

CITY AND COUNTY OF SWANSEA

MINUTES OF THE GOWER AONB PARTNERSHIP GROUP

HELD AT REYNOLDSTON VILLAGE HALL, REYNOLDSTON, GOWER,
SWANSEA. ON MONDAY, 23 JUNE 2014 AT 7.00 PM

PRESENT: Councillor R Francis-Davies (Chair) presided

Councillor(s):

J P Curtice
J E C Harris

Councillor(s):

R D Lewis

Councillor(s):

K E Marsh

Representing Organisations:

R Button	-	Tourism Swansea Bay
S Heard	-	Gower Riding Club/Port Eynon Community Council
Community Councillor		
P R Hood-Williams	-	Upper Killay Community Council
G Howe	-	Gower Society
B Parry	-	Gower Walking Festival
P Lanfear	-	Gower Commoners Association
A Woodman	-	Forestry and Farming
Community Councillor		
R Cooper	-	Llanrhidian Higher Community Council
J Davies	-	Bay Trans
C Daugherty	-	Natural Resources Wales

Officers:

K Flanders	-	Planning Policy and Environment Manager
C Lindley	-	Gower AONB Team Leader
M Scott	-	Gower AONB Officer
H Grey	-	Gower Landscape Partnership
J Parkhouse	-	Democratic Services Officer

ALSO PRESENT:

H Jones	-	Reynoldston Village Hall Association
Community Councillor		
P Guy	-	Llanrhidian Higher Community Council
S Sullivan	-	Tourism Swansea Bay
E Davies	-	Rural Swansea Action
J Woodman	-	Resident
J Doyle	-	Resident
Reverend N Doyle	-	Gower Deanery - Church in Wales

I Button	-	Rhossili Community Council
Councillor D Cole	-	City and County of Swansea
J Lambert	-	CDSA
S Campbell-Kelly	-	Rhossili Community Council
P Thornton	-	WTSWW
D Cowley	-	Llanrhidian Lower community Council/Cilibion Saw Mills
A Jones	-	Reynoldston
I Williams	-	Llanmadoc Community Shop
G Gregor	-	Gower Society
S Davies	-	Gower Society
M Ridge	-	Gower Society
S John	-	Resident
G John	-	Farming
H Jenkins	-	Resident
D Oliver	-	Resident
A Cowley	-	Resident
G Rescigno	-	Resident
L Mabbett	-	Resident

1 **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS.**

The Chair welcomed all present to Reynoldston Village Hall and commenced proceedings.

2 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor M C Child, H Lloyd, S Hill, D Vine, P C Phil Davies, Edwina Hart AM, R Ridge and A Richards.

3 **DISCLOSURES OF PERSONAL AND PREJUDICIAL INTERESTS.**

In accordance with the Code of Conduct adopted by the City and County of Swansea, no interests were declared.

4 **MINUTES.**

AGREED that the Minutes of the Gower AONB Steering Group Meeting held on 10 March 2014 be accepted as a correct record.

5 **AMENDED TERMS OF REFERENCE. (FOR INFORMATION)**

The amended AONB Partnership Terms of Reference updated by Council on 17 June 2014, were provided for information.

6 **PRESENTATION - THE WORK AND ROLES OF THE AONB PARTNERSHIP AND AONB TEAM.**

The Gower AONB Officer provided a presentation on the work of the Gower AONB Partnership. He outlined the Gower AONB designation, the role of the Gower AONB Partnership and the work of the AONB Team within the City and County of Swansea.

7 **PRESENTATION - THE GOWER AONB MANAGEMENT PLAN.**

The Gower AONB Team Leader provided a presentation on the Gower AONB Management Plan. He stated that the Gower AONB Management Plan that was agreed in 2006 was currently under review. The Gower AONB Team would prepare the draft documentation and circulate the final version for public consultation between September and December 2014 with the aim of final adoption by the end of March 2015. The plan would include a 20 year vision which would outline the overall purpose, the current condition of the AONB, objectives and priorities for the AONB and a 5 year Action Plan.

8 **PRESENTATION - THE WORK AND ROLE OF NATURAL RESOURCES WALES.**

C Daugherty, Natural Resources Wales (NRW) provided a presentation on the role and work of NRW. She provided the background history of NRW; the role of the organisation within the Gower AONB; including examples of work on Gower; the work of NRW with regards to education; forestry management; water quality; designated sites; protected landscape management work; access and recreation work; and tackling waste.

AGREED that copies of the presentation be circulated to the Partnership Group.

9 **PRESENTATION - THE WORK AND ROLE OF THE GOWER LANDSCAPE PARTNERSHIP.**

H Grey, Gower Landscape Partnership provided a presentation on the role of the Gower Landscape Partnership. She provided a map of the eligible area; details of the Landscape Partnership Project; details of the Gower walking app; details regarding archaeology; nature; Penclawdd heritage; and how the organisation intends engaging with the public.

10 **PRESENTATIONS - GOWER VOICES.**

The following were allowed 10 minutes to discuss a topic concerning the Gower AONB:

- (a) Affordable Housing - A Woodman.
- (b) Gower Society - G Howe.
- (c) Gower Commons - P Lanfear.

(d) The Future of Sunday Buses on Gower - J Davies.

The Chair thanked all the speakers for their contributions.

AGREED that:

- (1) the Gower AONB Partnership will facilitate a public meeting to discuss affordable housing on Gower, within the next 6 weeks;
- (2) the Gower AONB Partnership Annual Forum supports the continuation of a 7 day bus service on Gower.

11 **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME.**

Community Councillor P Guy asked questions in relation to funding for the Community Council owned playground at Crofty in order to improve play equipment, gasification in the Burry Inlet and parking on Cefn Bryn.

H Jones, Reynoldston Village Hall Association thanked all for attending and highlighted the new floor in the hall that had been provided with assistance from a Sustainable Development Fund Grant.

Community Councillor I Beynon, Rhossili Community Council asked a question regarding the response times for complaints to Planning Services.

Discussions followed regarding the need for a Gower Visitor Centre.

AGREED that the need for a Gower Visitor Centre be placed on a future agenda of the Gower AONB Partnership Steering Group.

12 **DATES OF MEETINGS FOR 2014/2015 TO BE HELD AT 7 P.M. AS FOLLOWS: -**

NOTED the following dates of meetings for 2014/15:

- Monday, 22 September 2014 - Greyhound Inn, Oldwalls, Llanrhidian, Swansea.
- Monday, 8 December 2014 - venue to be confirmed.
- Monday, 9 March 2015 - venue to be confirmed.

The meeting ended at 9.10 p.m.

CHAIR