

Council Minutes at the Community Centre Thursday March 3 2016 at 7:00pm.

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

Apology: C.Roberts, J.Houston.

Minutes. Council Minutes 14.1.2016, confirmed, proposed by L.Roberts, seconded T.W.Jones.

Police. Two replies from Dean Cavey, one confirmed he will arrange for the 'speed gun' team to visit the area and a reference to the 'Community Speed Watch' leaflet but no copy of it – Clerk will ask him for a copy. Dean will also inquire if the village is still on the 'Go Safe' vehicle register. His second reply confirmed that a request for a 'Go Safe' visit cannot be made on trunk roads, and that more surveys with the speed gun should be made, he will arrange this.

The A470. No reply from M.Owen at CCBC regarding the very bright street light at 14 Castle Terrace, suggested that he makes an evening visit to appreciate the problem. Clerk has difficulties getting responses to his requests for repairs to faulty street lights, Liz Roberts will inquire into this. Clerk to contact I.Tegid again to seek flashing lights to warn drivers regarding speeding through the village.

County Council. Reply from B.Shiland CCBC confirmed that he thought another officer had replied! A maintenance programme for 2016/17 being prepared will include giving attention to the problems at the River Bridge and the walls leading up to the bridge.

Footpaths. Clerk to contact ERF Conwy again regarding repair work at llwybyr cul.

Station site. Nothing to report regarding getting 20mph signs near Dolwyddelan School. A full discussion is required regarding the detailed letter from Ian Messner of Network Rail regarding land at the Station Yard – can the recycling bins be moved and onto a concrete base, Network Rail will need access to the track, can the Community Council obtain a licence/lease on the land?, would there be sufficient volunteers to maintain the land?, what to do with the land? Mel Lawton has taken over from Larry Davies.

Hydro Scheme. Liz Roberts confirmed that detailed and sensitive discussions are taking place with various Bodies and groups involved.

Financial. Clerk confirmed balances and supplied Members with a detailed financial report, the final Precept payment for 2015/16 has been received.

Village History. Llinos Griffin has visited Dafydd Williams at Llanrwst, she is now trying to arrange a date to interview Mrs Georgina Jones. M.Skerrett has purchased the 'hard drive' that Llinos had suggested that Council should buy to 'store' the information.

Defibrillator. M.Skerrett has fixed the second defibrillator in place on the agreed site, he has also amended the information on the one at Siop y Llan, he was thanked for his work.

'Odd job' Post. Paul and Shaun, Prince Llywelyn Terrace and Jane Oakley will maintain the planters that B.Borzelo is paying for at the Dolwyddelan gateway signs – the old wooden framework needs to be removed. The planters along the A470 in the village need attention, the grass looks good but needs to be trimmed and new flowers planted.

Village Surgery/Ffestiniog Hospital. No reply, Clerk to make further contact, Liz Roberts suggested that the Surgery building could be a valuable asset for the village?

BT Box near Bethel Chapel. Reply from Alwen Williams confirmed that siting a 'cab wrap' is not part of their service but she will make inquiries to see if there are examples of this in Wales, she supplied details of a website. T.W.Jones had received comments from a villager who is having real problems with his broadband, Clerk to forward the complaint to A.Williams.

Recycle More. Liz Roberts is still waiting for statistics regarding the use of the recycling bins in the Station Yard. The suggestion from CCBC to move to 3 weekly bin collections was raised and Liz Roberts confirmed it was being discussed and that it will possibly be introduced on a trial basis in the near future. She is anxious for issues such as these to be discussed at the Town & Community Council Forums and intends to propose that the Forum should meet at Glasdir, Llanrwst to benefit the Councils in the Upper Conwy Valley and to include the ERF Dept, National Park. The Police and Community Councillors at the meetings.

Tree Harvesting. A reply from P.Lloyd thanked Council for their comments which complained that lorries were still travelling through the village between 07:30 and 09:30 even 'though they said they wouldn't at this time nor between 14:30 and 15:30. He will forward Council's comments to the person in charge of the haulage. Clerk to write again to confirm that lorries are still reaching the site at 5am – it was agreed that it is a difficult situation and that it is difficult to please everyone! Clerk to contact CCBC again regarding a temporary 'no parking' sign at the waste land on High Street, on the right at the approach to Tai Glan Gors.

Salt gritting. Reply from E.Williams CCBC, confirmed that the village salt bins will be refilled as required.

Congratulations. Letter received from Mrs G.Jones thanking Council for the lovely flowers.

Federalisation of Schools. Understood from E.R.Noble that this is moving forward well and that the first meeting of the New Body will be held in the near future. Interest declared by Liz Roberts, T.W.Jones and E.R.Noble.

The Cemetery. Clerk to seek additional information about Conwy cemeteries from S.Teale.

Visit. A lady called Cara Lynn had visited the Pavilion to discuss Energy Efficiency, without any local publicity, Liz Roberts said an apology had been made, CAB had arranged the visit, she will be calling again on March 9th.

Local Walks. M.Grant from NRW had made contact to visit the area to site 'Walks signage' for walks in Cwm Penamnen, Clerk to suggest to her that maybe she should wait until the tree harvesting work has been completed.

Planning applications

Siting solar panels at Gwyndy – No information

River Conwy Hydro Scheme – Understood that the application has been refused

Ty Isaf Hydro Scheme – No information

Appeal Tŷ Nain – No information

New applications:

Dolwyddelan School – Application to replace wooden frame windows with aluminium ones, no objection, interest declared by E.R.Noble, T.W.Jones, M.Chapman and Liz Roberts

Tanyfron – Erection of a 3 bed affordable house – comments – will there be a 106 Clause? – if it is to be an affordable house, it should be so ‘in perpetuity’.

Mur Coch – Agricultural building renovation – comments – it should remain an agricultural building – have discussions taken place with neighbours – lack of information – site visit suggested.

Caretaker Post. 1 application received and that for the 2 posts from A.Jones, his prices for the 2 posts were accepted, proposed by M.Skerrett, seconded M.Chapman.

Bills/Donations. Bills. Community Centre £10; Clerk salary & expenses 3 months £217; C.Brewer flowers G.Jones £23; One Voice Membership £81; N.Ferguson website £11.98; M.Skerrett ‘USB Hard Drive’ and brackets for defibrilator £85.02. On a proposal from E.R.Noble with Liz Roberts seconding it was agreed to renew the translation contract with ‘Cyfieithu Cymunedol’ for 2016/17, payment of £593.29’ with any adjustments being made at the year end.

Donations. Agreed to make the following donations to groups meeting in the village - £100 each to Dolwyddelan School, Cylch Ti a Fi, Cylch yr Ifanc, Sion a Sian and the Youth Club.

Bills and donations for payment proposed Tecwyn Jones, seconded T.W.Jones.

Stream Ty Isaf field. Question asked whether it was possible for it be cleared as it tends to flood, also there is some refuse in the field near to the work at Ty Isaf, Clerk to discuss.

Centenary Fields. Liz Roberts confirmed that a programme is to take place, as part of the 100th anniversary of the Battle of the Somme, to secure memorial parks and recreational land in memory of those who lost their lives. Signage or a plaque will be erected on such land to indicate its designated status. Additional details will follow in due course.

Flooding. Agreed that the Clerk should contact Kevin Jones from the CCBC ERF Dept at Llanrwst to discuss the issue of the sand bags and where they could be stored until they would be required. Liz Roberts confirmed that a meeting is to be arranged at Glasdir on March 22 to discuss the flooding including the problems caused at Dolwyddelan. It was understood that a joint meeting is also to be arranged near to St Gwyddelan Church to discuss flooding issues at the Church entrance and the surrounding area.

Visit by the Gwynedd Rural Housing Enabler. Arfon Hughes had sent a copy of the housing questionnaire to the Clerk, the Clerk had contacted him to ask whether there was any point in discussing or distributing it and raising people’s expectations if there wasn’t a definite suitable plot of building land available in the village? What about Arfon Hughes arranging a meeting between himself, Council Members, National Park and Cynefin Group officials to discuss whether there is a suitable site in the area other than at Glan Gors?

Date of next Council: Thursday May 12th 2016 at 7pm.