

ARTHOG COMMUNITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT THE
ARTHOG VILLAGE HALL ON WEDNESDAY 4th JULY 2018

708: The Chairman opened the meeting at 7.00 pm: The Chairman Welcomed Mrs Hannah Neville who was attending the meeting with a view to being adopted onto the Council.

709: Present: Cllrs P Thomas, P Roberts, J Haycock, B Woolley, Cllrs (Mrs) R Stott, (Mrs) J Woolley, (Mrs) L Hughes, Prospective Councillor (Mrs) H Neville and Angela Thomas Clerk.

710: Apologies Received: An apology was received from Cllr Eves.

711: Councillors Declaration of Interest: Nil

712: To Receive Any Special Announcements: Cllr Thomas had received an email from Lisa Goodier asking if she could attend the next meeting in September. Cllr Thomas had replied that although she would be very welcome no progress had been made with attracting more Councillors from Fairbourne, subsequently a sub-committee was still to be formed for FMF. She had asked that a representative from the CC attend the next meeting on the 19th July reference FMF.

713: To Confirm the Minutes of the meeting held on 6th June and 25th June: Confirmed by Cllr Roberts and seconded by Cllr (Mrs) J Woolley. Proposed by Cllr (Mrs) J Woolley and seconded by Cllr P Roberts.

714: Matters arising from the meetings held on 6th June and 25th June: Cllr Haycock had been a proposer for the minutes of 2nd May but this was a mistake he was not present: The error was corrected. Cllr (Mrs) R Stott seconded.

715: Clerks Report: The Clerk had received an email from Mike Scott and Julian Kirkham with regard to the dog waste bins in and around Fairbourne. The bins had not been emptied and were stinking. The Clerk wrote to Steffan Jones GC and asked for an assurance that emptying would be on a regular basis. The report from Mark Wiles had been circulated to all Councillors, to date nothing had been reported back from Natural Resources Wales or Gwynedd Council regarding the meeting. The problem with Camper Van emptying waste material in the dunes, estuary, foreshore, tunnel etc., had been raised again with Barry Davies and NRW. There is no bye law in the Gwynedd Council Area and unless actual evidence can be submitted in the form of statements or photographs there is nothing that can be done to stop this practice. Cllr Thomas suggested that the Clerk write to Gwynedd Council, Maritime Department, and request the same signage as that at Dinas Dinlle, i.e. NO CAMPING. The Clerk confirmed that G L Jones had at last carried out the Risk Assessment on the Playground area. The report had been promised for this meeting but as yet had not arrived. If repairs were needed, the Clerk was asked to get an estimate for the work as the CC could not wait until September to get the work done. The Clerk had been asked to type a letter to Nat West Bank asking to have the statements redirected to the Clerk's address. The letter was circulated for signature. The Clerk was pleased to report that she had

received a response to a letter written reference Beach Huts on Penrhyn Drive North. GC had sent a map for identification of the location purposes. The Clerk had confirmed that this was in fact the correct area. It was interesting to note that the map still showed Morfa Salt Marsh as still being owned by the GC. The Clerk will write a letter and ask if this is still the case. The Clerk will wait for further updating regarding the Huts. A communication had been received from the Ombudsman for Wales with regard to the ongoing issue of Foot Path 13 Mawddach Terrace. The Community Council has been accused of maladministration. The Ombudsman asked for the addresses of two Councillors, Cllr (Mrs) Stott and Cllr Roberts, this information was duly supplied. A request had been made for copies of all correspondence with regard to exchanges with Ms H Cromarty, information to be sent to the "O" no later than 17th July. The Clerk had started work on collating all the paperwork. This matter was discussed extensively, for over 30 minutes. The Councillors again said that the decision they made was based on the information that was available at that time and if asked to make a decision again, the decision would be exactly the same, to support the Application. Mr Gareth Evens of the NRW asked if he could attend one of our meetings to bring the Councillors up to date with what is happening in Fairbourne with reference to the Rock Armour and Sea Defences. It was agreed that he should be invited to the September meeting. The Clerk will write a letter.

716: Special Items Brought to Attention:

No items brought to attention. All listed items were covered in the Clerks Report. However, Cllr Eves is working on plans for a raised boardwalk/walkway for the beach. Maybe the Amenities Trust will be responsible for that. Cllr Eves will reply in September.

717: To Deal with any Correspondence: The Clerk received a reply from Steffan Jones GC assuring her that the dog waste bins would be emptied on a regular basis and was offered an apology. An acknowledgement of the Petition handed to John Davies (NRW) at the Morfa Saltmarsh meeting had been received from Keith Ivens on behalf of Sian Williams, head of operations for North Wales. He acknowledged the concerns of residents. 2 copies of the Joint Local Development Plan had been received, the Clerk said she would make them available for any Councillor wishing to read them - 2011 – 2026. A programme of work for Bryncoch Terrace, Arthog had been received, Cllr Roberts explained that it was repair work, minor maintenance. A letter had been received from the Office of Liz Saville Roberts regarding the lack of a disabled parking space in the station car park. The letter asked if the CC had knowledge of who owned or who was responsible for the car park. LSR intends to have a meeting with both Network Rail and GC regarding this matter. She asked if the CC would be interested in being involved. The Clerk wrote a letter back saying that the CC would appreciate the opportunity to become involved in this matter. A reply was awaited. A letter had been received from Snowdonia National Park to let us know of their Town and Country Councils' Meeting to be held in October. A note was made in the diary. An email had been forwarded to the Clerk from Mrs Julia Wilson, the original had been sent to Mike Scott. Mrs Wilson has not made contact directly to the Clerk so no action taken. The Clerk had received a Statutory Notice from NRW with regard to Sea Defences at Friog. The notice was duly displayed in the Notice Boards. A letter had been received from Mrs Hannah Neville reference an application to become a Community Councillor. At this moment Mrs Neville left the meeting. Her application was read aloud and all councillors voted to co-opt

Mrs Neville on to the Council. Proposed by: Cllr Roberts, seconded by Cllr Haycock. Cllr (Mrs) Hughes had received a complaint from a resident with reference to the fencing around the Rock Armour that had been delivered. It was felt that this was not an important issue, because it is a temporary fence to ensure that children especially do not climb and get injured. Surely this resident wants Fairbourne to be protected.

718: Planning Matters: SNP Glasfryn Terrace No 7 & 8, no objections to this application. GC Ynys Bugeiliad Y Griog, No objections to this Planning Application, GC, ROCK ARMOUR SEA DEFENCE, Penrhyn Drive South, no objections to this planning application. Cllr Roberts said that the CC should congratulate itself for its persistence in getting this Sea Defence actioned.

719: Financial Statement and Report: The Clerk presented the current financial statement, all cheques written last month were cashed. Three cheques were signed, Dail Dysynni £50.00 – to help keep the newspaper going, A Thomas £45.70 – Stationery, and L C Jones – grass cutting and cemetery £100.00. It was noted that the VAT refund £880.53 from HMRC had been banked. A letter of thanks had been received from Mr R Pritchard, Fairbourne Festival, for the £100.00 donation from the CC. (August Bank Holiday 25th, 26th and 27th).

Current Account: £ 8584.91

Reserve Account: £ 4740.11 – 20p interest

Youth Account: £ 7710.42 – 33p interest

720: To Receive Councillors' Questions: Cllr B Woolley asked whether Gwynedd Council had followed the correct procedure with regard to Mawddach Crescent when it was first brought to the attention of the CC. After discussion, it was agreed that GC procedure had been followed correctly. Cllr (Mrs) Hughes had been approached at a funeral by a member of the community with regard to Mr R North's renovations of the Chapel in Arthog, with particular reference to the septic tank capacity. Cllr Thomas said that this concerned resident needs to speak to Building Regulations. This resident also needs to speak to the NRW who will be responsible for ensuring that the relevant sewage requirements will be met. There is a terrible smell of sewage all the time at this location because the septic is very small and very shallow. The same resident expressed concern with regard to the building opposite the Church Rooms in Fairbourne (Liam Smith). This matter has been discussed before and an enforcement office had been to the building. Cllr (Mrs) Hughes again raised the question of a ramp for the beach. Having spoken to the Maritime Officer, Barry Davies, he suggested that a raised walkway would make more sense. However, the Clerk pointed out that she had also had a conversation with Barry Davies who told her that many beaches in North Wales are without a walkway and that there is no Health and Safety requirement to have one. He said that is what Air Sea Rescue and Air Ambulance is for. Cllr Roberts suggested we keep plugging away and maybe in time it might happen. Lastly, the issue of speeding traffic in Arthog, particularly the hill, was again raised. It was felt that the Clerk should write again pointing out the accident of 2 weeks ago involving a camper van and motorbike. Double white lines have been previously asked for, to stop overtaking on the hill but it was refused. Cllr Stott and her father had personal experience of an incident and reported it, but were told that nothing could be done to trace the other car involved. No pavement, severe bends in the road, it is an accident/possible death waiting to happen.

Andy King continues to liaise with Go Safe and Traffic Department. He was told that a speed van could not be sighted on Arthog Hill because it was too dangerous.

Cllr B Woolley raised the question of beach access and made the following point. Despite the fact that GC say there is no precedent for a ramp/boardwalk, Fairbourne had had a ramp which was demolished, therefore the CC is only asking for a “replacement”, not something that we have never had before. It is a requirement to have safe access to the beach if you have “Blue Flag” status. Cllr Hughes said that she would write numerous letter again to raise the issue. Cllr Haycock said that before anything happened an impact assessment/planning application would have to be done and sought. Cllr Stott raised the issue of the track leading off of the road up to the Arthog Village Hall. A week earlier a camper van had been parked in the mouth of the track for four hours, but with the tail end out it effectively blocked all access to Arthog Village Hall and Garthyfog. Mr Benstead had been notified and the Lounge Lettings Company. Cllr Roberts said that it was a public footpath and it should not be obstructed. Cllr Thomas said that if it happens again the Police should be called. Cllr Stott also complained about the state of the car park and surrounding area near the CC Noticeboard. On recycling day that week, glass and shards of metal were left behind by the refuse collectors and then the grass was strimmed which made the whole area very dangerous. The bins every week are wrecked. Steffan Jones GC said that it was visitors rubbish not the refuse operatives. Cllr Haycock asked whether it would be possible to have new signage at the bottom of the road leading up to Cregennan Lakes. So far, this year he has dragged three camper vans out of bother. Cllr Thomas pointed out that people should be very careful assisting because of Insurance implications. Blue Lake suffers the same problems. The satellite navigation does not tell you that it is a very narrow and winding road and unsuitable for camper vans.

721: Representatives Report: No reports

722: Date of Next Meeting: September 5th Fairbourne Village Hall.