

## **Minutes of Meeting 6/2/2025**

**Present:** Cyng Dilys Evans, Moira Mai, Eifion Roberts, Eluned Jones, Jacqueline Allen, Ken Edwards, Clare Mackintosh, Rhys Evans a Huw Antur (*Clerc*).

**Apologies:** Apology accepted by councillors Fiona Hopkins, Huw Symonds, Sion McGuinness, Eric Williams and Dilwyn Morgan (Local Member for Gwynedd Council).

**Public:** No one present.

**Snowdonia National Park Voluntary Wardening Scheme:** Angela Jones (Head of Partnerships) and Arwel Morris (Warden of Llyn Tegid) were welcomed to the meeting to present the National Park Voluntary Wardening Scheme. It was noted that volunteering opportunities were available, mainly to welcome visitors and share local knowledge, and that this largely formalised what happens naturally in the area. It was agreed that there are different benefits to volunteering in this way, particularly if Welsh speakers and learners work together. It was noted that proper training and suitable clothing would be available, along with travel costs if appropriate, with a training day taking place on Saturday April 12th. It was also noted that volunteering to manage invasive species was possible, and park staff were available to lead on this work. Town Council members were asked to encourage local people to volunteer, noting that the Llyn Tegid area is suitable for people of all ages and abilities. It was noted that further information was available on the Park's website with a link available to register to volunteer. Angela and Arwel were thanked for their presentation, and Angela said she would be re-visiting the Town Council to discuss the town's car park arrangements. Arwel said rhododendron pruning on Tomen y Bala is progressing well, and tree felling in the lake area is on the Park staff work programme.

1. **The Mayor:** All were welcomed to the meeting by the Mayor, Cllr Dilys Evans, and directed that she represent the Town Council at the Cor Godre'r Aran Concert, and that representation from the Town Council attended the Bala Community Association Dinner Club.
2. **Interest:** There was no expression of interest.
3. **Minutes:** Accuracy of meeting minutes confirmed 2/1/25.
4. **Clerk Issues / Issues arise:**
  - i. Tomen y Bala: A letter was received from the Bala Rotary Club along with pictures of a bench they would like to place on the Domen. It was noted that

the bench would need to be of plastic make, or that the Rotary Club take responsibility for the bench if it is of another make. It was agreed that the writing on the bench needed to be in Welsh. Information was also received that benches owned by the Town Council had been stored near the RFC, and arrangements had been made to move them back to the Domen area.

- ii. Town Centre Art Scheme: A questionnaire was accepted for completion following the creation of a mural on the Coop wall, but the link was not active to access the questionnaire.
- iii. Place Creation Plan – it was noted that there will be a meeting to discuss the scheme on March 10th, and the usual delegates have been asked to attend the meeting.
- iv. Bus Shelter near Cae Croes: It was decided to ask Gwynedd Highways Department to install a glass panel at the bus shelter.

5. **Gwynedd Council:** Cllr Dilwyn Morgan was not present at the meeting.

6. **Bala – Still Here:** There was a financial report stating that a total of £5,096 had been spent on the celebrations, but £600 of sponsorship had been received, and that ticket income of £820 reduced the final cost. Everyone was thanked for their work, and agreed to promote and beautify the town with the rest of the project budget. It was agreed that a link to the exhibition prepared by Cantref needed to be posted on the various town websites, ensuring the accessibility of the websites. It was agreed that the Visit Bala website needed to be updated, and the Sustainable Tourism Sub-committee was asked to consider this.

## 7. Subcommittees:

Assets Sub-Committee: It was noted that an assessment of the condition and safety of the council's assets in the town needed to be arranged.

Friendly Town Sub-Committee: A series of photographs were received showing the various problems with water channels and slabs on the town pavements. They agreed to discuss them with Cllr Dilwyn Morgan and to agree the way forward. The idea of designating Bala as a dementia friendly town was also discussed, and Cllr Clare Macintosh agreed to do further research into this. It was noted that the bench near Siop Ria has not returned.

Biodiversity Sub-Committee: It has been noted that the sub-committee is to meet shortly.

## Representatives on organisations:

Cwmni Pum Plwy Penllyn: It has been reported that work on Canolfan Bro Tegid is progressing well, and that the company wants to continue publishing the Cyfnod weekly.

Bala and Penllyn Community Association: It has been reported that a representation of the Town Council attended the society's Lunch Club, to see the provision and benefit

that will come from it. It was agreed to make a donation to the association from the Mayor's Fund.

Bala Shopping Group: It has been agreed to further enquire the group about the future arrangements of the Late Night Shopping.

8. **Planning Issues:** Planning application NP5/53/106R received to construct 10 parking spaces adjacent to units 18&19 of Bala Enterprise Park. Agreed to support the application.

9. **Finance Matters:**

- i. The latest financial position was taken into account, with £9,489.49 reported in the current account, £26,691.54 in the savings account and £576.50 in the Mayor's Fund. It was agreed to release the £3,000 earmarked to the Hockey Club for the Astro Field development as work was about to commence.
- ii. Payments for cleaning Bus Shelters, Clerk's salary payment, Christmas wreath invoice and Cyfnod invoice for the council's Christmas greeting advert were approved. It was agreed to check Gwynedd Council's invoice details for the installation of the Christmas lights.
- iii. It was agreed to consider requests for financial support from the town's organisations at the March council meeting.

10. **Correspondence:**

- i) Gwynedd Youth Forum: A questionnaire has been accepted for completion.
- ii) Ardal Ni Tidying Up Team: Information has been received that the team will be in town on W/C February 10th.
- iii) Gwynedd Visiting Economy Conference: Conference information received.
- iv) One Voice of Wales: Information has been received about an Area Committee questionnaire, a Community Survey and about the association's Annual Meeting.
- v) Bangor School of Dentistry: We agreed to support the campaign to establish the School of Dentistry.
- vi) North Wales Ambition: Regional Transport Consultation Accepted.
- vii) Snowdonia National Park: Information has been received that the Park Authority has agreed to confirm the direction of Article 4 which will govern the use of residential housing within the Park.

11. **Town Councillors' local issues:**

There were no issues to discuss.

The meeting closed at 8.30pm and the next meeting will be Thursday 6 March 2025.