

CYNGOR TREF ABERMAW | BARMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL

Swyddfa'r Cyngor | Council Offices

Theatr y Ddraig | Dragon Theatre

Abermaw | Barmouth

Gwynedd

LL42 1EF

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A meeting of the Barmouth Town Council was held at 7pm on Tuesday 28th June 2022 in Parlwr Mawr, Dragon Theatre, Jubilee Road, Barmouth.

Minutes

Present: Cllr Rob Triggs (GC), Cllr Trevor Roberts (Chair), Cllr Jamie Brooks, Cllr Wendy Cleaver, Cllr Phil Hill, Cllr Adam Hills, Cllr Katie Price, Cllr Owain Pritchard, Cllr Dylan Roberts, Cllr Damian Williams, Cllr Rob C Williams, Heather Brown (clerk)

In Attendance:

1. Apologies for absence: Cllr Matt Harris, Cllr Rob A Williams

2. Declaration of financial, personal or prejudicial interest

11.4.2 Cllr Owain Pritchard

3. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 17th May 2022

Proposed: Cllr Jamie Brooks, Seconded: Cllr Katie Price. Approved.

4. Open Actions from previous meetings

Action #	Description	Status	Assignee
2112-01	Letter from Deb & Greg Courtney re memorial garden	Awaiting Letter. WC will follow up.	MH / WC
2202-01	Ensure pedestrian access through car park at Moto Cross weekend	Still no response from GC. RT will follow up.	MH / RT
2202-02	Verify St John's floodlights are working before paying contribution	Coloured lights are covered in Seagull debris. This will be cleaned and maintained after Seagulls have gone. New request for funding to be submitted when work done.	Closed
2203-01	Gwynedd Council Depot land	No progress, include in meeting regarding allotments (June). Meeting on 22nd was cancelled. 15th July reschedule.	TR

2203-02	Gibraltar Lane sign is missing.	Emailed requesting quote, awaiting reply.	DW
2203-03	Pontoon, repair or replace?	Awaiting information from GCC. Still no progress.	RT
2203-04	Allotments	Meeting planned with Network Rail to investigate options. Planned for June. See above (2203-01)	TR
2204-01	Creativity Space project request for funding	Meeting held with Sharon and Dragon Theatre. The Dragon supports the group "Down with the Arts". See request for funding.	Closed
2204-03	Location of double yellow-lines and no parking areas	GCC Supervisor visited 2 weeks ago to assess roadmarkings. The paint machine is currently broken. Speeding on King Edward Street has come up again, referred to the Policing team.	Closed
2204-04	Identify Council nomination for Community Award	Recipient proposed WC, Seconded DW. Agreed. Recipient to be announced after presentation.	Closed
2205-01	Progress CCTV Project as fast as possible	Covered in agenda so can close action.	Closed
2205-02	Water Leak in Talbot Square	Fixed	Closed
2205-03	Narrow pavement outside Riva	Ongoing, not owned by GCC. RT will talk to the owner at Riva.	RT
2205-04	Road Sweeping at junction of Church Street, Jubilee Road & High Street	Message has been passed on to the road crew.	Closed
2205-05	Disability Access concerns have been raised. GCC are supposed to review dropped kerbs when they renew pavements	GCC does not have a disability officer any more. Got a contact in Dolgellau. He's looking into it.	RT
2205-06	Improvements needed to "Pitch & Putt" site - new latch on gate, new "no dogs" sign	In progress.	JB
2205-07	Proposal made to employ a caretaker for the tennis courts / Memorial Park etc	Received informal proposal from Will to use the groundsman from Football Club to tidy the area up. Suggestion to put out to tender a caretaker role to have a regular review of the areas and report back to council on issues, tidy, etc. Put together tender for contract work.	JB / HB

5. CCTV

A full review and walk around town was carried out to identify locations where additional cameras would be needed. This identified 7 new static cameras needed

and two key areas to cover with new cameras, probably track and zoom cameras to cover a wider area.

- Prom, from the skate park at the north end to the Bath House. This is three long stretches so can be covered by 4 high power zoom cameras.
- Car Parks & Recreation Grounds. Less powerful zoom cameras needed and estimate 5 cameras needed to cover the main car park, Jubilee Road Car Park and the Memorial Park (tennis courts and bowling green). The Black Patch and Prom Car parking is covered by the Prom system.

Financial Regulations require us to get 3 quotes for a project of this size. RFQ is written, will be sent out immediately. Deadline before the next Council Meeting. 22nd July.

Council unanimously agreed with the expanded system.

6. Long term planning and strategy.

6.1. Changes to Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021

Additional requirements have been placed on Councils to improve transparency and Public Participation that we will need to plan to adopt.

The other significant change is that Councils can now apply for a “General Power of Competence”.

In order to apply for a General Power of Competence three conditions must be met:

- At least two thirds of councillors must have been elected
- The Clerk to the Council holds a named qualification or certification.
- The two most recent Auditor General for Wales (AGW) opinions on the council’s accounts are unqualified.

6.2. Finance and Governance Toolkit for Community and Town Councils

Detailed assessment of what the Council is doing regarding Finance and Governance with mandatory requirements and good practice flagged up. Will require significant time and discussion to complete.

It was agreed to change the monthly Finance Meeting (first Tuesday of the month) into a Strategic and Forward Planning meeting to address the changed regulations. This meeting would also take the time to formulate longer term plans for the Council, identifying priorities and directions for future projects. The meeting would not have decision making powers, recommendations from that meeting would go to full Council for open discussion and approval. This will start from the September meeting.

7. Routine review of Standing Orders and Policies

7.1. Standing Orders 1-6

7.2. Complaints Procedure

It was agreed that the reviews should be emailed out to all Councillors as there was not time to do more than rubber-stamp them in full Council meetings. In light of the changes to the Local Government Act they will need updating. Until that scope is understood it would be a waste of time to review them. The new Strategic and Forward Planning meeting would make proposals to the full Council for discussion and approval.

8. Chairman's report

- Attended the Jubilee and had a good time. Many people appreciated seeing the mayor "out and about" in the town and stopped to talk and for selfies.
- Attended the BPA AGM who were grateful for support from the Town Council.

Thanks were given by Cllr Rob Triggs for all the time and work Cllr Trevor Roberts put in over the Jubilee.

9. Clerk's report

- Financial records reviewed, new spreadsheets set up, contacted Internal Auditor and identified that Annual Return needs to be completed. Filled in Annual Return.
- Worked with CCTV team to identify correct processes to follow and written RFQ.
- Involved with Jubilee planning and publicity.

10. To consider the following planning/licence applications

- 10.1. C22/0356/00/LL: Demolition of existing steel frame training tower including base and construction of new steel frame training tower on new concrete base in new position including new external lighting. Fire Station, Park Road. No objections.
- 10.2. C22/0551/00/LL: Demolition of 2 houses and construction of 3 houses. Haul Y Môr, Marine Parade. Discussion on local occupancy clauses. Proposed Cllr Jamie Brooks, seconded Cllr Damian Williams, passed on majority to raise no objections.
- 10.3. C22/0577/00/TC: Application for a lawful development certificate for a proposed use to confirm the implementation of planning approval C17/0069/00/LL and C22/0288/00/RA for the construction of a new three storey dwelling. Development Plot, Land Off Ffordd Bro Mynach , Barmouth, LL42 1HY. No Objection.

11. Finance

11.1. To receive monthly finance management reports

11.1.1. Approve the annual return

Proposed Cllr Owain Pritchard, Seconded Cllr Katie Price, passed unanimously.

11.1.2. Approve use of standing order to pay Clerk's Salary

Proposed Cllr Damian Williams, Seconded Cllr Rob Triggs, passed unanimously.

11.1.3. Approve use of direct debit to pay Clerk's Mobile Monthly Phone Bill

Proposed Cllr Jamie Brooks, Seconded Cllr Rob C Williams, passed unanimously.

11.2. To approve payment of accounts

Payee	Item	Invoice #	Amount	Agreed?
Evergreen	May Invoice	Invoice # 331	£500	Yes
Ash Woodwork	Community Award	Invoice 07/06/2022	£75	Yes
M P Wholesale	Prize for Jubilee Best Window	Requested Bill: 10	£23.99	Yes
M P Wholesale	Prize for Community Award		£105.30	Yes
Barmouth Printers	Food Festival Posters	Invoice: 11189	£35	Yes

Maxplant Power Ltd	High of generator for Jubilee	Invoice (22)	£882	Yes
SLCC Enterprises	Qualification fee for Clerk "Introduction to Local Council Administration"	Invoice: QL201509-1	£144	Yes
Two Sick Steves	Music for Food Festival	Invoice #19-2022	£350	Yes
Barmouth Printers	Jubilee Treasure Hunt	Invoice 11183	£89	Yes
Bright Sparks	Fireworks for Jubilee	Invoice 000171	£11000 (£1000 to be paid by Bonfire Group)	Yes (Bonfire Group will pay BTC £1000 for laser show part).
D V Roberts	Painting of Town Notice Boards		£890	Yes
Jamie Brooks	Plants for Barmouth in Bloom	12493	£448.25.	Agreed to pay, need new invoice as current one is made out to Barmouth in Bloom
Evergreen	June Gardening	#381	£500	Yes

All invoices were proposed by Cllr Rob C Williams, Seconded by Damian Williams and approved unanimously.

11.3. Upcoming Expense (for information)

- 11.3.1. Training for new councillors: £35 per class, 2 classes per councillor
- 11.3.2. Training for Clerk: Full CiCLA: approx £500.
- 11.3.3. Sign for Gibraltar Lane: estimate £275 + VAT, to be confirmed once size & design is finalised
- 11.3.4. Catrin Finch The Story So Far. Performance at Dragon Theatre 12th November £1500 + VAT
- 11.3.5. Dragon Theatre: Underwriting of Autumn Comedy Festival
- 11.3.6. RNLI signage on storage lockers £206

11.4. To receive any requests for financial support

- 11.4.1. Dragon Theatre Sound System: £8333.00 + VAT.
Concern was expressed about the size of the estimate and the breakdown. The meeting agreed in principal to fund the Sound System but needed to understand more about the breakdown. Also concerns that the request is based on an estimate not a quote so could increase. Proposed Cllr Damian Williams, Seconded Cllr Adam Hills. Approved.
- 11.4.2. St John's Church Clock Repair: £5000.
£5000 is half the cost of the work. Motion to support: Proposed: Cllr Rob Triggs, Seconded: Cllr Jamie Brooks. Approved.
- 11.4.3. Barmouth & Dyffryn United Perimeter fencing repair: Request 50% funding of £6500 + VAT.

A question was raised as to whether the Football Club are VAT registered so will be able to re-claim the VAT. It was proposed that we would fund half as requested when the invoice is received from the supplier. Proposed: Cllr Jamie Brooks, Seconded: Cllr Wendy Cleaver. Approved.

11.4.4. Youth Activities Club: £908.70 to run 6 weeks From mid-June to end July.

Motion to pay the costs when invoiced by the Leisure Centre.

Proposed: Cllr Damian Williams, Seconded Cllr Jamie Brooks.

Approved.

11.4.5. Sharon Betts: request for support with supplies for Monster Rocks.

The Councillors wholeheartedly endorsed the work that the Monster Rocks have done and appreciated all the effort they have put in, and the contributions they made to Community Wellbeing particularly during the Covid lockdowns. They agreed to support the work of the group and asked Cllr Rob Triggs to work with them to identify the best way to do this in terms of supplying them with the materials they need to carry on. Motion to support Monster Rocks: Proposed Cllr Wendy Cleaver, Seconded Cllr Jamie Brooks. Approved.

11.4.6. From April Meeting: Creativity Space (Sharon Betts) : £3025.92.

Following the meeting with Sharon and the Dragon Theatre more information has been received. The "Down with the Arts" programme will be run by Sharon, in the Dragon Theatre. The financing will go through the Dragon and be invoiced to the Council. Motion to support this project: Proposed Cllr Rob Triggs, Seconded Cllr Damian Williams. Approved.

12. Gwynedd councillors report

- Attended meetings with police, ANPR cameras are being fitted at Maentwrog and Llandecwyn.
- Meeting with Sharon Betts re Art Project at the Dragon Theatre
- Surveying has started at the Viaduct Gardens to replace the wall.
- Tidy Towns email sent off, no response received yet.
- Got quote from Kevin Williams £250 to scrape the beach. Motion to accept quote: Proposed Cllr Damian Williams, Seconded Cllr Owain Pritchard. Approved.
- The Maritime Department are struggling to recruit
- Gwynedd have 64% recycling, all residual waste incinerated, no land fill.
- Meeting with Stephan Jones regarding bins from AirBnBs.
- Cllr Wendy Cleaver requested an update on the risk assessment for Viaduct Gardens.

13. Notice of and reports from representatives on external organisations

13.1. Dragon Theatre, Cllr Katie Price: Continue to make good progress to operate again. They have employed a new manager, interviewed for other roles and are about to appoint.

13.2. Barmouth in Bloom, Cllr Jamie Brooks: They have bought plants for the season, Gary has planted some and Barmouth in Bloom has planted up around the leisure centre and the front of the Prom.

13.3. British Legion, Cllr Trevor Roberts: There was a discussion that some towns have poppies around town. The Council felt this would be good for Barmouth too, Cllr Trevor Roberts to get a quote for 100 poppies.

13.4. Wern Mynach, Cllr Phil Hill: There is a meeting on 1st July. Lots of people of all ages are turning up, and the project is going well.

14. Local Issues

- 14.1. Events: Jubilee, Food Festival. The Jubilee went well, thanks to everyone for their help & support, a retrospective meeting has been held and points for future events have been noted. The Food Festival will be held this Sunday, more marshals are needed for the road closure.
- 14.2. Camper Vans. Issues with location of parking and duration of stays. There are no restrictions on Marine Parade so it is not possible to enforce any parking restrictions. Gwynedd Council are doing a pilot for Camper Vans. We will monitor the situation and wait to see what happens with the trial. Need to monitor the parking of large vehicles on narrow stretches of roads.
- 14.3. Letter of thanks to go to Derek Buchanan who donated tennis nets and offered support with setting up a tennis club. To be sent by the clerk.
- 14.4. Cllr Rob C Williams has received a complaint about the footpath at top of 100 steps. Cllr Adam Hills to inspect the site.

15. Other correspondence/letters

- 15.1. Request from Wern Mynach for letter of support to go with Grant Funding applications. To be sent to Friends of Wern Mynach.
- 15.2. Notification from Dragon Theatre that Allison Williams has left her position as Community Centre and Theatre Manager at the Dragon Theatre. Noted.
- 15.3. Housing Needs report Request: Response received. Noted.
- 15.4. Active Travel Consultation
<https://www.gwynedd.llyw.cymru/en/Council/Have-your-say/Live-consultations/Active-Travel-Network-Consultation.aspx> Encourage all councillors to complete survey and reference B-VAG proposal.
- 15.5. Report - Second Homes. The committee reviewing Dr Simon Brooks' report on second homes has published its conclusions:
<https://senedd.wales/media/pvgfo4of/cr-ld15139-e.pdf> Noted.

16. Any other business

The meeting finished at 9:25pm.

Date of next meeting – Tuesday 26th July 2022

Signed:



Date: 26th July 2022