



COETIR MYNYDD

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting 15th February 2017

The meeting began at 7:30 pm at Neuadd Goffa, Mynydd Llandygai

1) Apologies

Martin Daws, Gwen Griffiths, Gerry Lynch, John Turner

16 members attended + 1 guest

2) Minutes of the last meeting

Acceptance of minutes of 2016 AGM. Proposed Pat Mowday-Yates Seconded Einir Frodsham

Matters arising from 2016 Annual report

- Storm damage: Gwynedd Council organised a volunteer group to come and top dress a section of the public footpath with slate waste. Several attempts have been made to have further discussions with Gwynedd Council on repairs to the small footbridge.
- Biodiversity – pied flycatchers also present in 2016, redstarts seen recently.
- Mountain bikes – Still seen passing through the woods as a ‘short-cut’. Overall levels of use have declined and apparently speed racing on the hill has ceased.
- Cyd Ynni – several meetings attended by Tim and Jenny. Not much happening at the moment as still preparing second stage of lottery application to provide support for development of community energy projects.

3) Annual report

- Tree safety: trees cleared only is blocking the footpath or onto neighbouring land. There were three incidents in 2016.
- Biodiversity: Sharon Sweeny did organise a bird walk to look for pied flycatchers at the end of May. Sian said North Wales Wildlife Trust are on the lookout for interesting sites to visit and they would be interested in visiting our woods.
- Micro-hydro: John Farrar asked when the tags that have been attached to trees will be removed. John Sweeny replied that once the work is done and they are not

needed any longer or when project is abandoned. It was explained the tags were to identify individual trees greater than 15 cm diameter at breast height on maps and to record the details of the records made for each tree. Trees are coded according to their significance to ecology, landscape etc. and the maps are used to design around the most important trees. The tree survey has just finished with 226 trees tagged.

4) Financial report

Bryan stood in as treasurer in 2016. Financial reporting period is 1 Nov 2015 to 31 Oct 2016. See accompanying Treasurer's Report.

The balance of both accounts is much the same at the end of the year as it was at the beginning. It has taken 11 months to undertake the process of re-registering signatories on the CM accounts with the Coop bank which has recently put itself up for sale. The Chair wanted to put on record that CM is not impressed with the Co-op Bank.

Subscriptions in 2016 amounted to £160 and remain fixed at £5 annual fee. Sharon and Gabe have started contacting former members but several have died, moved away or did not wish to continue to support CM. Once the hydro consultation is over there is a need to undertake a CM membership drive in the village which is something that has been planned for several years. Several ideas were put forward for promoting CM membership such as a table at the Marchnad, which starts in March.

5) Election of the board

In the absence of any nominations Tim agreed to continue as Chair for a further year on condition he would be permitted to stand down in 2018. It was unanimously agreed if someone came forward willing to take over as Chair then this could be done before the next AGM.

The present board were confirmed and re-elected for 2017.

Being on the board is not a requirement to attend board meetings though only the board can vote on decisions. All members are welcome to assist as they can in the work of CM. It was agreed that an email list would be set up so members can keep in touch with the work of the board.

6) Management plan

For the first ten years the preparation of a woodland management plan was funded through the Better Woodlands for Wales scheme operated by the Forestry Commission and later Natural Resources Wales. The plan expired in 2015 and needs to be refreshed. In the absence of funds, CM members will do this internally. Jenny will prepare a draft plan based on the long term objectives and the previous plans to be circulated for comment.

7) Micro-hydro development

The detailed plans and reports of the various surveys will be launched at a community consultation event on Sunday 26th February. Help with delivering flyers for the event was requested as well as any ideas on how to make materials presented on the day available to those unable to attend and how best to solicit comments on the proposals.

8) AOB

- Bird boxes for pied flycatchers – proposal from Chris Allen & Sharon Sweeny to locate 1-2 boxes in the woods – some discussion of this and there is likely to be no shortage of nesting sites for the birds in the woods but it was agreed to site the boxes and monitor the numbers of birds.

- Parc y Bwlch – Jenny has continued protracted discussions with NRW concerning local community inputs into the Resources plan for Parc y Bwlch. It was agreed with NRW that CM would organise two surveys in the lower parts of the woods – Bangor University students would undertake a tree survey and Glynllifon College students would look at small scale extraction. Both colleges are happy to help but it is taking some time to organise this. There is no particular rush as the next activity in Parc y Bwlch is the felling of the block along the upper boundary with Moelyci in 2018.

- Sam asked if anyone knew of places he could check as hibernation sites for 150 Lesser horseshoe bats he has been unable to locate. Several sites were mentioned which will be followed up. Sam offered to provide a bat walk for CM members.

9) Date & time of next meeting

Not decided

Meeting closed at 9:45 pm