.

Dr Eyres had e-mailed Cllrs Scott and Thomas together with The Clerk setting out his concerns over the lack of disabled access including drop kerbs in Victoria Avenue where he resides with his disabled son. Dr Eyres outlined his concerns and whilst acknowledging that SCC are responsible for these issues hoped that MCC might provide support. Dr Eyres is awaiting a response from Swansea's Highway Department.

Following this presentation a discussion took place between councillors and Dr Eyres. The Chair, Cllr O'Neill together with other Councillors had great sympathy for Dr Eyres' situation and agreed to review options including the use of underspent budgets to facilitate options.

**RESOLVED:** Cllr Thomas to liaise with Dr Eyres

During this discussion, Cllr Helen Nelson joined the meeting at 6.34pm and Cllr Rhian Evans joined at 6.40pm

Mr Phil Slater had provided documents connected to the installation of 5G masts within MCC which had been circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting. Mr Slater at the invitation of Cllr O'Neill then presented his concerns to Full Council. Mr Slater kindly provided a transcript of the presentation which has been documented at **Annex A**.

A discussion then took place between Councillors and Mr Slater on the possible impact made by 5G and other masts on people's health and the environment in general. Legislation from both Westminster and Welsh Parliaments have restricted the ability of SCC let alone MCC to control the installation of 5G masts. The benefits of improved wi-fi access particularly for elderly residents and businesses within MCC was also discussed.

In conclusion the Chair, Cllr O'Neill thanked Mr Slater for his presentation. Cllr O'Neill outlined that whilst MCC may be 'pushing against the tide' due to such technology being supported within Europe including Westminster and Welsh Parliaments it was nevertheless important for MCC to reflect concerns within the community and suggested that the views of the community should continue to be sought.

Following this discussion all the members of the public, Steve Paris, Angel Garden, Phil Slater, Caroline Slater and Dt Stewart Eyres left the meeting at 7.07pm

#### **C02407-04 To approve the minutes of the Meeting held on the 11<sup>th</sup> June 2024**

Cllr Townsend Jones noted that with regard to agenda item **C02406-10** of the minutes, The Clerk had circulated a list to all councillors relating to picnic benches.

**RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> April 2024 as a true record.

#### **C02407-05 Clerk's Report**

No update from Clerk for July's Meeting

#### **C02407-06 Chair's Report**

The Chair, Cllr O'Neill read out his report which focused on two recent events: -  
 Firstly, the June visit to Mumbles of The Hennebont Twinning Association, the highlights of this visit being The Mansion House Meal, hosted by The Mayor, and The Quiz Night.  
 Secondly MumblesFest despite some unfavourable weather was a great success again. Cllr O'Neill was particularly gratified that all the Councillors, Officers and volunteers who contributed worked well together and that everyone had a very enjoyable time.  
 Cllr O'Neill wished to highlight the efforts of Claire Anderson, the event organiser together with Cllrs Rob Marshall and Angela O'Connor.

## **C02407-07 Financial Reports**

Financial reports prepared by RFO Paul Beynon had previously been provided to councillors, who after providing a brief outline, offered to take questions in relation to these reports. Reports attached at **Annex B**

**RESOLVED** to retrospectively approve payments made by the RFO for June 2024.

**RESOLVED** to approve the budget monitoring report for May 2024.

The RFO then set out the importance of a budgeting timetable for the remainder of the financial year, looking ahead through planning at committees and the early submission of budget proposal forms which will be re-circulated by The RFO in the near future. From September a clear indication of proposals should be established, with a view to a budget scrutiny meeting being held on 12<sup>th</sup> December 2024. A Special Meeting will take place in early 2025, with the 21<sup>st</sup> January 2025 being proposed, to agree the Precept and budget for the 2025/26 financial year, before being submitted to SCC for approval by 31/01/2024.

**RESOLVED** to approve the budget timetable 2024/25 and commence discussions on the budget at the July 2024 Committee meetings.

## **C02407-08**

### **Report from Chair of Finance and Compliance Committee.**

The Chair, of this committee, Cllr Marshall provided a verbal report. The June Meeting had been very short due to grant applications being deferred until July owing to the impending General Election, Cllr Marshall also reminded Councillors to provide apologies when unable to attend committee meetings. One on-going grant application relating to West Cross Youth Club had been recommended for Full Council approval.

## **C02407-10**

### **Report from Chair of Community & Social Committee**

The Chair, of this committee, Cllr Scott provided a verbal report. The appointment of a vice-chair has been scheduled for July's Meeting. A number of outstanding issues are on-going including a community asset transfer pertaining to Hennebont Gardens, replacing seafront gym equipment in The Mayals and maintenance at Langland Tennis Courts.

## **C02407-11**

### **Report from Chair of Environmental Committee**

The Chair, of this committee, Cllr Townsend Jones provided a verbal report but has since provided a written report which has been circulated to Councillors. Cllr Townsend Jones outlined how a number of actions allocated to committee members had been closed. Applications to SCC are pending in relation to footpaths. Cllr Townsend Jones requested that school governors highlight Mumbles Buzz in Bloom through alerting head teachers with a view to posters and newsletters advertising the event being arranged.

The Chair also provided some key dates: -

- 4.7.24 Bio Blitz at Jubilee Gardens
- 13.7.24 Environmental stall at Underhill Park
- 20.7.24 Volunteer Day at Norton Nature Reserve
- 27.07,24 Litter pick event at Mumbles Skatepark
- 24.7.24 The next Green Heroes Event at Underhill Park Hub

## **C02407-12 Report from Chair of Culture, Tourism and Communications Committee**

The Vice-Chair, Cllr. Marshall provided a verbal update. A de-brief for MumblesFest is taking place on 10<sup>th</sup> July 2024.

## **C02407-13**

### **To consider recommendations from Committees**

#### **1. The Chair outlined a recommendation from The Finance and Compliance Committee held on 20 March 2024**

That the Policy Working Group be re-established

**RESOLVED:** that the Policy Working Group be re-established with those interested in participating e-mailing The Clerk.

#### **2. The Chair outlined a recommendation from The Finance and Compliance Committee held on 15 April 2024**

Further to February's successful Grant Application for £650 plus VAT, this amended application for a further £750 plus VAT is sought for additional structural work to assist in transforming Mumbles Yacht Club into Mumbles Watersports Centre.

**RESOLVED:** that using the Budget FC1, the amount of £750 plus VAT be granted to Mumbles Yacht Club

#### **3. The Chair outlined a recommendation from The Finance and Compliance Committee held on 17 June 2024**

That the Year 2 payment of £5,000 to support the West Cross Youth Club which was agreed in 2023/24 as a 3-year grant of £15,000 payable over 3 financial years be funded.

**RESOLVED:** that using the Budget FC17, the amount of £5,000 be granted to West Cross Youth Club

#### **4. The Chair outlined two recommendations from The Culture, Tourism and Communication Committee held on 29 May 2024**

- a) That the amount of £2,000 from 'underspent' budgets being carries from the 2023/24 budget to the 2024/25 Financial Year.

**RESOLVED:** that the amount of £2,000 from 'underspent' budgets being carries from the 2023/24 budget to the 2024/25 Financial Year.

- b) That £500 be made available from the Culture Committee Budget towards the cost of The Essence of Mumbles Project (anticipated in total at £1,750) with the remainder being made up through Councillors individual allowances.

**RESOLVED:** that £500 be made available from the Culture Committee Budget towards the cost of The Essence of Mumbles Project with the remainder being made up through Councillors individual allowances.

#### **To consider Draft Annual Report 2023-24**

##### **C02407-14**

A draft Annual Report for 2023/24 had been circulated to Councillors prior to meeting. A few 'typo' and other minor necessary amendments were identified, and The Clerk was congratulated on an excellent piece of work.

**RESOLVED:** to approve the Draft Report subject to any corrections being made. Any amendments needing to be made to be e-mailed to The Clerk

##### **C02407-15**

#### **To consider correspondence from Dot Surveying - Proposed electronic communications upgrade at Mumbles ATE, Castle Avenue, Mumbles, Swansea, West Glamorgan, SA3 4BA.**

Correspondence relating to the above electronic communication had been circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting.

**RESOLVED:** to note the correspondence in question.

Meeting Finished at 7.48pm

Next meeting: Special Full Council 30th July 2024

## APPENDIX A

### Mr Phil Slater's presentation to Full Council [C02407-03](#) refers

Thank you for including 5G and the proposed Living Lab and Testbed on the meeting Agenda. 5G – as you know - is an issue our Residents' group first brought to your attention some 5 years ago and is an issue many residents are still very worried about.

We trust that you will have taken the time to read the handout and are aware that the health and environmental impacts associated with wireless technology will be significantly increased under the proposed 5G Living Lab and Testbed.

You will have read that over 90% of peer-reviewed studies have found evidence of harm; read of the many short-comings in the ICNIRP guidelines; the massive environmental footprint of 5G; the warnings given by thousands of scientists, medical doctors, the former director-general of the World Health Organisation, a former Board member of the ICNIRP and the former President of Microsoft Canada to name but a few. Is it any wonder that a number of 5G masts have already been burnt when government continues to ignore these warnings?

The enclosed letters were sent to all 75 Swansea Ward Councillors but most chose not to respond. It should not be left to people like us to question these impacts.

So, who is ultimately responsible? Many Councils and LPAs believe that the UKHSA and Ofcom are ultimately responsible. BUT -

In April 2023, Ofcom stated that LPAs should be assessing ICNIRP Certificates. At present, they are blindly accepting them.

And, the Welsh Government Planning Directorate also stated in Dec 2020 that the 'competent authority' in this respect is the LPA.

So, Councils and LPAs are ultimately responsible – and you as our Councillors and Community Council have a role within the planning process too.

As a 'competent authority' under those parts of the European Electronic Communications Code EU Directives that are embedded in UK law, LPAs MUST legally reconcile environmental and public health effects taking due account of the precautionary approach and public health is stated as an 'imperative'.

However, it is not possible for LPAs to reconcile environmental and public health effects if planning policy states that they should solely rely on the ICNIRP Certificate – not only due to the fact that the ICNIRP does not even consider environmental effects, but due to the many conflicts of interest that exist, the fact that the ICNIRP does not assume any responsibility for the information it provides, does not consider long-term exposure, only considers thermal effects and was ruled as unreliable in the Court of Appeal of Turin. And it is not possible for LPAs to undertake any sort of review without reviewing the Exclusion Zone diagram. You

should be alarmed to see in the example provided that the public exclusion zone actually penetrates into the occupied building. And you should be even more alarmed that an ICNIRP Certificate was actually issued in this case and the fact that the drawing, which was clearly not assessed, states that the information must NOT (with the word 'not' in red and underlined) be sent to the planning departments; a blatant disregard for public health.

We know that the ICNIRP guidelines fail to protect anyone with a metallic implant so you should be aware that in a recent Court case in Cardiff, the judge determined that metallic implants MUST be considered in the risk reconciliation process.

We also know that the ICNIRP guidelines fail to protect anyone with electrosensitivity by simply ignoring the condition despite it being a recognised condition elsewhere. And, despite several Court rulings that are detailed in the letters, UK governments have failed to invest in any research. You should be aware that there are several people who suffer from this condition within the Mumbles area alone. I was made aware of a further two people just last week and many more will be equally affected but as yet have not made the connection – and the numbers will keep on increasing due to cumulative effects of exposure. Many people are currently living debilitating lives due to exposure to wireless radiation and the introduction of 5G and the Living Lab will significantly increase their suffering. How would you feel, for example, if you could no longer visit friends or family, go to the pub, out for meal, or attend a hospital appointment? And some will be forced to move. This is NOT acceptable.

The main driver given for 5G is financial despite severe doubt being cast on the actual business case for it in a House of Commons Research Briefing dated only March this year.

So, what are we asking of you? - Residents expect you to support the protection of public health and the environment over profits and demand that planning policy fully complies with ALL legal requirements and considers ALL evidence and ALL sections of society in the risk reconciliation process.

Thank you again for your time.

**ANNEX B****Electronic and Cheque Payments for Retrospective Approval**

	£	£	£
03/06/24 Swansea Council – Ostreme Trade Waste June 2024	15.60	0.00	15.60
03/06/24 Dwr Cymru Welsh Water – Ostreme Water June 2024	47.50	0.00	47.50
03/06/24 Personal Hygiene – Ostreme Contract	331.50	66.30	397.80
03/06/24 True Engraving – Twinning Slate	450.00	0.00	450.00
04/06/24 Marks and Spencer – Cakes 04/06/2024	15.10	0.00	15.10
05/06/24 CNS Power Tools – Groundperson’s Visor	48.76	8.91	57.67
06/06/24 UK POS – A Board Chalkboard	105.50	21.10	126.60
06/06/24 Hollands Clothing – Groundsperson’s Overalls	31.25	6.25	37.50
11/06/24 Marks and Spencer – Cakes 11/06/2024	17.60	0.00	17.60
14/06/24 Apogee - Photocopying	379.59	75.92	455.51
14/06/24 One Voice Wales – Job Evaluation	180.00	0.00	180.00
14/06/24 Welsh Water – Skatepark Water Supply	21.52	0.00	21.52
14/06/24 Organised Kaos – MumblesFest Circus	600.00	120.00	720.00
14/06/24 SA1 Solutions – Laptop x 2	914.00	182.80	1,096.80
14/06/24 In House Ents – MumblesFest Bouncy Castles	945.00	189.00	1,134.00
14/06/24 Amazon – West Cross Warm Hub Resources	9.88	0.00	9.88
14/06/24 Cllr Sara Keeton – West Cross Warm Hub 07/06/2024	3.28	0.00	3.28
14/06/24 Diane Athernought – Office Milk 10/06/2024	1.20	0.00	1.20
14/06/24 City Loo Hire – MumblesFest Toilets	820.00	164.00	984.00
14/06/24 OCA – Broadband and Phone May 2024	75.32	0.00	75.32
14/06/24 Gower Unearthed – Story of Mumbles June 2024	1,100.00	0.00	1,100.00
14/06/24 Kerry Grabham – Telephone Allowance March to June	40.00	0.00	40.00
14/06/24 Cllr Will Thomas – Twinning Event	74.00	0.00	74.00
14/06/24 Elaine Wright – Ostreme Keys	20.40	0.00	20.40
14/06/24 Claire Anderson – MumblesFest Stationery	23.68	0.00	23.68
14/06/24 Ray Mitchell – Internal Audit 2023/24	667.50	0.00	667.50
14/06/24 Jargon 3 – Ostreme H&S Consultant	242.50	0.00	242.50



14/06/24	Daisy Anderson – MumblesFest Residents Letters	20.00	0.00	20.00
14/06/24	Kerry Grabham – Twinning Events	49.00	0.00	49.00
14/06/24	Kerry Grabham – Mileage	37.80	0.00	37.80
16/06/24	Moli Edwards – MumblesFest Performer	100.00	0.00	100.00
16/06/24	Kate Westall – MumblesFest Performer	400.00	0.00	400.00
16/06/24	Sian Martin – MumblesFest Performer	100.00	0.00	100.00
16/06/24	Sunshine Cab Co – MumblesFest Performer	1,500.00	0.00	1,500.00
16/06/24	Shoal of Bass – MumblesFest Performer	300.00	0.00	300.00
16/06/24	Polar Berries – MumblesFest Performer	500.00	0.00	500.00
16/06/24	Melyncrythan Musical Theatre – MumblesFest Performer	300.00	0.00	300.00
17/06/24	Giff Gaff – RFO Mobile Phone	5.00	1.00	6.00
21/06/24	Barclaycard Statement June 2024 – see below	407.57	0.00	407.57
24/06/24	All Saints Church – Ostreme Lease	3,750.00	0.00	3,750.00
25/06/24	Staff Salaries – June 2024	13,209.05	0.00	13,209.05
25/06/24	Staff Telephone Allowances – June 2024	40.00	0.00	40.00
26/06/24	Aber Taiko – MumblesFest Performer	200.00	0.00	200.00
26/06/24	Soundspeak Media – MumblesFest Host	500.00	0.00	500.00
26/06/24	Amazon – Wi-Fi Booster and Range Extender	20.81	4.16	24.97
26/06/24	SA1 Creative – Multimedia Consultant April 2024	700.00	140.00	840.00
26/06/24	Celtic Wildflowers – Hennebont Gardens Plants	89.05	17.78	106.83
26/06/24	Npower – Electricity West Cross Christmas Tree May 2024	55.48	2.77	58.25
26/06/24	Banner Business Solutions – Coffee	50.00	0.00	50.00
26/06/24	Banner Business Solutions – Lanyards and Holders	171.50	34.30	205.80
26/06/24	Banner Business Solutions – Printer Paper	18.50	3.70	22.20
26/06/24	Banner Business Solutions – Stationery	50.10	10.02	60.12
26/06/24	Banner Business Solutions – Mouse Pad and Wrist Rest x 2	35.90	7.18	43.08
26/06/24	Banner Business Solutions – Printer Cartridges	139.90	27.98	167.88
26/06/24	Banner Business Solutions – Printer Paper	18.50	3.70	22.20
26/06/24	Banner Business Solutions – Office Fridge	296.75	59.35	356.10

26/06/24	Banner Business Solutions – Popper Wallets	6.70	1.34	8.04
27/06/24	BT Payphones – Glen Road	1.00	0.00	1.00
28/06/24	Mumbles Traders – Annual Grant Instalment 2	1,300.00	0.00	1,300.00
28/06/24	EPM Creative – MumblesFest Gazebos, Marquee, Event Support and Licence	1,233.00	0.00	1,233.00
28/06/24	Nigel Jones Events – MumblesFest H&S Officer	700.00	0.00	700.00
28/06/24	Elaine Wright – Ostreme Key	7.95	0.00	7.95
28/06/24	OCA – Broadband and Phone June 2024	76.52	0.00	76.52
28/06/24	RTAC – Ostreme Tree Survey	362.00	0.00	362.00
28/06/24	Owl Plumbing and Heating – Repair Ostreme Tap	30.00	0.00	30.00
28/06/24	Virgin Media – Broadband and Phone June 2024	68.98	13.80	82.78
28/06/24	Cllr Phil Keeton – West Cross Warm Hub 21/06/2024	17.70	0.00	17.70
28/06/24	Diane Athernought – Coffee with Friends 18/06/2024	20.10	0.00	20.10
28/06/24	Kerry Grabham – Coffee with Friends 25/06/2024	17.05	0.00	17.05
28/06/24	Lydia Graham – Green Space Training	22.38	0.00	22.38
28/06/24	NSP HR Solutions – Retainer May 2024 and Groundsperson Recruitment	2,075.00	415.00	2,490.00
28/06/24	Commercial Marquees – MumblesFest Marquees	2,377.50	475.50	2,853.00
28/06/24	HMRC – Payroll Deductions Month 3	4,287.65	0.00	4,287.65
28/06/24	Swansea Council – Pension Contributions June 2024	4,392.92	0.00	4,392.92
28/06/24	Silurian Security – MumblesFest Security	4,377.66	875.53	5,253.19
28/06/24	Total Energies – Ostreme Gas	97.71	4.89	102.60
28/06/24	SA1 Solutions – IT Support	278.20	55.64	333.84
	<b>Total</b>	<b>51,995.61</b>	<b>2,987.92</b>	<b>54,983.53</b>

### Barclaycard Purchases – June 2024 Statement

	<b>£</b>
Adobe - Adobe Creative	51.98
Microsoft Corp – Online Services	185.40
Microsoft Corp – Online Services	147.00

Breathe – HR System	21.60
Google – Storage	1.59

**Total** **407.57**

<b>2-</b>	<b>Income</b>	<b>£</b>
	Mumbles Skatepark Association – Skatepark Surface Sealing	1,500.00
	Tuckers Butchers – MumblesFest Vendor Fee	135.00
	TAM – Twinning Slate Contribution	250.00
	Gower Dough Company – MumblesFest Vendor Fee	135.00
	Gower Brewery – MumblesFest Bar Supplier Fee	750.00
	EPM Creative – MumblesFest Bar Supplier Fee	750.00
	Siani Stephens – MumblesFest Face Painting Fee	50.00
	MumblesFest – Gate Receipts	3,226.00
	SLCC Refund – Course Cancelled	36.00
	Ostreme Centre – Income June 2024	3,432.63

**Total** **10,264.63**

<b>3 –</b>	<b>Bank Balances as at 04/07/2024</b>	<b>£</b>
	Current Account	7,164.59
	Savings Account	307,114.39
	<b>Total</b>	<b>314,278.98</b>

#### **4 - Budget Monitoring to 31/05/2024**

The Budget Monitoring reports to 31/05/2024 are summarised in the table below.

<b>Service</b>	<b>Budget £</b>	<b>Actual £</b>	<b>+/- Under/Over £</b>
Community & Social Development	151,200	57,154	94,046
Culture, Tourism & Communications	89,050	13,321	75,729
Environmental	43,500	-5,496	48,996

Finance & Compliance	170,600	24,664	145,936
Ostreme Centre	27,900	661	27,239
General Fund	48,700	12,962	35,738
Office Costs	2,850	343	2,507
Payroll	255,100	36,899	218,201
Contingency	74,550	0	74,550
<b>Total</b>	<b>863,450</b>	<b>140,508</b>	<b>722,942</b>

Actual expenditure to 31/05/2024 represents 16.3% of the annual budget for 2024/25.

**RECOMMENDED** that

- a) The payments made by the RFO in June 2024 are retrospectively approved.
- b) The Budget Monitoring report to 31/05/2024 is approved.

DRAFT