

ARTHOG COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT THE FAIRBOURNE VILLAGE HALL ON WEDNESDAY 8th May 2024

1521: THE CHAIR OPENED THE MEETING: The Chairman opened the meeting at 7.05pm. and welcomed all in attendance.

1522: PRESENT: Cllr Haycock, Cllr Roberts, Cllr Green, Cllr Mrs Langford, Cllr Evans, Cllr Puddick, Cllr Thomas.
Prospective Councillors Claire Troman and Richard Narraway

1523: APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Cllr Mrs Joyce Woolley, CG Cllr Louise Hughes.

1524: COUNCILLORS DECLARATION OF INTEREST: Cllr Green – Golf Club

1525: SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CHAIR: The Chair welcomed the prospective Councillors.

1526: CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON April 3rd, 2024: The minutes were confirmed as correct by Cllr Thomas and seconded by Cllr Roberts.

1527: MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MEETING HELD ON 2024: There were no matters arising.

1528: CLERKS REPORT: The Clerk confirmed that the Code of Conduct and the Model Standing Orders had been sent out to all. The Clerk reminded all present that the AGM will be held at the June meeting. It was delayed from May due to unforeseen circumstances but will be back in line for 2025. The idea of becoming a sister city with Fairborn in Ohio, USA was discussed, and it was agreed that the Clerk will contact the Mayor and talk about a way forward. The way that contracts are awarded within the ACC jurisdiction was explained for the benefit of the 2 new Councillors and the potential 2 other new Councillors. The idea of cutting the grass opposite the Penrhyn Bar and Grill was again discussed, it was agreed that Cllr Ian Green would look at using the Golf Club sit on mower and Cllr Jack Evans would also look at strimming the area. Hopefully with all the new signs and the additional flagpole the whole discussion of where dogs can and cannot access the beach will now be resolved. The ACC thanks the CG Maritime department for the work carried out. The Clerk reported on the decision that had been taken to relocate the Air Ambulance in 2026, despite many valid objections to this decision. The ACC was very disappointed for all its residents and the potential that many people could possibly suffer because of this decision. The Clerk and Cllr Puddick reported on the meeting called for all Flood Wardens to attend at the Railway Café. The turnout was very disappointing. The joint Chairmen, Mike Scott and Ernie Puddick (second half of the meeting) gave a summary of the current situation. Cllr Puddick was voted in as the new head Flood Warden and he will, over the next two months, try and recruit able bodied residents willing to step up and fill the gaps. A quote had been received from Sign Creation for the proposed new “Welcome to Fairbourne sign”. It was agreed that the Clerk and Cllr Evans, who has kindly said the sign can be placed on his land, will meet and finalise what is required. It was again confirmed that the shingle paths will be in place for the Whitsun Holidays. The ROSPA playpark inspection had been booked. The playpark was discussed at length, and it was agreed that a possible community group be formed with a view to maybe applying for a Lottery grant. Equipment has become very expensive and almost unaffordable, and of course the cost of future maintenance must be considered. The Clerk confirmed that the red life buoy opposite Penrhyn Bar and Grill had broken off its post and Maritime will repair it as soon as they can. Openreach fast fibre is still on going, the target has been met and work is continuing toward the completion of this. The Clerk had received an email from some visitors saying how great the Springfield Aire was. The Springfield had changed hands again, it is now being run by the staff who worked for the previous manager. The Yew Tree SNP Project: The Clerk had met with the project manager from SNP and she thought that the ACC cemetery was a very suitable area for Yew Trees and also a Beech hedge would be a possibility as well. It was agreed by all Councillors after discussion that the Yew Trees would be very welcomed but not the Beech hedge as this would require a great deal of maintenance. The Clerk said that while she was in the Cemetery, she was quite shocked at the state of the paths and that they were possibly a safety issue, and after no quotations had been received from any parties contacted, she asked Cllr Roberts if he could possibly do the work. Cllr Roberts said that he would give a quotation.

1529: TO DEAL WITH ANY CORRESPONDENCE OR PHONE CALLS: No correspondence.

1530: SPECIAL ITEMS BROUGHT TO ATTENTION: Covered in the Clerks report.

1531: PLANNING MATTERS: No new planning matters.

1532: FINANCIAL MATTERS: The Clerk circulated the end of year financial reports for the four bank accounts. The Clerk confirmed that the paperwork for the Internal Audit was well underway and will be sent to Cyngor Gwynedd just after the June meeting of the ACC. Everything at this stage balanced. A cheque needed to be signed for L C Jones for the first cut of the ACC cemetery, £125.00. It was agreed by all that a further picnic table and bench would be purchased and placed on the grass area opposite the Penrhyn Bar and Grill. There is a gala and festival coming up and this would prove to be a good asset. The Clerk confirmed that she was still waiting for the revised billing from the Welsh Audit last year. There had still not been an application for a donation from the Fairbourne Amenities Trust. All accounts will be available for residents to view once the Audit is complete. The Clerk has a meeting with HSBC to discuss online banking, next week. Permission was given for the Clerk to purchase a picnic bench and table.

1533: COUNCILLORS QUESTIONS: No questions.

1534: REPRESENTATIVES REPORT:

FMFPB: Now renamed Fairbourne Framework. The Clerk gave a summary.

Cemetery: Nothing to report.

FAT: The ladies' toilets on the Promenade were in need of some plumbing work

Harbour Committee: No agenda or minutes received.

Golf Club: Still no meeting has been held and the Clerk was still waiting to hear back from Andre Bright. This is now a matter of urgency. The Chairman is very aware that no agreement has been signed.

1535: ANY OTHER BUSINESS: No other business.

1536: Co-opting of potential Councillors. The two potential Councillors were asked to leave the room so that a discussion could take place. The Chairman asked for comments. After a lengthy discussion had taken place, it was decided to offer both candidates the position of Councillor. It was re-iterated that all Councillors work as a team and not independently and that the Code of Conduct must be always observed. Any actions taken must be as a result of discussion within an ACC meeting.

1537: DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING: Wednesday 5th June 2024 commencing 7.00 pm in Fairbourne Village Hall.