

## CYNGOR CYMUNED LLANBERIS

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### MINUTES OF THE MAY 2023 MEETING

#### 1 WELCOME

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Council held on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> May in Y Ganolfan, Llanberis. Vice Chairman Gwilym Evans welcomed members. Barry Davies who has been appointed as Clerk, was also welcomed. He will officially take over on June 1<sup>st</sup> but will shadow DT in the period leading up to the date and DT will also be supporting BD for the following month or two.

#### 2 PRESENT AND APOLOGIES

**Padarn Ward:** Gwilym Evans, Iwan Harding, Heather L Jones, Kevin Morris Jones, Nia Jones, Cllr. Kim Jones, Louise Price, Helen Sharp, Trystan Thomas.

**Peris Ward:** Iola Owen,

**Apologies:** Rhys ap Gwilym, Emlyn Baylis, Llinos Haf Pritchard.

Also present: Dei Tomos (Clerk).

#### 3 DECLARATION OF INTEREST:

Will be documented where relevant.

#### 4. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN and VICE CHAIRMAN:

Llinos Haf Pritchard was appointed Chairman and Gwilym Evans as Vice Chairman for the coming year with the suggestion that these appointments run for two years with the Vice Chairman stepping up following the retirement of the Chairman, but this will need to be reviewed annually. The decision was unanimous. Proposed and seconded: HLJ / KJ.

#### 5. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES:

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday, 12<sup>th</sup> April, 2023 were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman. Proposed and seconded: HLJ / HS.

#### 6 MATTERS ARISING:

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

Response from Cyngor Gwynedd (GC) stating that they were aware of the condition of the boardwalk and that it would not be cost effective to repair it, and that there was no money available to do any work. Due to the concern about the safety of the boardwalk, it was stated that CG will prohibit its use by the public. In the meantime, it was reported that CG had been discussing the future of the path with officers from Eryri National Park Authority (ENPA).

There were expressions of disappointment that CG have no plans to act at the moment, particularly when the main road is dangerous in this area. This is not the first time that this Council has raised the issue with the officers for footpaths and it is disappointing that money was not earmarked for the current financial year and there are no indications that money will be made available this financial year nor for the next one.

This Council had hoped that a suitable, convenient path would be created to take pedestrians from the ENPA car park to the Pass. Paths have been created in other areas of the Park where there are lesser concerns about safety than here. Not every walker wants to use the Sherpa bus service nor taxis to reach the mountains and the Pass. It was stressed that CG should be pressurised to resolve the problem and to look for support particularly in view of the fact that the Welsh Government is encouraging people to walk.

##### 2. *Courses for Councillors:*

EB, KMJ, NJ, LP, LHHP had attended a training course during the month.

The Clerk reported that he had contacted One Voice Wales (OVW) to ask why more courses are not through the medium of Welsh. The answer received was that there was not much call for Welsh courses and that the Welsh courses frequently did not have enough subscribers to warrant the expense of running them. But it was stated that if there was an assurance that 3 people would attend a particular course through the medium of Welsh then that would be viable. The Clerk suggested that the answer might be to liaise with other Councils to establish the critical mass needed for a Welsh course.

Pistyll Community Council had complained recently about the lack of courses in Welsh and the Clerk had shared the response received from OVW.

**3. Road works - National Grid and Morgan Sindall:**

It was reported that the head of the works from National Grid was not available to attend tonight's meeting. Numerous other dates were put forward by the company but none were convenient to the Council. The company also stated that they would prefer to hold the meeting at the Pentir Sub-station rather than in Llanberis. The Clerk was asked to liaise with the company for other dates for a meeting and it was agreed to go to Pentir. Proposed and seconded: TT / HLJ. When the meeting is arranged, every member is encouraged to attend bearing in mind the level of concern expressed by some residents.

**4. Cymdeithas Pysgota Seiont, Gwyrfai a Llyfni -weeds in Llyn Padarn:**

Response received from Natural Resources Wales (NRW) recognizing the significant concerns regarding the weed *Lagarosiphon major* and reporting that it has been present for a few years but that it had increased recently. It is a plant from southern Africa and is very invasive and likely to have come from a garden or on footwear or a boat. NRW are still investigating the matter. It is known that it spreads through pieces of the plant being carried rather than by seeding and that it has been present since 2016. It is also present in Llyn Myngul, Tal-y-llyn in Meirionnydd. There is concern that this species could compete for space on the lake shore with *Luronium natans*, but there is insufficient evidence to show that the plant could affect the Char. This plant should be viewed as invasive as the rhododendron in the oak forests of Eryri. It is stated that the only way to eradicate the plant is to physically remove it from the water and that there is no known weedkiller.

The effect of the small increase in water temperature in Afon Bala as a result of the hydro plan, is unlikely to have created a better environment for the plant and that the water conditions in the lake are better than years ago. The algae of 2009 was recalled but the levels of nutrients and phosphates are much lower now and that the water quality for swimming and paddling is 'excellent'. The CG manager for the lake responded, mainly quoting NRW. Additionally, he added that NRW will be trying to establish the extent of the spread, discussing eradication with CG and if that is not successful, considering how best to limit the spread. There is also a plan to discuss with CG how to communicate with the public since there is a wider interest in the lake. The letter was welcomed and any developments will be viewed with interest.

**5. Pavement by Bron Eryri, Nantperis:**

It was reported that the Clerk had spoken to the owner of the property and was informed that she would be trimming the trees and cutting their tops soon. She also said that she had permission from ENPA to cut off some dead branches on a tree at the back of the house that are hanging over into the Cemetery.

**6. Income From Car Parks:**

It is understood that a percentage of the income from only one car park is given to this Council by CG. The Clerk was asked to contact CG regarding income from the other car parks in the community. Proposed and seconded: KJ a KMJ.

**7 OTHER MATTERS:**

**1. Cemetery:**

It was agreed to establish a committee to consider the future of the Cemetery as space becomes limited. The members will be GE (Chairman), IO, LP, HS, KMJ. The first meeting will be in Y Ganolfan at 7pm, Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> May.

**2. Castell Dolbadarn:**

There has been a significant increase in the amount of litter being left in the Castle car park just off the A4086 in Pentre Castell. According to LP, the land is owned by the Victoria Hotel and it was agreed to write to Guto Parry, one of the company's directors to ask if it would be possible to prevent cars and camping vehicles from accessing the site. The Clerk agreed to write the following day before the director's meeting in the evening.

**3. New Policies:**

The Clerk presented guidelines policy for Biodiversity and Training. These were accepted although one member felt that they lacked detail. The Clerk commented that there are several instances of similar vague policy documents. There will be an opportunity to review the policy in future. Proposed and seconded: IO / KJ.

**8 CORRESPONDENCE:**

**1. SNPA - Eryri Communities Fund:**

Circular announcing the establishment of a new fund for the benefit of communities in Eryri. The intention is

to spend money on green infrastructure, improved access to recreation for health and wellbeing, generating energy, de-carbonisation and environmental improvements such as litter and waste management and to develop communities and the Welsh language.

The capital grants for those eligible will be between £5,000 and £20,000

### **2. SNPA Community Councillors Webinar -Review of Local Development Plan**

The authority is organising a Webinar for up to two members of the Community Councils to start discussing the review of the Local Development Plan 2016-2031. This will be a full review following the partial review of 2019. The meeting with officers from the authority's Policy Team will take place via Zoom at 7.30pm, Thursday June 8<sup>th</sup>.

### **3. GwyrddNi:**

Details of Cynulliad Dŵr a Thir Dyffryn Peris under the aegis of GwyrddNi to be held in Ysgol Brynrefail, Llanrug between 10.00 and 13.00 on June 10<sup>th</sup>.

### **4. GC - Ardal Ni 2035 Bro Peris:**

Meeting in the Ganolfan between 4 and 6pm. This will be the second meeting to prepare for the new Gwynedd Regeneration Framework. Bro Peris is one of 13 areas involved. The Clerk stressed the importance of this meeting and appealed for members to attend.

### **5. Valuation Agency:**

The Clerk had completed the form which is submitted periodically in relation to rent, lease and ownership.

## **9 PLANNING and LICENSING:**

### **CG - Planning:**

**C23/0342/15/LL – Land by the A4086, opposite the entrance to Llwyncoed, Cwm-y-glo – Construction of a temporary vehicle access (for up to 12 months) with white lines and related structure, to support the work relating to the new electricity line Dinorwig -Pentir.**

*No objections.*

### **CG - Licensing:**

Application by **Becws Melyn Cyf** to Gwynedd Council for a licence to sell alcohol in a restaurant/café to open in 41b Stryd Fawr, Llanberis. The application is for a licence to sell spirits etc. between 12.00 and 22.00 every day, and a music license from, 8.00 to 22.00.

Unanimous. *No objections*

## **10 FOOTPATHS / CEMETERY:**

Arrangements to be made when the panel meets before the end of the month to survey headstones for safety.

## **11 APPOINTMENT OF INTERNAL AUDITOR**

It was agreed to ask Gwynedd Council's Internal Audit Service to undertake the Internal Audit as in previous years. Proposed and seconded: HLJ / NJ

## **12 FINANCE:**

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

**Current Account:** £44,219.28      **Deposit Account:** £66.88

### **2) Payments Confirmed:**

**TOTAL ... .. £2,210.35**

### **3) Received between 29/03/2023 and 28/04/2023:**

**TOTAL ... .. £400.00**

Monthly balance sheet proposed and seconded: IH / LP

The Clerk presented the annual balance sheet for the year ending on the last day of March. The documents circulated by e-mail before the meeting included Money received, Expenditure, Bank Reconciliation and Expenditure against Budget. The remaining balance £14,800.75, (see Bank reconciliation but note that the cheque for £4,000 had not been cashed (see explanation in May minutes 2021/8.1) and other for £75, the remaining balance was therefore greater at £18,875.77 with two cheques worth £692.00 not cashed.

Again, this year there was substantial spending on outdoor facilities for the community with the emphasis on

children. Equipment for children under 5 was bought to replace the old wooden train as well as a new double swing for older children. The cost was over £24,000. There was also an investment in new Christmas lights for the street lamps in Llanberis and the lights in Nanperis. The Clerk was thanked for his presentation and for his usual care and attention with the budget. It was agreed that the Clerk sign the Annual Form for the Annual Audit and forward all the necessary papers to the Internal Auditor.

Proposed and seconded: TT / KMJ

<b>CYNGOR CYMUNED LLANBERIS</b>		
<b><i>Cysoni'r Banc 31 Mawrth 2023.</i></b>		
<b><i>Bank Reconciliation</i></b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>
<b>Gweddill 01.04.2022 - In the Bank</b>	16,668.03	<b>7390.67</b>
(+) Derbyniadau Receipts	61,142.82	67553.45
(-) Taliadau Payments	70,420.18	56068.35
<b>Gweddill 31.03.2023 / Balance</b>	<b>7,390.67</b>	<b>18,875.77</b>
<b>Yn y Banc 31.03.2023 / In the Bank</b>		
Cyfrif Cyfredol / Current Account	11,399.15	19500.96
Cyfrif Cadw / Savings Account	66.52	66.81
	11,465.67	19,567.77
	11,465.67	19,567.77
Llai Sieciau nas talwyd / Uncleared cheques	4,075.00	692.00
<b>Gweddill 31.03.2023 / In the Bank</b>	<b>7390.67</b>	<b>18875.77</b>

**14 NEXT MEETING:**

Before deciding on the date of the next meeting, Dei Tomos was thanked for his work as Clerk for about twenty years. He thanked the members for the meal arranged for him and the painting presented to him. He had appreciated the supper in Ty'n Llan and is hoping to be able to appreciate the photograph of Dolbadarn Castle for years to come. He will be attending the next meeting to support the Clerk.

Date of the next meeting: Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> June, 2023 in Y Ganolfan.

**Signed as a true record:** Chairman: Llinos Haf Pritchard

Clerk: Dei Tomos