



# Complete Agenda

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LL55 1SH

Meeting

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

Date and Time

**4.00 pm, WEDNESDAY, 29TH MARCH, 2023**

Location

**Cyfarfod Rhithiol / Virtual Meeting**

**For public access to the meeting, please contact us**

Contact Point

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(DISTRIBUTED Tuesday, 21 March 2023)

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

## MEMBERSHIP

### Gwynedd Councillors

Dafydd Davies  
John Brynmor Hughes  
Gareth Tudor Jones  
Gareth Williams  
Gruffydd 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,  
FWAG Cymru

# **A G E N D A**

## **1. APOLOGIES**

To receive apologies for absence.

## **2. DECLARATION OF PERSONAL INTEREST**

To receive any declaration of personal interest.

## **3. URGENT ITEMS**

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

## **4. MINUTES**

4 - 8

The Chair shall propose that the minutes of this committee, held on 27 June 2022, be signed as a true record.

## **5. NATURE RECOVERY ACTION PLAN**

9 - 10

To inform Members of the aims and challenges included in the Cyngor Gwynedd and Llŷn AONB joint Nature Recovery Action Plan.

## **6. GWYNEDD AND ERYRI 2035 - STRATEGIC PLAN FOR THE VISITOR ECONOMY**

11 - 13

Bleddyn Jones, AONB Officer to give a report on the Strategic Plan or the Visitor Economy.

## **7. SUSTAINABLE LANDSCAPES SUSTAINABLE PLACES PROGRAMME**

14 - 15

Bleddyn Jones, AONB Officer to give a report on Sustainable Landscapes Sustainable Places programme.

## **8. THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT FUND**

16 - 17

Morus Llwyd Dafydd, AONB Project Officer to give and update on the Sustainable Development Fund.

## **9. DARK SKY DESIGNATION**

18 - 19

Morus Llwyd Dafydd, AONB Project Officer to provide information on the intention to work towards a Dark Sky status application for the Pen draw Llŷn area.

# Agenda Item 4

LLŶN AREA OF OUTSTANDING NATURAL BEAUTY JOINT ADVISORY COMMITTEE 27/06/2022

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## LLŶN AREA OF OUTSTANDING NATURAL BEAUTY JOINT ADVISORY COMMITTEE 27/06/2022

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**Present:**

T. Victor Jones (Chair) (Llanbedrog Community Council)

**Members:** Councillors Gareth Williams, John Brynmor Hughes, Gareth Tudor Jones, Gruffydd Williams, Dafydd Davies and Angella Russell (Cyngor Gwynedd Rural Champion) and also Andy Godber (National Trust), Noel Davey (Campaign for the Protection of Rural Wales), Jina Gwyrfai (Llanaelhaearn Community Council), Brett Garner (Llŷn Fishermen Association), Morgan Jones-Parry (Arfon and Dwyfor Local Access Forum), Sian Parri (Tudweiliog Community Council), Sianelen Plemming (Pistyll Community Council), Gillian Walker (Cyfeillion Llŷn) and Wenda Williams (Aberdaron Community Council).

**Officers:** Bleddyn P. Jones (Llŷn AONB Officer), Morus Llwyd Dafydd (Llŷn AONB Projects Officer), Wyn Williams (Countryside Manager) and Sioned Mai Jones (Democracy Services Officer).

### 1. ELECTION OF CHAIR

RESOLVED to elect Councillor T.Victor Jones as Chairman of the Llŷn AONB Joint Advisory Committee for the year 2022/23.

### 2. ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIR

RESOLVED to elect Councillor Sian Parri as Vice-chair of the Llŷn AONB Joint Advisory Committee for the year 2022/23.

### 3. APOLOGIES

An apology was received from Andrew Davidson (Principal Archaeologist - Gwynedd Archaeologist Trust), Eirian Allport (Clynnog Fawr Community Council) and Molly Lovatt (Natural Resources Wales).

### 4. DECLARATION OF PERSONAL INTEREST

None to note.

### 5. URGENT ITEMS

None to note.

### 6. MINUTES

The Chairman signed the minutes of the previous meeting of this Joint-committee held on 16 March 2022, as a true record.

### 7. AONB MANAGEMENT PLAN

The report on the AONB Management Plan was presented noting that the Joint-committee had a role to play in the process of preparing, coordinating and reviewing the

Plan. It was noted that the current Management Plan was dated and needed reviewing. It was reported that background work had already been completed as well as commissioning an update of the Report on the Condition of the AONB. A summary of the main findings had been included with the report as appendix 1.

Information on the next steps was provided that would include reviewing notes, aims and the policies of the present Management Plan and suggestions to change some aspects. The timetable and what is proposed to complete was discussed including the period of consulting and considering the responses in 2023. The aim was to adopt and implement the revised Management Plan before the end of 2023.

During the discussion, members raised the following matters:-

- An observation was made on the agricultural information in the report on the condition of the AONB which showed a reduction of 17% in the use of land for growing crops between 2008-2012. It was questioned how reliable the information was.
- The importance of tightening the protection for traditional buildings was expressed and reference was made to planning applications for extensions that were contrary to the character of traditional houses. It was believed that the procedure and observations received from the AONB on planning applications should be strengthened.
- Reference was made to the current work the Llŷn Landscape Partnership were undertaking with the Connectivity Strategy to try and improve the Llŷn landscape following the nature emergency and climate change. It would be appreciated if the AONB Unit was part of this process.
- It was believed that the significant decline that had taken place over the years in the appearance of the AONB and in the Welsh language needed to be recognised and it was important to note this in the report.
- It was recognised that habitats and protecting nature was important, but it was highlighted that food production was the main aim of the landscape, and it should be ensured that enough land was earmarked for this purpose.

In response, it was noted:

- That the information in the report on the condition of the AONB was dated. It was noted that it had been challenging for the consultants to find recent information. The AONB Officer would try and follow up with the Welsh Government and Natural Resources Wales in order to receive recent information for the plan.
- That the AONB Unit was an advisor and provided observations on planning applications. It was believed that there would be an opportunity when the Local Development Plan was updated.
- The AONB Unit would contact the National Trust regarding connectivity along the coast when reviewing the plan.
- It was explained that the full report did exist but only a summary was presented to the Joint-committee. It was noted that observations on culture and language were identified and would be included in the plan.

## **DECISION**

**To note and accept the information in the report on the AONB Management Plan.**

## **8. LLŶN AONB JOINT ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP**

Information on the membership of the Joint Committee was provided noting that there were arrangements in place to exchange the Members from Cyngor Gwynedd following

the local elections. The Members that would receive a seat on the Joint-committee as well as the Countryside Champion were confirmed.

The empty seats that existed were mentioned. The AONB Officer would try and re-contact some agencies to see if they were going to send a representative; it was recognised that some hadn't attended for years. The report on the attendance in meetings of the Joint-committee since 2019 was provided as requested at the last meeting of the Joint-committee.

During the discussion, members raised the following matters:-

- It was noted that there were fewer Councillors since the local elections in May following boundary changes that had led to larger wards. It was questioned if it was possible to re-visit the membership to give more Councillors an offer to attend.
- There was concern that some Members with an interest in attending were missing out due to the rotation system that existed whilst others with a seat weren't attending.
- It was questioned why the Councillors for Llanystumdwy ward weren't included within the membership as part of the ward was now within the boundaries and territory of the AONB.

In response, it was noted:

- That the AONB Officer had received legal advice that it would not be possible to invite more Cyngor Gwynedd Councillors to become members of the Joint-committee as it was important to keep the balance between Cyngor Gwynedd Councillors and other members and representatives. It was deemed that the current arrangement of 6 Cyngor Gwynedd Councillors and the Countryside Champion worked well.
- The AONB Officer would look into the matter of the Llanystumdwy ward and the AONB boundaries by the next meeting.

## **DECISION**

**To accept the report on the Membership of the Consultative Joint-committee.**

## **9. RIGHTS OF WAY IMPROVEMENT PLAN**

The report on the Rights of Way Improvement Plan was provided to members of the Joint-committee to inform the Joint-committee of the intention regarding the Plan. It was explained that it was a strategic document that set the direction and priorities for the work of maintaining and developing the rights of way network and other access assets in Gwynedd.

It was explained that a new ROWIP had been prepared; the original Plan was adopted in 2007. The new Plan reflects the changes in resources and legislation since that period.

It was noted that the new ROWIP was now live on the Council's website and that it was possible to provide observations on the Plan during the public consultation period which would continue until mid-September 2022. It was added that a message had been sent to the Community and Town Council Clerks regarding the consultation and Members would also receive a message soon. It was hoped that the responses to the consultation could be looked at in the Autumn before moving forward to adopt the Plan.

Members did not have any observations or questions.

**DECISION****To accept the information noted in the report.****10. THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT FUND**

An update was provided to the Joint-committee on the position of the Sustainable Development Fund thus far and developments in the pipeline. Reference was made to the expenditure of the 2021/22 financial year, and it was reported that there was £100,000 in the Fund and it had all been allocated.

It was confirmed that funding had been confirmed for the next three years. This meant that there was £100,000 in the fund for 2022/23 and a budget of £100,000 was available for 2023/24 and 2024/25. It was explained that this provided the opportunity for projects to be funded over a period of two or three years if needed.

It was added that the Welsh Government had changed the Fund's Regulations by placing more emphasis on the Well-being Act as well as prioritising projects that correspond with the themes of Nature Recovery and De-carbonisation. It was noted that the work of promoting the Fund had already started and members were encouraged to share information on the opportunity to apply for grants from the fund.

To conclude it was explained that new members needed to be elected to the Grants Panel. It was explained that there was space for 8 members of the Consultative Joint-committee to serve as members of the Grants Panel. Following guidance, it was suggested that four of the previous members continue and for four new members to be chosen. It was noted that the intention in the future was to exchange two members of the Grants Panel every two years. The Joint-committee were asked to accept the information and elect new members to the Grants Panel.

During the discussion, members raised the following matters:-

- An enquiry was made on having a quorum. In addition, it was asked why all members of the Consultative Joint-committee could not be members of the Grants Panel.
- The existing members of the Grants Panel wanted to continue as members, and there was no desire from anyone to stand down.
- A proposal was made by the Members to keep the Grants Panel membership as it was and to offer a space for one new member to fill the empty seat. It was asked whether this was acceptable by the AONB Officer.
- An observation was made that many small projects needed funding in Llŷn and it was asked if it would be possible to keep a specific amount for projects that ask for £1,000 or less. It was felt that small projects were more likely to miss out as they ask for fairly low amounts.

In response, it was noted:

- That 1/3 was a quorum therefore at least a third of the members of the Grants Panel needed to be present at every meeting.
- It was explained that 8 members on the Grants Panel was already a high number compared to other AONB e.g. Anglesey which had 3 members. Members were reminded that 6 members used to represent the Grants Panel but the number of members was raised to 8 and it was believed that this number worked well.
- The AONB Officer explained that there was 1 empty seat on the Grants Panel. There was a need for 3 present members of the Panel to step down and to then elect 4 new representatives.

- The AONB Officer noted that the restrictions of the Welsh Government suggest rotating the members of the Grants Panel but if everyone was in agreement, that it would be possible to implement the wish of existing members to continue by adding one new member to fill the empty seat. It was emphasised that this was acceptable for the time being but in two years two members would need to be removed and replaced with two new ones.
- It was confirmed that the members of the Grants Panel would be: Councillors Gareth Williams, Gruffydd Williams and Angela Russell and also Eirian Allport, Noel Davey, T. Victor Jones, Morgan Jones-Parry and Sian Parri.
- It was explained that it was a challenge to spend £100,000 in a year and it was recognised that many projects in Llŷn were small ones. It was believed that there would be more flexibility in the next three years to fund smaller projects as confirmation had been received of the £100,000 for the next three years for the fund.

#### **DECISION**

- a) **To accept the report on the position of the Sustainable Development Fund.**
- b) **Councillor Angela Russell was elected to take the empty seat on the Panel.**

The meeting commenced at 4.00pm and concluded at 4.55pm

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**CHAIR**



<b>MEETING</b>	Llŷn AONB Joint Advisory Committee
<b>DATE</b>	March 29th 2023
<b>TITLE</b>	Nature Recovery Action Plan
<b>PURPOSE</b>	Inform members
<b>AUTHOR</b>	Biodiversity Team Leader
<b>RECOMMENDATION</b>	Accept the Information

## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 2019 was a turning point in recognising the nature emergency and stepping up action for biodiversity. Wales also declared a climate emergency, with Gwynedd Council itself following suit in March 2019. In response the National Nature Recovery Action Plan was published and part 1, “Our strategy for Nature”, setting out the commitment to reversing the loss of biodiversity in Wales and the objectives for action ([The Nature Recovery Action Plan for Wales 2020 to 2021 \(gov.wales\)](https://gov.wales/nature-recovery-action-plan)). Since then, the Welsh Government has also declared a nature emergency in June 2021.
- 1.2 Following on from this, Welsh Government have asked each Local Authority, National Park and Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty across Wales to produce their own Action Plan, detailing how each area should approach nature recovery.

## 2.0 GWYNEDD AND LLŷN NATURE RECOVERY ACTION PLAN

- 2.1 Gwynedd and Llŷn AONB have decided to produce a joint Action Plan, which will not only aim to address the national objectives, but also address those environmental challenges and concerns closer to home. For instance, when the communities of Llŷn were asked what is good about their area during recent consultations for the Ardal Ni project, it was noted that “Environment and proximity to natural attractions e.g. mountains, the seaside and the countryside” scored the highest. We want to ensure that we have a plan in place which ensures that our communities and local residents across Gwynedd and Llŷn can continue to enjoy and benefit from our own byd natur.
- 2.2 The Action Plan itself is a policy document we are producing that will aid in the recovery of nature in Gwynedd and the Llŷn. The document is aimed at a wide range of stakeholders, partners, groups and individuals who have an interest in nature recovery or are key to it.
- 2.3 Public consultations will be held soon, aimed at various groups. The outcomes of these consultations will be used to lead and initiate action towards nature recovery in Gwynedd and Llŷn, so we would urge you to participate where you can.
- 2.4 For more information on the National Nature Recovery Action Plan, visit the

Wales Biodiversity Partnership website by clicking the following link: [Wales Biodiversity Partnership - Nature Recovery Action Plan \(biodiversitywales.org.uk\)](https://www.biodiversitywales.org.uk)

### **3.0 RECOMMENDATION**

- 3.1 Accept the information.

<b>COMMITTEE</b>	Llŷn AONB Joint Advisory Committee
<b>DATE</b>	March 29 <sup>th</sup> 2023
<b>TITLE</b>	Gwynedd and Eryri 2035 – Strategic Plan for the Visitor Economy
<b>PURPOSE</b>	Inform members
<b>AUTHOR</b>	Llŷn AONB Officer
<b>RECOMMENDATION</b>	Accept the information

## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Recently Cyngor Gwynedd and Eryri National Park Authority have reviewed their priorities and plans for the visitor economy in the area. A review of the Destination Management Plan began in 2018 with a series of workshops for the tourism sector and community representatives. COVID-19 put tremendous pressure on communities across Gwynedd and Eryri with unprecedented numbers of visitors to the area. This period has highlighted some issues that need to be addressed to support a sustainable visitor economy in the area.
- 1.2 In November 2021, Cyngor Gwynedd and the National Park Authority signed a Memorandum of Understanding. The Objective of the Memorandum of Understanding is to *collaborate effectively and efficiently in partnership to realise the vision and principles of the Gwynedd and Eryri Sustainable Visitor Economy Plan 2035 to protect and promote the area's special qualities.*

## 2.0 THE MAIN ISSUES

- 2.1 As work on the Plan began it became apparent there were various issues that caused concern:
- Pressure on areas and public services, e.g. car parks, bins, roads, rural areas.
  - Covid created tensions in some areas with unprecedented visitor numbers.
  - Salary levels and seasonal employment within the tourism sector.
  - Lack of diversity in the rural economy and possible overdependence on tourism.
  - Negative feelings within some communities and areas, but there may be opportunities if different actions are taken.
  - Potential impact on the language, communities and the environment.
  - Better means of measuring are needed to measure any negative and positive impacts.
  - An opportunity to integrate a Sustainable Visitor Economy Plan into the development of Area Regeneration Plans across Gwynedd.

## 3.0 PRRPARING A DRAFT PLAN

- 3.1 During 2022 five events were held via Zoom to discuss the visitor economy in Gwynedd and Eryri. Sessions were also held with councillors across Gwynedd. Following feedback from these workshops in addition to other held in the past,

Cyngor Gwynedd and Eryri National Park developed the Gwynedd and Eryri Sustainable Visitor Economy Strategic Plan. Also good practice from other areas in Europe and internationally were considered.

- 3.2 Also a Sustainable Visitor Economy Task and Finish Group was established to advise the Council and National Park on the content of the Strategic Plan, the methods of measuring impact and the appropriate implementation methods. The AONB Unit had a representative on this group. The feedback of the Task and Finish Group, which included representatives from communities, businesses and potential partners, has been incorporated in the final draft Plan and action models.
- 3.3 In addition an Impact Assessment was carried out in order to assess any impact on the characteristics of equality, the Welsh language and Socio-Economic Disadvantage. That Assessment recognises that there are gaps in the development of the Strategic Plan and consultation with groups with protected characteristics - but it is intended to specifically engage with representatives on behalf of people and protected characteristics in order to gain a better understanding of their needs and respond to them through the agreed Action Plan. The Assessment recognises that this Plan can have a positive impact if it is implemented and monitored effectively and efficiently by the operating structures that will be adopted.

#### **4.0 THE STRATEGIC PLAN**

- 4.1 The Vision Cyngor Gwynedd and the National Park have developed for the Gwynedd and Eryri 2035 Plan is as follows: *A visitor economy for the benefit and well-being of the people, environment, language and culture of Gwynedd and Eryri.*
- 4.2 Also a series of principles and objectives have been agreed. The principles can be seen below:
1. Celebrate, respect and protect our communities, language, culture and heritage
  2. Maintain and respect our environment
  3. Ensure that the advantages to Gwynedd and Eryri communities outweigh any disadvantages
- 4.3 **Finance** - Despite the financial forecasts ahead of us, there is an expectation that this Plan will also influence the other policies of Cyngor Gwynedd, Eryri National Park and partners in the fields of planning, destination management, environmental management, training and skills, regeneration, business support, events, etc., It is hoped that the Strategic Plan and Action Plan will open the doors to funding from the UK and Welsh Governments as well as other future funding sources.
- 4.4 The Gwynedd ac Eryri 2035 Strategic Plan for the Visitor Economy has been adopted by the Eryri National Park and also by Gwynedd Council's Cabinet (14<sup>th</sup> of February 2023).

4.5 It has also been decided to establish the Gwynedd and Eryri 2035 Partnership to develop, implement and monitor the Strategic Plan, The Gwynedd and Eryri 2035 Action Plan and its relevant indicators.

4.6 A copy of the whole Plan can be seen by following the link:  
[Layout 1 \(llyw.cymru\)](#)

## **5.0 RECOMMENDATION**

5.1 Accept the information.

# Agenda Item 7

<b>COMMITTEE</b>	Llŷn AONB Joint Advisory Committee
<b>DATE</b>	March 29 <sup>th</sup> 2023
<b>TITLE</b>	Sustainable Landscapes Sustainable Places
<b>PURPOSE</b>	Inform members
<b>AUTHOR</b>	Llŷn AONB Officer
<b>RECOMMENDATION</b>	To accept the information

## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 This report contains information on the Llŷn AONB capital projects. These projects are part of the Sustainable Landscapes Sustainable Places programme by Welsh Government which is available to support capital projects within AONBs and National Parks.

1.2 The 8 Designated Landscapes in Wales were invited to submit capital projects for the 3 year period (2022-25). The themes for the capital projects were:

- Biodiversity and nature recovery
- Decarbonisation
- Resilient and green communities
- Sustainable Tourism

1.3 A mix of projects were expected from each area.

## 2.0 LLYN AONB PROJECTS 2022-23

2.1 **Gyrn Goch Circular walk** - This particular path was closed in 2022 because the old bridge crossing river “Hen” had rotted and was impossible to cross. The main focus of the project was therefore to install a new bridge over the river in order to reopen the circuit and create access to the nearby forest and the access land of Gyrn Goch. Other improvements were also made to the journey by exchanging a stile for a gate and resurfacing part of the path. This is a fairly short walk but it provides an opportunity to walk through various landscapes including forest and unimproved land with various wild plants.

2.2 **AONB Warden electric van** - As part of the effort to decarbonise the services of the AONB and Gwynedd Council, a portion of the capital grant was used to buy an electric van for the Warden of the AONB. This meant getting rid of the old diesel van and thereby reducing the service's carbon footprint. Charging Points in the Cob Road, Pwllheli offices are used to charge the van and occasionally those of the National Trust.

2.3 **Common Land** - Another exciting project by the Unit is to assess and improve some common lands in Rhos Botwnnog, Foel Gron Mynytho, and Horeb/Mynytho.

In the financial year 2022-23 ecological surveys were carried out on the common lands in question. In the coming years we will implement measures to restore/improve the condition of the lands (e.g. improving habitats, removing invasive species), improving management, reducing fire risks etc. The project also aims to improve access and interpretation to these lands.

- 2.4 **Y Ganolfan, Llithfaen** – The Ganolfan is an important building in the village of Llithfaen and the surrounding area. Until recently various meetings and activities were held here and there were two snooker tables that were in constant use. During the lockdown period a problem developed with dry rot in the Ganolfan and it became clear that significant improvements were needed before the building could be re-opened. In year 2022-23 TCLC capital funds contributed to a thorough condition survey of the Ganolfan and drawing up a Business Plan for the future.
- 2.5 **Access improvements** – the SLSP capital grant also supported improvements to access and signage on sites near the coast at Mynydd Tir y Cwmwd, Porth Ysgo and Porthor.
- 2.6 **Traditional Boundaries** - This is a joint project with other designated areas of north Wales. Its purpose is to maintain and restore traditional boundaries - stone walls, banks and stone faced earth banks. As well as being interesting features on the landscape these boundaries are important wildlife habitats. As part of the project the Llŷn AONB Unit collaborated with the Snowdonia National Park to offer grants to maintain and restore traditional boundaries in the Madryn area, Llŷn.
- 2.7 **The Dark Sky** - Again, this was a joint project with other designated landscapes. A lot of work has already been done to raise awareness about the importance of the dark sky through the Night Partnership. This project builds on that and includes appointing consultants to carry out an inspection of lighting in areas and identify opportunities to install new lights, less harmful to the dark sky. Following that the project will move on to realize the improvements for the benefit of the dark sky and the environment in general.

### 3.0 RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 Accept the information

# Agenda Item 8

<b>MEETING</b>	Llŷn AONB Joint Advisory Committee
<b>DATE</b>	29 March 2023
<b>TITLE</b>	The Sustainable Development Fund
<b>PURPOSE</b>	Update on the Sustainable Development Fund
<b>AUTHOR</b>	Llŷn AONB Projects Officer
<b>RECOMMENDATION</b>	Accept the information

## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 This report presents information to members about the current situation of the Sustainable Development Fund and other issues regarding it.

## 2.0 2022/23 EXPENDITURE

2.1 There was a total of £100,000 available in the Fund at the start of 2022/23 and we managed to allocate £92,149.52 (including £10,000 administrative costs), so there was a slight underspend of £7,850.48. There was an underspend of £5,265.50 within one project, and one project had to withdraw.

2.2 Here is the list of the projects supported:

CDC 20.1	Llŷn Maritime Museum	£2,775
CDC 22.2	Llŷn Fflecsi Bus	£10,060
CDC 22.3	Llandegwning Gate	£367.50
CDC 22.4	R S Thomas Festival	£1,725
CDC 22.5	Aberdaron Church	£5,265.5
CDC 22.6	Sarn old pictures exhibition	£772.50
CDC 22.7	Aberdaron Sailing Club	£2,925
CDC 22.8	Llithfaen Playground	£9,400
CDC 22.11	Hafod Ceiri Windows	£12,100
CDC 22.12	Coedlan Carl Archaeological Survey	£3,000
CDC 22.13	Aberdesach	£4,500
CDC 22.17	Melin Daron	£19,841
CDC 22.18	Plas Carmel	£3,803.25
CDC 22.19	Aberdaron community noticeboards	£1,273.98
CDC 22.20	Dog waste Bag Dispensers	£793.95
CDC 22.21	Abersoch Hall	£2,114.84

## 3.0 2023/25

3.1 A total funding of £100,000 is available for 2023/24 and a further £100,000 for 2024/25. This gives projects the opportunity to be funded over a period of two years rather than one year if necessary.



3.2 The Welsh Government has amended the Fund's regulations to place more emphasis on the Welbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act and projects related to De-carbonisation, and Nature recovery themes should be prioritised.

3.3 The work of promoting the opportunity to apply for the grant has begun. The members are encouraged to share information about the Fund.

#### **4.0 RECOMMENDATION**

4.1 To accept the above information about the Sustainable Development Fund.

# Agenda Item 9

<b>COMMITTEE</b>	Llŷn AONB Joint Advisory Committee
<b>DATE</b>	March 29 <sup>th</sup> 2023
<b>TITLE</b>	Dark Sky Designation
<b>PURPOSE</b>	Inform members and seek support
<b>AUTHOR</b>	AONB Project Officer
<b>RECOMMENDATION</b>	Support the intention to work towards a Dark Sky status application for the Pen draw Llŷn area

## **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 For some time the AONB Unit has been working towards seeking International Dark Sky status for the Llŷn AONB area. The matter has been discussed in the Joint Committee but so far no decision has been made.
- 1.2 It is realized that the entire AONB area is quite large and there are differences within the area. Collecting data about the whole area is quite a challenge.
- 1.3 Rather than trying to designate the whole AONB as an area of International Dark Sky the AONB Unit is now considering focusing on a specific area on the tip of the Peninsula.

## **2.0 DARK SKY SANCTUARY- YNYS ENLLI**

- 2.1 Ynys Enlli was designated as a Dark Sky Sanctuary on the 23rd of February 2023. Enlli is the first site in Europe to receive this certification, thanks to the island's low light pollution.
- 2.2 This is what the executive director of the International Dark Sky Association (IDA) had to say "Wales is fast becoming one of the leading nations in protecting dark skies as a valuable resource that benefits people and wildlife,"
- 2.3 The news that Ynys Enlli had been designated as a Dark Sky Sanctuary was broadcasted throughout the country, raising awareness about Enlli and Llŷn. This designation can benefit the tourism sector at quieter times of the year. Snowdonia National Park is already seeing the benefits of being designated a Dark Sky Reserve.

## **3.0 APPLICATION FOR DARK SKY STATUS FOR PART OF LLŷN AONB**

- 3.1 It is the International Dark Sky Association (IDA) which has established the concept of Dark Sky areas and it is the body responsible for designations. There are a series of designations possible – including Sanctuary, Community, Park and Reserve. The AONB Unit staff have taken part in an online meeting with representatives of the IDA and there is support for an application for this area.

- 3.2 There has been a previous discussion in the Joint Committee about the possibility of supporting an application for a dark sky status. At that time there were some concerns about the potential impact of the designation.
- 3.3 The AONB area as a whole is quite large, and there is considerable variation in terms of night darkness etc. Also monitoring the dark skies across the whole area is quite a challenge.
- 3.4 Because of that and the fact that Ynys Enlli has now received Dark Sky Sanctuary status, the AONB Unit, in collaboration with Project NOS, is considering seeking Dark Sky status for the area on the tip of the Peninsula – the “Pendraw Llŷn” Community area. This is also one of the darkest areas in the AONB.
- 3.5 As part of the application process for the Dark Sky Status it will be necessary to prepare Supplementary Planning Guidance and create a program of events to raise awareness.

#### **4.0 RECOMMENDATION**

- 4.1 To support the AONB’s Unit intention to work towards making a Dark Sky designation application in relation to the Pen draw Llŷn area.