

MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 2023 MEETING

1 WELCOME

Minutes of the Council meeting held on Wednesday, 8th February, 2023 at 7pm in Y Ganolfan, Llanberis. The Chairman welcomed members and said that she was pleased to welcome TT back following his accident (LHP).

2 PRESENT AND APOLOGIES

Padarn Ward: Rhys ap Gwilym, Emlyn Baylis, Gwilym Evans, Heather L Jones, Kevin Morris Jones, Cllr. Kim Jones, Louise Price, Helen Sharp, Trystan Thomas.

Peris Ward: Iola Owen, Llinos Haf Pritchard,

Apologies: Nia Jones, Iwan Harding,

Also present: Dei Tomos (Clerk).

3 DECLARATION OF INTEREST:

Will be documented where appropriate

4 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES:

The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday, 11th January, 2023 were confirmed as a true record and were signed by the Chairman. Proposed and seconded: IO / HS.

5 MATTERS ARISING:

1. *Nantucha' Boardwalk Footpath:*

Despite the promise to meet with the Clerk to have a look at the footpath, nobody from Cyngor Gwynedd (CG) has been in touch.

2. *Pannel to appoint a Clerk:*

The Chairman reported that an advertisement would be published by the end of the week.

3. *Courses for Councillors:*

The Clerk has circulated the dates for courses by Un Llais Cymru (One Voice Wales) and had had some response.

4. *School Children's Safety:*

Ysgol Dolbadarn has responded to the letter sent about the concern for the behaviour of drivers taking their children to and from school. It was stated that the school is very aware of this concern and is trying to raise the awareness of the danger with both pupils and parents. A message has been sent to parents and carers reminding them of the dangers and that work was being done with the children to raise their awareness of danger posed by traffic. The letter was welcomed and it is hoped that the message would have the desired effect. However, some members were still doubtful that the level of danger had been stressed enough. The car drivers are responsible for causing danger, particularly those who park illegally.

5. *CG - Bwlch Maesgwm Footpath:*

It was reported that the Clerk had received a copy of the letter sent to CG from the Head Warden of the Eryri National Park Authority (ENPA) and that the letter stated that the footpath had been repaired at the earliest opportunity after the Christmas and New Year holiday.

6. *Training Courses and Members' Allowance:*

The Clerk reported that several members had said that they were going to attend courses, however one or two members stated that they didn't feel that the Welsh Government (WG) should insist that Councillors must attend courses. Some also objected vehemently that Councillors must accept the allowance for being on the Council. Earlier this year, this was accepted but that nobody would claim any further allowance for extra duties such as Chairman. It was agreed that every member would accept the allowance but they could donate it to the Council should they so wish. This would comply with legislation as decreed by the WG. Several members also expressed their concern about the increasing levels of interference with community council business and that this is leading to councils finding it difficult to recruit and retain members.

7. *Lower part of Yr Wyddfa footpath (Maes Derlwyn):*

To date, CG has not put up a sign to discourage drivers going to the bottom of the path before realising that there is nowhere to park. ENPA will put up a new gate by the cattle grid. This could stop some of the sheep wandering into the village!

8 Licensing for Brooke House, Stryd Fawr:

As a result of letters from Cllr. KJ and this Council, the request for very long licensing hours for the new shop in Brooke House (6 am to 2 am the following morning) the hours requested have been reduced but the applicant is still asking for a license to sell alcohol from 6 am till midnight. KJ and the Clerk had been invited to present the Council's objection to CG Licensing Committee on the 10th and will seek a further reduction in hours to follow the pattern of other shops with a license to sell between 8 am and 11 pm.

6 OTHER MATTERS:

1. Y Feddygfa (The Surgery):

This issue was discussed because several members had received complaints regarding difficulties getting through to the surgery in the mornings. It appears that is a matter of luck whether patients are able to contact the Surgery to make an appointment to see a doctor. One member reported trying for over an hour and a half one morning before being successful. It is acknowledged that many are ringing in the morning to make an appointment to see a doctor or other health care professional, especially in an emergency, but it seems that the current system of dealing with telephone calls is very unsatisfactory. It seems to be down to being lucky and even if the call is answered, and the appointment book is full it is not possible to make an appointment for the following morning, therefore the whole procedure starts off again the next day. The decision was made to write to the Practice Manager asking if a system of queueing could be set up so that the caller would at least know how many people were in front of them. Currently, the phone keeps ringing and eventually disconnects and the caller then has to start again.

It was also reported that it can be difficult to get an answer by ringing the doorbell. It is acknowledged that the service is under pressure, but with an improved system it could at least make the process easier. There was concern that some patients who really need to see a doctor may just give up. It was unanimously agreed to write to the Practice Manager.

2. Bench:

Cllr. KJ has received money from Rheilffordd yr Wyddfa (Railway) to go towards a new bench for the village. There was a discussion whether to replace an old one near Maes Padarn, but then it was decided that it would be better to repair the old one and find a suitable spot for a new bench. Members were asked to think about possible sites by the next meeting.

3. Boat (Amgueddfa Lechi):

The Council has been requested to attempt to get the old slate boat that was raised from the bottom of Llyn Padarn some time ago back to Llanberis. The boat used to be on display in Oriel Eryri. It is currently in storage at Amgueddfa Cymru / National Museum in Caerdydd but the Slate Museum would be an ideal place to display it. It was agreed to contact the Curator to ask if this would be possible.

4. Road to Coed Mawr:

KJ was asked to contact CG regarding the state of the road.

8 CORRESPONDENCE:

1. GC - Slateman Triathlon Race 2023:

Decision made to object to the closure of the A4086 between the car park in Nantperis and Penygwryd for this race. CG are proposing to close the road from 8.30 to 12.15 but members feel that this is too long a closure particularly since the race will take place on Saturday morning, June 10th. It is felt that this would have a significant impact on the Sherpa'r Wyddfa bus service and people wishing to go to Bwlch Llanberis (Pass) and Pen-y-Pas.

2. Work on the A4086:

Copy received of a letter from a CG officer to KJ following her meeting with CG officers and representatives of the companies involved with the work on underground ducts to carry the new electricity cables to connect the Power Station with Pentir and the national grid. The meeting had highlighted the frustration of drivers as works vehicles hold back the traffic. The meeting also focused on the fact that locals are often late for work or picking children up because of all the traffic lights. It was stated that there should be a designated point of contact so that any issues could be resolved quickly and that there is a need to discuss what will happen after Easter to coincide with the increased number of visitors. In the meantime, people should be aware of how important the work is and also be more prepared to allow more time for their journeys.

3. Eryri National Park Authority (ENPA)

Reminder that there is support available in some areas of the Park to improve traditional buildings and drop-in sessions arranged at Betws y Coed, Ogwen, and Maentwrog.

4. Llywodraeth Cymru / Welsh Government (WG):

The WG has just published, on line, the Ministerial Review of Play and the relevant Background Paper. On-line address: <https://www.llyw.cymru/datganiad-ysgrifenedig-adolygiad-gweinidogol-o-chwarae-cyhoeddi-adroddiad-y-grwp-llywio>

5. Save a Life Cymru:

Review of defibrillators, but this is not relevant because this Council is not responsible for any of the local ones.

6. Garden Party:

Letter asking if any Council members wish to be considered for an invitation to a garden party at Buckingham Palace.
No.

7 PLANNING:

CYNGOR GWYNEDD:

Members had been informed about the following applications.

- **C23/0023/15/LL** - Warehouse Glyn Rhonwy, Llanberis – *Full planning application for adaptations and extensions to Building 1 – No comments*
- **C23/0077/15/LL** - Bay 2, Maes Parcio y Glyn Car Park, Llanberis - *Full planning application (amendment to planning permission C22/0676/15/LL), to allow nine bays to be used for short-stay overnight in Y Glyn Car Park 2 Llanberis – No comments*

9 FINANCE:

1) In the Bank on 28th January, 2023

Current Account: £51,055.24

Deposit Account: £66.69

2) Payments confirmed:

CYFANSWM

£406.10

3) Received between 29/12/2022 and 28/01/2023:

Nil

Proposed and seconded: EB / HS

4) For information the Clerk stated that the cost of upgrading and putting up the Christmas lights this year had been £4,534, but donations towards the lights amounted to £3,229, the final cost to the Council was no greater than £1,305 out of a budget allocation of £2,000. We must thank Jason Jos Ltd. For all the work that Jason did to help the Council buy new lights and for putting them up, all free of charge.

5) Members' allowance:

There was a discussion about whether Councillors must accept the annual allowance. The majority felt that this was unfair and that it should be left for individual members to decide whether to accept or not. The Clerk would make further enquiries.

10 OTHER REPORTS:

1. Siemens Visit:

It was reported that the County Councillor KJ along with several members had visited the Siemens factory. They had been welcomed and informed about the company's operations and that they are about to create an extra 100 jobs.

11 NEXT MEETING:

Date of the next meeting: Wednesday 8th March, 2023 at 7.00pm in Y Ganolfan.

Signed as a true record: Chairman: Llinos Haf Pritchard Clerk: Dei Tomos

Date: 8 March, 2023