

ARTHOG COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT THE GANOLFAN, ARTHOG WEDNESDAY 4th OCTOBER 2017

549. Chairmans Welcome. The Chairman welcomed Angela Thomas to the meeting, with a view to her taking on the vacant Clerks position.

550. Present: Cllr J Kirkham, Cllr P Thomas, Cllr (Mrs) J Woolley,
Cllr B Woolley, Cllr (Mrs) R Stott, Cllr S Eves, Cllr P Roberts,
Cllr M Scott (Acting Clerk)

551. Apologies: Cllr J Haycock.

552. Declaration of interest – Nil

553. To receive any special announcement from the Chairman – None

554. To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 6th September 2017. Proposed by Cllr S Eves and seconded by Cllr B Woolley, all in favour.

555. Matters Arising from the Minutes of 6th September. Cllr Kirkham queried as to where the figure of 90K came from, Cllr Woolley explained that he attended a meeting which involved the NRW and it was explained that the 90K was made up of 75K on consultancy fees, moving of shingle and other things. It was agreed that that the "90K" should be replaced by "approximately" 90K.

556 Clerks Report. Road Closure for Remembrance Service Sunday 12th November between 14.45 and 15.15 has been applied for from Gwynedd Council. A wreath has been ordered for the Community Council. Refreshments will be available in the Ganolfan after the service.

Dyfi Bridge Proposal – Cllr Scott had spoken with the designer of the Contractors complaining about no roundabout at Junction of A493/A487, no crawler lanes, and no speed limits are shown. With regard to the pumps that are due to be inserted under the bridge, there is no indication where the water is going to be pumped to. Cllr Thomas and Cllr Eves indicated that lessons have not been learned from the Dolgellau by-pass fiasco. The Council agreed that the Clerk should write to the Contractors and object to the present plans.

Footpath 13. Cllr Scott spoke to Wyn Williams who has met up with the NRW and it would seem that the NRW may be proposing to put a path parallel to the present road but set back from it so that vehicles cannot park on it. Cllr Scott spoke to Gareth Evens at the Flooding Exercise, he said that filling in the breach was not an option. Wyn Williams said that we will have to wait to see what the NRW proposal is.

Complaint made to Gwynedd Council. Cllr Scott spoke with Glenda Edwards, the Clerk of Llangelynnin Council as to how they handle complaints with Gwynedd Council. She had made a complaint on their Web Site and they responded fairly

quickly. Cllr Scott has furnished them with the e-mails etc that were sent to Mr Steffan Jones and he is now awaiting a response. Cllr Woolley of FFC had also had similar problems.

The Ramp at Penrhyn Drive South. Cllr Scott updated that Lisa Goodier had written to Barry Davies saying that the contents of the ramp have not been removed and that the Dragons Teeth have not been removed to the Promenade as the deadline of September 30th has now passed.

557 Special Items Brought to Attention.

(a) Fairbourne Public Toilets. Cllr Scott had heard that the toilets on Penrhyn Drive South are now staying open until November 5th and possibly being cleaned by an outside contractor from Llwyngwrl. They were supposed to close on October 1st. He wondered whether there was some kind of ploy involved. Cllr Eves hopes to set up a meeting with Gwynedd Council after having sent a letter to them regarding TUPE, as we hope to clean the toilets using volunteers. The letter is now with G.C. legal department for comment.

(b) Penrhyn Point. Cllr Scott contacted the Legal Department and was put through to Iwan ap Trevor from the Highways Dept., and they discussed the parking problems of overnight camper vans and motor homes and how we could put a stop to it. Cllr Kirkham has taken a number of photographs of the area and these will be sent to the Highways Dept., and Mr. Barry Davies. Cllr Kirkham and Cllr Scott asked the Highways Department that parking bays be installed, as well as a height restriction barrier. The highways Officer has suggested a Pay and Display Machine at the Point could be installed. Parking bays at the "passing loop" of the Fairbourne Railway need to be painted by the Highways Department. A sign has been ordered with Sign Creation in both Welsh and English to replace the present one on the gate at a cost of £88.50. We have been asked by Barry Davies to put a boulder in the gap by the gate. Barry Davies has offered to pay for the sign, which we are grateful for. Cllr Roberts agreed to move the boulder. Cllr Thomas had rung the SNP regarding policies for overnight parking of camper vans etc after hearing that up to 5 can park free of charge at Penmaenpwll car park. It would appear that if somebody applied for planning permission for camper vans to park, the likelihood is that it would be refused.

(c) Fairbourne Community Flood Plan Exercise. Held on the 21st September when 17 agencies were represented, amongst about 60 people attending. This was endorsed by the Deputy Chief Constable of North Wales, who wrote a letter of thanks to Cllr Scott and the other flood wardens. It was considered very beneficial and positive for everybody concerned. I have asked for Matt Burrows to step up to the plate by organising a social feedback on the event with the flood wardens.

(d) Afon Henddol/Ditches. NRW have been very active in the Village the last few days, especially between Beach Rd and Belgrave Rd. They would like to be able to spray the weed (chickweed) but it's going through biodiversity channels at the moment for approval. They have cleared rushes away at the new sluice gate, but as yet not the silt. They expect to be in the village for some considerable time clearing

the ditches of weed and silt. Cllr Scott has met Gemma Evans on neutral ground to try and break the impasse they have with the NRW as the NRW need to have access to their land to clear ditches etc. Progress was made but the Evans family want something in return. Cllr Woolley said that Greg Guthrie was concerned at the over topping at Friog Corner going through the Chalet Park and into the fields. Cllr Scott explained who owned what and how the water should flow towards the Afon Henddol at the back of Ffordd Corsen. There is a cat flap at the junction of the Afon Henddol at the back of Ffordd Corsen. This is to be removed. The ditches close to the Chalet Park have not yet been dug out. Cllr Thomas having spoken to a local resident confirmed that there is more water coming down the Afon Henddol due to the removal of trees higher up the mountain side.

(e) Fairbourne Play Park. After the last meeting Cllr Scott sent more pictures to

G L Jones (playground contractors) and they have since been back and corrected Cllr Roberts and our observations are that we are now quite happy with the completed job. The Council approved payment for the work done. The waste bin in the playpark has become completely unusable and a replacement will be purchased on the provision of two quotations from reputable companies.

(f) BDO – (Auditors). Cllr Scott had to display a notice from the Auditors that the accounts had not been furnished to them by a specified date. This was due partly to not having a Clerk. As far as he is aware the accounts are to be signed off, but late. Cllr Scott went through the issues that BDO have with Arthog Community Council and how we need to resolve them. Cllr Thomas felt that we should not have to register individual interests on the web site. Cllr Scott said that a letter would be sent to BDO stating that the web site would remain in English only. PAYE was discussed with reference to Angela Thomas taking the position of Clerk. Angela felt that she would remain self employed and deal with tax issues via her tax return. Angela will seek further advice from her accountant.

558.To deal with any correspondence. A letter from an Oil company regarding purchasing bulk oil for customers in the village, this letter to be passed on to the Senior Citizens Club, along with informations regarding a BBC Flog It that is coming to the area on the 19th October. A letter from Gwynedd Council regarding a disabled parking space in Glan-y-Mor, for a resident. No objections made. A letter from the Chairman of the Fairbourne Village Hall asked for consideration to be given to holding half the Arthog Community Council Meetings in Fairbourne. No objections were raised. Cllr Roberts felt that it was a poor turn out for the grand opening of the refurbished Hall. Cllr Scott also attended and recognised very few people. A letter from Y Dydd asking for financial support. The Council agreed to leave it on the table. No financial donation was recommended at this time. No financial donations have been made this year due to financial constraints with the exception of Arthog and Fairbourne Village Halls. A One Voice Wales Meeting was held in Dolgellau of which we were not invited to due to the information being sent to a former Cllr Dorothy Hughes. They have now added Cllr Scotts details. The next meeting is in November. Cllr Thomas volunteered to attend the next meeting. OVW

are also running courses in Tywyn, Cllr Scott has asked that if there is one that will affect the RFO, the Community Council would like to be notified.

559. To deal with Planning Matters. None

560. Financial Statement and Reports.

Current Account £13602.71,

Business Reserve £4738.69

Business Reserve (Youth Account) £7708.08.

To pay out Vodafone £13.60

L C Jones £98.00,

G L Jones, £4288.94,

Playpark Repair, G L Jones, £450.00 (See-Saw repair)

Gwynedd CI (Election) £244.00

M Scott (expenditure) £81.47

P Roberts (grass cutting footpaths) £1000.00.

Total £6176.01, closing balance £7426.70.

The information board income exceeded expenditure. There is one outstanding bill for £150.00 still to be submitted from an outside contractor.

561. To Receive Councils Questions. Cllr Woolley said that Lisa Marshall had asked for a contribution to the FMF brochure. Suggestions have been made to go into the report by Greg Guthrie that more rock armour be provided and topped up with shingle at Friog Corner . The contract once costed out and funds raised, will be implemented hopefully next year. There is a reported land slip at Friog Corner and the NRW have reported it to Network Rail. Cllr Woolley to take on board other Cllr's comments that should go into the FMF annual report. Cllr Woolley agreed to submit a draft to the Chairman. Cllr Thomas raised the subject of traffic on Arthog Hill. He felt that traffic calming methods were needed because it was only a matter of time before a serious accident happened. Cllr Scott pointed out that a letter was sent earlier this year and Gwynedd Council said further action was required. Cllr Thomas requested a further letter be sent to Gwynedd Council. A draft letter to be sent to the Arthog Cllrs.

562. To receive Representatives Reports. Cllr Scott asks that representatives attending meetings especially those where Lisa Goodyear is involved, that if they are not able to make the meeting could they please apologise for non attendance. Cllr Kirkham is attending a Barmouth Harbour advisory meeting on October the 23rd and he will raise various issues regarding Penrhyn Point. Cllr Thomas asked about a Cemetery letter that he had been sent and Cllr Scott said that we were the owners of the Cemetery and applied Gwynedd Council burial rates accordingly. Cllr Scott to reply to Gwynedd Council.

563. Meeting to discuss Precept 1st April 2018 – March 2019. It was agreed that the meeting would be held on Wednesday 18th October 7.00 in Fairbourne Village Hall.

564. Date of Next Meeting. Wednesday November 1st. Meeting closed at 9.00pm.