

## **EGLWYS BACH COMMUNITY COUNCIL - MINUTES OF MEETING 06/06/2016**

**PRESENT:** Councillors: Austin Roberts, Gwyn M Jones, John Emlyn Jones, Arthur Williams, Gwyn Williams  
John Lloyd Williams.

1. **WELCOME:** The Chair, Cllr. Austin Roberts, welcomed all to the meeting and expressed a warm welcome to Ms Jutta Lorenz-Kubis and Mr James McKenzie to discuss the community's footpaths.

As part of the Council's Paths Maintenance Scheme, Ms Lorenz-Kubis explained that they had compared the area's footpaths with the maps and a number of improvements were necessary. A document was presented to the Councillors that noted the required improvements to the Hiraethlyn Path.

She requested the Council to contact landowners/farmers to ask for their assistance in improving signage on their land. Signs would be available from the County Council, and placing them at appropriate locations would be of great assistance to walkers. Also, is it was possible to close a path if not in use?

It was noted that the Pilgrim Path is an important path in the area and it would be a good idea to try and advertise the ten most popular paths.

It was also noted that it is essential for dogs to be kept on leads at all times.

It was agreed for every Councillor to receive a copy of the documentation to see the necessary work and for Cllr. Austin Roberts to contact the County to enquire if funding is available to carry out the work. The matter will be discussed further next month.

Cllr. Roberts also noted that a meeting was scheduled with County to discuss the Nant Quarry path.

Ms Lorenz-Kubis and Mr McKenzie was thanked for their work. Both left the meeting.

2. **APOLOGIES:** Cllrs. Katherine Himsworth, Ceri Leeder.

Cllr. Dawn Williams absent for three consecutive meetings. Clerk to write accordingly.

3. **DECLARATION OF INTEREST:** None.

4. **MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING:** minutes of meeting 03/05/16 were found to be correct and signed.

5. **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:**

Bryn Hir Path Bridge Signs - on-going.

Increase in time of emptying wheelie bins - it was noted that the majority of Eglwys Bach parish, who have their collection on Mondays, will trail the 4 weekly scheme collections from the end of July onwards. Discussed and agreed to write a letter of complaint to Conwy Council as a degree of humiliation was felt - there are no other services in rural areas but yet residents are expected to pay the same amount of taxes.

Plaque and wording on bench - Cllr. Austin Roberts to contact a company and obtain quote.

Proposal for a footpath from Graig to Eglwys Bach - Cllr. Austin Roberts to discuss with the appropriate Department of the County Council and also the possibility of having a 40m.p.h. from Graig to North Lodge.

6. **PLANNING APPLICATIONS:**

0/42761 - Morfa Rhyd Pwll, A470 Llanrwst Road, Tal y Cafn LL26 0YP - change of use of redundant farm buildings and extension to one as shown to B1a, B1b or B1c use, construction of ancillary parking areas and infrastructure and new access to the A470 road.

Objection - on the grounds that the location is totally unsuitable for development. From local knowledge, the location is liable for flooding. i.e. Boxing Day 2015.

0/42807 - Hiraethog, Ffordd Pennant, Eglwys Bach LL28 5UN - proposed conversion of existing domestic garage for purposes ancillary to the enjoyment of the dwelling house.

No objection - however, if permission is granted a 10 month holiday let clause would be feasible. It is felt that more caution should be given to garage planning applications, as the trend is to request a change of use to residential/tourist purposes within a few years.

County's Decision on Planning Applications: None.

7. **SPECIFIC MATTERS TO DECIDE:**

Co-opting of new Councillor - two letters of interest were received.

A secret ballot was held and Mr Gwilym Williams, Croesengan Ucha, Trofarth was unanimously elected.

Internal Audit - report received by Ms Marion Pryor with the following recommendations:

- the Clerk should evidence that she regularly verifies balances against a bank statement (minor);
- reserves lie at the top end of the generally accepted range and the Council should consider reducing the level (medium);
- a brief explanation of the significant year-on-year variation in the figures on the Annual Return should accompany the financial statements in a letter to the external auditor (minor).

The report and recommendations was accepted by all but it was noted that the Council could have been faced with 2 if not 3 elections recently, at a cost of £1,500 each. Therefore, reserves are necessary for emergencies that cannot be foreseen.

The Clerk was credited and thanked for all her work.

Gritting Scheme 2016 - (additional salt bags) - discussed and agreed to refuse the proposal again this year.

Payments - Mrs Sue Hayward, Cleaning of Public Toilets - £122.50

Mr Wil Williams, grass cutting for May - £450.00

Mrs Einir Jones – Clerk's wages and costs for May - £174.99

H.M. Revenue & Customs (Tax on Clerk's wages for May) - £37.50

8. **CORRESPONDENCE:**

- Re-opening of Post Office in the village - every Thursday from 07/07/16 onwards, at Aberconwy Hall, between 9:30 – 11:30a.m. Need to advertise the service accordingly i.e. weekly news/facebook;
- Launch of 'Remembrance Book' – 15/06/16, Aberconwy Hall at 7:00p.m.;
- Letter of thanks for donation from Branwen Tudur.

9. **ANY OTHER MATTER:**

X1 bus - a request was received from one of the residents for the County to re-introduce the 10 o'clock service bus into the village, a service that is missed by a number of residents. This would mean a small diversion for the X1 bus to provide such a service. It was agreed to forward the letter to the County.

Graig phone box - in need of painting and cutting of overgrown grass.

Graig broadband box - Clerk to make enquiries once again.

Ffordd Gyffylog - salt bin fallen on one side.

Fence opposite school - still not repaired – Cllr. Austin Roberts to contact County.

Bodnant Gardens - complaints were received that cars were parked everywhere along the road during the last two weekends as the car parks were full. A very dangerous situation. It was agreed to write to the National Trust and to the Police.

10. **DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING:** Monday 04/07/2016 at 7:30p.m.