

## **DOLGELLAU TOWN COUNCIL**

Minutes of the Dolgellau Town Council held on Tuesday, June 6, 2023, at the Free Library, Dolgellau at 7.00 p.m.

**PRESENT:** Councillor Ywain Myfyr – Mayor  
Councillor Bob Gunton – Deputy Mayor  
Councillors Heilyn Williams; Richard Jones; Peter Jones; Nia Wyn Evans; Dyfrig Siencyn; Branwen Rhys Dafydd; Peter Barnes; Ray Peters; Sion Edwards; John Raghoobar and Linda Morgan.

**C17.2023/2024 APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence received from Councillors John Cadwaladr, Jo Checkley and Rhys Williams the Clerk.

**C18.2023/2024 DECLARATION OF PERSONAL INTEREST PERTAINING TO ANY INFORMATION REGARDING THE MEETING**

No declarations were received

**C19.2023/2024 TO RECEIVE AND CONFIRM MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON MAY 2, 2023.**

The above minutes were accepted and confirmed.

**C20.2023/2043 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

**1. Lights Sub-committee**

Nothing to report

**2. Y Felin Wildlife Garden**

Councillor Dyfrig Siencyn to prepare an agreement.

**3. Ffynnon Fair Woods**

Councillor Bob Gunton noted that he's waiting for the stone mason.

Councillor Dyfrig Siencyn reported that the sign near Bryn Bela has fallen, and the Town Council should replace it (the mayor to ask the Clerk).

**4. Pen y Banc Footpath**

Nothing to report

**5. Llyn Penmaen**

Councillors Dyfrig Siencyn and John Raghoobar to attend a meeting on Thursday, 8th of June, to discuss further with Edward Jones, Parc.

**6. Football Club Lease**

Update for some members on the development the Football Club - the Mayor explained the background to this case that the football club needs proof of ownership of the field. Reported that the lease has been with the Solicitors for some months and some Councillors had seen the draft but not the lease. Noted that the Football Club had not seen the lease.

Councillors Ywain Myfyr and Bob Gunton declared an interest in discussions and suggested Councillor Dyfrig Siencyn, in the absence of the Clerk, visits Nansi Thirsk to discuss further.

## 7. LICENCE FOR THE SQUARE

Councillor Ywain Myfyr reported that Gwynedd Council's Licensing Officer suggested that the Council put in an application for a licence. The licence would allow 1,000 persons to be on the square for an event. A letter received from the Council responding to some of the Town Council's concerns was read out. Councillor Richard Jones is very concerned about the amount of paperwork for the risk assessment which will fall on the Town Council. Councillor Dyfrig Siencyn reported that he felt that the Council was pushing all the work on to the Town Council. He also asked what qualifications the Town Council need to operate the licence. Councillors Heilyn Williams and Ywain Myfyr reported that it would be SAG's responsibility to complete the background work on the licence.

**Suggested:** Councillor Dyfrig Siencyn suggested the need to discuss with Gwenan Mair, Councillor Richard Jones seconded the suggestion and to ask Gwenan to attend a meeting of the Town Council to discuss further.

Councillor Peter Jones was against putting a request for a licence but was supportive to the suggestion for Gwenan Mair to attend to answer their concerns.

## C21.2022/2023 FINANCIAL SITUATION

The financial situation received from the mayor.

Main account	1 - £80,548.94
	2 - £674.34
	3 - £329.24

Mayor's Account    £280.65 – £850 will be added soon.

## C22.2023/2024 SESSION FOR SHARING INFORMATION AND REPORT

### 1. Reports from Town Council members

- i) **Councillor Ywain Myfyr** – started his new role as Mayor by presenting awards in the final round of the darts match. Also had the pleasure of welcoming everyone to the Square at the start of the Gader Race. Mentioned his disappointment at his recent visit to Plasdy'r Llwyn, which was closed even though they were advertised as being open to the public on that day.
- ii) **Councillor Nia Wyn Evans** – short report on the development of Lle'n y Dre!
- iii) **Councillor Heilyn Williams** – nothing to report.
- iv) **Councillor Branwen Rhys Dafydd** – reported on the recent work to collect rubbish in the park. Enquired whether it would be an idea to ask Gwynedd Council to make regular rubbish collection from the park?
- v) **Councillor Peter Jones** – reported that he had attended a meeting of 'Ardal ni' and understood there are several grants

available to the local community. Suggested it may be beneficial to discuss with the 'allotment society.'

- vi) **Councillor Peter Barnes** – has recently received two complaints from the public. One about Dol Arran. Agreed to write to Bro Idris school to note concerns. Also asked the Town Council to write to Gwynedd Council to add further voice to the complaint.

Reported that a member of the public had walked into his shop to make a complaint about drones flying above the farm and disturbing the individual's privacy. Suggested that Councillor Peter Jones advise the individual to contact the police at once. Agreed, as Town Council, to send a letter to the Police to support concerns regarding the use of drones in public areas.

- vii) **Councillor Richard Jones** – nothing to report.

- viii) **Councillor Ray Peters** – continuing with the work of arranging benches and that he personally had got rid of weeds and bramble on the bridleway near Bodlondeb.

- ix) **Councillor Bob Gunton** – contacted One Voice Wales to ask for training on planning matters. Unfortunately, they do not offer this type of training. Agreed to ask Planning Aid Wales whether they can provide training for members.

- x) **Councillor Sion Edwards** – taken advantage of the opportunity to inform about the College open day, to be held on Saturday 17/6/23 between 11.00 and 3.00 o'clock. Continues to volunteer on the Sesiwn Fawr committee and encourages everyone to visit the craft exhibition at the College on Saturday

## **2. Reports from Local Gwynedd Councillors**

### **1. Councillor Dyfrig Siencyn**

'Shared prosperity fund' – the Council are considering a £20 million expenditure. Encouraging people to apply as the money needs to be spent by December 2024.

Visited Williams Homes in Bala to see their contribution to the economy, as well as Penmaenuchaf Hall who is very supportive of local matters.

Apologised on behalf of the Council about recent missed rubbish collections. This was apparently due to staffing problems. The Council are currently reviewing the service.

Had a meeting of all Council members on the result of the census – there is a reduction in the number of residents in Gwynedd. Serious implications, as the Council will receive less funding. It will be difficult to provide services. The highest reduction was in the coastal areas, the number of school children has reduced substantially. The council is naturally concerned for the future of the schools.

Reported on the new 'Arfor' scheme – succeeding locally project which operates over four counties. The purpose the scheme is to support local young people to stay local.

Correspondence – grant letter – noted that the funds were open to applications until 5.00 p.m. on 14/07/23.  
Mentioned it would be beneficial to meet to discuss the skate park and the pavilion – suggested Sub-committee and for Anna Lewis to be present.

Dyfrig Siencyn to arrange – with Sion, Bob, Jo and Ywain Myfyr.

Member of the public present: Stephanie from MotoCamp Wales attended to voice her concerns about complaints recently received from some of the residents of Penycefn. She is very keen to come to an understanding with residents and asked for an opportunity to discuss further with them. Councillor Dyfrig Siencyn suggested he would arrange and facilitate a joint meeting with Stephanie and some Penycefn residents.

The reports were accepted with thanks.

#### **C23.2023-2024 PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

W.D. Wilkins – no objections. But need to send a letter to the Park to enquire about the level of noise from the air pumps.

Dolfeurig Centre – support wholeheartedly. Send a letter to show our support.