

ARTHOG COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT THE GANOLFAN, ARTHOG on Monday 8th May 2017 @ 7pm

503. Due to the absence of the Chairman, Cllrs agreed that Cllr P Thomas should chair the meeting and Cllr Scott continue to take the Minutes as Acting Clerk

504. Present: Cllr J Kirkham, Cllr P Thomas, Cllr P Parker, Cllr P Roberts, Cllr S Eves, Cllr M Scott (Acting Clerk).

505. Apologies: Nil

506. Declaration of Interest: None

507. To Receive any Special Announcement from the Acting Chairman: None, except that we are still looking for a new Clerk. The Acting Clerk would contact One Voice Wales and he would put up another notice on the Community Notice Boards.

508. Matters Arising: None. They were proposed by Cllr Roberts and seconded by Cllr Kirkham as being a true record. All in favour.

509. Clerks Report: The Acting Clerk said that the two new Councillors would be attending the next meeting as their turn of office did not begin until midnight tonight. Cllr (Mrs) Joyce Woolley and Cllr Bryan Wooley were elected unopposed to the Community Council as part of the Friog (Fairbourne) Ward. This leaves a vacancy in both Arthog and Friog (Fairbourne) Wards. The Acting Clerk would put a notice informing each Ward that there was a vacancy and that any interested persons should send in an application with the closing date being 31st May 2017.

510. Election of Officers for 2017 – 2018:

Chairman: Cllr M Scott

Vice Chairman: Cllr P Thomas

It was pointed out that this Community Council cannot operate without a Clerk as Cllr Scott said that he would not take the minutes of the next meeting.

511. Election of Representatives of Outside Bodies:

Barmouth Harbour - Cllr J Kirkham

Llais Cymru - Cllr (Mrs) L Hughes (To be Confirmed)

Fairbourne Village Hall - Cllr (Mrs) J Woolley (To be Confirmed)

Fairbourne Golf Club / Community Flood Plan – Cllr M Scott

Fairbourne Railway - Cllr S Eves

Pig yr Allt - Cllr J Haycock

512. Specific Items Brought to Attention:

a) Fairbourne Public Toilets: Much discussion took place on this subject, with Cllr Eves saying that Businesses would be interested in taking them over, but not if Gwynedd Council were involved. Whilst the expenditure details have been supplied of both the toilets, they cannot see why Rates are charged on them whilst businesses close to the toilets do not pay any business rates. It was still felt that no decision should be made until after Gwynedd Council make their decision. We still should invite a Senior Officer to the Community Council meeting and answer questions that Bethan Hughes was not able to do. When it comes to setting the precept this coming Autumn, we would have a clearer picture as to the position of the toilets.

Cllr Kirkham said that both Village Halls should step up to the Plate and raise some of their own funds. Presently they each are donated £1000 each year. Perhaps Fairbourne Village Hall could open their toilets for members of the public to use if there was total closure. A Donation Box had been suggested at the entrance to the toilets as a means of raising funds.

b) Penrhyn Point Update: Cllr Scott reported no further news from the legal department regarding the overnight parking. It is hoped to have the gate erected just before the slipway before the Spring Bank Holiday weekend.

c) Penrhyn Drive South Slipway Update: Cllr Scott had had a phone call from Barry Davies who had been told by the contractors that removal would be complete by the Spring Bank Holiday weekend but he was going to chase them up.

d) Information Boards. Cllr Scott said that the Sign Maker has been away on a Course and had been unable to finish off the design. Hopefully by the next meeting they should be complete. The Community Council Board for Friog is ready to be erected. Just waiting for the builder to put it up.

e) Fairbourne Community Flood Plan: The website is almost complete. Just waiting for confirmation on a couple of details regarding 'Before a Flood', and then I can announce it publically.

f) To deal with any correspondence: I have had several emails from Mrs Julia Wilson regarding members of the public and the Shropshire Outdoor Centre using the ramp down to the beach from Penrhyn Drive South Car Park despite the warning notices. This situation should not arise once the damaged ramp is removed. She had also complained of members of the Public dropping off black bin bags full of rubbish just off the road down to Penrhyn point. On further investigation with the lady that does the beach clean every other day during the season and also with the 'bin' men of Gwynedd Council, I was able to inform Mrs Wilson that the bags had been placed deliberately at the side of the road / railway for the bin men to pick up. The bags are picked up when they are there, but the 'bin men' are not down at Penrhyn Point on a daily basis.

An email had been received from the Welsh Ramblers Association regarding Footpath 13 and all the information had been passed on to the local representative. We will

Community Council meeting.

515. Representative Reports: Cllr Parker attended a meeting of the Fairbourne Moving Forward Multi-Agency Project held in the Royal Ship Dolgellau on the 4th May 2017 where Greg Guthrie (Royal Haskoning), Prof Mike Phillips (Swansea University), Gareth Evens (NRW) and Huw Williams and Lisa Marshall of YGC were present.

The aim of the Technical team was to answer the following questions:

1. When would we need to stop defending?
2. What's involved in 'Holding the Line'?
3. What's the investment?
4. Is it 40yrs?
5. What's the cost of adaption vs defending?

Cllr Parker produced some statistics that FFC have identified. Figures produced through the Californian Institute of Technology of 3.4mm compared to 1.8mm as measured by gauges in Barmouth and Newlyn compared of those of the SMP2 of 10mm per annum.

Cllr Parker left after presentations from Greg Guthrie, prof Mike Phillips and Dr S Buss (Ground Watering Monitoring).

Project Work Group Meeting – Fairbourne Railway 5th May 2017

Cllrs Mike Scott, Julian Kirkham and Phil Parker attended. There was representation from YGC, NRW, JBA and FFC.

Improved discussion on communication was discussed and the 'Drop In' sessions on a regular basis were to continue as well as the 'Work Groups'. NRW funding is still available to undertake works at Friog Corner depending on a complete analysis of the alternatives.

Funding for the administration from Welsh Government is no longer forthcoming but Gwynedd Council will still finance the project. Welsh Government will still finance the CiC, Technical Team and masterplan.

The Business Support Group has been a relative success with a recent 'Drop In' meeting held recently. A leaflet promoting businesses in Fairbourne is in 'draft' form but take up from key businesses has been disappointing with many not showing any interest.

Cllr Thomas wished to thank Cllr Parker again for his contribution to ACC

Cllr Eves said that the Fairbourne Railway was having a 'Gala' weekend at the end of May which will see a refurbished engine on show plus other items being brought in which should bring in a lot of visitors as a result of 'mass' publicity.

The Acting Clerk had spoken with Mr Raymond Harvey the Deputy Electoral Officer for Gwynedd, and he confirmed the persons who had been re-elected and the new Cllrs who had been elected to the Council. There would be confirmation on the Gwynedd website. The Clerk would put the names of the new Councillors up on the respective noticeboards within the communities.

Date of Next Meeting: Wednesday 7th June 2017 @ 7pm

There being no further business the meeting closed at 20.55.