

## ARTHOG COMMUNITY COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT THE FAIRBOURNE VILLAGE HALL ON WEDNESDAY 1<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2023 – ST DAVIDS DAY

**1331: THE CHAIR OPENED THE MEETING:** The Chair, Councillor Mrs Salt opened the meeting at 7.00pm

**1332: PRESENT:** Cllr (Mrs) Salt, Cllr Haycock, Cllr (Mrs) Woolley, Cllr Woolley, Cllr (Ms) Darvill, Cllr Eves, Cllr Roberts, Cllr (Mrs) Langford Cllr Thomas, Cllr Green, Cllr GC Louise Hughes, Clerk Angela Thomas

**1333: APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** No absences

**1334: COUNCILLORS DECLARATION OF INTEREST:** Cllr Green – Golf Club.

**1335: SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CHAIR:** The Chair asked if there were any special announcements

**1336: CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 1<sup>st</sup> February 2023:** The minutes were confirmed as correct and voted as correct and seconded by Cllr Roberts and Cllr Woolley.

**1337: MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MEETING HELD ON 1<sup>st</sup> February 2023:** Cllr Woolley raised a point. In the minutes of the last meeting, it was said that Cyngor Gwynedd had never had an official meeting to adopt or sign off the 2054 and decommissioning. Cllr Woolley said it was a diabolical situation, and many residents had suffered because of these two unconfirmed statements. He said that we should ask for a public inquiry knowing that we would never get one, or at least get an apology. The Chair said that the statement was perpetuated by Huw Williams, not Cyngor Gwynedd, and that he was never challenged. Cllr Woolley asked for a letter to be sent to the now CEO, Dafydd Gibbard. Cllr Woolley said that he is very, very angry. The Clerk said she would write a letter on behalf of the Councillors.

The conversation then went on to discuss the Public Inquiry regarding Footpath 40, Mawddach Crescent, which was held at the Sports Centre over 4 days. It will be resumed on a Teams basis commencing 13<sup>th</sup> March for 4 days at the Dolgellau Council Offices. In attendance, Peredur Roberts, Louise Hughes as individuals not ACC, and the Clerk, Angela Thomas as Clerk. It was felt that the Barrister that had been retained by Mawddach Crescent was deemed to be manipulative, condescending and intimidating to some of the witnesses. One witness withdrew from presenting her statement. Cllr (Mrs) Langford said that she had spoken to a couple of witnesses who had also felt intimidated.

**1338: CLERKS REPORT:** The Clerk reported that she had put a biodiversity statement on both websites in line with instructions from One Voice Wales. The Clerk had been asked to raise the issue of the ditch in the Holiday Village and the fact that NRW will not be cleaning or clearing the ditch due to historical facts. Cllr Green was asked if he could get the residents interested in forming a residents management committee asking each property to pay £10.00 per year which would be enough money to clear the ditch annually. A copy of the riparian requirements will be sent to each property reminding the owners and occupiers that it is their responsibility to maintain the ditches. The Clerk will ask for copies of the NRW booklet from Ann Griffiths. The Clerk had also been asked to write to Steffan Jones regarding the lack of a fence bordering the river, in the Beach Road Car Park opposite the children's play park. The Clerk said she would send an email. The Clerk had also been asked to try and establish what was happening with the Flood Wardens now that Mike Scott has resigned, and Matt Burrows has taken over. It was suggested by Cllr Eves that Matt Burrows be invited to the next ACC meeting to make a presentation of the way forward. Of vital importance is making sure that all the vulnerable people in the village are known to NRW and that new residents can sign up to the flood notification scheme. The Clerk will send an invitation to Matt Burrows to attend the April meeting. Mike Scott had sent a copy of a summary of the Fairbourne Community Flood Plan for hopefully being included in the next Sibrydian. The meeting with Maritime to talk about the new "path" down the shingle has been cancelled as Mr Beaumont-Jones is on holiday, so the meeting is re-arranged for later in the month, 17<sup>th</sup> March.

**1339: SPECIAL ITEMS BROUGHT TO ATTENTION:** No special items brought forward.

**1340: CORRESPONDENCE:** No correspondence has been received.

**1341: PLANNING MATTERS:** No planning application has been made by the Springfield Hotel (Glan Y Mor). The Glan Y Mor is still advertising overnight camping facilities online and Facebook. Currently an old touring caravan is in situ. It was noted that applications had been made for 3 areas within Gwynedd for static caravans' overnight stations. Cllr Eves stated that there are several static caravans in the Village that are being advertised for letting on Airbnb etc.

**1342: FINANCIAL MATTERS:** An invoice had been received from One Voice Wales for renewal of membership. A cheque was circulated for signature. The Clerk confirmed that a cheque had been received from Cyngor Gwynedd for £682.73

relating to the 10% Parking scheme, which is much appreciated. The cheque had been banked by the Clerk. The Clerk had received a bill from Arthog Village Treasurer for the Hire of the room for the bi-monthly meetings and a request for the annual donation, if possible, to the Village Hall fund. A copy of the current accounts was attached. It was agreed and seconded (Cllr Roberts and Cllr Eves) that a donation of £500.00 be made and the bill for the room hire paid at the same time. Friog/Fairbourne Village Hall was also discussed, and it was agreed that upon receipt of the current accounts the same donation of £500.00 be made to the Village Hall fund. The Clerk pointed out that she had not heard from Dail Dysynni for a donation but asked if the Councillors would once again approve a donation to the Welsh Air Ambulance, now more important than ever. It was agreed that £300.00 be sent to the Air Ambulance in Caernarfon together with a letter. (Cllr Haycock and Cllr Eves). The Clerk pointed out that with the 10% monies received and the excess on the current account it meant that there was money available to purchase some benches for Fairbourne and a Bench for the Bus stop as requested by Cllr (Mrs) Langford in Arthog. The Clerk will get quotes from local suppliers and permissions was given to go ahead and order so that the items are purchased in the current financial year. The current monthly statements of accounts had been circulated to all the Councillors prior to the meeting.

**1343: COUNCILLORS QUESTIONS:** The Clerk asked Cllr Louise Hughes if the new rate for Council Tax had been set. Cllr Mrs Hughes said that there was a Teams meeting the next day to set the new rate. Cllr Mrs Hughes had attended the meeting called by Mabon ap Gwynfor and Liz Saville-Roberts to discuss the state of the NHS and Betsi Cadwallader. It was disappointing and did not actually achieve anything positive. Within the ACC meeting it was felt that Eluned Morgan MS had not achieved a great deal since taking over the position of Minister for Health and that the Labour Government was sadly lacking in results in bringing the NHS up to date. The Air Ambulance situation was discussed, it is proposed to close Caernarfon in 2026, but it is still under discussion. Cllr (Mrs) Woolley passed her plans for the beautification of the area above Penrhyn Bar and Grill. They looked very good and interesting. This can be discussed at the meeting with Maritime on the 17<sup>th</sup>. The toilets at Morfa Mawddach are nearly finished and looking good. It is hoped that they will be kept in good working order.

**1344: REPRESENTATIVES REPORT:**

**HIA:** Cllr Georgina Salt confirmed that the report had been quality checked and recommendations had been made. Savills will update. A newsletter hopefully will then be ready for circulation. When funding has been confirmed and it is known how much will be set aside for Fairbourne, the various bodies concerned will meet. After being asked, The Chair, Cllr (Mrs) Salt categorically confirmed that FMFPB and ACC will be consulted with regard to the disbursement of funds, as these are the bodies that better understand the specifics. Regarding a joint statement from Welsh Government and Cynfor Gwynedd regarding the inaccurate statement of 2054 and decommissioning, the best that can be achieved is what has already been confirmed by Mr Berwyn Parry-Jones Cabinet member. Nothing else will be forthcoming. I.e., that 2054 and decommissioning never went before a full cabinet meeting for approval, or adoption into policy. Cllr Mrs Hughes asked if it might be an idea for Llion Pritchard CG to attend our next meeting with an explanation of the OBC/Plan that he is writing. It is assumed that it will be discussed in full at the April FMFPB Meeting.

**FAT:** Cllr Roberts gave an up-to-date report. All renovations are going to plan. Dog waster bins due to be replaced.

**CEMETERY:** No change. Running boards will be discussed in the Spring. Mr L C Jones is happy to continue to cut the grass in the Cemetery. Weed killing will also be considered in the Spring.

**GOLF CLUB:** Annual return has been submitted. Doors and windows will be purchase for the Golf House and fencing will be finished as well. Cllr Eves will bring the current financial statement to the April ACC meeting.

**HARBOUR COMMITTEE:** Cllr Wooley said nothing to report.

**1345: DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING:** The Chair closed the meeting at 8.45 and thanked all who had attended. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> April 2023, at Arthog Village Hall.