

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF TYWYN TOWN COUNCIL
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 10TH FEBRUARY 2016
AT YSGOL UWCHRADD TYWYN AT 7.00PM

CHAIR: Councillor John Boulter

PRESENT: Councillors: Ron W. McCoo, John Pughe, Richie E. Owens, Nancy E. Clarke, Anne Lloyd-Jones, Daniel A. Wyre, Mike Stevens, Alun W. Evans, Islwyn H. Davies, Eileen M. Ellis, Mark D. Kendall

IN ATTENDANCE: Bedwyr Gwilym, Town Clerk

A one minute silence was held for Councillors who had lost loved ones recently.

PRESENTATION: ED JESSAMINE, NOVUS ENERGY

It was reported that work had commenced at the site, with cabling being installed for CCTV cameras. A number of deliveries would be arriving over the next couple of weeks with structures and then the solar panels. The site would be connected during the second week in March and work to repair the ground would follow. The time-lapse cameras installed would enable people to view the site prior to construction, during construction and post construction.

Novus Energy would be the owner and manager of the site and was currently investigating the feasibility of installing a private wire into the town in order to provide electricity to run municipal buildings. This would mean the producer selling electricity directly to the consumer i.e. Novus Energy selling directly to Gwynedd Council, thus cutting out the middle-man and providing better prices to both parties.

PRESENTATION: QUENTIN DEAKIN, CHAIR OF SOS GWYNEDD

It was reported that respondents to the Gwynedd Challenge consultation had given priority to save leisure centres, recycling facilities and libraries, with these three being amongst the top of 118 possible cuts that people wanted to save. The consultation received more comments on leisure centres and libraries and the services seemed to be highly valued by the public, with these facilities used by the community and not just tourists.

It was reported that by drilling the consultation results down by post code, there was a clear majority in all areas - well over 50% - to keep leisure centres, recycling and libraries. If a leisure centre also had a swimming pool it was even more valued by the community, in particular Bala and Tywyn leisure centres. In terms of Gwynedd's dry leisure centres, Bethesda prioritised the library out of the three, with Dolgellau and Barmouth prioritising recycling.

SOS Gwynedd reported that it believed there was a strong case for Tywyn to keep its facilities, with no leisure centres to be closed in Gwynedd and nine of the main libraries being kept open.

Councillor Alun W. Evans entered at 7:30pm

Cl. 175 **APOLOGIES:** R. M. Vaughan
10.02.16

Cl. 176
10.02.16

DECLARATION OF INTEREST:

Cllr Ron McCoo (Cl. 182)
Cllr John Boulter (Cl. 182)

Cl. 177
10.02.16

CHAIRMAN'S ACTIVITY REPORT:

The Chairman presented his report and noted the following engagements:

- 14.01.16 Attended a committee meeting of the International Sheepdog Trials 2016
- 18.01.16 Chaired an Extraordinary meeting to discuss and set Tywyn Town Council's precept for 2016/17
- 25.01.16 Chaired a Planning Committee
- 25.01.16 Attended Gwynedd Council's Meirionnydd Area Forum at Neuadd Pendre in order to give a presentation. Unfortunately due to a misunderstanding the presentation was given by another person. Apologies were given to the officer responsible for organising the meeting and apologies were forwarded to all concerned.
- 26.01.16 Met Bryn Roberts of Evans Roberts Solicitors with the Town Clerk in order to discuss an ongoing legal situation
- 2.02.16 Visited Evans Roberts Solicitors with the Town Clerk in order to continue discussions regarding an ongoing legal situation
- 8.02.16 Attended the funeral of Susan Kendall on the behalf of Tywyn Town Council.

Cl. 178
10.02.16

RECEIVE AND APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 13 JANUARY 2016

RESOLVED: To receive and approve the minutes, with Councillor Anne Lloyd-Jones proposing and Councillor Nancy Clarke seconding the proposal, with a correction to Cl.154 Chairman's Activity Report whereby the Chairman had attended Bethany Chapel and not Bethel Church.

Cl. 179
10.02.16

RECEIVE AND APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, 18 JANUARY 2016

RESOLVED: To receive and approve the minutes, with Councillor Islwyn Davies proposing and Councillor Ron McCoo seconding the proposal.

Cl. 180
10.02.16

RECEIVE AND APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE HELD ON MONDAY, 25 JANUARY 2016

RESOLVED: To receive and approve the minutes, with Councillor Anne Lloyd-Jones proposing and Councillor Islwyn Davies seconding the proposal, with the correction that Councillor Anne Lloyd-Jones had declared a personal interest under item 1 on the Agenda.

Cl. 181
10.02.16

APPROVE THE TREASURER'S REPORT FOR JANUARY 2016

RESOLVED: To approve the Treasurer's Report for January, with Councillor Eileen M. Ellis proposing and Councillor Anne Lloyd-Jones seconding the proposal.

Cl. 182
10.02.16

NOTICE OF MOTION
BY COUNCILLOR JOHN PUGHE

I call on Tywyn Town Council to purchase an additional defibrillator, to be placed either in the Market Hall, Neuadd Pendre or Cinema. I also call on Tywyn Town Council to register each defibrillator with HeartSafe.org.uk, which is a free service that enables defibrillators to be registered and located on an online map.

Councillors Ron McCoo and John Boulter declared an interest and remained in the room.

It was reported that registering each defibrillator on HeartSafe.org.uk would allow members of the public and the First Responders to locate the nearest defibrillator in an emergency through using "apps".

RESOLVED: The motion was seconded by Councillor Mike Stevens. To purchase an additional defibrillator and to make enquiries to place it outside Neuadd Pendre.

Cl. 183
10.02.16

REQUEST TO INSTALL A PLAQUE IN MEMORY OF DAWN PARTON

RESOLVED: To install a small bilingual plaque next to the defibrillator on the seafront and to seek permission from Gwynedd Council's Maritime and Country Parks Service.

Cl. 184
10.02.16

REGISTER OF MEMBERS' INTEREST FORM

Councillors were informed of the need to register their and their spouse or civil partner's disclosable pecuniary interests and copies of the forms had been distributed with the Agenda.

RESOLVED: Councillors to complete the form and return to the Town Clerk within a month.

Cl. 185
10.02.16

TO DISCUSS AND FORM A RESOLUTION ON THE NOVUS ENERGY COMMUNITY FUND AGREEMENT

It was confirmed that a copy of the Agreement had been sent to One Voice Wales' solicitors and to the Council's solicitors. Both solicitors felt that the Council as a public body should conduct its business in an open manner and that the Confidentiality Clause restricted the Council's ability to operate in the interest of the people of Tywyn.

Discussions were held regarding the possible uses of the community fund and Novus' intention on installing a private electricity wire to supply electricity to public building in the town centre.

RESOLVED: To write to Gwynedd Council in order to express Tywyn Town Council's support for the idea of Novus Energy supplying public buildings in Tywyn with electricity from the solar array, with Councillor Islwyn Davies proposing and Councillor John Pughe seconding the proposal. To convene an Extraordinary meeting of the Council in order to discuss the community fund agreement with Novus Energy.

Cl. 186
10.02.16

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:

- Gwynedd Challenge workshops had been held for all 75 Gwynedd Councillors and they had considered the feedback on all 118 possible cuts.
- Gwynedd Council was hoping to keep leisure centres and the main libraries open.
- The Cabinet recommended service cuts of approx. £4.5million, with the roads budget cut by £850,000 and the Council Tax increasing by 3.97% - which is more than the 3.5% originally planned.
- Cutting the funding to public toilets would be a concern and the Gwynedd Challenge will also inevitably lead to job-losses at Gwynedd Council
- Gwynedd Council's Street Enforcement Warden has been patrolling and fines have been issued for roadside litter
- The new X-ray unit - funded with £100,000 of locally donated money - has opened officially at the Memorial Hospital, with the unit currently operating two sessions per week.

Councillor Mike Stevens reported the following:

- The last year has been cuts, cuts and cuts
- Many Councillors agreed that leisure centres should be kept. Money had been ring-fenced to refurbish Tywyn pool and hopefully that will be going ahead.
- Keeping both Caernarfon and Barmouth foot bridges open would not involve a great deal of money. £30,000 would not be a lot of money to Railtrack.
- Similar to Cllr Lloyd-Jones, work was ongoing to try and resolve and find a solution to littering and dog fouling. Dog fouling was reported to be a problem in Gwalia Rd.
- Conwy Borough Council had fined 1,000 people for smoking related littering and this could possibly be a source of income for Gwynedd Council and ease the amount of littering.
- A letter had been received by Gwynedd Council's Head of Legal Department clarifying the roles of Councillors on Ynysmaengwyn Trust and Ynysymengwyn Caravan Park and it was confirmed that Councillors should declare an interest if they are aware that an interest exists.
- Not everyone in Tywyn had received their blue recycling trolley and complaints had been received that large cardboard boxes were not being accepted.

RESOLVED: To accept the information.

Cl. 187
10.02.16

OPPORTUNITY FOR COUNCILLORS TO REPORT BACK TO THE COUNCIL FOLLOWING THEIR ATTENDANCE AT EXTERNAL COMMITTEES

Councillor Richie Owens reported that the Queen will be celebrating her 90th birthday in April and had been requested to enquire what plans the Town Council had to celebrate.

RESOLVED: To liaise with the Secondary and Primary school to ascertain their plans to celebrate the Queen's 90th birthday. To locate the photographs of the Queen and Prince Phillip and to offer them on loan to Neuadd Pendre.

Cl. 188
10.02.16

CLERK'S REPORT

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

The Clerk noted that a request for support and an invitation to a public meeting had been received from Porthmadog Town Council after the Agenda had been issued. Councillor John Pughe proposed, with Councillor Anne Lloyd-Jones seconding the proposal to set the Council's standing orders aside in order to discuss the request from Porthmadog Town Council.

RESOLVED: Councillor Mike Stevens proposed, with Councillor Anne Lloyd-Jones seconding the proposal to write to Porthmadog Town Council in order to support their efforts to keep HMRC's Welsh language services based at Tŷ Moelwyn, and not to relocate the posts from Porthmadog to Cardiff. Councillor Anne Lloyd-Jones proposed and Councillor John Pughe seconded the proposal to re-instate the Council's standing orders. To approve the Clerk's report

TO RECEIVE CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence That Necessitates Action by the Council.

Cl. 189
10.02.16

One Voice Wales - To renew membership for 2016/17

RESOLVED: To renew the Council's membership for 2016/17 at a cost of £547, with Councillor Islwyn Davies proposing and Councillor Ron McCoo seconding the proposal.

Cl. 190
10.02.16

Planning Aid Wales - **General introduction to planning: Ceredigion** - 21st March, **Bridgend** - 18th April, **Anglesey** - 26th April, **Flintshire** - 29th June, **Merthyr Tydfil** - 26th October, **Pembrokeshire** - 8th November. **How to respond effectively to planning applications: Newport** - 16th May, **Powys** - 19th July, **Monmouthshire** - 17th November

RESOLVED: To accept the information

Cl. 191
10.02.16

Snowdonia National Park Authority - Public Consultation: Draft Supplementary Planning Guidance Notes on Landscape Sensitivity and Capacity Assessment

RESOLVED: To accept the information

Cl. 192
10.02.16

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) One Voice Wales - Guide to Taking Part - The Queen's 90th Birthday Beacons - 21st April 2016
- (b) One Voice Wales - Betsi Cadwaladr Stakeholder Reference Group Report
- (c) Public Services Ombudsman for Wales - Code of conduct complaint made against Councillor Michael Stevens of Tywyn Town Council by Mr & Mrs Cyril and Mary Asprey
- (d) Gwynedd Council (Maritime and Country Parks Service) - acknowledgment of Blue Flag funding from Tywyn Town Council
- (e) Gwynedd Council (Highways Maintenance and Municipal Service) - Drainage works at Plas Edwards, Tywyn
- (f) GoSafe - news bulletin
- (g) Gwynedd Council (Corporate Services) - Standards Committee's Annual Report 2014/15

Cl. 193
10.02.16

DISCUSS THE SUBLEASE OF RAILWAY BUILDINGS TO THE TYWYN SPIRITUALIST CHURCH

Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960

In accordance with Public Bodies Admission to Meetings Act – Local Government (Access to Information) Act (1985) Schedule 12A, parts 1.1 and 4.14, public and press were therefore excluded from this part of the meeting.

The meeting was declared closed at 9:00pm