

MINUTES OF AN ORDINARY MEETING OF TYWYN TOWN COUNCIL
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 8th APRIL 2026
AT 7.00pm AT NEUADD PENDRE AND ONLINE VIA ZOOM

PRESENT:

Cllr. Gareth Mason (Chair)

Cllrs. Kath Charters, Matthew Cooling, Alun Wyn Evans, Cathy 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.

CI 204.

1. APOLOGIES

8.4.26

Cllr. Nancy Clarke.

CI 205.

2. DECLARATIONS OF FINANCIAL INTEREST OR PERSONAL CONNECTION

8.4.26

Cllr. Eileen Jones, Item 11.

Cllr. Ron McCoo, Item 11.

Cllr. Marisa O'Hara, Item 11.

Cllr. John Pughe, Item 11.

CI 206.

3. CHAIRMAN'S ACTIVITY REPORT

8.4.26

Cllr. Gareth Mason reported that it has been a quiet month, with no events attended, and that he is waiting on advice on how to proceed with a complaint received from a member of the public.

CI 207.

4. MINUTES

8.4.26

To receive and approve the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council held on Wednesday 11th March 2026.

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 11th March 2026.

CI 208.

5. MINUTES

8.4.26

To receive and approve the Minutes of the Personnel Committee Meeting of the Council held on Wednesday 25th March 2026.

It was **proposed** by Cllr. Alun Wyn Evans, seconded by Cllr. Mark Kendall and **resolved** to receive and approve the Minutes of the meeting of 25th March 2026.

CI 209.

6. TO RECEIVE AND APPROVE THE RESPONSIBLE FINANCIAL OFFICER'S REPORT FOR MARCH 2026

8.4.26

Cllr. Kath Charters made an observation that the mid year forecast on overall spending, made by the Clerk, had proved to be accurate.

It was **proposed** by Cllr. Mark Kendall, seconded by Cllr. Kath Charters and **resolved** to receive and approve the Responsible Financial Officer's Report for March 2026.

CI 210.

7. TO RECEIVE AND APPROVE THE CLERK'S REPORT

8.4.26

The Clerk provided the following written report to the Council.

The Station Building

Instruments and music belonging to the Tywyn Silver Band have been removed from the Station Building in order to provide space for the newly formed Tywyn and District Model Railway Society. The instruments are now stored in the Old Stable Building in the Leisure Centre car park.

Tywyn Community Hospital

Attended the meeting, organised by BCUHB, to discuss the next stage in review of inpatient services at Tywyn Community Hospital. The meeting was arranged to address concerns that the previous meeting, held in October 2025, did not reflect a balanced internal and external weighting. The meeting discussed the options that were previously identified for consultation, and over the course of the day, introduced three additional options. A further meeting will be arranged after the election period, which will scrutinise each option in detail and apply both essential and desirable criteria to each, before the consultation period can begin.

British Heart Foundation

The British Heart Foundation held two table top sales and coffee afternoons in the Community Ffrij over the Easter period. The events were well supported and raised £351 for the charity.

Planters

The History Trail Planter by the Cinema requires maintenance work and repairs will be undertaken later this month.

CiILCA

Two training courses have now been completed with the portal for the submissions for examination now open.

PCSO

Met with the PCSO to receive updates on local policing matters.

Pay and Display Machine

The new pay and display machine has been delivered and will be installed shortly. A new door has been fitted to the hut in the car park, the old window bricked up and the outside rendered.

Flags

The new flags for the Promenade are now flying.

Bus Stops

No response has been received from Gwynedd Council regarding the upgrading work at the Hospital bus stop.

Cambrian Road Car Park

Maintenance work to repair the potholes and address drainage issues has been completed at the Cambrian Road Car Park. It is disappointing that reports have already been received of vehicles being driven dangerously in the carpark, tearing up the newly laid gravel.

Taith

The setting up of Taith, the new Tywyn and Area Community Transport Scheme is nearly completed with Officers appointed and the Constitution confirmed. Recruitment of volunteer drivers continues with the first DBS checks completed, and initial funding has been secured from the Shared Prosperity Fund. The publicity campaign has begun, with press releases sent to the Cambrian News and Dail Dysynni, in order to raise public awareness of the scheme and to increase the number of volunteer drivers. It is hoped that the scheme will formally launch by the end of April.

Brook Street Garden

The issue of dog fouling in the garden has continued this month. New signs and closers for the gates will be installed shortly.

The Slate Wagon

The information board for the slate wagon display has been installed near to the wagon, in the flower bed by the pavement. The frame was constructed from old sleepers from the Talylyn Railway and the information board has been attached to a slate slab.

The Slate Slabs

The two slate slabs with the engraved words by Manon Steffan Ros, are not yet back in their positions in the installation in the High Street. It is understood that work is being undertaken to correct spelling mistakes.

General

Time has also been spent this month in assisting members of the public who have visited the office to raise concerns or have asked for help. Discussions were held and advice provided for matters including concerns about the Cambrian Road Car Park, the ward closure at the hospital, parking issues in Idris Villas, the Corbett Arms Hotel, and the allotments.

Help and advice was given where possible, with information provided about who to contact when it was not directly possible to assist.

Cllr. Marisa O'Hara thanked Cllr. Mark Kendall for undertaking in his own time, the work to construct the slate and sleeper frame for the slate wagon information board.

Cllr. Alun Wyn Evans asked about the work that the Council undertakes on the public rights of way. The Clerk responded that the first cut will be undertaken before the nesting season begins

Cllr. Mark Kendall **proposed** a vote of confidence in the Clerk for the work that he undertakes. The proposal was seconded by Cllr. John Pughe and it was **resolved** unanimously that the Clerk has the full confidence of the Council.

It was **proposed** by Cllr. Marisa O'Hara, seconded by Cllr. Eileen Jones and **resolved** that the Clerk's report be approved.

Cl 211.
8.4.26

8. AN OPPORTUNITY FOR COUNCILLORS TO REPORT BACK TO THE COUNCIL FOLLOWING THEIR ATTENDANCE AT EXTERNAL COMMITTEES

Cllr. Mark Kendall reported attending the meeting arranged by BCUHB, to discuss the options for Tywyn Community Hospital which revisited the discussions held in the October 2025 meeting. More options were introduced, which includes an option to reopen the ward. No decisions were taken and a further meeting will be arranged for after the Senedd elections.

Cllr. John Pughe also reported attending the meeting with BCUHB, during which he expressed his view that the ward must reopen.

Cllr. Alun Wyn Evans reported that the next One Voice Wales meeting will be online in response to the high fuel costs

Cl 212.
8.4.26

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 attending the BCUHB meeting, to discuss the options for Tywyn Community Hospital, together with attending meetings of the Gwynedd Council Planning Committee, Ysgol Penybryn and Ysgol Uwchradd Governors, the Aberdyfi Harbour Committee and briefing sessions on public transport changes.

Cllr. John Pughe reported attend the Gwynedd Council Planing Committee meeting.

Cllr Eileen Jones asked whether the Councillors could look in to whether a flexibus scheme could be introduced in Tywyn. Cllr. Anne Lloyd-Jones responded by asking whether the request could come from the Council and that the Gwynedd Councillors would support the Council.

Cllr. Alun Wyn Evans reported that the road will be closed in Pennal for three days and that the closure notice had not been sent to the Council, as it was outside of our area, even though it affects Tywyn residents.

Cllr. Mark Kendall rased the issue of the land at Ffordd Dyfed, which has been used by residents for many years, but which has now had an application for planning permission submitted. Cllr. John Pughe responded that he is aware of the application.

Cllr. John Pughe raised a concern relating to an elderly resident who suffered a fall near the station and was told the ambulance would take three hours to attend.

CI 213.
8.4.26

10. TO CONSIDER AN APPLICATION FOR GRANT FUNDING BY TAIITH COMMUNITY TRANSPORT SCHEME

The Clerk introduced the item, the application having been distributed to Councillors ahead of the meeting.

Cllr. Mark Kendall commented on the work undertaken with the application. Cllr. Marisa O'Hara commented that she has attended a Taith publicity meeting, supported the scheme and felt the Council should support the application. Cllr. Kath Charters commented that the Charity had been well organised, had secured additional grant funding and supported the application.

Following a discussion between Councillors, it was **proposed** by Cllr. Marisa O'Hara, seconded by Cllr. Eileen Jones and **resolved** to make an award of £500 in grant funding to Taith.

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

CI 214.
8.4.26

11. TO CONSIDER AN APPLICATION FOR GRANT FUNDING BY NEUADD PENDRE

Cllr. Mark Kendall read out a statement prepared by the management committee which thanked the council for previously providing support to the Neuadd Pendre, and reported the current financial situation and the ongoing struggle that the historic debt issues has put the organisation under. The management committee have worked hard to increase revenue and reduce expenditure, but more work is required to eliminate the debt burden and the management committee are asking that the Council considers making a further award.

Cllr. Anne Lloyd-Jones asked what the limits on providing financial support are as the Council has made previous payments. The Clerk responded that this application has been made in a new financial year. Cllr. Kath Charters voiced concerns about the long term support and asked whether a financial plan was available what support other Councils provide to community halls. Cllr. Mark Kendall spoke to say that a new online booking system has been put in place and the management committee are doing all they can for the Charity. Cllr. Gareth Mason commented that at the time of the last application, a suggestion was made for a Council representative to sit on the management committee and asked whether any financial information had been received with the application.

Following an extensive discussion between Councillors, it was **proposed** by Cllr. Anne Lloyd-Jones, seconded by Cllr. Kath Charters and **resolved** to ask for additional financial information and to defer any decision until after the next meeting of the Finance Committee.

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

CI 215.
8.4.26

12. CORRESPONDENCE REQUIRING A RESPONSE FROM THE COUNCIL

The Clerk reported receiving a letter from a Trustee of the Ynysymaengwyn Trust. Cllr. Gareth Mason commented that due to the letter being received so close to the meeting, it would be responded to in due course.

CI 216.
8.4.26

13. TO NOTE CORRESPONDENCE WHICH COUNCILLORS HAVE RECEIVED BY E-MAIL

Gwynedd Council – Community Boundary Review Final Report

Dyfi Biosphere – April Newsletter

Gwynedd Council – Submission window for comments regarding the Community Boundary Review

National Eisteddfod – Proclamation and Procession Invitation

Play Wales – April Newsletter

One Voice Wales – Cost of Living Crisis Support Newsletter

Menter Mon – Tywyn Community Wifi Update and Case Study

Planning Application C26/0250/09/TC Old Bakery Cottage, High Street LL36 9AE

Planning Application C26/0242/09/DT 3 Bryn Y Paderau, Tywyn, LL36 9LA

Planning Application C26/0182/09/RA Land Adjacent Glan Y Mor Parade LL36 0DJ

Dyfi Biosphere – May Newsletter

One Voice Wales – Issue 23 E-Bulletin

One Voice Wales – the Voice Issue 2

Cllr. Kath Charters raised the correspondence relating to the Community Boundary Review, noting that the Council had not been informed in advance of this decision to alter the boundary along the Afon Dysynni. Cllr. John Pughe, speaking as a Gwynedd Councillor, commented that he was unaware of the change. Cllr. Anne Lloyd-Jones commented that it had been discussed by the Council, which was challenged by other Councillors, who commented that this matter had not been reported back by the Gwynedd Councillors. Following an discussion between Councillors, it was **proposed** by Cllr. Kath Charters, seconded by Cllr. Mark Kendall and **resolved** to object to the decision to alter the boundary along the Afon Dysynni.

Correspondence noted.

CI 217.

14. TO RECEIVE THE YNYSYMAENGWYN TRUST REPORT

8.4.26

Cllr. Mark Kendall, the Council's representative to the Ynysymaengwyn Trust Committee, read out a letter received from a Trustee, which raised governance issues at the Trust which he was concerned about.

Cllr. Mark Kendall then read out his report which highlighted a number of decisions that had been taken outside of quorate trustee meetings and that these could be considered unlawful, invalid and a breach of trustee duties.

The meeting was closed at 7.57pm

The next Ordinary meeting of the Council is scheduled for Wednesday 13th May 2026 at 7.00pm.

CADEIRYDD / CHAIR