

Council Minutes at the Community Centre Thursday January 8th 2015 at 6:30pm.

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

Apology: Tecwyn Jones.

Prayer. Council were lead in Prayer by the Chairperson, who then wished everyone a Happy New Year as this was the first meeting in 2015.

Minutes. Council Minutes 6.11.2014. confirmed, proposed by L.Roberts, seconded M.Chapman.

Police. E.mail message received from P.Gales confirming that he will still be visiting the area for the time being at least as changes have taken place with the full time Officers. He confirmed that he had contacted Iolo Tegid to express his concerns regarding the Roman Bridge crossroad. He had spent time in the village recently and spoken with M.Skerrett.

The A470. The Clerk is finding it difficult to pin down I.Tegid to arrange a site meeting in the village to discuss local issues of concern to the Council which include the timber frames which used to support the old gateway signs which are now unsightly. Agreed to try once again then if no response is received Clerk to contact Janet Finch-Saunders AM for her support in this matter.

County Council. Nothing to report, some of the trees along Ffordd Gefn are in a dangerous condition, E.Williams at the County Council is aware of this, Clerk will send him a reminder.

Station site. Clerk read out a recent Daily Post article confirming that E.Hart AM, Transport Minister, has agreed to fund 20mph signs near to 8 schools in Mid and East Wales. This will be the first part of her plans with the second part to include 51 schools to take place over a period of 2 years. Clerk to contact Conwy Council to seek their views.

Menter Siabod. M.Skerrett confirmed that a meeting is to take place within the week.

Hydro Scheme. Liz Roberts confirmed that a meeting has been arranged for next week, villagers are now asking questions about what is happening with the scheme, it is hoped that European funding will be forthcoming for the scheme.

Footpaths. Clerk has responded to a request from C.Turner regarding the location of 'llwybyr cul' but no work has yet taken place there.

The Cemetery. The Caretaker Post is a separate item for discussion on tonight's agenda.

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

Village History. Clerk has had very meaningful discussions with Ll.Griffin who knows the area and who is willing to work on the project. Further detailed discussions will now need to take place with those named as likely people who could provide local historical information to aid the project..

Dogs fouling. It is obvious from what was included in one of their recent press releases that Conwy Council are dealing with this issue in a serious manner. Clerk to contact L.Martin again for an update regarding the situation in the village.

Speed Limits Survey. Clerk had written to A.Roberts AM confirming that the local Council do not wish to see any changes to the 30mph restriction through the village and to express concerns

about the speeding which takes place. A reply from him confirmed that the Transport Minister will be considering responses to the survey and that he will contact the Council again when he has received the report.

Christmas Tree. Agreed that the tree looked very well and the Chairman, William, Ken, Neil and Alwyn were thanked for their valuable assistance.

Bills. Bills referred by the Clerk were discussed and agreed for payment, proposed M.Chapman, seconded C.Roberts. Agreed to consider hiring a skip again in the Spring.

Planning applications

Tanaeldroch. – No information.

Lifting Section 106 houses at Rathbone Terrace – No information received regarding the appeal
Tyn Coed – No information.

Centenary Fields. Clerk has contacted the Headmistress to ask if she has any objections to the school playing field being protected to remember the First World War, no response received to date.

Caretaker Post. Members discussed the post in detail prior to agreeing unanimously that the Clerk should advertise the Cemetery and Cenotaph posts separately but to confirm that an applicant may apply for both posts if they so wish. C.Roberts noted her interest.

'Odd job' Post. A suggestion from T.W.Jones regarding getting a person to carry out various jobs around the village – caring for the land at the Station yard and picnic tables – but not the platform area, flower tubs in the village and near the pavilion and the ones to be sited along the A470, was discussed. Clerk to draft a notice to advertise this as a new post.

Precept 2015/16. The Clerk supplied a detailed report as to the financial situation which was very favourable. A proposal by Liz Roberts, seconded by M.Skerrett to set a Precept of £6000 again for the coming year was unanimously agreed. Clerk was asked to leave the meeting so that the Members could discuss his salary. It was unanimously agreed to raise his annual salary to £800. The Clerk was grateful to the Members noting that he wasn't doing the work for the money but rather because of his affection and loyalty to the area.

The Pavilion. M.Skerrett confirmed there was a lot going on, changes to the IT Suite and Michelle will be leaving soon. What about the Council arranging a joint meeting of village organisations? T.W.Jones felt that Menter Siabod should get their own house in order before considering this. Agreed to leave the issue at present. L.Roberts noted her interest.

Village Surgery/Ffestiniog Hospital. Noting her interest, Liz Roberts left the meeting and wasn't part of the discussions. Clerk has been in regular contact with Conwy Council regarding arranging a Special Meeting and Community Poll. It was agreed to arrange a Special Meeting at the Community Centre on Monday January 19th and the following proposal to be set before the meeting, proposed by M.Chapman, seconded by C.Brewer was unanimously agreed, ***“Should in-patient beds, X-ray and a minor injuries unit be part of any plans for the future of the Ffestiniog Memorial Hospital?”*** 36 people on the local electoral roll will need to be present to make it an authentic meeting. The Clerk will prepare posters and flyers. No further information was received regarding the future of the village Surgery.

Date of next Council: Thursday March 5 2015 at 7pm.