

DOLGELLAU TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Dolgellau Town Council held from afar on January 5, 2021 at 7.00 p.m.

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

Mr Rhys Williams – Clerk

ALSO PRESENT: 1 x member of the Press
4 x members of the public

C47.2020/2021 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence was received from Councillor Ray Stubbs.

C48.2020/2021 DECLARATION OF PERSONAL INTEREST PERTAINING TO ANY INFORMATION REGARDING THE MEETING

The following declarations were received:

Name	Item	Reason
Linda Morgan	NP55/57	Family close by
Branwen Rhys Dafydd	" "	Lives close by
Bob Gunton	" "	Family close by

None of the above took part in any discussion on the matter. Councillor Dyfrig Siencyn also noted that the application was within his Electoral Ward.

C49.2020/2021 PROPOSAL TO POSTPONE THE COUNCIL'S STANDING ORDERS

Presented: Proposal to suspend the Council's Standing Orders in order to discuss planning applications as the next agenda item to allow input from members of the public who were present.

Resolved: Authorise and support this proposal.

C50.2020/2021 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Dymchwel hen adeilad ysgol, adeiladu pum uned byw â chymorth, un uned gymorth/swyddfa a gwaith cysylltiedig

Hen Ysgol Glanwnion, Pont yr Aran, Dolgellau. LL40 1HW

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

Hen Ysgol Glanwnion, Pont yr Aran, Dolgellau. LL40 1HW

Math Caniatad: Llawn

Application Type: Full

Rhif Cais / Application Number: NP5/57/867A

TOWN COUNCIL COMMENTS / OPINION:

Strongly object the application on the basis of:

A) Clear Planning Issues

Considering that there is no sufficient additional parking in the plans, the Council is of the opinion that **further** parking problems will clearly be created in the area under consideration. This will also impair and affect

the residential Parking Scheme which is currently available to residents across from the location.

The Council does not agree with the statement that the unit / site footfall will **reduce** following the demolition of the current school, as it has been empty for years.

Concerns regarding the privacy of residents of the New unit and neighbouring residents.

Concerns of overdeveloping the site / size of land available.

Further pressure on local public services e.g. national health service as well as several other support services.

The Council questions whether the New purpose for the site is indeed suitable or practical for the area?

The priority should be provision of permanent affordable housing for local people rather than this purpose.

B) Other matters / factors

The Council has received several letters of objection which reflects local concern for the application. This is the highest number of letters the Council has ever received. These letters will also be forwarded to you.

There is no detail explaining who **exactly** the client group for this unit are. What **exactly is the definition of 'vulnerable'** in regards to the client group, **whoever this client group is?**

Concerns regarding the assurance of high and consistent standard of management of the site following previous historical experiences of engagement and communication with estate agents / special needs groups.

**Amnewid garej Llwyn Mafon, Garreg Feurig, Dolgellau, LL402YA
Replacement garage Llwyn Mafon, Garreg Feurig, Dolgellau, LL402YA**

Math Caniatad: Llawn

Application Type: Full

Rhif Cais / Application Number: NP5/57/1164

SYLWADAU / BARN Y CYNGOR TREF:

Dim Gwrthwynebiad / No Objection

Rhif Cais / Application Number: NP5/57/867A

Caniatad Adeilad Rhestredig i osod uned tynnu aer or gegin ar lefel y llawr uchaf ar wal dalcen yr edrychiad Gorllweinol yn ogystal a newidiadau manylion drws uwchben y grisiau allanol gyda'r ddau banel isaf strwythur Louver. Gosod uned tynny aer a rhan uchaf ffenestr ochr dde a strwythur Louver i'r gegin llawr daear gyda gwydr anhysbys drychiad Gogleddol.

Y Sospan, Llys Owain, Dolgellau.

Listed Building Consent to fix extraction fan to Kitchen on first floor level West gable wall and change of detailing to accommodate louvered panels to lower section of door above external stairs. Fix extractor fan and louverd upper section to kitchen window ground floor level, with obscure glass to lower part North Elevation.

Y Sospan, Llys Owain, Dolgellau.

Rhif Cais / Application Number: NP5/57/LB172F

Cyfeiriad Grid / Grid Reference: 272782 317817

SYLWADAU / BARN Y CYNGOR TREF:
Dim Gwrthwynebiad / No Objection

**C51.2020/2021 TO ACCEPT AND CONFIRM MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON
DECEMBER 1, 2020**

The above minutes were accepted and confirmed subject to the following:
C44.2020/2021 1. ch) Councillor John Raghoobar's Report:
The surface of the road near the old court needs **urgent** attention.

C52.2020/2021 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

- 1. C42.2020/2021.1 Arrangements for 2020 Christmas Lights**
Presented: Final feedback on the above. This year's arrangements have been a total success. Councillor Bob Gunton and the workgroup were thanked for their hard and thorough work.
- 2. C42.2020/2021.2 Meetings regarding measures against Covid-19**
Presented: Feedback from the Mayor on the latest meeting held on 22.12.2020.
The bus company are undertaking work to clear the depot near 'Doldir' in order to extend what is available.
Bus shelters are being considered. Noted problems arising with bus timetables between different drivers e.g., some go to the square to drop passengers off and other drivers go straight to the depot for a break before going to the square.
Resolved: To receive the report.
- 3. C44.2020/2021 d) Lack of Yellow Lines above Bro Idris Primary School site**
Presented: Note reminding that this needs attention.
Resolved: For Councillor Dyfrig Siencyn to action.

C53.2020/2021 FINANCIAL SITUATION

The financial situation was received from the Clerk. Reported on a payment of £11,005 received from the Council's Bank for bank charges paid over several years without reason.
Agreed to hold a meeting of the Council's Finance Sub-committee on January 19, 2021 at 7.00 p.m.

The following payments were accepted and confirmed.

Date	Cheque No	Name	Description	Sum £
10.12.2020	103918	Wendy Owen	Translation November & December 2020	169.25
14.12.2020	103919	Geiriau Gwyn	Translation, September, October, November, December 2020	864.00
24.12.2020	103920	David Bradley	Cancelled Cheque	0.00
02.01.2021	103921	Rhys Williams	January 2021 Salary / Stamps & Telephone allowance	432.96
06.01.2021	103922	David Bradley	Tree works – Ffynnon Fair (replacing cheque 103920)	1500.00

C54.2020/2021 SESSION FOR SHARING INFORMATION AND REPORTS

1. Feedback and Reports from Town Council Members

- a) **The Mayor** – work with Christmas lights and Coed Ffynnon Fair. Supported the idea of bestowing thanks on front line workers for working throughout the Covid Pandemic. **The Mayor to action.**
- b) **Councillor John Raghoobar** – programme of work for cutting the grass in the Town Park is now in place. The surface of the road in front of the bus shelters needs attention - several ‘pot-holes’. **Councillor Dyfrig Siencyn to action.**
- c) **Councillor John Cadwaladr** – meeting of measures against Covid-19. Need to write to the Highways Service regarding the missing salt bin at the top of Pencefn and the gritter no longer goes to the Pencefn area. **The Clerk to action.**
- ch) **Councillor Ywain Myfyr** – work on Christmas lights and measures against Covid-19. Need an update on the CCTV cameras for the town. Also need to move on with discussion with the Football Club regarding the ownership of the football field and hold a meeting of the Marian.
- d) **Councillor Jo Checkley** – regional meeting of One Voice Wales – presentation on new audit arrangements. Financial support available for two members to attend courses. Authorise Councillor Jo Checkley and one other member to take advantage of this.
- dd) **Councillor Branwen Rhys Dafydd** – collected rubbish around the Ffordd y Felin area.
- e) **Councillor Bob Gunton** – work on preparing a maintenance scheme for Coed Ffynon Fair. Christmas trees and lights will be down by the end of the week. The Clerk preparing a letter of thanks for the town businesses / individuals who supported this work this year.
- f) **Councillor Sion Edwards** – collecting medicines for the elderly / vulnerable.

The reports were received with thanks.

2. Reports from local Gwynedd Councillors

- a) **Councillor Linda Morgan**
Well, I hope you have all had a nice Christmas. Very quiet I am sure. May I wish you all a Happy and Healthy New Year and I hope things improve quite soon.

I would like to thank all the businesses who worked hard to provide a service to all. Thanks to all those who are still open and providing essential items.

Thank you to all the volunteers for everything they have done. They have put their contact details on Facebook again so if anyone needs help, they just need to phone them.

I have had a few meetings since I last spoke to you.

The problems with the dog mess is ongoing, in fact it has been very bad the last 2 weeks. I have contacted Peter Simpson to report the recent problems and asked if we can have a warden to monitor the areas. I have continued to place bags and posters in problem areas. I have asked for another box of bags. When they arrive, I will ask Bob Gunton if he can take some to Pen Y Banc and South Street.

I have had a complaint re someone throwing stumps out of a flat window on to a public pavement in Bridge Street, over 50 stumps to date. I have requested that the area be cleaned and I will monitor the area. I have suggested maybe a letter to the person in the flat? That will be up to the Officer, Mr Peter Simpson.

I have cleared the poppies from the two containers by the Free Library. I need someone to move them back to the old Information Centre, that is where we have a licence to keep them. Any offers?

The damaged slate container will be fixed by a neighbour this is by the Free Library. The other slate container with flowers in memory of Jennifer Hully are still doing well. This is to stay by the Free Library.

I have spoken to the College and the spring flowers will be done for March, the daffodils to be ready for St David's Day.

I have helped with housing issues for local people these are still ongoing.

Before Christmas I joined with Bethan Wyn Roberts who is the new Community Connector for Adults Health and Wellbeing for the South Meirionnydd Community Resource Team to take some gifts to some of the elderly in the town and one gift was given to a volunteer who does not want to be named.

Christmas Day, I took another box of goodies to the volunteer who had helped many elderly people in the Y Lawnt area. He has come over an illness himself and still continues to help people with shopping etc, although he does not want to be named, he has said yes to me contacting ADRA the Housing Association.

I would like to thank Councillor Bob Gunton and his team for the fantastic displays we had in the town, thanks to all the businesses who decorated their windows for Christmas.

Thank you to the Park Committee for the very pretty colourful lights again this year as people travelled down the Bridge, they could see them, so nice.

I will continue to monitor the buses when the Covid restrictions are clear. As it is important the buses continue to come to the town Bus Stop in Eldon Square from all areas. I can assure you I will let you know of any problems.

I have also dealt with some confidential important issues via e mail

I have dealt with some issues re lack of DATA on the Council Website re information on refuse collection dates. If you come across any please let me know. It is the one where you put the Post Code in to get information.

I will be meeting up with Bethan, when it is safe to do so, to discuss Age Cymru in the area, or I will be speaking through Zoom or e mail if things take a long time to improve re COVID.

As you all know I am sure the COVID numbers today are very grim 60,916 new and 830 deaths. What a concern. Please stay safe, take care, keep in touch with people you know. If they need help, there are volunteers who will help them. Hopefully the vaccination process will be well managed.

I have been busy supporting the businesses through Social Media and Facebook and will continue to promote the businesses that are open and providing a service. There is a lot of support for the Businesses.

b) Councillor Dyfrig Siencyn

Work at the Free Library has now started, financed by the Council and the THI grant scheme – good news.

Concerns regarding Covid-19. Gwynedd figures are low which is good news but need to keep a sharp eye as the situation could change any minute. Vaccine programme in the pipeline. Grant scheme of £77m to Gwynedd businesses. This has put a large strain on the Council's finance staff, Economic Development and track and trace staff.

The reports were received with thanks.

C55.2020/2021 CORRESPONDENCE

1. General Correspondence

- a) Snowdonia National Park – Tree Preservation order No 77, 2020, Pen Cefn Uchaf
- b) Dr Daniel Williams Education Fund – accounts and Annual Report 01/10/2019 – 30/09/2020.