**MINUTES OF HARLECH COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT THE BAND ROOM, HARLECH AT 7.30 P.M. ON 07.12.20**

**APOLOGIES**

Cllr. Freya Bentham (Vice Chairman) .

**PRESENT**

Cllrs. Huw Jones (Chairman), Ceri Griffith, Gordon Howie, Wendy Williams, Thomas Mort, Martin Hughes, Sian Roberts, Edwina Evans, Rhian Corps, Tegid John, Joe Patton.

The Chairman welcomed the three new Members that had been co-opted onto the Council, namely Cllrs. Rhian Corps, Tegid John and Joe Patton and he wished the three well for the future as Members of this Council. The three Councillors signed a Declaration of Acceptance of Office form before the start of the official Council meeting.

**MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on November 2nd 2020 were found to be correct.

**DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

Nobody had any declaration of interst to make.

**MATTERS ARISING**

**Budget Plan**

It was reported that the Council had spent £51,861.92 since the start of the new financial year and this was  £10,547.26 less expenditure than what  was earmarked in the budget for the year.

**Harlech Community Forum**

No report was received by Cllr. Freya Bentham with regard to the above Forum.

**Defribillator**

Cllr. Sian Roberts made it known that she has still not heard from CADW with regard to placing one of the above by the visitors centre near the Castle and also Cllr. Freya Bentham had not found a location for one in the town. Cllr. Tegid John stated that he would be willing for one to be installed on the premises of Morfa Garage as he was of the opinion that one was not available in the vicinity and so many houses around and also he felt that the one by the Fire Station was too far away. Cllr. John’s offer was accepted with gratitude and it was decided to also place one at this location.

**Bron y Graig Nature Trail**

The Clerk reported that she had put this matter on the agenda because she had received an e-mail from Gwen Evans, Community Support Officer for Meirionnydd stating that somebody had suggested to her perhaps that the above nature trail would benefit from a small grant to improve the physical environment of the town. She is asking for more information about this idea i.e. location of the trail, how long, the work needed on it, and an idea of costings. She will need this information to include the trail in a list which is being collated of ideas from eligible towns in the Gwynedd. She will need our suggestions/comments back by the 11th December at the latest. (Whichever projects are accepted by the Council centrally, there will be a need to spend the money by the end of March next year). It was agreed to reply by stating that the Members were of the opinion that the nature trail was about 1/3rd mile long and there are about 12 tree that have already been earmarked by the National Park Tree Officer that need to be felled for safety reasons, all the footpath needs to be resurfaced and also there is a need for a new footbridge as the present wooden bridge is rotten and not safe. The Members estimated roughly that all this would cost in the region of £10k.

664.............................................Chairman

**One Voice Wales Meirionnydd Area Meeting – 2.12.20**

Nothing to report on the above as the Council representatives were not able to be present.

**Gwynedd Council Matters**

No report was received from Cllr. Freya Bentham on matters relating to Gwynedd Council.

**PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

**Erection of 4 two and three storey self-contained holiday letting units, engineering and terracing works, car parking and turning area in association with Noddfa Hotel- Noddfa, Harlech (NP5/61/257C)**

Support this application but as the holiday let development sits next to Moranedda detached stone house with a welsh slate roof and above the proposed development is Noddfa, another stone building with a welsh slate roof. The Members were of the opinion that the new building should blend with the neighbouring properties by the outward walls being in stone and the roof slate.

**Erection of detached two storey dwelling & garage (Open market)**

The Clerk reported that she had received the above planning application through e-mail on Friday and when she went on the National Park website the documents had not been enclosed. She had contacted an Officer with regard to this and had received a reply stating that the documents would be on the Park’s website tomorrow. It was agreed that the Clerk would forward the application to every Member so that they could comment on it.

**TREASURER’S REPORT**

The Treasurer reported that there was £57,659.85 in the bank, £31,091.98 in the reserve account, £100.00 in the Chairman’s account and £2.82 in the cemetery account.

**Invoices needing payment since last meeting**

Gwynedd Council - £192.00 – internal audit 2019/20

Gwynedd Council - £2,000.00 – toilet partnerhsip (toilets by the Queens)

Mr. Meirion Evans - £2,736.00 - repair path on Bron y Graig Nature Trail

**Monies received since last meeting**

None come to hand since last meeting.

**Applications for financial contributions**

Partneriaeth Ardudwy - £250.00 - S19 (replaces cheque no. 386 dated 2.12.2019)

**The Treasurer reported that she had received an e-mail from Mr. Gwynne Pierce, Treasurer Partneriaeth Ardudwy stating that matters had now been resolved with the bank and the account had reopened but bank was not willing to accept the original cheque that the Council had given as it was over 6 months old. On behalf of the Committee Mr. Pierce was asking if it would be possible for the Council to send them a new cheque. Everybody agreed that this be done.**

**CORRESPONDANCE**

**Gwynedd Council – Economy Department**

Received an e-mail from Gwen Evans, Meirionnydd Community Support Officer stating that the Welsh Government announced a funding package of £ 320m to further support Welsh Government priorities.

As part of this project £ 3m has been allocated to support children's play in Wales and to help Local Authorities meet their Duty to Enough Play Opportunities. As a result of the above a Play Grant **-** total of £100,000 has been established in Gwynedd for a short period. Also stating if this Council has any responsibility for a play park and need improvements carried out to it, an application form will have to be completed, obtain three quotes for the work and also ensure that they can spend the grant and complete the work before March 31st 2021. Cllr. Joe Patton agreed to carry out an inspection on the equipment in King George playing field to see if anything needed upgrading.

 665.............................................Chairman

**Adrian a Gary Stevenson**

The Clerk reported that she had received a letter from the above through Cllr. Freya Bentham asking if it would be possible for this Council to support their application to get the waiting time limit on the roadside under the Church in the town down from two hours to half an hour. They were of the opinion that this would be of help to the buisnesses in the town. It was agreed to support their application.

**Rural Housing Enabler**

Received a report from the above regarding a survey of the housing needs that exists in Harlech and asking if the Council had any comments to make on this. It was agreed there were no comments to make.

**ANY OTHER MATTER**

On behalf of the Councl the Chairman thanked Mr. & Mrs Geraint Williams for all the hard work they have done with the christmas lights around Harlech again this year and everybody agreed that the area is looking good. Also Mr. Williams had asked the Chairman if the flags above the shops needed to be put back once the christmas trees were down. Everybody agreed for this to be done.

The Chairman informed the meeting that Mr. Geraint Williams is in the process of getting rid of the badgers in King George playing field.

Concern was voiced that water was coming down from Pant Mawr to the footpath that has recently been refurbished on Bron y Graig nature trail and onto the main road and this in turn gets icy. The Chairman agreed to deal with this matter.

It was agreed to ask Mr. Meirion Griffith to tidy up the footpath that goes from Bron y Graig estate up to Pendref road.

It was agreed to ask Cllr. Freya Bentham what was happening with the “children playing” sign that was asked to be erected near Cae Gwastad estate and also about the speeding on Morfa Road.

Cllr. Sian Roberts thanked the Council on behalf of Mrs Anwen Williams, Tan y Castell Primary School Head for the financial contribution that the school had recently received from the Council.

It was made known that dog poo is thick on the pavement towards Tan y Castell School.

Cllr. Joe Patton asked if it would be possible for him to give an update to the Members at the next Council meeting about what he has been doing regarding the beach. Everybody agreed to this and it was decided to start the meeting at 7.00 p.m.

Wanted to know what the latest was with regard to the post office and the Clerk agreed to ask Cllr. Freya Bentham with regard to this. Agenda next month.

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

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

666