

Cyngor Cymuned LLANBEDROG Community Council

Minutes Hybrid Meeting 30 January 2024 am 7:00pm.

Present

John Brinley Jones (C)

David Andrew Parry, Hywel James Sinclair Evans, Gwenllian Davenport Hughes, Greta Hughes, Ian Goronwy Williams, Alan Harper-Smith, Thomas Victor Jones, Kevin Wheatley, Ann Llwyd (Cyfieithydd) Carys Jones (Clerc)

1. Apologies

William Roger Jones

2. Declaration of Financial or Personal Interest

No declaration of interest.

3. Minutes – Committee Meeting 28 November 2023 – for accuracy only

Proposed: Ian Goronwy Williams

Seconded: Thomas Victor Jones

4. Any Urgent Matter

Planning Application Lôn Pin Solar C23/0338/38/LL

The Chairman reported that an application had been submitted at the end of December, after a long process. It is a full application to install solar panels (PV) in order to create a 4.99MW solar farm. He noted that he had emailed the members and invited comments on the application.

Alan Harper-Smith said he had expressed his objection on the grounds that the location was prime agricultural land that should be used to feed the local community. He noted that the land has been used for years for farming and keeping quality dairy cattle. As a result, he was very concerned about the impact of the development on local farmers. He also expressed concerns about the effect of the application on the local scenery, the possibility of further expansion in the future and its impact on the peace and quiet for local residents. Hywel James Sinclair Evans agreed and added that such an application would disrupt people's lives while it was being built. He also expressed concern that the plan would lead to a private company taking profit from the area.

Greta Hughes explained that the application was difficult to read and that she had a number of concerns about the application. Firstly, an important footpath from Llanbedrog to Nefyn passes through one of the fields. The route is not on the map, but it is included in the application. She noted that this was misleading. Secondly, Greta Hughes stated that she was concerned about the lack of consideration for helicopters that fly above the location of

the proposed solar farm and noted that the landing area of the Air Ambulance is very close to the location in question. Moreover, a number of helicopters land on adjacent lands. Thirdly, she noted that the report was not thorough at all and that no consideration had been given to local wildlife. There is also no consideration for fuel, how and where it would be stored and protected in order to avoid pollution. She noted that the location of one security camera is shown on the plan, but that there are a total of eleven cameras in total, which is again misleading. She further noted that it is important to take a stand against such applications, to avoid setting a dangerous precedent for the future. Furthermore, the application does not bring economic benefit to the local community. Greta Hughes also noted that the location of the proposed application that the Planning Department has on the website is incorrect. The length boundary should be extended on Lôn Pin, therefore making the application site twice the size. The Planning Department's map does not show the location of a brick building that will need to be built (as part of the plan) to connect the power from the site to the national grid. She said she was concerned about the quality of the application.

David Andrew Parry noted that he agreed and that it was time to take a stand against large companies coming to a local community to make a big profit. Ian Goronwy Williams proposed that the Community Council contact Gwynedd Council to comment on the quality of the application. Kevin Wheatley noted that he was also concerned about setting a precedent for the future and the implications of the application for local farmers. The Chairman explained that there were four fields in the original details. It appears that the full site is not included in the red line. He suggested that there should be an archaeological survey before any work commences. He also expressed concern that, if the application was approved, who would be responsible for bringing the quality of the land back to what it was before the development, at the end of the plan's life? Gwenllian Davenport Hughes asked, if the application was approved and Llanbedrog received money from the scheme, what would happen if the company was sold? The Chairman suggested that it would be an idea for a member of the Community Council to have a chat with Angela, the local County Councillor. Greta Hughes noted that a decision must be made based on what is in the application and that it is important to have correct facts. She proposed, based on the questions that have been raised and the concerns that have been identified, that the members reject the application.

Seconded: Ian Goronwy Williams

In favor of rejecting the proposal: 8

withheld vote: 1

3. Any matter arising from the minutes:

Ian Goronwy Williams reported that he had spoken to Keith Williams about the vacant seat on the Community Council. He noted that Keith Williams had previously been a member of the Council and a member of the Village Hall Committee. He has sent his details to the Community Council.

Ian Goronwy Williams proposed that Keith Williams is acceptance as a member of Llanbedrog Community Council.

Seconded: Gwenllian Davenport Hughes.

All in favor.

Precept

The Chairman reported that the details of the precept had been sent to Gwynedd Council last Thursday. The Clerk confirmed that she had received an email from Gwynedd Council confirming that the information had been received.

Training - Clerk

The Chairman noted that it would be a good idea for the clerk to receive training on how to do an audit/financial matters. The Chair suggested that the Clerk contact Unllais Cymru to inquire about suitable training for new clerks.

5. Personal Injury

The Chairman reported that he had responded to an email from Cwmni Strain Company and had shared the Council's insurance company details with the solicitors.

6. Application for Financial Contribution CFFIERyri

The Chairman proposed that the request is discussed at the end of the financial year.

7. Pathways

The Chairman listed four locations linked to the tender namely:

1. Playground

2. Cae Pentref Llan
3. The Cemetery
4. Public Footpaths

The Chairman suggested including the words "as necessary" for cuttings between April and October in the new tender. The Chairman also noted that the frequency of cuttings at the cemetery was dependent on the weather. During a wet season the grass grows faster.

Cae Pentref Llan

Greta Hughes said the spot in front of the Church needed to be added to the new tender and the river needs to be clean as well.

Thomas Victor Jones noted that all the footpaths should be specified in the new tender as well as when they need to be cut. He suggested the footpath be monitored from March to avoid overgrowth and to keep the routes clear.

Ian Goronwy Williams noted that two local boys (Iago Tudor and Dafydd Llŷr) had offered to walk the local paths.

8. The New Cemetery

The Chairman explained that he had emailed Glyn from the Council's Planning Department. He noted that he hadn't heard anything from the Water Board. Thomas Victor Jones suggested that someone speaks to the owner of Cae Bryn Gro. Alan Harper-Smith asked if there is any time limit on the planning application? The Chairman noted that it is frustrating to have to wait so long for information from the Water Board and that the company does not fully know where its pipe is.

9. Playground

Hywel James Sinclair Evans reported that the playground committee had recently discussed the large tree and had decided to remove it, mainly because of fear of it falling and injuring someone. He also reported that the committee had received advice from foresters and have received two quotes:

(1) £3,000 - £3,500 and

(2) £4,000 - £4,500

for a week's work for 2 employees.

This will mean more sun for the basketball court. The estimated price for a basketball court is £10,000. The committee wants to have a chat with Ms Gill Jones from Bethesda to plan it properly. Work to tidy up the playing field has begun and contractors will be needed to carry out further work.

Thomas Victor Jones noted that there were large trees on the other side of the fence. He suggested that these should also be cut, before they become too big.

Hywel James Sinclair Evans noted that another day will be planned very soon to clear up the playground again.

Any Other Business

The Clerk reminded members that a Pancake Night will be held in the village on 20.02.24

The Clerk noted that the Community Council has received an invitation from an organization called Perthyn (Belonging) which is a movement that is responsible for preserving the Welsh language and helping it to thrive. There is an invitation to support and strengthen the Welsh language in the area and to work together to reach a target of one million Welsh speakers by 2050.

It was unanimously agreed to support the organization.

Payments for approval

Osian Parry (cutting and gardening) £2400

Ann Llwyd – Translator £70

Clerk's salary £416

Payments Received

None