

ARTHOG COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT THE ARTHOG VILLAGE HALL ON WEDNESDAY 5TH OCTOBER 2022

1257: THE CHAIR OPENED THE MEETING: The Chair, Cllr Georgina Salt opened the meeting at 7.05pm

1258: PRESENT: Cllr (Mrs) Salt, Cllr (Mrs) Woolley, Cllr (Ms) Darvill, Cllr Woolley, Cllr Green, Cllr Thomas, Cllr Louise Hughes GC, Clerk Angela Thomas

1259: APOLOGIES RECEIVED: Cllr (Mrs) Langford, Cllr Haycock, Cllr Roberts

1260: COUNCILLORS' DECLARATION OF INTEREST: Cllr Green – Golf Club

1261: TO RECEIVE ANY SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTYS FROM THE CHAIR: No special announcements from the Chair

1262: TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON: Minutes confirmed as correct. Proposed Cllr Woolley, seconded Cllr (Ms) Darvill

1263: MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON: No matters arising.

1264: CLERKS REPORT: The Clerk received confirmation that the ACC Insurance cover was active. The Clerk asked Cllr Thomas to report on the meeting held in Arthog regarding St Catherine's Church. There was a good turn out and lots of apologies. The Church Hierarchy is fishing for money. A £1000.00 per year is needed for ministry alone. The Vicar cannot be there every Sunday so £1000.00 seemed unjustified. Ruth Hansford is very keen to keep the Church open. ACC will support keeping it open. Funding will be the stumbling block. The Church does have a trust fund in place. GC Clean-up crews promised for September have still not materialized. Steffan Jones GC had promised that the ACC would be contacted. Tywyn has been completed. The Clerk reported that the invoice for cutting the GC footpaths had been submitted to GC accounts. The informal get together on Friday 16th with Llion Pritchard had proved to be quite successful about keeping such things as ditches in the forefront. The period of mourning for Queen Elizabeth II had been observed on the website. A493, Friog Hill, road closure. A great deal of upset had been experienced due to a lack of communication between Network Rail and GC. ACC had been told that the road would be open for emergency vehicles and care workers, but this was not the case. Mabon ap Gwynfor became involved, but for whatever reason work has not commenced to date. Barry Davies, Maritime department has arranged for rock Armour stone to be placed on the promenade to stop people from parking where they should not, just to avoid having to pay. ACC has offered to pay one third of the cost. The ACC is very grateful to Barry Davies. The Chair had asked the Clerk to write a comment for the upcoming newsletter, the whole comment has been included in the newsletter, it gives a good explanation as to what and why the HIA is going ahead. Cllr Woolley made the point that things have changed and is the HIA still needed. It was felt that residents need the opportunity to either comment or not and this will be that opportunity. The Chair commented that Huw Williams (YGC) will be making a comment in the Newsletter with words to the effect that the science has been reviewed and subject to the NRW review the date of 2054 will be removed. Louise Hughes commented that GC had possibly been swept along with the whole issue and now realise that they are in a corner and must do something to ease the stress that the whole community has been subjected to. The Newsletter will be circulated in the next couple of weeks. Savills have asked for an explanation of the word decommissioning before they start their HIA. They need clarification. The Gwynedd Corporate position was never approved, and the Masterplan was meant to be a dynamic document that would change as the science changed. It was a very destructive document that should never have been published without Corporate Approval. The Clerk had submitted the statement of payments to Councillors. The Planning application for a pay and display machine at Cregennan Lakes, the objections from ACC had been submitted to the SNP, again. The Clerk had been to HSBC with the approval letter for the Clerks pay rise. The Clerk had reminded Steffan Jones about the sat nav information being incorrect for the steep hill in Arthog and again requested that it be signed as not suitable for any large vehicles. The Clerk had also reminded Steffan about the Mirror requested for placing on Ynys Faig Corner next to the Church. The Clerk had written to Bethan Edwards asking for account for the Arthog Show but nothing had been received. All the documents for Remembrance Sunday had been submitted to GC, still waiting for the legal paperwork to arrive. The wreath has been ordered. A conversation took place regarding Defibs in the Village of Arthog and Fairbourne. The defibs in the Village are community assets and are therefore the responsibility of the ACC. There was a suggestion that the defib at the shop should be moved to the Village Hall. There is now a defib on the station and it was asked whether this was a Network Rail asset. This matter will be picked up again at the next meeting. Dog poo was still being dropped off in the lady's toilet on the Prom which is totally unacceptable as it makes the whole toilet stink. Mike Scott thinks he knows who the culprit is. A specific bin has been requested.

1265: SPECIAL ITEMS BROUGHT TO ATTENTION: It was confirmed that Dr Halls reports are going to be reviewed, it appears that there are not too many companies that can carry out the work. Huw Williams confirmed that there is no issue with payment, the funds are available either through GC of the Welsh Government. The ACC will continue to push this point with Llion Pritchard. We are again assured that this review will take place. Water Co in Ruthin are favourite for completing the work.

The Chair commented that Huw Williams at a meeting held during that day, said that he disagreed with Dr Halls findings, which makes no difference, the science will either be proven or not. Brought forward from the last meeting was the idea of wildflower seeding along the Promenade, however with Cllr Eves not being present this will have to go forward to the November meeting.

1266: TO DEAL WITH ANY CORRESPONDENCE: A letter had been received from a Youth Organisation based in Bala asking for a donation. It was agreed that at this moment in time the ACC would be unable to help.

1267: TO DEAL WITH PLANNING MATTERS: A road closure notice had been circulated for Llewellyn Drive for Openreach to replace a pole. It is a one-day closure. Louise Hughes asked about the Pods in the Village and whether any progress had been made. The answer was no.

1268: FINANCIAL STATEMENT AND REPORT: The Clerk reported that the accounts were all in good shape. Three cheques were circulated for signing. L C Jones £125.00 ACC cemetery 8th cut, P Roberts £200.00 Isla Dref cemetery cutting, £204.00 for the defib battery and £214.00 for the Election. The second half of the Precept had been received. Grass cutting in general had cost more this year, the growth has been tremendous. At the November meeting the Precept will be reviewed for 2023-2024. It was felt that we would possibly need an increase of maybe £750.00. The Clerk had asked in the Bank about on-line banking and was told that it would be possible to do this. What is needed is a minuted permission which would then have to go to the bank. The Clerk would still need permission from 2/3 Councillors but would be allowed to carry out online banking. The external Audit by the Welsh Audit Office has still not been completed. The Clerk has put the official notice in the three Notice Boards. No reason has been given for the delay.

1269: TO RECEIVE COUNCILLORS' QUESTIONS: Cllr (Mrs) Woolley expressed concern at the state of the ditch at the Village Hall. The ACC had been told that the ditch clearing had been completed but the state of the ditch at the Village Hall would indicate that it has not been completed. Cllr Thomas said that the NRW had until March to complete so maybe NRW still have work to do. The Clerk will send an email to NRW.

1270: REPRESENTATIVES REPORTS: The Graves book was passed to Cllr Thomas to take home to try to understand the numbering. Cllr Bryn Thomas would speak to his father Peter Thomas who previously oversaw the Cemetery numbering. Cllr (Mrs) Salt gave a report on the progress of the HIA. It's all progressing, and it is now hoped that Savills will be back in the Village from the 7th to 12th November for the commencement of the HIA. A question had been asked by Savills for a listing of all the properties with residents that would need assistance in the case of flooding. Matt Burrows will provide this information. Also, Savills requested a list of 10 representatives from the Village for initial discussions with Savills. The Clerk will pass a proposed list to Cllr (Mrs) Salt. Louise Hughes said that a full council meeting would take place on Thursday, and a motion had been submitted to totally object to the position of Prince of Wales, the investiture and that the Plaid Cymru Gwynedd Council would totally object to it. This is even though Gwynedd has no Ambulances, Dr's surgeries, Dentists, hospital beds, etc etc but this is obviously not important. The ACC wished Louise Hughes a speedy recovery from upcoming surgery. She will be out of action for a few weeks. Louise Hughes reported that a great deal of sand has blown onto the footpath from Mawddach Station to the Barmouth Bridge. It is a hazard but is being cleared.

1271: DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING: Wednesday 2nd November commencing 7.00pm in Fairbourne Village Hall.