

Criccieth Town Council

Public minutes of the meeting held on **Tuesday 8 September 2020 at 7.00 pm**. The meeting took place remotely using video technology.

1-09/20: Present

Chair : Cllr. Robert Cadwalader

Cllr. Phil Jones ;Cllr. Wayne Roberts; Cllr. Angela Hughes, Cllr. Nan Davies-Hughes; Cllr. Eirwyn Williams; Cllr. Ffion Gwyn; Cllr Robert Price

Clerk – Dr Catrin Jones.

2-09/20 Apologies:

Cllr. Sian Williams;

3-09/20 Declaration of Interests

4-09/20 Ratification of August 2020 Minutes

The Minutes were ratified and signed in accordance with the law.

5-09/20 Urgent items and for information (raised by Chair/Clerk)

Matters for information only – no decisions allowed

6-09/20: Correspondence

1. Gwynedd Council - COVID-19 Correspondence – response re bins for the town

It was noted that the Clerk had written to Gwynedd Council regarding the bins for the town - confirmation had been received and that it had been forwarded to the appropriate Gwynedd Council Officer – a response was awaited

Decision:

To receive for information

2. Request for CCTV – Queen’s Road, Criccieth –

The Clerk had been communicating with the Police officer and was trying to get a date to meet the residents

Decision:

To receive for information

3. One Voice Wales - Good Practice – Community Engagement– 13 August 2020

A copy of the publication had been circulated to members. The good practice guidelines for community engagement were noted.

Penderfyniad

To receive for information

- 4 One Voice Wales – Guidelines for Councils on holding physical meetings – 1 September 2020

A copy of the guidelines had been circulated to members. It urged councils to focus on the issue of safety and preventing the spread of the virus and that they should only start physically holding meetings once they had satisfied themselves that the risks can be effectively managed.

Decision

To receive for information. All councillors were able to join in the meetings on video technology, and that these arrangements should be continued rather than meeting physically.

- 5 NALC – salary grades from 1 April 2020 (August 26 2020) –

Information had been circulated to members on the salary grades which had been agreed by the National Joint Council with effect from 1 April 2020

Decision

To receive and adopt

7-09/20 Planning Applications

1. C20 / 0621/35 / LL Demolition of former slate workshop and erection of mixed development comprising restaurant and bar together with small retail space and 4 serviced 'aparthotel' bedrooms - Criccieth Craft Centre, Criccieth, LL52 0HS

Decision:

To send comments. That consideration should be given to the surrounding historic buildings, noting that two adjacent buildings are listed as Grade 2 buildings, namely Café Cwrt and the Memorial Hall. More detail on the use of the development was requested. Also to note the importance of the area's heritage and that a detailed record and pictures of the Old Forge which is on the site should be kept for the future and placed on the People's Collection Website.

2. C20 / 0699/35 / CT Y Maes, High Street Criccieth LL52 0EY

Decision:

To send comments. There was agreement that the trees should be pruned but care should be taken in doing so to avoid damaging the Christmas lights on the trees. There was also concern about the surface of the floor around the trees and that it was unsuitable and dangerous underfoot. The surface was slippery due to sap from the eucalyptus tree and a tree specialist might be able to lop from the top rather than from underneath to address this matter. The floor was uneven and slippery and as a result there had been a number of falls in recent years. Gwynedd Council should seriously consider replacing the floor with a suitable new surface for the site - Before doing the problems as a result of the roots of the trees will need to be solved.

8-09/20: Filling of Vacant Seat on Town Council

It was noted that no election had been requested and that the appropriate notice had been posted that the Town Council was planning to fill the seat by co-option: by letter / email to the Clerk by 30 September.

It was also noted that Cllr. Dafydd Lloyd has resigned. In his letter he stated that it had been a privilege to serve Criccieth on the council for fifteen years and he wished the council well for the future. As a result the Town Council would need to start the process of filling the vacancy in due course.

Decision:

To receive the report for information. The Council thanked Cllr. Dafydd Lloyd very much for his service and wished him well for the future.

9-09/20: Draft Annual Report 2019/20

A draft bilingual report had been circulated. The Council had agreed that a price should be obtained 100 printed copies as a copy would be available on the Town Council website. – The Wales Print price for printing was accepted.

Decision:

The Clerk was thanked for her work and it was agreed that the Wales Print should print 100 copies of the report in colour to include photographs. -

10-09/20 Community Plan

1. Nature Garden

It was noted that work on the Nature Places Local Nature Garden, Keep Wales Tidy had been completed - members of the Friends of the Nature Garden had worked with the Keep Wales Tidy Officer.

Decision

A big thank you to Keep Wales Tidy and the Friends of the Nature Garden for the work.

2. Cae Crwn Community Project

It was noted that work on the application form was ongoing following feedback from the Lottery on the project enquiry form. It was also pleasing to note that the planning application for the allotments had been approved and a copy of the confirmation had been circulated for information. Gwynedd Council's correspondence setting terms for the lease of the Allotments and the Butterfly Garden and Nature Garden site had been circulated and needed to be approved by the Town Council.

Decision:

The report was received and the lease terms for the site approved. It was also agreed that information regarding the community allotments be advertised on social media and that volunteers should register their interest with Cllr. Phil Jones.

3. Town Map

It was noted that the map had been printed and circulated to businesses in the town. There will be a launch to coincide with the re-opening of the Castle on Wednesday 9th September and a broadcast about it on the S4C program Heno that evening.

The Clerk had written to a Gwynedd Council Officer requesting permission to place laminated A1 maps on tables at the various agreed locations around the town and was awaiting a response.

Decision:

The working group was again thanked for their work in producing the map which will be of great benefit to the town.

4. Information Board for High Street Shops Mural

It was agreed at the last meeting that a mural information board should be set up to explain its context and to get a quote for the work.

Received the Press of Wales price for printing the laminated A2 size information aluminum board.

It was also noted that the Clerk's article in the national "The Clerk Magazine" about the Unique Streets project had been published this month.

Decision

To receive the report and it was agreed that Wales Print should print the information board.

5. Signs for the town

The Clerk had written to Gwynedd Council to highlight the need for danger signs on underground rocks near the Blue China. A response had been received to explain that it would not be possible to consider the request until after the holiday period.

Decision

To receive the report and leave the matter with Gwynedd Council.

6. Old Library Building

Correspondence had been received from the solicitor regarding the next steps in seeking to resolve the ownership situation of the Old Library Building and proposed that contact be made with Llanidan Community Council before proceeding to seek the views of a barrister on the matter.

Decision

That the solicitor contacts Llanidan Community Council on behalf of the Town Council.

11-09/20: New Town Council Website

It was noted that work on the new Website would start in September - meanwhile Delwedd had prepared a temporary Web page. The Town Council needed to agree an accessibility statement for the site and a draft had been circulated. -

Decision:

To receive the report and approve the accessibility statement for publication on the Web site.

12-09/20: Public Footpaths including Path 11

It was noted that the Clerk had written again to the Gwynedd Council Officer following the last meeting to offer a field meeting - no response had been received by the meeting.

Decision:

To write to the officer to thank him for the great work in installing two new gates on the route between Muriau and Dryll and inviting him again to a field meeting regarding Route 11.

13-09/20: Groynes and Sea Defences Criccieth

More damage had occurred following the recent winds.

Decision:

It was agreed to write to the Officer to inquire about a timetable and to highlight that more damage had since occurred in the area.

14-09/20: Transport in Criccieth

A letter had been received from a resident of the town expressing concern over the speed of traffic in the town which should improve if the speed was reduced to 20 miles per hour. The area near the Aberistedd Hotel was considered a problem and a request made to consider extending the double yellow lines. This led to discussion of a number of areas of concern in the town including the stretch of road from the railway bridge down to the car park at Aberistedd was extended.

Decision:

To write to an Officer of Gwynedd Council inviting him to a site meeting to discuss matters of concern with Cllr. Wayne Roberts, Cllr. Phil Jones and Cllr. Nan Davies-Hughes.

15-09/20: Grass and hedge cutting in the town

It was noted at the last meeting that Gwynedd Council had cut the hedge of path 1. There was concern about the height of the hedge leading from the Bowling Club up to the School and that the hedge needed to be trimmed for safety reasons, especially given that there was a playground for children in the area. The Clerk had written to Gwynedd Council asking them to cut the height of the hedge. A response had not yet been received.

Decision:

To receive the report.

16-09/20: Parking in Criccieth

Nothing to report.

17-09/20: Tree felling Criccieth

Concern was raised at the visibility for cars at the crossroads of the Esplanade with Porthmadog Road due to the growth of tree.

Decision

To write to the Officer at Gwynedd Council to draw attention to the matter

18-09/20: Benches in Criccieth

Nothing to report

19-09/20 Receipts

Gwynedd Council - second half of the precept £21,000

20-09/20: Payments

- | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| • HMRC (PAYE) | £9.80 (cheque 101419) |
| • Clerk's Wages (August) | £779.95 (cheque 101420) |
| • Wales Print | £556.20 (cheque 101421) |

The Clerk was granted permission to pay the bills.

21-09/20: Reserved Business (for members only)

The meeting ended at 20.45 p.m.

The next meeting of the Town Council will be held on **Tuesday 13 October 2020**.

****The programme will close on 5 October 2020****

Dr Catrin Jones
Clerk