

CYNGOR CYMUNED LLANBERIS

Llanberis Community Council

MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 2020 MEETING:

Minutes of the Council Meeting held in Y Ganolfan, Llanberis on Wednesday, September 9th, 2020 at 7pm. Members were welcomed to the first face to face meeting in months as all meetings since April have been held via Zoom. The Chairman announced that the meeting was being held following a consultation with members and in accordance with the Government's current Covid-19 rules. The Clerk had done a risk assessment following the HSE guidelines. Social distancing was observed, hands were sanitised upon entry to the building and current state of health of members was established. Only the Chairman and the Clerk sat at a table and the toilets were not to be used. A record was kept should there be a need to trace contacts.

1 PRESENT AND APOLOGIES:

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

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

Apologies: Claudia O'Donnell, Llinos Haf Pritchard. The two new members apologised due to health concerns with their children. The Clerk hoped that circumstances would allow them to attend the next meeting.

2 DECLARATION OF INTEREST:

Will be documented where appropriate.

3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES:

The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, 15th July, 2020 were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman. Proposed and seconded: HLJ / OG.

4 MATTERS ARISING:

1. Stray sheep:

Still no response from the Police but the shepherd is called to gather when necessary.

2. Friends Scheme:

No recent calls.

3. Vacant seat Padarn Ward:

The vacancy was advertised and responses received from Dr. Paula Roberts and Kimberly S. Jones, both from Llanberis having lived here all their lives. Following a secret ballot, Kim Jones won by a narrow margin. It was unanimously agreed to co-opt her onto the Council. Paula Roberts was thanked for her interest and it was hoped that her interest would continue should there be future vacancies on the Council.

4. Lifting travelling restrictions and access to the mountains:

Following the easing of travelling restrictions tourists returned and August was a very busy month in the area. Complaints have been received about illegal parking, litter and people camping and sleeping in mobile homes wherever they wished. Gwynedd Council made little effort to stop this happening particularly on the shores of Llyn Padarn and in the Glyn. There has also been overnight parking and camping in the Castell Dolbadarn car park and the Clerk was called upon to contact Cadw to ask them to act to prevent this happening.

In other areas, particularly on the High Street, there was concern that people were ignoring the 2-metre social distancing rule. Ceredigion Council was cited as a council that had imposed a one-way system in some towns and that this had made social distancing easier for pedestrians. Establishing a one-way system on the High Street should be discussed as a possible solution for Llanberis.

Gwynedd Council (GC), following consultation with this Council, will not consider any request to re-stage any cancelled or postponed races or events on Cae'r Ddôl until next year. This was welcomed as Councillors did not feel that it was appropriate to support any crowd events this year. Information received that one race will now be held in Capel Curig when organisers were told that the event could not be staged in Llanberis. GC's refusal to close off Market Street was welcomed, but it was disappointing that one café had reacted by putting tables on the pavements thus causing inconvenience and a possible danger to pedestrians.

Llanberis and Nantperis were not the only villages in the area to be swamped by traffic and the response by GC and Snowdonia National Park Authority (SNPA) to implement harsh restrictions on parking and increasing public transport to Pen y Pas was welcomed. It was noted that the authorities had removed illegally parked cars in other areas such as Dyffryn Ogwen.

In Nantperis, CG kept the Adwy Ffordd Haearn layby closed to prevent overnight camping.

It was reported that BH had discussed the issue of weeds on the High Street with the Development Group but the response had not been very positive with some aggressive remarks.

5. UEFA Pitch:

The Clerk did not feel that the pitch posed a danger and that there was no need to close it but added that he and the Chairman would discuss how it's condition could be improved and report back to the Council.

6. Grass cutting:

The letter received from Llandwrog Council regarding the frequency and standard of grass cutting by GC was discussed. The circumstances in Llandwrog are different to the ones in this area since they and other councils have an agreement with GC for extra cutting in their community. They do not feel that they have had value for money this year. Due to Covid-19, this area has had a reduction in services as well but it was felt that now was not the time to start discussions about devolving this area of responsibility. It is very likely that GC will instigate discussion regarding such services with local Councils before next season. Thanks were extended to those who are voluntarily cutting the grass at the western approach to the village by the bypass.

5 OTHER MATTERS:

1. Dôl y Goeden:

Y Ganolfan (The Committee) have arranged and paid for the grass cutting on the football pitch on Dôl y Goeden. According to HS, Chairman of Y Ganolfan Committee, GC have not cut the grass there this year.

2. Parked Taxis:

Several complaints received regarding the number of taxis parking on the double yellow lines in the bus exchange area by Dôl y Goeden. The Clerk was asked to contact GC since this is unfair competition for the bus companies who are subsidised by public funding. There is a designated taxi rank by Dôlafon, opposite the Surgery.

3. A4086:

Reference was made to the resurfacing work done on this road from the roundabout by the Victoria Hotel to Nantperis village. The Clerk had been in contact to ask why the work was not completed as far as Beudy Mawn at the bottom of the Pass. The response received from Highways Department, GC was that there was no intention to resurface up to this point and that it was a mistake in the notice of the work to be undertaken that led to the misunderstanding. Repairs have not been undertaken at the far end of Nant and this work must be completed before any resurfacing. Reference was also made to flood prevention work by Tan-y-bryn. This is disappointing since it indicates that no work is to be done by Gardda Bach, a notorious spot for flooding for years, and this despite a veiled promise made by a GC engineer that they would discuss flood prevention in an area which frequently causes complete road closure. Further up the road there was severe flooding caused by a stream coming to the road from Tan-y-bryn and by Terfyn/Talgae and Coed Gwydr area. The Clerk was asked to contact GC to express the Council's disappointment regarding the situation at Gardda Bach and to expedite work in other areas as well as repairing the road surface.

4. Nant Ucha' Path

This new path and boardwalk are now in a poor state of repair and overgrown with vegetation. The Clerk wrote to SNPA to complain but was informed that the pathway was the responsibility of GC not the Park Authority. Days later, GJ from GC inspected the path, and made a note of the damage, repaired part of the boardwalk and arranged for the vegetation to be cleared. The future of the boardwalk will be reconsidered in view of how rapidly its condition has deteriorated. This will need to be monitored.

5. Christmas Lights:

The Clerk has received a quote from GC for putting boxes for lights on more lamp posts on the High Street. The cost would be £250 + VAT per pole. Following discussion, it was agreed not to purchase further boxes but to use battery powered lights on some of the trees from Maes Padarn and towards Pentre Castell. The Council need to decide how many units are needed and ordered in good time.

6 CORRESPONDENCE:

1. Hedge Trimming:

Complaint received about an overgrown hedge impeding pedestrian movement on the pavement at the western end of the village. The Clerk contacted the complainant but he didn't want to comment any further. It was disappointing that the complainant had sent copies of the e-mail to the press before the Council had time to respond to the complaint. The hedge has now been trimmed.

2. Nantperis Church Cemetery [Eryri Cemeteries Project]:

Information received about a joint project between North Wales Wildlife Trust and SNPA to establish wildlife havens in cemeteries in Eryri. Initially the aim is to create 4 in the first year, and create a management plan that would develop areas for wildlife within these grounds. The Clerk asked for further detail and also informed the Trust that the cemetery is not the Council's responsibility but that we do arrange for the grass to be cut twice a year. The organisers will be looking for volunteers and they would have to consult with the local Church Council. The Clerk agreed to forward the information to HLJ to take to the Church Council.

7 PLANNING:

- **C20/0605/15/LL** - *Changes to roof - Becws Penybryn, Stryd Fawr, Llanberis* – No objections
- **C20/0644/15/LL** - *Application to build a workshop and boat storage - Pont Penllyn, Brynrefail* -
Does this need to be a two-storey building that would be obtrusive at this site?
- **C20/0659/15/DT** - *Application to demolish present one storey extension and replace with a two-storey extension - 8 Rallt Goch Ceunant, Llanberis* – No objections.

8 FINANCE:

1) In the Bank on 28th August, 2020

Current Account: £28,338.45 **Deposit Account:** £5,365.65

2) Payments confirmed: £730.73

3) Received between 29/05/2020 and 28/08/2020: £15,218.13

Budget and expenditure to the end of August was detailed. Proposed and seconded: TT / IH

9 FOOTPATHS

It was reported that several paths were obstructed, particularly around Mur Mawr, Llanberis. GE agreed to investigate and report back at the next meeting.

10 CEMETERY:

An increase in the volume of tributes being placed on some graves is causing concern. The rules are quite clear on this matter and the Clerk was asked to make sure that the rules were on the Cemetery Noticeboard as well as on the Council website.

10 NEXT MEETING:

In Y Ganolfan, if circumstances allow - 7pm Wednesday 14th October, 2020.

Signed as a true record:

Chairman: Rhys ap Gwilym

Clerk: Dei Tomos

Date: 14 October 2020.

3/3