

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE GAOL AND COURTHOUSE COMMITTEE OF
BEAUMARIS TOWN COUNCIL
HELD ON MONDAY 12 AUGUST 2019 AT 7.00 PM IN THE TOWN HALL**

PRESENT: The Town Mayor Councillor C J Theakston
The Deputy Mayor Councillor R A Jones
Councillor D T Evans
Councillor A N Gough
Councillor A J V Grant
Councillor K M Jones
Councillor H Mattocks - CHAIRMAN
Councillor L J Roberts
Councillor J A Rowlands
Councillor M G Sarsfield – DEPUTY CHAIRMAN
Councillor S Zalot

**The Project Officer was in attendance
Assistant Administrator was in attendance**

APOLOGIES: There were no apologies for absence

Councillor H Mattocks took the Chair

The Chairman welcomed the Assistant Administrator to the meeting.

10.0 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

11.0 REPORT RE TRANSFER FROM ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL

It was reported by the Chairman that the transfer of Gaol and Courthouse buildings from Anglesey County Council to Beaumaris Town Council will be completed by the end of September 2019. He also stated that solicitors were still investigating the ownership of the track at the back of the Gaol.

7.04 pm the Town Mayor arrived

12.0 THREE-MONTH FINANCIAL REPORT

The Project Officer gave a three-month report outlining the financial results, visitor numbers, souvenirs and book sales. Since the PDQ machines had been installed 25% of the transactions have been carried out this way.

13.0 PROMOTIONS

The Chairman reported about the signage in town which promoted both the Gaol and Courthouse. Most notably the large banners, one of which is situated coming into town and the other in the town square by the Courthouse. Further plans for the future include corporate uniforms for the staff, more banners and a well-produced guidebook, including other promotional materials to be decided upon. It was agreed to keep the Gaol and Courthouse open until the end of October 2019.

It was proposed, seconded and carried unanimously that the Gaol and Courthouse be kept open until the end of October 2019. Nem con.

The discounted arrangements for Viking tours had proved popular with good take-up.

It was suggested that further promotion of the Gaol and Courthouse to be included in the Anglesey Attractions leaflet. A question was raised as to whether Beaumaris should have its own Attractions leaflet. 50k copies of the Beaumaris promotional leaflet have been distributed across North Wales. Beaumaris Town Council only has 1,000 left, and are therefore low on stocks.

Social media was discussed. Facebook 'We are Anglesey' is a good forum for promotion. A Councillor offered to invite Anglesey social media groups to visit the Gaol and Courthouse to discuss promotional opportunities.

It was proposed, seconded and carried unanimously that Councillor Roberts invites social media groups to visit the Gaol and Courthouse to discuss promotional opportunities. Nem con.

Councillors asked if employees of the Gaol and Courthouse had been DBS checked. The Project Officer confirmed that they did not need to be DBS checked, and that Anglesey County Council had not DBS checked its employees in previous years.

It was suggested that in the winter new tills replace the old tills, which were unable to support a number of transaction options, including promotional discounts.

14.0 EVENTS

The Chairman reported that the Project Officer would be meeting with TeleMon on 15th August re filming opportunities.

The Chairman reported that 2 highly successful paranormal events had been run in the Gaol.

The Chairman reported that a photographic exhibition had been included as a visitor attraction in the Gaol and had been a great success.

The Gaol has now a volunteer Governor dressed in period costume and gives guided tours, and passes information to visitors.

The Chairman informed the committee about a Halloween event that could be run in the Gaol for families and other visitors. It was suggested that children's goodie bags be given out. Pumpkin cutting for kids, displaying them in the Gaol, with possible Councillors to dress up.

The Chairman stated that the Gaol and Courthouse will be open for the Victorian Christmas fare.

A court session given by Castle Players has been considered.

A Councillor suggested actors from Bangor University to be approached to recreate enactment groups of the Gaol and Courthouse settings.

15.0 COACH PARK

The Chairman suggested that the Gaol and Courthouse committee be responsible for running the Coach Park when it is made available, with any proceeds going towards the maintenance of the Gaol and Courthouse.

It was proposed, seconded and carried unanimously that the Coach Park be run by Gaol and Courthouse Committee with proceeds going towards the running costs of the Gaol and Courthouse. Nem con.

It was reported that the ticket meter machine in the Coach Park had been removed by Anglesey County Council and that the committee will look at options on both charges and how to collect them at a later date. Options were discussed as to how

the necessary staffing levels and resources required were needed to run the Coach Park.

It was reported that since the start of the season several hundred coaches had parked on the Green due to the Coach Park being closed. It was also noted that when the Coach Park reopened there would be the possibility of Camper Vans parking there too, elevating parking on the Green.

16.0 FUTURE PROJECTS

The chairman reported the following possible ideas:-

- A tearoom for the Gaol which could be positioned on the grassed exercise area next to the treadmill.
- A roof repair of 2k is planned.
- Repair the call bell system that is currently installed.
- Create a schedule of works to do in the winter.
- It was suggested to have a downloadable audio tour app of the Gaol and Courthouse. However the committee deemed this could take place next year due to the costs involved.

It was also noted that recovery labour costs should be looked at for any Maintenance work that is to be carried out by Beaumaris Town Council Employees.

Beaumaris Town Council to invite the assigned officer for coach tours at Anglesey County Council to have a meeting to discuss further promotional ideas for coach parties to visit Beaumaris.

It was proposed, seconded and carried unanimously that the Beaumaris Gaol and Courthouse committee invite the assigned officer for coach tours at Anglesey County Council to discuss promotional ideas for coach parties visiting Beaumaris. Nem con.

This proposal was seconded and carried unanimously. Nem con.

The Chairman thanked all committee members for their help and support in the running of the Gaol and Courthouse since opening in May 2019.

NEXT MEETING Tuesday 19th November 2019.

Meeting closed at 8.15 pm

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**Chair
Councillor H Mattocks**

Date