

Council Minutes at the Community Centre Thursday September 10 2015 at 6:30pm.

Present: C.Brewer, M.Skerrett, Liz Roberts, J.Houston, T.W.Jones, M.Chapman, Tecwyn Jones.

Apology: C.Roberts, Edwin R Noble.

Tribute. Members stood in silent tribute to the memory of the late Nicola Noble.

Minutes. Council Minutes 2.7.2015. confirmed, proposed by J.Houston, seconded T.W.Jones.

Visit: The Chairperson welcomed PCSO Phil Gales, it is difficult for him to arrange regular visits due to the vast area and the lack of Officers. He will shortly complete his training on the use of the 'hand held radar gun' to warn speeding motorists and will then be visiting areas with the 'gun'. The public are welcomed to contact him to report problems or to raise issues – 07896168568. The Chairperson thanked him for his visit.

Police. Phil Gales confirmed that he had visited the area recently, he is anxious for the Clerk to keep in contact with him and Dean Cavey 07789272220.

The A470. Information received about an accident near Bertheos, the Clerk will contact the Assembly Transport Minister again to ask if she has by now received the additional information about work to be carried out in the area.

County Council. Teleri W Jones had seen a 'facebook' entry commenting on dog and human faeces in sites around the village and had contacted Liz Roberts about this. Liz had contacted ERF Conwy and they had attended to it at once, Clerk to thank them for this. Comment made that ragwort is growing in abundance along the A470, Clerk to ask CCBC to clear it; comment made about the poor condition of the wall from the Cenotaph to the river bridge and that a tree is growing out of the wall opposite to Pendyffryn, and again about shrubs growing out of the River Bridge wall – Clerk to contact CCBC; Clerk to complain again about the trees causing a problem to drivers at Plas Bridge. Liz Roberts had discussed some issues with Kevin Jones from CCBC, reminding him about the hedge opposite 5 Maes y Braich and the need to cut the hedge opposite the top end of Maes y Braich. Liz Roberts confirmed that it is intended to form a team to cut the grass and other varied work in the area, this was welcomed.

Footpaths. It was understood that work is in hand at llwybyr cul. Ioan Davies replied confirming that no work is ongoing in the area, the odd gate and stile have been installed, it is intended to carry out a survey of the condition of the paths in the area in 2016. Clerk had received a comment about the poor condition of pillars supporting the path at Pont Bwlch, Liz Roberts had contacted Elwyn Williams at CCBC who had arranged for repairs to take place, Clerk to thank him and to ask if they are happy with the condition of the path and the bridge?

Station site. A reply from Councillor Wyn E.Jones confirmed that CCBC had failed to obtain grant funding for 20mph signs near schools, therefore they are to look into what they can achieve with less funding. He had copied Vic Turner into his reply for him to comment on the response. Liz Roberts commented that using the 'soldiers lookalike figures' used recently at Waterloo Bridge was being considered, School Governors to discuss the issue. C.Brewer, Liz Roberts and the Clerk had met with Larry Davies and Ian Messner of Network Rail, an opportunity to discuss various issues like the condition of walls along the railway and the Station, moving the recycling bins and what to do with the land near the Station and tree/shrub growth on Gethin Bridge. Larry will be retiring at the end of this year.

Hydro Scheme. It is likely that an Open Meeting will be arranged before the end of the year.

The Cemetery. The Clerk had met with the Caretaker at the cemetery, cutting down further tree branches before the onset of Winter had been discussed.

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

Village History. A really good meeting of the sub committee took place with Llinos Griffin to discuss the project, various aspects of what we wanted her to do were raised, she confirmed that she hoped to start in September/October. She had mentioned keeping copies on a 'hard drive' and M.Skerrett proposed with Liz Roberts seconding that C.Brewer should buy one for the Council.

Dogs fouling. It was understood that problems persist in many areas therefore the Clerk will contact the Warden again asking her to visit the village once more.

Planning applications

Tanaeldroch. – Application to continue to site a static caravan on the land was allowed

Siting solar panels at Gwyndy – No information

River Conwy Hydro Scheme - The National Park had confirmed it was in order to submit comments, Clerk to forward the comments made: the ecological effect, the effect of the lorry parking site and entrance to the A470, the effect on tourism in the immediate area, lack of information regarding the underground pipe?, what will happen to the waste material?

Nant yr Haf Roman Bridge – Application refused

Plas Hafan – No comments nor objections

Ty Isaf Hydro Scheme – discussed in detail – no objections but many comments: concern about the effect on High Street residents and especially at 1 and 2 Penygeulan during and following the work, what will be the noise levels from the site?, care should be taken by lorry drivers in view of the children living at Tai Glan Gors, are arrangements in place to safeguard the condition of the buildings in the vicinity during and following completion of the work on the scheme including making good any damage – including insurance arrangements?

Defibrillator. Clerk and M.Skerrett have found a suitable 'pole' at Benar Terrace for siting the defibrillator, Liz Roberts to contact CCBC to ask them to fix a 'bracket' on the pole.

'Odd job' Post. Agreed that P.Davies had done a really good job at the Station yard. Liz Roberts remarked that Bob Borzelo was prepared to contribute towards the upkeep of the planters.

Village Surgery/Ffestiniog Hospital. A letter from Lynne Joannou confirmed that the Surgery will close on October 1st and that no objections had been received to the proposed closure in response to the letter issued to all practice patients? Clerk to reply noting the Members' disappointment and to seek details of the letter.

Skip Service. The skip visit was very well supported, Clerk has sent a letter of thanks.

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. CCBC skip payment £210; Community Centre £10; Liz Roberts expenses L.Davies visit £8.55; transfer Cemetery account £500; Caretaker July & August and moss treatment at Cenotaph £693.32; P.Davies work at the Station site £80; UHY Audit £246; UHY Cemetery Audit £96. Bills for payment proposed M.Chapman, seconded T.Jones.

BT Box near Bethel Chapel. Liz Roberts confirmed she is still trying to get it moved, a new BT Chief Executive is in post and Liz will be contacting her shortly.

Disabled Parking Bay. A reply from V.Turner noted that the only condition relating to overnight parking at the bay would be the need for a blue disabled driver badge to be displayed.

Roadside obstructions – He also confirmed that if the Highways Officer felt that obstructions were causing visibility problems to drivers, a notice to move the obstruction under the Highways Act 1980 would be issued.

WI Celebrations. Carys Roberts and Teleri W Jones were named to represent the Council at the Celebrations at the Community Centre.

Recycle More. It is obvious that CCBC are considering the situation along with monthly bin collections, Liz Roberts noted that they are seeking responses from residents at present.

Cynefin Housing. A housing vacancy at Tanrallt following the death of Mrs Williams.

X1 Bus. A detailed discussion ensued regarding timetable & route changes which result in fewer afternoon buses coming to the village, Liz Roberts and the Clerk have contacted Express Motors to complain and to ask why the changes? Copies to Ffestiniog Town Council, this should be raised at the Fun Day. Emma Roberts from Community Voice will be attending on the Day.

Financial Projects. The Clerk and Chair have drafted a community letter asking residents what they would like to see in the village and for any suggestions they had as regards the use of the Precept monies, the Clerk had arranged for the distribution of the letter. The Community Council will be represented at the Fund Day to meet and receive the views of the residents.

Date of next Council: Tuesday November 10th 2015 at 7pm.