

Minutes of Meeting 5/3/2026

Present: Cllr Eifion Roberts, Jacqueline Allen, Huw Symonds, Eluned Jones, Ken Edwards, Rhys Evans, Sion McGuinness, Tomos Ffrancon and Huw Antur (*Clerk*).

Apologies: Apologies were received from Cllr. Dilys Evans, Moira Mai and Dilwyn Morgan (Gwynedd Council Local Member).

Public: Nobody present.

1. **The Mayor:** In the absence of the Mayor and the Deputy Mayor the meeting was chaired by Cllr Eifion Roberts.
2. **Interest:** Cllr Huw Symonds, Rhys Evans and Eluned Jones declared an interest in item 8.2 (financial applications).
3. **Minutes:** The accuracy of the minutes of the 5/2/26 meeting was confirmed.
4. **Clerk's Issues / Matters arising from:**
 - i. Council Vacancies: It was reported that there were two vacancies on the council, that the opportunity for co-optation had been advertised, and that two names had been received, namely Ceri Dolben and Haydn Roberts. Following discussion it was agreed to co-opt the two as members of the council, and the clerk was asked to make the necessary arrangements.
 - ii. Snowdonia National Park – Llyn Tegid Parking Arrangements: It was noted that the National Park Authority has approved the arrangements for 2026/2027, and that there will be an opportunity to discuss modifications to the arrangement in 12 months' time.
 - iii. Cynllun Gwynedd Ni: It was reported that the flower boxes for the High Street had arrived, and arrangements were made to plant flowers and plants etc. It was agreed to proceed with the purchase of soil and gravel etc, and the possibility of having different groups to adopt a flower box, taking care of the watering and weeding etc was suggested. Jacqui was thanked for her work.
 - iv. Bala Artwork: It was reported that a council representation had met with the manager of Canolfan Byw'n Iach Penllyn to discuss relocating the artwork to a site adjacent to the centre. It was also noted that a brief has been prepared for the valuation of the work, and that funding will need to be targeted to fund the relocation of the artwork. It was noted that the artwork will need to be painted, and that a suitable site for this work will need to be found.

- v. Town pavements: It was noted that no further response had been received from the Welsh Government regarding the general condition of the town's pavements. It was agreed to contact again to try to arrange a meeting.
- vi. Training for council members: It was agreed to fund training sessions for new council members, and to do this within the budget set.
- vii. Tomen y Bala and Bus Shelters: It has been noted that the term of the maintenance contracts for the Tomen and the shelters expires in March. It was agreed to advertise the new agreements for a period of 3 years
- viii. Bala Rugby Club: It was agreed to provide a letter of support for the Rugby Club's intention to run a programme of training for its younger members.

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

6. Sub-committees:

Asset Sub-Committee: It was noted that the group was working on the projects Gwynedd Ni and Gwaith Celf y Bala.

Friendly Town Sub-Committee: It was reported that an Information Pack was available which would provide guidance on how to achieve Bala Friendly Town status.

Biodiversity Sub-Committee: It was reported that the group is working on the plan to plant flowers in town.

Representatives on organisations:

Cwmni Pum Plwy Penllyn: It was reported that the refurbishment of Canolfan Bro Tegid had been completed, and that there was a high demand for the Community Transport Service. It was noted that more volunteers were needed to drive the vehicle and take care of the users.

7. **Planning Issues:**

There were no planning issues to discuss.

8. **Finance Matters:**

- i. The most recent financial position was considered, with £3,819 in the current account, £30,369 in the savings account and £393 in the Mayor's Fund at the end of February.
- ii. Payments were approved for the cleaning of Bus Shelters, the Clerk's salary, Cwmni Pum Plwy Penllyn invoices for Cyfnod adverts and for maintaining public footpaths in 2025, Bala Football Club's invoice for an on-pitch advertisement, and Hill & Roberts' invoice for the council's PAYE service.
- iii. Consideration was given to the applications for financial support for 2025/2026, and it was agreed to contribute as follows:
 - a) Canolfan Bro Tegid: £500
 - b) Urdd Meirionnydd: £200

- c) CFFI Meirionnydd: £300
- d) Bala and Penllyn Community Association: £500
- e) Cantref: £200
- f) Castle Street Play Park: £200
- g) Theatr Bara Caws: £100
- h) Wales Air Ambulance: £100
- i) Urdd Gobaith Cymru Opportunity for All Fund: £100
- j) Llen y Llannau: £100
- k) Theatr Derek Williams: £500 (agreed to have further discussion about the needs of the theatre)
- l) Y Cyfnod: £200
- m) Teulu Berwyn: £350

9. Correspondence:

- i) Gwynedd Council – 30m per hour restriction: Information has been received regarding the intention to adjust the speed limit in certain areas of the town. It was agreed that a 20m per hour signage would be required at the entrance to Hafan, Ffordd y Gerddi and y Parciau.
- ii) Gwynedd Council: Notices have been received that Heol Tegid, Heol y Plase and Heol Arenig will be temporarily closed at various times to complete essential works.
- iii) Gwynedd Council: Information has been received that traffic will be temporarily prohibited on Heol Tegid, Heol y Plase and Heol y Domen.
- iv) Gwynedd Council: Information has been received that the Community Councils Support Fund will reopen by the summer, and that funding is available to support the council's projects.
- v) Gwynedd Council: Information has been received that the Ardal Ni Tidying Team will be in town on W/C 9.3.26.
- vi) Gwynedd Council – Toilets: Information has been received that the toilets will be painted shortly, and the toilets will be closed during this work.
- vii) Snowdonia National Park – Local Development Plan: Information has been received that the National Park is reviewing the Local Development Plan, and is making an open call for suitable development sites. It was agreed to re-discuss this issue at the next council meeting.
- viii) Snowdonia National Park – Community Prosperity Fund: Information has been received that the fund will reopen shortly.
- ix) Cwmni Pum Plwyf Penllyn – Public Footpath Maintenance Arrangements: There was a discussion about public footpath maintenance arrangements for 2026, and it was noted that the arrangements were suitable as they are.
- x) Ysgol Godre'r Berwyn – Clearing a path up to the Golf Club: An application has been received from Ysgol Godre'r Berwyn for consent to clear and collect litter

on the path. The request was agreed, asking the school to take care of child safeguarding and health and safety arrangements.

- xi) Protecting Welsh Place Names: It was agreed to send a message to the Ordnance Survey to request them to use Welsh vernacular names on their publications.
- xii) One Voice Wales: The council has been invited to rejoin the association for 2026/2027. It was agreed to join as usual.

10. **Town Councillors' local matters:** There was a discussion on the council's use of social media. It was agreed that ownership and information about the town's events could be shared on the media, and that new content needed to be created and more visible. It was reported that Cllr Eluned Jones and the Clerk had met with Anne Deakin from the University of Gloucester on the socio-economic impacts on rural communities of land use, and that the discussion had been interesting and constructive.

The next meeting will be on Thursday 2 April 2026.