

Minutes of Meeting 2/7/2026

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

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

Public: Nobody present.

1. **The Mayor:** Everyone was welcomed to the meeting by the Mayor, Cllr Rhys Evans. He again referred to all the work of Cllr Dilys Evans as Mayor of the Town, thanking her for her work on behalf of the residents.
2. **Interest:** No interest declared.
3. **Minutes:** The accuracy of the minutes of the 4/6/26 meeting was confirmed.

Resignation of Cllr Huw Symonds: A message has been received from Huw Symonds confirming that he is resigning from his role as a member of the Town Council. Huw was thanked for his work, and it was agreed to discuss co-opting arrangements at the September meeting of the council.

4. Clerk's Issues / Matters arising from:

- i. Gwynedd Ni Scheme: It was noted that one bike rack remains uninstalled. Various possible locations in the town were discussed, and the clerk was asked to make enquiries with the landowners.
- ii. Bala Artwork: It was reported that the application for funding to carry out the relocation of the artwork has been approved. It was agreed to proceed with the appointment of the contractors to relocate and upgrade the artwork and lay a concrete foundation, in collaboration with the Rhiwlas Estate and Penllyn Healthy Living Leisure Centre. It was also noted that further funding could be applied for, and following discussion it was agreed to discuss the possibility of contributing to the upgrade of Canolfan Henblas, and the clerk was asked to proceed with the discussions and with the request for additional funding.
- iii. Tomen y Bala Bench: Bala Rotary Club gave an update that they have installed a bench on the Tomen in memory of the late Arthur Evans, and that they intend to hold a ceremony to record the installation of the bench. The

Mayor and County Councillor were asked to attend the ceremony on behalf of the Town Council.

- iv. **Visitor Levy:** There was a discussion on Gwynedd Council's consultation on the proposal to introduce a Visitor Levy in the county, which would raise £0.90 per person per night in a tent, or £1.56 per person in a caravan or holiday accommodation. It was noted that the levy could raise around £2.5m a year for Gwynedd, money that could be used in the form of grants to develop and protect the county's local communities. Following discussion it was agreed to support the proposal, and also to note the need for an administrative system that will not place an unreasonable burden on local businesses.
5. **Gwynedd Council:** A report was received from Cllr Dilwyn Morgan. He thanked Bala Business Group and the councillors who had been weeding in the town at the beginning of the week, noting that the High Street was worth seeing following the work. He also said that there is an arrangement for the Gwynedd Ardal Ni Tidying Up Team to come and spray herbicide in the back streets of the town soon. He explained that discussions had begun on the introduction of yellow lines on parts of Heol Tegid towards the lake, in order to try and control irregular parking by campervans etc, but that this process could take a few months. It was suggested that Police Community Support Officers should be invited to the next council meeting to raise these issues.
6. **Sub-committees:**
 - Asset Sub-Committee:** It was noted that the glass remains uninstalled on a bus shelter in the town, and that work is unfinished on one of the trees on the High Street. It was noted that a bench on the lake footpath had been repaired. It was noted that benches needed to be installed at Blaenddol – the Mayor to co-ordinate the arrangements with a local craftsman. It was also reported that discussion was needed on the future maintenance arrangements of the Grin playing field, and the specific role of the Town Council in the arrangements.
 - Biodiversity Sub-Committee:** It was reported that the planting of flowers on the High Street had been completed, and also that a Asian Hornet Policy had been prepared. It was agreed to apply for small grants (e.g. to fund swift boxes), and also to look into the possibility of developing a biodiversity project on Grin y Bala.

Representatives on organisations:

One Voice Wales: It was noted that the Meirionnydd Branch Annual Meeting will be held on July 15th.

Bala Business Group: It was noted that their annual meeting was held on June 23rd.

Cwmni Pum Plwy Penllyn: A report was given on the company's recent work in managing Canolfan Henblas, Canolfan Bro Tegid, providing a Wellbeing Hub for Bala, announcing the Cyfnod and providing a Community Car. It was also noted that the company is researching funding to carry out feasibility work on a Community Hydro Plan for the area.

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 £11,791 was in the current account, £37,490 in the retention account and £592 in the Mayor's Fund at the end of June.
- ii. Payments for the cleaning of Bus Shelters, the Clerk's salary, Meirion Jones' invoices for flowers for the High Street, and Gwilym Edwards' invoice for the maintenance of Tomen y Bala were approved.
- iii. It was reported that the council's final accounts for 2025/2026 had been submitted to Audit Wales, and that an advertisement had been prepared setting out residents' rights to view the annual accounts.
- iv. A message of thanks was received for financial support from the Mayor's Fund from Bala Youth Football Club.

9. Correspondence:

- i) Snowdonia National Park – Bala Dwellings Profile: It was noted that the park is preparing a Local Development Plan, and that a profile of Bala dwellings is part of the plan. A Policy Sub-Committee was established to consider the profile, with the mayor, clerk and Cllr Ceri Evans and Tomos Ffrancon forming the Sub-Committee.
- ii) Democracy and Boundaries Commission for Wales – the commission received a consultation on the future size and structure of local councils, and the Policy Sub-Committee was asked to look at the recommendations.
- iii) One Voice Wales: Annual Conference. Information about the conference was received.
- iv) Mary Jones Information Board: Information has been received from the Bible Society stating that the new information board has recently been installed on the High Street.
- v) Place Road: Notice has been received that Place Road will be temporarily closed on July 8th for essential works.
- vi) Urdd Gobaith Cymru: An invitation was received to De Gwersyll in Llangrannog on August 3rd, following the council's contribution to the organisation's Cyfle i Bawb Fund.

10. **Town Councillors local issues:** The need for a crossing near the Grin and between the River Path and the path leading to the Rugby Club was discussed. The clerk was asked to discuss with officers from Gwynedd Council's Traffic Service.

The mayor wished everyone a happy summer and it was noted that the next meeting will be held on Thursday 3 September 2026.