

## MINUTES OF THE MARCH 2023 MEETING

### 1 WELCOME

Minutes of the monthly Council meeting held at 7pm Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> March, 2023 in Y Ganolfan, Llanberis. Members were welcomed by GE the Vice Chairman who was in the chair because LIHP had warned that she would be late due to family issues.

### 2 PRESENT AND APOLOGIES

**Padarn Ward:** Rhys ap Gwilym, Emlyn Baylis, Gwilym Evans, Iwan Harding, Heather L Jones, Nia Jones, Cllr. Kim Jones, Louise Price, Helen Sharp, Trystan Thomas.

**Peris Ward:** Iola Owen, Llinos Haf Pritchard,

**Apologies:** Kevin Morris Jones

Also present: Dei Tomos (Clerk).

### 3 DECLARATION OF INTEREST:

Will be documented where applicable.

### 4 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES:

The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> of February, 2023 were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman. Proposed and seconded: EB / TT.

### 5 MATTERS ARISING

#### 1. *Nantucha' Boardwalk:*

Despite the fact that nobody from Cyngor Gwynedd (CG) had visited the site, the Clerk has spoken to an officer and stated that this council was unhappy that this path still has not been repaired and that it is in a dangerous state. According to the officer, GC is considering what should be done and is consulting with Eryri National Park Authority (ENPA).

#### 2. *Panel to Appoint a Clerk:*

It was reported that 4 people had shown an interest in the post but no applications had been received by the closing date. One person said that they would have sent an application but failed to do so due to personal circumstances. The person had assured the Clerk that they were interested and it was agreed to ask them to submit the application by the beginning of next week, and if the application was valid then the Panel would interview the candidate. The Panel will assess the candidate's qualification for the post and if satisfied, would recommend that the Council make the appointment. The applicant's name was not disclosed.

HLJ said that she did not support the process and felt that it lacked transparency and that the post should be re-advertised. A vote was taken and all members, except HLJ were in favour of acting on the outlined process. Proposed and seconded: IO / EB.

#### 3. *Councillor's Courses:*

It was reported that NJ, LP and IH had been on a course organised by One Voice Wales (OVW). As new members, NJ and LP felt that they had benefitted from attending the course.

#### 4. *Members' Allowance:*

The Clerk is now able to clarify that members can either accept or reject the allowance. The allowance for this year is £150 and every member must sign a form declaring that they will or will not be accepting the allowance. The Clerk had prepared the forms for members to complete and to declare whether they would be accepting the allowance or not.

#### 5. *Bottom of Yr Wyddfa path (Maes Derlwyn):*

The gate and the new sign have not arrived but ENPA have done some excellent work building two walls at Cadair Ellyll on the path.

#### 6. *Licensing Brooke House, Stryd Fawr:*

The Clerk reported that he and Cllr. KJ attended and presented evidence to a meeting of CG Licensing Committee. The Committee decided to grant the business a license to sell alcohol, but only between 08.00 until 24.00, despite the fact that the applicant had asked for even longer hours. The terms of this license are similar to those of other local shops, as this Council had wished.

## **7. The Surgery:**

Despite the Clerk writing to the Practice Manager soon after the last meeting to express concerns about the telephone arrangements to make an appointment to see a doctor in the mornings, no reply has been received. An e-mail was also sent as a reminder of the date of this meeting, but still no response. The Clerk was asked to contact the manager again.

## **8. The Slates Boat:**

The head of the Slate Museum Wales responded to the enquiry about the ancient slate boat that was raised from the lake and was on display at Oriel Eryri until it closed. This boat was raised from the lake in 1979 is dated between 1547 and 1549, but there is no evidence that it ever carried slates. Traces of horses and goats, grass and moss and some wool and charcoal found in the bottom of the boat would indicate that this was a 'general purpose' boat. There is a boat that was used to carry slates in the Museum in Llanberis. The boat was discovered in 1977 and it was raised, along with its load of slates from Llyn Padarn in January 1978. It is believed to have sunk any time between 1788 and 1824 and is currently being kept in the Cwt Loco. It needs considerable work before it can be displayed and it is believed that this can be achieved as the Museum is developed over the next few years. According to Elen Roberts, documentation from 1787 shows that the quarry paid 'boatmen', so it is possible that slates were being carried by boats then but there is no evidence of this happening in the 16<sup>th</sup> century.

## **6 OTHER MATTERS:**

### **1. Road works- National Grid and Morgan Sindall:**

Discussion took place following several comments from residents that nobody is listening to complaints about the roadworks between Llanberis and Pentir and the 5 sets of traffic lights. Some are saying that fewer people are visiting Llanberis, particularly on day trips and the inconvenience is causing frustration even though the majority realise the importance of the work.

It was agreed to invite representatives from both companies to the next Council meeting. The date will be changed to Tuesday, 4<sup>th</sup> April starting at 6.30 and hoping to complete the Council's agenda by 7.30 when the visitors will be welcomed. Members of the public are welcome to attend, but they must realise that this is a Council meeting and not a public meeting.

### **2. Sheep:**

Once again complaints have been received from all areas of Llanberis about the stray sheep and the increase in their numbers. Several reports have been received about flowers and gardens being destroyed and about sheep droppings on private paths. It was suggested that the council contacted the Rural Crime Team of North Wales Police to see if urgent measures could be taken to tackle this problem before the sheep bring their lambs into the village. It was also agreed to invite the farmer with the most sheep in the village to attend the May meeting of the Council.

## **7 CORRESPONDENCE:**

### **1. One Voice Wales (OVW)**

Note received to remind Councils that they have a statutory duty under Section 6 Environment (Wales) Act (2016) **'to seek to maintain and enhance biodiversity in the exercise of functions in relation to Wales, and in so doing promote the resilience of ecosystems, so far as consistent with the proper exercise of those functions'**.

Also, in order to conform the Council should **'embed the consideration of biodiversity and ecosystems into their early thinking and business planning, including any policies, plans, programmes and projects, as well as their day-to-day activities'**.

In accordance to the Law, a report must be produced every three years, with the latest reporting back on the period ending on the last day of December 2022. OVW's local officer is willing to help any Council in producing the report.

### **2. CG - Car Charging Points:**

Letter from the Environment Department CG stating that the Council had succeeded in gaining grant funding to install electric charging points for cars in several areas within the county, including Llanberis.

#### **3a. CG- Ras yr Wyddfa – Road Closure:**

Consultation regarding the intention to close the A4086 as well as several streets for the Race on July 15<sup>th</sup> this year between 13.50 and 1600. It was suggested that this was too lengthy a period and that traffic should be managed so that cars can move in one direction at a time during the afternoon.

#### **3b. CG - Ras Ultra Trail Eryri (Snowdonia):**

Another notification of road closure, this time for 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> May. Closure of section of the A4086 between the junction to Pont y Bala and the roundabout by the Victoria Hotel and on down Rhes Fictoria and Rhes y Faenol. Times 12.55.-13.10 on Friday afternoon 12<sup>th</sup> and for three periods on the 13<sup>th</sup>. Between 4.55 and 5.10, between 7.55 and 8.10 and 9.55 and 10.10. There were no objections to this since the periods of closure were very short but it is hoped that GC will remind competitors to keep quiet during the early morning hours.

#### 4. The Website:

Information that there will be a small increase in the cost of administering the website from the beginning of April.

#### 5. Diolch Am 20 / Thanks for 20:

Note that the group supports the move to slow traffic down in some areas, and that it will do its utmost to spread the word about the changes.

#### 6. CG – Double Yellow Lines - Llainwen uchaf:

Letter from CG asking if there was agreement regarding where the yellow lines would be in Llainwen Ucha'. There has been a delay because of local objections. Cllr. KJ reported that she had met several locals and they had reached an agreement that will hopefully resolve the problem, where inconsiderate parking means that emergency vehicles are unable to reach the street. It was agreed that KJ would contact the officer at CG so that the lines could be in place as soon as possible.

- Whilst discussing yellow lines, it was asked whether CG could re-paint the no parking lines by the gate to Ysgol Dolbadarn. KJ promised to make enquiries with the Council.

#### 7. Cymdeithas Pysgota Seiont, Gwryfai a Llyfni (Angling Society) - weeds Llyn Padarn:

According to a letter received from the Society's secretary, there is a great deal of concern regarding the discovery of the very invasive water plant *Lagarosiphon major* in the lake. The plant is considered dangerous, it spreads quickly and is in the same class as plants such as Japanese Knotweed which is bound by strict rules regarding its destruction and disposal. According to the Society, the plants need to be destroyed as soon as possible before it spoils fishing on the lake and impacts other activities and before it moves down the river. In Ireland, this plant has destroyed Loch Corrib entirely. It was agreed to write to CG and Natural Resources Wales to pass on the Angling Society's concerns and asking them to take action.

#### 8. GC - Stryd y Farchnad Sign:

Cllr. KJ had received a note from a CG stating that their officers will look at the location of the 'no entry' sign that should stop drivers coming off the by-pass and driving to the High Street. It is believed that the sign is too high and therefore not obvious to drivers and that this is why some come up the wrong way.

#### 9. Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales:

In the Report for the next financial year 2023-24 it states that an individual may decline or receive the Allowance, and this had been confirmed to the Clerk during a conversation with an officer from OVW. [See 5.4 above]

### 8 PLANNING:

#### Eryri National Park Authority:

#### NP3/15/102C – Engineering work to create a safe storage partially underground - Coed Gwydr, Nantperis

It was agreed that since this was only a notice and that the plans were not available for viewing on ENPA website, the Clerk will forward them by e-mail within the next few days. The Clerk will then document any comments and send them to the Eryri's Planning Department.

### 9 FINANCE:

#### 1) In the Bank on 28<sup>th</sup> February, 2023

Current Account: £51,055.24

Deposit Account: £66.75

#### 2) Payments Confirmed:

TOTAL ... ..

£24,117.37

#### 3) Received between 29/01/2023 and 28/02/2023:

TOTAL ... ..

£795.00

Proposed and seconded: RhaG / KJ.

### 10 OTHER REPORTS:

#### 1. Regeneration Group:

The Clerk reported from a recent meeting of the Llanberis regeneration Group. Issues discussed were transport, Parc Padarn, the Museum, Events, World Heritage Status and it was noted that funds will soon be available to help communities thrive.

### 11 NEXT MEETING:

Date of the next meeting: Wednesday, 12<sup>th</sup> April, 2023 am 7.00pm in Y Ganolfan. [Proposed meeting for the 4th was not held]

Signed as a True Record:

Chairman: Llinos Haf Pritchard

Clerk: Dei Tomos

Date: 12 April 2023