

## **Minutes - 23rd January 2024**

Present: Cllr Adam Hills (chair), Cllr Jamie Brooks, Cllr Wendy Cleaver, Cllr Matthew Harris, Cllr Phil Hill, Cllr Katie Price, Cllr Dylan Roberts, Cllr Trevor Roberts, Cllr Damian Williams, Cllr Rob A Williams, Cllr Rob C Williams. Heather Brown (clerk)

In the absence of the mayor, the vice-mayor chaired the meeting.

1. Apologies for absence: Cllr Owain Pritchard, Cllr Rob Triggs
2. Declaration of financial, personal or prejudicial interest  
6.2 Cllr. Phil Hill - Tanio Bermo
3. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 12th December 2023. Cllr. Adam Hills was not present. Motion to approve with that correction: Proposed Cllr Rob C Williams, Seconded Cllr Katie Price. All agreed.
4. Finance
  - 4.1. To receive monthly finance management reports
    - 4.1.1. Grant Applications
      - 4.1.1.1. Food Festival - Applied for SPF funding for Food festival & craft fair. Decision due mid February
      - 4.1.1.2. Bermo Fest - Applied for SPF funding decision due mid February.
      - 4.1.1.3. National Archive Engagement Grant for History Project has been submitted, decision due end February.
      - 4.1.1.4. Application being written for the Community Arts fund for music (Bermo Fest). Submission date: end of March
    - 4.1.2. Debit Card  
Card has now been received. An update to the financial regulations will be needed to cover its use.
    - 4.1.3. Regular Payments: - Noted

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

- 4.2. Money received since last meeting:

£786.79 - SPF funding for the Carnival 2023.  
£910 - Community Fund

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

Payee	Item	Invoice #	Amount	Authorisation
RJ Electrics	Christmas Lights		£4387.12	Chair / Vice-chair
Sign Creations	Signs for Memorial Park & CCTV		£630	Chair / Vice-chair
Evergreen	Dec Gardening		£380	Chair / Vice-chair
Daryl Edwards	Christmas Evening		£175	Chair / Vice-chair

4.4. To approve payment of accounts

Payee	Item	Invoice #	Amount
Evergreen	Gardening	607	£500
HAL	February Payment		£635.10
MP Wholesale	Tanio Bermo Elec (Oct, Nov, Dec)		£149.42
Audit Wales	Audit Fee 2021/22	ARINV/0100 26	£570
Audit Wales	Audit Fee 2020/21	ARINV/0099 78	£425
Audit Wales	Audit Fee 2019/20	ARINV/0099 77	£475
Trevor Gennard	Barmouth in Bloom gardening (Oct - Dec)		£240
Gwynedd Council	Christmas Lighting	B0081987	£2014.20
Gwynedd Council	CCTV Power boxes	B008200C	£2810.23

Motion to pay above invoices : Proposed: Cllr Jamie Brooks, seconded: Cllr Damian Williams, all agreed.

4.5. Upcoming Expense (for information) - Noted.

Item	Amount	Due
History Project	£1250	July 2023?
Tanio Bermo start up - awaiting invoices	£2000	June 2023 onwards
Harbour Pontoon Repairs	£10,000	
BPA signs	£5,000	

4.6. To receive any requests for financial support

- 4.6.1. Urdd Meirionnydd - decided not to make a general donation.
- 4.6.2. Dawns i Bawb - no general donation. If there is an event in Barmouth then the Council will consider a specific donation towards that event.
- 4.6.3. Gwynedd County School Boys (football) - decided not to make a donation.
- 4.6.4. Barmouth & Dyffryn Football Club have completed the new fencing. They have forwarded the invoice and requested payment of the grant previously offered. All agreed.

5. Local Issues

## 5.1. Sand

Further discussion about the issues connected with sand. Specific issues raised were:

- Health and Safety around the fencing in the new dune area
- Health and Safety of the "bubble pool"
- Cleanliness of the dune area (rubbish, dog waste etc).
- Sand clearance that was previously stated would be done twice a year.

The clerk will write to Maritime about these issues.

There was also concern that the community in Barmouth believe that the beach and dunes are the responsibility of Barmouth Town Council and the Town Council risk reputational damage when misinformation is spread through social media. The clerk will prepare a simple statement that can be used to direct comments to the relevant department in Gwynedd Council when issues are raised online.

## 5.2. HAL

No emails have been received by the clerk from the community regarding HAL. The Council reviewed the statement previously circulated concerning future funding of HAL. Changes were discussed and agreed. There was a motion to accept the statement with changes proposed by Cllr Rob A Williams, seconded by Cllr Trevor Roberts and agreed by all.

## 5.3. Memorial Park

### 5.3.1. Lease

Cllr Wedny Cleaver has requested a meeting with the Gwynedd Council Officer and is waiting for a reply. A group of residents have been following up with Gwynedd Council regarding the play area. This is outside of the area identified for asset transfer to the Town Council.

### 5.3.2. Gates

Cllr Phil Hill has approached a local supplier for a quote to remove the gates and refurbish them.

### 5.3.3. Football Netting

Cllr Wendy Cleaver & Cllr Phil Hill have met with the caretaker and agreed that it is better to put fencing up all round the football pitch. It may be possible to add a netting roof later if needed. Previous quotes have been received of around £5,000 plus labour. This work is needed as the Bowling Club are being impacted by balls coming over the current netting from the pitch. A motion to approve up to £7,500 was proposed by Cllr Wendy Cleaver, seconded by Cllr Damian Williams, all agreed.

## 5.4. Astro-turf

No update

## 5.5. Pontoon

Work is continuing on the pontoon, on the quay.

## 6. Projects

6.1. CCTV - The recent bad weather has delayed installation. An estimate of mid February has been received to put the rest of the cameras up.

## 6.2. Tanio Bermo

6.2.1. Gwaith Gwynedd booked in for 12th March

6.2.2. Repair Cafe Wales - Insurance is an issue as the Town Council insurers are reluctant to cover the Repair Cafe. This can be covered by Repair Cafe Wales'

insurance if it is run by a volunteer group but not by a constituted organisation (e.g. the Council).

- 6.3. History Project - The first banner has been received and looks great. Seven more to come. The website is nearly completed. A booklet is being designed with the full text in (more detail than on the banners). This will be produced in Welsh and English. The Facebook group is up to 5700, still with lots of engagement. Ysgol y Traeth has approached Cllr Rob C Williams to do another talk. The Councillors congratulated Cllr Rob Williams on the work completed so far - it will be a great asset for Barmouth.

## 7. Events

- 7.1. Bermo Fest: 7th - 9th June 2024. 7th Carnival, 8th Music Fest, 9th Raft race, harbour events.
- Waiting to hear from Gwynedd Council Maritime department regarding both Bermo Fest & the Food Festival.
  - Discussion was held regarding the bollards behind the RHLI station. The clerk will write to Gwynedd Council supporting the replacement of these bollards with removable ones to facilitate emergency access.
  - Funding. The costs for the whole event are estimated to be around £13,000. Applications for grants would cover approximately £5,800. There is £900 from last year's event and plans in place for £1000 of business sponsorship. The Town Council has budgeted for £5000 support. This roughly covers the cost of the event. A motion was put forward to underwrite the event in the case of not receiving grant funding. This would come from the Community Fund. Proposed Cllr Jamie Brooks, seconded Cllr Dylan Roberts, all agreed.
- 7.2. Food Festival - 7th July 2024 - Discussion on whether the food festival should be a larger event. There is a limit on the number of stalls due to space on closed roads. Space is needed between stalls for fire safety. Last year was oversubscribed. Options for expanding were discussed and will be considered for this year and future years.

## 8. Reports

- 8.1. Gwynedd Councillor's report
- No update
- 8.2. Chairman's report
- No update
- 8.3. Clerk's report
- Chased Gwynedd on car chargers.
  - The Sum Up account is now fully set up and it is possible to set up unique QR codes for different uses, e.g for Bermo Fest & the Toll Bridge. The clerk will work with Cllr Jamie Brooks about putting a QR code on the bridge.

## 9. Notice of and reports from representatives on external organisations

- 9.1. Barmouth in Bloom: the group previously paid a gardener £80 a month for tidying some specific areas of Barmouth. A motion that the Town Council take over this commitment was proposed by Cllr Jamie Brooks, seconded by Cllr Rob A Williams. All agreed.
- 9.2. Dragon Theatre has appointed an assistant manager.
- 9.3. Wern Mynach - all going well.

## 10. Correspondence

- 10.1. To consider the following planning/licence applications - none received

10.2. Other correspondence/letters

- 10.2.1. Dog Fouling on Gloddfa Road - The dog warden has recently been in town. The Clerk will notify the Dog warden about Gloddfa Road issues.
- 10.2.2. Community Transport Development. Cllr Wendy Cleaver will follow up.

11. Open Actions from previous meetings

Action #	Description	Status	Assignee
2203-01	Gwynedd Council Depot land & allotments	As the Heol y Llan land is owned by Gwynedd Council it can be removed from this action. The other piece of land is the responsibility of BR Property board not Network Rail. Still looking at it.	TR
2205-05	Disability Access concerns have been raised. GCC are supposed to review dropped kerbs when they renew pavements	Will take some photos & progress in the new year.	TR
2205-06	Improvements needed to "Pitch & Putt" site - new latch on gate, new "no dogs" sign	Fitted. CLOSED	PH
2301-01	Serpentine Benches - some are broken and need fixing	Review of benches held to identify BTC benches. Motion to order 10 new Serpent bench ends proposed Cllr Damian Williams, seconded Cllr Phil Hill All agreed.	DW
2304-01	Follow up with Gwynedd Council about use of Cae Glas & Pavement Licences	Issue is in Gwynedd Council's legal department.	RT
2309-03	Need to agree plans for the "Barmouth Bridge monument"	The bridge sections that have been reserved for Barmouth need to be moved soon. A motion was put forward to use some of the reserve from the toll house to support this work and to send the bridge pieces to be shot blasted. Proposed Cllr Rob A Williams, seconded Cllr Damian Williams. All agreed.	JB
2312-01	Write to bus companies about non-connecting buses and other concerns	In progress, bus timetables are changing in February anyway.	HB

12. Any other business

- 12.1. Storage of Council Items - There are a number of Council owned items stored in various places around the town, many in Councillor's property. It would be better to have some storage facility where it can all be kept in one place. Several suggestions

were made into options (Charles Allday, Heol y Llan depot, Wern Mynach). Further investigations will be made.

- 12.2. Cllr Trevor Roberts updated the Council on the new trains due on the Cambrian Line later this year. There is a plan for bringing one of the trains to Barmouth for the public to see it. As the trains are higher than the existing ones, work will be needed on the station platforms, or higher ramps will be needed for wheelchair access.

**Meeting closed at 9:30pm.**

**Date of next meetings – Tuesday 13th February 2024 - Strategy Meeting.  
Tuesday 27th February 2024 - Full Council Meeting.**

**Signed as a true record:**

**Date:**

DRAFT