**MINUTES OF HARLECH COMMUNITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING HELD AT THE BAND ROOM, HARLECH AT 7.30 P.M. ON 07.09.20**

**APOLOGIES**

Cllr. Freya Bentham (Vice Chairman), Gordon Howie, Sian Roberts, Edwina Evans.

**PRESENT**

Cllrs. Huw Jones (Chairman), Ceri Griffith, Wendy Williams, Thomas Mort, Martin Hughes.

**MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on August 10th 2020 were found to be correct.

**DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

Cllr. Huw Jones declared an interest in the planning application for 30 Cae Gwastad, Harlech and he signed a Declaration of Personal Interest form.

**MATTERS ARISING**

**Budget Plan**

It was reported that the Council had spent £24,962.43 since the start of the new financial year and this was  £14,890.16 less expenditure than what  was earmarked in the budget for the year. This was mainly due to the fact that the £10,000 earmarked for the toilets partnership had not been paid and this was earmarked for May

**Harlech Community Forum**

As Cllr. Freya Bentham is on maternity leave no report is available.

**Toilets by the Castle**

The Chairman reported that he was still waiting for a reply from the company but he had heard that the use of hand dryers was not acceptable anymore because of the virus and maybe paper towels will have to be purchased and install a hand wash basin.

**Public Benches**

The Chairman reported that Mr. Gareth Jones had completed the work of repairing the bench on St. Davis’s hill and it was made known that one bench on the Old Llanfair Road needs attention and the Chairman agreed to contact Mr. Gareth Jones regarding this.

**Council’s Website**

Nothing further to discuss regarding the above.

**Election of Councillor**

The Clerk reported that she had received an e-mail from Mrs Judith Strevens stating that she wished to resign as a Member of the Council. The Clerk also reported that she had received a letter from Mr. Caerwyn Roberts stating that he wished to retire as a Member of the Council. Also an e-mail had been received from Mr. Elfyn Anwyl stating that he wished to resign as a Member of the Council. It was agreed to send all three a letter thanking them for their work while on the Council and ito forward all the letters to the Electoral Department, Gwynedd Council.

**Gwynedd Council Matters**

As Cllr. Freya Bentham is on maternity leave no report is available.

658.................................................Chairman

**PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

**Demolition of existing dwelling and erection of replacement dwelling - Beaumont, Old Llanfair Road, Harlech (NP5/61/637)**

No objections to this application but the Members have concerns about the height of the proposed house compared to the present house.

**External wall insulation, formation of new pedestrian access, installation of roof light on North elevation and extension to lean-to - Llwyn, Ffordd Isaf, Harlech (NP5/61/579B)**

Support this application.

**Erection of single storey rear extension - 30 Cae Gwastad, Harlech (NP5/61/629)**

Support this application.

**TREASURER’S REPORT**

The Treasurer reported that there was £84,398.34 in the bank, £31,091.20 in the reserve account, £100.00 in the Chairman’s account and £2.82 in the cemetery account.

**Invoices needing payment since last meeting**

Mrs Annwen Hughes - £1,482.02 - wages and costs for 6 months

Mr. G. J. Williams - £144.00 – cut grass in football field and rest of King George field

Mr. Gareth Jones - £580.00 – install new benches and fix another

**Monies received since last meeting**

Pritchard a Griffiths - £760.00 – burial of the late Mr. Emyr Rees

Cyngor Gwynedd - £35,000.00 – half the precept

**CORRESPONDANCE**

**BT**

Received an e-mail from the Planning Department, Gwynedd Council on behalf of the above with regard to removing the phone box that is up by Penrhiwgoch junction because of the lack of useage. The consultation 90 day to this will be coming to an end on the 18th of Octiber and the Planning Department would be grateful of receiving our comments by the 5th October 2020. It was agreed there was no objection to this but the Council wanted to adopt the kiosk for a £1.00 so as to install a defribillator in it. A discussion took place about also installing a defbrillator somwhere in the town and it was agreed to put the matter on the agend of the next meeting.

**Network Rail**

Received a letter from the above regarding the latest with Barmouth Bridge Restoration and stating that their colleagues at Transport for Wales will be providing rail replacement services during the closure. There are 12 stations on the Cambrian Line which can only be accessed by minibus rather than coaches. This means there will be some capacity restraints on rail replacement services. Social distancing rules to prevent the spread of COVID-19 will further reduce capacity. In addition to the rail replacement services, Transport for Wales will be providing dedicated road transport to get pupils to school during the closure. Parents will be given this information by their schools. Transport for Wales’ school liaison officer is working with schools on the numbers who will need this transport, social distancing requirements and alternative travel arrangements, should the demand for this service surpass the limited number of minibuses available. As a reminder, Barmouth Viaduct will be closed for 16 days while they carry out the restoration work, from 23:40 on 16th October until 5:30 on 2nd November. They will also be closing the bridge and walkway to carry out work on the following dates: From 00:10 until 10:10 on Sunday 6th September,

From 23:40 on Saturday 12th September until 09:55 on Sunday 13th September, From 00:10 until 10:10 on Sunday 20th September, From 23:15 on Saturday 26th September until 09:15 on Sunday 27th September, From 00:10 until 10:10 on Sunday 4th October and From 23:15 on Saturday 10th October until 10:10 on Sunday 11th October. Also stating that they are happy to have a follow up meeting if there was an interest. It was agreed to forward this letter to every Member.

658……………………………………………….Chairman

**Llanllyfni Community Council**

Received an e-mail from the above Community Council together with a copy of a motion that they have prepared and asking this Council to support their motion to charge a fee for access to Snowdon by sending a letter to the Leader of Gwynedd Council, Cllr. Dyfrig Siencyn asking him to arrange a meeting between the Stakeholders of Snowdon so as to be able to discuss the possibility and manner of how this fee could be charged. It was agreed to leave the matter on the table for now.

**Snowdonia National Park**

Received a copy of the Informal Consultation Document regarding Imrpvoement and Wellbeing Objectives for 2021-26 from the above stating that the Council’s is important at this stage so as to enable them to assess whether these formulative ideas are on the right track. They are asking if the Council could send their comments/response on the attached form by the 18th of this month. It was agreed that everyone who wanted to make comments would send them through e-mail to the Clerk as soon as possible.

**One Voice Wales**

Received an e-mail from the above stating that training is available from them and because the Welsh Government is providing additional financial support in the current financial year, that they are able to offer two free places to Councils, with priority being given to those Councillors who are either Chair of the Council or of the Finance Committee. One Voice Wales will prioritise the award of free places depending on the number of nominations received. The free places will only apply to those who are nominated to attend one or more of designated modules, namely The Council as an Employer, Understanding Local Government Finance and Understanding the Law. It was agreed to leave the matter on the table for now.

**Mr Joe Patton**

Received numerous correspondance from the above with regard to lack of safety on the beach and stating that he had contacted the Maritime Department, Gwynedd Council and that he was forwarding copies of them onto the Community Council. The Members voiced concern that these type of problems persists and that they support what Mr. Patton has done and that the Council contact the Maritime Officer to state this.

**Ms Jodie Pritchard**

Received an e-mail from the above stating that she would like to contribute towards a discusson on Harlech High Street and see whether there is enthusiasn ti apply for grant funding. It was agreed to invite her to the next meeting at 7.00 p.m.

**Ms Jodie Pritchard**

Received an e-mail from the above stating that the Dysynni Dogs training sessions on the tennis courts are going well and asking if there would be a possibility to look into installing lights there so as to carry on with the classes in the winter. Also asking if there would be a possibility to discuss the matter of the relationship between the Community Council and Harlech and Ardudwy Leisure regarding these tennis courts. It was agreed to invite her to the next meeting at 7.00 p.m.

**Snowdonia National Park**

Received a letter from the above informing the Council that an apeal had started regarding the land to the north of Ty Canol, Harlech (NP5/61/LU565C).

**Mrs Suzanne Charles**

Received an e-mail from the above asking if it would be possible for her to have permission from the Council to place the books exchange box on the piece of land outside St. Tanwg’s Church. The Members agreed to this.

659……………………………………………….Chairman

**ANY OTHER MATTER**

Concern and disappointment was voiced that somebody had broken into the theatre recently and it was made known that this matter is now been dealt with.

It was made known that misuse of the railway is being done and the matter is now in the hands of the British Transport Police.

Concern was voiced that there was overgrowth along the pavement opposite the Lower Bron y Graig car park and it was agreed that the Clerk would contact the Highways Department with regard to this.

The decking on the Bron y Graig Nature Trail needs attention and the Chairman agreed to deal with this matter.

It was decided to let the Enviromental Department know that the Branwen Hotel has placed a notice stating that the pavement opposite the hotel is a “smoking area”.

The Chairman informed everybody that he had contacted the Police with regard to camper vans stating overnight in Min y Don car park and that the Police had visited the site and moved them from there.

It was agreed that Mr. Meirion Griffith would ask Mr. Eirlys Williams, Tanforhesgan where is the public footpath that needs attention.

The Chairman informed the Members that he had received a complaint that a tree in the Nature Trail needed attention and that he was waiting for the Tree Officer from the National Park to come back from annual leave so as to inspect it.

**SIGNED..........................................**Chairman

**DATE..............................................**

660