

Minutes of Meeting 2/4/2026

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

Apologies: Apologies were received from Cllr. Eifion Roberts, Moira Mai and Ceri Evans.

Public: Alwyn Sion, on behalf of the Board of Directors of Theatr Derek Williams.

1. **The Mayor:** Everyone was welcomed to the meeting by the Mayor, Cllr Dilys Evans, with a special welcome to Haydn Roberts to his first council meeting.
2. **Interest:** No interest declared.
3. **Minutes:** The accuracy of the minutes of the 5/3/26 meeting was confirmed.

Alwyn Sion was invited to give a presentation on the activity of Theatr Derek Williams. Alwyn gave a background to the theatre's financial situation over the most recent period, noting that it has long been a very challenging situation. He said that a Business Plan had been prepared, which shows a funding gap of around £14,000 a year, a gap that needs to be filled through a combination of cuts, grants, donations and sponsorship. He explained that showing films in the theatre was very costly, and had been leading to losses for the theatre. He explained that the theatre is not currently in a position to show films due to this high cost. Alwyn appealed for the Town Council's support for the theatre's general activities, thanking all the support over the years. Alwyn was thanked for his presentation, and the council's Finance Sub-Committee was asked to consider the situation further.

4. Clerk's Issues / Matters arising from:

- i. Council Vacancies: It was reported that Ceri Dolben Evans and Haydn Roberts had agreed to join the council, and had completed the Declaration of Acceptance, the Register of Interests and the Members' Allowance Form.
- ii. Cynllun Gwynedd Ni: It was reported that the flower boxes for the High Street had arrived, and arrangements were in place for planting flowers and plants etc. It was agreed to place Red Dragon flags on Tomen y Bala and near Canolfan Hamdden Penllyn as usual.
- iii. Bala Artwork: It has been reported that Canolfan Hamdden Penllyn has prepared a licence to place the artwork on a site adjacent to the centre. It

was also noted that Angharad Pearce Jones, the original sculptor of the artwork, had submitted a discounted valuation for the repainting and re-installation of the art near the leisure centre, and it was agreed to accept her offer with thanks. It was agreed to send the brief to lay the concrete foundation to local contractors for valuation, and then to make applications to Gwynedd Ni Fund / National Park Community Fund to fund the work.

- iv. Town pavements: An offer was received from the Welsh Government to meet on April 15th to discuss the general condition of the town's pavements. Dilys Evans, Rhys Evans, Eluned Jones and Ken Edwards agreed to attend.
- v. Tomen y Bala and Bus Shelters: It was agreed to accept the offers of Gwilym Prys Edwards to maintain the Domes, and Ali to clean the town's bus shelters for three years until 2028.
- vi. It was reported that Gwynedd Council has agreed to install 20mph signage at the entrance to the Industrial Estate, Ffordd y Gerddi and Parciau, following a request from the Town Council.
- vii. There was a discussion on the Snowdonia National Park Local Development Plan, and it was agreed to comment following the May meeting of the Town Council.
- viii. It was noted that the clerk will attend a training session on the completion of councils' Annual Report on April 8th.

5. **Gwynedd Council:** A report was given by Cllr Dilwyn Morgan in which he referred to:

- The need to update yellow lines in parts of the town, and the need to control parking near the entrance to the Rugby Club.
- That ADRA deals with parking issues in Blaenddol.
- That the work on the High Street trees was drawing to an end, and that the work appears to be of a high standard.
- That Neuadd Buddug remains unsold, and discussions are underway with a community group to find a new use for the hall.
- That Iwan Roberts, the Police Community Support Officer is retiring, and that his work needs to be recognised and that there is a need to ensure continuity for this important service.
- That there were local concerns about speeding near Ysgol Godre'r Berwyn, and that police were aware of the situation.
- That some of the high street benches have been painted, and that the removal of some benches from the D H Hones centre needs to be co-ordinated.
- That it would be good to have banners on the town's shops – this is to be discussed further with the town's Shops Group.

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 has been reported that the meeting to discuss the town's pavements will be key to achieving Bala Friendly Town status.

Finance Sub-Committee: It was noted that a meeting of the Finance Committee will be required once the council's draft accounts for 2025/2026 have been prepared.

Sustainable Tourism sub-committee: Cllr Sion McGuinness reported that he will arrange a meeting to move the work forward.

Representatives on organisations:

Cwmni Pum Plwy Penllyn: It was noted that the next meeting of the company will be on Monday April 20th to discuss the development of the company's various projects.

7. Planning Issues:

There were no planning issues to discuss.

8. Finance Matters:

- i. The most recent financial position was considered, and it was reported that there were £1,098 in the current account, £27,402 in the savings account and £742 in the Mayor's Fund at the end of March.
- ii. Thanks were received for the council's financial contributions in March.
- iii. It was decided not to contribute towards the Llangollen Eisteddfod.
- iv. Payments were approved for the cleaning of Bus Shelters, the Clerk's salary, Cwmni Pum Plwy Penllyn invoices for advertisements in the Cyfnod, the rent of meeting rooms and for the printing of Sustainable Tourism leaflets.
- v. A transfer of £3,000 from the savings account to the current account, and £400 from the current account to the Mayor's Fund was approved in line with the council's budget for 2025/2026.
- vi. A Notice of Financial Audit was received for 2025/2026.

9. Correspondence:

- i) Gwynedd Council: Notice has been received that Heol Arenig will be temporarily closed for essential works.
- ii) Gwynedd Council: Information was received about a meeting of the Bala and Penllyn Regeneration Forum on April 29th. Cllr Dilys Evans, Tomos Ffrancon, Jacquie Allen and Dilwyn Morgan agreed to attend.
- iii) Gwynedd Council: Information has been received on the council's Highways Department Work Programme for the repair, painting and cleaning of the town's public toilets.
- iv) One Voice Wales: A copy of the One Voice Wales manifesto for the 2026 Welsh Parliament election has been received.

- v) One Voice Wales: Information has been received about the National One Voice Wales Awards for 2026.
- vi) One Voice Wales: A copy of the 2026 Training Programme has been received.
- vii) Menter Môn: Information was received about an opportunity to hold public WIFI in the town, with software that would provide information on the movements of visitors to the town. It was agreed that the cost was too high to proceed with the service.
- viii) National Eisteddfod of Wales: Information was received about the Eisteddfod's Proclamation Ceremony in Llanidloes on May 9th.
- ix) Cambrian Railway: A letter has been received highlighting the lack of investment in the Cambrian Railway in recent years.
- x) North Wales Police: Invited to a meeting in Bala to discuss local police issues has been accepted. It was agreed for Dilys Evans, Rhys Evans and Jacquie Allen to represent the council, and to propose April 23rd and 30th as possible dates.

10. **Town Councillors' local affairs:** There were no additional issues to be discussed, and the next meeting will be on Thursday 7 May 2026.