

ARTHOG COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT THE FAIRBOURNE VILLAGE HALL ON WEDNESDAY 3rd November 2021

1115: The Chairman Opened the Meeting: The Chairman opened the meeting at 7.00pm and welcomed Gareth Evens, NRW, and Sylvia Stephenson and Mike Thrussell, Fairbourne Ambassadors.

1116: Present: Cllr Roberts, Cllr (Mrs) Salt, Cllr Eves, Cllr Woolley, Cllr (Mrs) Woolley, Cllr (Mrs) Neville, Cllr (Mrs) Darville, Cllr (Mrs) Hughes GCC, Clerk Angela Thomas.

1117: Apologies Received: Cllr J Haycock. No apology received from Cllr Thomas

1118: Councillors' Declaration of Interest: No Interest declared.

1119: Special Guest: Gareth Evens, NRW was asked to give a breakdown of the ditch clearance programme to date. He did not have a copy of the Autumn plan available but said he would forward the programme as soon as he could. Cllr Eves led the discussion as he has a vast knowledge of the ditch system within Fairbourne. Both Sylvia Stephenson and Mike Thrussell asked specific questions regarding future funding and continued protection of Fairbourne. Gareth felt that both future funding would not be a problem as there is of course a duty of care to keep all areas safe. It was acknowledged that some clearance had taken place but that in fact the ditch at the side of the Village Hall had not yet been cleared. This was urgently needed. There was a great deal of talk about the state of the overall system, including the sluice gates, the suspected under capacity of some of the system. Gareth Evens said that all the system had been designed and approved as having capacity to deal with Fairbourne's needs. There was a discussion about Glan Y Mor ditch system which is subject to historical facts. The NRW do not clear or clean the ditch system in Glan Y Mor, and it was felt that this would remain the same for the foreseeable future. Basically, Glan Y Mor needs to form a Management Committee asking for a subscription from each property and arrange to have the ditch system cleared on a private basis. There was also discussion regarding Fairbourne taking on the job of clearing its own ditches. This had been talked about before but needs much more investigation before it could be contemplated. Gareth Evens talked about the short-term asset management within Fairbourne and confirmed that Daniel Bryce-Smith would be taking that forward. It had been agreed that Daniel would visit Fairbourne in the not-too-distant future, still to be confirmed. Gareth did agree that parts of the clearing programme may have to be carried out more than once a year.

1120: To Receive Any Special Announcements: No special Announcements

1121: To Confirm Minutes of the meeting held on 13th October 2021: Cllr Woolley confirmed that he did not attend the Harbour meeting, but he did telephone them about deploying the beach safe buoys. He had confirmation that this subject is on the agenda. Proposed: Cllr (Mrs) G Salt, Seconded Cllr B Woolley

1122: Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Meeting held on 13th October 2021: No matters arising

1123: Clerks Report: The Clerk had received an email from Nefyn Council asking for support for a young man cycling to Cardiff, calling in at Dolgellau to campaign for affordable homes for young people. Cllr Eves said that the problem is that young people do not earn enough to secure a mortgage because you could get a 100% mortgage. These days you need a £30,000 deposit. The Clerk said that James Ageypong-Parsons, Countryfile had sent a copy of the full statement received from Welsh Government and Gwynedd County Council sent to the BBC. Some of the comment appeared to be contrary to what had previously been said. Welsh Government said that no decision had been made to decommission Fairbourne in 2054 and that funding was also not necessarily ceasing in 2054. It felt to the ACC as though there was a slight softening in tone. It was agreed to send the statement to all the people registered on the Fairbourne email sight. The Clerk said that the only reply received from any of the Government and GC bodies who had been sent a copy of the questionnaire and analysis, was from Lowri Norrington-Davies and Liz Saville-Roberts. Nothing from the CEO or Head of YGC, Catrin Wager acknowledged receipt. The Clerk confirmed that she had written to Sian Williams NRW and was promised a reply to the question asked about £115 million pounds for defence over the next decade.

Cllr Eves asked if we could obtain a costing for the shifting of the 22,000 tons of shingle. The Clerk confirmed that Daniel Bryce-Smith had been asked to come to the Village. No reply had been received from Griffiths Construction or Barmouth TC about the Benches on the Bridge. The question of the Car Park at the Glan Y Mor was again brought up and whether a license had been gained for the CCTV. The land cleared behind the Tennis Court was brought into question by Cllr (Mrs) Neville, and whether it was due to be developed. The Clerk was waiting for a reply from Planning GC. Cllr Eves said that development could not proceed because we had been told that no new building was allowed in Fairbourne. Cllr Eves said that as no footings were in it would not be allowed to proceed. Cllr Eves asked the Clerk to chase a reply. Regarding Pods, YGC and SNP say that it is a very grey area and neither of them seem to want to take a decision. Cllr Louise Hughes is on the Planning Committee and said she would try to get a Planning Officer to come to Fairbourne for clarification. The Council has received a road closure notice for Friog Hill which sends traffic all the way around Aberdovey commencing 22nd November. There were concerns expressed about whether Ambulances and Fire Engines could get through. The closure will apply at night only 9.00 pm to 6.30 am. It was confirmed that

tarmacking had started in the Village. Mike Scott had asked if the ACC would pay for new Information Notices that are displayed on the Information Boards. Discussion took place and the Clerk was asked to ask Mike Scott to speak to the Landowners of the Blue Lake for instance if they wished to continue with information. The Clerk would let Mike Scott know that there was no objection, costings would be supplied. Cllr Eves was against the Amenities Trust being listed as though it was a business but could be listed as the toilets and notice boards being coordinated by FAT. Proposed by Cllr Eves and Seconded by Cllr (Mrs) Woolley. Discussion took place as to whether key fobs or stickers could be made saying we visited and survived Fairbourne. Cllr Woolley asked whether any replies had been received yet from the Academics written to regarding Dr Graham Hall's report. Replies were awaited.

Cllr Eves asked if the Clerk would write to Dr Hall asking how we should consider constructing a ramp for the beach. The Clerk asked Cllr Eves to draft a letter.

1124: Special Items Brought to Attention: A copy of the Business Opportunity Notice was passed to the Chairman.

1125: To deal with Any Correspondence: All dealt with in the Clerks Report

1126: To Deal with Planning Matters: No planning matters.

1127: Financial Statement and Report: A statement had been given to all Councillors. The cheque book was circulated for signatures. L C Jones £100.00 grass cutting, Clerk, Ink Jets, and stamps £187.10, J D and M Hodson £180.00, cenotaph painting, Fairbourne Village Hall Hire, £40.40. The Clerk asked when the Cheque for FAT and the Village Halls should be sent out? A bill is still due from Welsh Audit Office when the Audit is signed off. Precept application should be received at the end of November at which time the Clerk will submit the sum of £13,000.00 as previously agreed.

Current Account	£11,555.37
Reserve/Election Account	£ 4,000.11
Youth/Playpark Account	£ 6,076.41
Cemetery Account	£ 3,280.00

1128: To Receive Councillors' Questions: Cllr (Mrs) Neville asked if any more information had been received by the Clerk regarding the noise nuisance coming from Penrhyn Bar and Grill. The Clerk said that it was down to the owner of the Care home to make a complaint and that she should keep a record of noise issues. Cllr (Mrs) Salt had received a request that the light on the Railway bridge should be left on because it looks so lovely. Dark Skies probably would not be in favour of it. Cllr Eves said that he had had a meeting with Huw Williams YGC, he confirmed that they would be employing someone from NHS Health Wales to look at the impact on wellbeing in Fairbourne. Cllr Roberts asked if any disabled groups could be involved in the ramp project. Unfortunately, it would involve a ramp too long and too wide, it would be impractical. Cllr Woolley asked if any replies had been received from any other Councils to the letter sent to them regarding flooding issues. Cllr (Mrs) Woolley confirmed that the winner of the Flag competition was in fact Georgina Salt. It was decided that we would have a junior winner to be decided at the next meeting. Cllr (Mrs) Salt said that both SKY Italia and TV Switzerland had both been to the village and had spoken to both Cllr (Mrs) Salt and the Clerk.

1129: Representatives Report: Playpark: Cllr (Mrs) Neville has been looking at the costs for basketball hoops and they are a horrendous price. £2000.00 it seems, is needed for even secondhand ones. Cllr Eves suggested asking Mr Les Hunt and said he would go and see him. Cllr Mrs Neville said we would like them before Fairbourne flooded. Cllr Mrs Neville was asked if the parents of children in Village could form a team to de-rust and repaint the fencing around the playpark area. Cllr Mrs Neville said she would check it out. Golf Club: The issue of the agreement was talked about again. Cllr Eves said that he would arrange a date for a meeting but that he and Cllr Roberts needed to have a discussion first. A meeting was needed before Christmas. The Cemetery: Possible work to be carried out in the spring to replace the edging and possible tree pollarding. FAT: Cllr Roberts gave a report from Mike Scott. A grant application had been submitted for replacement of windows. A grant application would be submitted to improve the Station Toilets. Appreciation was expressed to Cllr Mrs Woolley for the new mural. FAT will apply for a donation to the ACC once the tarmacking has been completed. Both sets of toilets have been kept open all year round. A raffle will be run again in aid of the toilets. The Chairman asked the Clerk to write a letter of thanks to the Hodson's for the amazing job done. An invoice will be sent in for the £180.00. The service at the Cenotaph will take place on the Sunday 14th. The Clerk confirmed that she had still not received the official paperwork from GC Legal Department but would display the email confirmation.

1130: Date and Time of Next Meeting: Wednesday 1st December commencing 7.00pm in Fairbourne.
The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.05pm