

Minutes of the meeting of Llanrug Community Council held on Tuesday, 16 May 2023 via Zoom.

Present: Councillors Meirwen Lloyd (Chair), Avril Jones (Vice-chair), Rhys Parry, Gwynedd Williams, Ann Lawton, Philip Roberts, Berwyn Parry Jones, Hefin Jones, Beca Brown

Apologies: Councillors Alan Pritchard, Richard Robinson

Clerk: Meirion Jones

1148. A welcome from the Chair

The Chair extended a warm welcome to all those present

1149. Apologies

Apologies received as noted above

1150. Declarations of personal interest

These to be declared as appropriate

1151. Confirmation of the minutes of the meeting held on 18 April 2023

The minutes of the meeting held on 18 April were confirmed and were signed by the Chair

1152. Any matters arising from the minutes of the meeting held on 18 April 2023

Reported that the tree at Moelyn Park is alright; however graffiti has been written on the bench

1153. Confirmation of the minutes of the meeting held on 3 May 2023

The minutes were confirmed as an accurate record and were signed by the Chair

1154. Any matters arising from the minutes of the meeting held on 3 May

Only that the council's objection to the planning application has been submitted to Gwynedd Council

1155. To receive a report from the Chair of the Cemetery Committee and to set a date for the next meeting of the committee

Councillor Phillip Roberts, Chair of the Cemetery Committee reported that the committee's priorities for 2023 / 2024 have been set and that the new

rules are in place. The committee is also working on developing a policy for managing memorials.

Reported that contact has been made with an officer from the Church of Wales regarding the protruding wall on the road on the way to the cemetery and it is hoped that a meeting can be arranged when the officer is next in the area. Also, reported that the Officer will arrange an engineer's report on the condition of the wall. Its hoped that a meeting can be held in June.

It was agreed to hold the next meeting of the Cemetery Committee on 12 June 2023 at 6:00pm in the Cemetery.

Resolved: To accept and express thanks for the report

1156. To receive a report from the Chair of the Finance and Reosurces Committee and to set a date for the next meeting of the committee

Reported by Councillor Avril Jones, Chair of the Finance and Resources Committee that the committee hasn't met since setting the budget for 2023 / 2024; however a meeting needs to be arranged soon. However standing orders and the Financial regulations are required to be approved

Resolved: To accept and express thanks for the information and it was resolved to arrange a meeting on 23 May 2023 at 18:30 via Zoom.

To approve the standing orders and Financial Regulations for 2023/2024

1157. To receive a report a meeting from the Chair of the Leisure and Ameneties Committee and to set a date for the next meeting of the committee

Reported by Councillor Avril Jones, Chair of the Leisure and Ameneties Committee that the committe hasn't met recently but that a meeting needs to arranged soon.

Resolved: To accept and express thanks for the information and it was resolved to arrange a meeting on 30 May 2023 at 18:30 via Zoom

1158. To receive a report from the Chair of the Food and Well-being Committee and to set a date for the next meeting of the committee

Reported by Councillor Berwyn Parry Jones, Chair of the Food and Well-being Committee that, together with Councillor Beca Brown and the clerk, he had met an officer from Fareshare; several concerns were expressed regarding the food provided, such as drinks, and no cold food

1159. To arrange a meeting of the Health and Safety Committee

Reported that the committee hasn't met but a meeting needs to be arranged because of an incident on the slide at Cwm y Glo playing fields.

Resolved: Councillors Avril Jones and Gwynedd Williams to visit the field to inspect the issue.

1160. To receive a report from Councillor Berwyn Parry Jones, the member for Cwm y Glo on Gwynedd Council.

See item 1161 – For the future, the County Councillors reports will be combined as both Councillors' reports are from Gwynedd Council and they will be more or less the same; they will swap every other month to provide the monthly report

1161. To receive a report from Councillor Beca Brown, the member for Llanrug on Gwynedd Council

Ardal Ni Consultation: Bro Peris

I attended the second meeting of the area which considered the draft of an operational document which is based on all comments received in the engagement sessions, attended by local residents and stakeholders. It was nice to see so many various community group representatives present including the area's county and community councillors. I took a look at the projects that were in the pipeline and favoured by the communities. I took an overview of the grants and possible funding sources for some of the schemes.

Bro Peris Circular Economy Group:

I attended a meeting to discuss what are the wishes of local people regarding increasing recycling, re-using and lending goods instead of buying new. Work is already underway locally with schemes such as exchanging school uniforms sessions; a repairing café is taking place in Llanrug on 17 June. Its intended to invite Catrin Wager from the Lending Organisation to attend to discuss ideas. The lenindg bus in Denbighshire was mentioned and whether it would be possible to arrange a similar scheme in this area. I have held a school uniform exchange session during the Easter holidays and will hold another session during the summer holidays. I also distribute school uniforms as the need arises, and people are contacting me to ask for clothes as their children grow.

Primary School:

I attended an Interventions Session at the primary school and I was extremely pleased with the excellent work which is being done to support children both educationally and emotionally. There was a display table for every intervention and staff members on hand to explain to parents how every intervention supports their child's development. This is, of course in addition to the important work of Madi, the Well-being Dog.

Foelas:

Concerns have been expressed for several months about the future of the former residential home, Foelas, Station Road – and these concerns were realised when some residents of Rhos Rug received a letter informing them that a planning application had been submitted to Gwynedd Council in order to turn the home into a house in multi occupancy (HMO).

Several knocked on my door. I received numerous e-mails and phone calls expressing sadness and concern regarding the application, and everyone was truly concerned about the impact of such a development on our community here in Llanrug.

As well as being a county councillor I am also a community councillor. As a Community Council we immediately arranged a special meeting to discuss this planning application. The public have the right to be present at our meetings and it was a good opportunity for us as a community to have a discussion on this contentious issue.

We were keen to make it as easy as possible for everyone to join, therefore we ventured and held a 'hybrid' meeting with people welcomed to join either by attending the meeting at the Institute, or join virtually via Zoom.

Approximately 70 people were present at the Institute and about 40 joined on-line – and this is proof that people in the village feel strongly about this issue.

Two owners of the Foelas joined over Zoom to try and answer the community's questions, and it's fair to say that they were challenged on the contents of their planning application, and also, their comments on the night.

Some concerns raised by the community was the lack of parking space at Station Road and that the building which has 17 rooms – including double rooms – would considerably add to the challenges already here. The traffic is already heavy and buses are having difficulty making their way to the top of the road. It was expressed that there was no need for a HMO property at Llanrug and that the development would be out of character to the village. Concerns were also expressed about the impact of the development on the sense of Welshness of the area as Llanrug is the village with highest proportion of Welsh speakers in Wales. Emotions were running high at the meeting and there were strong feelings against the application and everything that it would involve for this area. As this was a meeting of the Community Council – with the public present – there was a vote at the end of the meeting to either support or object the application, and the council voted unanimously against the application.

The Community Council's objection has now been noted in the application and the council's traffic department has also noted their objection.

As the local member, I have written to the planning department to object and when the application comes before the planning committee in the coming weeks I will attend to speak against it.

I would like to thank those who attended the meeting and those that have been contacting me with their comments. I would like to thank the community council's

clerk and chair and the Institute for their technical work in preparing for the meeting which meant that numerous local residents were able to participate in the discussions.

Council:

Huge congratulations to Councillor Beca Roberts on being elected as Gwynedd Council's vice-chair.

The Cabinet has visited the site for the Llŷn and Eifionydd National Eisteddfod and I'm certain that the people of Llanrug will be there as usual, and many thanks to all residents which have contributed so generously to ensure that Llanrug and Cwm-y-Glo Appeals Committee has reached its target and more.

I attended a training session on Helping People through the Cost of Living Crisis and learned how to help people check that they are claiming the benefits that they are entitled to. Lots of people are not receiving the benefits that they are entitled to.

Work is underway to establish a Youth Council or Forum, to raise awareness of young people of what local government does and the responsibilities of the county council. The Youth Parliament has been very successful and it is hoped that a local government version would be as popular.

Resolved: To accept and express thanks for the report

1162. To accept and approve the internal auditor's report

Reported that the internal auditor has completed his work for 2022 / 2023 and that the auditor's had provided an internal report (already distributed). It was noted that everything is in order and that the auditor hasn't identified any issues.

Resolved: To accept the information and thank the clerk for his work. The annual return was signed by the Chair

1163. Planning Applications – for more details of the applications, follow the link below to search for the application using 'Reference Number'
<https://amg.gwynedd.llyw.cymru/planning/index.html?fa=search>

- a) **Reference Number:** C23/0048/23/LL
Application Type: Full Application
Proposal: Construction of dwelling.
Applicant : Mr and Mrs Thomas Jones
Agent: Alan Owen (A.L.I Building Design Ltd)
Address: Land To Rear of 8 Rhos Rhythallt, Llanrug, LL55 4AT
Grid Reference: 254293.62, 363589.88
Ward: Llanrug

Community: Llanrug

Councillor Beca Brown didn't take part in the discussion and she didn't vote

Resolved: Continue to object the application for the reasons already expressed

The meeting closed at 20:40

Signed

Chair:

Date: 20 June 2023