

Ilston Community Council

Minutes of Meeting held on 30th July 2026

At a meeting of Ilston Community Council, at the Barham Centre, Parkmill on Thursday 30th July 2026.

Present, Cllr. D Ponting, Cllr. R Church, Cllr. S Mobbs, Cllr I. Lloyd, Cllr. B Beynon, Cllr. I. Brown, Cllr L James (Swansea Council) and Mr P Sizer Clerk

Also present Ms Francesca O'Brien MS, Senedd Constituency Member and Mr Tom Beynon

In the absence of the Chair, Vice Chair Cllr D Ponting acted as the Chair.

Due to the attendance of Ms Franchesca O'Brien MS, the meeting order changed and a general discussion was held with our Senedd Constituency Member.

The main content of the discussion revolved around the Traffic Report Ilston Community Council had prepared and sent to Swansea Council with very little acknowledgement and feedback from Swansea Council, especially Swansea Council's Road Safety Officer Alan Ferris who has repeatedly failed to acknowledge correspondence from ICC and a number of individual residents.

Other matters discussed, the recent accident at Penmaen Hill junction where the injured party has only recently been released from hospital after several months' recovery.

The issues of the speed limit and signs through Kilvrough Manor where they are displayed at 40mph despite Kilvrough Manor being an education premises.

The number of events across our Community was also discussed where the Ironman is held each year which impedes the community but no financial recourse comes back to the community. Other events occur such as the Macmillan walk, Lovetrails and other walking events across the Gower, none of which provide any funds back into the community.

Mr Tom Beynon added that access at Nicholston farm was an issue off the A4118 mainly caused by inconsiderate drivers and speed issues.

Mr Beynon also mentioned the issue of Hare Coursing on Gower and he had been advised not to speak to the offenders in case of any reprisal.

The Community Council mentioned they had requested Go Safe to attend to help with speed issues on the A4118 but as there were no "safe" locations for them to wait, this could not be taken any further.

Finally, the lack of hedges now being cut often hid speed signs and cut visibility on the roads often at junctions where better visibility is required.

Ms Francesca O'Brien MS advised she would speak to Swansea Council about our issues but asked us to allow that many department heads were on holiday in August so she might not get a full response until September.

At this stage Ms Franchesca O'Brien left the meeting after receiving a grateful thanks from all the Chair and the Council members present.

1. **Apologies for Absence**

Cllr. N Hollett, Cllr. S. Pleydell, both holiday commitments

Absent Cllr N Huffer

2. **Declaration of personal interest**

It was agreed that any personal interest matters would be discussed as they appeared in the agenda.

3. **Consider representations from members of the public.**

These matters were discussed before the meeting formally commenced

4. **Approve minutes of monthly meeting held on 28th May 2026 and Annual Meeting held on the 28th May 2026**

The minutes were accepted as a true representation of the meetings held on the 28th May 2026, both the Annual meeting and also the normal Council meeting. Cllr. Church proposed and Cllr. Lloyd seconded a motion that they are correct.

5. **Matters arising**

The Clerk advised he had sent all the returns to the External Auditors ready for the formal review of the 2025/2026 accounts.

The Clerk apologised that he was not sure if he had received a response from Caroline Gregg regarding painting the railings. He would investigate and advise the Councillors.

Cllr James offered to arrange for Swansea Council maintenance team to paint the railings if the Community Council desired as long as Ilston CC covered the materials costs. Cllr Ponting proposed and Cllr Brown seconded agreed to this proposal and asked the Clerk to contact Caroline Gregg again to see what the latest news is and if suitable, ask Cllr James to make the arrangements to paint the railings

ACTION POINT Mr P Sizer

The Clerk had advised the Insurance Company that this would be the last year of insurance cover required by them due to the merger of Councils. The Clerk confirmed he had received a response from Zurich Insurance confirming response to our question on cover after the 7th May 2027. Cover for any events that occur before the 7th May 2027 would still be covered after the date.

The Clerk will check the latest position on the sink holes on the path leading to Three Cliffs Bay

Cllr Brown has yet to make contact with Gower College Swansea regarding the proposed use of Nicholston House. Cllr Brown will make contact and invite a representative to attend the next meeting if available.

ACTION POINT Cllr Brown

Cllr James also mentioned that there was another person connected with the Nicholston House who the Clerk was asked to make contact with and see if he had any views on the house's proposed use.

ACTION POINT Mr P Sizer

Cllr Ponting will chase Cllr Hollett with regard to a meeting regarding Kilvrough Manor and the speed situation there.

ACTION POINT Cllr Hollett and Cllr Ponting

6 Swansea Community Review

Pennard Community Council have been in touch with the Clerk asking to arrange a meeting between the Chairs, Vice Chairs and the Clerks. The Clerk will make contact and get a range of dates when Pennard can meet.

ACTION POINT Mr P Sizer

7. Consider planning applications

There was only one planning application from:
Pleasant View, Stones Field, Penmaen requesting a discharge of condition 4 external lighting from a planning request granted on the 28th May 2025.

There were no objections to this request.

8. Consider grant requests

There were no grant requests

9. Traffic Updates

All matters on this subject had been discussed before the meeting commenced.

10. Shape Swansea's Events Strategy

Cllr Church had met with Jake Cosgrove and Mike Scott regarding Destination Measures Meetings.

Various issues had come from the meetings including Swansea Council confirming they are intending to keep the Ironman event in their calendar although next year it will be a little earlier than this year.

It was suggested the Clerk get in contact with Ironman and McMillian and see if there could be some form of contribution to the community for the inconvenience their events impede on Community Members.

ACTION POINT Mr P Sizer

Cllr Church also asked if any other Councillors would like to attend these meetings as he was attending with as Councillor hat on also that of the TSB. Both Counsellors Brown and Beynon offered their services.

11. **Training including Defibrillator Training**

No Councillors wished to undergo any training by OVW in this period.

The Clerk had been in contact with Heartbeat Trust to ask them to offer another training event in November. As yet no confirmation had been received but the Clerk will keep in touch and advise as he hears more.

The Clerk wanted the next event to involve more younger people of the Community and suggestions were made as to how this might be achieved.

This was agreed by all present and the Clerk was asked to make the arrangements.

ACTION POINT Mr P Sizer

12. **Reports from members**

Cllr Church mentioned he still had various documents from the previous Clerks which needed sorting. Cllr Church asked the Clerk if he had any suggestions as to where to send them now that Swansea Council have moved their archive department. The Clerk will investigate.

ACTION POINT Mr P Sizer

One of the Councillors reported a shed had been built over a footpath on the Lunnon to Parkmill foot path. Cllr James had been advised and was looking into the matter and would report to Caroline Gregg of Swansea Council.

Cllr James reported that since the bus shelter had been removed at Nicholston Cross, it was found the base was in a worse condition than had been thought. Cllr James asked if Ilston CC could make a contribution, c£800 towards the repair costs. The Clerk suggested he go back to the budget and see if there was any room to help Cllr James on this matter.

Cllr James advised that the footpath at the Tor Bay Car Park would not now go ahead due to issues reported by NRW and there was a water course in the area. Various surveys would have to take place before the matter is taken any further.

Cllr Ponting thanked Cllr James for the posts installed by Swansea Council Housing team at the Penmaen Village Hall and the road re-surfacing at Torn View.

Cllr. Ponting mentioned the concern about access to Gelli Deg due to overgrown vegetation and indiscriminate parking. Cllr. Ponting agreed to look into the matter.

ACTION POINT Cllr. Ponting

Cllr. Ponting raised a concern of residents near the Penmaen Loop Road NT east car park about indiscriminate parking on the common. General discussion ensued amongst the Councillors. Overnight parking in the NT carpark continues. NT have yet to carry out fencing of the car park perimeter to stop it being used as a toilet. It was noted pay carparks in the area are less busy this summer. People are unwilling to pay. Also

noted that in years gone by parking on the common was more widespread. The Clerk was asked to contact NT if they have plans to reopen the Penmaen Loop west car park, and when they intend to carry out the fence works at the east carpark. **ACTION POINT Mr P Sizer**

The matter of cows grazing in Three Cliffs area was commented on and with the recent accident on Cefn Bryn where a member of the public had attempted to move a young calf and had been attacked by its mother, it was suggested signs could be erected. The Clerk was asked to look into the matter. **ACTION POINT Mr P Sizer**

13. Clerks Update to include Correspondence received and the Financial position.

The current bank balances stand at:

Current account £1,655.53

Savings account £6,030.26

Total £7685.79

Paid since the last meeting:

Heartbeat Trust donation £50.00

Zurich Insurance £264.00

ICO direct debit £47.00

Community Bus donation grant £1250.00

The Clerk asked for the following payments to be authorised:

Cllr Ponting – reimbursement of a gift of wine to the Internal Auditor
£34.50

Reynoldston Community Council £79.00 shared SLCC fees

Clerks' salary £863.03

HMRC £315.07

Audit Office 211.85 (24/25 accs)

Cllr Brown proposed making these payments and the matter was seconded by Cllr Beynon.

The Clerk advised he had informed the Information Commissioners Office to cancel our membership from May 2027

The Clerk advised the Councillors that the email address receiving bad links – all reported to Phishing and deleted. Cllr Church offered to ask his IT employees to take a look as well.

The Clerk had been asked to send an email to all residents on the mailing list regarding Fire prevention etc on these hot times. This had been achieved and completed.

There had been a request from the Community Council forums – Sam Hughes – anyone interested asked last meeting. No Councillors offered their services at this time.

The Clerk had received a new model of contract of employment – from OVW – The changes were minimal and with the very soon merging of the

Community Councils it was agreed not to implement any changes at this time.

The Clerk had received an Invitation to attend: National Emergency Briefing Screening for Community and Town Councillors
Killay Community Council is pleased to be sponsoring a special screening of the film in Dunvant, specifically for Community and Town Councillors from across Swansea.

Date: Tuesday 18 August

Time: 6:30pm

Venue: Dunvant Social Centre, Dunvant Square, Dunvant, SA2 7UX. Cllr Pinting offered to attend.

The next Community Town Council Forum will be held on the 5th October 2026 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM in the Lilian Hopkin Room, Guildhall or through Microsoft Teams

The Clerk had received notice regarding a review of the Charter between Swansea Council and the Community / Town Councils within its boundaries. Any comments by 4th September. The Clerk to send to all Councillors.

The Clerk had checked all Defibrillators and reported these to "The Circuit"

14. **AOB at discretion of chairman.**

Cllr Beynon had created a fire break near his business

The Clerk reminded all the Councillors that officially there would be no meeting after the 1st April 2027 as the usual meeting date in May would be after the 7th. The Clerk suggested holding a "final" meeting in late April where the accounts could be agreed so the return could be sent to the External Auditors and possibly invite part Clerks and or Councillors and buy in some wine etc to mark the final meeting of Ilston Community Council.

Time and date of next meeting.

The next meeting is planned for Thursday 24th September 2026 at 7pm

The meeting closed at 9.10 p.m.