LLANBERIS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

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**MINUTES OF THE JULY 2019 MEETING:**

Minutes of the Council meeting held in Y Ganolfan, Llanberis on Wednesday 10th July, 2019 at 7pm.

**WELCOME**

**Representatives from the International Earth Resource Centre:**

Jane and Mads Huus from Waunfawr gave a very interesting presentation. They are part of a group that established the International Resource Centre, which is working with six universities, including Bangor University. Their aim is to establish a teaching and visiting centre in Glyn Rhonwy. They have already had encouraging dialogue with Gwynedd Council regarding their plans for the site.

The driving force for their plan is the growing concern about climate change and dwindling natural resources. The couple, who specialise in ecology and geology, stressed the immediate need to resolve some issues. They believe the centre would facilitate and lead the way in creating a more sustainable lifestyle via science, art and heritage.

They described how the facility would attract locals and visitors and that 300,000 visitors per annum would make the centre self-sustainable. The Centre would create numerous jobs and would be non-profit making. There was discussion about the sheer number of visitors and how it would impact on the area which at times is already struggling to cope with visitors. Parking, public transport and the condition of the roads is a concern. The presenters accepted the concerns raised but stressed that by presenting their plans at such an early stage they hoped to gain public support and to pre- empt avoidable mistakes. It was clear that they were keen to involve local communities in their plans.

The couple are aware of the challenge of securing approximately £100 million to develop and build the centre. £80,000 has been secured for the preliminary stage of the project. The project could be developed at other sites in the UK, but Llanberis is the group’s first choice. The couple agreed to keep in touch with the Council and to return to report on developments towards the end of the year or the beginning of next year. The Chairman thanked them for their presentation.

**1 PRESENT AND APOLOGIES:**

***Padarn Ward:*** Rhys ap Gwilym (Chairman), Gwilym Evans, Olwen Gwilym, Bethan Holding, Iwan Harding, Aneuryn Jones, Counc. Kevin Morris Jones, Helen Sharp, Trystan Thomas.

***Peris Ward:*** Iola Owen. Also present: Dei Tomos (Clerk).

***Apologies:*** Nicola Brown.

**2 DECLARATION OF INTEREST:**

Will be noted where appropriate.

**3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES:**

The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday, 12th June,2019 were accnowledged as a true record and were signed by the Chairman. Proposed and seconded: IO/KMJ.

**4 MATTERS ARISING:**

***1. Coed Doctor:***

Disappointing attendance at the second meeting to discuss the future of the woodland. Bob Griffiths from GC and a representative from a group supporting community woodlands projects were joined by only two people from the village and the Clerk and County Councillor KMJ. In an attempt to create more interest , BG stated that he would organise one or two events in the woodland, probably after the school holidays.

***2. Cae Gas play field:***

To date, GC haven’t acted to prevent sheep getting in. .

***3. Annual audit:***

The Annual Audit has been completed by GC and the paperwork forwarded to BDO in Southampton for the External Audit. The Internal Audit made several recommendations.

• Cheque stubs to be initialled by signatories.

• Failure to note expenditure 137 as a separate entry. (This was under a specific heading and within the annual budget)

• Failure to note date of purchase/ownership and current value of assets in the asset register. present an asset register.

• Failure to present terms and conditions of employment for the Clerk.

• Website not established, which means that the Council is unable to publish information in accordance with the Local Government Act (Wales) 2013.

The Clerk and the Chairman will present the employment contract in September and the Clerk will present material for the website later in the meeting. The information required for the asset register is a major task. Expenditure under section 137 will be presented differently next year.

Report accepted.

***4. Damaged bridge on afon Dudodyn:***Response received from Snowdonia National Park Authority (SNPA). According to a letter received from the Chief Executive of SNPA and GC, the bridge is not on a public footpath and lies beyond open access land. It is therefore difficult to justify the expense of a new bridge. However there had been consultation with BMC (British Mountaineering Council) and advice given, including an estimate for a new bridge but no further action has been taken.

***5. Nantperis boardwalk:***

The local Warden will assess the boardwalk and the repairs needed. The Clerk noted that some repair work has been completed but that more damage has occured since. Growth along the edges has not been cut down.

***6. Parking and Sherpa service:***

It is rumoured that SNPA are aware of the parking issues and are commissioning a survey of parking and transport in an attempt to solve the problem. The aim would be to develop a parking and transport system to match the demand thus resolving the problem. They will be consulting the local communities as well.

Reference made to the number of taxis at the car park and taking the Sherpa bus passengers. According to SNPA, this solves a problem at times when the buses are full, late or not running. The taxi firms took advantage of such situations and their service was necessary at times..According to the Chief Executive, restricting the taxis would not solve the current problem but he did agree that public transport needs to meet the demand.

In the same letter, it was stated that the Authority has secured funding to improve the toilets and for a bus stop in the car park in Nantperis.

Concern was expressed that the bus service was unable to cope with the demand and that the income lost may impact on the future of the bus service. The survey was welcomed, as was the improvements to the toilets and the bus stop. It was asked whether there was a need for the large rubbish bins in the parking ground. The Clerk will also make further enquiries regarding the bridge over the Dudodyn stream.

***7. Lake side play ground:***The crossbeam for the swings has been ordered by GC but has not been delivered yet.

***8. Benches:***

The memorial benches have been cleaned and painted but the benches around Maes Padarn are showing signs of wear and tear and damage. It was agreed to repair them.

***9. Clearing cheques:***

Further investigation into the substantial cheque that has not cleared despite the fact that the recipient has been paid. The cheque recipient’s bank has not accessed the money from the Council’s bank. It was agreed that there was nothing more that the Clerk coud do and that now , it was a matter between the two banks concerned.

**5 OTHER MATTERS:**

***1. Proposal that this Council backs the campaign for Welsh independence:***

The proposal was: ‘In response to the recent surge to support the campaign for Welsh independence, including the march in Cardiff on May 19th, 2019 that saw thousands marching and the growing number of Welsh coucncils supporting the cause. It was proposed that Llanberis Community Council supported the campaign for Welsh independence.Proposed and seconded: GE/RhaG.

Following discussion, there was a vote, with the majority for the proposal. A prior agreement meant that a majority would carry and that individual votes would be documented. 7 voted for the proposal, BH was the only one who voted against the proposal and HLJ and IH abstained.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

***1. GC – Road closures:***

Several closure notices received for road closures due to events over the next few weeks. There was also notification that the company organising many of the races intend to stage an extra Snowdon race next year where competitors would run up and down Snowdon as many times as possible in 24 hours. Concern was expressed again about the increase in the number of events being held and the impact that this type of event will have on the mountain path as well as the village. It was agreed to write to SNPA asking them to voice their objections to the race and to ask if it was possible to have a greater degree of control of these events that are having a detrimental effect on the environment.

***2. Cae’r Ddôl:***

Report received that the grass had not been cut prior to Ysgol Dolbadarn’s sports day. Decision taken to consult with GC regarding the maintenance of the field for local events.

***3. SNPA - Consultation:***Information received regarding a Public Consultation on planning affordable housing. Response needed before 5pm on 18th September.

**7 PLANNING:**

**SNPA:**

**NP3/15/75D** – Insignificant change to Planning Consent NP3/15/75C (dated 31/07/2017) for painted aluminium window frames as opposed to the wooden ones granted - ***Ynys Etws, Nantperis*** – No objections

**Gwynedd Council:**

**C19/0605/15/LL** - ‘Adaptation of building and annex to 2 self- contained units - ***Beech Bank 2 Stryd Fawr, Llanberis*** – No objections

**C19/0603/15/CC** - Work on trees with TPO - ***4 Gerddi Padarn, Llanberis*** – No objections providing that the work does not damage the trees.

**8 FINANCE:**

**1)** **In the Bank on 28th June, 2019**

**Current account**: £16,089.02 **Deposit account**: £5,355.63

**2) Payments confirmed:** £1,771.14

**3) Received between 29/05/2019 and 28/06/2019:** £160.91

Proposed and seconded: KMJ/BH

**9 FOOTPATHS AND CEMETERY:**

**Cemetery:**

Mole damage reported. The Clerk will investigate.

**10 WEBSITE:**

The Clerk presented pages ready for the website. It was agreed that the site would not display e-mail addresses nor telephone numbers of individual councillors but that members could be contacted via the Clerk. It is hoped that the website will be operating by September.

**11 REPORTS FROM OTHER MEETINGS:**

***1. Y Ganolfan:***

It was reported that the stage is now in the Church but will still be available for use in Y Ganolfan. Y Ganolfan now has a piano.

**12 NEXT MEETING:**

In Y Ganolfan, Llanberis. Wednesday,11th September, 2019 at 7 pm.

Signed as a true record

**Rhys ap Gwilym Chairman / Dei Tomos Clerck Medi’r 11eg / September 11th 2019**

 ***3/3***