

Minutes of Meeting 6/3/2025

Present: Cllr Dilys Evans, Moira May, Jacqueline Allen, Ken Edwards, Rhys Evans, Fiona Hopkins, Huw Symonds, Eric Williams, Dilwyn Morgan (Local Member for Gwynedd Council) and Huw Antur (*Clerc*).

Apologies: Apology accepted by the Councillors Eifion Roberts, Clare Mackintosh and Eluned Jones.

Public: No one present.

1. **The Mayor:** All were welcomed to the meeting by the Mayor, Cllr Dilys Evans, who said that she had represented the Town Council at the Noson Lawen at Theatr Derek Williams. She encouraged everyone to give feedback to the Theatre on its programme of activities.
2. **Interest:** Cllr Dilys Evans, Rhys Evans and Huw Symonds declared an interest in item 9.3 (financial applications).
3. **Minutes:** Accuracy of meeting minutes confirmed 6/2/25.
4. **Clerk Issues / Issues arise:**
 - i. Tomen y Bala: Arrangements were agreed to move benches to the Domen at the beginning of April, and it has been reported that discussion with the Rotary Club on additional benches is ongoing. It was noted to receive a financial contribution from Gwynedd Council to maintain the Domen.
 - ii. Placemaking Plan – it was noted that there will be a meeting to discuss the scheme on March 10th, which Cllr Dilys Evans and Moira Mai confirmed they would be attending.
 - iii. Bus Shelter near Cae Croes: It has been reported that Gwynedd Council is in discussion with the installers of the shelters regarding the missing glass panel of one of the shelters.
 - iv. Christmas Lights: It has been noted that Gwynedd Council has implemented a significant reduction in the cost of installing the lights, but that 2025 costs are likely to be high.
5. **Gwynedd Council:** Cllr Dilwyn Morgan reported, and mentioned that Gwynedd Council had put Neuadd Buddug up for sale, that the High Street tree felling scheme was moving

forward, and that the council had agreed an 8.66% council tax increase for the year 2025/2026.

6. **Bala – Yma o Hyd:** It was agreed that the programme of celebrations had come to an end, and everyone was thanked for their work. It was also agreed to remove the flags of the celebrations.

7. Subcommittees:

Biodiversity Sub-Committee: It has been reported that the group has met, and plans are in hand to plant flowers, different plants and swift boxes in different parts of the town.

Finance Sub-Committee: Agreed to arrange a meeting during May / June following completion of the annual accounts.

Sustainable Tourism Sub-Committee: It has been reported that discussions are underway on the town's website arrangements.

Representatives on organisations:

Cwmni Pum Plwy Penllyn: It has been reported that work on Canolfan Bro Tegid is progressing well, and that some internal work has now been incorporated into the works (floors and kitchen etc).

Bala Shopping Group: It has been reported that discussions are underway about the future arrangements for the Late Night Shopping.

8. **Planning Issues:** A 'Community and Town Councils and the Planning System' document has been received from Snowdonia National Park, a document setting out the basis for councils' support or opposition to a planning application, and guidance on how to submit those comments to the National Park Planning Department.

9. Finance Matters:

- i. The most recent financial position was taken into account, with £5,822.69 reported in the current account, £26,903.39 in the savings account and £479.00 in the Mayor's Fund.
- ii. Charges for cleaning Bus Shelters, Clerk's salary payment, Cwmni Pum Plwy Penllyn invoice for the use of Canolfan Henblas for the year were approved.
- iii. It was noted to receive Gwynedd Council's contribution towards the maintenance of Tomen y Bala and the receipt of the Theatr Derek Williams Bala Awards Night ticket sales.
- iv. Applications for financial assistance from the town organisations were discussed, and it was agreed to contribute as follows:
Eglwys Unedig Tegid a Llanfor (Thomas Charles memorial clean-up): £100.00
Urdd Gobaith Cymru Meirionnydd Region: £200.00
Welsh Air Ambulance: £100.00
Canolfan Deulu'r Bala (defib appeal): £400.00

Clwb Badminton y Bala: £25.00
 Llen y Llannau: £100.00
 Bala and Penllyn Community Association: £500.00
 Theatr Derek Williams: 300.00
 Ffermwyr Ieuaic Meirionnydd: £300.00
 Cantref: £200.00
 Y Cyfnod: £200.00
 Canolfan Bro Tegid: £500.00
 Teulu'r Berwyn: £350.00

10. Correspondence:

- i) Snowdonia National Park – Second Homes Policy: Information has been received on the National Park's consultation on their policy on second homes and short-term holiday accommodation.
- ii) Gwynedd Council: Information has been received that Neuadd Buddug is going on the market, that the Ardal Ni Tidying Up Team is in town on W/C March 3rd. Documents from the Gwynedd Survey 2025 were received and everyone was encouraged to take part in the consultation. Information has been received that part of Heol Arenig is closed for a period from March 5th due to essential works by Welsh Water.
- iii) A message was received from North Wales Police asking for suitable dates to hold a meeting, and April 23, 28 or 29 were suggested as possible dates.
- iv) One Voice of Wales: Invitation accepted to re-join the association for the year at a cost of £444.00. We agreed to re-join. Information has also been received that the One Voice Wales AGM has been postponed for the time being. Useful documents were also received on Organising an Event, on keeping an Asset Register and on Meeting Administration.
- v) Maintenance Issues: Photographs of weeds and overgrowth near Pont Mwnwgl y Llyn, and information about bins overflowing on High Street, were received and it was agreed to forward the information to Cllr Dilwyn Morgan.
- vi) 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:

It has been brought to the attention of a council that Gwyn Sion Ifan is retiring from his post as Manager of Awen Meirion, this after 34 years of service to the town. The clerk was asked to send to Gwyn to thank him for all his work for the town and its residents over the years.

The meeting closed at 8.45pm and the next meeting will be Thursday 3 April 2025.