

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Mumbles Community Council held on 14 May 2024 at 6.30pm (Hybrid Meeting at the Ostreme Centre and via Teams)

Members Present: Cllrs Martin O'Neill (Chair), Cllrs Will Thomas (Vice-Chair), Pamela Erasmus, Rob Marshall, Ian Scott, Carrie Townsend Jones, Emilia Cox, Angela O'Connor, Sara Keeton, Phil Keeton and Richard Jarvis

Officers Present: Kerry Grabham - Clerk, and Ian Hughes - CSO

C02405-01 Apologies for Absence: Cllrs Hannah Hunter, Rhian Evans and Helen Nelson.

C02405-02 Declarations of Interest:
None

Cllrs Tim Zhou and Emilie Cox joined the meeting at 6.31pm

C02405-03 Public Participation

No members of the public were present and no representations from the public were made prior to the meeting commencing.

C02405-04 To approve the minutes of the Special Council Meeting on 01.05.2024

RESOLVED to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 1st May 2024 as a true record.

C02405-05 To approve the minutes of the Annual Meeting on 07.05.2024

RESOLVED to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 7th May 2024 as a true record.

C02405-06 Clerk's Report

The Clerk read out her report highlighting her gratitude to the outgoing chairs of committees and congratulating the newly appointed chairs, whilst looking forward to continued co-operation and further success

RESOLVED to note the report.

Cllr Phil Keeton joined the meeting at 6.35pm

C02405-07 Chair's Report

The Chair, Cllr O'Neill read out his report which focused on the new format of committee chairs providing written reports to The Clerk prior to Full Council Meetings. In addition, Cllr O'Neill stressed the importance of Councillors making requests for officers to carry out tasks, to be made directly to The Clerk.

RESOLVED to note the report.

Cllr Angela O'Connor joined the meeting at 6.38pm

C02405-08 Financial Reports for May

Financial reports prepared by RFO Paul Beynon had previously been provided to councillors, in the absence of The RFO the Clerk offered to take questions in relation to these reports.

A discussion ensued relating to the clarification of expenditure including £500 spent on fish and chips which related to special events for Coffee with Friends.

ACTION: RFO, Paul Beynon to make access to spending more accessible for the 'lay' person when preparing reports.

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

RESOLVED to approve the budget monitoring report for March 2024.

RESOLVED to approve the fixed assets and long-term investments document.

RESOLVED to note the fixed assets and long-term investments report.

C02405-09 Report from Outgoing Chair of Finance and Compliance Committee.

The outgoing Chair, of this committee, Cllr Scott had nothing new to report.

C02405-10 Report from Chair of Community & Social Committee

The outgoing Chair, of this committee, Cllr Erasmus had nothing new to report.

C02405-11 Report from Chair of Environmental Committee

The outgoing Chair, of this committee, Cllr Nelson was not present, and no questions were raised in relation to this committee.

C02405-12 Report from Chair of Culture, Tourism and Communications Committee

The outgoing Chair, Cllr. Marshall confirmed that plans for MumblesFest were all in hand.

ACTION: Cllr Marshall to e-mail all Councillors requesting their support on MumblesFest Day.

ACTION: The Clerk will be e-mailing all Councillors the programme of events for MumblesFest.

C02405-13

To consider the re-establishment of Planning & Development Committee

A discussion took place on the merits of MCC having a planning committee, previously there had been a separate body whose responsibilities had been absorbed into The Environmental Committee. Councillors believed that this avenue for addressing concerns was not providing an opportunity for MCC to give feedback on concerns. Whilst not every planning application should be considered, Councillors believed that when a major project/development is considered such as the Pier Development or Ripples Ice Cream Parlour being demolished the public expect MCC to have an opinion and that Councillors should lend support to issues as appropriate.

RESOLVED: The Clerk to look at practices within similar Community Councils and Swansea Council and provide feedback at June's Full Council Meeting.

C02405-14

To consider correspondence from MCA

Documents had previously been circulated and The Clerk invited Councillors to provide feedback. Cllr Thomas stated that he was in liaison with Newton Rangers, who were now hopeful that Tier 3 facilities for football will be provided to Underhill Park. Cllr Thomas will continue to update Full Council on developments.

Cllrs Sara Keeton and Phil Keeton who had been participating remotely in the meeting, joined in person at 7.07pm

The Clerk stated that allowing for Officers being available, MCC would be providing an Environmental Stand at a Fun Day Event on 13th July 2024 at Underhill Park.

C02405-15

To consider correspondence from Mumbles Rugby Club

An e-mail from Simon Evans, the chair of Mumbles Rugby Club had been circulated to committee members prior to the meeting. This outlined the Rugby Club's intention to sell their current premises on Mumbles Seafront and create a sports centre at The Hub's Pavilion in Underhill Park. This would provide facilities for local football and cricket teams, in addition to The Rugby Club. Whilst planning applications would need to be submitted to Swansea City Council, support in principle was being sought from MCC.

A discussion ensued and the majority of Councillors were enthusiastic in developing the hub and safeguarding the future of Mumbles Rugby Club, an important local asset for the community. Whilst the correspondence sought a 'blessing in principle' to the Rugby Club's proposal, reservations were raised over providing further financial assistance when considerable MCC funds had already been donated to The Underhill Development. It was also noted that MCC are already supporting Mumbles Yacht Club who are currently undertaking a similar transition, selling their current premises with a view to moving elsewhere. Other concerns included the potential loss of changing room facilities, the impact of bar sales on the current Hub facilities, the impact to the local neighbourhood including excess noise, confirmation that other sporting bodies including Newton Rangers would have full

participation in the proposed arrangement and the need for a sound business plan including the running of the new 'Pavilion Bar'.

In addition to the above there was a view by some Councillors that these new proposals in relation to The Pavilion should be put forward for recommendation by MCA and not Mumble Rugby Club.

RESOLVED: The Clerk will write to Mumbles Club offering support in principle to the proposal but seeking clarification on the concerns raised above. The Clerk will circulate a draft letter to Councillors for comments prior to it being sent.

C02405-16 To consider correspondence from BT and adoption of the BT Phone Kiosk at Glen Road West Cross

A discussion took place on the merits of adopting the phone kiosk in question. Although there were some reservations concerning the potential for untidiness the majority of Councillors believed that the adoption would benefit the wider community through using the kiosk for beneficial purposes such as book swapping and storing a defibrillator. In the event of the proposal being accepted small repairs would be necessary including glass panes being replaced; and the participation of those in the community proposing the idea would be required in maintaining the kiosk.

RESOLVED to accept to the above proposal.

C02405-17 To appoint a School Governor for Llwynderw School

Following Cllr Evans' appointment as Llwynderw School Governor at May's MCC Annual Meeting, she withdrew her nomination. A discussion took place on the need for speaking Welsh in the role. Whilst not essential Councillors believed that this was a necessary requirement in order to fully participate at meetings. None of the councillors present at the meeting volunteered to take up this post.

RESLOVED: The Clerk will write to all Councillors inviting them to take up the vacant post of the Llwynderw School Governor. In the event of no Councillor volunteering to take up the post The Clerk will write to Llwynderw School, informing them of the Councillors reservations due to not speaking Welsh fluently.

C02405-18 To consider the request from Cllr Rhain Evans to move from Environmental Committee to Culture Committee

RESOLVED to accept to the above proposal

C02405-19 To approve the contribution of £100 to hosts of Mme Le Marechal Hennebont Twinning Representative.

Both Cllrs Sara and Phil Keeton declared a personal interest in this agenda item as they will be the recipients of any financial contribution due to them hosting visitors from Hennebont, A discussion took place over funding of twinning events and in particular for the hosting of visitors in relation to June's visit to Swansea of representatives from Heenebont. The Chair, Cllr O'Neill offered

to provide £100 from the Chair's Allowance for the purpose of contributing to the cost of hosting Hennebont guests.

RESOLVED Cllr O'Neill to make a contribution of £100 from the Chair's Allowance towards the cost of hosting Hennebont twinning representatives.

C02405-20 To approve the continued Co-option of Ed Hall, Cllr Chris Evans and a representative from Plastic Free Mumbles on to Environmental Committee

RESOLVED to accept to the above proposal

Meeting Finished at 7.43pm

Next meeting 11th June 2024