

## **DOLGELLAU TOWN COUNCIL**

Minutes of the Meeting of Dolgellau Town Council held from afar on Tuesday, July 6, 2021 at 7.00 p.m.

**PRESENT:** Councillor John Raghoobar – Mayor  
Councillor John Cadwaladr – Deputy Mayor  
Councillors Sion Edwards; Bob Gunton; Ywain Myfyr; Dyfrig Siencyn; Sue Irlam; Branwen Rhys Dafydd; Richard Jones

Mr Rhys Williams – Clerk

**C23.2021/2022 APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence received from County Councillor Linda Morgan and Councillor Heilyn Williams.

**C24.2021/2022 DECLARATION OF PERSONAL INTEREST PERTAINING TO ANY INFORMATION REGARDING THE MEETING**

No declarations were received.

**C25.2021/2022 TO ACCEPT AND CONFIRM MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON JUNE 1, 2021**

The minutes were accepted and confirmed.

**C26.2021/2022 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

**1. C20.2021/2022.1 Christmas Lights**

**Presented:** Update from Councillor Bob Gunton regarding volunteers undertaking some elements of the above work.

**Resolved:** For the Clerk and Councillor Bob Gunton to follow up on this matter.

**2. C20.2021/2022 Ffynnon Fair Woodland**

**Presented:** Observations from the Mayor that the coppice needs a new gate.

**Resolved:** To authorise this work and the expenditure.

**3. C20.2021/2022 Flags – Town Park**

**Presented:** Feedback from the Clerk confirming that he had responded to a further letter from Mr G. Roberts, 7 Felin Uchaf confirming again that the Town Council is not responsible. Also sent a copy of Gwynedd Council's flag policy for his attention.

**Resolved:** Accept the information.

**4. C22.2021/2022 1a) Problem of dog fouling**

**Presented:** i) Further letter of complaint from the residents who live at 14 Henfaes.

**Presented:** ii) Report and feedback from the Responsible Manager at Gwynedd Council.

Councillor Dyfrig Siencyn reported that Gwynedd Council's Cabinet will be discussing arrangements for special efforts as a matter of urgency.

**Resolved:** Accept the information.

**C27.2021/2022 FINANCIAL SITUATION AND TO APPROVE THE INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT FOR 2020/2021 AS WELL AS TO APPROVE THE COUNCIL'S ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT AND ACCOUNTS FOR 2020/2021.**

**Resolved:** Accept the financial situation from the Clerk and approve the audit report and the 2020/2021 Annual Governance Statement.

**The following payments were also approved:**

Cheque No	Date	Name	Description	Sum £
103955	04.06.2021	Zurich Municipal	Annual Insurance	959.35
103956	08.06.2021	Inland Revenue	PAYE May 2021	71.67
103957	02.06.2021	Rhys Williams	June Salary 2021	286.65
103958	18.06.2021	Geiriau Gwyn	Translation April 2021	144.00
103959	01.07.2021	Rhys Williams	July Salary 2021 / Stamps / Tel Allowance	352.47

C28.202/2021

## SESSION FOR SHARING INFORMATION AND REPORTS

### 1. Reports from Town Councillor Members

#### a) **The Mayor**

Feedback and update on the urgent steps taken to close the Skate Park for health and safety reasons. Work now started on assessing grants.

**Resolved:** To Put up a sign stating that the park is closed and for the Clerk to inform the Council's insurance company.

13/6/21 – rubbish collection effort

Assist with Covid vaccines.

Meeting with the local Dog Warden

8/7/21 – Further meeting about the Skate Park

b) **Councillor Jo Checkley** – the old radiators at the Free Library are to be sold for £35 each. The Clerk to invoice the buyer. Work maintaining the town's flowers is ongoing.

c) **Councillor Branwen Rhys Dafydd** – thanks for the town Park resource and rubbish collection campaign.

ch) **Councillor Ywain Myfyr** – rubbish collection and arrangements for virtual Sesiwn Fawr/ new mural for Ty Siamas.

d) **Councillor Sion Edwards** – work with the Skate Park, collecting rubbish, maintenance of flowers.

dd) **Councillor Bob Gunton** – work to set up a webcam on the Council's website.

**Resolved:** For the Clerk and Councillor Bob Gunton to be responsible for the content of the website's news page.

e) **Councillor John Cadwaladr** – complaint about a tall tree at the bottom of Pencefn – **Councillor Dyfrig Siencyn to action.**

f) **Councillor Sue Irlam** – received complaints about parked vehicles prohibiting individuals who have residential parking permits from being able to park - **Councillor Dyfrig Siencyn to action.**

### 2. Reports from Local Gwynedd Councillors

#### a) **Councillor Linda Morgan**

Email to Dylan at Coleg Meirion Dwyfor regarding the flowers in the town. I have thanked him and his staff and the students from the ILS

Individual Learning Skills Dept for all their support over the last few years. I have had a nice email back thanking me.

Telephoned re Skatepark to see if they can give you a price.  
Emailed Rhys with the telephone details.  
I have not had a reply but this may have gone to the new Councillors now in charge

Email regarding concern dogs/cats at a property in the northern side of town. Details confidential, but passed on to Moira Duell Parri at Gwynedd Council.

Promoting the Town Bus re social media and Facebook, giving copies of the timetables out to people who are interested in this very important service. Just to note the people using this service at the moment rely on it to travel from A to B. We need more people to use this service.

It travels from Eldon Square via Eurospar, Town Library, Co-operative, Wenallt, Penycaeau, Dolgellau Hospital and Uwch Y Maes and then back to Eldon Square. The Bus Drivers are very kind and helpful to the passengers.

Housing Concerns - I am pleased to say one of many people I have been supporting recently has finally had a flat in the town. He was very disappointed for over 12 months in the lack of contact from ADRA and no replies re his correspondence/photos etc. This was a very poor service to this gentleman who is in poor health.

I will say again we need bungalows built in Dolgellau, this would then enable people in social housing in Dolgellau to transfer from their homes which could then be allocated to local young people and people with families.

Chair- Can I have your support as a Town Council in the Housing concern and need for bungalows to be built.

Emailed a Homeless Officer and arranged a meeting with a resident and three officers to discuss that person's concerns.

Attended a zoom Meeting 28th June. Extraordinary Meeting of the Council

Attended a second zoom meeting on 28th June

Meeting - the Process of reviewing the Local Development Plan. As you know there are many reasons local people are deprived of living in local community. Every possible measure will be taken as it is a long timetable.

All details are available on line for you to read.

Visited a new business - Caffi'r Sgwar, Eldon Square to wish a young local man, Osian Llyr, all the best in his new business. I promote his business on social media as well as others in the town.

Visited Gwyndy, as you know Carol has sold her business and has now closed her Shop, Bistro and Tea Room. They have provided an excellent service for a few years and will be missed.  
Hopefully it will open again soon with new owners.

Had a Zoom Meeting with the female Councillors of Gwynedd Council

Received more bag dispensers for dog owners, placed more in areas of concern in the town.  
More new posters up also.

Spoken to Steffan at Gwynedd Council re Craig Dobbins, they are planning on placing a container at Dolgellau recycling site for Craig to use. As you know he has been a very keen on recycling for many years and has raised money for various charities through his recycling. It should be in place and ready to use in the next two weeks after discussing signage.

Attended a Zoom meeting re Care and Elderly, discussed Dementia and Housing for Special needs etc Reports on line for you to read.

Attended a Summer Fete at Dolfeurig to support them.

It was a lovely visit to Gwenyn Prysor, met up with some of the organisers, they were very busy selling stock, variety of cards, raffles, tombola, bric and brac and cakes. They also served cakes and coffee. They are hoping to organise a Christmas fair in December before they close.

They are looking forward to the £1.2 m investment in a new community centre.

They provide Day Care Service giving individuals with learning disabilities the opportunity to attend social events and learn new skills. The staff are brilliant and are looking forward to the new centre being built, which will include a shop and cafe for the public to use, a craft workshop, sensory room, training kitchen etc.

It will be brilliant for the service users and will create new jobs.

Congratulations must go to all the staff for their kindness and dedication to the service users.

Next Gwynedd Council meeting this Thursday for full Council via zoom

Sent email regarding double yellow lines by HSBC. Not sure why they have Resolved this. They must have had complaints.

Disappointed Gwynedd did not let me know and ask my view.

As I said, in the last Town Council meeting I attended, it is important this area is kept without parking restrictions, we will need the area for drop off and occasional parking by Free Library Users including disabled, mental health meetings, possible Welsh classes, possible elderly social events. I said at the time, a corridor of lines painted wide enough for a wheelchair user down the middle would work well. There are a couple of people using the area to park as they have mobility issues and live nearby.

There are too many yellow lines in Dolgellau, not everyone has the luxury of a drive or garage or area to park on their property.

Yellow lines are only needed to prevent obstruction and safety etc

Lots of complaints regarding buses not dropping off at Eldon Square. Drivers saying it is because of Town Council. Chair - I am not aware of Town Council saying this, the committee only asked for the changeover to be moved. Can this be corrected?

It is important for pick up and drop off to be in Eldon Square, bus users rely on the buses to come to the town centre for surgery appointments, shopping, picking up prescriptions, use of toilets in cafes and the Gwynedd toilet for public use at the Royal Ship Hotel. Available seating when they get off the bus. Cafes to go to for a cup of tea etc

We need the buses to continue to pick up and drop off at Eldon Square to bring local people and visitors in to shop in Dolgellau from Wrexham area, Aberystwyth area, Porthmadog area, Tywyn area etc etc

They also use the many cafes and restaurants we have in our lovely town.

**b) Councillor Dyfrig Siencyn**

Feedback on the improvements to the Free Library. £10,000 grant received for new furniture.

Second homes a major concern for Gwynedd Council.

Meeting of the Cabinet today – equality subject and decision to freeze price of school dinners for the next year.

Covid cases are on the increase throughout the County, especially amongst the young ones.

Comments

- i) Road surface near the old court needs urgent attention.
- ii) Is it possible for the recycling centre to stay open later during the week?

**Councillor Dyfrig Siencyn to action both matters.**

**C29.2021/2022 PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

Listed Building Consent to remove existing structural ties and external plates on front and rear elevations, introducing structural measures to ground floor transferring loading to basement level anchoring front wall to cross walls and length of floor joist levels by a 'façade retention system', reinforcing bed joints to cracking North elevation. Re-introduction of front entrance, new rear entrance for wheelchair access to rear. Removal of window front elevation, new limestone stairs within bay reinstating the recessed entrance and all associated works. Ramp to rear entrance, extend height external stair wall leading to basement, 2 limestone risers and simple iron handrail. Internal re-planning, removal of shop fittings, new partitions to tea/coffee and meeting rooms and space to hire, w.c. accessed through new structural opening, glazed screen to retail area, entrance to committee unit, w.c to bottom of stairs to rear entrance, removal of part internal wall to window height to meeting room, re-position door entrance on fire lobby, new kitchen, w.c. and 'en-suite' bedroom to rear. 2 'en-suite' bedrooms to front, bedroom and separate bathroom to rear on 2nd floor level. 3rd Floor level additional 4 'en-suite' bedrooms, insulation to external walls, roof and attic, removal of lath and plaster to existing partitions and re-cover with plywood and fire resistance plasterboards. 5 New conservation type rooflights, 4 external through roof slate vents. Including all fire protection to stairs and means of escape, fire protection to all floors, doors and partitions. All associated work in connection with all services and drainage, electrical, heating system combined heat and power and new gas boiler located in outbuilding, hot water storage tanks in basement, ventilation and moisture management system, battery storage and energy management units within basement level

**W.D. Wilkins, Bridge Street, Dolgellau. LL40 1AS**

**TOWN COUNCIL COMMENTS; NO OBJECTION**

**Change of use from A1 shop and part residential or dwelling to floors above to Class E - Commercial, Business and Services E(c)(iii) – retaining part commercial ground floor. Form new entrance to Conference Service unit on first floor with kitchen and ‘en-suite’ bedroom. Additional 6 ‘en-suite’ bedrooms and a further bedroom and separate bathroom located on the second and third floors. Removal of window to front elevation and forming new recessed entrance, new ramp for wheelchair access to rear of building. 4 no. conservation type rooflights, 4 through roof slate ventilators, new gas boiler unit within rear outbuilding and all associated works**

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