

DOLGELLAU TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Dolgellau Town Council held on Tuesday, March 5, 2024, at the Free Library, Dolgellau at 7.00 p.m.

PRESENT: Councillor Ywain Myfyr – Mayor
Councillor Bob Gunton – Deputy Mayor
Councillors Branwen Rhys Dafydd; Ray Peters; John Cadwaladr; Nia Evans; Jo Checkley; Sion Edwards.
Mr Rhys Williams – Clerk

ALSO PRESENT: Bethan Williams, Officer from Gwynedd Council's Older People Department.

C80.2023/2024.1 PUBLIC SESSION
No member of the public present.

C81.2023/2024.2 APOLOGIES
Apologies for absence received from Councillors Heilyn Williams, Dyfrig Siencyn, Peter Jones.

C82.2023/2024 DECLARATION OF PERSONAL INTEREST PERTAINING TO ANY INFORMATION REGARDING THE MEETING
No declarations received.

C8.2023/2024.2 Bethan Roberts, Officer from Gwynedd Council's Older People Department
Received from the above background on the efforts to set up community hubs throughout the county, which will include the Free Library site in Dolgellau. **See the presentation under Appendix A.**
Resolved: Set up a sub-committee to be chaired by Councillor Nia Evans to investigate models to employ a Co-ordination Officer for Dolgellau. Nia Evans to have the authority to determine the membership of this sub-committee and to visit other Hubs in the County. Travelling costs to be reimbursed.

C83.2023/2024 TO RECEIVE AND CONFIRM MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON FEBRUARY 6, 2024
The above minutes were accepted and confirmed.

C84.2023/2024 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

1. **Football Field lease for the Football Club**
Presented: Nothing further to report. The Clerk to call into the local solicitor's office to sign the agreement. The previous Mayor, John Raghoobar, to also sign the agreement when convenient.
Resolved: Accept the information.

1.1 **MATTERS RAISED IN PREVIOUS MINUTES, ITEMS IN BLUE: Resolved:** Request feedback from Councillor Dyfrig Siencyn

2. **Y Felin Uchaf Wildlife Garden**
Presented: Need a copy of the new agreement with the volunteers to share with Council members.
Resolved: Accept the information.

3. **Pen y Banc footpath**
Presented: No progress at the moment.
Resolved: Accept the information.

4. **Permanent Memorial – Penmaen Lake**
Presented: No progress at the moment.
Resolved: Accept the information.

5. **A470 path between Cwt Gwyn / Ffridd Arw Woods to Tanyfron**
Presented: No progress at the moment.
Resolved: Accept the information. Keep on the agenda.

6. **Parking problems between the HSBC bank and the Hospice Shop in the Square**
Presented: No progress at the moment.
Resolved: Accept the information.

7. **Community Involvement Programme**
Presented: Update on various action points from the October 2023 Council meeting, being:
 - i) **Arrange an inspection to set up specific Notice Boards for the Council:**
Presented: Feedback from the Clerk that he is processing a request for pre-planning advice prior to full planning application.
Resolved: Accept the information.

 - ii) **New twinning signs**
Presented: It is possible that a pre-planning application may not be required for the above. Update to follow.
Resolved: Accept the information.

8. **The County's Residential Parking Scheme**
Presented: No progress at the moment.
Resolved: Accept the information.

C85.2023/2024

FINANCIAL SITUATION

The financial situation was received from the Clerk including confirmation that the application for repayment of VAT for the year 2022-2023 has been sent to HMRC.

C86.2023/2024

SESSION FOR SHARING INFORMATION AND REPORTS

1. Reports from Town Council members

- i) **Councillor Ywain Myfyr (Mayor)**
Dolgellau public wi-fi

I am pleased to announce the Menter Môn Technician has completed the technical work inside Tŷ Siamas. The router has been placed in the corner of Tŷ Siamas and will project a signal to other buildings around town. I believe, we are now quite near to having a free public wi-fi for the town.

Free Library

I recently received a request from an organisation who wanted to book the Free Library to borrow technical offer from Tŷ Siamas – the digital projector and screen. It is usual for this offer to be available in public location and available for the users.

I believe we, as a Council, should acquire a projector.

Likewise, money has been spent to improve the Free Library, but we have the opportunity to make much more use of this building. There are several rooms in the house, for example we could hire as an office if appropriate or as hot desks, by the hour. It is also an opportunity to raise funds.

- I would like to suggest we do this.

St David's Day

Over the weekend an evening was held to celebrate St David, our Patron Saint in Tŷ Siamas and I was present in the service to establish our new Vicar, the Rev Doctor Carol Roberts in the Church on Sunday.

Nevertheless, you would scarcely know it was St David's Day in the town. Wouldn't it be good, as a Council, to celebrate March 1st in an appropriate way. Some towns arrange a march or event to note St David's Day, unfortunately we did not see one banner flown in Dolgellau and as Bob has shown with the Christmas lights anything is possible with a bit of effort and perseverance.

- What if we, as a Council, made a special effort to celebrate St David's Day in 2025.
- ii) **Councillor Branwen Rhys Dafydd to enquire about a price for curtains for the Free Library**
Resolved: Accept the price of £730 – Group 1 for 2 x rooms in the Free Library with wooden curtain poles.
Continuing work with collecting rubbish in the park.
 - iii) **Councillor Bob Gunton** – safety brackets for the town's flag poles.
Resolved: Arrange a tender advert for this work.
Continuing to investigate advert for Dolgellau Pirate Radio.
Awaiting prices for a 36-foot artificial Christmas tree for Christmas 2024. Work to rebuild part of the Coed Ffynnon Fair wall is ongoing.
 - iv) **Councillor Nia Evans** – work on 'Lle yn y Dref' continues to go from strength to strength.
 - vi) **Councillor Jo Checkley** – dealt with a complaint about the town's surgery.
 - v) **Councillor John Cadwaladr** – volunteered with work on 'Lle yn y Dref'.

2 Reports from Gwynedd Councillors

Nothing to report.

C87.2023/2024 CORRESPONDENCE

1. Dolgellau Guides and Brownies
Presented: Application for annual financial contribution from the above.
Resolved: Contribute £400

C88.2023/2024 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Nothing to discuss but agreed for the Clerk to enquire with National Park regarding the current situation on the number of planning applications for the area.