

Council Minutes at the Community Centre Thursday March 2 2017 at 6:30pm.

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

Apologies: C.Roberts, A.Fawcett, M.Chapman.

Minutes. Council Minutes 10.1.17, confirmed, proposed by L.Roberts, seconded M.Skerrett.

Agenda. Unanimously agreed Clerk's request to change the order of the meeting Agenda.

Police. Chair and Clerk reported on their meeting at the Village Square with 2 Police Officers to discuss speeding, signs and erecting a mirror at the Square. They were dubious about how effective a mirror on the Square would be nor one sited at the bus stop, but felt that one on the corner at Arvon House might prove effective for drivers entering the A470 from the Gweithdy direction travelling to Blaenau Ffestiniog. If the Council wished to pursue having a sign showing the exact speed of cars and a sign at the top of Castle Terrace then they should contact NEWTRA.

The A470. Letter received from D.Williams, From very concerned about speeding along Castle Terrace, she had sent copies to various agencies. Members agreed with her comments and agreed to acknowledge the letter and to write to the same agencies confirming that local Council Members agreed with her and to ask for a detailed survey of the situation. Copy to D.Williams. Reply from Richard Morgan, Transport Network at the Assembly confirmed that they do not intend bringing forward improvements at Bertheos Bridge but any information from the Council relating to accidents and incidents at the site will be carefully considered.

County Council. Liz Roberts confirmed that she had discussed the situation regarding the bridges in detail with the Dept Head G.Edwards recently, and following this had received a message from him confirming that the 'tendering' work has been completed and once this has been confirmed, and arrangements made with contractors, then work should commence April/May 2017.

Footpaths. Message from Gareth Jones NRW confirmed that the new bridge is in place over 'Afon 'Stumiau', this was welcomed. Understood that a new footpath sign is required for the Lluest footpath.

Station site. Reply from V.Turner on behalf of CCBC confirmed that a decision on the review of School Crossing Patrol sites has been deferred and that further information on pedestrian and vehicle data is being sought. He also advised that the Dolwyddelan site was not recommended for removal. However, all the Patrol sites will be reviewed again as they become vacant.

Village History. Llinos Griffin has confirmed that she is close to completing the work and asked what Council's plans were for showing the film locally and beyond? Clerk to confirm that the Council would prefer to have the 'first showing' and then to discuss other avenues with Llinos

'Odd job' Post. Clerk in discussion with Kevin Jones to confirm when CCBC workmen will site the 'new dog bins', hopefully in a week or so. Discussions then to take place with the person who has shown interest in the emptying of the bins.

Recycle More. Nothing to report.

Tree Harvesting. Reply from Llyr Bere NRW confirming he has arranged for resurfacing work near to Tai Glan Gors, Clerk to contact him again as the work has not yet taken place.

Salt gritting. As the weather has been favourable, salt gritting has not been required.

The Cemetery. Clerk had met with L.Roberts at the Cemetery and he had suggested how he would tackle the drainage work. Members were happy with this and agreed to ask him for an estimate. Clerk has also discussed the felling of trees with a local contractor and explained what was proposed, this was very acceptable to Members and was agreed, sub-committee to meet with him at the cemetery when he is ready to make a start on the work. Agreed that detailed discussions should take place as regards the number of trees to be cut.

Liz Roberts and C.Brewer have discussed the possibility of landscaping work at the cemetery with National Park officials, funding from the Park could be provided, local school children could be involved with this work. Liz Roberts is in contact with K.O'Brien and B.W.Jones.

Cemetery & Cenotaph grounds: One application received, E.R.Noble proposed with T.W.Jones seconding that the application by Arfon Jones be accepted, Clerk to arrange with him.

Local Walks. Clerk to contact M.Grant again to ask her when the new information panel is to be erected at the Station Yard.

Tree Harvesting Garnedd. Copy of a detailed letter N.Dyson had sent to E.Williams at CCBC received, explaining and outlining many aspects relating to the work and the condition of the road, the contents were noted. It was understood that the road had been closed recently without any warning to the local residents, Clerk to complain about this and about the muddy condition of the road at Pen Bont and at the entrance to the A470.

Tree growth near Railway Bridge. Clerk had contacted Network Rail on their helpline and the tree branches have been trimmed. Also he had requested that the boundary wall along the railway line towards Llwyn be repaired at various points, work completed. This was welcomed.

BT Telephone Kiosks. Haf Jones has received Council's comments and referred them to BT.

Visit by Carwyn Jones. Liz Roberts and M.Skerrett attended the meeting, it is obvious that he supports the continuation of the Conwy Valley Railway. Liz Roberts explained that much discussion is taking place with various companies regarding Community Transport.

Precept 2017/18: Application for a Precept of £9000 agreed following the January 17 meeting and had already been submitted for the attention of CCBC.

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

Tan y Castell – Nothing to report

Capel Isa – No information

Aber Roman Bridge – Application allowed

New applications

Mur Coch Farm – No objections, inquiry regarding Section 106 clause Affordable Housing

Ty'n y Fron – No objections, again inquiry regarding Section 106 clause Affordable Housing

Woodland Plot Glan Gors – Support, local business giving employment to local youngsters.

Visit by the Gwynedd Rural Housing Enabler. Reply from Rebecca Jones confirmed that the land at the Station could not be considered for development as it is considered a 'brownfield site', Liz

Roberts asked for a copy of the message to follow up on this. Clerk to contact A.Hughes/V.Kelly for an update report e.g. have questionnaires been prepared/Public meeting date set?

Sub-committee's. C.Brewer felt that sub-committee's are vital to support Council work and that these should be developed by the new Council. Noted that sub-committee's are in place but they should be given a greater emphasis. Agreed to discuss fully at the Annual Meeting in May.

Flooding. Agreed that the open meeting at the IT Suite with G.Edwards and G.Rowlands on February 6 had been a success with a good local response. Also many local Councillors attended. The officials confirmed that they had to co-operate with the Welsh Government, NRW and Welsh Water and had to seek funding for the work. They are continuing to discuss the way forward and C.Brewer had emphasised to them how important it was that the Community Council are kept up to date with exactly what is happening. A.Fawcett confirmed that he had a constructive discussion with them and that as a result he had changed his mind regarding some aspects of the report he is preparing. Agreed to wait for a period of time for a response from the officials before seeking an update from them. Clerk has contacted CCBC to ask for sand bags but has not received a reply.

Hydro Scheme. C.Brewer confirmed that a meeting has been arranged with UNIPER and CCBC officials at the IT Suite for March 8th at 6pm, this will be an opportunity for the Council's sub-committee to question them and naturally to receive information from them as to their intentions regarding the scheme. Connie also confirmed that the next newsletter should appear towards the end of March

3 Day Eryri Event. Information received regarding the event, which will be various walks in the area including Dolwyddelan, Clerk to copy the details to Connie, Liz and Mike.

Walk For Life. Information received about the event to raise money for 'Kidney Wales', understood that Myfanwy is arranging an event locally.

Jo Cox Remembrance. Inquiry asking if a local event could be arranged June 17/18 to remember Jo Cox, it was felt this would be difficult as it would be Carnival week the following week.

Financial. The Clerk had distributed a report outlining the current financial position and confirmed that the Cemetery Account would be closed on March 31. Translation agreement for 2017/18 discussed, Clerk had received an estimate which was slightly less than the current one – unanimously agreed to accept the estimate, Clerk to confirm with the Company. BDO Audit charges have now been received and they are large amounts, Clerk had discussed with other Councils and it seems that this is the norm. Many complaints have been sent about the charges and the fact that a company from Southampton had been chosen to carry out the work.

Bills. Community Centre £20; Clerk's salary & expenses 3 months £221; Menter Siabod £20; Translation Agreement 2017/18 £559.08; One Voice Wales Membership £84; CVSC Membership £15; BDO Audit (General) £539.70; BDO (Cemetery) £312.15; 5 x £100 – donations Local Organisations. Bills for payment proposed M.Skerrett, seconded E.R.Noble. Following these payments there will be £5549.43 in the Current Account and £183.84 in the Cemetery account.

Appreciation. C.Brewer thanked Members for their support during her term of office as Council Chair.

Date of next Council: Thursday May 11th 2017 at 7pm.