

## DOLGELLAU TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Dolgellau Town Council held from afar on Tuesday, March 2, 2021 at 7.00 p.m.

**PRESENT:** Councillor Delwyn Evans - Mayor  
Councillors John Cadwaladr; John Raghoobar; Ywain Myfyr; Sion Edwards;  
Jo Checkley; Linda Morgan; Dyfrig Siencyn; Heilyn Williams; Bob Gunton and  
Branwen Rhys-Dafydd

Mr Rhys Williams – Clerk

**ALSO PRESENT:** 1 x member of the Press  
3 x members of the public

**C65.2020/2021 APOLOGIES**  
No apologies received.

**C66.2020/2021 DECLARATION OF PERSONAL INTEREST PERTAINING TO ANY INFORMATION REGARDING THE MEETING**

Received the following declarations:

Name	Item	Reason
Linda Morgan	NP5/57/867A	Family nearby
Bob Gunton	“ “ “	“ “
Branwen Rhys-Dafydd	“ “ “	“ “
Bob Gunton	C63.2020/2021.2	Member of Football Club
Ywain Myfyr	“ “	“ “ “

None of the above took any part in the discussion or vote on the listed matters.

**C67.2020/2021 PROPOSAL TO SUSPEND STANDING ORDERS**

**Presented:** Proposal to suspend the Council's Standing Orders so as to discuss planning matters as the next item on the agenda and to allow input from the members of the public who were present.

**Resolved:** Authorise and support this proposal.

**C68.2020/2021 PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

Replace up-and-over garage door with stone wall and window

The Old Smithy, Cader Road, Dolgellau. LL40 1RY

Application Type: Full

Application Number: **NP5/57/T591**

Grid Reference: 272547.8 317671.3

**TOWN COUNCIL'S COMMENTS:**

**Support the application on the basis it will improve the appearance of this historical building.**

**AMENDED PLANS RECEIVED**

Demolition of former school building, erection of five supported living units, one support unit/office and associated works

Hen Ysgol Glanwnion, Aran Bridge, Dolgellau. LL40 1HW

Application Type: Full

Application Number: **NP5/57/867A**

Grid Reference: 273005 317779

**TOWN COUNCIL'S COMMENTS:**

**The Council still strongly objects this Development at the proposed site and is therefore keeping to the original comments on the Application.**

**The amendments have not responded to the parking problems in the area nor to the increase in footfall this change will cause.**

**There will also be an increase in the level of traffic in the nearby area along Aran Road and Aran Bridge.**

**The Council's general feeling is that it is a clear example of "Over-developing" the proposed area and the site is not suitable for the suggested purpose.**

The Council's standing orders were re established

**C69.2020/2021 TO ACCEPT AND CONFIRM MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON FEBRUARY 2, 2021**

The above minutes were accepted and confirmed.

**C70.2020/2021 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES AND PREVIOUS MINUTES**

**1. C59.2020/2021 Arrangements for 2021 Christmas Lights**

**Presented:** Feedback from Councillor Bob Gunton explaining that the lights working group is about to commence discussions with the electrician regarding Christmas 2021.

Also received a breakdown of Gwynedd Council's invoice for their work for Christmas 2020.

**Resolved:** Accept the information and to authorise payment of Gwynedd's invoice for £1,353.38 + VAT.

**2. C63.2020/2021.1 Dolgellau Football Field - Lease**

**Presented:** Feedback from the Clerk explaining he had started discussions with the Council's solicitor on leasing the field to the Football Club. The Council needs to agree on setting a rent and related conditions.

**Resolved:** Set up a lease with Dolgellau Football Club for an initial period of 7 years at a rent of £1 a year and authorise the Council's solicitor to draw the conditions of the lease which will protect all the Council's benefits.

**3. Bee Support Scheme**

**Presented:** Report from Councillor Bob Gunton on the work done by Bro Idris School to set up a bee friendly garden. Also referred to the Senedd's road grass cutting programme which will be more bee friendly.

**Resolved:** Write to Gwynedd Council encouraging them to adopt this programme subject to ensuring road safety.

**4. Gwynedd Car Park Income Scheme**

**Presented:** Feedback from the Clerk explaining that Gwynedd Council's formal agreement now needs to be completed and signed.

**Resolved:** The Mayor and the Clerk to action this in accordance with the Council's decision. Noted Councillor John Raghoobar and Linda Morgan's objections.

**C71.2020/2021 FINANCIAL SITUATION AND TO ACCEPT THE PROPOSED BUDGET FOR 2021/2022**

The financial situation was received from the Clerk and the following payments confirmed:

Date	Cheque No	Name	Description	Sum £
01.03.2021	103938	Rhys Williams	March 2021 Salary & Stamps reimbursement	307.05
04.03.2021	103939	Cyngor Gwynedd	2020 Christmas Light s Works	1624.06
04.03.2021	103940	Mr Paul Ford	Repairs To Flower Tubs	35.00

The proposed revenue budget for 2021/2022 was accepted and adopted.

## **C72.202/2021 INFORMATION SHARING SESSION AND REPORTS**

### **1. Reports from Town Council Members**

- a) **The Mayor** – complaints from vulnerable people regarding vehicles restricting access for wheelchair users / prams etc in areas around the Free Library / Flower Shop in the Square. Need to mark a designated walk way on the surface of the road / pavement in these areas.  
**Resolved:** Bring the problem to the attention of Gwynedd Council's Covid Group.  
Despite complaints on social media, it was noted the Skate Park is tidy.
- b) **Councillor Sion Edwards** – tidying dog poo bags.
- c) **Councillor Ywain Myfyr** – need to move along with a snagging list for the Marian pavement.
- ch) **Councillor Branwen Rhys Dafydd** – rubbish bin has disappeared from Ffordd y Felin - **Councillor Linda Morgan to follow this up.**
- d) **Councillor Heilyn Williams** – meeting of One Voice Wales – Area Committee.
- dd) **Councillor Jo Checkley** – Area Committee One Voice Wales – Local Government Act 2021 will designate more responsibilities to Community Councils. This needs attention.  
A 'repair shop' scheme is to be set up to reduce the attitude of a 'throwaway society'  
Work also with the Christmas lights and flags for the town.
- e) **Councillor John Cadwaladr** – voluntary work with Covid vaccine sessions.  
25/2/21 – meeting of Llandrillo College. Still complaints of flood water in Pencefn area.
- f) **Councillor Bob Gunton** – enquiries with the Council's website provider, is it possible to set up a webcam on the website?

### **2. Reports from Gwynedd Councillors**

- i) **Councillor Linda Morgan**

Now a member of Gwynedd Council's Elderly and Health Committee. Presented work to repair flower box and arrange flowers for the Spring/Summer. Brownies are also going to help this year. Thanks to the doctors and volunteers for their work with the Covid vaccine.

Dealt with enquiries on housing needs and 3 tenant transfers. Concerned about homeless and the failures in the housing needs plan for Dolgellau residents.

There are still problems with dogs fouling in several areas in the town.

Programme for postal votes for May 2021 now in place.

The town's drains need attention.

A large tree has recently fallen across Ffordd y Gader.

Problem of mess and rubbish near Ffordd Glyndŵr / Hospice shop.

Drawn attention to the need to remove some of the signs around the town – many are old / irrelevant.

Arrangements in place for regular checks of the Skate Park.

Continuing to promote local business on social media.

Need a list of the CCTV in town - Councillor Heilyn Williams to action.

## **ii) Councillor Dyfrig Siencyn**

Full Meeting of the Council on March 4, 2021. Proposal to increase Council Tax 3.7%. Increase premium on second homes will also be discussed.

Covid – Gwynedd and Anglesey at currently at the top of the list with the highest number of cases. The disease is spreading through the County.

Implications of the Local Government Act 2021 needs looking at.

Gwynedd's work on distributing grant to businesses - 17,000 businesses received support. Total of £93m distributed – the same amount as Cardiff Council.

Recent meeting of the Rural Forum – Gwynedd drafted sustainable principles for future tourism in the County. Foresee a substantial increase in the number of visitors once the country opens up again.

Accepted the reports with thanks.

## **C73.2020/2021 CORRESPONDENCE**

- 1. Advice from One Voice Wales – exclusion rules for Councillors absent from Council meetings**

**Presented:** Circular explaining the above. Mr Ray Stubbs falls into this category due to his situation since Covid lockdown, he therefore is no longer a Councillor.

**Resolved:** Accept the information and to send a letter of thanks and appreciation to Mr Stubbs. The Clerk to inform Gwynedd Council of this empty seat and move ahead to advertise the current 2 x additional empty seats, via the co-opt process.

**2. Dolgellau Sports Clubs**

**Presented:** Copy of a letter from the above to the Head of Bro Idris School noting concerns and the possibility that the school multi-purpose / sports fields will be used for a different purpose in the future i.e., a bus exchange.

**Resolved:** Support the concerns of the letter to the School.