

MINUTES OF DYFFRYN ARDUDWY AND TALYBONT COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD AT THE COMMUNITY CENTRE, DYFFRYN ARDUDWY AT 7.30 P.M. ON 05.07.16

7.1 APOLOGIES

Cllr. John Ceri Evans, John Ellis Williams, Sion Ifor Williams.

7.2 PRESENT

Cllr. Edward Griffiths (Chairman), Emrys Jones (Vice Chairman), Edward Williams, Catrin Edwards, Sian Edwards, Margretta Cartrwright, Owen Gwilym Thomas, Mike Tregenza, Eryl Jones-Williams.

The Chairman welcomed Ms Heidi Vaughan Williams, Chairman Harlech & Ardudwy Leisure together with Mr. Chris Hulse one of the Directors of the centre and Mr. Iestyn Pritchard from Gwynedd Council to the meeting to discuss the future of the swimming pool. Ms Williams explained that a meeting had been held on the 8th of last month with Members of the 6 Town and Community Councils in the pool catchment area present to discuss the precept proposal so as to be able to keep the facilities open in the future. Also she said that there had been financial problems for a number of years and now there is a need for the Town and Community Councils to raise their precept so as to keep the facilities open and if this does not happen the facility would close in November 2016. Ms Williams distributed different documents showing the different figures and how much the Councils would have to add to their precept so as to transfer it to Harlech & Ardudwy Leisure. It was agreed to discuss this matter further later as it was also an agenda item.

7.3 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENT

On behalf of the Council the Chairman sympathised with the family of the late Mr. Tudor Thomas.

7.4 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on June 7th were found to be correct.

7.5 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Item 6.10 (D) the Clerk reported that no reply had been received with regard to the pilers at the bottom of Gros y Gedol Drive.

7.6 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Nobody declared an interest on any matter.

7.7 GWYNEDD COUNCIL MATTERS

Cllr. Eryl Jones Williams reported that since the last meeting he had attended the following:- 13th 10-1. Community health council Tremadog. 13th 7-10 Gwynedd Governors Forum, Tremadog. 15th 5-9.30 South Snowdonia Access, Dolgellau. 17th 9-11, Dyffryn school Curriculum and forward planning. 20th 9-12. Licensing Caernarfon. 22nd 9-2. Care wellbeing Act, Prenteg, Porthmadog. 27th 10-1 Standards committee Caernarfon. 2-5 Merioneth Area Trawsfynydd. 28th 10-1. Video Link re Alltwen Hospital investigation. 29th 6.30-10, Ardudwy Governors. 30th 8-.30-4.30 Full Council Caernarfon.

THE need to make more use of community hospitals to avoid long distance travel has again been highlighted by the CHC. The new Wellbeing Act for the NHS and Social Services to work closer together is ongoing. I still cannot get Gwynedd to accept the need for dual registration to help patients with dementia and their families to provide local help without the need to travel long distances. Meetings have been taking place at a local level, but no concrete plans to help rural areas like ours. Many GP surgeries are now being run by the NHS. The Barmouth and Harlech GP Practices seems to have more doctors and nurses than many other practices. Concerns over expanding the area of work for the district nurses. The Gwynedd Governors forum is well attended and doing well in representing their members. However there seems to be more and more being expected of Governors. I raised concerns over the closure of Barmouth bridge for repairs and upgrading and the use of buses from Barmouth to Fairbourne, especially if there are accidents on the A496 and detours through Trawsfynydd. Off Roading by 4x4's and scramblers is being investigated because of the damage being done in areas like Pont Ysgethin. I have finished my 2 year term as chairman of licensing but still chair local hearings. I am pleased to announce that our clerk Annwen Hughes was

appointed new vice chairman. Care prevention and the Wellbeing Act conference at Prenteg was well attended. I am worried that Gwynedd is using the Act to cut back and save money I cannot see how volunteers can help and more and more is being put on family carers. Only two complaints are being investigated in the past 12 months. Standard committee members are now being asked to observe town and community council meetings. Not providing English minutes and translations at meetings seems to be attracting more and more comments by non Welsh speakers who are demanding to know what is going on in their communities. Gwynedd staff are working hard to try to attract jobs to the area via the Snowdonia Enterprise Zone which included Llanbedr and Trawsfynydd. Launching communication satellites and promoting drones is being increased at Llanbedr according to Gwynedd officials. Attendances at schools could effect the rating of the schools in the area. Despite good academic results by the pupils, the Welsh Government will downgrade a school if the attendances figures are below 95%. The full council at Gwynedd was centred around the annual report of the social services, protection of children and vulnerable adults and care. I was impressed with the excellent questions that were asked by members. Cuts in grass cutting, closing toilets, lack of parking and illegal parking and poor public transport are the local concerns. All are scrutinised by the communities committee. I can be contacted on 242758 or 07796833767 or on e.joneswilliams@btinternet.com

7.8 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Erection of two storey side extension (revised scheme to that approved under planning consent NP5/58/256B dated 20.10.10) - 12 Glanwerydd, Dyffryn Ardudwy (NP5/58/256C)

Support this application but want to draw attention that the address is incorrect and it is 12 Glan Rhos on the application form.

Construction of two storey extension - Plas Bach, Dyffryn Ardudwy (NP5/58/446A)

Support this application.

Planning Applications with decisions received on them

Replace existing single garage with new double garage - Y Waun, Dyffryn Ardudwy (NP5/58/119C) - granted
Erection of single storey extension - Bronant, Talybont (NP5/58/579) - granted

7.9 MATTERS ARISING

A Business Plan

It was reported that the Council had spent £10,051.94 since the start of the new financial year.

B CCTV cameras

Cllr. Eryl Jones Williams reported that PCSO Dai Hughes is willing to meet with the committee to discuss the above matter.

C Village Hall

The Clerk reported that she had received a letter from Cllr. Sian Edwards stating that she was resigning from being a member of the above committee and she was thanked for all the work she had done while serving on the committee. The Clerk reported that she had received a copy of the hall's accounts up to 31st March 2016 and these were distributed to everybody present. The Clerk reported that she had received two quotes for an "extractor fan" in the cafe kitchen and it was agreed to accept the quote of R. J. Electrics to carry out this work and also the Members agreed for the cost of doing this work to be paid by the Council. Great dismay was voiced that the person who had done the work of repairing the floor by the back door of the hall had left all the old materials outside the door although the Council had paid a great sum for this work to be done. Cllr. Mike Tregenza agreed to collect the old materials and dispose of it.

D Inspection of bus shelters, cemeteris and play parks

Cllr. Emrys Jones reported that he had carried out the above inspection on behalf of the Council and he reported as follows - that the bus shelter in Talybont was fine and that the grass around the area had been cut very tidy and the flowers were having good care, the Clerk reported that she had received an e-mail from Mr. John Willetts complaining at the state of the grass near these toilets and how untidy it was being cut. It was agreed to reply stating that the work carried out is being done very tidy.

The bus shelter in the village needed cleaning and Cllr. Owen Gwilym Thomas agreed to deal with this matter, Penybont garden was very tidy but an old bench needed removing from there and the Chairman reported that a new bench had been purchased, Parc Morlo was fine and the grass had been cut tidy, the two play parks were fine but ivy needed cutting and a tree needed to be trimmed in the old play park, the public cemetery was fine but the grass was rather untidy and the paths needed to be cleaned and the corner to the right of the gate needed to be tidied and it was agreed to ask Mr. Gary Martayn to carry out this work. Llanddwywe and Lanenddwyn cemeteries were fine. Cllr. Eryl Jones Williams agreed to carry out the inspection next month.

E Council's Website

Cllr. Mike Tregenza reported that he had received a quote from the company Quick and Simple of one off payment of £400 and a yearly charge of £100 and that the amount would come to £500.00. Everybody agreed to accept this quote and asked Cllr. Tregenza to contact the company giving them permission to start the website.

F Sending extracts of the minutes to the papers

Cllr. Margretta Cartwright reported that some had asked her why extracts of minutes of the meetings were no longer posted in the Cambrian News and Llais Ardudwy as other Councils were doing. After a discussion it was agreed to restart doing this.

G Closure of HSBC bank Barmouth

Disappointment and concern was voiced that the above bank was going to close in September. A discussion took place about moving the Council's account to another bank or the post office but nobody supported this suggestion.

H Meeting with Harlech & Ardudwy Leisure - 8.6.16

The above matter was discussed further and it was unanimously agreed to raise the precept so as to give Harlech & Ardudwy Leisure the sum they needed but it was agreed that the Council would not be willing to raise the precept higher than what was asked of them if another Council would be pulling out of the venture. Also the right to the ones that would be attending the meeting with the above on the 11th August (if this will be held) to speak on behalf of the Council. It was agreed if the meeting was taking place on the 11th August that the Council place a notice in the noticeboards so that the public get information of what was happening.

7.10 CORRESPONDANCE

A Ysgol Ardudwy

Received a letter from the above thanking the Council for the financial donation of £200 towards the difibulator they are purchasing.

B Gwynedd Council - Street Enforcement Department

Received a questionnaire from the above regarding street cleanliness and asking the Council if they would be willing to complete it. It was agreed to complete this questionnaire.

C Gwynedd Council - Legal Department

Received a letter from the above regarding the public toilets in the village and stating the recent "Gwynedd Challenge" engagement exercise that the Government's policy of significantly reducing spending on Local Government means that the amount of funding Gwynedd Council received towards the cost of delivering local services will be cut and because of this Gwynedd Council will have to deliver a series of 49 services cuts and this includes reducing the amount spent on the network of 74 public toilets in the County. Also they are asking if this Council would be willing to contribute financially and enter into a partnership with them so as to keep the public toilets of Gwynedd open during 2017/18 and there would be an opportunity to either extend the partnership arrangement for the following year or develop arrangements to transfer responsibility for the public toilet provision

in this community to this Council. Also enclosing the annual cost that would be asked of this Council to pay to achieve this aim. It was agreed to go into partnership with Gwynedd Council to keep the public toilet in Talybont open at an annual cost of £4,000 to the Council but it was agreed to not go into partnership with Gwynedd Council to keep the toilet in the village open as it did not come up to the required standards and also the public have the right to use the toilets in the hall and also the public are allowed to use the toilets that are in Smithy garage. It was agreed to put this matter on the agenda for September.

D Gwynedd Council - Highways Department

Received a letter from the above regarding salt bins and stating that some Councils had asked further questions with regard to taking these bins over. Also confirming that the cost of service the salt bins (minimum of 3) would be £80 but the Council is welcome to use a local contractor who is qualified under the New Roads and Street Works Act 1991 and the cost of providing salt alone would work out around £45-57 a bin and the Community Council would be responsible for the upkeep of the bins if they would be using a local contractor themselves. Also asking for confirmation that the Council wishes for Gwynedd Council to look after and refill the salt bins. It was agreed to take over the responsibility of looking after the salt bins ourselves.

E Gwynedd Council - Highways Department

Received a reply from the above regarding the Council's concern about Llanddwywe junction and stating that the only thing the Council could do would be to place parking restrictions on the road but this would be a lot of bother for the users of the Church. Cllr. Eryl Jones Williams reported that he had contacted this department and had stated that the Council was only drawing Gwynedd Council's attention to the dangers because one Member had brought the matter up and that another Council Member who lives down this road was stating that there were very few problems in the area.

F Post Office

Received a reply from the above regarding the fact that the village post office had not reopened on the date stated by them and stating that this was due to technical difficulties with the installation/reactivation of a telephone line within the premises, which was outside of their control and this was essential for the computer system used in the branch and therefore they had no option but to delay the reopening of the newly modernised post office until this was rectified.

G Mrs Rhian Davenport

Received an e-mail from the above informing the Council that she has received two "tapestry" of the alphabet and connections with Ardudwy because they have been done by Elizabeth Jones, Tyddyn Mawr when 12 years old in Dyffryn British School in 1869 and the other one has been made by Elinor Ann Lloyd when she was 14 years old in 1870, and that she received these as a gift to raise money for the Welsh Air Ambulance and thought they would look good on display in this village hall. Also stating that she has taken them to be valued and that they are worth £350 together and asking if the Council would have an interest to purchase these so that they can be placed in the village hall. It was agreed to place it on the agenda for September.

7.11 TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer reported that there was £13,873.06 in the current account, £1,319.62 in the play park account, £7,539.08 in the reserve account and £33.00 in the Chairman's account.

Invoices needed to be paid since last meeting

Mrs Annwen Hughes - £147.00 (wages) + £238.58 costs = £385.58

Second Life Products Wales Ltd - £408.00 - 1 new public bench

Customs & Excise	- £110.20 - tax on Clerk's wages
Gary Martayn	- £674.00 - torri gwair
E. Edwards a'i Gwmni	- £633.60 - trwshio ffens maes parcio y neuadd
R. J. Electrics	- £449.99 - purchase of cooker hood for village hall cafe
Quick & Simple Web Design	- £500.00 - design Council web site (cheque cancelled made out to wrong name)
Nigel Ferguson	- £500.00 - design Council web site

Monies received since last meeting

Pritchard & Griffiths - £438.00 - burial of the ashes of the late Ms Irene Richards
Pritchard & Griffiths - £1,280.00 - burial of the late Doreen Joyce Chapman

Invoices paid since the last meeting

Catrin Soraya Williams - £163.62 - translator

7.12 ANY OTHER MATTER

Cllr. Mike Tregenza enquired why was the Council not interested in taking over the Bennar Beach car park from the National Park and it was stated that the Council had been in discussions with regard to this with the Park already and had decided against taking it over.

Cllr. Margretta Cartwright asked if it would be possible for this Council to commemorate 100 years since Battle of the Somme and Memetz Woods by holding a service and placing a wreath on the War Memorial. Everybody agreed to this and it was also agreed to purchase a wreath from the Chairman's account.

Cllr. Owen Gwilym Thomas reported that Dyffryn Ardudwy had been chosen as one of 3 places where Gwynedd Rural Innovate had chosen to work with alongside the Regeneration Group and asking for the Council's support with this. It was agreed to support this fenter and that everybody that could would attend the start meeting when it was being held.

For information Cllr. Eryl Jones Williams reported that he had received an award for the work he does with the Health Service and he was congratulated for this.

SIGNED.....CHAIRMAN

DATE.....