
THE COUNCIL 3/3/16

Present: Councillor Dilwyn Morgan (Chairman);
Councillor Eric Merfyn Jones (Vice-chairman).

Councillors: Craig ab Iago, Stephen Churchman, Annwen Daniels, Lesley Day, Gwynfor Edwards, Dyfed Edwards, Elwyn Edwards, Trevor Edwards, Thomas Ellis, Alan Jones Evans, Aled Evans, Jean Forsyth, Gweno Glyn, Simon Glyn, Gwen Griffith, Selwyn Griffiths, Alwyn Gruffydd, Siân Gwenllian, Annwen Hughes, Chris Hughes, John Brynmor Hughes, Louise Hughes, Sian Wyn Hughes, Jason Humphreys, Peredur Jenkins, Aeron M. Jones, Aled Wyn Jones, Anne Lloyd Jones, Brian Jones, Charles W. Jones, Dyfrig Jones, Elin Walker Jones, John Wynn Jones, Sion Wyn Jones, Eryl Jones-Williams, Beth Lawton, Dilwyn Lloyd, June Marshall, Dafydd Meurig, Linda Morgan, Dewi Owen, Michael Sol Owen, W. Roy Owen, William Tudor Owen, Caerwyn Roberts, Gareth A. Roberts, John Pughe Roberts, W. Gareth Roberts, Mair Rowlands, Angela Russell, Dyfrig Siencyn, Mike Stevens, Gareth Thomas, Glyn Thomas, Ioan Thomas, Hefin Underwood, Ann Williams, Eirwyn Williams, Elfed Williams, Gethin Glyn Williams, Gruffydd Williams, Hefin Williams, John Wyn Williams, Owain Williams, R. H. Wyn Williams, Mandy Williams-Davies and Eurig Wyn.

Officers present: Dilwyn Williams (Chief Executive), Morwena Edwards and Iwan Trefor Jones (Corporate Directors), Dafydd Edwards (Head of Finance Department), Geraint Owen (Head of Corporate Support Department), Iwan Evans (Head of Legal Service / Monitoring Officer), Rhun ap Iareth (Senior Solicitor / Deputy Monitoring Officer), Arwel E. Jones (Senior Manager – Democracy and Delivery), William E. Jones (Senior Manager – Finance), Hawis Jones (Strategic Planning and Performance Manager - for Item 8 on the agenda), Meinir Owen (Savings Programme Manager - for Item 10 on the agenda), Gareth Jones (Senior Manager - Planning and Environment - for Item 16 on the agenda), Nia Haf Davies (Planning Manager, (Joint Planning Policy Unit - Anglesey and Gwynedd) - for item 16 on the agenda) and Bethan Adams (Member Support and Scrutiny Officer).

Apologies: Councillors Anwen Davies, Linda Wyn Jones, Christopher O'Neal and Peter Read.

1. MINUTES

The Chairman signed the minutes of the previous meeting of the Council held on 10 December 2015 as a true record subject to the addition of 'Implementation of the Social Services and Well-being Act' under item 5:

"A member noted that she was uncomfortable with the monolingual English film and that the Council's staff spoke Welsh."

2. DECLARATION OF PERSONAL INTEREST

Members had received a briefing note from the Monitoring Officer in advance regarding item 10 on the agenda, 'Budgetary Matters'. Further guidance was provided to members that they should declare an interest if particular attention was given to a matter in a proposal or amendment during the discussion.

The following members declared a personal interest in item 10 on the agenda - Budgetary Matters, for the reasons noted:-

- Councillor W. Roy Owen - because he was a Canolfan Noddfa trustee.
- Councillor W. Tudor Owen - because he was vice-chair of the Canolfan Noddfa board.

- Councillor Gruffydd Williams - because he was a member of the Nefyn Playing Field Committee which had made an application for a grant from Mantell Gwynedd and Cist Gwynedd.

The members were of the opinion that they were prejudicial interests, and they withdrew from the meeting during the discussion on the amendment.

The Monitoring Officer noted that the senior officers present, with the exception of the Chief Executive, would declare an interest and would withdraw from the chamber during the entire discussion on item 9 'Annual Review - Council's Pay Policy'. It was added that the Chief Executive would declare a personal interest and withdraw from the chamber if a discussion relating to the Chief Executive's post arose.

The Corporate Directors, the Head of Finance Department, the Head of Corporate Support Department and the Head of the Legal Service / Monitoring Officer declared a personal interest in this item as the report involved their salaries. They were of the opinion that it was a prejudicial interest, and they withdrew from the meeting during the discussion on the item.

3. THE CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

(1) Speedy Recovery

Councillor Peter Read, who was currently in hospital, was wished a speedy recovery.

(2) Condolences

Councillor John Wynn Jones paid tribute to the late former Councillor Eddie Dogan, who had represented Dewi Ward for many years, and condolences were extended to his family in their bereavement.

Condolences were expressed to the family of former Councillor Mair E. Williams (Mair Vanwil) who had been an active member of this council for many years and a former Mayor of Caernarfon.

It was noted that the Council wished to express condolences to everyone within the county's communities who had lost loved ones recently.

(3) Extraordinary Meeting

It was reported that an application to hold an extraordinary meeting of the Full Council to discuss the Joint Development Plan's language assessment had been accepted. The meeting would be held on the morning of Friday 18 March.

(4) Access to Council offices

It was noted that following multiple cases where members of the public had gained unauthorised access to staff offices, work had commenced on installing a new access system for the main entrances and some other key doors. New ID cards had been distributed to members before the meeting to allow them to gain access to Council buildings with meeting rooms.

4. CORRESPONDENCE, COMMUNICATIONS, OR ANY OTHER BUSINESS

It was reported, for information, that a response had been received from the Culture, Media and Sport Department regarding the Council's call at its previous meeting opposing the cut

to S4C's budget. The response received at the end of January emphasised that the Government had to make difficult decisions and that the proposed cut to S4C's budget was less than other organisations. It was noted that at the beginning of February, the Government announced that S4C would receive the £400,000 sponsorship that it had expected to lose, the Culture Secretary, John Wittingdale stated that a review would also be held next year.

5. QUESTIONS

(1) Question from Councillor Sion Jones

"What is the Leader doing to ensure that zero hours contracts are stopped in Gwynedd Council?"

Response from Councillor Dyfed Edwards, Council Leader

(The Leader's written response had been circulated to members in advance.)

"Over the past few years the Council has aimed to eradicate zero hours contracts and is extremely close to doing so. That is the right thing to do and I am very pleased that the Council has been able to work towards that aim."

A supplementary question from Councillor Sion Jones

"Can the Leader promise that within six months all of the zero hours contracts will have been eradicated and that the Council will re-examine the situation involving seasonal workers with problems arising for some individuals in terms of obtaining a mortgage?"

Response from Councillor Dyfed Edwards, Council Leader

"I don't think setting a timetable on any action is wise, that would be a mistake because it limits any possibilities. Let us examine the situation, and if there is problem then there is a duty on us as an employer to consider what those problems are. I am not aware of those problems, a little bit of work needs to be done.

The Councillor is right to acknowledge that there is a difference between zero hours contracts and other contracts, I am pleased that he recognises that, something he has not always done in the past, so this is a step forward.

Let us get to work and I make this promise to the Council, we will investigate any difficulties and any problems that arise from the type of contracts the Councillor has referred to and we will report back to the appropriate place with any developments in the field. I think that that is the appropriate way forward."

(2) A question by Councillor Aeron M. Jones

"With a substantial number in Gwynedd running businesses or small businesses in Gwynedd, how successful has the Council been in implementing its Keeping the Benefits Local Project in terms of keeping Council expenditure with local contractors?"

Response from Councillor Mandy Williams-Davies, Cabinet Member for Economy

(The Cabinet Member's written response was distributed to the members in advance.)

"It is a very important field, as you will see from the 40% statistic. It is a complex field, and there are some companies with headquarters outside the County but have branches within the County that employ people here and spend money here and if you take them into consideration the percentage increases to 54%.

We are collaborating internally in terms of how we buy into category management rather than departments. Having said that, I am aware that it is an internal structure, there are two parts for me, there are internal matters, but also external matters and working with small businesses specifically is important to me and for me that's where the prosperity lies. We have undertaken some work through the Delivery Panel to see how we can utilise the Economy and Community Department to ask what the obstacles are and whether we can help when there are questions regarding how to fill in forms and the like.

In terms of the percentage it is comparatively good but that does not mean that it is not a priority, and that is why I am eager for it to remain in the Strategic Plan.

I am a strong believer in social clauses, and if there is a contract going we push to get an apprenticeship or something similar involved with it, this work is ongoing. Fairly encouraging statistics but I emphasise that I want to push this further."

A supplementary question by Councillor Aeron M Jones

"Would it be possible for the Economy and Community Department to work more with local businesses to keep work and the benefit local?"

Response from Councillor Mandy Williams-Davies, Cabinet Member for Economy

"After the last meeting of the Delivery Panel, there were three points of concern for companies, namely obtaining information on how to tender, when and who. We have held meet and greet sessions with buyers. I won't mention a specific tender but there are things that we have been able to do such as not being part of a national framework so that we can break things down. It is a very complex field, but one that I am eager to develop.

I also work relatively closely with the Corporate Scrutiny Committee, I have already held two sessions before them and have invited myself back for the third time and I'm very happy to undertake this collaboration to develop this field."

6. GWYNEDD STRATEGIC PLAN 2016-17

Submitted – the Leader's report, which recommended that the Council should adopt a specific Strategic Plan for the year to come, drawing attention to the projects which had been completed and added since the previous year.

During the discussion, the following matters were raised:-

- The plan was welcomed but its delivery was dependent on the decision regarding the cuts.
- The work in terms of community regeneration was extremely important and it was a good thing that the Cabinet had not recommended including the Community Regeneration Unit as part of the cuts.
- Referring to Ysgol Bro Llifon, the Cabinet Member for Education noted that an invitation was extended to members to visit this extraordinary resource. The officers

of the Education Department and the Property Unit were thanked for their work in relation to the project.

- The Vice-Chair noted that the ill-feeling that had been caused by establishing the new school had dissolved and that members should take advantage of the invitation to visit the school.
- Referring to the G7 'Capacity and sustainability of the care and health arrangements' project, a member noted that he welcomed including the project in the Strategic Plan as dementia would affect all of Gwynedd's wards in the years to come. He noted that Mark Drakeford MP, the Minister for Health and Social Services, had announced £30 million for dementia prevention, he was of the opinion that some of the funding should be allocated to individuals who had already received a diagnosis as there was a shortage of dementia beds in some parts of the County.
- Referring to the T7 'High profile and strategic events' project, an appreciation of bringing attention to Festival No. 6 was expressed and it was welcomed that reference in the plan to the Licensing Unit's good work was welcomed.
- The plan set an ambition for the Council to deliver for the people of Gwynedd.
- The Council collaborated across sectors and with third sector organisations in relation to preventative services to ensure the best opportunities for the County's children and young people.
- The outcomes deriving from the plan would not happen quickly in the Economy field but an investment had been made for the future.
- Workshops would be held regarding big events in the County which would also look at opportunities to grow businesses and the enthusiasm of the county's business people was appreciated.

RESOLVED to adopt the Strategic Plan.

7. ANNUAL REVIEW - COUNCIL'S PAY POLICY

Submitted - the report of the Cabinet Member for Resources recommending that the Council should adopt the Pay Policy Statement for 2016/17. It was noted that the Chief Officers Appointment Committee had considered the Pay Policy at its meeting on 25 February 2016 and recommended that the Council should adopt it.

RESOLVED - to adopt the Pay Policy Statement for 2016/17 (Appendix 1 of the report).

8. BUDGETARY MATTERS

The Chair noted that it was with a heavy heart that the difficult decisions regarding the cuts were made, but during a period of national cuts the Council had to make these difficult decisions. Thanks were expressed for the councillors' thorough work and he referred to the enthusiasm of Gwynedd's residents during the Gwynedd Challenge consultation and their lobbying work during the past weeks and months that had been essential to come to a conclusion on the cuts.

He referred to a petition that had been submitted before the meeting. The Cabinet Member for Economy expanded that she had received a petition regarding the arts, 'Don't cut the arts in Gwynedd,' with 1,225 names.

In response to a question regarding the costs of upgrading the Council offices' secure access doors, the Head of Finance noted that a bid for £60,000 had been submitted by the Regulatory Department to improve the security of the offices access arrangements as a result of incidents. It was noted that the work was funded equally by the Regulatory Department and the bid funding.

The Cabinet Member for Resources proposed the Cabinet's recommendations on the 2016/17 budget and the Council Tax. He emphasised that the Council had to set a balanced and viable budget. He guided the members through the report, noting that the strategy aimed to safeguard the services provided by the Council for the people of Gwynedd and to keep the increase in Council Tax to the minimum. The proposal was seconded.

The Chair reminded the members of the note that he had distributed detailing the procedure for dealing with this matter. Members were invited to propose amendments to the Cabinet's recommendation by referencing the number of the plan in question and bearing in mind that any amendment had to note how it would ensure a balanced budget.

In response to a member's question regarding the procedure of establishing a budget and setting the Council Tax, the Monitoring Officer noted, in accordance with the statutory procedure, that the Cabinet recommended a budget and Council Tax to the Full Council.

A member noted that the Cabinet Members had received more information than the other members in order to come to a decision. In response, the Chief Executive noted that the Cabinet had received comprehensive information so that they could draw up a list of possible cuts before releasing the list to consult with the public. He accepted that only a summary had been given to the members when they were consulted the previous summer in order to avoid overloading the members and striking a balance in terms of the information that was required. He noted that the additional information was available to other members if they so wished.

During the subsequent discussion, the following main points were noted:-

- An appreciation of the work of officers and the public as part of the Gwynedd Challenge consultation.
- Given that the Strategic Plan had noted that approximately 6.9 million tourists had visited Gwynedd in 2014, creating £975 million in revenue, had consideration been given to relocating the tourist information centres?
- A Scrutiny Working Group had recommended charging a fee for using the County's toilets, had considered either transferring them to others or opening some seasonally but this had not been implemented.
- The Lloyd George Museum was an important resource in terms of education and tourism with on-line petitions and calls from Assembly Members to keep this resource of national importance. Had consideration been given to contacting Welsh Government and asking it to adopt it as part of the National Museum?
- Two or three line manager posts should be cut from the Council staffing structure rather than cutting tourist information centres which were extremely important for tourism. If it was decided to close the tourist information centres, the centre located in Neuadd Dwyfor should be saved.
- Only approximately 2% of the people of Gwynedd had taken part in the Gwynedd Challenge consultation.
- Concern regarding the order of the meeting.
- Welsh Government's Public Health White Paper recommended that the Council provided a sufficient number of public toilets. Therefore, why were the Council going to close 50 out of 73 public toilets in the County?
- Several individuals had not completed the on-line questionnaire as part of the Gwynedd Challenge consultation because it had been too complicated and that the number of responses received was low given this expensive exercise.

In response to the members' observations, the Chief Executive noted the following:-

- In terms of the public toilets, it was only economically possible to charge a fee by installing payment machines for some of the toilets, and should there be a wish to

remove plan number 51 (Close 50 out of 73 of the County's public toilets) from the cuts then another plan would need to be added to the cuts or the Council Tax would have to be increased. There was work to be done in terms of which public toilets would be closed and how to realise the cuts and perhaps the Scrutiny Committee should be part of the process.

- It was acknowledged that there would be an impact on tourism by including some plans in the list of cuts but should a plan be removed from the list then another plan would have to be added or the Council Tax would have to be increased.
- Discussions had not been held with Welsh Government regarding the Lloyd George Museum but it was recommended to postpone acting on the cut until 1 April 2017, in order to give the Service an opportunity to hold discussions with anybody that wished to take responsibility for the museum.
- Further work was to be undertaken on some of the plans included in the list of cuts before they could be implemented.

An amendment was proposed to remove plan number 12 (reduce 50% of the grants given to voluntary organisations for specific projects) and plan number 26 (delete the Canolfan Noddfa grant) from the list of cuts and increase the Council Tax by 4.03%.

The Head of the Finance Department noted that removing both plans from the list of cuts would mean raising the Council Tax by 4.09% in order to set a balanced budget. The proposer accepted the adjustment.

The amendment was seconded.

In response to enquiries by members relating to declaring an interest, the Monitoring Officer noted that he had made a request for members to ask for guidance in advance. He added that the members had received training on the Code of Conduct and it was a matter for the individual Councillor to decide in terms of declaring an interest.

In accordance with Procedural Rules, the following vote was recorded on the amendment:-

In favour: (8) Councillors Gwynfor Edwards, Aled Evans, Gwen Griffith, Aled Wyn Jones, Sion Wyn Jones, Dilwyn Morgan, Mike Stevens and Glyn Thomas.

Against: (49) Councillors Craig ab Iago, Stephen Churchman, Annwen Daniels, Lesley Day, Dyfed Edwards, Elwyn Edwards, Trevor Edwards, Thomas Ellis, Alan Jones Evans, Jean Forsyth, Gweno Glyn, Simon Glyn, Selwyn Griffiths, Alwyn Gruffydd, Siân Gwelllian, Annwen Hughes, John Brynmor Hughes, Louise Hughes, Sian Wyn Hughes, Peredur Jenkins, Anne Lloyd Jones, Charles W. Jones, Dyfrig Jones, Elin Walker Jones, John Wynn Jones, Beth Lawton, Dilwyn Lloyd, Dafydd Meurig, Linda Morgan, Dewi Owen, Michael Sol Owen, Caerwyn Roberts, Gareth A. Roberts, John Pughe Roberts, W. Gareth Roberts, Mair Rowlands, Angela Russell, Dyfrig Siencyn, Gareth Thomas, Ioan Thomas, Eirwyn Williams, Elfed Williams, Gethin Glyn Williams, Hefin Williams, John Wyn Williams, Owain Williams, R. H. Wyn Williams, Mandy Williams-Davies and Eurig Wyn.

Abstentions: (7) Councillors Chris Hughes, Aeron M. Jones, Brian Jones, Eric Merfyn Jones, Eryl Jones-Williams, June Marshall, Hefin Underwood.

During the subsequent discussion on the original proposal, the following main points were noted:-

- The Council's decision not to supply salt bins could mean an increase in Community Council precepts.
- The Council had consulted on a larger scale than other councils in Wales and had weighed up the evidence to safeguard public services as the people of Gwynedd were dependent on them.

- It was acknowledged that it would have been beneficial to receive a higher number of responses to the consultation.
- The cuts were inevitable because of Westminster Government's policy.
- If there would be difficulties in terms of realising the cuts following further work, that the Cabinet would receive a report.
- Could a note be made of the Council's intention to charge a premium on long-term empty properties and second homes from the 2017/18 financial year onwards without designating a percentage?
- In order to safeguard vulnerable people, the Cabinet recommended not including plan number 34 (Cut 10% on the Support Service given to Children from Derwen) because it would have a detrimental impact on the Derwen service, which was already implementing efficiency savings.
- There was still work to be done on several plans before the cuts could be realised and everyone who had taken part in the Gwynedd Challenge consultation was encouraged to continue with the work of discovering alternative delivery methods.
- There had been a composite inflation increase of 67% on the Council Tax since 2005 compared with the general composite inflation increase of 37% in the same period, it was recognised that the situation was difficult and that the Council's movement towards the living wage would be welcomed but there had been insufficient scrutiny on the possible cuts. Therefore, a member wished to increase the Council Tax by 3.5% and asked the Scrutiny Committee to consider the information during the next three months and recommend the way forward to the Cabinet.
- Support keeping the tourist information centres and public toilets but it would mean a further increase in the Council Tax. The details of some of the plans were not known and therefore the member would abstain.
- There was a need for work to be carried out to reconcile what the communities and the Council were undertaking.
- A high number of the responses to the consultation were from organisations and services but the response level was low in terms of plans that would affect children and vulnerable adults and the member was therefore happy that the Council was going to take care of them.
- Could an explanation be provided as to why some names in the additional information provided to members had been deleted?

In response to the members' observations, the officers noted:-

- In terms of charging a premium on long-term empty properties and second homes, a clear warning would need to be provided regarding the premium if it was going to be implemented from the 2017/18 financial year onwards. The Holiday Homes and Taxes Scrutiny Investigation was being carried out at present and it was recommended to wait for the result of the investigation and then assess the situation with all the information before coming to a decision.
- In terms of the aspiration to increase the Council Tax by 3.5% and to ask the Scrutiny Committees to consider the information during the next three months and recommend the way forward to the Cabinet, it was not an appropriate amendment as it was a legal requirement to set a balanced budget as noted at the beginning, it would have to note specifically how it intended to address the financial deficit.
- It was acknowledged that there was inconsistency in terms of funding from the Council and the Community Councils. Meetings with Community Councils were currently being held and work would be undertaken in the near future to examine the situation while searching for further efficiency savings and perhaps the Scrutiny Committees could take part in the process.
- Data in the additional information such as personal e-mail addresses had been hidden in order to comply with data protection rules as they were public documents.

In accordance with Procedural Rules, the following vote was recorded on the motion:-

In favour: (58) Councillors Craig ab Iago, Annwen Daniels, Lesley Day, Gwynfor Edwards, Dyfed Edwards, Elwyn Edwards, Trevor Edwards, Alan Jones Evans, Aled Evans, Jean Forsyth, Gweno Glyn, Simon Glyn, Gwen Griffith, Selwyn Griffiths, Siân Gwenllian, Annwen Hughes, Chris Hughes, John Brynmor Hughes, Sian Wyn Hughes, Peredur Jenkins, Aled Wyn Jones, Anne Lloyd Jones, Brian Jones, Charles W. Jones, Dyfrig Jones, Elin Walker Jones, Eric Merfyn Jones, John Wynn Jones, Beth Lawton, June Marshall, Dafydd Meurig, Dilwyn Morgan, Linda Morgan, Dewi Owen, Michael Sol Owen, W. Roy Owen, W. Tudor Owen, Caerwyn Roberts, Gareth A. Roberts, John Pughe Roberts, W. Gareth Roberts, Mair Rowlands, Angela Russell, Dyfrig Siencyn, Mike Stevens, Gareth Thomas, Ioan Thomas, Hefin Underwood, Ann Williams, Eirwyn Williams, Elfed Williams, Gethin Glyn Williams, Gruffydd Williams, Hefin Williams, John Wyn Williams, R. H. Wyn Williams, Mandy Williams-Davies and Eurig Wyn.

Against: (9) Councillors Stephen Churchman, Thomas Ellis, Alwyn Gruffydd, Louise Hughes, Jason Humphreys, Aeron M. Jones, Sion Wyn Jones, Dilwyn Lloyd and Owain Williams.

Abstentions: (2) Councillors Eryl Jones-Williams and Glyn Thomas.

RESOLVED:

1. To approve the recommendations submitted by the Cabinet, as noted in the report, which will result in an increase of 3.97% in Council Tax for 2016/17.
2. To note that the Cabinet Member for Resources, in a decision notice dated 6 November 2015, approved the calculation of the following amounts for 2016/2017 in accordance with the Regulations made under Section 33 (5) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 ("The Act"):-
 - (a) 49,932.37 being the amount calculated as Gwynedd's Tax Base in accordance with the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) (Wales) Regulations 1995 as amended, as its Council Tax base for the year.
 - (b) Part of the Council's Area - Community Tax Base -

Aberdaron	526.68	Llanddeiniolen	1,809.82
Aberdyfi	925.62	Llandderfel	489.47
Abergwyngregyn	116.15	Llanegryn	153.55
Abermaw (Barmouth)	1,085.90	Llanelltyd	272.58
Arthog	607.53	Llanengan	1,958.38
Y Bala	760.10	Llanfair	305.07
Bangor	3,640.77	Llanfihangel y Pennant	204.16
Beddgelert	306.95	Llanfrothen	209.90
Betws Garmon	130.77	Llangelynnin	390.27
Bethesda	1,641.55	Llangywer	133.74
Bontnewydd	439.05	Llanllechid	336.18
Botwnnog	436.07	Llanllyfni	1,376.49
Brithdir a Llanfachreth	397.62	Llannor	891.25
Bryncrug	331.06	Llanrug	1,122.86
Buan	225.99	Llanuwchllyn	300.51
Caernarfon	3,449.47	Llanwnda	771.51

Clynnog Fawr	432.03	Llanycil	195.06
Corris	293.73	Llanystumdwy	861.68
Criccieth	911.69	Maentwrog	273.75
Dolbenmaen	582.77	Mawddwy	331.44
Dolgellau	1,183.41	Nefyn	1,382.45
Dyffryn Ardudwy	788.20	Pennal	219.60
Y Felinheli	1,105.05	Penrhyndeudraeth	749.49
Ffestiniog	1,675.41	Pentir	1,022.55
Y Ganllwyd	80.70	Pistyll	239.92
Harlech	745.00	Porthmadog	1,934.14
Llanaelhaearn	430.45	Pwllheli	1,700.31
Llanbedr	307.34	Talsarnau	305.16
Llanbedrog	678.35	Trawsfynydd	500.78
Llanberis	766.49	Tudweiliog	440.50
Llandwrog	989.69	Tywyn	1,554.84
Llandygai	958.16	Waunfawr	545.21

being the amounts calculated as the Council Tax Base amounts for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which one or more specific items relate.

3. That the following amounts are now calculated by the Council for the 2016/2017 year in accordance with Sections 32 to 36 of the Act:-

- (a) £340,323,810 The aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 32 (2) (a) to (e) of the Act (gross expenditure).
- (b) £111,524,200 The aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 32 (2) (a) to (e) of the Act (income).
- (c) £228,799,610 The sum that corresponds to the difference between the above aggregate 3 (a) and the above aggregate 3 (b) calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 32(4) of the Act, as its budgetary requirements for the year (net budget).
- (ch) £166,696,539 The aggregate of the sums which the Council estimates will be payable for the year into its fund in respect of redistributed National Non-domestic Rates and the Revenue Support Grant, less the estimated cost to the Council of discretionary non-domestic rate relief granted.
- (d) £1,243.74 The amount in 3 (c) above, less the sum in 3 (ch) above, all divided by the sum noted in 2 (a) above, calculated by the Council in accordance with 33(1) of the Act, being the basic amount of Council Tax for the year (Gwynedd Council tax and the average community council tax).
- (dd) £1,826,710 The aggregate amount of all special items referred to in Section 34 (1) of the Act (community council precepts).
- (e) £1,207.16 The sum in 3 (d) above, less the result of dividing the amount in 3(dd) above divided by the amount in 2(a) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 34 (2) of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year for dwellings in

those parts of its area to which no special item relates (Band D for Gwynedd Council Tax only).

(f) For parts of the Council's area -

Aberdaron	1,224.25	Llanddeiniolen	1,215.45
Aberdyfi	1,232.62	Llandderfel	1,225.34
Abergwyngregyn	1,224.38	Llanegryn	1,233.21
Abermaw (Barmouth)	1,255.05	Llanelltyd	1,231.01
Arthog	1,221.15	Llanengan	1,232.69
Y Bala	1,232.16	Llanfair	1,230.11
Bangor	1,298.22	Llanfihangel y Pennant	1,235.35
Beddgelert	1,234.85	Llanfrothen	1,232.41
Betws Garmon	1,217.10	Llangelynnin	1,227.15
Bethesda	1,241.72	Llangywer	1,237.07
Bontnewydd	1,242.46	Llanllechid	1,229.47
Botwnnog	1,218.63	Llanllyfni	1,235.09
Brithdir a Llanfachreth	1,222.25	Llannor	1,224.17
Bryncrug	1,231.96	Llanrug	1,229.42
Buan	1,223.75	Llanuwchllyn	1,240.44
Caernarfon	1,264.70	Llanwnda	1,230.75
Clynnog Fawr	1,225.68	Llanycil	1,224.08
Corris	1,227.53	Llanystumdwy	1,224.57
Criccieth	1,244.45	Maentwrog	1,227.80
Dolbenmaen	1,224.32	Mawddwy	1,223.75
Dolgellau	1,249.41	Nefyn	1,243.31
Dyffryn Ardudwy	1,232.53	Pennal	1,234.48
Y Felinheli	1,238.83	Penrhyndeudraeth	1,252.52
Ffestiniog	1,290.72	Pentir	1,236.37
Y Ganllwyd	1,245.57	Pistyll	1,230.08
Harlech	1,229.98	Porthmadog	1,234.56
Llanaelhaearn	1,265.24	Pwllheli	1,248.62
Llanbedr	1,242.95	Talsarnau	1,239.93
Llanbedrog	1,232.22	Trawsfynydd	1,233.12
Llanberis	1,233.25	Tudweiliog	1,220.78
Llandwrog	1,246.06	Tywyn	1,255.40
Llandygai	1,228.24	Waunfawr	1,229.17

the amounts given by adding the amounts of the item or specific items relating to dwellings in those parts of the Council's area mentioned above, to the sum given in 3(e) above, divided in each case by the amount of 2(b) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 34(3) of the Act, as the basic amounts of its Council Tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which one or more special items relate.

(ff) For parts of the Council's area, the figures noted in *Appendix 1*, being the amounts given by multiplying the sums specified in 3(f) above by the number which, in the proportions set out in Section 5 (1) of the Act, is applicable to dwellings listed in a particular valuation band divided by the number which in that proportion is applicable to dwellings listed in valuation band D, calculated by the Council, in

accordance with Section 36 (1) of the Act, as the amounts to be taken into account for the year in respect of categories of dwellings listed in different valuation bands.

4. To note that for the 2016/2017 year the Police and Crime Commissioner North Wales has stated the following amounts in a precept issued to the Council, in accordance with Section 40 of the Act, for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:

Band A	Band B	Band C	Band D	Band E	Band F	Band G	Band H	Band I
160.08	186.76	213.44	240.12	293.48	346.84	400.20	480.24	560.28

5. Having calculated the aggregate in each case of the amounts at 3 (ff) and 4 above, the Council, in accordance with Section 30 (2) of the Act, hereby sets the amounts noted in Appendix 2 as the amounts of Council Tax for the year 2016/2017 for each of the categories of dwellings shown in the Appendix.

9. TREASURY MANAGEMENT - TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY STATEMENT, MINIMUM REVENUE PROVISION STRATEGY AND ANNUAL INVESTMENT STRATEGY FOR 2016/17

Submitted - the report of the Cabinet Member for Resources which requested that the Council adopt the proposed strategies.

The chair of the Audit Committee confirmed that the committee had discussed the strategies in a seminar and at a formal committee meeting, and supported the recommendations.

RESOLVED to adopt the Treasury Management Strategy Statement, the Minimum Revenue Provision Strategy and the Annual Investment Strategy for 2016/17 (Appendix A), the Prudential Indicators (Appendix B) and the Treasury Management Schedules (Appendix C).

10. A LANGUAGE POLICY FOR GWYNEDD COUNCIL

Submitted - the Deputy Leader's report, which noted that the current procedure of statutory language plans was coming to an end with the arrival of the new Language Standards in April 2016. It was noted that the policy before the Council was an amendment and update of the former Language Plan that had been considered by the Language Committee on 14 January 2016.

During the ensuing discussion, Members noted the following points:

- While welcoming the policy, it should be insisted upon and not encouraged for external consortia and bodies to comply with the Council's Language Policy.
- The crematorium documents, although it was recognised that they were forms from the Home Office, which displayed the Council's logo, were in English only.
- Correspondence was sometimes received from the Council by post with English being more prominent than the Welsh language.
- The policy noted that any notices or posters from other bodies or companies that were displayed in Council buildings had to be bilingual. Therefore, monolingual Welsh posters were prohibited.
- Not all of the Language Committee's observations on the policy had been adequately included in the document.
- It was a robust and fair document that pushed legal boundaries.

- Bilingualism should not be forced upon community societies or groups receiving sponsorship from the Council which operated in Welsh only.
- When an individual that did not fully meet the linguistic requirements was appointed to a post, there should be a way to bring the individual's period in the post to an end if there was a lack of commitment or a lack of ability to improve their linguistic skills over a certain period to the level required for the post.

In response to the above observations, the Deputy Leader noted that he acknowledged the points raised. He noted that the Council's Language Policy was the most advanced but there was room for improvement. He added that the Council could only promote the language and that he would look into seeing if it was possible to strengthen sections of the policy and address the personnel elements. He confirmed that a continuous dialogue with the Language Committee was maintained.

RESOLVED:

- To approve adding the Language Policy to the list of policies within the Policy Framework to be adopted by the Full Council;**
- To adopt the policy that is attached as an appendix to the report as the Gwynedd Council Language Policy.**

11. APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT MEMBER TO THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE

The Chair of the Democratic Services Committee submitted a report requesting that the Council considered and decided on the recommendation of the Consultative Committee to appoint an independent member to the Standards Committee as a result of the fact that the term of office of one of the current independent members had come to an end.

In response to members' observations regarding the individual recommended for appointment, the Monitoring Officer noted that the Consultative Committee had followed a detailed and statutory process and that an individual's membership of a political party was not a consideration within the criteria.

RESOLVED to appoint Aled Jones as an independent member of Gwynedd Council's Standards Committee, to serve for a six year period.

12. THE COUNCIL'S POLITICAL BALANCE

Submitted - the Leader's report reviewing the Council's political balance. It was noted that it was recommended to allocate a seat earmarked for the Plaid Cymru Group on the Pensions Committee to the Labour Group as the Council had just addressed specific costs to train an elected member of the Labour Group to serve on this Committee. It was explained that because the Plaid Cymru Group had technically not appointed a member to the Committee it was open for the Council to appoint a member.

RESOLVED to appoint a member of the Labour Group to the Pensions Committee and change the allocation shown in the table.

SCRUTINY COMMITTEES

	Plaid Cymru	Independent	Llais Gwynedd	Labour	Liberal Democrats	Individual Member
Corporate	9	5	2	1	1	
Communities	10	5	1	1	1	

Services	10	4	2	1		1
Audit	10	5	2	1		

OTHER COMMITTEES

	Plaid Cymru	Independent	Llais Gwynedd	Labour	Liberal Democrats	Individual Member	
Democratic Services	8	4	2	1			
Language	8	4	2	1			
Planning	8	4	1	1	1		
Central Licensing	8	5	2				
Employment Appeals	3	1	1	1		1	
Chief Officers Appointment	8	4	1	1	1		
Number of seats	82	41	16	9	4	2	154

	Plaid Cymru	Independent	Llais Gwynedd	Labour	Liberal Democrats	Individual Member
Pensions	3	2	0	1	1	
Local Joint Consultative Committee	6	2	1	2		
Special Educational Needs Joint Committee	3	2	1			1
Joint Planning Policy Committee	4 (3 seats and one substitute)	2	1	1		
SACRE	4	2	1			

Total seats	102	51	20	13	5	3	194
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(changes highlighted in grey)

13. COMMITTEES CALENDAR 2016/17

The Leader submitted the calendar of dates of Council meetings for 2016/17.

RESOLVED to adopt the Committees Calendar for 2016/17.

14. JOINT LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN – AMENDED TIMETABLE TO BE INCLUDED IN THE DELIVERY AGREEMENT

Submitted - the Cabinet Member for Planning's report detailing the amended timetable for the Joint Local Development Plan.

In response to observations from the members in relation to the contents of the Joint Local Development Plan, the Cabinet Member for Planning noted that only the timetable was being considered at the meeting.

RESOLVED to approve the revised timetable (Appendix 1 of the report) for the preparation of the Joint Local Development Plan to comply with legislative requirements.

15. NOTICES OF MOTION

Submitted, for information, a letter from the Treasury, in response to Councillor Sian Gwenllian's notice of motion at the previous meeting, opposing the Treasury's financial policies.

It was reported that a response had been received from Liz Saville Roberts MP expressing her support for Mandy Williams-Davies' Notice of Motion opposing the new Trade Union Measures.

The meeting commenced at 1.00pm and concluded at 4.00pm.

CHAIRMAN