

**Siambr Fasnach a Thwristiaeth**  
**Bro Ffestiniog**  
**Chamber of Commerce & Tourism**  
**Cofnodion / Minutes for AGM 5/3/12**

**Present:** Andrew Roberts – Llechwedd, Roger Clear – Oriel Moelwyn, Bob Cole – Blaenau Ymlaen, , Meirion Ellis – Cambrian News, Mandy Williams-Davies - Cyngor Tref, Richard Thomas – Snowdonia Slate, Clare Britton – Ffestiniog Railway, Chris & Iris Fosbury– Efion Stores, Malcolm Jones – Debbie’s Cake’ole, Alister Haveron – Dolawel, John Whitehead – Bryn Ellytd, Anna & Zoe Pritchard – Parti 4, Kevin Baldwin – DeNeros, Sue Roberts – Sue’s Books, , Huw Jenkins – Campbell’s Cottage, Owain Williams – NatWest, Pryderi ap Rhisiart – Cyngor Gwynedd, Ceri Cunnington – Antur ‘Stiniog, Paul Thomas – Cyngor Gwynedd.

1. **Apologies** – Michael Bewick – Llechwedd, Gill Vescio – Isallt, Ann Cole – Blaenau Ymlaen, Vincent Foswick – Beatons, Dylan Jones – North Wales Police.  
Andrew welcomed everyone.
2. **Minutes of last meeting & matters arising:** Minutes agreed. **Matters arising 9.** Paul gave a report of the well attended meeting on the Unitary Plan held on 18<sup>th</sup> January’12. He told us it was the only public meeting called by a Community Council to discuss the plan. He thought we made our point about Blaenau Ffestiniog being of importance in Gwynedd.
3. **Police** – sent apologies.
4. **Chair’s report** – welcomed and accepted.
5. **Treasurer’s Report** – report circulated in Gill’s absence and accepted.
6. **Election of Officers** – all nominations were accepted with acclaim: Chair Andrew Roberts, Vice Chair Roger Clear, Secretary Ann Cole, Treasurer Gill Vescio, Membership Officer Zoe Pritchard, Marketing Officer Alister Haveron.
7. **Councillor Mandy Williams Davis** – asked the Chamber to support the action of the Hospital Defence Committee in its fight to keep the hospital fully functioning. There was unanimous support for this. The secretary was asked to write a letter of support to the Defence Committee. Copies of a petition will be circulated to all shops & businesses in Blaenau. A rally may be called in the future.
8. **Christine Rhisiart** – business advisor – Dyfodol – outlined what training is available for businesses in Gwynedd in conjunction with the colleges. Many different courses, & over 150 Businesses in Gwynedd have already been involved. Materials were circulated and Chamber members encouraged to take it up..
9. **Website** – Pryderi ap Rhisiart gave a brief résumé of the progress being made, it is hoped the site [www.blaenauffestiniog.org](http://www.blaenauffestiniog.org) will be up & running within 6weeks, there will be many links including Vale of Ffestiniog, Ffestiniog Railway etc. Alister – Marketing Officer will have training & the contract includes 5years maintenance. The site will contain history & contemporary views of Blaenau + the translation of the poetry bands. Andrew stressed the site must emphasize Blaenau & area.  
**CCTV** – Pryderi gave a brief report on the update & expansion of CCTV in Blaenau, hoped to be functioning by Easter. The possibility of a webcam linked to the website to be investigated.
10. **Blaenau Ymlaen** – Regeneration / Bob gave a brief update on progress, followed by a wide ranging discussion, and the possibility of renewing the toilet block, the possibility for a wet weather centre. There was general endorsement of Blaenau Ymlaen views. The Chamber to be kept informed.

11. **Tourism** – Huw has updated the Vale of Ffestiniog website, he thanked members for their input. Clare spoke of the Ffestiniog Railway Gala planned for Blaenau to celebrate 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the railway returning to Blaenau May 5<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> Bank Holiday, it coincides with their AGM being held in Ysgol y Moelwyn, it should be a full weekend for Blaenau.
12. **Antur ‘Stiniog** – Ceri gave a report: - The trails are coming on well & will be finished by June. The visitor centre by July. The post for a manager is now being advertised. A major event will be held on 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>,9<sup>th</sup> September for invited bikes. The trail round Tanygrisiau Lake finished July. Clare to investigate bike carrying carriage. Need for bike hire & maintenance shop in Blaenau. Website up & running in April. There were many questions & discussion. Velorail it is hoped will be demonstrated during Ffestiniog Gala event during May Bank Holiday. March 8<sup>th</sup> event cellb opportunity for businesses to discuss possibilities.
13. **AOB** – Huw said there was a new BBC series, one will look at Vale of Ffestiniog. Kevin asked about the mill in Bethania, good tourist potential!
14. **Date of next meeting Monday 14<sup>th</sup> May 2012 @ 7pm venue Cyngor Tref Council Chamber, 5 High Street.**