



**CYNGOR TREF
LLANFAIRFECHAN
TOWN COUNCIL**



Llanfairfechan Community Town Hall Village Road Llanfairfechan LL330AB
Mayor Cllr Alun Rhys Jones Deputy Mayor Cllr Nia Jones

**Minutes of Town Council Meeting, Wednesday June 12th, 2024, 7pm
Llanfairfechan Council Chambers and online with Microsoft Teams**

In attendance: Chair Mayor Alun Rhys Jones; Deputy Mayor Nia Jones; County & Town Cllr Penny Andow; Cllr Sharne-Marie Bellis; Cllr Leena Farhat (online); Cllr Andrew Hinchliff BEM; Cllr Rob Jewell (online) Cllr Chris Jones; Cllr Gareth Jones (online); Cllr Cathryn Taylor; Cllr Preben Vangberg

Town Clerk: Jayne Neal. Bryn Ward County Councillor Jacob Williams was in attendance

1. Welcome all to the meeting and general housekeeping information

Mayor Alun Rhys Jones welcomed all to the meeting. It was agreed the meeting could be recorded for minutes purposes.

2. To receive apologies for absence (LGA 1972 Schedule 12)

Cllr Christine Roberts; Cllr Laura Fielding was attending a CCBC RLDP meeting on behalf of the Town Council

Resolved to receive and take note

3. To receive declaration of interest – (Disclosable personal or prejudicial interests)

None received

Resolved to receive and take note

4. To receive representations and queries from the public

No residents were present at the meeting. Andrew Wilkinson, Head of Neighbourhood Services ERF, Gwyn Parry, Infrastructure and Design Manager, and Daniel Durrans, Project Manager from the Conwy CBC team working with the flood protection and Promenade car park project were in attendance to give an update on developments.

1. Reassurance that the car park and flood protection project is going ahead. Budgets had been secured, a preferred bidder had been identified and work was due to start. Then the storm event occurred on April 9th, and it was necessary to look at the new data and undertake a design review.
2. Some context was given about the approach to the project, clarifying the difference between flood alleviation and flood elimination. For the promenade project, flood elimination – where floods can be stopped - cannot be an option due to the close proximity of the sea. Flood alleviation – reduce the frequency and effects of flooding – is the focus of this project and will help to mitigate the effects of climate change, sea rise and flood events in future.
3. Cause and effect. A perfect storm – low air pressure, highest tides, onshore winds, and climate change raises the sea level and increases the power of the waves. The sea wall is around 5.9m high and the highest tides are at 5.25m. From experience it is known that low pressure and onshore winds raises the tide by half a metre which leads to the level at 150mm off the top of the wall. Climate change rise is expected to be at least half a metre over the next 50+ years. With all this knowledge, it can be assessed that, in millpond conditions, the tides would overtop the wall. Therefore, the solution to sea rise is a need to raise the sea wall. The other challenge is the power of the waves. There could be a large breakwater, or a harbour built but this would be a multi-million project and funds are just not available. It was noted that the existing groynes would not work to take the power away; they are perpendicular to the sea and were designed only to limit the movement and loss of beach material. The solution has been to provide a secondary or ‘splash’ wall to create a ‘splash deck’ where a pool will hold the water for the three hour high tide risk period.
4. Data from the flooding on April 9th perfect storm showed that the secondary ‘splash’ wall was breached and resulted in domestic flooding. The coastal processes are due to be redesigned with the new data included in the modelling process. A review and report will be presented to Town Council and residents as soon as this is completed.
5. As experienced engineers, the team were able to give some indication of what may be considered for future solutions. The sea wall still needs to be raised due to climate change sea rises. In addition, it seems the secondary ‘splash’ wall will need to be raised to protect the splash deck area through the full high tide period. Significantly, the splash wall will need to be higher than the sea wall to create the pool in the splash deck.
6. The whole process will need to be costed and taken to Welsh Government for approval. The best outcome is that everything will be completed in readiness to start work in September. The worst scenario is that the coastal redesign will not be ready, and the car park redevelopment will take place on its own.

7. The car park design and processes are ready to start. It could start now, but that would mean work over the summer, so it has been decided it will start for the autumn period. The Conwy teams are pushing to get the coastal project through for September and Welsh Government are very keen for the project funding to be spent so it may still be ready in time.

Q1 These projects were originally linked so that the building work would be more efficient. Is this not still the case? It depends on the way the design develops. If it is focussed on the secondary wall, this will limit the effects on the car park area. However, the teams will have to mitigate any building problems as they come along.

Q2 Will the raise in height for the secondary wall go right along the whole of the promenade? It will be necessary to wait for the modelling report before being sure, but its likely it will be the whole length, with particular focus on the vulnerable east end of the promenade. For the car park, the possible solution could be the hump, slightly raised and a flood gate to be implemented in perfect storms conditions.

Q3 Will there be a wall around the river area? The river provides a draining point so that area will remain the same. The car park will be part of the splash deck in perfect storm events as the maximum area is needed to store the water for the 3 hour period. At these times, the flood gates will be in place and equal the height of the walls.

Q4 Will this include putting humps on the side roads? Yes, the intention is that there will be humps and flood gates will be installed in these areas as well.

Q5 Vulnerable houses on West Shore have been well protected by the rock armour will there be more work here? Going forward there may be more funding under the WG property protection scheme to further protect against sea rises. This is a separate scheme, and no current information is available.

Q6 Car park questions about displacement and resident's parking? Limited waiting will be implemented for everyone except residents. There will be no charge for residents on the Promenade as this scheme is part of the car park scheme. This will be monitored and if problems arise, it may be extended if needed.

Q7 Is the work going to be completed in sections and will there be more engagement with residents if the scheme changes. Yes, the coastal scheme will be presented to residents again as again as changes are likely to be significant.

Q8 Will it have to go through planning process again? Yes, it will need to be represented

Q9 Will there be parking mitigation for the sports clubs on the Recreation Ground? There are no plans as its believed regulation at that end will make things worse. Again, it will be monitored and reviewed.

Q10 When will we be told about the chosen contractor? This will be once the procurement process is completed with a start date

Q11 Will there be local permits that residents can buy, and will there be times where people can park for a limited period without paying? Permits are already available. Tariff A car park is £138.00 and a countywide permit is £292.00. The car park payments will fund part of the cost of refurbishment of the car park and so there needs to be a revenue. The timings will be determined going forward – resident and Town Council views will be taken account of. There has been some previous indication that the hours might be 9am to 6pm but this not confirmed as yet.

Q12 Will cameras be used to monitor the car park? Under law councils cannot use cameras to enforce penalty notices. There needs to be a traffic warden and they need to be visible.

Q13 Will the team consider raising the footpath by the sea wall? Team are aware of this request and will look at it as part of the scheme

Q14 Will there be work on the pagoda shelter and the beach huts? This will be look into.

Q15 Residents have raised the fact that other coastal projects like Rhos on Sea have had a lot of extra features such as play areas and sun loungers fitted as part of their schemes. Will there be anything like this for Llanfairfechan? The team are looking into various options to meet the visual and social improvements but the reality is that its all to do with money.

Q16 Could the Town Council bid for other external funding to put into the scheme for these types of items? If extra money was brought in, then the contractors could work with the Town Council to put in these improvements.

Chair thanked the team for coming along to the meeting and giving us an in depth update. It was confirmed that Town Council are understanding and supportive of the idea to start work in September. County Councillor for Bryn requested that temporary work be undertaken to mitigate the worst of the potholes and make the car park usable for the summer months. It was noted that the minutes from the meeting will be public from Wednesday 20th and the extract recorded about the project will be shared on social media so that residents are informed of the situation.

Resolved to receive and take note

5. To receive and approve minutes May 22nd and current action list (LGA1972 Schedule 12)

1. Report from the Llanfairfechan D Day 80 – the events went really well and thanks were given to all involved. The veteran's event at the weekend went well and Town Council will be paying for the marching band in the next few days. Unanimously resolved to approve and take note

6. To receive information and approve Councillors Allowance

In carrying out duties as a Town Councillor, the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales (IRP) recognises that there will be a requirement for Councillors to work from home on a regular basis. In these circumstances, the Community and Town Council will provide a standard contribution to the costs incurred of £156 per annum (or £3 per week). Councillors must confirm in writing that they are not claiming with HMRC for home working so that the allowance will not be liable to tax. The IRP also states the Town Council's should decide about consumables and can either decide a flat rate of £52 or reimbursement with a receipts process. It was agreed that Councillors have always been able to access these through the office and so a flat rate would not be implemented.

Unanimously resolved to approve and take note

7. To receive information and approve declaration of Climate Pledge

The proposed pledge by Mayor Alun Rhys Jones had been distributed and discussed by email. All were in favour of declaring the Green Pledge and it was noted this shows positive support for the aims of Big Green Week and will be launched at our stall at the Big Green Week Fair on Saturday:

Llanfairfechan Town Council Green Pledge

Llanfairfechan Town Council recognises that there is a climate and biodiversity emergency and will strive to reduce our own direct impact and will support the efforts of local groups, Conwy CBC and Welsh Government to do likewise.

- We will reduce our own direct impact by supporting measures undertaken by the Community Hall Committee to install solar panels, LED lighting, insulation and air source heat pumps in the Community Hall.
- We are committed to recycling at the Community Hall and will support the use of sustainable cleaning products, and other measures such as reducing the use of paper.
- We will support the aims of groups such as the Ynni Cymunedol Llanfairfechan Energy Group, Discover Llanfairfechan, Plastic Free Llanfairfechan, Biodiversity Action Group and Incredible Edibles through active support, partnership working on projects, grant aid and making use of the Community Hall.
- We will work with outside organisations, such as Conwy CBC and Keep Wales Tidy, on projects that will reduce carbon emissions or help biodiversity.
- We will encourage our local community schools to raise awareness and further promote the cause through specific schemes of work.
- We will support events/projects that engage residents/visitors in understanding the climate/biodiversity emergency, what measures they can take individually, practical projects locally and encourage them to enjoy the nature on their doorstep.

A vote was taken, and the pledge was adopted. Clerk to prepare and launch as agreed.

Unanimously resolved to approve and take note

8. To receive information and approve plans for Llanfairfechan Bench Project

This will be considered at a future meeting due to current work pressures to complete the West Shore Recreation Project.

Resolved to receive and take note

9. To receive information and approve plans for Llanfairfechan Community Skips 2024/25

The new community skip process was well supported, and the skip was full after 30 minutes. The next skip will be on Wednesday June 19th and Clerk will advertise the fact that it will only be there for 30 minutes as the driver will take the skip away as soon as it is full.

Unanimously resolved to approve and take note

10. To receive information and approve Llanfairfechan Town Council Croquet Tournament 2024 (Deputy Mayor Nia Jones)

Discussions underway to hold a croquet tournament with Penmaenmawr Town Council. It was agreed that this should be arranged if possible. It's hoped the bowling club will be involved on our West Shore Recreation Project (WSRP) launch event on August 9th. A note about the WSRP – we do now need planning permission for the informal goalposts so there will be a newspaper announcement soon and Clerk will progress things asap.

Resolved to receive and take note

11. To receive and approve finance report and current payments for June 12th, 2024

Payments to be made
1. Staffing, contract officer and oncosts January £4000
2. Mayor's Allowance £250 Trip to Pleumeleuc Town Twinning (retrospective)
3. SLCC Virtual Conference Town Clerk £72.00
4. One Voice Wales membership 2024/25 £740.00
5. Worldcare Skips £240.00 June Community Skip
6. Instant Promotion Spider Dome events tent £2358.00 (80% paid by SPF funding)
7. British Gas June 2024 £21.17
8. Zurich Insurance £1378.08 (retrospective)
9. Newton Flag and Banner Makers Veteran Breakfast Club and D Day flags £169.20
West Shore Recreation project funded by CFF and Conwy SPF Fund (already noted previously but due to be paid this month)

1. Soft Surfaces MUGA surfaces £63437.64
2. Gareth Roberts Blacksmith £1000.00 TBC
3. CIA smart lock systems £13762.00
4. Portable Spaces Storage containers £2492.40
5. SPA Power Machinery maintenance equipment £2628.00
6. Kercher Commercial Jet washer £729.00
7. Astrowarehouse Sand for artificial turf 260.79
8. Networld Sports £8765.26

- The contract hours for the staffing tender are, by their nature, not regular and hours had been completed upfront so that there would be a period of time off for family matters. This explains why there are two invoices in one month. Unanimously resolved to approve and take note

12. To receive information about planning matters:

0/51722 Erection of garage and store Ciltreflys, Valley Road, Llanfairfechan, LL33 0ET

0/51734 Demolition of existing single story extension to the rear of the property, Erection of 2 storey extension to the side and rear of the property. Edensor Park Crescent Llanfairfechan LL33 0AU

Information had been previously distributed, and no observations were raised about these matters.

Resolved to receive and take note

13. To receive correspondence

- Email received from Llanfairfechan Bowling Club to report they have resolved their energy issue through the ombudsman and no longer need to pay the bill. They are considering if their s137 funding could be used for other maintenance at the club and will report back after their committee meeting
- Previous Mayor Carol Gell has been maintaining the boat planters around town for many years and will continue to do so even though they are moving to Deganwy. It was noted this project is very important and is an attractive addition to the town. It was agreed Town Council will send a thank you card for all their work.
- Cllr Laura Fielding enquired about a leave of absence to meet family commitments. It was noted that Cllr Fielding had been an excellent Mayor and offers a lot of valuable skills to the Town Council. Councillors believed she would be sorely missed if she had to resign. It was agreed that the Clerk should offer 6 months leave of absence, as per legislation.
- Resident letter – Thanks were given to the Town Council for loaning gazebos for the Open Gardens event in Upper Valley Road. Despite the weather their loyal supporters turned up in good numbers and £1027 (and a bit more to come in) was raised for cancer research at Bangor University. Having the large gazebo made all the difference. The tables and chairs for teas, raffle and ticket sales were all in the dry.
In discussion, it was noted that the gazebo project, dating back to the Open Spaces Covid Grants, had been a huge success for Llanfairfechan. They are used on a very regular basis and have made a big difference to community groups in Llanfairfechan Resolved to receive and take note

14. To receive reports from meetings

Friends of Llanfairfechan Community Library Meeting - Cllr Andrew Hinchliff and Cllr Preben Vangberg: discussions are still ongoing about the problems with the flat above the library the effects of leaks and damp on the downstairs area. The committee are considering whether to take on ownership and if they would be able to afford to do this. It was noted there are so many aspects to consider and this is why it has been ongoing for so long.

Note about Councillor training There is an SPF funded project to provide Councillor training for free and it was noted this is a great opportunity for Town Councils. The information has been sent out to all Councillors, but please email Clerk for further information and to book. Resolved to receive and take note

15. To receive urgent matters for discussion

Tree on Pen y Bryn footpath needs cutting back – this will be addressed

Fence is out of place on the Pen y Bryn footpath – Owners will be contacted

County Councillor Bryn - Information about allotments and signpost on Aber Road – enforcement has been put in place to address the problems of overgrown allotments. Bryn Ward County Councillor has a meeting planned and Town Councillors are welcome to come along. Signpost has deteriorated; work to repair the work on the post.

Overgrown path and garden at the GP Surgery – Awaiting information from the surgery. Clerk to chase up the process

Flat fire at Maes Glanarfon This was a serious incident but it was noted that the community spirit was tremendous and helped everyone who was affected. Split Willow opened their doors at 3am as a place of safety and there was a Go fund Me page to raise money for the family. Clerk to send thank you flowers from Town Council to the Split Willow. All Resolved to receive and take note

Chair thanked everyone for their contributions and closed the meeting at 9pm