

Meeting

THE COUNCIL

Date and Time

1.30 pm, THURSDAY, 5TH DECEMBER, 2024

* NOTE *

This meeting will be webcast

https://gwynedd.public-i.tv/core/l/en_GB/portal/home

Location

Hybrid - Siambr Dafydd Orwig, Swyddfeydd y Cyngor, Caernarfon LL55 1SH / Virtually on Zoom

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(DISTRIBUTED 27/11/24)

Ian Jones
Head of Democracy Service

www.gwynedd.llyw.cymru

WEDNESDAY, 27 NOVEMBER 2024

Dear Councillor,

MEETING OF CYNGOR GWYNEDD- THURSDAY, 5 DECEMBER 2024

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED to attend a multi-location meeting of CYNGOR GWYNEDD which will be held at 1.30 pm on THURSDAY, 5TH DECEMBER, 2024 in SIAMBR DAFYDD ORWIG, SWYDDFEYDD Y CYNGOR, CAERNARFON LL55 1SH / VIRTUALLY ON ZOOM, to consider the matters mentioned in the following agenda.

Yours faithfully,

Head of Democracy Services

The following rooms will be available for the political groups during the morning: -

Plaid Cymru - Siambr Dafydd Orwig Independent - Siambr Hywel Dda Lib / Lab - Ystafell Ogwen

AGENDA

1. APOLOGIES

To receive any apologies for absence

2. MINUTES 8 - 31

The Chair shall propose that the minutes of the meetings of the Council held on the following dates be signed as true records:-

3rd October, 2024 24th October 2024 (Extraordinary Meeting)

3. DECLARATION OF PERSONAL INTEREST

To receive any declarations of personal interest.

4. THE CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

To receive any Chair's announcements.

5. URGENT ITEMS

To note any items which are urgent business in the opinion of the Chair so they may be considered.

6. QUESTIONS

To consider any questions the appropriate notice for which have been given under Section 4.18 of the Constitution.

7. LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

To appoint the Leader of the Council.

8. COUNCIL TAX: DISCRETIONARY POWERS TO ALLOW 32 - 214 DISCOUNTS AND/OR RAISE A PREMIUM ON SECOND HOMES AND LONG-TERM EMPTY DWELLINGS 2025-26

To submit the report of the Cabinet Member for Finance.

9. COUNCIL TAX REDUCTION SCHEME 2025-26

215 - 220

To submit the report of the Cabinet Member for Finance.

10. REVIEW OF THE CONSTITUTION

221 - 226

To submit the report of the Cabinet Member for Corporate and Legal Services.

To submit the report of the Cabinet Member for Corporate and Legal Services.

12. REQUEST TO CHANGE THE NAME OF LLANAELHAEARN 241 - 244 COMMUNITY

To submit the report of the Cabinet Member for Corporate and Legal Services.

13. NOTICES OF MOTION

(A) NOTICE OF MOTION BY COUNCILLOR DELYTH LLOYD GRIFFITHS

In accordance with the Notice of Motion received under Section 4.19 of the Constitution, Councillor Delyth Lloyd Griffiths will propose as follows:-

A house has been exchanged a number of times in a small village in a rural ward in Gwynedd. This happened during a time when 12 local people (family units) were waiting for social housing in the village. The householders are not from Wales and were not waiting for more than 12 months.

Cyngor Gwynedd's letting policy is undermined every time a house is exchanged while local people remain on the waiting list for long periods without being able to secure a home.

This council believes that the Welsh Government's practice of exchanging social housing should cease immediately, unless the house is exchanged within the local authority. I seek Cyngor Gwynedd's support today to put pressure on the Welsh Government to change the law to meet the need for local housing.

(B) NOTICE OF MOTION BY COUNCILLOR HUW ROWLANDS

In accordance with the Notice of Motion received under Section 4.19 of the Constitution, Councillor Huw Rowlands will propose as follows:-

- 1. Cyngor Gwynedd asks the UK Government to allocate a fair share of the spending on the HS2 rail line in England to Wales.
- 2. The Welsh Government is also asked to continue to bring pressure to bear on the UK Government to ensure this.

(C) NOTICE OF MOTION BY COUNCILLOR JUNE JONES

In accordance with the Notice of Motion received under Section 4.19 of the Constitution, Councillor June Jones will propose as follows:-

Following the horrific accident on the A4085 road near the village of Garreg, Llanfrothen in November 2023 which saw four young lads lose their lives, that Cyngor Gwynedd corresponds with the Westminster Government's Department for Transport asking them to look at updating the rules to obtain a graduated driving licence where young drivers cannot carry other young passengers without having had six months' driving experience after passing their test.

(D) NOTICE OF MOTION BY COUNCILLOR JOHN PUGHE ROBERTS

In accordance with the Notice of Motion received under Section 4.19 of the Constitution, Councillor John Pughe Roberts will propose as follows:-

Changes by the Westminster Labour Government to agricultural inheritance tax have transformed Agricultural Property Relief (APR) so that all farms worth over a million pounds now have to pay inheritance tax.

The industry is under severe pressure and hedge fund managers are seeking the carbon trade off through a system of re-wilding and tree planting thus raising the value of agricultural land. This means that 100 acres of land that reaches the threshold or a farmhouse and self-catering cottage are worth over a million pounds.

This means that most farms in Gwynedd and Wales will have to pay huge amounts of tax with some going bankrupt or having to sell land which would render the farms unable to continue to farm.

I therefore call on Cyngor Gwynedd to ask the Welsh Government to reconsider their support for the Labour Party in Westminster and that the Welsh Government calls on the Westminster Government to reinstate the Agricultural Property Relief.

(E) NOTICE OF MOTION BY COUNCILLOR ELIN WALKER JONES

In accordance with the Notice of Motion received under Section 4.19 of the Constitution, Councillor Elin Walker Jones will propose as follows:-

That the Council

1. Notes:

- the significant shortage of NHS dental services in north Wales, and that there is a strong case for the establishment of a School of Dentistry in Bangor.

2. Believes:

- that dental services in north Wales are in a state of crisis. A severe shortage of NHS dentists in Gwynedd is leaving many patients, including children and vulnerable people, without proper access to basic dental care. This puts additional pressure on our emergency departments in the local hospitals due to a lack of access to dentists, resulting in additional costs and waiting times.

There is a need for more dental training. Unfortunately, a significant number of students wishing to study dentistry are forced to leave Wales due to a lack of capacity in schools of dentistry.

A new school of dentistry in Bangor could play a key role in training more dentists locally, offering a better chance of retaining the dental workforce in the region and providing essential services locally. The establishment of a school of dentistry in Bangor would provide good quality new jobs and attract investment to the local economy, supporting Bangor as a centre of excellence in health, alongside the new medical school. In addition, the school of dentistry could augment the provision of Welsh and bilingual dental services, improving access to healthcare for local Welsh-speaking communities.

3. Calls on:

The Council to support the campaign to establish a School of Dentistry at Bangor University, to write to our elected representatives in the Senedd to lobby the Welsh Government to consider the economic and public health case for the establishment of a school of dentistry in Bangor based on the key findings presented in the Filling the Gap report.

(F) NOTICE OF MOTION BY COUNCILLOR RHYS TUDUR

In accordance with the Notice of Motion received under Section 4.19 of the Constitution, Councillor Rhys Tudur will propose as follows:-

Given

- That the Welsh Government has conducted a consultation on varying the Land Transaction Tax
- That varying the tax would give the Council the opportunity to tackle effectively the rate at which second homes are purchased
- That varying the tax would open the door for this Council to bring pressure to bear on the Government to give its fair share of the revenue derived from land tax

This Council calls on the Welsh Government to give Gwynedd a greater role in being able to decide on variations for the Land Transaction Tax.

- (1) Letter from the Welsh Government in response to Councillor Gwynfor Owen's notice of motion to the 9th May, 2024 Council meeting regarding the frequency of trains on the Cambrian Coast Railway.
- (2) Letter from the UK Government in response to Councillor Elwyn Edwards' notice of motion to the 3rd October, 2024 Council meeting regarding designating St. David's Day as an official national holiday in Wales.