

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF TYWYN TOWN COUNCIL
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 9TH MARCH 2016
AT YSGOL UWCHRADD TYWYN AT 7.00PM

PRESENT: Councillor John Boulter (Chair)

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, Richard M. Vaughan

OFFICERS PRESENT: Bedwyr Gwilym (Town Clerk)

Cl. 194
9.03.16 **APOLOGIES:**

None

Cl. 195
9.03.16 **DECLARATION OF INTEREST:**

Cllr Ron McCoo (Cl. 200)
Cllr Anne Lloyd-Jones (Cl. 200)
Cllr Mark Kendall (Cl. 200)
Cllr Nancy Clarke (Cl. 200)
Cllr Dan Wyre (Cl. 200)
Cllr Mike Stevens (Cl. 200)
Cllr Richie Owens (Cl. 200)
Cllr Eileen Ellis (Cl. 200)

Cl. 196
9.03.16 **CHAIRMAN'S ACTIVITY REPORT:**

The Chairman presented his report and noted the following engagements:

- 16.02.16 Chaired a Planning Committee
- 22.02.16 Met Bryn Roberts of Evans Roberts Solicitors with the Town Clerk in order to discuss an ongoing legal situation
- 29.02.16 Presented a Certificate and a Voucher to a resident of Morfa Cadfan in recognition of the outstanding voluntary work undertaken by her on the garden project at Morfa Cadfan
- 29.02.16 Attended a meeting of the Meirionnydd Access Group in Dolgellau. The main item under discussion was the new bridge at Machynlleth Station which enables access for disabled passengers
- 3.03.16 Attended a meeting of the International Sheepdog Trials 2016 at the Community Centre in Abergynolwyn. During the meeting the price structure was agreed and tickets can be booked on-line in advance or purchased on the day.

Cl. 197
9.03.16 **RECEIVE AND APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 10 FEBRUARY 2016**

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

Cl. 198
9.03.16

RECEIVE AND APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE HELD ON TUESDAY, 16 FEBRUARY 2016

RESOLVED: To receive and approve the minutes, with Councillor Anne Lloyd-Jones proposing and Councillor Mark Kendall seconding the proposal, with a recommendation for Councillors to email observations and request the Planning Committee to convene for applications that are not complex or controversial in nature was not approved.

Councillor Alun W. Evans entered at 7:10pm

Cl. 199
9.03.16

APPROVE THE TREASURER'S REPORT FOR FEBRUARY 2016

RESOLVED: To approve the Treasurer's Report for February, with Councillor Anne Lloyd-Jones proposing and Councillor Nancy Clarke seconding the proposal.

Cl. 200
9.03.16

REQUEST FROM THE ROTARY CLUB OF TYWYN FOR ASSISTANCE IN RECRUITING VOLUNTEERS AND NEW MEMBERS

Councillors Mike Stevens and Dan Wyre declared a prejudicial interest and left the room. Councillors Ron McCoo, Anne Lloyd-Jones, Nancy Clarke, Richie Owens, Eileen Ellis and Mark Kendall declared a personal interest and remained in the room.

It was reported that the Rotary Club is experiencing difficulties in recruiting new and in particular younger members. It has been noted by the Rotary that joining fees and the requirement to attend meetings on a regular basis is a barrier to some potential members, and as such the Rotary has created a Friends of Tywyn Rotary group in order to enable more people to help the Rotary, such as with organising Race the Train and other fund raising activities. The Rotary Club of Tywyn requested Tywyn Town Council and Councillors to speak to individuals that may be interested in the Rotary, with an Open Meeting being held on April 28th at the White Hall for anyone interested in the Rotary.

RESOLVED: To accept the information.

Cllrs Mike Stevens and Dan Wyre re-entered the room.

Cl. 201
9.03.16

COMPLAINTS FOLLOWING THE REOPENING OF THE SLAUGHTERHOUSE, RED LION ST

A Councillor reported receiving a number of complaints following the reopening of the slaughterhouse on Red Lion Street, with eight letters received as well as numerous telephone calls and messages. The complaints received were based on three main concerns: ethical grounds due to the animals being slaughtered according to Halal practices; environmental grounds with concerns about rats, smell of rotten meat and flies; and thirdly based on concerns that the slaughterhouse could potentially be extended into the recently vacated fire station next door.

Councillor Mark Kendall requested the minutes to note that he had not requested individuals to write letters of complaints and make them addressed to him.

It was reported that the Food Standards Agency confirmed that the animals were stunned prior to being slaughtered and a recent visit had shown the slaughterhouse as operating properly, in a clean manner and according to strict regulations. With the slaughterhouse authorised to operate on Tuesdays and Thursdays – currently operating on Thursdays only.

RESOLVED: Councillor Mark Kendall proposed, with Councillor Anne Lloyd-Jones seconding the proposal to write to the complainants explaining that planning permission would be required to use the former fire station, to convey the information received from the Food Standards Agency and to inform the complainants that they may contact the Food Standards Agency or the Town Council if they have any further concerns.

Cl. 202
9.03.16

CLOSURE OF THE CROWN AND MAGISTRATES' COURT IN DOLGELLAU

It was reported that closing the Crown and Magistrates' Court in Dolgellau would mean that victims and witnesses would be required to travel to Caernarfon, which is an additional 86 mile round trip.

RESOLVED: Councillor Anne Lloyd-Jones proposed, with Councillor Alun Evans seconding the proposal to write to the Ministry of Justice to express Tywyn Town Council's concerns regarding the closure, especially for older victims and witnesses where accessing the Courts would prove more difficult due to increased distance.

Cl. 203
9.03.16

RELOCATION OF ROYAL MAIL'S SORTING OFFICE FROM TYWYN TO MACHYNLLETH

Concerns were expressed regarding moving Tywyn's sorting office to Machynlleth, with postal workers required to travel 150 miles per week to and from Machynlleth and as a result post would arrive in Tywyn later in the day, possibly mid-afternoon or even later if Dyfi bridge is closed due to flooding. It was noted that the service currently provided is of excellent quality and that undelivered parcels could be collected from the Post Office located on the High Street.

RESOLVED: To write to Royal Mail to express the Council's concerns, with Councillor John Pughe proposing and Councillor Alun Evans seconding the proposal.

Cl. 204
9.03.16

THE QUEEN'S 90TH BIRTHDAY

It was reported that a party for children was to be held at Neuadd Pendre. Discussions were held as to how the Town Council could note the Queen's birthday, with suggestions given of producing mugs, medals or arranging a Beacon.

RESOLVED: To contact Gwynedd Council's Maritime and Country Parks Service to seek permission to use Rock Island for a Beacon, with Councillor Mark Kendall proposing and Councillor Islwyn Davies seconding the proposal.

Cl. 205
9.03.16

GWYNEDD COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

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

Councillor Mike Stevens reported the following:

- The cuts had been approved by the full Council
- The fight to upgrade Tywyn in Gwynedd and Anglesey's Joint Local Development Plan was ongoing. Further Gwynedd Council meetings are being held and will continue to make representations and fight for infrastructure improvements for the town.
- Parking restrictions are being amended, with one hour parking available all year.
- Confirmation has been received that the paddling pool on the promenade will be open this year

Councillor Anne Lloyd-Jones reported the following:

- Gwynedd and Anglesey's Joint Local Development plan would be reviewed annually. Three objections had been received regarding Tywyn, one from a local land owner, Welsh Water and Councillor Stevens. Up grading Tywyn would mean a lot more houses.
- The last meeting of the Hospital group was held on Wednesday, 24 February 2016. The weather had delayed work on the building and should be open in April.
- Gwynedd Council has approved an increase of 3.97% to the Council Tax, with the Full Council approving the budget for 2016/17. Tywyn is not losing its Leisure Centre and Library. Under Her Gwynedd, Tywyn Town Council will need to consider what it could possibly take responsibility for, such as cutting grass verges, public toilets – 50 out of 73 closing – currently two in Tywyn.
- Gwynedd Council is facing major financial shortage, which will result in service cuts and the workforce being reduced. Packages and training will be offered to staff made redundant.

RESOLVED: Councillor Islwyn Davies proposed with Councillor Dan Wyre seconding the proposal to write to Dilwyn Williams, Chief Executive of Gwynedd Council to enquire why possible services to be cut such as Neuadd Dwyfor – included in Gwynedd Challenge – had been taken-out of the service cuts presented to the Full Council for approval.

Cl. 206
9.03.16

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

Councillor Alun Evans reported that a presentation was given by Bethan Jones Parry at One Voice Wales' Meirionnydd Area Committee held in Dolgellau on Wednesday, 24 February 2016. It was reported that Bethan Jones Parry is Gwynedd Council's Project Co-ordinator on a long-term strategic project which aims to give World Heritage status to Gwynedd's slate areas. The project champion is Lord Dafydd Wigley and project partners include Snowdonia National Park, Bangor University and the National Trust. All of Gwynedd' slate areas are to be included within the project and include Tywyn, Abergynolwyn, Corris and Blaenau Ffestiniog, with a website due to be launched soon. It was also reported that the next meeting of One Voice Wales' Meirionnydd Area Committee would be its Annual General Meeting and will be held in Tywyn.

RESOLVED: To accept the information

Cl. 207
9.03.16

CLERK'S REPORT

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

RESOLVED: To approve the Clerk's report

TO RECEIVE CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence That Necessitates Action by the Council.

Cl. 208
9.03.16

One Voice Wales -Training: 14th March, Module 4 – Understanding the Law, Abergele;
22nd March, Module 21 – Local Government Finance – Advanced, Dolgellau; 24th March
Module 9 – Code of Conduct (Welsh), Caernarfon

RESOLVED: To accept the information.

Cl. 209
9.03.16

North Wales Police - Neighbourhood Policing Team - Co-operation with Community and
Town Councils within South Gwynedd

RESOLVED: Councillor Anne Lloyd-Jones proposed, with Councillor Alun Evans
seconding the proposal to invite the Neighbourhood Policing team to give
the Council a presentation.

Cl. 210
9.03.16

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 - Cynnal Cymru Newsletter
- (b) One Voice Wales - Wales Audit Office - Asset Transfer Good Practice Exchange
- (c) One Voice Wales - Boundary Commission for Wales - 2018 Review of Parliamentary
Constituencies in Wales
- (d) Gwynedd Council - Regulatory Department - Transportation and Street Care Service -
Withdrawal of proposals for Brook Street, Tywyn
- (e) Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales - Annual Report
- (f) Gwynedd Council (Highways Maintenance and Municipal Service) - Change street
lighting lanterns

The meeting was declared closed at 8:36pm