

## **Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Mumbles Community Council held on 12 March 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), Tim Zhou, Rebecca Fogarty, Pamela Erasmus, Francesca O'Brien, Rob Marshall, Ian Scott, Carrie Townsend Jones, Hannah Hunter, Rhian Evans and Helen Nelson

**Officers Present:** Paul Beynon – RFO, Ian Hughes – CSO, and Diane Athernought – Customer Services Officer.

**C02403-01 Apologies for Absence:** Emilia Cox, Angela O'Connor, Michael Parkin, Sara Keeton and Richard Jarvis.

**C02403-02 Declarations of Interest:**  
Cllr. Marshall declared an interest in Rhondda Symphony Orchestra as he a friend to a number of the orchestra members in a professional capacity, agenda item **C02403-10** refers.

**C02403-03 Public Participation**  
The attendance of one member of the public who was noted (Louise Thomas), who declined the opportunity to ask any questions.

Cllr. Marshall joined the meeting at 6.35pm

**C02403-04 To Approve the Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> February 2024.**

**RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> February 2024 as a true record.

**C02403-05 Clerk's Report**

No Clerk's Report.

**C02403-06 Chair's Report**

The Chair, Cllr O'Neill read out his report which focused on three main points:

- The success of Swansea in achieving its aim of becoming the UK's first Defibrillator 'Friendly' City, and MCC's contribution towards this objective.
- His attendance at All Saints Church on 3<sup>rd</sup> March to celebrate the installation of the new vicar.

- Reminding Councillors of their behaviour and conduct particularly in relation to meetings.

No questions were asked of the chair following the reading of his report.

**RESOLVED** to note the report.

#### **C02403-07 Financial Report for March 2024**

Financial reports prepared by RFO Paul Beynon had previously been provided to councillors, the RFO then highlighted key points before offering to take questions in relation to these reports. In addition, the RFO reminded Councillors that he will be attending committee meetings on a quarterly basis from April onwards. In addition, he requested that any finance-related queries should be notified by e-mail in advance of meetings to him, particularly when he would be absent to allow the Clerk or CSO to respond on his behalf.

There were no questions.

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

**RESOLVED** to approve the budget monitoring report to 31st January 2024

Cllr. Evans joined the meeting at 6.42pm

#### **C02403-08 To confirm Councillors requests to join Committees.**

**RESOLVED** to appoint Cllr P. Erasmus to The Finance and Compliance Committee

**RESOLVED** to appoint Cllr H. Hunter to The Culture, Tourism and Communications Committee

**ACTION:** CSO to update Teams and E-Mail contact groups for both committees.

#### **C02403-09 Report from Chair of Finance and Compliance Committee**

The Chair, of this committee, Cllr Scott provided a verbal update which primarily concerned grant applications covered in the next agenda item. The only questions from councillors concerned contact with Cllr Geoff Bacon in relation to Mumbles Yacht Club and The CSO informed Full Council that The Clerk is in the process of seeking this information.

**RESOLVED** to accept Cllr. Scott's report.

C02403-10

**To consider recommendations from the Finance and Compliance Committee held on 19 February 2024.**

Cllr Scott outlined the following recommendations from the Finance and Compliance Committee: -

**1. Review of Grants Policy**

The Clerk has undertaken a review of the Council's Grants Policy which was reported to the Committee along with updated administrative procedures for dealing with grant applications. The revised policy having previously been circulated to councillors.

To recommend subject to the following amendments, that the Grants Policy review be accepted:

- To remove paragraph 1.1
- Under paragraph 4.3, the score for 'Fits well with Community Council strategic aims' should have a score of '2'.
- Grant applications to be considered on a three-monthly basis commencing with the start of the 2024/25 financial year; moving to a six-monthly basis to be considered following a twelve-month review period.

**RESOLVED** to agree to the above recommendations.

**2. Financial Risk Assessment**

The Clerk had previously circulated documents and outlined new proposals.

To recommend that the Financial Risk Assessment be reviewed on a three-monthly basis by the Finance and Compliance Committee and then Full Council being updated.

**RESOLVED** to agree to the above recommendations.

**3. Rhondda Symphony Orchestra Grant Application**

Grant application for £1,000 towards the cost of a concert to be held at All Saint's Church on 4 May 2024 that celebrates living and 20<sup>th</sup> century Welsh composers. The grant is subject to enquiries being made to the applicant in relation to ticket prices. Cllr. Marshall updated the committee on ticket pricing informing that adults would be charged £10 whilst students and children under 16 would be charged £5.

**RESOLVED:** that the amount of £1,000 be granted to contribute towards the concert. The grant will be made from budget FC1 – Small and Medium Grants.

**4. Mumbles Yacht Club Grant Application**

Grant application for £650 + VAT (£780) to assist in transforming Mumbles Yacht Club into the Mumbles Watersports Centre.

**RESOLVED:** that the amount of £650 + VAT be granted subject to the following two conditions. The grant will be made from budget FC1 – Small and Medium Grants.

- Mumbles Yacht Club to provide the last three months bank statements prior to the next Committee meeting.

- Geoff Bacon of Swansea Council to be emailed with a request for additional information.

### **5. Sunshine Lotus Yoga Grant Application**

Revised grant application for £2,500 to support yoga classes within the community.

**RESOLVED:** that the amount of £2,500 not be granted Sunshine Lotus Yoga by a majority of six to three with two abstentions.

#### **C02403-11**

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

The chair, Cllr. Erasmus had previously circulated her report and invited Councillors to ask questions. Whilst not a specific question, a previous query concerning Mumbles Skate Park maintenance expenditure arose. Cllr. Scott had since been updated on expenditure but nevertheless The RFO provided a breakdown of expenditure together with the regularity of maintenance tasks including grass cutting. The RFO outlined that total expenditure for the current financial year is £6,500 which will be increased to £7,000 for the next financial year to allow for inflation.

Also in relation to Mumbles Skatepark Cllr. Erasmus outlined how a yearly water-based covering to the facilities is necessary but will be financed through The Mumbles Skatepark Association.

Cllr Erasmus also stated that she had been contacted by members of Mumbles Yacht Club in relation to their proposed new redevelopment. It is hoped that they will be providing a presentation at the Community and Social Development April Committee Meeting, but that together with The CSO she would be meeting them informally at 10am on 15<sup>th</sup> March 2024 at Ostreme. Full Council to be updated at a later stage.

#### **C02403-12**

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

The chair, Cllr. Nelson had previously circulated her report and outlined key aspects including the success of the last Mumbles Green Heroes Event, The Big Climate Leap and its impact on the Council as a whole and receiving a grant for Jubilee Gardens. Cllr. Nelson invited Councillors to ask questions.

Cllr. Scott initiated a number of councillors in congratulating Cllr Nelson, The Clark and Lydia Graham in obtaining the grant for Jubilee Gardens. A discussion ensued on how best to utilise the grant money for Jubilee Gardens. Cllr Townsend Jones confirmed that £19,000 had been provided for this purpose.

#### **C02403-13**

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

The chair, Cllr. Marshall had previously circulated his report and outlined key aspects including preparation for MumblesFest, he reminded Councillors that a 'closed' meeting to discuss the line-up will be taking place at 6.30pm on 13<sup>th</sup> March 2024 at The Ostreme Centre. Cllr. Marshall invited Councillors to ask questions which generated a discussion on the suitability of hiring or purchasing 'living' Christmas trees. Cllr Marshall also informed Full Council that he, rather than

The Clerk would be contacting Paul Relf in relation to providing a grant for the forthcoming Boules Competition due to his professional relationship with him.

**C02403-14**

**Exclusion of Press and Public**

In accordance with the provisions of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, it is proposed that the press and public be excluded from the following items of business due to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

**RESOLVED** that due to the confidential nature of the business to be discussed, the press and public be excluded from the meeting.

**C02403-15**

**To approve the recommendations made by the Personnel Committee.**

Discussion took place regarding a recommendation made by The Personnel Committee. Amended recommendation proposed.

**RESOLVED** that the amended recommendation was accepted together with associated actions being made.

Meeting concluded at 7.50pm

Next meeting 9<sup>th</sup> April 2024

