

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF BEAUMARIS TOWN COUNCIL
HELD ON MONDAY 5 SEPTEMBER 2016 AT 7.00 PM IN THE TOWN HALL**

PRESENT: The Town Mayor Councillor G Evans Jones
The Deputy Mayor Councillor F R Carr
Councillor C M Brimecombe
Councillor J R Carr
Councillor I Davies
Councillor D W Gallichan
Councillor A J V Grant
Councillor D G Jones
Councillor M Jones
Councillor B L Kotkowicz
Councillor R J Parry
Councillor J P Zalot
Councillor S Zalot

The Town Clerk was in attendance

APOLOGIES: Councillor C J Theakston

The Town Mayor took the Chair

The Town Mayor opened the meeting by stating that sadly Mrs Jean Edge, a former Mayoress, had passed away during the afternoon, and that Council would be sending a message of sympathy to the family.

22.0 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

23.0 VISIT BY COUNTY COUNCILLOR LEWIS DAVIES TO PRESENT AN UPDATE ON RECENT LOCAL ISSUES

It was proposed, seconded and carried unanimously that the meeting move into Committee for this item.

Councillor Davies said that he had dealt with a few matters recently on behalf of local residents. Of particular concern was the effect of recent heavy rainfall on the Penmon and Llangoed areas. In relation to these, he had asked the County Council to conduct a survey. Heavy rain had also caused gravel to be washed from Red Hill into the town and water had been seen flowing from the Primary School into Maes Hyfryd estate. Clearly more works needed to be carried out to prevent flooding of properties and roads.

In Llanfaes, the entrance to the stables near the Community Shop had been re-opened. This had been because of problems with the electricity sub-station within the field. He was asking for the entrance to be closed again on behalf of residents.

In recent months he had helped obtain a grant for the Rowing Club for a new boat and helped young people to obtain housing in Beaumaris. He felt this was an important move forward in order to retain young people within the town. In this connection, the three County Councillors for Seiriol Ward had met to discuss the schools in the area. The Head Teacher had left Beaumaris Primary School to take up a position elsewhere, and it was likely that the new Head Teacher would be a person responsible for several Primary Schools in the area.

Councillors expressed their concern that there were now only 26 pupils remaining at Beaumaris Primary School. This did not bode well for the future of the school, and concern was raised that there might be a move to relocate residents from Haulfre to the school and make it a new residential home for the elderly. Such a step would be detrimental to maintaining a vibrant population within the town. Members asked that representatives on the County Council should make very effort to ensure that Haulfre and the Primary School remain open to fulfil their separate functions.

Members moved on to discuss the future of the old Day Care Centre adjacent to the Primary School. It was reported that the Luncheon Club would happily go back there and volunteers were prepared to raise money to cover the running costs. Councillor Davies said that the three local County Councillors had been pressing for the building to be reopened. Anna Morgan, the officer responsible, had visited the building and had concluded that whilst the roof needed attention the rest of the building was in reasonable condition. Members asked for more pressure to be placed upon the County Council to ensure that the Day Care Centre was reopened. This had been an important facility in which the elderly could meet on a daily basis.

The Town Mayor thanked Councillor Davies for attending the meeting and giving his report.

It was proposed, seconded and carried unanimously that the meeting move back into Council.

24.0 TO CONFIRM AS A TRUE AND CORRECT RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF BEAUMARIS TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 4 JULY 2016

It was proposed and seconded that the minutes were a true and correct record of the meeting.

24.1 Minute 14.0

Councillor S Zalot stated that there was an error in respect of the last declaration of interest. He had been the person making the declaration of interest in respect of his son owning an MSOD. It was agreed that the minutes would be amended.

With the above amendment, it was unanimously agreed that the minutes were a true and correct record of the meeting.

25.0 TO ADOPT THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE FINANCE AND PLANNING COMMITTEE OF BEAUMARIS TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 22 AUGUST 2016

It was proposed, seconded and carried unanimously that the recommendations of the meeting be adopted.

25.1 Heritage Assets: Beaumaris Gaol, Courthouse and Library

The Town Clerk said that the County Council had asked the Town Council to produce a business plan by mid-September if it was to take on responsibility for the Gaol and the Courthouse. Members felt that more time was needed in order to set up a proper business plan that took into account repair and maintenance costs for the buildings. The Town Mayor proposed that six Councillors be appointed to a Committee to look at the viability for taking on the responsibility for these premises. The Town Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Councillors J Carr, D W Gallichan, M Jones and S Zalot volunteered to be members. The meeting agreed that these members should serve on the Committee.

In respect of the Library, a member stated that the Council could not afford to take on further responsibilities. It was noted that Trefi Mon had asked Menter Mon to carry out a study on possible ways forward for the operation of Library Services in the five towns. The meeting agreed to await the report before making any decisions on the Library Service.

26.0 EXTRA BILLS FOR PAYMENT

4745	Mr D Mathias	40.00
4746	Brookes & Sons (Tarpaulins)	47.04
4747	PHS Group	60.00
4748	Rowena	65.99
4749	F E Roberts	73.84
4750	J R Webster	87.60
4751	Biffa Municipal	241.73
4752	Galleon Supplies	312.00
4753	CCTV Services	2,967.10
4754	Cemlyn Williams	754.08

Members queried why this sum of money was being paid to a Councillor in Caernarfon. The Town Clerk said that the Treasurer of the Walled Towns Friendship Circle had sent a cheque to the Council for this amount of money by mistake. The Town Council had then generated a cheque to pay for goods for the WTFC. In the interim, Councillor Cemlyn Williams had paid this bill. There was now a need to repay the Councillor for his expenditure. Members stated that if the WTFC had paid the money to us by mistake then we should be refunding the WTFC directly. It was proposed, seconded and carried unanimously that payment of the bill be withheld.

4755	PlayQuest Adventure Play Ltd	3,000.00
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Total	£7,649.38
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It was proposed, seconded and carried unanimously that with the one exception the bills be paid.

27.0 CORRESPONDENCE

27.1 Anglesey County Council: Responses to requests to delay road works on A545 and B5109

Members accepted that the repairs to the A545 were essential but took exception to some comments made by officers at the Highways Department. The Town Council has been canvassing for over thirty years for the road to be widened and the bends smoothed out. This road was not fit for purpose as the main access route into the town, especially when the local economy relied on visitor numbers. Vehicles using the road now were heavier and wider than those in the past, and many straddled the centre line as they drove along it. The road could easily be widened by supporting an additional section adjacent to the present road on concrete pillars.

It was proposed, seconded and carried unanimously the County Council be requested to obtain an independent survey under health & Safety as to the condition and suitability of the road from the Garth bends to Cemetery Hill.

It was proposed, seconded and carried unanimously that an officer of the Highways Department and the Assembly Member be invited to a meeting to discuss options for widening the A545

27.2 Beaumaris Bowling Club: Request to close Bowling Green to the public from Sunday 11 September

The Bowling Club thanked the Town Council for offering to give a donation towards the cost of repairing the Bowling Green at the end of the season. In order to give new grass seed extra time to germinate and grow before the onset of winter, the Club asked for the Bowling Green to be closed during the week commencing 12 September.

It was noted that Council's tenant at the Happy Valley Pavilion did not object to the proposed early closure of the Bowling Green.

It was proposed, seconded and carried unanimously that the request be agreed.

27.3 R Gordon Roberts, Laurie & Co: Transfer of Chapel of Rest Lease

The Town Clerk said he had now received a letter from the Solicitors informing him that J O Williams & Son had sold their business and assigned their lease for the Chapel of Rest to Melvin Rowlands and Eleri Wyn Rowlands of Llangefni.

A question was raised as to whether the lease was transferrable.

It was proposed, seconded and carried unanimously that the possibility of transferring the lease be investigated.

27.4 Artisan Markets: Out of season dates

Earlier in the season the Town Council had suggested that the Sunday markets should be extended into September and October so as to attract people into the town during quieter periods. In response, the Artisan Markets were proposing to visit on 25 September and 9 and 30 October. It was noted that they had just won an award for the Best Artisan Market. Members voted unanimously to accept the proposed dates.

On a separate issue, it had been noted that a van had been selling products from Castle Square for a few weeks during the summer.

It was proposed, seconded and carried unanimously that a letter be sent to Anglesey County Council asking for its policy concerning use of the Square.

28.0 REPORT ON FLOODING EVENT OF 28 AUGUST

The Chief Flood Warden said that he had gone out at around 4.30 am after receiving a call. He had witnessed water flooding into the town from the higher surrounding ground. Large quantities of water were seen passing from the school into Iscoed, Maes Hyfryd and Thomas Close. At Stable Mews one property had been close to flooding. Henllys Lane was flooded as was the Town Green and the Garth Bends. Afterwards, he learned that 4" of rain had fallen in less than four hours. At Red Hill, a large volume of gravel had been washed down into the roads below. It raised the question as to whether BT had done a good job in repairing the culvert at the top of the road. It was clear that the town was still under threat from flooding.

He had not called out the other Flood Wardens but he had been helped by two volunteers as he went around the town.

It was proposed, seconded and carried unanimously that :

- 1) Mr Dewi Williams and Mr Rowland Thomas be invited to a meeting for an update on flood defences for the town,
- 2) That the Council go ahead with the purchase of equipment for the Flood Wardens as previously agreed,
- 3) Two letters of thanks be sent to Mr Merfyn Roberts and Mr Haydn Jones for their help in clearing debris at Mill Lane

A member commented that the members of the RNLI were all trained for flooding events and had equipment to assist them in dealing with incidents of this nature. He felt that liaison with the RNLI was necessary.

It was proposed, seconded and carried by a majority that the District Inspector of the RNLI be invited to the meeting with officers of the County Council.

29.0 CHILDREN SWIMMING IN OLD BATHS

It was reported that three young girls had been seen jumping into the old Baths pool and swimming around. Concern was expressed that there was debris within the old baths that might cause injury to young children. A telephone call had been made to Anglesey County Council, but officers there had said it was an issue to be dealt with by

the Town Council. The Police had been contacted and officers had visited the old baths site on subsequent days, but had not found any children in the pool.

It was noted that the Town Council did not own the site, and had made representation previously to the Derelict Buildings Officer of Anglesey County Council. This was the person responsible for ensuring that derelict buildings did not present a danger to the public. Following previous complaints, the owners of the site had had been forced into improving security there by the County Council.

It was agreed that letters should be sent to North Wales Police pointing out the dangers of the site and asking them to police it, and to the Derelict Buildings Officer of Anglesey County Council asking for enforcement action against the owners of the site to ensure that it was secure and not accessible to children.

30.0 RAF FREEDOM PARADE UPDATE

The Town Clerk advised that he had arranged for cones to be hired and placed around the route of the parade to prevent parking. Visiting Mayors, Councillors and RAF Dignitaries would meet in the Town Hall at approximately 10.15 am for tea and coffee. Members would then proceed to the Canolfan car park for 11.00 am when there would be a fly-past by four jets. Following this, the Town Mayor would welcome the RAF to the town and inspect the parade. The Station Commander of RAF Valley would respond and then the Mayor and visiting dignitaries would return to Castle Street to take the salute as the parade marched through the town. A buffet lunch would be provided in the Town Hall after the march-past.

31.0 ARRANGEMENTS FOR FOOD FESTIVAL 2016

The Town clerk said that the organisers of the Food Festival had asked for permission to put up a marquee on the central triangle area of the Green on Wednesday, and he saw no problem with this. For the Food Festival event, the entrance to the Green for the general public who were not attending the event would be via the flood gate opposite Green Edge. The Food Festival Committee were supplying a cabin with electricity supply for the use of the Green Attendants. They would also be given a walkie-talkie for security purposes and a till in which to keep money,

It was proposed, seconded and carried unanimously that permission be given for a marquee to be erected on the central triangle on Wednesday.

32.0 PARKING FOR FILM PRODUCTION UNITS ON BEAUMARIS GREEN 18-19 SEPTEMBER

The Town Clerk said he had been approached by a company wishing to make a children's television programme. The company was intending to film on the Pier on Monday 19 September, and wished to park vehicles on the Green overnight from 18 September, and leave late evening on 19 September. Some large vehicles were involved and it would mean closing the central road and hard standing for these to be accommodated. In addition, the central triangle would be used for parking cars for personnel. A member of staff would need to operate the car park on Sunday evening after 5.00 pm for a few hours. A fee for using the Green had been suggested.

It was agreed that the film company should be allowed to use the Green, but the Town Clerk should try to negotiate for a larger fee. It was agreed that he would have powers to act on behalf of Council.

33.0 ANNUAL RETURN FOR YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016

The Town Clerk said that the Welsh Government had appointed a new external auditor this year. Whilst in the past the external auditor had not raised any issues concerning Council's accounts, this year a number of questions had been raised. Generally these

had been answered, although the internal auditor had to be consulted on a couple of occasions.

One issue that remained outstanding was in respect of the valuation of the total fixed assets and long-term assets of the Town Council. In the past, these had been listed within Council's accounts and a small percentage increase applied each year to reflect their present day value. This year, the wording on the Annual Return had been altered and it asked for the original asset and investment register values. As a consequence, the external auditor had not accepted the usual increased valuation of assets as given in the Annual Return.

After some discussion, it was agreed that two new assets purchased as capital equipment during the year should be added to the previous valuation, as accepted by the external auditor at the end of March 2015. Consequently, Council was being asked to approve an amendment to the Annual Return. The fixed/long-term assets would now include the contributions of £28,638 to the town CCTV system and £4280 for the Adventure Trail in Happy Valley. Thus, the total assets would now be listed as £2,670,124

It was proposed, seconded and carried unanimously that the amendment be accepted.

The external auditor had also raised the issue of budget monitoring. Whilst a budget was set, he felt Council should regularly review income and expenditure against budget codes and record this action in the minutes. Members agreed that the more detailed reviews of Council's finances carried out at Audit & Personnel Sub-Committee meetings would be noted in minutes of Council meetings every four months.

34.0 MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Town Mayor attended the following events since the last meeting:

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| 4 July | Ceremony of the Keys at Caernarfon |
| 7 July | Service of the Centenary of the Battle of Mametz Wood at Caernarfon |
| 10 July | Mayor's Sunday |
| 17 July | Mayor's Charity Sunday Lunch at Chester.
The Mayor's Consort attended Mayor's Sunday at Conwy |
| 19 July | Opening of the David Hughes Exhibition |
| 23 July | River Cruise at Conwy |
| 9 August | RAYC presentations for the Town Regattas |
| 22 August | Dragon event at Beaumaris Castle |
| 23-29 August | Tattoos at the Castle.
This had raised £160 towards Beaumaris Wales in Bloom. |
| 27 August | Denbigh Show |
| 28 August | Rotary Club's Charity Fair at Beaumaris Green |

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Town Mayor
Councillor G Evans-Jones

Date

