

# ARTHOG COMMUNITY COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT THE FAIRBOURNE VILLAGE HALL ON WEDNESDAY 5th MAY 2021 – COVID RULES ALLOWED A FULL SOCIALLY DISTANCED MEETING

**1052: The Chairman Opened the Meeting:** Cllr Roberts opened the meeting promptly at 7.00pm and welcomed those present.

**1053: Present:** Cllr Roberts, Cllr (Mrs) Salt, Cllr (Mrs) Stott, Cllr (Mrs) Neville, Cllr (Mrs) Darvill, Cllr (Mrs) Woolley, Cllr B Wooley, Clerk Angela Thomas

**1054: Apologies Received:** Cllr Louise Hughes, Cllr Eves, Cllr Haycock

**1055: Councillors' Declaration of Interest:** Nil Interest

**1056: To Receive Any Special Announcements:** The Chairman thanked the Clerk for her perseverance during covid, and he thanked Cllr. Salt for representing Fairbourne on the BBC Weatherman Walking.

**1057: To Confirm Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> April 2021.** Confirmed by Cllr (Mrs) Salt and seconded by Cllr (Mrs) Neville

**1058: Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> April 2021:** No matters arose.

**1059: Clerks Report:** The Clerk reported that no correspondence had been received from Gwynedd Council of NRW in response to emails sent. Effectively both had ceased working from 25<sup>th</sup> March due to the election. Any matters from the last Community Council/Financial year still outstanding will be pursued as soon as GC and NRW start to work again. The Clerk had been stopped in the Village by Liz Stokes who voiced concern at the state of the pavement parallel to the shops. Liz has the use of a mobile scooter but is too concerned to use it. It was discussed thoroughly, and the conclusion was that the pavement outside the shops is the responsibility of each individual shop and it was thought unlikely that any repairs would be made in the foreseeable future. The Clerk will write to GC to confirm that position is correct. The Clerk brought to the attention of the Councillors the number of complaints and concerns being received regarding the possible introduction of Pods and Static Caravans being introduced into the Village for the purpose of letting. Lettings require planning permission and possibly a change of use from GC. This situation has become a concern because now one quarter of Fairbourne is second or holiday home and that is increasing all the time. It was pointed out that it is difficult to raise with anything with GC until it happens. Cllr (Mrs) Darvill raised the problem with the pavement at the end of Francis Avenue and next to Penrhyn Bar and Grill. The pavement is too steep for mobility scooter use. The Clerk will write to Steffan Jones GC and raise this issue once again. The Clerk reminded the Councillors to have a look at the mobile phone app that has been designed to let people know all about the history of Cenotaphs and memorials. The Arthog Community Council has joined the app and a cheque for £50.00 has been raised to pay for the work carried out. The Clerk confirmed that GC have started to issue penalty notices for overnight parking on the Promenade Car Park. It is hoped that the same will apply to the Penrhyn Point. The Chairman said that the old Llanelltyd road is now virtually a lay by and it was full of overnight campers. Cregennan Lakes is also being targeted by overnight campers. The Clerk urged all Councillors to check out the Website as it has been updated with new pictures.

**1060: Special Items Brought to Attention:** The Chairman asked for a proposer and a seconder to allow the current Chairman and Vice Chair to stay on place until May 2022. It was proposed by Cllr Mrs Neville and seconded by Cllr Mrs Stott.

**1061: To deal with Any Correspondence:** Dealt with in Clerk's report.

**1062: To Deal with Planning Matters:** Dealt with on a weekly basis.

**1063: Financial Statement and Report:** The Clerk confirmed that the accounts for the last financial year were completed. A copy of the figures was circulated to all Councillors. The Clerk explained all transactions, deposits and withdrawals and was pleased to confirm that everything balanced and that the accounts could be presented to the Welsh Audit Office with confidence. For the new financial year, it was proposed to convert the reserve account be turned into the "Reserve/Election Account", with a constant balance of £4000.00 which is the amount estimated to cover an election. The Chairman is going to speak to Cllr Thomas about the Cemetery Account with a view to reviewing how that account is managed. Discussions took place regarding the Youth Account and the possible transfer of an amount of money each month to cover future repairs in the playpark. This will be discussed again at the next meeting. The Chairman said that attention must be given to the Playpark in terms of maintenance because it is possibly the most important asset that the ACC has, as he does not want to see it diminished. Cllr Mrs Neville said that she had set up a "secret" Facebook account canvassing parents of children in Fairbourne, Friog and Arthog for ideas of what is wanted. She will be assisted by Valerie Brewin. Cllr Mrs Neville was also looking into possible grants. The Clerk said that after driving around the locality the Fairbourne Playpark is the best kept locally. It was felt that the Youth Account should be renamed "Youth/Playpark Account". Proposed Cllr Mrs Salt, seconded by Cllr Mrs Neville.

The Clerk asked the Councillors to consider the Risk Assessment. It was discussed at length and felt that there were no changes to be made. All risks were understood and accepted. Proposed Cllr Roberts, Seconded Cllr Mrs Neville.

The Clerk asked the Councillors to consider the Asset register. The register was amended when the two springers were taken out and amended when the new equipment was added. There were no further changes. Assets amount to £76,000. Proposed Cllr Mrs Woolley, seconded Cllr Mrs Salt.

The Clerk reminded all Councillors of their responsibilities to be familiar with All Standing Order and Financial Regulations. All Councillors agreed. Proposed Cllr Mrs Stott, seconded Cllr Mrs Woolley.

Cheques presented for signature: £50.00 Mobile App for the Cenotaph, £17.00 Wilko stationery. Financial Statement attached to these minutes.

**1064: To Receive Councillors' Questions:** Cllr Mrs Woolley raised some complaints that she had received about a resident on Glan Y Mor. It was a questions of garden fires, dangerous dogs, and garden rubbish. The Fire Brigade has been called out to this property and a warning issued. It is a difficult issue and the Community Council felt that there was nothing that it could do but had sympathy with all those affected by this inconsiderate behavior. Cllr Roberts said he would personally go and have a look. It was felt that it would be better for nearby resident to contact Gwynedd Council individually. Cllr Mrs Woolley also raised the subject of the NHS celebration intended for early July. It was hoped that the promised flagpole would be in place by that time. It was agreed that Cllr Mrs Wooley would purchase the official NHS flag and the ACC would pay for it (approx. £35.00). Cllr Mr Woolley raised the subject of the Fairbourne Hotel. There was nothing official to report. It looks as though the current Lessees will be leaving some time soon. Cllr Mrs

Darvill reported that the dog waste bin was still the wrong way around. Cllr Mrs Salt said that she had looked at the bin and said that the wind was to blame for the bin moving and that there was little to be done. The Clerk said that she would once again raise the subject with Steffan Jones GC once GC were back up and working. Cllr Mrs Darvill also raised the issue of bicycles using the Promenade path and how dangerous it had become. It is a matter of enforcement and signage. Again, the Clerk would write to Steffan Jones at GC raising the danger. Cllr Mrs Neville reported that motor bikes had been using the flooded land Fairbourne side of the breach. She said that she thought it was an SSSI marshland and surely motorbikes should not be using it. The Clerk said that she would write to NRW and report this incident once the election was over. The Chairman reminded the Councillors that the issue of footpath 13 had still not been resolved by NRW. The Clerk reported that she had received a phone call regarding a possible breach at Min Y Don. The Clerk rang NRW and they said they would check and fund that possibly because of the dry period there was a crack in the clay wall. Repair work is due to commence sometime in July. The Clerk also reported that the pump had been removed from Friog Corner. The Chairman said that he would like to thank Cllr Mrs Neville's daughter Sky for all her efforts regarding eliminating plastic and rubbish from Fairbourne and especially the beach. Cllr Mrs Neville reported that Sky had been nominated for the Young Activist of the Year Award by Surface against sewage. She will find out in June if she has won. There are only three nominations. AM Eluned Morgan wants to take Sky to the Senedd at some time. Cllr Mrs Stott reported that the owners of Ty Coch in Arthog seem to be trying to establish an access road to their property. It was felt that the ACC needed to keep an eye on what was happening because official permission would not be granted in any form. Cllr Mrs Stott said that speeding was still an issue through the Village and an accident had been reported two months ago with the Police attending. Cllr Mrs Salt reported a possible blue/green alga in the ditch alongside the Village Hall leading to Francis Avenue. The Clerk was asked to report this to the NRW asking for a possible inspection. The Chairman had nothing further to report.

**1065: Representatives Report:** Cllr Mrs Neville reported that a litter picking station had been donated along with quite a lot of equipment. She had applied to become a litter picking hero and the donation was a result of that. What is needed now is an area set aside for the Litter Picking station to be set up without fear of it being vandalized or equipment stolen. Cllr Neville was hoping that it could be in the Village Hall Car Park. Golf Club: Cllr Roberts reported that a meeting will be arranged soon to finalise the Agreement. It was confirmed that the Golf House now has Insurance. Fairbourne Amenities Trust: The builders are back to finish the disabled toilet. The roof on the Penrhyn Drive South Toilets has been completed. The Clerk reported that a translation of the report on the ramp was still awaited. It was felt that Gwynedd Council were trying to block the reinstatement of the ramp in every possible way. The Flagpole should be back around the 1<sup>st</sup> of July. Cllr Mrs Woolley reported that the NHS celebration is well under way. An official flag will be purchased, and the ACC will pay for it (approx. £35.00). Proposed by Cllr Darvill and seconded by Cllr Neville. Cllr Mrs Woolley then said that she would like to run a competition for the design of a Flag for Fairbourne for the younger people in the Village and then have a judging day. The NHS day is a full day of celebrations providing Covid Rules are lifted. One thing that is proving extremely popular is a Wakey Wakey Walk for the children. Cllr Roberts said that he will speak to Cllr Thomas to establish a way forward with the Cemetery Account and that the Cemetery had had its first cut and would be weed sprayed soon. Cllr Darvill asked if a corner of the cemetery could be a dedicated wildflower area. It was felt that it would not be straight forward to maintain or even get started. Cllr Mrs Neville asked what had happened to the information boards that were on the Promenade. The Clerk said that she would again chase with Barry Davies.

**1066: Date and Time of Next Meeting:** Wednesday June the 2nd in Arthog Village Hall. The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.30pm