

# Complete Agenda

Democratic Service Council Offices CAERNARFON Gwynedd LL55 1SH

#### Meeting

## LLŶN A.O.N.B JOINT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Date and Time

4.00 pm, TUESDAY, 10TH SEPTEMBER, 2024

Location

**Virtual Meeting** 

For public access to the meeting, please contact us

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# LLŶN A.O.N.B JOINT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

#### **MEMBERSHIP**

#### **Gwynedd Councillors**

Dafydd Davies Gareth Tudor Jones John Brynmor Hughes Gruffydd Williams Gareth Williams

#### **Others**

Aberdaron, Buan, Botwnnog, Clynnog, Llanbedrog, Llanaelhaearn, Llanengan, Nefyn, Pistyll and Tudweiliog Community Council nominees.

**Gwynedd Council's Countryside Champion** 

## Nominees of the following agencies/institutions:

National Trust,
Natural Resources Wales,
Arfon and Dwyfor Access Forum,
Cyfeillion Llŷn,
National Farmers Union,
Farmers Union of Wales,
Abersoch and Llŷn Tourism Partnership,
Campaign for the Protection of Rural Wales,
Gwynedd Archaeological Trust,
Llŷn Fishermen's Association.

## AGENDA

	To receive apologies for absence.	
2	DECLARATION OF PERSONAL	IN.

#### **DECLARATION OF PERSONAL INTEREST**

To receive any declaration of personal interest.

#### **URGENT ITEMS** 3.

**APOLOGIES** 

1.

To note any items that are a matter of urgency in the view of the Chairman for consideration.

4 - 8 4. **MINUTES** 

The Chair shall propose that the minutes of this committee, held on 27 June 2024, be signed as a true record.

#### 5. **TIRLUN BYW PROJECT** 9 - 11

To inform members about the 'Tirlun Byw' project.

#### 12 - 14 6. **AONB MANAGEMENT PLAN**

To inform and update members on the AONB Management Plan.

#### 7. 'THE 'PERTHYN' PROJECT 15 - 19

To inform members about the 'Perthyn' project.

# LLŶN AREA OF OUTSTANDING NATURAL BEAUTY JOINT ADVISORY COMMITTEE 27/06/2024

#### Present:

Members: Councillors: Gareth Williams, Gareth Tudor Jones, Gruffydd Williams and Angela Russell (Cyngor Gwynedd's Countryside Champion) along with Noel Davey (Campaign for the Protection of Rural Wales), Jina Gwyrfai (Llanaelhaern Community Council), Sianelen Plemming (Pistyll Community Council), T. Victor Jones (Chair) (Llanbedrog Community Council), Robert Parkinson (National Trust), Morgan Jones-Parry (Arfon and Dwyfor Access Forum), Linda Ashton (Natural Resources Wales), Sian Parri (Tudweiliog Community Council) and Jenny Emmett (Gwynedd Archaeology).

Officers: Bleddyn P. Jones (Llŷn AONB Officer), Morus Llwyd Dafydd (Llŷn AONB Projects Officer), Heledd Fflur Jones (Planning Policy Team Leader) and Sioned Mai Jones (Democracy Services Officer).

**Present for item 7:** Mr John Watkins, Chief Executive of the National Landscapes Association.

#### 1. ELECTION OF CHAIR

It was resolved to elect T. Victor Jones (Llanbedrog Community Council) as Chair for 2024/25.

#### 2. ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIR

It was resolved to elect Sian Parri (Tudweiliog Community Council) as Vice-chair for 2024/25.

#### 3. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillor **John Brynmor Hughes**, **Einir Wyn** (Llanengan Community Council), **Rhian Sanson** (Nefyn Town Council), **Dewi Evans** (Aberdaron Community Council), **Eirian Allport** (Clynnog Fawr Community Council), **Gillian Walker** (Cyfeillion Llŷn) and **Andrew Davidson** who had just retired from Gwynedd Archaeology (Jenny Emmett will now represent Gwynedd Archaeology on the Committee).

#### 4. DECLARATION OF PERSONAL INTEREST

There were no declarations of personal interest.

#### 5. URGENT ITEMS

None to note.

#### 6. MINUTES

The Chair signed the minutes of the previous meeting of this Joint Committee, that took place on 22 November 2023, as a true record.

#### 7. A NEW IMAGE FOR THE AONB

John Watkins, Chief Executive of the National Landscapes Association, was welcomed to the meeting and the Joint Advisory Committee was reminded of the discussion back in November 2023 about creating a new brand and image for the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty designation. Reference was made to the recommendation to change the operational name from 'Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty' to 'National Landscapes'. It was reported that the name 'National Landscapes' was being used in England and Wales, noting that the Welsh Government had expressed support to this change.

The Chief Executive of the National Landscapes Association stated that this change had been in the making for seven years following a period of intensive review and research. He noted that the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty designations were supposed to be as good as the National Parks in terms of their quality (albeit a different designation) and reported that this change to the brand and name was an attempt to raise awareness nationally of the importance of these landscapes. It was believed that this would assist in attracting resources to the designations, and he reminded all that they were national designations being managed locally.

He noted that all the landscapes in England and many in Wales were now using the new name and brand, which respected how unique the individual landscapes were but recognised that they were part of a wider family. Support was expressed to what the Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty were trying to achieve. It was believed that it was important for local decisions and considerations to appear as part of a national family and that this would be beneficial in expanding their profile. To conclude, he reported on the input he had received on the new branding, noting that he had received very positive comments.

The following observations were made by members: -

- It was noted that the National Landscapes website was in English and that the Welsh Government logo was on the website. The member expressed strong dissatisfaction that the website was not bilingual.
- They argued that we needed to protect the Welsh language and expressed that the Welsh language would not be treated fairly by the National Landscapes Association.
- Keen to highlight that Wales was a separate nation, and it was believed that rejecting this change would achieve this.
- A member expressed a view that it might be worth adopting the new name and brand if doing so would strengthen the profile of the AONB here in Llŷn. It was recognised that the Welsh language was very important – would it be possible to translate the National Landscapes website so that it was bilingual?
- It was believed that the current Llŷn AONB name and logo were memorable and attractive, and that the name 'National Landscapes' suggested England and Wales. It was expressed that 'Wales Landscapes' would be a better name if it had to change.
- It was noted that everyone was familiar with the name Llŷn AONB and it was not believed that there was any desire to change it.
- The Chief Executive of the National Landscapes Association was thanked for his
  comments and his argument, but the members expressed their support to stick
  with the original decision not to adopt the new national title and logo.

In response, the Chief Executive of the National Landscape Association noted: -

- That he acknowledged the point that the website was in English only.
- He would not accept the point that the Association undermined the Welsh language and emphasised that there was no element of enforcement at all.
- He was very supportive of how the designation in Llŷn was being operated and did not believe that the proposed change threatened the Welsh language or the constitution locally.
- The reviews had been independent in England, and the review in Wales was also an independent review and separate from the review in England.

The Llŷn AONB Officer indicated that he saw both sides. He felt that considerable awareness of the name Llŷn AONB had been established over the years and that the new logo was unknown, and many were fed up with change. Despite this it was thought that there was an opportunity to create a new image and create a concept of being part of a family, but concerns existed.

The Chief Executive of the National Landscapes Association thanked the Joint Advisory Committee for their time and stressed that this change would not be pushed and that it was the decision of the Joint Committee. He wished the Joint Advisory Committee well.

#### **DECISION**

- a) To accept the report and note the observations received.
- b) To reiterate the decision made at the previous meeting of the Joint Committee on 22 November 2023 not to adopt the new national title and logo 'National Landscapes'.

#### 8. UPDATE ON LLŶN AONB CAPITAL PROJECTS

The report was submitted by the Llŷn AONB Projects Officer for information to the members, to update them on Llŷn AONB's capital projects. It was explained that Sustainable Landscapes, Sustainable Places (SLSP) was a grant scheme by the Welsh Government to support capital projects in the National Parks and the AONB.

It was confirmed that the projects covered a three-year period (2022-25). The officer reported on the themes of the capital projects that had been set by the Welsh Government, namely Biodiversity and nature recovery, Decarbonisation, Resilient and green communities and Sustainable Tourism.

Updates on the Llŷn SLSP capital projects were provided in the report, projects such as:

- Renewing the stairway at Porth Ysgo
- Mynytho, Horeb and Rhos Botwnnog Common Lands
- Native Trees
- Alien invasive species
- Canolfan Llithfaen
- Car park at Llanbedrog Quarry
- Joint Projects Traditional Boundaries, the Dark Sky and an Education Pack.

A member enquired about the Alien invasive species project, noting that alien plants could be seen in locations such as Garn Boduan and Tre'r Ceiri. Reference was made to the Native Trees project, and it was asked whether the AONB officers held

discussions with Cadw before planting trees. There was concern that the planting was taking place in archaeologically sensitive areas. It was confirmed that the AONB Unit planned to carry out archaeology reviews soon before planting trees. It was suggested that there may be grants available from Cadw, and the Officers were asked to share updates about the planting with the Gwynedd Archaeology representative so that she could contribute.

The members enquired further about the areas of tree planting, and the scale of planting. It was noted that they intended to look further at the sites within lands that were owned by Cyngor Gwynedd, but the Ysgol Botwnnog site looked very promising. They did not intend to plant on all the sites. It was confirmed that grants could be provided to caravan site owners to plant trees through the Sustainable Development Fund. It was hoped to be able to consider projects similar to this in the next financial year.

A member asked whether it would be possible to receive a summary or list of capital projects over the last three years to see what the projects were, in what area and how much capital had been provided in order to see the variety. This information was also requested about the Sustainable Development Fund. The Llŷn AONB Projects Officer would share the information.

Members gave thanks for all the work and noted that very positive feedback had been received regarding the renewal of the Porth Ysgo steps. They also thanked the AONB Officers for the work on the centre at Llithfaen and noted that everyone was looking forward to the centre opening. A member enquired about the hall in Llanbedrog, reporting that the condition of the hall was poor and that the roof was weak. They asked if assistance was available as the hall required some expenditure. It was confirmed that the AONB Officers would discuss further with the member outside of this meeting.

#### **DECISION**

To accept the report and note the observations received.

#### 9. THE "PERTHYN" (BELONGING) PROJECT

It was reported that this item had been included on the Agenda at the request of the Tudweiliog Community Council member. It was noted that three Community Councils in Llŷn had decided to designate their areas as Areas of Linguistic Significance in December 2023, with a view to sustaining and strengthening the Welsh language in Llŷn following concerns about the influences of second homes, holiday homes and tourism. It was reported that other Community Councils had now joined the project.

It was explained that it might be possible to vary public policy and action in favour of the Welsh language in the areas that had been designated as Areas of Linguistic Significance. This was mentioned in the Welsh Communities Commission's position paper.

A verbal report was given on the work of the Perthyn project by the representative of Tudweiliog Community Council, and members agreed to accept the information. After a lengthy discussion, it was proposed to re-include the item on the Agenda of the next meeting of the Joint Advisory Committee when the report would be ready and had been shared with all members of the Joint Committee.

#### **DECISION**

- a) To accept the information.
- b) To hold another meeting to discuss the matter.

#### 10. AONB MANAGEMENT PLAN

We ran out of time before reaching this item. The item will be included on the agenda of the next meeting of the Llŷn AONB Joint Advisory Committee.

The meeting commenced at 4.00pm and concluded at 6.00pm.
CHAIR

MEETING	Llŷn AONB Joint Advisory Committee
DATE	10th September 2024
TITLE	Tirlun Byw Project
PURPOSE	Share Information
AUTHOR	Elin Wyn Hughes – Activities Officer
RECOMMENDATION	Accept Information

#### 1.0 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 In June this year, I returned to work with the AONB Unit as an Activities Officer. This is part of the Tirlun Byw Project and is funded by Gwynedd Council and a grant by Natural Resources Wales.
- 1.2 There are three themes to the Tirlun Byw Project namely Historic Features, Natural Environment and Access. The aim of the project is to implement minor works on the ground and arrange various events and there are specific targets to be met. They are as follow: -
  - Work on 1-2 sites within the Llŷn AONB for each of the following themes (i) historic features, (ii) habitats and (iii) access improvement.
  - Hold 4 event to support rural skills (e.g., restore stone walls and hedgerows).
  - Hold 6 event (Dark Skies/Guided Walks) to offer opportunities to learn about nature and the environment.
  - Hold a minimum of 8 events with Volunteers to support each of the project's themes including restoring and maintaining various features, litter picks and improving public footpaths.

#### 2.0 EVENTS SO FAR

2.1 For your information, a series of events have been taking place over the summer: -

Rural Skills Training Events: - Three sessions were held on dry stone walling on Mynydd Rhiw with Dilwyn Williams (Parc) and Kevin Roberts. The sessions have been very successful with many different participants each time. These sessions were held on sections of the walls that had already fallen. This means that we therefore reached many of the grant's targets by restoring and improving historical structures and improving habitats and working

with volunteers.

I would have liked to attract more local people. It was great to seen so much interest by people who had travelled some distances – but it is important that local people also attend in terms of sustaining the landscape for the future. To address this – we intend to hold one additional session in the future and work closely with other agencies and services locally.

Litter Picks: - Working with Canolfan Fenter Congol Meinciau, Keep Wales Tidy and Botwnnog Community Council, two litter picking events were held in Sarn Mellteyrn and Botwnnog. This was mainly to raise awareness that Canolfan Fenter Congol Meinciau is one of the litter pick hubs for Keep Wales Tidy. This means that anyone can borrow the litter picking items and red waste bags free of charge.

This was a great opportunity for members of the Community Council to come together over the summer period to undertake environmental improvements and to discuss and identify various issues. I believe that this is good practice and something I would like to develop with other Community Councils.

**Training for Volunteers: -** Many individuals who volunteer with the AONB have attended a brush cutter course at Coleg Meirion Dwyfor-Glynllifon. The NRW grant has funded this in full. The aim is to ensure that we show our appreciation to the volunteers but also to ensure that they have the necessary skills and qualifications to continue with their work in a safe and confident manner in the future.

#### 3.0 UPCOMING EVENTS

3.1 I wish to share with you our upcoming events over the next few months and to ask you kindly if you can assist me to raise awareness about them and possibly to attend a few also so that you can directly see the work that we do:-

**September 13th** – A talk about Capel Newydd Nanhoron by John Dilwyn Williams in Neuadd Sarn.

**September 15th** – Guided Walk in Plas yn Rhiw. A nature walk with Cynan Jones, a mushroom expert.

**September 25th** – "Am y Tywydd" – A talk by Twm Elias in the Maritime Museum in Nefyn looking at traditional sayings and beliefs in relation to the weather.

October 7th – Guided Walk in Aberdaron with Dysgwyr Cymraeg Dwyfor (Welsh Learners). Everyone is welcome! A short walk to Porth Meudwy and back.

Octobers 28th – Open Day at Capel Newydd Nanhoron.

**November 2nd** – Uwchmynydd Guided Walk. A guided nature and history walk in the footsteps of Meddyges Bryn Canaid (Ann Griffith) with Glyn Roberts, Murpoeth.

**November 15th -** Moonlight Walk at Mynydd Mawr:- A walk under a full moon up to Mynydd Mawr, Uwchmynydd. Rhys Mwyn will be present to talk about various local historical features.

**December 14th** – Evening Walk at Mynydd Rhiw: - A walk with Rhys Mwyn discussing local hillforts under one of the wonders of the universe – the Geminid meteor shower.

3.2 The events list is growing continuously, and we will share information with you on a regular basis.

#### 4.0 RECOMENDTAIONS

4.1 There are no recommendations as such – only information sharing. As mentioned – I would greatly appreciate if you can assist me in raising awareness about these events and possibly attend also. I would appreciate your support and for you to have a direct taste of the project.

MEETING	Llŷn AONB Joint Advisory Committee
DATE	September 10 <sup>th</sup> 2024
TITLE	AONB Management Plan
PURPOSE	Inform members
AUTHOR	AONB Officer
RECOMMENDATION	Accept the Information

#### 1.0 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Preparing and reviewing a Management Plan is one of Gwynedd Council's responsibilities in relation to the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty as a consequence of the CRoW Act 2000. The Joint Advisory Committee has a role to play in the Plan preparation and review process.
- 1.2 The existing Llŷn AONB Management Plan is dated and needs to be reviewed. Unfortunately a number of factors, including the pandemic, work on other projects and capacity issues have delayed the process.

#### 2.0 THE REVIEW PROCESS

- 2.1 When reviewing the Plan there is a need to consider the most up to date information on the area's features, relevant plans and strategies, conservation objectives, local projects etc.
- 2.2 Also reference needs to be made to guidelines on the preparation and review process. Guidelines on AONB Managaement Plans review was published by the former Countryside Council for Wales many years ago.
- 2.3 Recently Natural Resources Wales commissioned Land Use Consultants to review and update these Guidelines and also make them relevant to National Parks. The final version of this guidance is expected to be published soon.

#### 3.0 STATE OF THE AONB AND CONTEXT

- 3.1 Some background work on the Llŷn AONB Management Plan review has taken place.
- 3.2 The AONB Unit commissioned an update of the State of the

- AONB Report. This Report contains information on the condition of the AONB's special features and the pressures they are under. A summary has been presented to the JAC in the past.
- 3.3 Also some time ago the AONB Unit commissioned consultants to update of the section on the Management Plan's context. The work included updating information on plans, strategies, Acts etc which are relevant to the AONB Management Plan.

## 4.0 SPECIAL QUALITIES

- 4.1 As part of the preparation work on the earlier Management Plans the special qualities of the Llŷn AONB were defined these can be seen below. We do not forsee a need to change these qualities for the revised Plan.
  - Beautiful landscape and coast
  - Tranquility and a clean environment
  - A wealth of wildlife and habitats
  - The Historic Environment
  - The Welsh language and culture
  - People and close knit comminuties
  - Local produce and businesses
  - Access and rights of way

#### 5.0 THE VISION

5.1 Also, a Vision for the Llŷn AONB area (based on a 2040 date) is included in the existing Plan, as follows:

AN AREA OF BEAUTIFUL LANDSCAPE AND COAST, SUPPORTING A WEALTH OF WILDLIFE AND PROVIDING A RANGE OF NATURAL SERVICES FOR RESIDENTS AND VISITORS. HISTORIC FEATURES AND OTHER QUALITIES BEING VALUED AND LOCAL COMMUNITIES SUSTAINING THE WELSH LANGUAGE AND CULTURE.

5.2 It is believed that this Vision in the most part is still mostly relevant but could be somewhat simplified and be amended to include some additional matters. Therefore it is suggested that the following revised Vision is included in the new Plan:

## Llŷn AONB 2050

AN AREA OF BEAUTIFUL LANDSCAPE AND COAST WHERE INDIGENOUS WILDFLIFE THRIVES, LOW LEVELS OF ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION AND AN ABUNDANCE OF PUBLIC ACCESS OPPORTUNITIES. HISTORICAL BUILDINGS AND FEATURES IN GOOD CONDITION, LOCAL BUSINESSES SUCCEEDING AND LLŶN COMMUNITIES SUSTAINING THE WELSH LANGUAGE AND CULTURE.

#### 6.0 NEXT STEPS TO BE TAKEN

- 6.1 Soon the AONB Unit will start work on assessing and revising the Plan's objectives and policies and suggest updating/ changes to respond to new information and/ or a change in circumstances. The aim is to arrange a meeting of the JAC to discuss these matters later in the year.
- 6.2 Then we will work on updating the Action Plan which will include information on the work which it is intended to undertake during the Plan period. Also, the Environmental and Habitats Regulation Assessments will need to be reviewed.
- 6.3 Following on there will need to be a consultation period on the revised draft Plan. As part of this work we will consult with public and private sectors, societies and individuals by various methods to get their views and opinions on the Plan. The Joint Advisory Committee will have a key role in assessing the responses received during the consultation period.

#### 7.0 RECOMMENDATION

7.1 Accept the information in the report and revised Vision to be included in the Management Plan.

COMMITTEE	Llŷn AONB Joint Advisory Committee
DATE	September the 10 <sup>th</sup> 2024
TITLE	The Perthyn Project
PURPOSE	Inform members
AUTHOR	AONB Officer
RECOMMENDATION	Accept the recommendation.

#### 1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 This report on the "Perthyn" project is included on the agenda of the JAC following on the previous meeting on June 27<sup>th</sup>. At that meeting is was decided, after a long discussion, to discuss the matter further at the next meeting.

#### 2.0 THE COMISSION FOR WELSH SPEAKING COMMUNITIES

- 2.1 The Comission for Welsh Speaking Communities was established by Welsh Government in 2022 to look at the challenges that face the Welsh language and suggest ways of amending public policies to support the language within communities. The Comission is made up of ten independent members with expertiese and experience in various policy matters. The committee chair is Dr Simon Brooks.
- 2.2 The Committee published it's final report at this year's National Eisteddfod in the presence of Eluned Morgan, Wales' First Minister.
- 2.3 The Committee's report looks at the deterioration of the Welsh language and efforts to support the language over the last few decades. It concludes that the strongholds of the language, where Welsh is used widely every day such as Llŷn, are vitally important for the future wellbeing of the language nationally. The report considers how to define such areas identified as areas of "higher density linguistic significance", conceding that this is not a simple matter and suggesting a threshold of 40% or higher being able to speak Welsh.
- 2.4 The report moves on to suggest actions to be taken within these "areas of higher density linguistic significance" in order to support the language, increase pride and adapt public policies so as to be more

supportive. There are recommendations for action in various fields such as the Ecomony, Education, Housing and Planning. The Comission's full report can be seen on the Welsh Government's website:

Commission for Welsh-speaking Communities: report |

GOV.WALES

#### 3.0 PERTHYN PROJECT

- 3.1 The *Perthyn* project has been established by Cyfeillion Llŷn and Cymdeithas Pen-y-graig, as a response to a speech by Jeremy Miles in 2022 (when he was Cabinet Minister for the Economy, Energy and the Welsh Language). In the speech he states "The Welsh language belongs to us all...therefore we all have a responsibility to work together to secure it's future". The *Perthyn* project supports the Welsh Government's aim of securing a Million speakers by 2050 and also supports the work of the Welsh Communities Comission which advocates designating "areas of higher density linguistic significance".
- 3.2 Additionally, *Perthyn* supports *Croeso Cymraeg* A Welsh Welcome a tourism industry which places more emphasis and support to the Welsh language and culture. Specifically the *Perthyn* project has 3 main aims:
  - Safeguard and strengthen the Welsh language within communities
  - Increase the number of Welsh speakers and households
  - Present a Welsh Welcome and the history of our area ("bro") to all.
- 3.3 Cyfellion Llŷn and Cymdeithas Pen-y-graig has raised awareness of the *Perthyn* project among the town and community councils of Llŷn. As a consequence on December the 11th 2023 three Llŷn community councils Aberdaron, Botwnnog and Tudweiliog decided to designate their areas as Areas of Linguistic Significance. Following on numerous other community councils within Llŷn and Eifionydd have also joined the project.
- 3.4 The *Perthyn* project has been poactive in various other language related activities such as house letting policies, language statistics, Welsh placenames etc. A Statement has been prepared on behalf of the *Perthyn* project and is included as Appendix 1.

## 4.0 RECOMMENDATION

- 4.1 Welcome the Weklsh Communities Comission's report and relay the JAC's support to the Welsh Government.
- 4.2 To support in principle the Perthyn project and it's 3 main aims.

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Mae'r ddogfen Gymraeg yma wedi ei chyfieithu i'r Saesneg gan yr Uned AHNE, gyda chaniatad yr awduron.

#### MAE'R GYMRAEG YN PERTHYN I NI I GYD

#### **PERTHYN**

#### GWARCHOD Y GYMRAEG A'I HELPU I FFYNNU

Sian Parri, (Cymdeithas Pen-y-graig, Cyfeillion Llŷn, Cyngor Cymuned Tudweiliog) Margiad Roberts, Seimon Jones (Cymdeithas Pen-y-graig, Cyfeillion Llŷn), Gareth Williams, (Cyfeillion Llŷn), Gruffudd Williams (Cyngor Tref Nefyn, Cyfeillion Llŷn) Sion Williams – (Cyngor Cymuned Botwnnog), Dewi Evans (Cyngor Cymuned Aberdaron).

Updated 29/08/2024

# Welcoming the Comission for Welsh Speaking Communities' Report.

#### An update on Perthyn

By now twelve Councils have joined Cyfeillion Llŷn, Cymdeithas Pen-y-graig and a wider range of organisations as a result of Jeremy Miles' message: "The Welsh language belongs to us all...therefore we all have a responsibility to work together to secure it's future".

There is a wide linguistic range within the communities of Gwynedd and Llŷn, therefore it's evident that there needs to be a range of policies to respond. The needs of Llŷn are unique and the response also needs to be unique. This is the area that Saunders Lewis referred to when he stated that the continuation of the Welsh language in Llŷn (which is unbroken since the 6th century) is a mater of life or death to Wales. Research work by Perthyn has confirmed that the situation regarding the language is worse than indicated by official figures. There needs to be urgent action.

All that have united under the Perthyn cause have the common aim of "safeguarding and strengthening the Welsh language". We are working towards realising a vision of Llŷn in 2050, where there will be Croeso Cymraeg (*Welsh Welcome*) to all, a million Welsh speakers in Wales and a world-wide awareness of our Welsh heritage and language.

#### Commission for Welsh Speaking Communities' Report, August 2024

We welcome the final report of the Commission for Welsh Speaking Communities which was published at the Rhondda Cynon Taf Eisteddfod 2024. We extend our support from Llŷn

and Eifionydd to designate "areas of higher density linguistic significance" in order to take action as noted in the Commission's recommendation below:

RECOMMENDATION – In "areas of higher density linguistic significance" the following should be undertaken:

- intensify the consideration given to the Welsh language within policy frameworks.
- approve policy interventions and variations to place emphasis on the Welsh language as a community language.
- ensure that policy interventions respond to social and linguistic needs of these areas.
- allow additional powers to empower communities to reverse linguistic shifft.

#### **Bro Regeneration: Ardal Ni 2035**

Due to the decision by Llŷn's Community Councils to denote the area as an "Area of Higher Density Linguistic Significance" a series of projects "to safeguard and strengthen the Welsh language" has been added to plans that have priority in the Local Regeneration Plan, Llŷn Ardal Ni Plan 2035, for the first time ever. The decision was made when confirming the Llŷn Ardal Ni Plan at Abersoch on 4/6/24. We are confident that the Welsh language will also have the same priority in the Pwllheli Bro Plan.

#### Llŷn AONB Support

One of the main aims of the Llŷn AONB is to 'sustain, safeguard and promote Llŷn's unique culture and the Welsh language" – as noted on page 83 onwards in the latest strategy on the Llŷn AONB Website (2015-20).

We are therefore inviting the AONB Joint Advisory Committee to declare support for:

- 1. the recommendation of the Commission for Welsh Speaking Communities to designate "areas of higher density linguistic significance"
- 2. work towards our vision of a Llŷn Peninsula in 2050 where there will be a Croeso Cymraeg to all, a million Welsh speakers in Wales and a world-wide awareness of our Welsh heritage and language.

Presented by Sian Parri (Perthyn project coordinator)