

DOLGELLAU TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Dolgellau Town Council held on Tuesday, June 3, 2025 at the Fre Library, Dolgellau at 7.00 p.m.

PRESENT: Councillor Bob Gunton (Mayor)
Councillors John Cadwaladr, Jo Checkley, Peter Jones, Ray Peters,
Ywain Myfyr, Dyfrig Siencyn, Branwen Rhys Dafydd, Jessica John.
Mr Rhys Williams – Clerk

C.21.2025-2026 PUBLIC SESSION
Nothing to report.

C.22.2025-2026 APOLOGIES
Apologies for absence received from Councillors Nia Evans, Heilyn Williams and Llinos Rowlands.

C.23.2025-2026 DECLARATION OF PERSONAL INTEREST ARISING FROM ANY INFORMATION RELATING TO THE MEETING
Declaration of interest received from Councillor Jessica John regarding an item in Correspondence – financial request from Cylch Meithrin Dolgellau.

C.24.2025-2026 TO ACCEPT AND CONFIRM MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON MAY 6, 2025
The above minutes were accepted and confirmed.

C.25.2025-2026 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

1.1 MATTERS RAISED FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

1. Ffynnon Fair Wood

Presented: Invoice from the company 'Bois Bontnewydd' for the work on the above site. Has it been paid? Also to contact the contractor RW Britland regarding the need to cut brambles at the site at least twice a year, the first cut to be done as soon as possible.

Resolved: The Clerk to look into this and follow up.

2. Permanent Memorial – Penmaen Lake

Presented: Written feedback from Councillor Nia Evans that the planning application is now in place to set up this permanent memorial.

Resolved: Accept the information.

3. Parking problems between the HSBC bank and the Hospice shop in the Square

Presented: No progress on this issue at the moment.
Accept the information. Keep on the agenda.

4. Community Involvement Programme

Presented: Update on several action points from the October 2023 Council meeting, being:

i) Arrange an inquiry to establish a dedicated Exhibition Board for the Council:

Presented: Quote accepted and confirmed at the February 2025 meeting of the Council. Pre-planning application (if needed) has

now been presented to the attention of the National Park. The Clerk to contact the Park to confirm it is not a listed building. Accept the information. Keep on the agenda.

Further matters raised:

- ii) **Skate Park**
Nothing to report at the moment.
Resolved: Accept the information.
- iii) **Public seats – review**
Presented: Report from the Mayor explaining the five public seats had now been placed in the appropriate places.
Resolved: To receive the report and to fulfil the repainting work for some other benches around the town.
- iv) **Public Entertainment Licence for the Square**
Presented: No progress at the moment.
Resolved: Accept the information.
- v) **Vehicle on the “Lawnt”**
No further report to hand.
Resolved: Councillor Dyfrig Siencyn to keep an eye on this.
- vi) **2025 Christmas Lights**
Presented: Nothing new to report at the moment.
Resolved: Accept the information with thanks.

C.2025-2026.2

Dolgellau town centre regeneration scheme - Lindsey Elis and Elen William from Gwynedd Council in attendance

Presented: Report from the above officer explaining that their unit is now responsible for the County's Community Plan, including support for the programme to set up Community Hubs across the County.

Explained that the structure of local hubs varied from one area to the other with the importance to focus on what works for the ward. The County is willing to contribute £6,000 to such schemes this year and also in 2026-2027. Possibility to finance development officer to co-ordinate events at the Free Library (especially the 'Lle yn y dref' scheme) also promote information on local events and referrals to supporting organisations. This is on the basis on employing one self-employed person. Asked whether the Town Council would be willing to undertake further discussion on this matter?

Resolved: Accept the information with thanks and for the Council's Town Centre Development Group to meet on Tuesday June 10, 2025 at the Free Library, to move this matter forward.

C.26.2025-2026

FINANCIAL SITUATION

Received and confirmed the financial situation from the Clerk.

Resolved: The Clerk to include monthly balances in the accounts from now on.

1. Reports from Town Council members

- i) **Councillor Bob Gunton (Mayor)** - notice given that a meeting of the Free Library Sub-group will take place at the Free Library on 17 June, 2025 at 7.00 p.m. with the caretaker / bookings clerk in attendance.

Reminder for everyone to use the Traditional Phone Box in order to protect it. Have made us of it, and so has the Clerk.

Attention drawn to the need for the Council to set strategic targets for 2025-2026.

Resolved: Arrange a special meeting of the Council during July 2025 to discuss this.

- ii) **Councillor Ray Peters** – notice for attention that the double yellow lines near Ivy House are not being enforced. Also, the drainage grids by 'Waterloo' shop have sunk - need attention.

Resolved: Action these items.

- iii) **Councillor John Cadwaladr** – work involving 'Lle yn y Dref' scheme. Meeting of Trustees of Dr Daniel Williams. Also attended with Councillor Peter Jones. Local meeting with the Police where local crime statistics were shared. Also discussed, the current situation with the town's CCTV, which currently is a local voluntary system and not the responsibility of the Town Council. Noted there are three options to move this venture forward, being:

1. Keep to the current management arrangements.
2. The Police to take over management of the current equipment.
3. The Police to upgrade the system with new equipment (Police can finance this) and manage the equipment which will be set up in the Police Station at Dolgellau.

Resolved: To support any scheme by the Police to improve the current system.

- iv) **Councillor Peter Jones** – feedback that the event to celebrate 'VE Day' had been a success.

- v) **Councillor Jessica John** – work in hand to set up a Blue Plaque on Plas Newydd. Town's Family Centre – no monies available from the National Lottery. Application for finance to be presented to Gwynedd Council.

- vi) **Councillor Ywain Myfyr** – have met with officer Huw Thomas regarding the new use of the old 'Wilkins' shop. Need to press on RW Britland to cut the brambles at Ffynnon Fair wood twice a year. Have presented an application to Gwynedd Council for a further grant for improvement works to the Pavilion on the Marian. Meeting of the Aran Group and archaeological work on the wool sites in the area. New implications on the horizon for public events with an audience of more than 800. Arrangements will be required to protect against terrorism. Attended a meeting of the Partnership. Drew member's attention to the connection of Quakers from Wales in Pennsylvania due to the history of Quakers in Dolgellau, specifically Bryn Mawr building.

C.28.2025-2026 REPORTS FROM GWYNEDD COUNTY COUNCILLORS

Councillor Dyfrig Siencyn

Recent event where part of Ffordd y Gader had to be closed – further closure to follow. Scheme within the County's Education Service to set up a new health and welfare service for teachers and support staff to support them better. Work on re-building Dolfeurig Centre – a new sub-contractor has been appointed. Meirion / Dwyfor College – event on the Marian. Notice that the Urdd Eisteddfod will be coming to the Meirionnydd area in the future. New Head of Elderly Services has been appointed.

Questions – noted the need to set up double yellow lines by the Flower Shop in the High Street. Councillor Dyfrig Siencyn to action.

C.29.2025-2026 CORRESPONDENCE

Presented: Request for financial assistance from Dolgellau Cylch Meithrin.

Resolved: Contribute £2000 to the cause.

C.30.2025-2026 PLANNING MATTERS

Nothing to report – Planning Application for the Llyn Penmaen memorial has been received but no observations from the Council as they are the applicant.