



# ANNUAL REPORT

February 2016

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This is the 12<sup>th</sup> annual report of Coetir Mynydd and covers the period 1 January 2015 to 26 February 2016.

During the period of this report the business of the company was directed by the Board which comprised: Tim Radford (Chair), Jenny Wong (Secretary), Christina Allen, Martin Daws, Bryan Dickinson, Gwen Griffiths, Sharon Sweeny, Gabe Wyn and Mike Vitkovitch.

## Board meetings

Two full board meetings were held in 2015 with many meetings of the five board members working on the hydro.

## Storm damage

The storms in December 2015 had a considerable impact on Parc yr Ocar. Water flowing down the sections of public footpath below Yr Ynys kissing gate and below the turn off to Bryn Geraint threatened to erode considerable sections of the footpath. Emergency diversions of water minimised damage to the path but simply shifted the problem elsewhere and we need a better means of managing storm water.

An accumulation of branches and stones under the bridge on the public footpath caused water to flow over the bridge which washed away the edging stones and sections of the dry stone piers supporting the bridge. The blockage was cleared and water flow under the bridge is now unobstructed.

A full review of repairs to the public footpath including management of storm water drainage is required.

Several of the old trees have lost large branches – this is not itself a problem - and where they are not obstructing the path or dangerous they will be left where they fell to continue the natural cycle. However, one large limb fell onto neighbouring farmland and will need to be cleared.

## Biodiversity

We were delighted to see that the Pied Flycatchers returned in 2015 after a ten year absence.

Several events exploring the biodiversity of our local area were held in 2015:

Dawn chorus walk—13 May with Chris Allen

Shore walk—14 June with Gabe Wyn

Bat walk—28 August with Sam Dyer

As before, members copied their Big Garden Bird (30-31 Jan 2016) counts to Bryan for our growing archive of bird observations.

## Mountain bikes

Bike usage has been lower since the sign at the Yr Ynys entrance was installed. But there are still occasional bike tracks appearing on the path. Please let us know if you see bikes being ridden in the woods.

## Micro-hydro

With funding from Ynni'r Fro, ideas for a hydro on the Galedffwrdd were by March 2015 advanced to what is termed 'pre-application' stage for a high head scheme which could support a 240kW generator. Further development of the hydro then stalled for lack of funding.

In the Autumn CM was asked to become a founder member of Cyd Ynni, a consortium of six community energy groups from Aber, Bethesda, Llanberis and Waunfawr. This allows us to learn from the groups who have already installed hydro (Ynni Anafon) and also contribute our woodland and biodiversity perspective to Cyd Ynni.

Funding was obtained in November 2015 to support community engagement and consultation on the proposal. A new community energy funding scheme, Ynni Lleol, opened in January 2016 and an application is ready to be submitted to progress the development of the scheme to planning submission stage.

## Llais y Goedwig

Jenny represented Coetir Mynydd at the Llais y Goedwig Annual Gathering on the 27-28 March 2015 at Abergavenny. Since then LlyG secured funding from the Welsh Government for regional staff. Sara Wynne Pari is the new 'Capacity building officer' for North Wales and Bryan had the opportunity to meet her at Golgyfa Gwydyr on the 25 Feb 2016.



## Annual General Meeting

Friday 26 February 2016 20:30  
Neuadd Goffa, Mynydd Llandygai

### AGENDA

- 1) Apologies
- 2) Annual report
- 3) Financial report
- 4) Election of board
  
- 5) Woodland management plan
  - Renewal of 5 year plan due in 2016
  - End of woodland management grant
  - Footpath repairs
  - Dam inspection
  
- 6) Micro-hydro development
  - Community consultation - Mantell Gwynedd grant
  - Feasibility & design – Ynni Lleol grant
  - Required surveys
  
- 7) Cyd Ynni
  - Ynni Ogwen & Ynni Padarn Peris share offer
  - Energy Local pilot
  - Community and Renewable Energy Scheme (CARES) conference in Stirling 14-16<sup>th</sup> March
  - Firewood as renewable energy
  
- 8) Forward plans for 2016
  - OPAL surveys with Ysgol Bodfeurig
  - More biodiversity walks ...
  - General clean-up
  
- 9) AOB

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**Cyd Ynni** – a consortium of 6 groups looking to develop community energy comprising:

Ynni Anafon (Abergwyngregyn) – generating since Nov 2015

**Ynni Ogwen (Bethesda) - share offer launched**

**Coetir Mynydd (Mynydd Llandygai) – feasibility/design stage**

**Ffarm Moelyci (Tregarth) – pre-feasibility stage**

Ynni Padarn Peris (Llanberis) – share offer launched

Antur Waunfawr (Waunfawr) – feasibility stage

Cyd Ynni is supporting the Energy Local pilot of a Community Energy Services Company (CESCO) based on a National Trust hydro in the Bethesda area which includes Mynydd Llandygai.