

Siambwr Fasnach a Thwrystiaeth
Bro Ffestiniog
Chamber of Commerce & Tourism
Cofnodion / Minutes for 07/01/13

Present: Andrew Roberts – Llechwedd, Roger Clear – Taurus Designs, Bob Cole – Cyngor Tref Ffestiniog / Blaenau Ymlaen, Ann Cole – Blaenau Ymlaen, Meirion Ellis – Cambrian News, Debbie & Malcolm Jones – Debbie’s Cake’ole, Alister Haveron – Dolawel, John Whitehead – Bryn Elltyd, Kevin Baldwin – DeNeros, Chris & Iris Fosbury– Eifion Stores, Clare Britton – Ffestiniog Railway, Gaile Weir – Caffi’r Bont, Richard Thomas – Snowdonia Slate, Huw Jenkins – Campbell’s Cottage, Zoe Pritchard – Parti 4, Dylan Jones & Einir Griffith – North Wales Police, Paul Thomas – Cyngor Gwynedd, Rhiannon & Alwyn Jones – Brethyn Blaenau, Pat Tocker – Baby Shop, Steve & Linda Chesworth – Amazing Drapes

1. **Apologies** – Mandy Williams-Davies - Cyngor Tref Ffestiniog / Cyngor Gwynedd, Owain Williams - NatWest, Carwyn Jones – Y Siop Werdd, Ceri Cunnington – Antur’Stiniog, Sue Roberts – Sue’s Books
Andrew welcomed everyone.
2. **Minutes of last meeting & matters arising:** Minutes agreed. Matters arising all on agenda.
3. **Police** – Dylan Jones told members that staffing was getting back to what it had been before May’ 11. People are invited to call in to the Police Station Fridays between 17.00 – 19.00, to report anything, or make enquires. On issues concerning break ins & antisocial behaviour, he is bound by confidentiality. Steve from Amazing Drapes mentioned litter issues. Paul mentioned CCTV, this will be on the agenda of the Town Council meeting on Thursday, a guy from Ynys Mon is now doing the new work. Bob asked a question about taking photos of people misbehaving, the answer was a firm no, but if you know them do tell the Police. Debbie mentioned drug use in Manod Cemetery, she was told to call 101, this could be done anonymously. Paul asked if the Police knew of any Loan Sharks operating in the area, they said they didn’t, but if anyone knows of any please let Police know. Police are working with the Town Council regarding Manod. Bob said despite his reminders about bins in Manod, there are 2 but not outside Debbie’s shop. Paul asked how we compared to other towns, the reply was very positive, Dylan praised the young people who are a credit to themselves & the town, there’s a minority they deal, far fewer than other areas.
4. **Membership report** – Zoe apologised to new members for not getting in touch, but she’d not been able, due to work commitments, to be around during the day. On line membership is ok now, PayPal is up & running can be used for renewals too, or could be paid by cash or cheque to Iris at Eifion Stores. Zoe told members that they’d been working on the website to make it works well, she drew members attention to facebook page. Delwedd are still updating everything, which should be in their hands by now. She’ll contact Pryderi re Delwedd & PayPal.
5. **Treasurer’s Report** –Iris Fosbury from Eifion Stores is the new treasurer, she handed members a report showing a balance of £168.78. She’s no statements after August’ 12, Alister offered to see Gill to ask about statements & find out if there are any payments from PayPal.
6. **Website** – Alister told us that Paul had volunteered to translate the piece he’d written for the Location page. He will also chase up Delwedd re the need for training, & the updating.

7. **Blaenau Ymlaen** – Regeneration – Bob told us the tenders were out for the toilets, it is hoped they'll be done by Spring'13, there'll be a waste bin in the viewing point. A David Nash sculpture will be erected at the western gateway in the next couple of months. Chris mentioned problems re drains, Bob agreed to ring Balfour Beatty & Highways. Also Bob told members that the local Historical Society have been involved in producing panels of the history of the town which will be put up around the town. Andrew thanked everyone who made the vision happen. Andrew agreed to attend a meeting, on behalf of the Chamber, on Monday 14th January which is about setting up a community development company.
8. **Attract people from Llandudno** – Paul had a meeting, before Xmas, about transport with Arriva trains & others the outcome is that links will be strengthened in Gwynedd + Llandudno station is having an upgrade they are willing to advertise visiting Blaenau on their new screens + distribute leaflets. Ann reminded members that she'd circulated via email Transport Links + Marketing the Town Action Plan from Pryderi for them to read & make suggestions & comments.
9. **Tourism** – Huw wrote an article, All change at Blaenau, which can be used for promotion, it's on his blog on the website, he will email Ann so she can email all members with how to find it. Blaenau Ymlaen paid £500 to Coach Tourism Magazine to promote Blaenau, & Ian's Chippie + Ty Gorsaf have offered free meals for the coach drivers. Paul told us about a tour of the town that is planned, to promote + draw people's attention eg: slate splitting / speakers. Leaflet issues Paul will check with Pryderi. Huw mentioned Iolo's great Welsh Parks on BBC1 Sunday 5.35pm this Sunday he will be featured
10. **AGM** – This will be on Monday 4th March'13 at 7pm, Ann will email members the nomination forms, members were reminded they need to obtain the nominee's agreement first. All nominations should be return to Ann by 25th February'13. Both Andrew, the Chair & Ann, the Secretary gave notice that they would not be standing again.
11. **AOB** - *Paul told members that Gwynedd are not going to provide free parking. Gaile raised bike racks, Bob told her where they are, as a number of them are around the town. *Paul also mentioned he was looking into the possibility of getting an Ice Rink in Diffwys for Xmas'13, cost is up to £15,000 – he'll get some figures from Pwlllelli who had one last Xmas
12. **Date of next meeting AGM Monday 4th March 2013 @ 7pm venue Council Chamber 5 High Street**