

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF BEAUMARIS TOWN COUNCIL
HELD ON TUESDAY 31 MAY 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 D W Gallichan
Councillor A J V Grant
Councillor D G Jones
Councillor M Jones
Councillor R J Parry

The Town Clerk was in attendance

APOLOGIES: Councillor I Davies
Councillor B L Kotkowicz
Councillor C J Theakston
Councillor J P Zalot
Councillor S Zalot

The Town Mayor took the Chair

1.0 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest

2.0 VISIT BY DAFYDD HUMPHREYS AND PAT WEST TO PRESENT AN OUTLINE OF A PROPOSAL FOR OPERATING BEAUMARIS GAOL AND BEAUMARIS COURTHOUSE

It was resolved to go into Committee.

Pat West and Dafydd Humphreys introduced themselves and their not-for-profit company 'Profiadau'. They outlined their experience and background. They believe that the Gaol and Courthouse can be developed as a viable business. Their aims are:

- To protect and preserve the buildings
- Improve the visitor experience
- Develop an all year round attraction
- To promote the Welsh language and culture

They want the buildings to contribute to a vibrant town in a vibrant Anglesey and to contribute to Wales more widely. They will be seeking grant funding for conservation work on the buildings. They intend to take on the properties on a lease from the County Council. There was discussion on the ownership of the buildings, and some Councillor asserted that ownership should be returned to the Town Council. Concern was also expressed that there is a risk that the facilities could be sold on at a profit once turned around. Pat West explained that Lottery funding provided some safeguards against this.

In closing, Pat West explained that Profiadau would not be in a position to submit a complete bid by the deadline, but would submit a statement in the hope of being involved in future plans for the facilities. She expressed willingness to work with the Town Council.

The Town Clerk briefed Councillors on progress in seeking legal advice on ownership. There is no evidence in the Town Council records that the buildings were in Town Council ownership in 1974. The history of the Gaol suggests that ownership may have been elsewhere when it operated as a Police Station. While some Councillors said that the claim of previous ownership should be pursued, others stated that it would be a waste of time in the absence of supporting evidence. It was felt that taking on liability for the buildings would be a big risk.

Recommendation to Council:

To submit a Statement of Interest before the closing date in response to the County Council's request for proposals.

It was resolved to go back into Council.

It was resolved nem con to adopt the recommendation of the Committee.

The meeting closed at 20.02

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Chair
Councillor Gwen Evans-Jones

Date