

DOLGELLAU TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Dolgellau Town Council held on Tuesday, January 9, 2024, at the Free Library, Dolgellau at 7.00 p.m.

PRESENT: Councillor Ywain Myfyr – Mayor
Councillor Bob Gunton – Deputy Mayor
Councillors Peter Jones; Dyfrig Siencyn; Branwen Rhys Dafydd;
John Raghoobar; Ray Peters; Peter Barnes; John Cadwaladr; Nia
Evans.
Mr Rhys Williams – Clerk

C64.2023/2024.1 PUBLIC SESSION
No members of the public present.

C65.2023/2024.2 APOLOGIES
Apologies for absence received from Councillors Jo Checkley, Sion
Edwards, Heilyn Williams, County Councillor Linda Morgan,

**C66.2023/2024 DECLARATION OF PERSONAL INTEREST PERTAINING TO
ANY INFORMATION REGARDING THE MEETING**
Received the following declarations:

Name	Item	Reason
Branwen Rhys Dafydd	Report on the Urdd's application for funding	Works for the Urdd

**C67.2023/2024 TO RECEIVE AND CONFIRM MINUTES OF THE MEETING
HELD ON DECEMBER 5, 2023.**
The above minutes were accepted and confirmed, with the
condition that some elements of County Councillor Dyfrig Siencyn's
report is changed.

C68.2023/2024 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

- 1. Football Field lease for the Football Club - Councillor Nia
Evans Chaired**
Presented: Update on the lease in question.
Confirmed: The work on adapting the wording in some
elements of the lease from the original version is in hand.
Councillor Dyfrig Siencyn willing to assist.
- 2. Y Felin Uchaf Wildlife Garden**
Presented: Need a copy of the new agreement with the new
volunteers in order to share with Council members.
Resolved: Accept the information.
- 3. Pen y Banc footpath**
Presented: Feedback from Councillor Dyfrig Siencyn
reporting that Gwynedd Council are trying to solve this
problem by designating this path as a public footpath/road.
Resolved: Accept the information. Councillor Dyfrig Siencyn
to update ex-councillor Tecwyn Owen on this matter.
- 4. Permanent memorial – Penmaen Lake**
Presented: No progress on this at the moment.
Resolved: Accept the information.

5. **Recent Moto Camps event – Pencefn Area**
Presented: Feedback from Councillor Dyfrig Siencyn, there is no further consultation / discussion at the moment as no further complaints have come to light.
Resolved: Accept the information. Remove from matters arising for now.

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

7. **Parking problems between the HSBC bank and the Hospice Shop in the Square**
Presented: The suggestion to set up 1 x double yellow lines in the above area to overcome this problem, is ongoing.
Resolved: Accept the information. Keep on the agenda.

8. **Community Involvement Programme**
Presented: Update on various action points from the October 2023 Council meeting:
 - i) **Arrange an inspection to set up a specific Notice Board for the Council:**
Presented: Feedback from the Clerk that he has sent an example of what they have in mind to the National Park in respect of any planning requirements. Explained the process of pre-planning application for advice will need to be followed.
Resolved: Agree with this process .

 - ii) **New Twinning Signs**
Presented: Second discussion on adding 2 x further twinning signs based on the amended design which has already been put on 2 x new signs.
Resolved: Follow the process of presenting a pre-planning application for advice. Councillor Peter Barnes to share details of the two locations in mind.

9. **The County’s Residential Parking Scheme**
Presented: Discussion regarding the general structure of this scheme by Gwynedd Council but specifically requests by residents of Cae Tanw Bach for the area to be included within the current residential parking scheme.
Resolved: Support the consultation for setting up the area of Cae Tanw Bach within the current scheme.

C69.2023/2024 FINANCIAL SITUATION / FEEDBACK FROM WALES AUDIT INSPECTION ON THE COUNCIL’S ACCOUNTS FOR 2022-2023

The situation was received from the Clerk and the following payments confirmed:

Date	Cheque No	Name	Description	Sum £
02.12.2023	104142	Rhys Williams	Repayment of wage increase net April - November 2023 and December 2023 net wage	758.40
18.12.2023	104143	Wendy Owen	October to December 2023 translation	323.57
02.01.2023	104144	Rhys Williams	January 2024 wage	478.40

Also agreed to hold the Council's Finance Sub-committee on Tuesday evening, 30.01.2024 at 7.00p.m. at the Free Library for: Budget Review and expenditure up to month 9 2023 - 2024 Applications for financial contributions. The Council's 2024-2025 Precept.

FEEDBACK FROM THE WALES AUDIT INSPECTION ON THE COUNCIL ACCOUNTS FOR 2022-2023 - update

Presented: Audit Wales referred the number of bank accounts, the Council has (being 4).
The Clerk reported the Council's Bank Account (HSBC) currently has this in hand.

Resolved: Accept the information.

C70.2023/2024 SESSION FOR SHARING INFORMATION AND REPORTS

1. Town Council member's reports

- i) **Councillor Ywain Myfyr** (Mayor) – even though Christmas is a busy time for families, I must admit it was a quiet time for me in regard to mayoral duties. I hope you all enjoyed the break. Our town looked splendid and was admired by many. It was a delight, especially as it has not always been like this over the Christmas period. We have a lot to thank to Councillor Bob Gunton for his leadership in this. Our debt to him, as Councillors and the town, is much.
- ii) **Councillor Bob Gunton** – work on planning 2024 Christmas lights. Lights will be switched on, on November 29, 2024. The work to remove the 2023 lights is in hand.

The member was thanked and congratulated for all his hard work on this.

- iii) **Councillor Nia Evans** – work on 'Lle yn y Dref' is going from strength to strength. Food packages shared out successfully and the number is increasing. Also increase in the number of external organisations / agents which visit the 'Lle yn y Dref' sessions. **Nia again was congratulated** for her work with this venture.

Resolved: For Councillors Nia Evans and Dyfrig Siencyn to discuss this matter further.

- iv) **Councillor Ray Peters** – Nothing to report.
- v) **Councillor Peter Barnes** – request for the Council to lead on a project producing pamphlets to promote the town's local businesses.
Resolved: Support this in principle. The Clerk to consult with One Voice Wales on this.
National Scheme 'Smart Towns':
Resolved: Set up a Council sub-group to lead on this, to include Councillor Bob Gunton (Deputy Mayor), and Councillors Peter Barnes, Ray Peters, Branwen Rhys Dafydd.

- vi) **Councillor John Raghoobar** – request for Council members to check the town Park for the next 6 weeks/ and to collect rubbish as he will be abroad.
Resolved: Accept the information.
- vii) **Councillor John Cadwaladr** – recent meeting of Meirion / Dwyfor College. Work on ‘Lle yn y dref’ and work with the Rotary over the Christmas period.
- viii) **Councillor Branwen Rhys Dafydd** – request for financial support to promote membership of the Urdd to be considered by the Finance Sub-committee on 30.01.2024.
- ix) **Councillor Peter Jones** – drew attention to the new ‘Vintage Shop’ sign on the Square. Need to support / promote Welsh/Bilingual signs ?

2 Reports from Gwynedd Councillors

Councillor Dyfrig Siencyn

Attended a presentation to Cabinet on plans to promote local communities – including ‘Lle yn y Dref.’

Two areas within Gwynedd recognised with failings / weaknesses. The whole scheme is dependent on grants from the County Council and Welsh Government.

A series of meetings to be held with members of the Council regarding a programme of cuts for next year (£8 million). Attended meeting of Trawsfynydd Area Overview Board which has an overview of the future of Trawsfynydd power station, which currently employs three hundred people with the decommissioning work for 25 years. At the moment, it is unlikely the small nuclear reactors (SNR’s) will be set up there in the future. There is general concern regarding the current lack of new jobs in the area.

Questions / Comments:

Need a better understanding of rules / arrangements with the County’s street cleaning programme, especially cleaning programme for town street and rural roads – Councillor Dyfrig Siencyn to look into this.

Councillor Linda Morgan

Written report presented as follows:

Hi All

My apologies for tonight’s meeting.

I am glad you are discussing the Residents Parking Scheme, and hope you support this request from Local Residents.

I was very surprised to learn today from Carol that Gwynedd Council have not consulted with them. And no Site meeting. I sent the Photos and List of signatures for the request to consider a Residents Parking Scheme in August.

Although Andrew Gregson Senior Traffic Engineer has said it could take 12 – 18 months to implement.

I thought they would of discussed the Scheme after assessing the street to confirm suitability for the Scheme or discuss any problems.

I thought they would of arranged a local consultation to vote for or against the Scheme.

If there are not enough Parking places for those living in the area for the Scheme maybe they could include the 2 parking spaces outside the Cycle Shop.

The area is unique as you have Glyndwr Street back access on to the street which is applying for Resident Parking. So maybe the Rules should change in this area to prioritise the locals who need to park outside their own homes.

Maybe in this area the Holiday Lets could Park in the Marian Carpark leaving enough Parking Spaces for The Local Residents.

Out of the 15 Houses 5 are Holiday lets, often taking two spaces each which means there is no space for the locals.

If you go on holiday to Shrewsbury you quite often have to just drop off your luggage at a Hotel \ Holiday Let and then have a form to go to the Carpark to park with a reduced rate. This seems perfectly acceptable, so the same could happen here and people coming on holiday here could park at the Marian Carpark possibly at a reduced fee.

I do feel we need to support this Scheme and if there are problems we need to see if they can be resolved

Linda Morgan
Dolgellau South

C71.2023/2024 CORRESPONDENCE

Received the following correspondence / information:

- 1. At the request of the Clerk, the April 2024 meeting of the Council to be held on Tuesday evening, April 9, 2024, at 7.00p.m.**

Resolved: Agree to this.

- 2. Dr Daniel Williams Trustee Fund - 2022-2023 Annual Report**
Received the report for information.