

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF TYWYN TOWN COUNCIL
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 9TH DECEMBER 2015
AT YSGOL UWCHRADD TYWYN AT 7.00PM

CHAIR: Councillor John Boulter

PRESENT: Councillors: Mark D. Kendall, John Pughe, Richie E. Owens, Nancy E. Clarke
Mike Stevens, Alun W. Evans, Anne Lloyd-Jones

PRESENTATION: MR BY QUENTIN DEAKIN, CHAIR OF SOS GWYNEDD

The Chairman extended a welcome to Mr Deakin, Chair of SOS Gwynedd. Mr Deakin proceeded to address the meeting and provided handouts detailing the effect of Gwynedd Challenge's proposed minimum service cuts on Tywyn. It was noted by Mr Deakin that Tywyn is one of the 9 main libraries in Gwynedd and the minimum cut would be likely to maintain this position along with the Tourist Information Centre.

Mr Deakin raised concern regarding the distances people would have to travel in order to reach their nearest leisure centre and swimming pool, should Tywyn's leisure centre close. The round trip distance to Dolgellau was noted as 40 miles and Harlech at 70 miles. The need for the aforesaid services in Tywyn was emphasised and in particular how valuable the leisure centre is in regards to health and fitness for children, and GP referral for the elderly.

Cl. 133 **APOLOGIES:** Ron W. McCoo, R. M. Vaughan, Eileen M. Ellis, Islwyn H. Davies
9.12.15

Cl. 134 **DECLARATION OF INTEREST:**
9.12.15

Cllr Clarke (Cl. 140)
Cllr Kendall (Cl. 140)
Cllr Stevens (Cl. 140 / Cl. 142)
Cllr Lloyd-Jones (Cl. 140)

Cl.135 **CHAIRMAN'S ACTIVITY REPORT:**
9.12.15

The Chairman presented his report and noted the following engagements:

- 12.11.15. Attended a meeting at the Pendre Garden Centre with Cllr Ron McCoo and the Clerk, Elwyn Evans in order to discuss the cost to purchase plants for Tywyn Town Council for the forthcoming season.
- 16.11.15. Attended a meeting in Porthmadog to discuss with officers of Gwynedd Council the possible effect should the proposed service reduction to disabled people and people needing care take place.
- 20.11.15. Turned-on the Christmas Lights in Tywyn.
- 23.11.15. Attended a Planning Committee held at the Town Council office.
- 24.11.15. Chaired a meeting to discuss the Community Benefit package in regards to Novus solar panel project at Morfa Camp, Sandilands.

- 2.12.15. Attended a meeting of the Ynysymaengwyn Caravan Park Committee at the Resource Centre, Ysgol Uwchradd Tywyn.
- 6.12.15. Attended a Christmas Carol Readings Tribute Service at the Neuadd Pendre organised by Tywyn Churches Together and the Royal British Legion.

Cl. 136
9.12.15 **RECEIVE AND APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 11 NOVEMBER 2015**

A discussion was held regarding the accuracy of the minutes. Councillors Mike Stevens and John Pughe requested the minutes to record their dissatisfaction with the accuracy of the minutes.

It was put to the vote:

FOR: Councillors: John Boulter, Mark D. Kendall, Richie E. Owens, Nancy E. Clarke, Alun W. Evans, Anne Lloyd-Jones

AGAINST: Councillors: John Pughe, Mike Stevens

ABSTAINED: None

RESOLVED: To receive and approve the minutes, with Councillor Alun Evans proposing and Councillor Anne Lloyd-Jones seconding the proposal.

Cl. 137
9.12.15 **RECEIVE AND APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE HELD ON MONDAY, 23 NOVEMBER 2015**

RESOLVED: To receive and approve the minutes, with Councillor Anne Lloyd-Jones proposing and Councillor Richie Owens seconding the proposal.

Cl. 138
9.12.15 **RECEIVE AND APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, 24 NOVEMBER 2015**

RESOLVED: To receive and approve the minutes, with Councillor Anne Lloyd-Jones proposing and Councillor Mark Kendall seconding the proposal.

Cl. 139
9.12.15 **APPROVE THE TREASURER'S REPORT FOR NOVEMBER 2015**

RESOLVED: To approve the Treasurer's Report for November, with Councillor Mark Kendall proposing and Councillor Anne Lloyd-Jones seconding the proposal.

Cl.140
9.12.15 **REQUEST FOR FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION – TYWYN EVENTS ORGANISATION**

Councillors Nancy Clarke, Mark Kendall and Mike Stevens declared an interest and left the room.

RESOLVED: To approve the request, with Councillor John Pughe proposing the total sum of £500 (£250 from Development & Amenities) and Councillor Richie Owens seconding the proposal.

Councillors Nancy Clarke, Mark Kendall and Mike Stevens re-joined the meeting.

Cl. 141
9.12.15

GWYNEDD COUNCIL - MARITIME AND COUNTRY PARK'S SERVICE

Income and Expenditure information from April 1st, 2011 to November, 26th 2015 was received regarding the cost of Tywyn's beach and promenade. It was noted that Gwynedd Council to date had not been able to find a copy of the covenant concerning the gifting of the promenade to the local council.

RESOLVED: To write to Gwynedd Council's Property and Legal Departments enclosing a photocopy of the conveyance dated November, 6th 1889 and a photograph of the plaque on the promenade, with Councillor Alun Evans proposing and Councillor Anne Lloyd Jones seconding the proposal. An amendment proposed by Councillor John Pugh and seconded by Councillor Mark Kendall, to include the request that Gwynedd Council shall provide documentary evidence showing it has the right to charge for parking at the promenade was carried.

Cl. 142
9.12.15

JOINT LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN DROP-IN SESSION

Councillor Nancy Clarke informed the Council that she was present at the drop-in session held on Thursday, November 12th 2015 at the Baptist Church in Tywyn. It was reported that the disadvantages of the extra development as a result of up-grading Tywyn were not given; these being the loss of flood plains, increase risk of floods and extra demand on the sewerage plant. These would have a direct impact through loss of tourism and impact the character of the town. It was also reported that serious accusations and derogatory remarks had been directed towards Town Councillors.

Councillor Mike Stevens who had organised the drop-in session asked the minutes to note that he'd received a lot of support with his efforts to up-grade Tywyn to an Urban Centre and that he had not made discriminatory remarks.

RESOLVED: To accept the information

Cl. 143
9.12.15

BRIDGE ACROSS THE RIVER DYFI (A487)

The Welsh Government's proposed new bridge across the River Dyfi (A487 north of Machynlleth) was discussed. It was noted that the current bridge is affected by flooding more often than not and that the proposal put forward did not solve the problem. It was reported that closure of the current bridge resulted in a detour which meant that an hour journey to Aberystwyth becomes a 2 hour journey, which has serious repercussions for the Emergency Services and the people of Aberdyfi, Pennal and Tywyn.

RESOLVED: To write a letter to Machynlleth Town Council regarding the lack of consultation about the new bridge and to express Tywyn Town Council's opinion that southern

Meirionnydd needs a reliable road that is not prone to flooding, with Councillor John Pughe proposing and Councillor Richie Owens seconding the proposal.

Cl. 144
9.12.15 **ARRANGEMENTS FOR PLANTING IN SPRING 2016**

A verbal report was given following a meeting at the Pendre Garden Centre to discuss purchasing plants for spring 2016. It was reported that due to the Garden Centre being sold, a decision to purchase there and then was required in order to purchase.

RESOLVED: To accept the information

Cl. 145
9.12.15 **SCRIBE ACCOUNTING SOFTWARE**

RESOLVED: To purchase an annual licence for Scribe at £245 per annum, with Councillor John Pughe proposing and Councillor Mike Stevens seconding the proposal.

Cl. 146
9.12.15 **GWYNEDD COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

To receive verbal reports from Gwynedd Councillors on matters in the Council's interest.

Councillor Anne Lloyd Jones reported the following:

- The attendance records of Councillors are available on Gwynedd Council's website.
- There was a delay with the redevelopment of Tywyn Memorial Hospital, a new date for a site visit was being set for the end of January.
- Gwynedd Council is advising people to be wary of a telephone scam where a person purports to be from the council and attempting to obtain personal bank account details.
- Gwynedd Council's Street Enforcement Team are clamping down on offenders, with 36 fly tippers fined in 2014/15 and further prosecutions in progress.
- Free parking is being made available over the festive period, with free parking available from 12 to 26 December 2015.
- The Road Safety Team has launched a scheme to help mature drivers. The scheme offers free training to drivers 65+.

Councillor Mike Stevens reported the following:

- Had met Liz Saville-Roberts MP to discuss Royal Mail's proposal to close Tywyn's Sorting Office.
- £1 million has been allocated and ring-fenced to develop the swimming pool at Tywyn. With the funding to be used in its entirety is for the pool and not the rest of the leisure centre.
- Snowdonia has been given "dark sky status" and there is a push to promote solar tourism, a sector which is expected to grow by as much as 70% in Snowdonia.
- Had attended a meeting of the Ynysymaengwyn Trust and was concerned that annual returns for a number of years had not been submitted to the Charity Commission.

The Clerk, Elwyn Evans provided an explanation as to why the Charity Commission's website showed that no annual returns had been submitted. There had been a clerical

error on the part of the Ynysymaengwyn Trust, which resulted in all the submitted returns being deleted by the Charity Commission and requiring all returns to be re-submitted.

RESOLVED: To accept the information. Ynysymaengwyn Trust to discuss the annual returns as an Agenda item at its meeting in January 2016.

Cl. 147
9.12.15 **OPPORTUNITY FOR COUNCILLORS TO REPORT BACK TO THE COUNCIL FOLLOWING THEIR ATTENDANCE AT EXTERNAL COMMITTEES**

Councillor Alun Evans reported the following:

- Attended a Cambrian Railway Liaison Committee on 13 November 2015. It was reported that more people are using the railway line and there has been a reduction in the number of offences committed. Complaints had been received regarding the cleanliness of the carriages, the lack of a shelter at Dyfi Junction Station and the amount of time passengers had to wait for a connecting service. It was reported that new toilets would be provided in the future and that windows would be cleaned in Machynlleth.
- Chaired a One Voice Wales Meirionnydd branch meeting in Dolgellau on 25 November. A presentation was given by an officer from CCG Social Housing; £136 million is being spent on improving the housing stock with 80% complete and 225 new houses have been built. At the meeting, Gwynedd Council's decision to transfer responsibility of salt bins to community councils was discussed, in particular the impact the decision had on small rural community councils.

RESOLVED: To accept the information

Cl. 148
9.12.15 **CLERK'S REPORT**

The Clerk's report for November was circulated to Councillors.

RESOLVED: To approve the Clerk's report

TO RECEIVE CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence That Necessitates Action by the Council.
Gwynedd Council - update on Gwynedd Challenge

Cl. 149
9.12.15

RESOLVED: To accept the information

Cl. 150
9.12.15 One Voice Wales - Minister for Public Services - consultation on a Draft Local Government (Wales) Bill which sets out the Welsh Government's detailed proposals for the reform of local government - 15 February 2016

RESOLVED: To accept the information.

Cl. 151
9.12.15 Correspondence Received That Does **Not** Necessitate Action by the Council And Is Available At The Clerk's Office For Perusal By Any Interested Councillor

- (a) Llafar y Deillion - acknowledgement of receipt of financial donation –
- (b) North Wales Police and Crime Commissioner - newsletter
- (c) Gwynedd Council - Joint Planning Policy Unit - Update on the Local Development Plan
- (d) Welsh Water - 'Wrap up Wales' campaign
- (e) Gwynedd Business Network – newsletter
- (f) One Voice Wales - BCUHB - report from the Stakeholder Reference Group
- (g) One Voice Wales - response to consultation on Statutory Guidance for the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015
- (h) One Voice Wales - Green Growth Wales consultation - 29 January 2016
- (i) Wales Audit Office – newsletter
- (j) North Wales Police and Crime Commissioner - consultation on policing priorities - 15 January 2016
- (k) Gwynedd Council - Highways Maintenance and Municipal Service - Temporary Prohibition of Through Traffic Order 2015, Ffynnon Arian Road, Tywyn

The meeting was declared closed at 9:07pm