

Council Minutes at the Community Centre Thursday January 12 2017 at 7:00pm.

Present: C.Brewer, T.W.Jones, E.R.Noble, M.Chapman, A.Fawcett, Liz Roberts, M.Skerrett.

Apologies: J.Houston, C.Roberts.

Greetings: The Chair wished everyone a Happy New Year.

Minutes. Council Minutes 3.11.16, confirmed, proposed by E.R.Noble, seconded L.Roberts.

Police. Clerk and Sgt J.Hill have so far failed to agree on a suitable date to meet in the village, Clerk is waiting for a further message from him regarding dates he has suggested.

The A470. Information from K.Skates AM about a transport survey which will be concluded during March 2017. Liz Roberts gave a detailed report following a meeting that she, the Chair and the Clerk had attended at Betws y Coed with I.Tegid, the Police, Transport Officials and representatives from Capel Curig and Betws y Coed Councils, a very constructive meeting, agreed to meet at least 2 a year. Local problems along the A470 and A5 were raised and discussed, these included drivers' speeding through the villages with the Police considering arranging a 'speed survey'. Siting 20mph signs near schools was raised, this is already under discussion. Many useful contacts for future reference were made.

County Council. Liz Roberts confirmed that she had raised the situation with the bridges with the Dept Head G.Edwards. Reply from G.Parry Conwy Structural Inspector confirmed: Work to take place to the footpath support pillars at Bwlch Bridge, the path will need to be closed for a period; tree growth to be cleared off the River Bridge along with some masonry repair – traffic control will be required here; structural assessment regarding the Pont y Pant Bridge to take place, also assessment of the damaged walls near to the bridge, traffic control will also be needed here. A.Fawcett and M.Skerrett asked where cars could be parked during the work? G.Parry is putting the work forward for finance during 2017/18 but is hopeful that some finance may be left over in 2016/17?

Footpaths. Message from Gareth Jones NRW confirmed that a new bridge is to be put in place over 'Afon 'Stumiau' and that a notice will be erected confirming this, work should be completed before Christmas.

Station site. No information regarding 20mph signs by the School, likely that this won't happen?

Confirmation received from CCBC that they are reviewing School Crossing Patrol sites, it appears that Dolwyddelan is an area under threat. Liz Roberts has already sent a forceful message to oppose this.

Conwy will be discussing this on January 19, unanimously agreed to oppose and to send confirmation of this to Conwy, copied to the Police and I.Tegid.

Village History. Llinos Griffin has confirmed that she met with G.Williams this week and that she now hopes to obtain photographs and then to start the editing work.

'Odd job' Post. Nothing to report at this time, Liz Roberts had obtained documents from another Council who employ a part time worker, contents noted. Comment from E.R.Noble that clearing leaves blocking drains and gutters in the area could be included as part of the work?

Recycle More. Nothing to report.

Tree Harvesting. M.Skerrett was very disappointed with the resurfacing work near to Tai Glan Gors, agreed the Clerk should complain again to R.O'Donnell.

Salt gritting. Clerk confirmed that the pallett of salt bags is in the Station Yard, agreed to leave them there and to distribute as and when required, Clerk to seek assistance with distribution.

The Cemetery. Clerk reported on his meeting with the owner of the land bordering the cemetery, agreed with a proposal from E.R.Noble, seconded by M.Skerrett that L.Roberts be asked for a quote for the drainage work required. A.Fawcett confirmed he is in discussion with a friend to cut down 2 trees near a grave at the top end of the cemetery. Agreed to arrange a survey of the condition of the large trees in the cemetery and to obtain an estimate for the cutting down of those required, the work could be done over a period of time.

Local Walks. Members met again with M.Grant at the Station Yard to discuss siting the new information panel, a site was agreed, the board is not yet in place. M.Skerrett was thanked for repairing one of the other display boards.

Tree Harvesting Garnedd. Message from N.Dyson confirmed that he is in contact with Simon Phillips, CCBC Roads Manager and that they are making every effort to minimise difficulties for residents. Copy of a message sent by Bethan Jones to the company received, thanking them for clearing and filling pot holes along the road.

Tree growth near Railway Bridge. Clerk has contacted Network Rail on their helpline to raise the issue. Also need to keep an eye on Gethin Bridge to check on tree growth reforming on the walls.

BT Telephone Kiosks. A letter from BT noted they intend removing kiosks and that this includes from the Dolwyddelan area, villages are welcome to 'adopt a kiosk' for other use. Unanimously agreed with the intention to remove kiosks, statistics confirmed that no calls had been made from local kiosks, no intention to adopt by Council. Clerk to write to confirm this.

Visit by Carwyn Jones. The First Minister of Wales is to visit Llanrwst on January 19th, Liz Roberts and M.Skerrett agreed to go to the meeting, Liz agreed to ask a question on flooding and Mike on Affordable Housing, Rural Transport should also be raised if given the opportunity.

Precept 2017/18: Agreed to meet on January 17th to discuss the Precept.

Planning applications

Siting solar panels at Gwyndy – No information

Ty Isaf Hydro Scheme – No information

14 Castle Terrace – No information

Ty'n y Fron – Nothing to report

1 & 2 Bryn Moel – Application allowed

Tan y Castell – Nothing to report

Capel Isa – No information

New applications

Aber Roman Bridge – Application discussed, no comments

Visit by the Gwynedd Rural Housing Enabler. No developments since the last meeting, Clerk had distributed copies of V.Kelly's report. Agreed to contact SNP for their comments regarding the consideration of land at the Station Yard for development for Affordable Housing – is this 'brown field land'? Clerk to contact A.Hughes/V.Kelly for an update report, have questionnaires been prepared, has a date been set for a Public Meeting?

Flooding. The general feeling about the meeting with staff from Shaun Wasik's department at CCBC was that it had not been the best of meetings, maps and information were distributed but no firm indication was given as to what their intentions were. Liz Roberts confirmed that she had been discussing the fact that villagers are very disappointed with this and it now transpires that CCBC have decided to arrange a 'drop in session' at the IT Suite on February 6 between 3:30 and 7pm, letters confirming this will be sent to those villagers who are/could be affected by flooding. Head of Department G.Edwards will be present. It was agreed to form a flooding sub-committee, A.Fawcett agreed to Chair with E.R.Noble, M.Skerrett, L.Roberts, M.Chapman and J.Houston as members. A.Fawcett will prepare comments on the CCBC flooding report to be presented to the officials. Liz Roberts had discussed the provision of sand bags for the area with G.Edwards and E.Williams, agreed to ask for 24 bags, regarding storage of the bags, E.R.Noble suggested that his Mother could possibly have room for some and M.Skerrett said he would make inquiries about additional storage space.

Hydro Scheme. C.Brewer confirmed that UNIPER have been confirmed as the company who will be running the operations with CCBC and that a Project Manager has been appointed. The first meeting of the group had taken place today (January 10th). Comment made by M.Skerrett to confirm that he and Liz Roberts had been Directors of Ynni'r Dyffryn from the beginning, it was agreed that this would not hinder their work with this new project. The situation with David Ingham's participation with the sub-committee was discussed, it was agreed that his role would be as its Technical Advisor and as such, that he would not have a vote, Clerk to confirm this with David. The Clerk had received 4 responses to the first newsletter and had forwarded them for the attention of B.Burchell at CCBC as agreed. Connie confirmed that a meeting between the team at Conwy and the sub-committee will be arranged in the near future and that the second newsletter will be distributed at the end of the month, this will include responses to the questions/comments raised in response to the first newsletter.

Financial. The Clerk confirmed that the Annual Return, documents and BDO Audit comments had been received, he read out the details and they were approved and formally accepted by the Council. It was agreed to give detailed attention to the issues raised which needed attention at the meeting to discuss the 2017/18 Precept on January 17th. No billing details had been received.

Bills. Community Centre £10; Clerk's salary & expenses 3 months £210.88; Wybone (dog waste bins) £724.22; J.Taylor (Xmas Tree) £100. Bills for payment proposed L.Roberts, seconded M.Skerrett. Following these payments there will be £6973.27 in the Current Account and £349.69 in the Cemetery account.

Welsh Water Leaflet. M.Skerrett noted the content of the leaflet which referred to items which could cause blockages in the drains in properties, and pollution in the area in general, Clerk to

contact Shaun to ask whether he could refer to the leaflet and its contents in the next Community Newsletter.

Date of next Council: Thursday March 2nd 2017 at 7pm.