

9 April 2009

GORSEINON TOWN COUNCIL SUPPORTS ASDA PLANS

Gorseinon Town Council has voted to support ASDA's plans for a new store in the town.

The council held a public meeting on Wednesday 8th April at which the ASDA proposal was discussed. Around 50 members of the public attended and many gave their views before the town councillors voted on the scheme.

The vast majority of local people had already indicated their support for the scheme in a survey that showed an overwhelming 98% support, and this was reflected in most speakers publicly backing it at the meeting. The town councillors then gave their own views before voting 7-4 in favour of the ASDA scheme.

Swansea City Council will make the ultimate decision later this month, but Gorseinon Town Council recommending the planning application for approval is a major move in the right direction for the many people who want to see ASDA come to town.

The store would create over 300 new jobs for local people, while curbing the current trend of most people carrying out their main food shopping outside of Gorseinon. Significantly greater footfall in the town would present major 'spin-off' benefits for other traders, currently suffering from the loss of trade to other nearby centres such as Llanelli, Fforestfach and Parc Troste.

One councillor expressed how heartening it was to see so many people turn out to demonstrate how much they care about their town, and ASDA would add that the efforts by local people to support the proposal is greatly appreciated and goes a long way towards the application gaining planning consent from Swansea City Council.

Chris Marlow, ASDA's Property Communications Manager, said:

"We are very pleased that the town council has decided to support our plans. We worked hard to develop a proposal that responded to all of the concerns raised about the previous one.

It is now up to elected members of Swansea City Council to make the final decision. However, we hope they agree with the views of Gorseinon Town Council, ASDA and the overwhelming majority of local people that this proposal is the right one to help boost the local economy through job creation and providing the community with much needed access to affordable goods and services."

ENDS

For further information please contact:

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