

MINUTES OF AN ORDINARY MEETING OF TYWYN TOWN COUNCIL
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 10th DECEMBER 2025
AT 7.00pm AT NEUADD PENDRE AND ONLINE VIA ZOOM

PRESENT:

Cllr. Gareth Mason (Chair).

Cllrs. Kath Charters, Nancy Clarke, Matthew Cooling, Cathy Evans, Alun Wyn Evans, Eileen Jones, Mark Kendall, Anne Lloyd-Jones, Ron McCoo, Marisa O'Hara, John Pughe, Olivia Woodward.

OFFICER PRESENT:

Chris Wood (Clerk).

PUBLIC SESSION

There were no questions from members of the public.

Cl 135.

10.12.25

1. APOLOGIES

None.

Cl 136.

10.12.25

2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST OR PERSONAL CONNECTION

Cllrs. Eileen Jones, Ron McCoo, Marisa O'Hara, John Pughe, Item 12.

Cllr. Gareth Mason, Item 15.

Cl 137.

10.12.25

3. CHAIRMAN'S ACTIVITY REPORT

Cllr. Gareth Mason congratulated the Magic Lantern Cinema, for winning Cinema of the Year at the British Independent Film Awards, Dysynni Hockey Club, for winning Club of the Year at the Gwynedd Sports Awards ceremony and Aberdovey Golf Club, for being awarded Golf Course of the Year by Golf Course Awards.

Cllr. John Pughe spoke to thank everybody involved in the Christmas Lights Switch On for their hard work in making the event such a success. Councillors agreed that the event was a success and also expressed their thanks to those involved.

Cllr. Gareth Mason expressed disappointment at the announcement by BCUHB that further discussions about the temporary closure of Dyfi ward at Tywyn Community Hospital will now not take place until after the Senedd Elections in May 2026, and clarified that his disappointment is with the process and the delay in making a decision.

Cl 138.

10.12.25

4. MINUTES

To receive and approve the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council held on Wednesday 12th November 2025.

It was **proposed** by Cllr. Mark Kendall, seconded by Cllr. Marisa O'Hara and **resolved** to receive and approve the Minutes of the meeting of 12th November 2025.

Cl 139.

10.12.25

5. MINUTES

To receive and approve the Minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting of the Council held on Wednesday 3rd December 2025.

It was **proposed** by Cllr. Anne Lloyd-Jones, seconded by Cllr. Kath Charters and **resolved** to receive and approve the Minutes of the meeting of 3rd December 2025.

Cl 140.

10.12.25

6. TO RECEIVE AND APPROVE THE RFO'S FINANCE REPORT FOR OCTOBER 2025

It was **proposed** by Cllr. John Pughe, seconded by Cllr. Mark Kendall and **resolved** to receive and approve the RFO's Finance Report for November 2025.

7. TO RECEIVE AND APPROVE THE CLERK'S REPORT

The Clerk provided the following written report to the Council.

Remembrance

Attended the Service of Remembrance at St Cadfan's Church, on Sunday 9th November, together with the service at Bryn Paderaau, held on Tuesday 11th November.

Christmas Lights Switch On

The Christmas Lights Switch On was very well attended, with the street market and craft fair being busy with visitors all day. Live music performances entertained the crowds throughout the day and a wonderful Lantern Parade escorted Santa and Mrs Claus to switch on the lights before distributing gifts to the children.

Ahead of the event, the Lantern Making Workshops were well attended and the event could not have happened without the hard work of all who helped. Special thanks are due to Cllrs. Marisa O'Hara, Mark Kendall and Kath Charters for their help on the day, to Cllrs. Eileen Jones and Cathy Evans for helping at the Craft Fair, to Tim Kendall and Tywyn Events Organisation for their help with the stage area, Totaleigh Music for organising all of the performers, Tim Wellings for helping organise the market, Zoe Matthews for the Lantern Workshops and Parade and everyone else who contributed to ensure the event was such a success.

Christmas Lights

A large number of the Council's Christmas Lights either failed safety check or were damaged and unable to be used. Gwynedd Council have installed temporary lights, which could be made available for the Council to purchase. A company has been found to repair and restring the existing frames and details of this will be circulated in the New Year.

Community Wifi

Funding has now been secured for another year and the Community Wifi is again operating along Tywyn High Street. The data collection service is also operating again, which provides insights into visitor numbers and visitor duration on a daily basis. An option to install equipment to record the air quality in the area is currently being investigated.

Ffrij Tywyn Community Fridge

The Ffrij has completed its move from the Station Building to the Old Stables in the Leisure Centre Car Park. Opening hours are Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday from 10.00am to 11.00am.

Gwynedd Youth Services

With the station building now vacant, the Youth Club is in the process of moving their furniture and equipment in and will be operating two evenings a week, starting in the New Year.

Town Centre Regeneration Fund

New benches have been delivered but other groundworks have been delayed by the recent wet weather. Work has begun on the design of the new information boards which will complement the slate wagon installation and the slate inset in the pavement.

Allotments

Meetings have been held with representatives of the Allotment Society to discuss general administration matters

PCSO

Met with the PCSO to receive updates on local policing matters. There will be a new PCSO appointed to provide additional support in the Tywyn area following the departure of PCSO Williams.

Asian Hornets

The new policy has been distributed to the One Voice Wales and the Welsh Beekeepers Association with a number of other Councils already expressing an interest in adopting it

themselves. A meeting was held at the Minor Injuries Unit, with the staff grateful for the policy and update, to enable measures to be put in place in advance of any local attack.

Pay and Display Machine

Work with the merchant services provider to enable contactless payments to be made has now been completed. The installation of the new machine is still on course to take place in December.

Cambrian Rail Community Development Officer

A meeting was held with the Cambrian Rail Community Development Officer to discuss work that is required to be undertaken at the Station Building, grant funding opportunities and support that can be provided for the benefit of the community.

General

Time has been spent this month in assisting members of the public who have visited the office to raise concerns or have asked for help with matters including drainage and flooding issues, pavements, parking, social housing, the Corbett Arms Hotel and the allotments. Help was given and advice provided when it was possible, with information provided about who to contact when it was not directly possible to assist.

It was **proposed** by Cllr. Matthew Cooling, seconded by Cllr. Cathy Evans and **resolved** that the Clerk's report be accepted.

CI 142.

10.12.25

8. AN OPPORTUNITY FOR COUNCILLORS TO REPORT BACK TO THE COUNCIL

FOLLOWING THEIR ATTENDANCE AT EXTERNAL COMMITTEES

Cllr. Marisa O'Hara asked for clarification about whether this item was for reports from Committees with a Council connection or for any committee that a Councillor was a member of. Cllr. Mark Kendall replied that it should be for individual Councillor's to decide if it is of interest or there is a connection to the Council and report accordingly.

Cllr. Alun Wyn Evans reported that the One Voice Wales Annual General meeting will take place in January and will be attending on behalf of the Council.

CI 143.

10.12.25

9. AN OPPORTUNITY FOR TYWYN TOWN COUNCILLORS TO ASK QUESTIONS OF, AND RECEIVE A REPORT FROM GWYNEDD COUNCILLORS, REGARDING MATTERS RELATED TO TYWYN

Cllr. Anne Lloyd-Jones reported on discussions held with the Chief Executive of Gwynedd Council regarding the budget for the next financial year. It would appear that a better financial settlement is looking likely, which would be good news for council tax payers. Cllr. Matthew Cooling commented that Nia Jeffreys, the leader of Gwynedd Council, had criticised the proposed budget and it remains to be seen what will be agreed by the full Council.

Cllr. Mark Kendall raised the issue of blocked drains on the High Street causing flooding which can extend to the middle of the road. Cllr. Marisa O'Hara replied that she had made a report to Gwynedd Council, who stated that they were aware of the issue and will be clearing the drains in due course.

Cllr. Matthew Cooling raised the condition of the road at Corbett Avenue, with the junction with the Promenade, regular flooding and occasions during very wet weather when sewage has been seen on the road and pavement. Cllr. John Pughe responded that the issue has been reported to Gwynedd Council.

Cllr. Gareth Mason asked what actions have been taken by our Gwynedd Councillors regarding the closure of Dyfi Ward at Tywyn Hospital. Cllr. Anne Lloyd-Jones responded that she has been meeting with the Health Board on a regular basis since the closure of the ward and held meetings with Liz Saville Roberts MP and Mabon ap Gwynfor MS. Cllr. Anne Lloyd-Jones discussed the new services that are being provided to the community, Tuag Adref/Homeward Bound service, the Treatment Room and the Minor Injuries Unit and how successful they have been in treating many thousands of people locally. Cllr. John Pughe responded saying that he also has met with Liz Saville Roberts and Mabon ap Gwynfor, and has asked for more meetings to be held.

CI 144.
10.12.25 **10. TO CONSIDER PLANNING APPLICATION C25/0732/09/LL BAY NURSING HOME LL36 0AL**
The application and supporting paperwork had been distributed to Councillors ahead of the meeting. Councillors discussed the application, following which it was **Proposed** by Cllr. Alun Wyn Evans, seconded by Cllr. Nancy Clarke and **resolved** to offer no objection to the application.

CI 145.
10.12.25 **11. TO DISCUSS THE PROPOSED INCREASE IN THE COUNCIL'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE PUBLIC TOILETS PARTNERSHIP SCHEME**
The Clerk introduced the agenda item, that the Council increases its contribution to the Public Toilets Partnership Scheme, from £8,000 per annum to £10,800 per annum, having distributed supporting paperwork to Councillors ahead of the meeting.
Councillors discussed the item in detail, highlighting the need for toilet provision in Tywyn. Cllr. Anne Lloyd-Jones commented that Gwynedd Council might be able to look again at the proposed increase. Cllr. Matthew Cooling asked whether the scheme which saw private businesses paid to open their toilets to the public was still operating. The Clerk responded that he would investigate whether the scheme was still operating. Cllr. Mark Kendall asked what was in the original agreement and whether asking for such a large increase in our contribution was allowed. The Clerk responded that he would look into the matter. Following the discussion, it was **proposed** by Cllr. Anne Lloyd-Jones, seconded by Cllr. Eileen Jones and **resolved** to follow the recommendation from the Finance Committee meeting of 3rd December, and approve the requested increase in the payment to the Public Toilets Partnership Scheme.

Cllrs. Eileen Jones, Ron McCoo, Marisa O'Hara and John Pughe left the meeting.

CI 146.
10.12.25 **12. TO DISCUSS A REQUEST FOR GRANT FUNDING FROM NEUADD PENDRE**
The Clerk introduced the item, having distributed the grant application and supporting paperwork ahead of the meeting and informed the meeting of the recommendation from the Finance Committee meeting of 3rd December. The Chair of the Neuadd Pendre Management Committee was present and the Chair of the Council allowed him to read a prepared statement in support of the application.
Councillors discussed the application in detail together with the work that the new committee has undertaken to stabilise the finances of the organisation. Discussions were held on the value and importance of the Neuadd to the community and whether the management committee should have Council representatives and provide regular financial updates. It was noted that two Councillors already sit on both the Board of Trustees and the Management Committee and it was **proposed** by Cllr. Anne Lloyd-Jones, seconded by Cllr. Nancy Clarke and **resolved** not to require additional Council representation on the Neuadd Pendre Management Committee or Board of Trustees.
Following further discussions, it was **proposed** by Cllr. Matthew Cooling, seconded by Cllr. Kath Charters and **resolved** to provide grant funding of the debt element of the outstanding electricity bill for a period of four months.

Cllrs. Eileen Jones, Ron McCoo, Marisa O'Hara and John Pughe returned to the meeting.

CI 147.
10.12.25 **13. TO PREPARE A BUDGET FOR 2026 – 27 AND TO SUBMIT A PRECEPT REQUIREMENT TO GWYNEDD COUNCIL FOR THE 2026 – 27 FINANCIAL YEAR**
The Clerk introduced the item, having distributed the Budget and supporting paperwork ahead of the meeting, which included the recommendations from the Finance Committee meeting held on December 3rd. Councillors discussed the proposed budget in detail and asked questions about the inclusion of CCTV this year and the support for the Youth Club.
Following the discussions, it was **proposed** by Cllr. Mark Kendall, seconded by Cllr. Eileen Jones and **resolved** to set a Budget of £164,692.00 for the 2026 – 27 Financial Year.
Following a further discussion, it was **proposed** by Cllr. Matthew Cooling, seconded by Cllr. Nancy Clarke and **resolved** to submit a Precept Requirement to Gwynedd Council of £108,100.00 for the 2026 – 27 Financial Year.

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| CI 148. 10.12.25 | <u>14. MOTION TO AUTHORISE SPEND OF UP TO £4,000 FOR THE PURPOSE OF HOLDING A FIREWORK DISPLAY AT YSGOL PENYBRYN AROUND NOVEMBER 5th 2026</u> |
| | Cllr. Gareth Mason introduced the Motion, referencing that Tywyn does not hold a fireworks event and other smaller communities do hold regular fireworks events. The exact location for the event is open for discussion, as any resident's concerns will need to be taken into consideration. Councillors discussed the motion at length, asking questions about who would be organising and responsible for the event, the location and the financial commitment with Cllr. Gareth Mason responding that this is not a complete proposal, but a motion to gain support in principle for the event and that money has already been allocated in the budget to provide support for events. Following the discussion, it was proposed by Cllr. Matthew Cooling, seconded by Cllr. Mark Kendall and resolved to remove the words <i>At Ysgol Penybryn</i> from the motion. It was then proposed by Cllr. Gareth Mason, seconded by Cllr. Matthew Cooling and resolved to authorise a spend of up to £4,000 for the purpose of holding a firework display around November 5 th 2026. |
| | Cllr. Gareth Mason passed Chairing the meeting to Cllr. Kath Charters. |
| CI 149. 10.12.25 | <u>15. MOTION TO DELEGATE THE CARE AND MAINTENANCE OF TYWYN TOWN COUNCIL'S DEFIBRILATORS TO THE DYSYNNI DEFIBRILLATOR GUARDIANS</u> |
| | Cllr. Gareth Mason introduced the item saying that the Council is responsible for four defibrillators in Tywyn and that by passing the responsibility for the monitoring and upkeep to the Dysynni Defibrillator Guardians, there would be both cost and time savings for the Council. The Guardians would be responsible for replacing pads and batteries and keeping the register with the Circuit up to date. The Council would continue to be invoiced for batteries and pads by the suppliers. Following a discussion between Councillors, it was proposed by Cllr. Kath Charters, seconded by Cllr. Marisa O'Hara and resolved to delegate the care and maintenance of the Council's defibrillators to the Dysynni Defibrillator Guardians. |
| | Cllr. Gareth Mason resumed Chairing the meeting. |
| CI 150. 10.12.25 | <u>16. MOTION TO INTRODUCE A MAYOR'S FUND, FUNDED BY MOVING 25% OF RESERVES OR £10,000, WHICHEVER IS THE GREATER. FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING GRANTS TO IMPROVE EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES AND TO KEEP LOCAL TALENT HERE. TO START FROM THE END OF THIS FINANCIAL YEAR FOR THE ELECTED MAYOR IN 2026 AND EVERY YEAR ONWARDS</u> |
| | Cllr. Gareth Mason introduced the item and asked the Clerk to clarify the legal basis on which a fund could operate. The Clerk responded that the Council would not be able to operate such a fund as indicated in the wording of the motion. Following a short discussion, Cllr Gareth Mason suggested taking time to look again at the proposal and withdrew the motion from the Agenda. |
| CI 151. 10.12.25 | <u>17. CORRESPONDENCE REQUIRING A RESPONSE FROM THE COUNCIL</u> None received |
| CI 152. 10.12.25 | <u>18. TO NOTE CORRESPONDENCE WHICH COUNCILLORS HAVE RECEIVED BY E-MAIL</u> Gwynedd Council – Updates to off street parking in Gwynedd Taith - Community Transport Public Meeting Tywyn Hospital Action Group – Updates BCUHB – Presentation Slideshow Snowdonia National Park – Update on the Eryri Local Development Plan One Voice Wales – Newsletter Llais – November Newsletter One Voice Wales – Notice of Annual General Meeting Hywel Dda Health Board – Clinical Services Plan Review Meeting Tywyn Hospital Action Group – Community Hospitals Briefing One Voice Wales – December Bulletin |

Correspondence noted.

Cl 153.
10.12.25

19. TO RECEIVE THE YNYSYMAENGWYN TRUST REPORT

Cllr. Mark Kendall, the Council's representative to the Ynysymaengwyn Trust Committee, gave a verbal report to the Council.

The Council's solicitors have sent a letter to the Trustees explaining the issues of who the Trustees in simple terms but there has not been any progress on agreeing who the Trustees legally are. The Council has so far spent £5,681.50 on legal fees, which will rise until the issue is agreed or ends up in court. The Directors of Parc Ynysymaengwyn Cyf have not yet responded to either the Council or the council's solicitors.

The meeting was closed at 8.45pm

The next Ordinary meeting of the Council is scheduled for
Wednesday 14th January 2026 at 7.00pm.

CADEIRYDD / CHAIR