

Siambwr Fasnach a Thwrystiaeth
Bro Ffestiniog
Chamber of Commerce & Tourism
Cofnodion / Minutes for 29/10/12

Present: Andrew Roberts – Llechwedd, Roger Clear – Taurus Designs, Bob Cole – Cyngor Tref Ffestiniog / Blaenau Ymlaen, Ann Cole – Blaenau Ymlaen, Mandy Williams-Davies - Cyngor Tref Ffestiniog / Cyngor Gwynedd, Meirion Ellis – Cambrian News, Debbie & Malcolm Jones – Debbie’s Cake’ole, Alister Haveron – Dolawel, John & Ceilia Whitehead – Bryn Ellytyd, Clare Britton – Ffestiniog Railway, Andrew Lewis – Gwesty Ty Gorsaf, Gaile Weir – Caffi’r Bont, Richard Thomas – Snowdonia Slate, Huw Jenkins – Campbell’s Cottage, Nia Roberts – Siop y Gloddfa, Anna & Zoe Pritchard – Parti 4, Dylan Jones – North Wales Police, Paul Thomas – Cyngor Gwynedd, Alwyn & Rhiannon Jones – Brethyn Blaenau.

1. **Apologies** – Kevin Baldwin – DeNeros, Chris & Iris Fosbury – Efon Stores, Gill Vescio – Isallt, Owain Williams - NatWest, Amy Jones – J T Thomas & Co Accts, Rhys Roberts – cellb, Carwyn Jones – Y Siop Werdd.
Andrew welcomed everyone.
2. **Minutes of last meeting & matters arising:** Minutes agreed. Matters arising all on agenda.
3. **Police** – Dylan Jones was keen for us to know that the Police are keen for the regeneration work to be a success, he also informed us that as the ‘hub’ system has not worked, they would be returning to ‘old’ system & by Jan’13 they will have a full complement of staff in Blaenau. Roger asked if the station was staffed, the answer was yes. Paul invited him to attend the next Cyngor Tref meeting. Dylan told us about the work currently going on in Manod, with vulnerable people & youths who have been tormenting them, the result is things are improving due to the Police liaising with residents & youths. Andrew Lewis, Gwesty Ty Gorsaf, mentioned antisocial behaviour outside the Hotel in the early hours, Dylan stressed the importance of ringing the Police to report incidents, ring 101 or for emergencies 999.
4. **Membership report** – Zoe will contact Delwedd as there are still issues re signing up on line & paypal. As members all had copies of the Website sub-committee’s recommendations, they were voted on and agreed - £20 to join + be on ‘site then £10 renewal, members would also be offered Gold Band for £30 which will include more pics + video, this would also be available to non-member attractions. We agreed also, LL41, Dolweddalan & Bronaber, would be our boundaries, & that the costs would be looked at annually. Paul commented that there are lots of new members, Andrew noted that few members are in manufacturing, Zoe told us she was targeting people, particularly now we have the website.
5. **Treasurer’s Report** – Gill wrote to Andrew resigning due to her health. It was agreed for Ann to write to her thanking her for all the years she has been Treasurer, & wishing her well with her health. Roger has all the documents, telling us there is £225 in the bank, he agreed to be ‘caretaker’ treasurer, it was also mentioned that Iris Fosbury is a signature, Roger would mention this to her.
6. **Website** – Alister told us new businesses who have joined are now on the website. Nia, Zoe & Alister still waiting for training by Delwedd, there are calendar issues. Zoe raised the issue of more volunteers, to do admin to take advantage of facebook page. It was agreed the website is great, Alwyn raised server issues. Huw requested stats at every meeting

7. **Blaenau Ymlaen** – Regeneration – Bob told us the work will be finished by end of November, there will be a number of media opportunities with Ministers visiting, on Nov 8th Alun Davies AM Deputy Minister for European Programmes will unveil a plaque, On 11th Dec. Carwyn Jones AM First Minister will open the project. Jane Hutt AM Finance Minister has already visited. He also told us there are many information signs around the town. Mandy has been involved with young students from Coleg Meirion Dwyfor designing a very modern theme for the Toilets, it is a listed building so they've been concentrating on the inside, they are planned to ready by Spring'13. It was noted that at the moment the toilets are not open long enough. Also noted that there'd been an article in Coaching Magazine, about the scheme to attract people to visit. Bob mentioned the fact that Blaenau a Welsh speaking town, should be doing more to attract Welsh speakers from the rest of Wales, our Poetry Bands are an attraction.
8. **New Brochure** – With Pryderi not present, Bob told what was needed, important for work to start asap on the new brochure, he explained why the Chamber members are important in this process, Pryderi needs to have a group of volunteers, willing to work with him, who are committed to producing the brochure. Those who volunteered where Roger, Huw, Alwyn, Clare, Paul, Mandy + designers + Pryderi.
9. **Xmas Party** – It was agreed to have the event at Gwesty Ty Gorsaf at 7pm on Monday 3rd Dec'12, a buffet costing £7.50 per person, members to pay Ty Gorsaf direct. Roger asked if it could be a private function. Ann agreed to send an email to all members inviting them to the event and asking them to pay £7.50 each direct to Ty Gorsaf.
10. **Tourism** – Alister told us business had been good at Dolawel, they'd had cyclists staying. Clare said Ffestiniog Railway hadn't had such a good year, they're putting it down to the Olympics + the weather. Members were urged to attend the Blaenau Ymlaen meeting in the Old Co-op 6pm 13th Nov. Paul mentioned the Market Hall has been purchased by the Sleiven family who live in the Old Pottery, they have various plans for it, he was going to invite them to Blaenau Ymlaen meeting, Andrew said they should be invited to the Xmas event. Andrew Lewis Ty Gorsaf told us guests filling in questionnaires about their stay, some positive but some mentioned antisocial behaviour, he wanted reassurance that CCTV would be up and running soon, he was assured that it would be by Dec. at the latest.
11. **AOB** – * Alister / Huw raised the Vale of Ffestiniog Way and the unresolved issue on Llechwedd land connecting footpath 104 with footpaths 103 and 119. Following a recent incident at Maenofferen Quarry Andrew stated the company are undertaking a review of way marking and general signage as directed by HSE. Andrew agreed to meet Alister and Huw to discuss the matter again. Paul pointed out that footpaths were all responsibility of the Town Council. *Richard mentioned drawing people from Llandudno, he asked members to bring ideas to the next meeting. *Paul told us about Free Parking over Xmas will be discussed in Cygnor Gwynedd Cabinet, he would email us all if it was passed. *Nia mentioned the 'secret shopper' asked if it was still on, Bob & Paul assured her it was. *Debbie raised the lack of bins in Manod once again, she was assured by Bob that he had raised it, he would now chase it up. *Philip Mawson, new member, telling about recycling, clean dry cardboard, Snowdonia Recycling Ltd who collect Tuesdays, charge is £120 a year, paid monthly – to contact David Williams enquiry@snowdoniarecycling.co.uk tel 07909827709
12. **Date of next meeting** Monday 7th January 2013 @ 7pm venue to be arranged