LLANBERIS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

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**MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 2019 MEETING:**

Minutes of the Council meeting held at the Ganolfan, Llanberis on Wednesday 9th of October,2019 at 7.30pm.

**1 PRESENT AND APOLOGIES:**

***Padarn Ward:*** Rhys ap Gwilym (Chairman), Olwen Gwilym, Iwan Harding, Bethan Holding, Heather L Jones, Counc. Kevin Morris Jones, Helen Sharp,

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

***Apologies:*** Gwilym Evans, Trystan Thomas.

**2 DECLARATION OF INTEREST:**

Will be noted where relevant.

**3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES:**

The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 11th September, 2019 were accepted as a true record and were signed by the Chairman. Proposed and seconded: KMJ /HLJ

**4 MATTERS ARISING :**

***1. Website:***

Translation in progress.

**5 OTHER MATTERS:**

***1. Renting houses:***It was reported that many locals are finding it impossible to rent a home from Cartrefi Cymunedol Gwynedd (CCG), and it appears that the majority of their properties are being rented to people from outside the community. GC have renamed the CCG to ‘Adra’.The Clerk was asked to write to Adra enquiring about their renting policy and noting the concerns raised regarding local people having difficulty finding properties to rent.

**6 CORRESPONDENCE:**

***1. Cylch yr Iaith:***

Letter received regarding the impact of the North West Wales Slate Areas being designated a UNESCO World Heritage status would have on the language and the area. GC are preparing to submit for such status and Cylch yr Iaith are worried that this would result in an increase in tourists visiting an area already under pressure from the volume of visitors which, in turn is having a substantial effect on the Welsh language, jobs, and the availability of houses for local residents.

The report states that over-tourism results in ‘language shift’ as more people move into the area, taking over businesses which leads to a housing shortage, and higher property prices pushing locals out of the market. It also results in properties being used as holiday lets, holiday homes and ‘air bnb’. The report states that 27% of properties sold in Gwynedd in 2017 were bought as second homes with an average price tag of £289,192. The latest figures suggest that holiday homes account for 39% of all properties sold in the county in 2017-18. The report also notes that tourism related business is increasingly being owned and run by non-Welsh- speaking individuals and organisations, tending to employ non-Welsh speakers.

Cylch yr Iaith state that the Welsh Government should have the future of the Welsh language at the heart of its policy making and adding that tourism in Wales should be developed in such a way that it contributes to a thriving Welsh language and communities.

The report had been circulated to Councilors and was discussed. It was noted that housing property was expensive and that there is a substantial increase in holiday homes and holiday lets. Jobs are also being lost as a result of people moving into the area.

It was agreed to write to the Welsh Government and GC stressing that over-tourism is becoming a problem in the area and that both bodies should seriously consider how to address the problem of the impact this is having on the community and questioning whether World Heritage Status is the answer. Proposed and seconded: IH / HS

***2. CG - Parking:***

Double yellow lines on two streets.

a) Class 3 road - Stryd y Farchnad, Llanberis - western side of the street.

b) Unclassified road - Frongoch, Llanberis - on both sides of the road to the west of its junction with Preswylfa. This would mean ‘no waiting at any time’ . The decision was welcomed.

***3. Llanberis Development Group:***

Letter received noting that the Group would not be able to organise the pre-Christmas Lantern Parade.

***4. Conference:***

Invitation to a multi-agency conference in Portmeirion on 13th December, 2019 to discuss ‘How can we contribute to a Carbon Neutral UK’.

***4.Efe:***Notification that ‘Efe’’s AGM will be held in Capel y Rhos, Llanrug on October 15th at 7pm.

***6.Engie:***

The company in charge of the power station are seeking to improve their relationship with the community by making a contribution to a community event. They are seeking advice regarding a fund-raising event. The local Carnival was suggested.

***7. The Church in Wales:***

There is lack of clarity regarding land ownership in the Churchyard at Nantperis. A copy of an old letter dating back to 1995 has been received. The decision was made to contact Area Dean, Lloyd Jones and report back at the next meeting.

**7 PLANNING:**

**SNPA:**

**NP3/15/180H** – Staff car park – ***Land belonging to Snowdon Mountain Railway, Rhes Fictoria, Llanberis*** – It was discussed whether a car park was necessary since most of the staff live locally and whether it was sustainable.

**\*NB**: **DECLARATION OF INTEREST - *KMJ declared an interest and did not take part in the discussion.* \***

**Gwynedd Council:**

**C19/0881/15/CC** - ‘Pruning of trees subject to a TPO’ - ***Coed Doctor, Llanberis*** – This was welcomed since it will have a positive impact on nearby homes.

**8 FINANCE:**

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

**Current Account**: £30,343.09 **Deposit Account**: £5,358.33

**2) Payments confirmed: £1232.60**

**3) Received between 29/08/2019 and 28/09/2019: £14,280.91**

Proposed and seconded: KMJ / BH

**9 EXTERNAL AUDITOR REPORT 2018-19:**

The External Auditor’s Report was received and it was reported that the Council’s Accounts were available by contacting the Clerk.

A Conditional Report was received from the External Auditor on behalf of the Wales General Auditor (DBO Southampton) noting issues that need addressing.

To comply with legislation, the Council must set up a bilingual website as soon as possible. Work on the website is in progress.

It was also note that the Council had not entered the minute reference for the approval of the accounting statements and annual governance statement. Reference was also made to several other matter mentioned by the Internal Auditor with regard to monetary sytems.

It was decided that accounting statements be independently checked in future before returning the Annual Audit. Matters raised by the Internal Auditor were addressed in a previous meeting to ensure compliance. the next time.

The Council also received a Report for 2017-18. No explanation as to why this report was sent so late, a year late.

Proposed and seconded: IO / IH

**10 PANELS:**

Review of panel membership for reporting back to the full Council. The full Council will make final decisions.

Finance: RhaG, IH, HLJ Land and Assets: IO, HS, OG Planning: BH, TT, GE, KMJ

**11 CEMETERY:**

***1. Review of charges:*** The charges for the cemetery in Nantperis have not been reviewed for some time. The new charges will come into effect in January 2020. The second price is for those from the parish but lived outside the Community.

Interment rights: £150 / 280 Interment fee: £120 / 220

Re-opening grave: £120 / 220 Interment of ashes rights £100 / 150

Interment of ashes: £100 / 150 Erecting gravestone: £150 / 150

Future engraving: £100 / 100 Still born: No fee

***2. Cemetry Wall:*** It was agreed to ask for a quote to complete the re-building of the wall at the eastern end and to spread the cost over two financial years if necessary. Proposed and seconded: HLJ / OG

**12 CHRISTMAS LIGHTS:**

It was agreed to ask DO to check the Christmas lights in the village. It was suggested that the system should be extended further at the eastern end of the village. The Clerk will discuss the matter with the electrician and order trees for both villages.

**13 EXTERNAL REPORTS:**

The Clerk and KMJ reported back on the annual meeting of Community Council representatives and officers from SNPA held in Capel Curig.

There was opportunity to discuss the excessive use of Snowdon particularly by organisations raising money for charities and companies planning racing events. There was discussion about the new race next year when competitors will run up and down as many times as possible within a 24 hour period.

SNPA outlined changes to the Warden service and further discussion about transport problems around Snowdon. A survey of transport and parking will be taking place soon.

**13 NEXT MEETING:**

In Y Ganolfan, Llanberis. Wednesday 13th November, 2019 at 7pm.

Signed as a true record…………………….................…........................................Chairman

 November 13th, 2019.

Clerk ……………………….....…………………….......................Date …………………............................