

MINUTES OF AN EXTRA-ORDINARY MEETING OF TYWYN TOWN COUNCIL
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 14th AUGUST 2024
AT NEUADD PENDRE AND ONLINE VIA ZOOM AT 7.00PM

PRESENT: Councillor: John Pughe (Chair).

Councillors: Cllrs. Matthew Cooling, Alun Wyn Evans, Cathy Evans, Eileen Jones, Mark Kendall, Anne Lloyd-Jones, Gareth Mason, Ron McCoo, Olivia Woodward.

OFFICER PRESENT: Chris Wood (Clerk).

CL 064. **1. APOLOGIES**

14.8.24 Cllrs. Nancy Clarke, Marisa O’Hara.

CL 065. **2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST OR PERSONAL CONNECTION**

14.8.24 None received.

CL 066. **3. TO DISCUSS CAR PARKING ARRANGEMENTS FOR RACE THE TRAIN 2024**

14.8.24 The Clerk addressed the Meeting to give the background to the Motion, explaining that the organisers of Race the Train wanted free use of the Cambrian Road Car Park and to then charge visitors for parking themselves.

Cllr. Mark Kendall spoke to say that the Race the Train event was good for Tywyn and that the Council had supported the event in this way in previous years with this being regarded by the Council as a donation to the Rotary Club as organisers. It was **Proposed** by Cllr. Mark Kendall, seconded by Cllr. Anne Lloyd-Jones and **resolved** that Tywyn Town Council allow Race the Train free use of the Cambrian Road Car Park on Saturday 17th August 2024.

CL 067. **4. TO DISCUSS THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT BY GWYNEDD COUNCIL AT THE COUNCIL OFFICE**

14.8.24

The Clerk introduced the discussion, having distributed supporting documents ahead of the Meeting, explaining the plans that Gwynedd Council have for the area adjacent to the Council Office. Following the difficulties with the original proposal for an art installation, Gwynedd Council wish to remodel the old fountain to include a slate wagon supplied by the Talyllyn Railway together with freestanding slate art panels. Tywyn Town Council will be responsible for ongoing maintenance of the area. Councillors discussed the proposal at length, noting that the majority of the proposals from the Council had been rejected. It was recognised that the UNESCO bid is important for the area and the local history that Tywyn was part of

should be recognised and this proposal could be regarded as the first part of a larger regeneration project.

It was **Proposed** by Cllr. Cathy Evans, seconded by Cllr. Anne Lloyd-Jones and **resolved** to support the plans by Gwynedd Council to redevelop the area adjacent to the Council Office.

CL 068.
14.8.24

TO DISCUSS THE LAND OPPOSITE THE TALYLLYN RAILWAY WHERE THE “TO THE BEACH” SIGN IS LOCATED

The Clerk introduced the Agenda item as the licence with Network Rail has expired with an enquiry being made as to whether the Council would consider taking on a new licence. It was not clear when the previous licence expired but the area has not been maintained by the licensee and is unsightly.

Councillors discussed the proposal as there could be a benefit to the community by the area being managed but felt that not enough information had been provided at this time for a decision to be made regarding taking on a new licence.

CL 069.
14.8.24

TO RECEIVE THE YNYSYMAENGWYN REPORT

The Council received the following written report from Cllr. Mark Kendall, the Council's representative on the Ynysymaengwyn Trust.

The next meeting of the Trustees is due to be held on August 29th and a full report will be provided at the September Ordinary Meeting of the Council.

Following the last Trustees meeting held on June 27th, the Trust received a letter from the Charity Commission on July 17th about regulatory issues that they have become aware of. The main area of concern for the Charity Commission is the Trust not identifying and managing conflicts of interest. Specifically, this concerns those Trustees who are also Directors of Parc Ynysymaengwyn Cyf, the trading subsidiary company of the Trust. The Charity Commission also provided regulatory information about the role of a Trustee, confirming that the interests of the Trust must come before all other considerations. The advice provided made it clear that failure to comply with the lawful advice of a regulator may be considered misconduct or mismanagement.

This week, one of the three Directors who is also a Trustee has resigned as a Trustee and he should be thanked for following the guidance of the Charity Commission and acting honorably. Thanks must also be given for his valuable work as a Trustee. It is hoped that the two remaining Directors who are also Trustees follow his example and resign before the next meeting of the Trust.

Cllr. Mark Kendall then reported to the Meeting that a further Director had resigned as a Trustee ahead of this meeting and that the Trust will decide on the position of the remaining Director who is a Trustee at the next Trustees Meeting if he has not resigned before then.

Cllr. Mark Kendall then made it clear that this is being done purely to ensure that the Trust operates lawfully and transparently with the Trustees having no conflicts of interest.

Cllr. John Pugh commented that the Directors of the Caravan Park have not been acting in the interests of the Trust and the situation has to change.

Cllr. Olivia Woodward asked whether the outstanding issues with the financial reporting of the Caravan Park had been addressed. Cllr. Mark Kendall replied that the Directors of the Caravan Park continue to refuse to provide the requested information to the Trust and have been refusing to do so since September 2023. At the next Trustees Meeting, the Directors will once again be asked to provide the requested information and if it is not forthcoming, the Trust will have to investigate other options regarding the operation of the Caravan Park.

The meeting was closed at 7.50pm

CADEIRYDD / CHAIR