

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE GREENS & BUILDINGS SUB-COMMITTEE OF
BEAUMARIS TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 19 SEPTEMBER 2016
AT 6.30 AM AT THE CEMETERY AND AT 7.30 PM IN THE TOWN HALL**

PRESENT: The Town Mayor G Evans-Jones
The Deputy Mayor Councillor F R Carr
Councillor C M Brimecombe
Councillor J Carr
Councillor D W Gallichan
Councillor D G Jones
Councillor R J Parry

The Town Clerk was in attendance

APOLOGIES: Councillor A J V Grant
Councillor S Zalot

Councillor Brimecombe took the Chair

1.0 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest

2.0 SITE MEETING AT THE CEMETERY

Members were issued with a full copy of the Tree Condition Survey of the Cemetery to expand on the summary previously circulated.

On a walk around the Cemetery, the Administrative Assistant pointed out the trees referred to in the report and gave an outline of the work recommended.

The Chairman commented that it had been a useful meeting since it had allowed members to see the scale of works proposed.

Generally members agreed with the recommendations of the tree specialist. One member said that he felt the problems outlined in the report could be dealt with by crown reduction and without direct felling of the trees. Comment was made that during storms, trees removed large quantities of water from the ground.

In relation to the small woodland at the lower part of the Cemetery, members discussed the possibility of planting native plant species to make it more sustainable.

Recommendation to Finance & Planning Committee:

To agree to all recommendations by the tree specialist, subsequent to obtaining permission to work on the protected woodland and obtaining suitable itemised quotations from three companies.

Councillor Gallichan asked for his vote against the recommendation to be recorded.

Recommendation to the Finance & Planning Committee:

The small woodland at the lower part of the Cemetery be replanted with native plant species to include a Lime tree.

3.0 THE GREEN

3.1 Members commented that the Green had recovered well following the Food Festival and the bad weather over the past month. It was noted that there were still bad patches with standing water. The Green was vital to the economy of the Town Council and work was needed to improve the Green and resolve these outstanding problem areas.

Recommendation to the Finance & Planning Committee:

Council investigates the possibility of constructing more soakaways in areas where water continues to pool after heavy rain.

- 3.2** A member commented that a vehicle had driven over the grass bund at some time over the weekend, causing damage to the grass.

The Town Clerk commented that there had been a number of similar instances in recent weeks and he had tried to obtain evidence as to the culprits. In one instance, Council staff witnessed a power company driving across the bund to attend to street lights on the Green. The persons responsible were challenged by Council staff and asked to repair the damage caused, which they duly did. In a further instance, the Town Clerk had seen a man in a buoyancy aid pull up the exit barrier to allow access for a vehicle. The incident had happened at around 10.00 pm at night, but he had been unable to determine the registration of the vehicle. In a further instance, a motorcyclist had been hit by the barrier arm coming down as he drove through the exit. The Town Clerk had been surprised that the barrier arm had come down in such a way, but there were signs advising pedestrians, cyclists and motorcyclists not to pass under it. Since the incident, a larger additional sign had been placed on the pole as vehicles approach the exit barrier. The injured party had submitted a claim for the incident, and this had been passed to Council's insurers.

- 3.3** On a more positive note, a member commented that the litter bins on the Green were being emptied more frequently. A lorry came every morning between 6.30 am and 7.00 am and returned again at lunchtime to empty the bins. This had reduced the amount of litter found on the Green.

4.0 HAPPY VALLEY

- 4.1** The Town Clerk reported that two new pieces of play equipment had been purchased, and ground works to accommodate these were due to start during the week. The two pieces of play equipment being taken down would be sited elsewhere.

The Town Mayor said that she was now looking at buying new swings and other pieces of play equipment in order to spend the rest of the grant allocated.

Recommendation to the Finance & Planning Committee:

Further pieces of play equipment be purchased for Happy Valley to utilise the balance of the grant funding obtained.

- 4.2** A member asked if there had been any developments with the replacement of the pavilion.

The Town Mayor said she had met with the Chief Co-ordinator for Cadw, who had found the plans acceptable although there might be a need to reduce the height of the proposed building. It was a modern building but it matched the Visitor Centre at the entrance to the Castle. She had asked for a picture of the site with the new pavilion superimposed on it. There had been an offer to assist the Council with the Heritage Impact Assessment. It was felt it was now time to approach people who had an interest in the development of a new pavilion.

Recommendation to the Finance & Planning Committee:

The plans for the new pavilion now be shown to Sir Richard Williams-Bulkeley as landowner, the Bowling Club and the tenant in the pavilion.

The Town Mayor said that she was again nominating Happy Valley for an Aviva Grant and would welcome help to encourage people to vote for it.

- 4.3** In a further discussion, it was felt that there was a need to improve access for the elderly and disabled. Wheelchair access to both the Green and Happy Valley was restricted. Exercise equipment for less able people could also be introduced.

Recommendation to the Finance and Planning Committee:

Further grants should target the improvement of facilities for the elderly and disabled.

5.0 THE TOWN HALL

5.1 A member asked if there had been any progress with the labelling of the front doors of the building. The Town Clerk said the latest idea had been to put 'Town Hall' on one door, 'Neuadd y Dref' on the other door with manifestations on the fixed glass panels, he could go ahead with this if acceptable. A member asked if it should be 'Neuadd Dref' as opposed to 'Neuadd y Dref.' The Town Clerk said there had been some discussions about this and he had looked at what was on other Town Hall buildings. Generally it appeared that 'Neuadd y Dref' was used. In order to resolve the issue, it was suggested that the translation unit at Anglesey County Council be approached.

5.2 A member asked when the white paint on the outside of the Town Hall would be repainted. The Town Clerk said he believed it had been done earlier in the restoration process but that it might need a further coat of paint.

Recommendation to the Finance & Planning Committee:

The plasterwork on the front of the Town Hall be repainted.

5.3 The Town Clerk said that when he attended a recent meeting to discuss the Unitary Development Plan, he had spoken with Council's architect. They had agreed to make a further attempt at replacing the fire escape. The County Council Conservation Officer had not been happy in respect of designs previously submitted, but there was little flexibility because of the regulations regarding the construction of fire escapes and the slope of the steps permitted. The main issue seemed to be the gate at the bottom of the fire escape that was used to prevent children from running up and down. It was agreed that this was essential for the security of the building and the safety of children. A member commented that there was now a new Town Regeneration Scheme and that the Conservation Officer was the representative attending meetings on behalf of Anglesey County Council. It was felt that a new fire escape design could be achieved via this new scheme, and the Town Clerk agreed to find out more.