

Council Minutes at the Community Centre Thursday July 2 2015 at 6:30pm.

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

Apology: C.Roberts, Tecwyn Jones.

Minutes. Council Minutes 14.5.2015. confirmed, proposed by M.Skerrett, seconded A.Fawcett.

Visit: The Chairperson welcomed Steven Teale from Conwy Council to discuss the situation regarding the public toilets in the village. He confirmed there was no legislation to force County Councils to provide public toilets in areas and often when finance is tight, closure of toilets is the first service to suffer! What he is hoping to achieve is to work with communities to look to keep them open and a detailed and constructive discussion followed with Steven taking questions from the Members and confirming what the current situation is. Many areas have and are in the process of taking responsibility for their toilets and he was asked many questions relating to the financial and legal obligations on the Community Council should they decide to take care of them. He confirmed that the County Council does currently have finance to refurbish toilets prior to their handover but the money won't last for ever! Steven agreed to seek answers to the questions asked and send details to the Clerk. The Chairperson thanked him for his visit.

Police. The 'rave' at Plas didn't take place, Council members and other agencies had been in discussions about the event.. Agreed that the Clerk should confirm contact details for our PCSO's in the minutes: Phil Gales 07896168568, Dean Cavey 07789272220.

The A470. A reply from E.Hart, Transport Minister at the Assembly confirmed that Conwy Council have been asked to remove the old timber frames at the Dolwyddelan signs and that they have put in place traffic calming measures in the village. She also attached a copy of the report prepared on the A470 in the Roman Bridge area. E.Hart also confirmed that she will be supplying further information later on this year.

County Council. A.Fawcett was concerned about vegetation growing on and near to Plas Bridge, Clerk to contact V.Turner at Conwy Council.

Footpaths. Further contact with V.Currie required regarding llwybyr cul. Clerk to contact Ioan Davies to ask if any work is being undertaken by various agencies in the area.

Station site. Clerk had contacted Councillor Wyn E.Jones to inquire about getting 20mph signs near to schools, no reply to date. Liz Roberts understood that the County Council were concentrating on signage on busy roads, she is trying to get araf/slow signs on the road near the school, the School Governors are discussing the issue, what about siting a suitable sign within the school grounds?

Liz Roberts confirmed that Network Rail have completed vegetation clearance work at Pont Gethin, L.Davies had been involved with this, he retires soon and will be in the area in August with new Network Rail official I.Messner, it will be an opportunity to thank Larry for his invaluable support and work in our area.

Hydro Scheme. M.Skerrett confirmed that the scheme is progressing – but rather slowly.

The Cemetery. The Clerk had received comments that the Caretaker will sometimes cut the grass in the lower end of the cemetery but leave the top half, Clerk to discuss this with him.

Financial. Clerk confirmed balances and supplied Members with a detailed financial report.

Village History. Meeting to take place with Llinos Griffin on July 16.

Dogs fouling. Message received confirming a problem with dog fouling at Tai Glan Gors, Members felt that the residents should resolve the issue by local discussion amongst themselves.

Planning applications

Tanaeldroch. – No information.

Siting solar panels at Gwyndy – No information

Information. The National Park feel that the changes at Dolawel do not result in significant change therefore are acceptable in accordance with the Eryri Local Plan.

Hydro Scheme. Very few comments received by the Clerk from members, obviously the scheme is not within our area. However, it was felt the Clerk should ask the Park if it is too late to send comments and to ask exactly what is to happen to the waste material from the site, is it to be stored at Dolwyddelan, will there be financial recompense to communities?

Centenary Fields. Liz Roberts felt that nothing would happen with the school field as Conwy Council own the School and the playing field.

Twinning. C.Brewer had been to Blaenau Ffestiniog with H.Hardy to a meeting to discuss twinning with Mobile Alabama, a really good meeting. Her feeling was – and Members agreed, that this seemed to be an issue the Historical Society should progress?

Defibrillator. Clerk was anxious to thank M.Skerrett for siting the defibrillator on the wall near to SPAR. E.R.Noble agreed and hoped that the other one would soon be in place.

'Odd job' Post. As it appears that some of the duties are already being undertaken many couldn't see the need to further discuss the post – those undertaking watering the flowers were thanked. Clerk had asked Peter Davies Ffordd Gefn to cut the grass at the Station yard and it was agreed that he had done a good job, E.R.Noble proposed with M.Skerrett seconding, that he should be asked to cut the grass again in early August and to also cut around the raised flower beds.

Village Surgery/Ffestiniog Hospital. No reply, Clerk had written again to inquire and remind.

Plas Tanybwllch. Chair and Vice Chair to attend a meeting with Planning Aid Wales.

High Street. Road closure notice for August 19 and 20<sup>th</sup> noted.

Skip Service. Clerk has contacted ERF Conwy Council requesting a Community Skip.

Register Office. Conwy Council requested comments regarding proposed changes in the County, changes discussed allowing the Clerk to formulate a reply.

North Wales Community Health Council (CHC). If anyone has concerns or complaints about the quality of care provided in North Wales the Chief Officer Geoff Ryall-Harvey or the Deputy Carol Williams can be contacted on 0128 679284.

Bills. Caretaker May & June and moss clearance at the Cenotaph £693.32; Community Centre £30; Clerk salary & expenses 3 months £211.52; transfer Cemetery account £700; payment due to E.Roberts for his work on the planters – Liz Roberts confirmed that H.Hardy Elen's Castle had

offered to pay for this work – Clerk to contact her; also need to pay P.Davies for grass cutting at the Station, no bill received to date. Bills for payment proposed E.R.Noble, seconded M.Skerrett.

BT Box near Bethel Chapel. Liz Roberts gave a detailed report of her efforts to get the box moved. She has contacted many agencies and the Chief Executive of BT, the major problem is that they don't need to obtain permission to carry out this type of work therefore it doesn't appear likely that it will be moved!

Roadside obstructions. J.Houston asked what the rules are regarding visual obstructions on the highway, Clerk to seek an explanation from the Highways Department.

Disabled Parking Bay. M.Skerrett referred to a recent occurrence when he had needed to discuss disabled parking with a driver in the village. The Clerk was asked to write to V.Turner at Conwy Council to seek clarification as to the situation with overnight parking in the disabled bay.

Financial Projects. C.Brewer is anxious to obtain the voice of the Community as regards what they would like to see in the village and any suggestions they have as regards best use of the Precept monies, after all they contribute annually towards this. Agreed that she and the Clerk should draft a letter to be distributed in the village.

Date of next Council: Thursday September 10th 2015 at 7pm.