

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Mumbles Community Council held on 11 March 2025 at 6.30pm (Hybrid Meeting at the Ostreme Centre and via Teams)

Members Present: Cllrs Martin O'Neill (Chair), Rob Marshall, Angela O'Connor, Francesca O'Brien, Ian Scott, Sara Keeton, Carrie Townsend Jones, Phil Keeton, Pam Erasmus, Rebecca Fogarty, Trevor Carr and Will Thomas (Vice-Chair).

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

C02503-01 Apologies for Absence: Cllrs, Richard Jarvis, Tim Zhou, Helen Nelson and Laura Gilbert

C02503-02 Declarations of Interest:
Cllrs Sara Keeton, Phil Keeton, Pam Erasmus and Carrie Townsend Jones all declared a personal interest in agenda item **C02503-09** as they are all members of The Twinning Association.

C02503-03 Public Participation
Members of the public may make representations, answer questions and give evidence at this meeting in respect of the business on the agenda.

Mr Chris Maggs representing Oystermouth Bowls Club, Mr Nigel Richards representing Mumbles Bowls Club and Mr Paul Thomas of Mumbles Croquet Club attended the meeting, primarily to make representations relating to The Mumbles Bowls Club Pavillion Grant Application (**C02503-15** refers).

C02503-04 Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on 11th February 2025
To approve the minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on 11 February 2025 as a true record.

RESOLVED to approve the minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on 11 February 2025 as a true record.
Cllr Fogarty arrived at the meeting at 6.33pm

C02503-05 Clerk's Report
The Deputy Clerk, Paul Beynon confirmed that there were no updates from the Clerk for the meeting.

C02503-06 Chair's Report

The Chair, Cllr O'Neill read out his report which had been circulated to all Council Members. Cllr O'Neill reminded Councillors to behave in a professional manner at all times and particularly during meetings. Whilst robust discussions are necessary at meetings, behaviour should not cross the line of rudeness and it is the responsibility of individual councillors to maintain the previously agreed standard of behaviour, having signed the code of conduct.

C02502-07 Financial Report for March 2025**RECOMMENDED that**

1. The payments made by the RFO in February 2025 are retrospectively approved.
2. The budget monitoring report to 31/01/2025 is approved.

Financial reports prepared by RFO Paul Beynon had previously been provided to councillors. The RFO then outlined MCC expenditure, income and the budget monitoring report to 31.01.2025.

Paul Beynon then took questions in relation to his reports which included the best option for accruing interest for the money held by MCC.

ACTION: RFO to research best yield option for interest on money held by MCC for the next financial year.

RESOLVED to retrospectively approve payments made by the RFO for February 2025.

RESOLVED to approve the budget monitoring report to 31/01/2025.

Reports attached at **Annex**

C02503-08 To approve payment for One Voice Wales Membership

The RFO set out that an e-mail relating to the renewal of One Voice Membership together with the application form had both been circulated to Full Council prior to the meeting, and the renewal fee of £3,716 was within budget. One Voice Wales had provided a good service over the previous year to MCC.

In discussion all councillors were supportive of the service provided by One Voice Wales. In addition to providing support to MCC, particularly The Clerk, affiliation to One Voice Wales also provided a further level of accountability for the residents of MCC.

RESOLVED to approve the payment for One Voice Wales membership for 2025/26 from budget **GN4 - One Voice Wales**.

C02503-09 To consider recommendations from the Twinning Sub Committee Group regarding Hennebont Jumlage Event 15th – 21st May 2025,

- 1. Appointment of MCC representative**
- 2. Suitable Gift to be presented by the representative at the event**

Cllr Fogarty set out the recommendations from the Twinning Sub Committee Group but commenced by thanking Cllr Pam Erasmus for her ongoing commitment and dedication in her role within 'Twinning'.

Cllr Fogarty stated that £1,500 had previously been agreed and that £700 should be set aside for the cost of transporting a MCC representative to Hennebont for The Jumlage Event in May 2025. The cost would include ferry crossings, but accommodation will be provided through the hosts.

This event follows shortly after the appointment of a new Chair for MCC in May 2025. Whilst it is customary for The MCC Chair to be the representative on such occasions, Cllr Fogarty proposed that the Clerk should be The MCC representative and there would be insufficient time for the newly elected Chair to make the necessary arrangements and would allow The Clerk a further insight into the workings of 'Twinning'.

Cllr Fogarty also stated that it is customary for a gift to be provided and a wooden plaque was suggested, the cost of which, whilst not specified would be within budget.

During the discussion that followed all councillors were supportive of the recommendations as set out by Cllr Fogarty,

RESOLVED: The appointment of The Clerk as The MCC representative to Hennebont in May 2025 was agreed together with travelling costs of up to £700 from budget **CTC21 - Twinning**

RESOLVED: The purchase of a suitable gift to be presented by The Clerk at the event was approved from budget **CTC21 - Twinning**

C02503-10 To consider Grant Application from Mumbles Croquet Club

The CSO detailed how MCC had previously supported Mumbles Bowls Club with their annual maintenance fees for the Bowling Green. Due to three separate clubs, Oystermouth Bowls Club, Mumbles Bowls Club and Mumbles Croquet Club all using 'the green' they had been advised to make three separate grant applications and this agenda item related to The Mumbles Croquet Club grant application.

Mr Paul Thomas of Mumbles Croquet together with representatives of the two bowling clubs were in attendance to provide support in relation to Mumbles Bowls Pavillion Grant Application (**C02503-15** refers).

At the suggestion of the Chair, Cllr O'Neill it was agreed that Standing Orders should be suspended to allow Mr Thomas to speak on the grant application.
Standing Orders suspended at 7.02pm

Mr Paul Thomas provided a background to the fees incurred by all three clubs associated with Mumbles Bowling Green. The total cost of the maintenance fees for the current financial year is £4,700. Mumbles Croquet Club are seeking a contribution of £640.75 from MCC and the bowling clubs will be seeking a similar amount dependant on their membership and resources. The Bowling Green will be used from 13th April 2025 for twenty-two weeks, normally being used three times a week throughout the summer period.

In answer to questions from councillors Mr Thomas explained members are actively seeking to encourage all members of the community to use the facilities and encouraging participation throughout the season.

Standing Orders were reinstated at 7.11pm when a vote on the grant application was taken.

RESOLVED: that a grant of £640.75 be made to The Mumbles Croquet Club, towards the cost of ground maintenance from **Budget FC1 Small and Medium Grants.**

C02503-11 Report from Chair of Finance and Compliance Committee

Cllr Rob Marshall detailed that a number of grant applications had been referred back to the applicants with a view to multiple Community Councils being considered for grant applications where the applications in question, cover geographically a number of different Community Council Areas within Gower and Swansea.

C02503-12 Report from Chair of Community and Social Development Committee

Cllr Ian Scott provided an update on the installation of exercise equipment at the West Cross Seafront, which is in hand.

The Clerk informed The Council that there had been an act of vandalism at Mumbles Skatepark whereby a bonfire had been created within the bowl. Fortunately the damage was rectified within a short period of time by Maverick at no cost to MCC. Hopefully this was a one-off incident however the situation will continue to be monitored by Maverick, MSA and MCC.

C02503-13 Report from Chair of Environmental Committee

Cllr Carrie Townsend Jones outlined updates on projects and planned events for the forthcoming months which included: -

- Progress on Jubilee Gardens is on course to be completed in March 2025
- Mumbles Garden Question Time on 28th March 2025 between 6 and 9pm.
- Litter Pick on 21st March 2025 at 3.30pm at West Cross Common.

- Details of litter picks and other volunteer events outlined including a proposal to move away from Sunday Mornings following the introduction of The Litter Hubs. It is hoped to involve pupils and parents in 'after school' litter picking/weeding events.

C02503-14 Report from Chair of Culture, Tourism and Communications Committee

Cllr Angela O'Connor outlined some key events including the successful conclusion to the Essence of Mumbles Photographic Competition with particular thanks to Cllrs Zhou and O'Neill. Cllr O'Connor also noted the imminent launch of the 'Mumbles May Madness- Tenner Edition' in support of local traders.

C02503-15 Committee Recommendations

The Chair outlined the following recommendation from Community & Social Committee held on 19 February 2025

- 1) RECOMMENDED:** To appointment Cllr Trevor Carr to The Community and Social Development Committee.

RESOLVED: To appointment Cllr Trevor Carr to The Community and Social Development Committee.

- 2) Mumbles Bowls Pavillion Grant**

Recommended to vire the budget of £15,000 from the CSD1-Underhill Park Grant to the Mumbles Bowls Pavillion.

Cllr O'Brien outlined how she had arranged for SCC to provide 70% funding for the renovation to Mumbles Bowls Pavillion and the 'Pensioners Hut' connected to it. Cllr O'Brien has previously provided updates to both Full Council and the Community and Social Development Committee and the only material change relates to the proposed cladding to the Pensioners Hut being removed from the budget.

During the discussion that followed, Councillors were enthusiastic about the Pavillion being restored although there were reservations over the control exercised by MCC over the contingency fund included within the budget.

At the suggestion of the Chair, Cllr O'Neill it was agreed that Standing Orders should be suspended to allow the representatives from the three clubs connected to Mumbles Bowling Green to make representations.

Standing Orders suspended at 7.34pm until the conclusion of the meeting.

Mr Chris Maggs representing Oystermouth Bowls Club, Mr Nigel Richards representing Mumbles Bowls Club and Mr Paul Thomas of Mumbles Croquet Club all thanked MCC and particularly Cllr O'Brien for her efforts in arranging the proposed redevelopment of The Pavillion. They believed that this would be an asset to Mumbles, further enhancing the new Mumbles Seafront Development. They also believed that it was important to retain and develop such an iconic green

site on the seafront and that should this recommendation not be accepted the residents of the local area may not have an opportunity for such a heavily subsidised redevelopment in the future.

RESOLVED: To approve to vire the budget of £15,000 from the CSD1-Underhill Park Grant to the CSD 14 - Mumbles Bowls Pavillion, with the proviso that The Clerk is responsible for overseeing any spend from the associated contingency fund.

Meeting Finished at 7.36pm

Next meeting: Full Council 8th April 2025

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