

Council Minutes at the Community Centre Thursday March 7th 2019 at 7.00pm.

Present: M.Skerrett, E.R.Noble, Marion L Hughes, M.Chapman, C.Brewer, T.W.Jones, C.Ll.Price.

Apology: Liz Roberts

Minutes. Council Minutes 17.1.2019 confirmed proposed C.Brewer, seconded M.L.Hughes.

Police. No response received regarding the 'incident' at the Station Yard at Christmas time even 'though the Police have been seen in the area since then, Liz Roberts may have been contacted? Again agreed that attention will have to be paid to getting 'local signs' and to obtain estimates for flashing warning signs and to discuss with Helen and Adam, Elen's Castle as to having a 'Police Official' again near the Hotel in the Spring. M.Skerrett agreed to look into this.

The A470. Reply received from Lord Dafydd Elis-Thomas along with a copy of a reply he had received from K.Skates confirming there are no plans to widen parts of the A470 between Beaver Bridge and the A5. He also had comments regarding the transport difficulties and suggested that the Council should contact the local authority where the bus service was concerned and Transport for Wales regarding the trains. The Council also received a similar letter content wise from Andy Falley Welsh Government Transport Dept. M.Skerrett confirmed that no contact had been received from Ffestiniog Town Council for a while, understood that arrangements are in place for school pupils to travel to Llanrwst. C.Brewer inquired whether L.Roberts had received any information about the 20, 30 & 40mph signs and the relocation of some of them?

County Council. Liz Roberts had supplied the Clerk with information re. some issues: she had requested a road sweeper visit along Bridge and Church Street following the recent cabling work and that the pavements should be resurfaced, this is to be done. K.Jones CCBC has requested that tarmacking work should be undertaken along Tŷ Isaf road, no decision received to date. The road sweeper had been in the area recently to clear the fallen leaves.

As it is possible that some funding may be available, she has requested an assessment for work to be done at Hendre Bridge, the Pont y Pant Bridge and the one at Roman Bridge, a response is awaited from the ERF Dept at CCBC.

Footpaths. Comment from C.Brewer that work is required on a stile near Llwyn, Clerk to contact Ioan Davies to ask him to have a look at the stile and to thank him for his detailed list of footpath works which have been carried out in the area over the past year.

Station site. The damaged panels at the shelter on the platform have been repaired.

The Cemetery/Cenotaph. Grass cutting is on the Agenda as a separate item.

Message received from Clive Humphreys confirming that Darren will keep an eye on the Cenotaph grounds on a regular basis when he cuts the grass at the School field. Also they will treat the moss and paths when the weather allows them to. This is happening with the support of the Parks Dept at CCBC. Clerk to write seeking a site meeting.

Council Charter. Clerk attended a Town & Community Council Forum at Bodlondeb on January 29 when the Charter was discussed and M.Jackson and T.Earley confirmed that work to update the Charter was taking place and that Councils can contribute towards this. Jane Richardson apologised for the delay in distributing the letter to Councils relating to services under threat. One of the main reasons for this was the fact that CCBC were preparing to set their own Precept in order and were waiting for information from various departments prior to doing this. Town & Community Councils emphasised that this arrangement must be improved as they have to set their Precept figure earlier than CCBC. It was apparent that much better liaison was required

between CCBC and the Councils and it was agreed that this should happen through the forums and other arrangements. It was agreed that wider representation from Town & Community Councils should be involved in the work of the Task & Finish Group especially when transfer of services to communities was involved. Next meeting June 24th.

Dolwyddelan School. Understood that much discussion is taking place regarding how CCBC will be funding Schools and its effect on the schools, interest declared by T.W.Jones.

Surgery Building. Reply from Gary Doherty confirmed that the NHS do not own the building. Clerk had spoken with Dr T.Parry who confirmed that he and Dr Dawn Jones own it and that they have no plans for the use of the building, he asked if the Members had any suggestions? Members agreed that it was difficult to come up with ideas, having a small museum perhaps? Question asked as to whether it was likely that the owners would put the building up for sale?

Financial Remuneration IPRW. Annual Report received and the arrangements for remuneration to Members and the sums involved was discussed. It was apparent that the Members did not wish to receive any payments for the year, Clerk confirmed that each of them would have to declare their decision personally to him in writing if they were opting out of accepting the payment (Section 13.9 of the Annual Report). Agreed to discuss again May meeting.

Carreg Alltrem bridge. Clerk has written to Miranda Grant confirming that work is required on the bridge, no reply to date.

Grass Cutting. One application received by the closing date, from I.Griffiths, the application was discussed and the quote was accepted, proposed E.R.Noble, seconded M.Chapman and all in favour. Reference was made to the fact that he had additional work last year due to the condition of the grass at the beginning of his year, to be discussed again whilst paying the bills. Agreed that the Clerk should write to thank B.Clarke Ty'n y Coed for volunteering to take the bins in the cemetery to the road for emptying. Weed killer required to treat the paths in the cemetery area.

Bus Service. No formal report was received regarding the situation but monitoring of the bus and train services must continue – will the new rolling stock be available by Easter?

Correspondences.

Thanks. Letter received from Paul Donnelly thanking Council for their letter.

Community Centre. Letter from the secretary noting that the Carnival celebrates its 50th year this year and noting their intention to have a special celebration, and inviting a representative to their next meeting. Interest declared by M.L.Hughes and M.Chapman who are members. Agreed to discuss a financial donation towards the celebration whilst paying the bills.

National Park. Confirmation that the Development Plan for 2016-2031 was adopted formally on February 6 2019, details on www.eryri.llyw.cymru/ldp

Audit Fees. Information from National Audit Wales noting the details regarding the structure and the relevant fee tables.

Gambling Regulations. Copy of the relevant declaration received from CCBC.

Youth Service. Message from Liz Roberts confirming that Garth Thomas who has been an excellent Leader with the local young people is retiring, and that H.Hardy, Elen's Castle is arranging an evening at the hotel to thank him and to give the young people and Council Members an opportunity to bid farewell. Agreed that this was a very good idea and that it would be pertinent for the Council to contribute towards the cost. No information about the future of the Youth Club to date.

Planning applications

Tŷ Llwyd: Further application received, Clerk had distributed details to the Members seeking their views – from the responses received, to object was the decision with a suggestion that the Park should arrange a site visit, comments have been forwarded to the Park. Liz Roberts had discussed with the applicant, M.Skerrett reported on discussions he had in the Pont y Pant area.

Tan y Clogwyn: Apparently the application is relevant to the Council – no comments.

Flooding. Meeting arranged with S.Wasig and G.Edwards at the Gwyddelan Suite for March 19.

Hydro Scheme. Liz Roberts had met with S.Teale by chance, he had told her that he had recently met with Rhodri Horan from the Welsh Government and R.Starkey from Scottish Power – Steve had promised to send her a message by this evening's meeting – no message received.

Toilets. M.Skerrett confirmed that he is doing his very best to obtain information from S.Teale regarding the current situation, it is so difficult to progress this issue.

Financial. Clerk had distributed the regular financial report to Members which was fully discussed.

Bills. CCBC Skip £222; One Voice Membership £90; Translation March £103.60; CCBC Meeting 7/3 £10; Clerk January to March £250; I.Griffiths additional grass cutting £100; Donation Dolwyddelan School £100; Donation Sion a Sian £100; Donation Ti a Fi Group £100; Donation Cylch yr Ifanc £100; Donation 50th Carnival £200; Donation National Eisteddfod 2019 £500. Bills for payment proposed C.Brewer, seconded T.W.Jones. Donation of £100 towards the Youth Club to be considered when a decision has been made as to the future of the local club. T.W.Jones commented that the expenditure should be carefully monitored, Clerk confirmed that is why he produces a detailed financial report for Members at each meeting. Following bill payments new balance £7170.49 in the account.

Skip. Whilst noting the recent skip payment, it was understood that many people from outside the village are using the village skip, is this on account of it being noted on 'facebook' possibly?

Information Board. For information, M.Skerrett confirmed that B.Atkins had contacted him to note that he is to 'erect' a new frame around one of the boards at the Station yard.

Gwynedd Recycling. Information from C.L.Price that there are new arrangements at the Yard in Blaenau Ffestiniog.

Date of next Council: Thursday May 9th 2019 at 7:00pm