

Minutes of Meeting 5/2/2026

Present: Cllr Dilys Evans, Jacqueline Allen, Huw Symonds, Eluned Jones, Ken Edwards, Tomos Ffrancon, Dilwyn Morgan (Gwynedd Council Local Member) and Huw Antur (*Clerk*).

Apologies: Apologies were received from Cllr. Moira Mai, Sion McGuinness, Eifion Roberts and Rhys Evans.

Public: Nobody present.

1. **The Mayor:** Everyone was welcomed to the meeting by the Mayor, Cllr Dilys Evans.

2. **Interest:** No interest declared.

3. **Minutes:** The accuracy of the minutes of the 15/1/26 meeting was confirmed.

4. **Clerk's Issues / Matters arising from:**

- i. Welcoming Tomos Ffrancon: Tomos Ffrancon was welcomed to his first meeting as a co-opted member of the Town Council. It was noted that Tomos qualified to be a Town Councillor because his work placement was in Bala. It was reported that Tomos had completed a Statement of Acceptance of Job and the Members' Allowance Leaflet, and that he was preparing the Councillors' Register of Interests Leaflet.
- ii. Council Vacancies: It was clarified that there were still two vacant seats on the Council, and that no response to the Council's advertisement for electors to have the opportunity to call an election. It was therefore agreed to advertise the opportunity to co-opt members, to set a deadline before the end of February, and to co-opt the new members at the March meeting.
- iii. Eryri National Park – Parking Arrangements near Llyn Tegid: It was noted that no further response had been received from the Chief Executive of the National Park following the recent discussions on parking arrangements and charges near Llyn Tegid.
- iv. Gwynedd Ni Scheme: A report was given from a meeting of the council's sub-committee on January 29 to discuss the installation of additional bike racks and flower boxes for the town, and a flagpole for the Grin car park. It was noted that the location of the bike racks was marked, and that a contractor needed to be contacted to install the equipment.
- v. Bala Artwork: It was noted that the sub-committee had also discussed a possible location for the artwork, and that they recommended a site adjacent

to the Byw'n Iach Leisure Centre. It was agreed to contact the management of the centre to discuss this further.

- vi. Town pavements: A response has been received from the Welsh Government stating that they are very prepared to discuss the general condition of the town's pavements. It was agreed to invite them to a meeting in Bala to discuss the matter further.

5. **Gwynedd Council:** A report was received from Cllr Dilwyn Morgan, who said that he had visited the newly refurbished Heol y Berwyn flats. He reported that improvements to the High Street trees were ongoing, that the sale of Neuadd Buddug had not been completed, and that he had discussed the development of the Foel Fach Wind Farm with the developers, stressing the need to appoint local contractors, to ensure bilingual correspondence, and to keep the financial benefit local.

6. Sub-committees:

Biodiversity Sub-Committee: Cllr Jacquie Allen was reported to have received a price for goods for planting flowers in the town.

Representatives on organisations:

One Voice Wales: Mayor reported from the Annual Meeting Un Llais Cymru on January 21st, and it was noted that the rules of the association had been modified in order to facilitate early decision-making.

Bala and Penllyn Community Association: No reports of recent meetings.

Bala Business Group: There has been no report of a recent meeting.

Cwmni Pum Plwy Penllyn: A report was given on the launch of the Bala and Penllyn Community Car service on February 5th, and it was noted that work on Canolfan Bro Tegid was nearing completion. It was reported that the company was developing a digital training project, and members were encouraged to complete a Digital Competence Questionnaire.

7. **Planning Issues:**

There were no planning issues to discuss.

8. **Finance Matters:**

- i. It was reported that an Annual Audit of the council's accounts for 2024/2025 had been completed, and that there were some comments and recommendations from Audit Wales. The Finance Committee has been asked to address these issues. It was confirmed that the Annual Statement was displayed on the council's website and noticeboard.
- ii. The most recent financial position was considered, and it was reported that there was £6,682 in the current account, £30,333 in the savings account and £406 in the Mayor's Fund at the end of January.

- iii. Payments for the cleaning of Bus Shelters, the Clerk's salary and Gwynedd Council's invoice for the installation and removal of the Town Council's Christmas Lights were approved.
- iv. It was noted that the council had invoiced Gwynedd Council for the maintenance of Tomen y Bala.
- v. It was agreed to consider financial requests to the Town Council at the March meeting of the council.
- vi. It was reported that the Mayor had checked the Town Council's bank accounts.

9. Correspondence:

- i) Liz Saville Roberts: Information has been received about an opportunity to nominate Bala for the UK Town of Culture awards.
- ii) One Voice Wales: Information has been received about an opportunity to nominate the council for the National One Voice Wales Awards.
- iii) One Voice Wales: A copy of the One Voice Wales training programme for the spring was received, and the clerk was asked to circulate the information to the members, specifically to the new members.

10. **Town Councillors' local affairs:** Cllr Tomos Ffrancon drew members' attention to the National Park Buildings Fund, and Tomos was asked to forward the information in case it could benefit the town.

The next meeting will be on Thursday 5 March 2026.