

## DOLGELLAU TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Dolgellau Town Council held on Tuesday, May 7, 2024, at the Free Library, Dolgellau at 7.00 p.m.

**PRESENT:** Councillor Ywain Myfyr – Mayor  
Councillor Bob Gunton – Deputy Mayor  
Councillors Ray Peters, John Cadwaladr, Nia Evans, Jo Checkley, Sion Edwards, Dyfrig Siencyn, Peter Jones, Peter Barnes, Heilyn Williams, Jo Checkley.  
Mr Rhys Williams – Clerk

**C.9.2024-2025 PUBLIC SESSION**  
No members of the public present.

**C.10.2024-2025 APOLOGIES AND NOTICE OF 2 X VACANT SEATS**  
Apologies received from Councillor Branwen Rhys Dafydd. Also, received notification of resignation as a member of the Council from Mr John Raghoobar and Mr Richard Jones. Follow the usual process to fill the vacant seats.

**C.11.2024-2025 DECLARATION OF PERSONAL INTEREST PERTAINING TO ANY INFORMATION REGARDING THE MEETING**  
No declarations received.

**C.12.2024-2025 TO RECEIVE AND CONFIRM MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON APRIL 9, 2024**  
The above minutes were accepted and confirmed.

**C.13.2024-2025 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

- 1. Officer from the Elderly Department Councillor Bethan Williams**  
Reported that the above officer has recently changed jobs. Bethan Williams will be the point of contact for the Council from now on.

**1.1 MATTERS RAISED FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES, IN BLUE:**

- 1. Pen y Banc footpath**  
**Presented:** Councillor Dyfrig Siencyn reported the process for registration will go ahead but it will be a long one. Discussions going ahead regarding repairing the footpath surface. Any evidence members have of any repairs by Gwynedd Council would be useful.  
**Resolved:** Accept the information.
- 2. Permanent Memorial - Llyn Penmaen**  
**Presented:** Update from Councillor Dyfrig Siencyn that the National Park is interested to jointly fund any permanent memorial if the Town Council is willing to jointly pay for the repairs to the railway 'Signal Box' on the site.  
**Resolved:** Note no interest in this offer. Councillor Dyfrig Siencyn to contact the National Park's Architect regarding the possible design for the Memorial and for the Town Council to write to Mr Peter Watts to report this update.
- 3. A470 path between Cwt Gwyn / Ffridd Arw Wood to Tanyfron**  
**Presented:** Update from Councillor Dyfrig Siencyn explaining that Gwynedd Council will look at the speed restriction situation of this

stretch of road. Consideration is also being given for an unofficial footpath along this stretch.

**Resolved:** Accept the information. Keep on the agenda.

4. **Parking problems between HSBC bank and the Hospice Shop in the Square**

**Presented:** No progress to date. The matter will receive attention after the local consultation.

**Resolved:** Accept the information.

5. **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. Research ongoing regarding design based on a traditional Notice Board.

**Resolved:** Accept the information. The Clerk and the current Mayor to work together on this.

ii) **New twinning signs**

**Presented:** Quote received for £141.00 each for the 2 x new signs.

**Resolved:** Accept the quote and place an order. Councillor Peter Barnes is co-ordinating this.

**C.14.2024-2025 FINANCIAL SITUATION**

The financial situation was received from the Clerk. Initial arrangements for independent audit for 2023-2024 also in hand. Confirmed the current Mayor's proposals for contributions via the budget of £850 for the year, being.

<b>Marchogaeth i'r Anabl</b>	<b>£100</b>
<b>Carnifal Dolgellau</b>	<b>£300</b>
<b>Dol Drum</b>	<b>£200</b>
<b>Grwp yr Aran</b>	<b>£100</b>
<b>Lle yn y Dre</b>	<b>£150</b>

**C.15.2024-2025 SESSION FOR SHARING INFORMATION AND REPORTS**

**Reports from Town Council members**

i) **Councillor Ywain Myfyr (Mayor)**

**Town Centre Scheme**

You will remember I mentioned several times about Dolgellau Town Scheme. You have also received a copy of a booklet which gave the scheme out to tender by Rhys with a pack for this meeting. Five companies tendered for the work, and I was recently part of a panel which chose the successful tender.

I am pleased to announce that the local company –Tylwyth was successful. I am sure Tylwyth will be in touch soon to

arrange to meet with the Council to move things along with this scheme.

#### Public Wi-fi

As the work on Tŷ Siamas has been completed, and I had not heard anything further from Menter Môn regarding the wi-fi for the town. I contacted Paul Sandham for an update. It appears there is a problem with the electric poles on the Marian, waiting for Gwynedd Council to change the pole so it can move ahead. Otherwise, everything is in place, but Gwynedd must do this work before the wi-fi can go live.

#### Beer Festival

It was great to see the town's businesses recently working together to arrange the Beer Festival. I believe it was a success in regards bringing people into the town, and for the businesses themselves.

It is also good to see new businesses setting up in the town. A successful opening night was had at Y Fforc, Corc a'r Plu and the DD bakery is settling in well after moving to the other side of the Square.

#### Other

I was present at the recent darts final, and I am of course looking forward to the Carnival of Saturday and the Football Club Festival on Sunday. In mentioning the Football Club, we, as a Council, should congratulate them on a successful season, they came in the top five of the third tier Welsh football League.

#### Drains

Ffordd y Gader – several. Plas Gwyn is the worst.

Tylau Mair – Love Lane. Several

Mount Pleasant

Also, several drains in the centre of town.

**Resolved:** County Councillor, Dyfrig Siencyn, to contest the matter of a fee for the 'Indian Takeaway' on the Marian car park which is to do with the Dolgellau Carnival next weekend.

- ii) **Councillor Bob Gunton** – awaiting quotes for the new artificial Christmas tree for 2024 including a price from Gwynedd Council for anchor points for the tree. Progress also in extending the safety bollards near the junction of Ffordd Bodlondeb / Ffordd y Gader.
- iii) **Councillor Nia Evans** – work on 'Lle yn y Dref' continues to go from strength to strength. Also, had an opportunity to visit the repair work to the old 'Wilkins' shop - super repair work and design. Opportunity to combine employing 1 x post for here and the Free Library.
- iv) **Councillor Jo Checkley** – met the new owner of Bont Llyn Penmaen. Will attend a meeting of One Voice Wales Regional Committee tomorrow night. Pleased to see good work happening at the old 'Val Wilkins' shop and the Cymro shop.

- v) **Councillor Sion Edwards** – the Estyn audit in the College has been completed. Promising report received.
- vi) **Councillor Peter Jones** – regarding re-building part of the wall near Ffynnon Fair wood. A price from the contractor of the owner of the nearby building is on its way.
- vii) **Councillor Ray Peters** – Observations that the gates/gate posts at Ffynnon Fair wood have decayed substantially.  
**Resolved:** To commission Mr Richard Britland contractor to assess.

## 2 Reports from Gwynedd Councillors

### i) **Councillor Dyfrig Siencyn**

Referred to the Dolgellau regeneration plan (Placemaking Plan) the plan to establish improvement options for the area should a budget become available from any source.

Reported on the developments of the website called 'Dewis Cymru' which will be a digital portal to advertise local events and information of who does what. Dolgellau will be included in this scheme.

Have had a meeting with the Minister for Transport, Ken Skates, discussed changes to the 20-mph scheme and the Welsh Government road review scheme. Have also emphasised the need to look again at the future of Llanbedr airfield, what is Welsh Government's vision on this?

Gwynedd Council's Annual Meeting will be held on May 9, 2024, with the appointment of the youngest Chair to undertake this role.

Financial illustration – there will be no increase in services over the next three years due to the general financial situation. There is a void of £18m over the next three years.

Attention is being given to the Council's asset scheme and capital programme, a budget of £6m a year. A sum which is definitely not enough to respond to the needs.

A review has taken place regarding the Council's elderly services, noting the substantial increase in need due the number of people born in the 50-60s. A similar review will happen with the Council's children services.

The reports were received with thanks.

## **C.16.2024-2025 GOHEBIAETH**

1. **Presented:** Example of Community Council communication template of Aberdyfi local information and who is responsible for what.  
**Resolved:** For the Clerk and Councillor Peter Barnes to work together on developing a similar template for Dolgellau.

**C.17.2024 – 2025 PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

Tŷ Llew, Lion Street, Dolgellau. LL40 1DG

Listed Building Consent to display business name on the shop fascia and window

Application Type: Listed Building Consent

Application Number: NP5/57/LB393J

Grid Reference: 272771 317853

**Resolved:** Welcome the sign dependant on it being suitable and in Welsh.