

LLANBERIS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE May 2021 MEETING:

Minutes of the Council Meeting held in Y Ganolfan, Llanberis on Wednesday 12th May, 2021 at 7pm. The Chairman welcomed members to the first face to face meeting since December. Social distance rules followed.

1 PRESENT AND APOLOGIES:

Padarn Ward: Rhys ap Gwilym (Chairman), Gwilym Evans, Olwen Gwilym, Bethan Holding, Heather L Jones, Cllr. Kevin Morris Jones, Kim Jones, Helen Sharp,.

Apologies: Iwan Harding, Claudia O'Donnell, Trystan Thomas

Peris Ward: Iola Owen, Llinos Haf Pritchard. Also present: Dei Tomos (Clerk).

2 DECLARATION OF INTEREST:

Will be documented where appropriate.

3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES:

The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 14th April, 2021 were confirmed as a true record and were signed by the Chairman. Proposed and seconded: HLJ / KJ.

4 MATTERS ARISING:

1. *Cynllun Cyfaill:*

The service is still available

2. *Lakeside playground:*

Because of problems with the structural framework of the swing for younger children, there was a discussion regarding the cost of repair versus replacement. There was a unanimous decision to buy a new swing.

3. *Dôl Elidir playground:*

Gwynedd Council (GC) confirmed that the gate into the field will be adapted to allow access for prams and wheelchairs.

4. *UEFA pitch:*

Despite approaching another company, the Clerk is still waiting for a second quote.

5. *Band instruments:*

The Clerk reported that he has written to Ysgol Dolbadarn, but has not received a reply.

6. *Parc Bach:*

Work has been completed on the gate.

6 OTHER MATTERS

1. *Summer activities, Llanberis:*

GC have consulted regarding the number of requests to hold race events in Llanberis during September and October. It is difficult to foresee what the impact of the pandemic will be on daily life by then. Will Llanberis be overrun by tourists or will restrictions still be in place? The organisers will have to follow Welsh Government guidelines, but some were surprised that they were even considering to hold crowd events this year. It was agreed that although there were no objections in principle, there was concern that there was not enough information about the events and there was strong support against events drawing hundreds of competitors. It was also agreed that there needs to be an improvement in organisation regarding noise and trading (local businesses should be given better opportunities). If the events are to take place on Dôl y Goeden, then there needs to be an assurance that locals do not lose the use of the fields for days prior to and after the events. It was noted that the excellent condition of the site is due to Y Ganolfan's Committee's involvement.

2. *Signage:*

It was noted that complaints had been received about the lack of Welsh on many signs. It was also stated that there were too many signs in some areas and that some may have not received necessary planning permission. It was agreed to look into this and the Clerk asked members to forward good examples of businesses using bilingual signs and where the Welsh language was given prominence.

3. Council Insurance:

With the Council's insurance policy coming to an end this month, Zurich, the Council's present insurance company, quoted for policies for one, three or five years, with the five-year price being very competitive. It was agreed to stay with the company and accepting their quote of the same annual price for five years. Proposed and seconded: KJ / OG.

4. Glynrhonwy Car Park:

It was reported that there were people camping in the car park with some lighting camp fires. GC need to act on this issue.

5. Playground and Car Park Nantperis:

The Clerk had received a complaint regarding the playground: the rubber surface is in very poor condition and a bench is missing. He had contacted the appropriate department at GC and had been assured that these issues will be addressed.

It was reported that rubbish and litter was an issue in the Car Park partly because the bins have been locked. The Clerk will make enquiries.

6. Name of the mountain (Yr Wyddfa and Eryri):

At the Chairman's request there was a discussion about the drive to get Awdurdod Parc Cenedlaethol Eryri National Park Authority (ENPA) to use Eryri instead of Snowdonia and to refer to Yr Wyddfa by its Welsh name only. This proposal by a Councillor from Meirionnydd failed but the Authority stated that the implications of the proposal would remain on the table for future discussion.

It is not possible to legislate such an issue but the ENPA could set a precedent by using the Welsh names only. Over time, the English names would disappear as has happened with North America's highest peak now known as Denali rather than Mount McKinley, and Uluru (Ayer's Rock) in Australia where both names are still used but with the native name becoming more and more accepted. In the case of Denali, it was the government of Alaska that was instrumental in changing the name. In both cases, the native names have been acknowledged. There was a unanimous vote of support for this and it was agreed to write to the Chief Executive of the Authority asking them to use Yr Wyddfa and Eryri only when referring to the mountain and the National Park. Proposed and seconded: BH / IO.

7 PLANNING:

Gwynedd Council:

C21/0443/15/DT - 3 Stryd Ianci, Llanberis – *Application for another floor to the current extension at the rear of the property and a one storey extension to the side of the property.* No objections.

8 CORRESPONDENCE:

1. HSBC – Uncleared cheque 202501:

Further correspondence received regarding the cheque for £4000 payable to GC that had not cleared two years ago. By now, Barclay's Bank (BB) who had paid GC but had not claimed the money from our account as well as HSBC (our Bank) have been in touch stating that the money will be claimed in June. According to the letter from BB, the cheque is valid for six years. The cheque was dated in March 2019 (not as stated in the April minutes) and it seems that BB can claim the money despite their blunder. HSBC's second letter confirm their right to claim. The cheque was included in the financial account for 2018-2019 where it was marked as an uncleared cheque.

2. Request for yellow lines - Llainwen:

Complaints have been received regarding cars parking on the road leading up to Llainwen Ucha'. There was concern that emergency vehicles such as ambulances and fire engines would not be able to reach the houses. The letter requested support for double yellow lines on one side of the road. The Clerk had written to the Highways department of GC and received the response that the matter had been passed on to the relevant department. Some members doubted that the situation was of such concern whilst others felt that it was a problem at times.

3. Road closure:

Stryd y Farchnad was closed for several days. The Clerk said that he had been unable to give prior warning since he only received the notification on the first day of the closure. Whilst it is accepted that some road closures have to be made without warning, this work had obviously been planned and GC could have sent the notification earlier.

9 FINANCE:

1) In the Bank on 28th April, 2021

Current Account: £15,802.06 **Deposit Account:** £5,366.02

2) Payments confirmed:

TOTAL £2381.89

3) Received between 29/03/2020 and 28/04/2021:

TOTAL Zero

Proposed and seconded: HLJ / KJ.

10 FINANCIAL REPORT/BALANCE SHEET 2020 - 2021:

The Clerk presented the Annual Financial Report for the year that ended on the last day of March 2021. The balance was £16,668.03 after including £4801.00 uncleared cheques. Income and Expenditure sheets and Bank Reconciliation sheets were presented. Copy attached to the minutes.

Savings against the budget were achieved through the Small Grants and money had not been spent on outdoor equipment because of the substantial cost of work on the lakeside playground and the UEFA pitch. Christmas expenditure was lower as was running the Website and the playground and not having to buy salt for the salt bins. Several Councillors had not taken up their allowance. The outstanding cheques will clear, particularly the £4,000 claimed by Barclays (see 8.1 in the Minutes). The report was accepted and it was agreed that the Chairman and the Clerk would sign the Audit form and forward to the Internal Auditor at Gwynedd Council. The Clerk was thanked for his work as Financial Officer and for the detailed presentation of the accounts and Bank Reconciliation. Proposed and seconded: BH / IO

11 FOOTPATHS / CEMETERY:

1 Cemetery

It was reported that the stones and soil had been removed.

2 Footpaths:

According to IO the path by Gardda in Nantperis is acceptable.

12. EXTERNAL REPORTS:

1. Grwp Adfywio Llanberis - Clerk's report:

The group met on May 5th and numerous reports were received. One important report was one detailing how GC will move forward with the administration of Parc Padarn and Dôl y Goeden with reference to large scale race events in the future. The area has been subdivided into 6 zones so that all events will not be happening on Cae'r Ddôl. Each submitted request will be weighted against benefits to the locality and the event will be monitored and documented for future reference should the same event request returning to the area. There was some mention of improving infrastructure but it was acknowledged that there will be parking problems for the next two years as work on replacing the cable from the power station continues. The matter was raised that many of the races were too big and that no race should have as many as 1,500 competitors as has been the case in the past. It was noted that GC had contacted local businesses to see if they could offer their service during the events so that local enterprises could benefit. Parking was also on the agenda with some pressure to include Glyn Rhonwy for parking.

There was a report on the Snowdonia Partnership and the response to this: there were over 50 at the Zoom meeting and over 198 local responses had been received in response to the transport issues. To resolve many of these problems calls for substantial investment but it is not known where this would come from.

Confirmation was received that the Electric Mountain building will be demolished and that Engie was in consultation regarding the future of the site. There will be ongoing renovations at the power station over the next 4/5 years as well as replacing the underground cables to the Pentir sub-station. This will affect the Lake Railway and traffic whilst the extra cables are laid.

The Slate Museum is reopening as Covid restrictions are lifted and there are on-going discussions regarding future financial investment in the Museum. GC are working on 8 areas to strengthen the economy and improve services following Covid. As restrictions are lifted, priority areas include traffic management and parking and prohibiting illegal overnight parking. It was noted that there is local concern about signs: too many signs, not always bi-lingual and some may have not had planning permission.

2. Y Ganolfan:

It was noted that an impressive mural to commemorate T Rowland Hughes, poet and author from Llanberis has been placed on the wall in the small hall in Y Ganolfan. The work was complemented and there was unanimous gratitude for it.

12 Y GOFEB:

There was a discussion regarding the plans and drawing received for the proposed memorial to the quarry workers. It was agreed to meet again within the week to further discuss the submissions. **[This was done and there was support for two submissions worthy of further discussion at the next Council meeting]**

13 NEXT MEETING:Date of the next meeting. Wednesday 9th June, 2021 at 7pm.

CYNGOR CYMUNED LLANBERIS		
Cysoni'r Banc 31 Mawrth 2021 / Bank Reconciliation 31.3.2021	2020	2021
Gweddill / In the Bank 01.04.2020	4818.16	4,059.85
(+) Derbyniadau / Receipts	34586.21	35,920.24
(-) Taliadau / Remittance	35344.52	23,312.06
Gweddill / In the Bank 31.03.2021	4059.85	16,668.03
Yn y Banc 31.03.2021		
Cyfrif Cyfredol / Current Account	6043.98	16,103.06
Cyfrif Cadw / Deposit Account	5363.67	5,365.97
	11407.65	21,469.03
	11407.65	21,469.03
Llai Sieciau nas talwyd / Uncleared sheques	7347.80	4,801
Gweddill / In the Bank 31.03.2021	4059.85	16668.03

Signed as a true record:

Chairman: Rhys ap Gwilym

Clerk: Dei Tomos

Date 09 June, 2021.