

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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Minutes - 25th July 2023

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

In Attendance: Jocelyn Whysall: Member of the Public.

1. Apologies for absence: Cllr Wendy Cleaver, Cllr Rob A Williams
2. Declaration of financial, personal or prejudicial interest
None
3. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 27th June 2023. Correction: SPF application was from Barmouth Striders not Byw'n Iach. Motion to approve as otherwise correct: Proposed Cllr. Damian Williams, Seconded Cllr. Rob Triggs. All agreed.
4. Finance
 - 4.1. To receive monthly finance management reports
 - 4.1.1. Audits:
The Internal Audit is complete with one minor comment.
The External Audit is in progress.
 - 4.1.2. Record of Members Interests
Information received from some members, clerk to re-send the request to others.
 - 4.1.3. Grant Applications:
SPF grant request for Heol y Llan yard was submitted.
SPF grant for the Carnival was submitted.
Letters of support for the Barmouth Striders application in association with a Park Run and for the Dragon Theatre were written.
 - 4.1.4. Debit Card
Discussion was held regarding the security of a debit card that would not require 2 signatures to use. It was understood that this was the same level of security as is currently used with bacs transfers. e.g. security is by following Financial Regulations rather than by 2 signatures. It was agreed in principle to get a debit card, but that extra security should be investigated. One solution would be to get a text message to the chair's phone on any use of the card. Motion to get a debit card, limited by financial regs, proposed Cllr. Rob Triggs, seconded Cllr. Trevor Roberts, all approved.

4.1.5. Regular Payments: - Noted

Payment	Payment Method
Clerk's Salary	Standing Order
Clerk's Phone	Direct Debit
Tanio Bermo Rent	Standing Order
WiFi for Tanio Bermo	Direct Debit

4.1.6. Money received since last meeting: £1,435.05 Car park premium. Clerk has sent an email to GC requesting details of what this covers as no payment was expected until September.

4.2. Record of previously agreed payments made since the last meeting - noted

Payee	Item	Invoice #	Amount	Authorisation
Steven White	Music for Food Festival	18-2023	£350	Food Festival Budget
Mr Ruston Handy	Music for Food Festival	ARU00097	£180	Food Festival Budget
Kings Nurseries	Flowers for Barmouth in Bloom	Inv 2853	£929.40	Clerk, Chair & Vice-chair.

4.3. To approve payment of accounts

Payee	Item	Invoice #	Amount
Evergreen	July Gardening		£815
Dragon Theatre	Room Hire (Jun & Jul)	170	£151
Heather Brown	Mugs for Coronation		£728.72
Heather Brown	Microsoft Office Subscription		£79.99
Four Corners	Tanio Bermo Materials	8666	£277.02
Byw'n lach	Hire of hall for craft fair	W0004658V	£530.60
Gwynedd Council	Toilets	B0080787U	£10,000
Ash Woodworking	Community Awards		£150
MP Wholesale	Tanio Bermo Electricity (Mar, Apr, May)		£73.88
Owain Pritchard	Mayor's allowance 1 of 3		£250
LL DIY	Tanio Bermo Materials		£81.33
Gwynedd Council	Internal Audit	C0015875	£360
St John's Ambulance	Cover for Food Festival	0000073319	£249.60

Motion to pay above invoices and also invoices from Chris Banks for caretaking services and Dai Roberts for painting the noticeboards when received : Proposed: Cllr. Damian Williams, seconded: Cllr Adam Hills, all agreed.

4.4. Upcoming Expense (for information) - Noted.

Item	Amount	Due
Training for Clerk	£750	Spring 2023

"Down with the Arts". Committed to support, paid £1102 so far	£1898	
History Project	£1250	July 2023?
Tanio Bermo start up	£2500	June 2023 onwards
Harbour Pontoon Repairs	£10,000	
Dragon Kitchen Refurbishment	£10,000	£5000 budgeted support for 2023, the rest for 2024.
Football Club fencing	£5,000	

4.5. To receive any requests for financial support

- 4.5.1. Friends of Wern Mynach - £5,800 (£2,300 to renovate outdoor classroom / butterfly garden area and £3,500 to help with annual running costs).
Motion to meet this request. Proposed: Cllr. Trevor Roberts, seconded Cllr. Jamie Brooks, all agreed.

5. Local Issues

5.1. Astro-turf

The discussions with Gwynedd Council are working on the assumption that school are gifted astro-turf and take ownership of it. Then BTC apply to GC for a licence to use the astro-turf out of hours. Our obligations will be to keep it tidy, not used between 9pm & 8am, to clear rubbish regularly. BTC would be responsible for repair work for issues caused during public access. We would not be responsible for fencing.

Councillors are not happy with handing over ownership to the school as there is a fear that the licence would be revoked in the future and the asset lost to the community. Owain to continue to deal with Gwynedd Council Estates Department, the open issues to still resolve are:

- confirm that the school will lock the school gate & unlock the public gate at the end of school day.
- how to ensure it is not used overnight: BTC couple provide signage to stop use after 9pm, but could not lock and unlock it daily.
- need to check public liability insurance for out of school hours.
- Cllr. Jamie Brooks has been working with Gwynedd Council to agree to an access ramp to ensure the site is available to all. It is unclear how this relates to the proposed licence,

5.2. Harlech and Ardudwy Leisure

Next meeting with HAL on 27th July, Community Councils meeting on 3rd Aug, Cllr. Owain Pritchard & Cllr. Trevor Roberts will be attending.

BTC agreed to pay 4 months payment to cover the costs to the end of school term. There was no commitment from the Council for further payments. Further support to HAL will be decided at the September meeting after the meetings above.

5.3. Gardening

Due to increased costs and work needed to maintain the green spaces around Barmouth, a motion was proposed to increase the monthly budget for gardening to a ceiling of £1000 per month, some months will be less. Proposed Cllr. Phil Hill, seconded Cllr. Jamie Brooks, all agreed. Cllr. Jamie Brooks will follow up with Gary. It was also noted that Barmouth in Bloom are not able to carry on with as much as they

had done in the past without additional volunteers that may impact the work in the future.

6. Projects

6.1. CCTV

Cameras continue to be fitted and activated, a meeting with the contractors is planned in the next 7 to 10 days.

6.2. Tanio Bermo

The plumbing work has been completed, although there are still some odd jobs to be done, the project could be opened. It was agreed that a formal opening would be held in September with some "soft opening" options throughout August.

6.3. History Project

Translation & proofreading is taking time and supported by volunteers. It is hoped to be able to open in September. The Facebook page continues to be very popular.

7. Events

7.1. Food/Craft Festival

Another great event even though the weather was challenging. There were some issues with advertising & visibility of craft fair. Overall the event ended up £162.35 in credit. Thanks were given to Cllr. Katie Price and the clerk for all their work organising the event. Also to the councillors who helped on the day with liaison, road-closures etc.

7.2. Barmouth Carnival

The grant application has gone in to fund the advertising and other sundries needed to run the event. Cllr. Damian Williams and Cllr. Rob C Williams are organising and presented the need to buy hi-vis tabards, walkie-talkies, sum-up machine totalling under £750. A motion to approve £750 to be spent on kit for Carnival was proposed Cllr. Owain Pritchard, seconded Cllr. Adam Hills. All agreed.

7.3. Christmas

Thanks to Cllr, Katie Price & Cllr. Matt Harris for all the work they have done in previous years. Neither councillor are able to support the event in 2023. Cllr Katie Price handed a list of planning activities to Cllr. Owain Pritchard who will look at details of what needs doing.

8. Reports

8.1. Gwynedd Councillor's report

- Work started on Branksome Estate that had caused complaints from a local house owner, the planning application had been approved 6 years ago.
- Gwynedd Council are continuing funding school meals over holiday although not funded by the Welsh Government.
- Review of Fire Services in North Wales. Consultation on website, please complete.

8.2. Chairman's report

- Attended Food & Craft Festivals. Presented prizes for kites
- Went into school to give out coronation mugs (school & cych).

8.3. Clerk's report

- Attended One Voice Wales meeting in Welsh.
- Traffic Orders for 20mph limits have been published, objections need to be raised by 21st August.

9. Notice of and reports from representatives on external organisations
- 9.1. Cllr. Trevor Roberts reported that there had been some progress on the various “railway issues” and asked that this be added to the September meeting for a longer discussion..
- 9.2. Concern was expressed about the number of cars parking on double yellow lines obstructing the traffic flow around town. This is particularly bad on Church Street where the “sinkhole” is and some of the usual parking bays are blocked off. Some cars are parked regularly on double yellow lines. It was agreed to Invite traffic management & police to the September meeting to discuss.

10. Correspondence

- 10.1. To consider the following planning/licence applications
None Received

10.2. Other correspondence/letters

- 10.2.1. Letter from Bonfire Group - noted
10.2.2. Letter from MYC about pontoon fingers - noted

11. Open Actions from previous meetings

Action #	Description	Status	Assignee
2203-01	Allotments on Railway land	Update in September meeting	TR
2203-03	Pontoon, repair or replace?	The next stage is for the pontoon to be removed from the water for a full inspection. This will allow for a fully costed plan to be put together.	RT
2205-05	Disability Access concerns have been raised. GCC are supposed to review dropped kerbs when they renew pavements	Identified places for drop curbs. Need to add to map from Gwynedd.	TR
2205-06	Improvements needed to “Pitch & Putt” site - new latch on gate, new “no dogs” sign	Ongoing.	JB
2207-02	Refurbish Noticeboard by First Impressions	Completed.	DW
2210-03	Resolving issues around Skate Park & School astroturf	Astro-turf - covered in minutes. There is an issue with manhole covers in Skate Park that is being addressed by the caretaker..	JB/RCW
2211-01	Follow-up regarding buses to Council Estate	No further information	WC
2301-01	Serpentine Benches - some are broken and need fixing	Ongoing.	AH/DW
2304-01	Follow up with Gwynedd Council about use of Cae Glas	Visit from streetworks last week, waiting to hear back.	RT
2304-02	Follow up with Gwynedd Council regarding pavement licenses	See above	KP
2305-01	Coronation momentos for school children	Done	HB

12. Any other business

- 12.1. The clerk was asked to write to Gwynedd Council asking what their policy is with regard to clearing vegetation on the pavement. There is concern that the growth will result in blocked drains and damaged surfaces. Cllr. Rob Triggs will follow up with Tidy Teams.
- 12.2. There were concerns raised with dog mess in town and on grass on Jubilee Road. There is no clear way forward on this, as it happens all year round it can not be blamed on visitors alone.
- 12.3. The person initially asked to provide caretaking work around town has not been available to complete the work. A letter has been sent to him that his services are no longer needed and an alternative contractor approached.

Meeting closed at 9:20pm.

**Date of next meetings – No meetings in August
Tuesday 12th September 2023 - Strategy Meeting
Tuesday 26th September 2023 - Full Council Meeting.**

Signed as a true record:



Date: 26/9/23