

Criccieth Town Council

Minutes of the meeting held on **Tuesday 11 August 2020 at 7.00 pm**. The meeting took place remotely using video technology.

1-08/20: Present

Chair : Cllr. Robert Cadwalader

Cllr. Phil Jones ;Cllr. Wayne Roberts; Cllr. Eirwyn Williams; Cllr. Sian Williams; Cllr. Ffion Gwyn; Cllr Robert Price

Clerk – Dr Catrin Jones.

2-08/20 Apologies:

Cllr. Dafydd Lloyd; Cllr. Angela Hughes, Cllr. Nan Davies-Hughes; Cllr. Alice Roberts;

3-08/20 Declaration of Interests

4-08/20 Ratification of July 2020 Minutes

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

5-08/20 Urgent items and for information (raised by Chair/Clerk)

Matters for information only – no decisions allowed

6-08/20: Correspondence

1. COVID-19 Correspondence

The Town Council's response to the letter of the Minister for Housing and the Welsh Government dated 2 July 2020; and Gwynedd Council's Chief Executive's letter dated 1 July 2020; had been circulated. Their receipt had been acknowledged. Discussion took place regarding the litter problem in the town and how it could be resolved eg. emptying bins more frequently by Gwynedd Council or establishing a system of installing bespoke recycling bins (e.g. at Aberistedd and the end of the Promenade car park near Dylan's). It was noted that there was a good operational plan in Barmouth and that a similar system should be considered in Criccieth. It might also be possible to get some of the restaurants selling takeaway dishes to have a scheme that would encourage buyers to return them to a takeaway.

Decision:

To write to the Chief Executive of Gwynedd Council with a recommendation to consider adopting the Barmouth scheme or a similar scheme in Criccieth.

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

A letter was received on behalf of residents stating:

"I would be grateful if you would record our disappointment with Gwynedd Council's response, and also inform the Council that their statement is from 6 March 2020 - which states that the system can be" easily extended to other locations in the county if there is future demand "-is totally misleading.

In practice, therefore, it is clear that only the selected towns (Porthmadog, Pwllheli, Caernarfon, Bangor), not the general population of the county (as suggested by the statement), can have "piece of mind" from the system, that the cost prohibits other communities such as Criccieth to share the benefits of this service. In terms of the bigger picture, it is hoped that this therefore does not signal a precedent for the future provision of other services, and I trust that Criccieth Town Council will be vigilant and ensure that the town receives the same level playing field as other communities in the coming years.

I look forward to hearing from you further on any meeting you can arrange with the police so that we can tackle the crime in question."

The Clerk had written to North Wales Police offering to meet with residents regarding the cost of CCTV - a response was awaited.

It was disappointing to noted that the recent work of Criccieth in Bloom had been vandalised and it was good to see the support for the work from the community and that their work had now completed. The Clerk had written to Criccieth in Bloom to express disappointment at the incident and to thank them for her work. Criccieth in Bloom were also thanked for their hard work in cleaning the bricks on the Maes.

Decision:

To receive the report and await a response from North Wales Police. It was agreed that the Chair should represent the Town Council at any meeting.

7-08/20 Planning Applications

1. C20 / 0539/35 / LL Application for the erection of a building for the storage and storage of equipment in connection with the land surrounding the hotel which is being used as a smallholding - Mynydd Ednyfed Hotel, Caernarfon Road, Criccieth Gwynedd , LL52 OPH

Decision: No objection

2. C20 / 0300/35 / CR Application for internal and external alterations to convert building from 3 flats into one dwelling - Bryn Henllan Ednyfed Lane, Criccieth, Gwynedd, LL52 OLD

Decision: No objection

3. C20 / 0533/35 / LL Application for change of use of land for the siting of 42 touring caravans together with the creation of an associated access road, landscaping and erection of toilet block; Caravan and Camping Site, Pentrefelin, Gwynedd. LL52 OPT.

Decision: Submit comments. That it should be ensured that only touring caravans should be allowed on the site and that 'statics' should not be included on any account now or in the future.

8-08/20: Filling of Vacant Seat on Town Council

Dr Ian Rees' letter of resignation had been received by the Town Council following his appointment as Non-Executive Director to the Wales Audit Board. As a result of taking on the role it meant that, due to a conflict of interest, he had to give up his role as a Councillor with the Town Council, as this work fell within the remit of Audit Wales. He stated in his resignation letter that he had enjoyed his relatively short time with the Council and wished the Town Council every success in the future. The appropriate notice of the vacancy had been advertised and if there is no request for election by 21 August the Town Council would be able to fill the seat by co-option.

Decision:

Council expressed its gratitude to Dr Ian Rees for his contribution to the work of the Town Council and best wishes were extended to him for the future. It was noted that the appropriate notice of the vacancy was public and that if there was no demand for an election by 21 August it was agreed that a notice inviting applications by letter / email be sent to the Clerk by 30 September 2020.

9-08/20: Draft Annual Report 2019/20

The draft report had been circulated for comment. Last year's Report won the One Voice Wales award for best annual report in conjunction with Newtown Town Council. A number of hard copies would be required.

Decision:

The Clerk was thanked for her work - it was agreed that a price of 100 printed copies should be obtained.

10-08/20 Community Plan

1. Nature Garden

It was noted that work on the Nature Garden as a result of the Town Council success in securing a package from Local Places for Nature, Keep Wales Tidy was due to start next week. The material had arrived during the day. Members of the

Friends of the Nature Garden would work with the Keep Wales Tidy Officer, adhering to the social distancing rules in the wake of Covid-19.

Decision

To receive the report and thank the Friends of the Nature Garden for their work.

2. Cae Crwn Community Project

It was noted that a project enquiry form had been submitted to the Lottery and a copy had been circulated to Council members. - feedback was awaited within the week It was noted that work was ongoing to prepare the information on the main form and there was a lot of information and details to complete. A very positive response had been received from Cwmni Celyn offering a service to coordinate the application, complete it and prepare a project plan.

Decision:

Agree that the service of Cwmni Celyn should be used to assist with the application.

3. Town Map

- At the last meeting it was agreed to print 5,000 copies (Gwasg Cymru) and print 40 copies of A4 laminated copies - unfortunately a problem had arisen because the paper was incorrect and there was a cost to add

Decision:

Proceed to print the map on the revised paper from sustainable forests and also A4 laminated copies. Many thanks were extended to the members of the group who had worked to produce the map: artwork, installation work, historical information and so on. It will be a great asset to the town.

- It was also agreed at the last meeting in principle to place laminated A1 maps on tables in various locations around the town. This would require the consent of Gwynedd Council. Estimated prices had been circulated.

Locations

Y Maes, - Cwrt Bridge

The grassed area at the end of the Prom near Dylans

East Beach Esplanade

On the green area near the RNLI

Aberistedd

Criccieth Tennis Club Notice Board

On the wall of Pen y Maes Cemetery

Decision:

It was agreed to consult with Gwynedd Council on the locations and to identify the builder to undertake the work (Dewi Williams, Bryncir). Following this, it will be possible to go ahead with printing the boards.

4. Information Board for High Street Shops Mural

Recommendation:

That an information board for the High Street Shopping Mural be installed to explain its context - costs were required. A board has been prepared by Cllr. Ffion Gwyn.

Decision

Agree to print an information board for the mural to include an explanation of it and its installation date.

5. Signs for the town

Many residents had expressed concerns to Cllr. Sian Williams regarding the need to place warning signs on the rocks near to the Blue China.

Decision

To write to the Gwynedd Council Officer to request the installation of appropriate "Keep clear" signs on the site.

11-08/20: New Town Council Website

It was noted that work on the new Website would begin in September. Meanwhile Delwedd had prepared a temporary Web page - The Council will also need to approve an accessibility statement for the Web site at the next meeting.

Decision:

To receive the report

12-08/20: Public Footpaths including Path 11

It was noted that the Clerk had written again to the Officer at Gwynedd Council. The response included a number of reasons why the case had not be progressed, including Covid-19. The officer confirmed that in due course, progress will be made to resolve route 11 with the assistance of the County Solicitor but there was no specific date for this.

Decision:

To receive for information and to write again requesting a date for an onsite meeting.

13-08/20: Groynes and Sea Defences Criccieth

It was noted that the Clerk had written to the Gwynedd Council Officer highlighting the need to repair the concrete that leads down to the sea in front of Marine Terrace and Aberiestedd. A positive response had been received to say that Gwynedd Council had been successful in the bid for capital funding to undertake maintenance of the coastal assets in Criccieth. Primarily the aim of the works was to repair the groynes on the West Beach, however, this did not mean that the work could not be extended to rectify other priority works. A site visit had taken place to identify the work required. Once the Officer had specified what is required they will begin the process of commissioning a qualified contractor to undertake the work before the winter months. In the meantime if we notice that something is dangerous they will take the necessary action to protect the site as soon as possible.

Decision:

To receive the report.

14-08/20: Transport in Criccieth

Nothing to report

15-08/20: Grass and hedge cutting in the town

It was noted that Gwynedd Council had cut the hedge of path 1 but concern was expressed about the height of the hedging leading from the Bowling Club up to the School and that the height of the hedging needed to be reduced for safety reasons especially due to the children's play area nearby.

Decision:

To write to Gwynedd Council requesting them to cut the height of the hedge.

16-08/20: Parking in Criccieth

Nothing to report.

17-08/20: Tree felling Criccieth

It was noted that Cllr. Eirwyn Williams has written to Gwynedd Council to point out that the eucalyptus trees on the Maes which had Christmas lights need to be pruned and that one is a danger to the public as the branches are falling down. Confirmation had been received that the officer had requested a tree specialist to inspect the trees as this was a conservation area. A report was awaited before arranging the work.

Decision

To receive for information

18-08/20: Benches in Criccieth

Nothing to report

19-08/20 Receipts

20-08/20: Payments

- | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|
| • HMRC (PAYE) | £9.80 (cheque 101414) |
| • Clerk's Wages (July) | £779.95 (cheque 101415) |
| • Clerk's Costs (Zoom) | £143.88 (cheque 101416) |
| • Paul Montague (Joinery) | £190.00 (cheque 101417) |
| • Dream Internet Solutions | £120.00(cheque 101418) |

The Clerk was granted permission to pay the bills.

The meeting ended at 20.30 p.m.

The next meeting of the Town Council will be held on **Tuesday 8 September 2020.**

****The programme will close on 31 August 2020****

Dr Catrin Jones
Clerk