

DOLGELLAU TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of Dolgellau Town Council held on Tuesday, February 4, 2025 at the Free Library, Dolgellau at 7.00 p.m.

PRESENT: Councillor Ywain Myfyr (Mayor)
Councillor Bob Gunton (Deputy Mayor)
Councillors John Cadwaladr, Nia Evans, Jo Checkley, Sion Edwards, Branwen Rhys Dafydd, Nia Wyn Evans, Jessica John, Llinos Rowlands, Peter Jones, Ray Peters, Heilyn Williams
Mr Rhys Williams – Clerk

Also present:
Rhian George, Regeneration Programs Manager, and Elin Wiliam, Regeneration Officer, to discuss the Town Centre Scheme and regeneration matters.

C.74.2024-2025 PUBLIC SESSION
No members of the public present.

C.75.2024-2025 APOLOGIES
Apologies received from Dyfrig Siencyn and Branwen Rhys Dafydd.
The new member was welcomed, Llinos Rowlands.

C.76.2024-2025 DECLARATION OF PERSONAL INTEREST PERTAINING TO ANY INFORMATION REGARDING THE MEETING
Received the following declarations:
Jessica John – Dolgellau town centre regeneration scheme.
Peter Jones – financial request, Dolgellau Guides and Brownies.
Sion Edwards – Quote for the Town Council notice board.

C.76.2024-2025.2 Presentation from Rhian George, Regeneration Programs Manager, and Elin Wiliam, Regeneration Officer, to discuss Town Centre Scheme and regeneration matters - see attachment
Presentation and discussion on the above with an opportunity to ask questions about the scheme. On line link to placemaking page to follow
Resolved: For the Town Council to commit to the scheme and play a part in the project. Agreed to set up a Sub-committee to action this and meet regularly, members: Ywain Myfyr, Bob Gunton, Branwen Rhys Dafydd, Jessica John, John Cadwaladr, Jo Checkley, Llinos Rowlands.

C.77.2024-2025 TO RECEIVE AND CONFIRM MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON JANUARY 7, 2025
Accept and confirm the minutes of the above.

C.78.2024-2025 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

1.1 MATTERS RAISED FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

1. Ffynnon Fair Woods

Reported that the contractor David Bradley had visited the woodland and the urgent work has been completed. A further quote received for the remaining work which needs attention.

Resolved: Accept the information.

2. Permanent Memorial – Penmaen Lake

Presented: Feedback from Councillor Nia Evans reporting that discussions with the National Park are continuing and a quote is on the way for the work. A pre-application advice prior to

presenting full planning application is being prepared and discussion on the style of letters on the memorial will be discussed with the National Park.

Resolved: Accept the information with thanks.

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

Presented: No progress to date.

Resolved: Accept the information. Keep on the agenda.

4. Community Involvement Programme

Presented: Update on several action points from the October 2023 Council meeting, being:

i) Arrange investigation to establish a specific Notice Board for the Council:

Presented: Quote received via the Clerk.

Accept the information and accept the following quote for £2228.20.

Further matters raised:

ii) Skate Park

Nothing to report at the moment.

Resolved: Accept the information.

iii) Public seats – review

Presented: Information that 10 x seats had now reached the Wynnstay site.

Resolved: For the Mayor and the Clerk to agree on the sites to place them. Location for 5 seats for the Marian for the attention of Councillor Jo Checkley.

iv) Public Entertainment Licence for the Square

Reported attention will be given to complete the licence during February and March 2025.

Resolved: Accept the information.

v) Vehicle on the “Lawnt”

No further report to hand.

x) Parking regulations in the town including the Marian Car Park

No further report to hand.

C.79.2024-2025

FINANCIAL SITUATION AND SET A PRAECEPT FOR THE 2025-2026 FINANCIAL YEAR

Received the financial situation from the Clerk including a report from the Finance Sub-committee held on January 21, 2025.

Resolved: Set a precept of £77,000 for the 2025-2026 financial year – no increase, and to approve the grant payments, including an additional grant from Dolgellau Browns and Brownies for £440.00.

1. Reports from Town Council members

- i) **Councillor Ywain Myfyr** – I would like the Council to support the Aran Group campaign to start placing historical plaques on some of the town's buildings to note the birth place, home or historical event.

Also, with this in mind – following the atrocities of the First World War a conference was held of the League of Nations in Aberystwyth where it was agreed to endeavour to join the women of Wales and the United States in a campaign a world without wars. A group of women from Wales collected thousands of names from women in Wales and the United States on a peace petition. May Ellis, who was born and bred in Dolgellau was one of the women in a small group who took the petition to America.

The petition was in a museum in America until 2023 when it was returned to Wales. The petition can now be seen on the National Library website and it is interesting to see the names of several of the town's residents on the petition including members of my family and possibly yours.

I would like the Council to support the efforts of Sesiwn Fawr and the Aran Group to put a plaque on the home where Mary Ellis was born and bred – Plas Newydd. This plaque would be the first in a series noting Dolgellau's history and the intention is to unveil it on the Saturday afternoon of this year's Sesiwn Fawr.

Following the recent storms, a lot of damage was done to Ffynnon Fair Woods. Unfortunately, two substantial trees fell causing damage to external buildings at Bryn Mair. Following a further visit today, I'm pleased to report that the trees have now been cleared from Bryn Mair and a contractor was there this afternoon making safe some of the other trees.

- ii) **Councillor Bob Gunton** – work in hand with Plas Newydd Clock at the top of the Square.
- iii) **Councillor Nia Evans** – work with 'Lle yn y Dref' continues to go from strength to strength. Attended an event at the Rugby Club regarding appointing a Queen for the Dolgellau Carnival.
- iv) **Councillor Jo Checkley** – soft copy to follow
- v) **Councillor John Cadwaladr** – attended a meeting of Trustees of Dr Daniel Williams, work on Lle yn y Dref and the Council's Finance Sub-committee on January 21, 2025.
- vi) **Councillor Sion Edwards** – Football Championship event from Coleg Meirion / Dwyfor.
- vi) **Councillor Jessica John** – development work regarding the town's Family Centre.
- ix) **Councillor Peter Jones** – update on resurrecting the Coed Ffynnon Fair wall – this will happen during April 2025.

- x) **Councillor Ray Peters** – recognised work regarding safety boilers by Gwynedd Council in the Ffordd y Gader area.
- xi) **Councillor Heilyn Williams** – work regarding the town's CCTV programme – application for financial contribution from the Council to follow.

C.81.2024-2025 CORRESPONDENCE

1. Gwynedd Council – programme of work for work on Ardal Ni group.
Resolved: Ask them to add the damage to the fence near the entrance to number 1 car park at the Marian, near the town's wool culture information board.

C.82.2024-2025 PLANNING

Application No: NP5/57/LB361K
Demolish the current store room, changes to the garage, erect a gate and resurface the yard
Meirion House, Porth Canol, Dolgellau. LL40 1RE
Grid Ref: 272766 317737

Resolved: Support the application.