

MINUTES OF DYFFRYN ARDUDWY AND TALYBONT COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT THE COMMUNITY CENTRE, DYFFRYN ARDUDWY AT 7.30 P.M. ON 5.5.26

5.1 APOLOGIES

Cllrs. Nia Rees (Vice Chairman), Jennifer Yuill, , John Ceri Evans. Evan Owen.

5.2 PRESENT

Cllr. William Hooban (Chairman), Deilwen Anderson, Edward Williams, Beth Bailey, Sian Edwards, Sion Ifor Williams, Gwynfor Evans, Edward Griffiths.

The Chairman welcomed Mr. Steve Beech, Meirionnydd Community Support Officer, Gwynedd Council, to the meeting to discuss the various grants available to the Council and the village hall. Mr. Beech went through the different grants that were available and it was noted that there is a grant to renew public spaces with applications closing on the 15th of next month, a community support fund grant up to £20k with applications closing on the 20th of this month, and the Welsh Church Fund grant up to £25k.

5.3 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENT

The Chairman had no announcements to make.

5.4 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on April 7th 2026 were found to be correct.

5.5 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Item 4.9 (C) Cllr. William Hooban asked for the following questions, which had been asked at the last Council meeting regarding the village hall to be minuted – is the hall under any special measures? The answer was no, he wanted to know why some members of the public cannot be part of the hall committee. The answer was that Members of the Community Council are the only Trustees, but they will be happy to receive voluntary help with some activities which are organized and run by the hall committee, but they cannot be members of the hall committee.

5.6 DECLARATION OF INTEREST.

Cllr. William Hooban declared an interest in the matter to do with the football field.

Cllr. Beth Bailey declared an interest in the matter to do with the football field.

No Personal Declaration of Interest Form was signed by him as he had done this already in the last meeting of the Council and the interest in this matter is running continuously.

5.7 GWYNEDD COUNCIL MATTERS

The following report was received from Cllr. Eryl Jones Williams:- Very few meetings and decisions due to the forthcoming Welsh Government elections on 7 May. A Gwynedd councillor has been suspended by Plaid for alleged comments on Cyngor Gwynedd's language policy. On 14 May the full council will decide on the Tourism Tax. If Gwynedd goes ahead, then the Council MUST consult widely with local residents and those in the hospitality trade. From today April 2026 applications for the Gwynedd Homebuy Scheme will be managed directly by Cyngor Gwynedd. This new arrangement follows the previous setup, where Tai Teg administered the scheme on behalf of the Council. From today, anyone who would like to start a new application should contact Cyngor Gwynedd directly, either via the Council's website or by getting in touch with the One Stop Shop housing team. This change follows the launch of Cyngor Gwynedd's Housing One Stop Shop, which provides a single point of contact for residents seeking housing advice and support. As part of this work, the Council will begin to administer its affordable housing schemes directly, making it easier for residents to access housing services in one place. This is one of many schemes by Cyngor Gwynedd to ensure that more people have access to affordable housing in the county through the Housing Action Plan. Other schemes include building more houses, bringing empty houses back into use and tackling homelessness by developing more supported housing in the county. These changes will take place step by step, starting with the

Homebuy Scheme and Section 106 assessments. Carys Fôn Williams, Head of Cyngor Gwynedd's Housing and Property Department, said: "Administering the scheme directly through Cyngor Gwynedd's Housing One Stop Shop is a key step towards delivering the strategic aim of our Housing Action Plan, which is to create a single place where Gwynedd residents can access housing information, advice and support. One Stop Shop officers, who are experienced and specialise in housing, will be available to help anyone who would like the assistance of the Homebuy Scheme, and any other housing scheme or enquiry. "Since its launch in 2022, the Gwynedd Homebuy Scheme has helped 86 households to purchase a home in their local communities. The scheme plays an important role in the support the Council provides to help local people who want to live in their area but find it difficult to afford a home on the open market." Anyone interested in applying for the Gwynedd Homebuy Scheme can find more information about the eligibility criteria and the application process on the Cyngor Gwynedd website: www.gwynedd.llyw.cymru/GwyneddHomebuy. Alternatively, residents can contact the Council directly:

- tai@gwynedd.llyw.cymru
- 01286 685100

Tai Teg will continue to administer affordable homes schemes for housing associations such as Adra, Grŵp Cynefin, North Wales Housing and Clwyd Alyn.

I am available on 01341242758 or e.joneswilliams@btinternet.com also my contact details are on the Gwynedd Council website.

5.8 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

No applications had come to hand since the last meeting.

5.9 MATTERS ARISING

A Election of Officers for the year 2026/27:-

Chairman:- Cllr. Edward Griffiths

Vice Chairman:- Cllr. Jennifer Yuill

Elin Humphries Committee:- Chairman and Cllr. Nia Rees and Sian Edwards (reserve)

Planning sub committee:- Full Council

Finance sub committee:- Full Council

Cemetery sub committee:- Chairman, Vice Chairman, Cllrs. Edward Williams, Sion Ifor Williams & Deilwen Anderson

Benches sub committee:- Chairman, Vice Chairman, Cllrs. Edward Williams, Sion Ifor Williams, Gwynfor Evans and William Hooban

Play Park sub-committee:- Chairman, Vice Chairman, Cllrs. Sian Edwards, Edward Williams, Beth Bailey and Nia Rees

Christmas sub-committee – Chairman, Vice Chair, Cllrs. Beth Bailey, Sian Edwards, Deilwen Anderson, Nia Rees, Gwynfor Evans and William Hooban.

One Voice Wales:- Chairman and Vice Chairman

Public footpaths:- Chairman, Vice Chairman, Cllrs. Edward Williams, Sion Ifor Williams, Sian Edwards, Gwynfor Evans

CCTV sub-committee - Chairman, Vice Chairman and Cllr. William Hooban

Primary School Governor:- Cllr. Beth Bailey

B Budget Plan

It was reported that the Council had spent £2,197.81 (including bank charges) since the start of the new financial year and this was £1,154.19 less expenditure than what was earmarked in the budget for the year.

C Football Field

It was reported that no further information had been received from Mr. Michael Evans from ADRA with regards to the above and the Clerk stated that she had sent him another e-mail but had not received a reply. Cllr. William Hooban reported that he had a telephone conversation with Mr. Evans and that he had been made aware that everything was in hand with him. Cllr. Hooban agreed to phone him again.

D Benches

It was agreed that the Council would apply for a grant to purchase new benches. Cllr. Edward Williams agreed to obtain prices and to send a map to the Clerk showing the locations where new seats are required.

It was noted that a price had been received from Dylan Trehaern to do digging out work at Penybont Garden and next to the bus shelter by Lliidiart y Parc car park. It was agreed to accept this price.

E CCTV Cameras

It was decided to leave the above matter until the next meeting.

F Review of Standing Orders and Financial Regulations

The Clerk reported that she had placed this matter on the agenda because the above Rules were supposed to be reviewed annually but this Council had not done so since 2023. The Clerk had sent copies of these Rules to every Member before this meeting so that they could have a look at them. It was agreed that the Standing Orders and the Financial Regulations were correct.

G Council's Annual Report

The Clerk reported that she had prepared the fourth annual report on behalf of the Council and that she had sent it to every Member in advance of the meeting. It was agreed that this report was correct.

H Vote of No Confidence in Cllr. Eryl Jones Williams

Some Members had requested that this matter be placed on the agenda. They expressed concern that Cllr. Jones Williams was not carrying out his duties as County Councillor for the area, noting that he never attends Community Council meetings, despite attending meetings of the Primary School Governing Body. Members stated that they wished to know why he was distinguishing between the two roles.

It was further noted that Cllr. Jones Williams was one of the Trustees of the Village Hall who contacted Mantell Gwynedd last year, which resulted in the new Village Hall Committee being prevented from receiving a substantial grant intended to support work to reopen the café. Members highlighted in the that he had resigned as a Trustee in September 2024, and therefore should not have been involved in this matter.

Concerns were raised regarding the accuracy of information shared publicly on social media, with Members noting that such information is not always accurate or consistent with official or verified sources. Also Members expressed concern that Cllr. Jones Williams does not communicate clearly or accurately, and is not maintaining constructive working relationships with the Community Council, nor acting in a transparent and accountable manner.

Members also expressed concern that he takes credit for work undertaken by others within the Ward.

Following discussion, all Members present except one approved a Vote of No Confidence in Cllr. Jones Williams and it was agreed that the Clerk should contact the Monitoring Officer, Gwynedd Council, regarding this matter.

5.10 CORRESPONDANCE

A Village Hall Committee

The Clerk reported that she had received a letter from the above committee notifying the Council that a significant investment is needed to safeguard the future of the building and and it is estimated that the essential work will be around £300,000 and include roof repairs, structural bracing, landslide restoration, reroofing the entire building, and damp treatment. They also stated that they have submitted an Expression of Interest to the Welsh Government Community Facilities Programme and the estimated cost of the project is £352,168.85, including structural work, decorating, and installing a commercial kitchen, along with refurbishing the cafe space to enable it to reopen. The grant program can provide up to £300,000, and they are pleased to confirm that they have been invited to submit a full application, but due to a potential change in Government this funding is at risk and therefore it is essential for them to secure matched funding. They are applying for grants from other bodies but are asking if the Council would be willing to provide matched funding towards the amount of £52,168.85 if they are not successful with the grant applications. Also asking if their applications was unsuccessful, or if the grant was withdrawn due to a change in Government, would the Community Council consider offering a loan to enable the café work to proceed? Reopening

the café is key to establishing a sustainable source of income, and it is anticipated that any loan would be repaid through rental income in the future. They also acknowledge that this would be subject to appropriate legal considerations and the preparation of a formal agreement specifying the repayment terms.

It was agreed to contact One Voice Wales and ask for their opinion regarding the best way to move forward with this matter as Members of the Council apart from two were Trustees on the village hall and therefore declaring an interest in the matter. The contents of the letter was not discussed.

B Welsh Water

Received an e-mail regarding the upgrade of Dyffryn Ardudwy Waste Water Treatment Works along with a newsletter that outlined the work that was going to be carried out. The Clerk had already forwarded this to all Members. Cllr. William Hooban reported that he had been informed by Cllr. Eryl Jones Williams that a site meeting was taking place on the 8th of this month and it was agreed that the new Chairman and Vice Chairman attend this meeting on behalf of the Council.

5.11 TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer reported that there was £53,105.78 in the current account and £46,818.41 in the reserve account.

Invoices needed to be paid since last meeting

Mrs Annwen Hughes - £273.06 (wages) + £231.06 costs = £504.12
Gary Martayn - £444.00 - cut grass in play park, car park and around the benches
Mr. G. J. Williams - £86.00 - cut grass in various locations in Talybont
Village Hall Committee - £20.00 - hire of meeting room (April)
Mr. M. J. Kerr - £480.00 – opening grave re the late Mr. John Wynne
Mr. M. J. Kerr - £500.00 – opening grave re the late Ms Penelope Dangerfield
Clear Insurance - £3,297.17 - Council's insurance for the year
LL DIY - £805.80 - new carpet for the games room in the village hall
Jewson - £876.97 - materials to renew the games room in the village hall – it was agreed not to pay this invoice at the moment until the one with the correct amount had been received.

A discussion was held regarding the Council's insurance policy and it was agreed that the policy was acceptable for this year and it was agreed to pay the invoice.

The above payments were processed by Cllr. William Hooban and Cllr. Beth Bailey approved the payments and permission was granted to the Clerk/Treasurer to make payment on line or by cheque at the end of the meeting.

The Treasurer reported that the Internal Audit had been completed and there were no significant matters arising apart from the following –

It is recommended that the Council take appropriate steps to mitigate the following risks:

- Risk of losses or unauthorised payments when processing payments online i.e. no online dual authorisation for bank transactions.
- Risk of fines from HMRC on staff costs paid without having been reviewed and declared for tax purposes.

The Treasurer reported that she had completed the Annual Return up to 31st March 2026, the Members went through this return and agreed to approve it and it was also agreed that the Chairman and Clerk/Treasurer sign this on behalf of the Council.

Monies received since last meeting

Mr. P. Hughes - £254.00 – burial of ashes re the late Mrs Catherine Hughes
Gwynedd Council - £27,500.00 – half the precept

Invoices paid since the last meeting

Catrin Soraya Williams - None - translation services
Jewson - £59.98 - materials to renew the games room in the village hall
Jewson - £714.97 - materials to renew the games room in the village hall (correct invoice received and paid 19/5/26)

5.12 ANY OTHER MATTERS

Want to get in touch with the Gwynedd Council public footpaths Officer, to draw his attention to the three styles that need attention at Bwlch y Rhiwgyrch, Pont Fadog, Mynydd Sebonig, and Hendre Eirian and over to Graig Llyn, and also to ask for ramps to be installed near Pont Fadog because some people with scrambler motorbikes are leaving gates open.

Want to get in touch with the National Park regarding signs near Sunnysands.

It was agreed to include the new noticeboard and the new sign on the Community Council grant application.

Congratulations were extended from the Council to the under-13 football team of Dyffryn and Talybont football club for winning the North Wales coast cup.

SIGNED.....CHAIRMAN

DATE..... 870