

ERYRI NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY

The Minutes Book

Volume (30)

2025 - 2026



AWDURDOD PARC CENEDLAETHOL ERYRI
ERYRI NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY

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ERYRI NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY



**THE MINUTES BOOK
2025 – 2026**

VOLUME (30)

The Minutes Volume

This volume contains the minutes of the meetings of the Eryri National Park Authority 2025-2026.

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MINUTES
ERYRI NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY
WEDNESDAY 30 APRIL 2025
National Park Office

PRESENT:

Members appointed by Gwynedd Council

Councillors Edgar Wyn Owen (Chairman), Elwyn Edwards, Delyth Lloyd Griffiths, Louise Hughes, Elfed Powell Roberts, John Pughe Roberts, Meryl Roberts, Einir Wyn Williams;

Members appointed by Conwy County Borough Council

Councillor Jo Nuttall;

Members appointed by the Welsh Government

Brian Angell, Rhys Evans, Tim Jones, Delyth Lloyd, Wyn Thomas;

Officers

Jonathan Cawley, Iwan Jones, Edward Jones, Dewi Aeron Morgan, Sian Owen, Rhys Owen, Naomi Jones, Nia Murray, Ioan Gwilym, Eifion Jones.

Also Present

Rachel Freitag (Audit Wales) and Daniel Price (Audit Wales) (item 10 only)

The Interim Deputy Chief Executive announced that the meeting would be broadcast on the web, and that it would also be available online later.

1. Apologies for absence and Chairman's Statements

Apologies were received from Councillors Annwen Hughes, Ifor Glyn Lloyd and Nia Owen, and from Naomi Luhde-Thompson.

2. Corporate Update

Presented by the Chief Executive.

Reported:

- that the Chief Executive and the Chairman had attended the Gwynedd and Eryri Sustainable Visitor Economy Conference 2025 in February;
- that a Member Development Day had been held at Pen y Pass and in Betws-y-coed in March. Transport matters and the Park's commercial elements had been discussed;
- a drop-in session relating to Plas Tan y Bwlch had been held at the beginning of April;
- that the CE and the Chairman would be attending the British National Parks

Chief Executives and Leaders Session in Bakewell, Peak District that afternoon;

- that the CE and the Chairman intended to attend a meeting of the Joint Corporate Committee Planning Sub-committee the following week;
- a session of the Communities' Forum would be held online in a week to inform local community councils that the Authority was starting the process of reviewing its two strategic plans, namely the Local Development Plan and *Cynllun Eryri*, this year;
- representatives from Triglav National Park, Slovenia would be visiting Eryri in May;
- the CE and some Members had attended the launch of the National Grid tunneling machine which was going to burrow under the Estuary.

3. **Public Question Time**

No questions were received from the public.

4. **Declaration of Interest**

No declaration of interest was made.

5. **Minutes**

The minutes of the Authority's meeting held on 5 February 2025 were *presented* and *adopted*, and the Chairman signed them as a true record.

6. **Matters for information arising from the minutes**

None.

7. **Action Sheet**

Presented by the Interim Deputy Chief Executive. He said that interviews for the position of Director of Planning and Partnerships were being held that afternoon, and that it was his intention to announce details about the second Director role soon.

Recommended: that the Action Sheet should remain as presented

Resolved: — to **accept** the Recommendation.

8. **Report of the Interview Panel for Independent Members of the Standards Committee**

Presented by the Interim Deputy Chief Executive.

Reported:

- that it was necessary to appoint an additional Independent Member on the Standards Committee following the retirement of Mrs Sharon Warnes;
- that an interview panel of five, including one lay member in accordance with the rules, was established, with three present on the day for interviews, namely Councillor Edgar Wyn Owen, Mr Iwan Jones and Mr Aled Williams (the lay member);

- that three candidates were to have been interviewed for the post but that one had withdrawn from the process as he had obtained new employment and was no longer local to the area;
- that the Panel, after interviewing the two remaining candidates, had recommended that the Authority appoint Mr Robert Gwilym Lewis, and their opinion was that he met the requirements of the position and that his background would benefit the work of the Standards Committee.

Recommended: – that the Authority appoint Mr Robert Gwilym Lewis to be an Independent Member of the Standards Committee for a term of five years.

Resolved: — to **accept** the Recommendation

9. **Elect 2 new Members on the Assets Sub-group**

Submitted: a report by the Head of Property Service.

Reported:

- that there were 2 vacant seats on the Assets Sub-group following the departure of Councillors June Jones and Dilwyn Roberts as Members, and that they needed to be filled so that the sub-group might meet.

Proposed nominations: – Councillor Einir Wyn Williams, Mr Rhys Evans and Mr Wyn Thomas, but Mr Rhys Evans withdrew his name from being nominated.

Resolved: — to **elect** Councillor Einir Wyn Williams and Mr Wyn Thomas to the Assets Sub-group.

10. **Report ISA260**

Presented: the ISA260 audit report for the financial year 2022-23 by Rachel Freitag, *Audit Wales*.

Reported:

- that the Auditors intended to issue unqualified audit report on the Authority's accounts, and the Head of Finance and the finance team were thanked for their work and cooperation;
- that there had been a significant delay to the 21-22 report due to an asset revaluation problem and this meant postponing the start of the 22-23 audit, but that the 22-23 audit was certified within a year of the previous one;
- that a shortage of staff during 22-23 had contributed to a delay in replying to inquiries, but that the number of staff members had increased since then;
- that a number of corrections to the accounts was needed, and that a number of minor improvements was also required to improve the quality of the accounts in general;
- that the additional work to go through the corrections etc. meant charging an additional fee;
- a letter offering recommendations following the current audit would be sent to the Authority in the near future.

Noted:

- the corrections and amounts listed in the report, but it was also noted:
 - that a new method of auditing had been introduced in 22-23 and that

this led to seeing more necessary corrections in general throughout Wales;

- that every institution saw something in the list of corrections made in an audit;
- that most of the the corrections were in the Notes and not in the Balance Sheet, or the income and expenditure, itself;
- that there had been a period of instability, with vacancies in the finance team, and that this had caused a shortcoming in the Quality Assurance side when preparing the accounts, but that the number of officers in the team had now increased;
- that the Authority should investigate whether it would be worth having an external person to verify the accounts before presenting them to the Auditors;
- that the corrections had now been made and were now in place for future audits.

Recommended: – to accept and note the "ISA260" report submitted by Audit Wales

Resolved: — to **approve** the recommendation.

11. **Statement of Accounts 2022/23**

Presented by the Chief Finance Officer.

Reported:

- that the 2022-23 draft accounts had been presented to the Authority the previous September and, following receipt and note of the "ISA260" report by the Authority, the Authority should approve the accounts and authorize the Chairman and the Chief Finance Officer to sign the Letter of Representation.

Recommended: –

- (i) To approve the Authority's post-audit Statement of Accounts for 2022/23;
- (ii) To Authorize the Chairman of the meeting, together with the Chief Finance Officer, to certify the Representations / Observations Letter

Resolved: — to **accept** the recommendation.

12. **Calendar of Meetings 2025/26**

A schedule of meetings for the period 2025-26 was *presented*.

13. **Trees and Woodlands Strategy**

Submitted by the Head of Conservation, Trees and Agriculture.

Reported:

- that the strategy had been presented to the Authority on more than one occasion previously, and that this was the final version.

Noted:

- the work that had been carried out to create the document, and all those who contributed to its creation were congratulated;

Recommended: – to approve the Trees and Woodlands Strategy, with any necessary amendments

Resolved: — to **approve** the Strategy.

14. **Wales National Parks Members Seminar 2025**

Presented by the Chief Executive

Reported:

- that the Wales National Parks Members Seminar 2025 was being held in Eryri on the 1st and 2nd of October of this year;
- that a more detailed programme would be published in due course, but that the intention was to consider the Visitor Economy and Nature Recovery.

15. **Plas Tan y Bwlch – Update and Options**

Presented by the Chief Executive

Reported:

- he had reviewed the situation at Plas Tan y Bwlch with a fresh pair of eyes over the past few months, and, he wanted the Authority to consider the option of retaining the Plas for the Authority's use, subject to being able to secure grant funding from the National Lottery Heritage Fund;
- that it would mean moving the Authority's permanent office to Plas Tan y Bwlch and disposing of the current headquarters in Penrhyndeudraeth;
- it was anticipated that the Plas would be a mixed-use site;
- it could be an example of how the Authority could contribute directly to the two statutory purposes of the Authority, by
 - providing an opportunity to protect and improve the area's landscape, wildlife and cultural heritage and
 - fostering the economic and social well-being of local communities;
- the serious financial situation that the Authority was facing;
- that the Authority had submitted a rough outline of the project to the Lottery (Expression of Interest (EOI) Stage), and that it had been approved by the Lottery;
- expectations would have to be managed – the option was entirely dependent on being successful with a very ambitious grant application from the National Lottery Heritage Fund. If the grant application was not approved at any phase of the process, the Authority would have to sell the building and gardens (but retain control of the woodlands and Llyn Mair).

Noted:

- the risks attached to the option and the necessity of managing expectations;
- there was enthusiastic support for the principle.

Recommended that Members approve that:–

- (i) Officers try to keep Plas Tan y Bwlch subject to securing a National Lottery Heritage Fund grant, with a view to relocating offices from

Penrhyndeudraeth to the Plas, including a wider mix of uses for the property;

- (ii) That Officers follow this path further by applying for a National Lottery Grant this summer;
- (iii) That Officers emphasize the importance of managing expectations throughout this process, noting that the Plas would go back to being for sale if the grant application failed; and
- (iv) Should the grant funding method be unsuccessful, the Authority should maintain control of the woodlands and Llyn Mair in accordance with the plan in Appendix A, whatever decision is made on Plas Tan y Bwlch;
- (v) That Officers continue to closely monitor the Authority's financial situation throughout this process, including introducing measures to reduce the current deficit in the budget during this financial year;
- (vi) That the Authority consider this matter further and any progress made at the Authority's meeting in September.

Resolved: — to **adopt** the recommendation.

16. Minutes of the Performance and Resources Committee

The minutes of the Performance and Resources Committee held on 19 March 2025 were *presented* for information.

Resolved to **note** the minutes.

17. Reports of the Members Working Group

Reports on the Members Working Group meetings held on 22 January, 5 March and 19 March 2025 were *presented*.

Resolved to **note** the reports.

18. Local Joint Working Group Report

The report of the Joint Working Group meeting held on 14 March 2025 was *presented*.

Resolved to **note** the report.

19. Meetings of Other Organizations

Reported:

- Councillor Meryl Roberts attended a meeting which discussed the provision offered to passengers early in the morning and at the end of the day by Cambrian Railway with Transport for Wales;
- Mr Tim Jones attended the North Access Forum and discussions included reducing the number of people who climb Crib Goch unintentionally.

The meeting ended at 11:30



MINUTES
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
ERYRI NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY
WEDNESDAY 11 JUNE 2025
National Park Office

PRESENT:

Members appointed by Gwynedd Council

Councillors Elwyn Edwards, Delyth Lloyd Griffiths, Annwen Hughes, Louise Hughes, Edgar Wyn Owen, Elfed Powell Roberts, John Pughe Roberts, Meryl Roberts, Einir Wyn Williams;

Members appointed by Conwy County Borough Council

Councillors Ifor Glyn Lloyd, Jo Nuttall, Nia Owen;

Members appointed by the Welsh Government

Brian Angell, Rhys Evans, Tim Jones, Delyth Lloyd, Naomi Luhde-Thompson, Wyn Thomas;

Officers

Jonathan Cawley, Iwan Jones, Rhys Owen, Angela Jones, Bethan Hughes, Dewi Aeron Morgan, Sian Owen, Nia Murray (Part 2 only), Eifion Jones.

Also Present

Martin James Hughes (Independent Member)

The Interim Deputy Chief Executive announced that the meeting would be broadcasted on the web, and that it would also be available online later.

1. Chairman

The Interim Deputy Chief Executive outlined the procedure for electing a Chair of the Authority. He advised that, in accordance with Standing Orders 5.2 and 5.3, he had received nominations proposing one name only, namely Edgar Wyn Owen.

Edgar Wyn Owen was *elected* as Chairman of the Authority.

The Chairman thanked the Members for their support.

2. Vice-chairman

The Interim Deputy Chief Executive outlined the procedure for electing a Vice-chair of the Authority.

He advised that, in accordance with Standing Orders 5.2 and 5.3, he had received nominations proposing one name only, namely Ifor Glyn Lloyd.

Ifor Glyn Lloyd was *elected* as Vice-chairman of the Authority.

The Vice-chairman thanked the Members for their support.

3. **Apologies for absence and Chairman's Statements**

The Chief Executive *apologized* that he would have to leave the meeting early.

The Chairman announced that items 21 and 22 on the agenda would be presented directly after item 9 to enable the Chief Executive to present them before leaving;

He welcomed Councillor Ifor Glyn Lloyd to the meeting after his recent operation;

He informed the Members of the death of Mrs Sharon Warnes who was chair of the Authority's Standards Committee until recently. He said that the Authority had sent a condolence card to Mrs Warnes' family. The death of a former member of staff, Keith O'Brien, was also mentioned, and it was noted that it was a great loss for the area. A period of silence was held in their honor.

He noted that this would be the last meeting of the Authority for Mr Brian Angell. He thanked him for his huge contribution and his valuable comments over the eight years he had been a Member; the Authority would miss him.

He also thanked Mr Martin J Hughes, Chairman of the Standards Committee, who was retiring from the Committee after nine years, for his contribution to the Standards Committee.

He reported that he and the Chief Executive had attended the *UK National Parks* meeting in the *Peak District* two weeks previously.

4. **Corporate Update**

An oral update was *presented* by the Chief Executive.

Reported:

- the CEO congratulated the Chairman and Vice-chairman;
- officers from Triglav National Park, Slovenia had visited two weeks earlier. They got to see the Park, and the visit was beneficial for both parks;
- the work on Plas Tan y Bwlch is progressing positively:
 - a number of meetings have been held with stakeholders and partners, and the feedback was very positive;
 - the original timetable for submitting the Development Phase Application had been too ambitious, external consultants were being commissioned to assist with the preparation of the application, and the intention was now to aim towards submitting the application by February 2026;
 - the CEO would present an update report on Plas Tan y Bwlch to the Members at the September meeting;
- Beca Fflur Williams from Aberystwyth had won the Geraint George Scholarship, a scholarship that had been established jointly by the Park, Natural Resources Wales and Urdd Gobaith Cymru, in memory of Geraint George, to promote and reward great communicators of the future in the Environmental field. He thanked the Vice-chairman, Ifor Glyn Lloyd, for presenting her with the award at the Urdd's Eisteddfod in Margam. Beca would visit Triglav National Park as part of her award;

- he would attend the Upland Farming Show which was being held in Hafod y Llan the following day;
- there had been a change of director level staff at the Los Alcerces National Park Authority recently and this had caused a delay in signing the twinning agreement, but discussions regarding rescheduling the signing were continuing;
- the CEO expressed his gratitude to Brian Angell for his special contribution and dedication throughout his years with the Park;
- a new Member, namely Dr Salamatu Fada from Bangor University, would join the Authority in July;
- because a number of Members had recently started with the Authority, he intended to organize an induction session for those Members;
- he had attended Keith O'Brien's funeral, who had been a staff member at the Authority for a number of years before he retired.

5. **Public Questions**

No questions had been received from the public.

6. **Declaration of Interest**

Councillor Nia Owen declared a prejudicial interest in items 27 and 29, and left the meeting during those items.

7. **Membership of the Authority**

A report was *submitted* by the Chief Executive on current membership of the Authority, for information, and he asked Members to confirm that their details were correct.

It was *noted* that Members were not very comfortable publishing their home addresses on the Authority's website, and it was agreed to remove the details from the website.

Resolved: — to **note** the report.

8. **Minutes**

The minutes of the Authority's meeting held on 30 April 2025 were *submitted*.

The minutes were *adopted*, and the Chairman signed them as a true record.

9. **Matters for information arising from the minutes**

No matters were raised from the minutes.

The order of the published agenda was changed so that the CEO could leave.

(21). **Proposed to extend the current Well-being Objectives to April 2027**

A report was *submitted* by the Chief Executive

Reported:

- the intention was to link the Well-being Objectives with *Cynllun Eryri*;
- delaying the Objectives would allow the new Directors to take ownership of the Well-being Objectives.

Recommended: –

- (i) To extend the current Well-being Objectives for 2021-2026 for 12 months up to April 2027;
- (ii) Commence reviewing the Well-being Objectives once *Cynllun Eryri* Plan has been adopted at the Annual General Meeting in 2026, with the intention of adopting them in April 2027;
- (iii) A more detailed timetable and methodology for preparing the Well-being Objectives to be presented to Members in early 2026.

Resolved: — to **accept** the recommendation.

(22). **EUROPARC Conference 2025**

Presented by the Chief Executive

Reported:

- the conference was being held in Lithuania this year;
- the title of the Conference would be, "Nature for people, People for Nature".

Recommended: –

- (i) that the Members decide whether ENPA should be represented at the EUROPARC Conference 2025;
- (ii) subject to the above, for the Members to delegate the decision re. representation to the Chairman and the Chief Executive;

Resolved: — to **accept** the recommendation.

10. **Action Sheet**

Presented by the Interim Deputy Chief Executive.

Reported:

- the advice was to wait until the Authority had appointed a Director of Land Management, which would bring the number of members of the Management Team to 4, which was the original plan.

Recommended:— that the Action Sheet should remain as presented

Resolved: — to **accept** the Recommendation.

11. **Appointing Members to serve on Committees, Panels, Working Groups, and represent the Authority externally**

A report was *submitted* by the Chief Executive stating that Members had to be appointed to serve on Committees, Panels, Working Groups, and to represent the Authority externally.

Resolved: — to **appoint** Members as follows:

1. **COMMITTEES**

1.1 **Planning and Access Committee** - All Members of the Authority (8 meetings per year)

1.2 **Performance and Resources Committee** - All Members of the Authority (3 meetings per year)

1.3 Standards Committee - 3 Members of the Authority - for a period of 4 years (2 meetings per year)

2 appointed by a Local Authority:

- (1) Cllr. Elfed Powell Roberts (up to 14/06/26)
- (2) Cllr. Nia Owen (until 12/11/28)

1 from the Welsh Government:

- (1) Ms Naomi Luhde-Thompson (up to 12/11/28)

3 Independent Members:

- (1) Mr Martin James Hughes (up to 05/07/25)
- (2) Mr Mark Jones (up to 25/04/28)
- (3) Mr Robert Gwilym Evans (up to 29/04/29)

2. PANELS

2.1 Single Scale Status Appeals Panel — 3 Members + 2 Reserve Members (to meet as necessary)

The Members and reserve Members should be selected from the Standards Committee, and chosen by that Committee

2.2 Visiting Panels

North

- (1) Cllr. Edgar Wyn Owen
- (2) Cllr. Einir Wyn Williams
- (3) Cllr. Ifor Glyn Lloyd
- (4) Cllr. Joe Nuttall
- (5) Cllr. Nia Owen
- (6) Mr Rhys Evans
- (7) Mr Brian Angell (followed by Dr Salamatu Fada)
- (8) Ms Naomi Luhde-Thompson
- (9) Mr Wyn Thomas

South

- (1) Cllr. Elwyn Edwards
- (2) Cllr. Delyth Lloyd Griffiths
- (3) Cllr. Annwen Hughes
- (4) Cllr. Louise Hughes
- (5) Cllr. Elfed Powell Roberts
- (6) Cllr. John Pugh Roberts
- (7) Cllr. Meryl Roberts
- (8) Mr Tim Jones
- (9) Ms Delyth Lloyd

3. WORKING GROUPS

3.1 Members' Working Group - All Members of the Authority (8 meetings per year)

3.2 Local Joint Working Group - 4 Members (2 Meetings per year)

3 appointed by a Local Authority:

- (1) Cllr. Ifor Glyn Lloyd
- (2) Cllr. Elwyn Edwards
- (3) Cllr. Einir Wyn Williams

1 from the Welsh Government:

- (1) Ms Naomi Luhde-Thompson

4 Representatives from the Trade Unions allocated according to the Constitution of the Working Group

3.3 Yr Ysgwrn Management Board - 3 Members of the Authority (meets as necessary)

2 appointed by Local Authorities:

- (1) Cllr. Elfed Powell Roberts
- (2) Cllr. Elwyn Edwards

1 from the Welsh Government:

- (1) Ms Naomi Luhde-Thompson

3.4 Plas Tan y Bwlch Management Board - 3 Members of the Authority (Meets as necessary)

- (1) Cllr. Meryl Roberts
- (2) Mr Tim Jones
- (3) Cllr. Elfed Powell Roberts

4. ADVISORY COMMITTEES OF THE AUTHORITY

4.1 Celyn, Tegid and Tryweryn Consultative Conference - 4 Members of the Authority (meets as necessary)

3 appointed by a Local Authority:

- (1) Cllr. Elwyn Edwards
- (2) Cllr. Ifor Glyn Lloyd
- (3) Cllr. John Pugh Roberts

1 from the Welsh Government:

- (1) Mr Brian Angell (then Mr Rhys Evans)

4.2 Fforwm Eryri - 5 Members of the Authority (4 meetings a year - every quarter)

Chairman

Vice-chairman

2 appointed by a Local Authority:

- (1) Cllr. Annwen Hughes
- (2) Cllr. Meryl Roberts

1 from the Welsh Government:

- (1) Mr Brian Angell (then Ms Delyth Lloyd)

4.3 Local Access Forums - 2 Members of the Authority (4 meetings per year - every quarter)

1 Member on the Southern Access Forum:

- (1) Cllr. John Pugh Roberts

1 Member on the North Access Forum:

- (1) Mr Tim Jones

4.4 Strategic Planning Sub-Committee (CBC) — 1 Member of the Authority

One member to be chosen from amongst the following:

- (i) Chairman of the Authority
- (ii) Vice-chairman of the Authority
- (iii) Chairman of the Planning and Access Committee
- (1) The Chairman of the Authority

4.5 The North's Joint Incorporated Committee (CJC) - Chairman of the Authority

The Chairman has been co-opted onto the sub-committees below:

- (i) Economic and Wellbeing Sub-Committee
- (ii) Strategic Planning Sub-Committee

5. TASK AND FINISH GROUPS AND STEERING GROUPS

5.1 Assets Sub-Group — 6 Members of the Authority

- (1) Cllr. Ifor Glyn Lloyd
- (2) Cllr. Meryl Roberts
- (3) Cllr. Einir Wyn Williams
- (4) Mr Brian Angell (then Cllr. Nia Owen)
- (5) Mr Tim Jones
- (6) Mr Wyn Thomas

5.2 Carbon Account and Climate Change Steering Group - 5 Members of the Authority

- (1) Cllr. John Pugh Roberts
- (2) Mr Brian Angell (then Cllr. Einir Wyn Williams)
- (3) Mr Tim Jones
- (4) Ms Naomi Luhde-Thompson
- (5) Dr Salamat Fada

5.3 Place Names Steering Group - 3 Members of the Authority

- (1) Cllr. Elwyn Edwards
- (2) Ms Delyth Lloyd
- (3) Cllr. Nia Owen

6. OTHER BODIES

6.1 Trawsfynydd Site Stakeholder Group (1 Member) – Cllr. Elfed Powell Roberts

6.2 Joint Council for Wales (1 Member) – Cllr. Louise Hughes

6.3 Campaign for National Parks - It was agreed that the 3 National Park Authorities of Wales are represented by a Member of the Authority who holds the Secretariat of the National Parks of Wales

6.4 The Alliance for Designated Landscapes Wales (1 Member) – Mr Tim Jones

6.5 Welsh Local Government Association Council (1 Member) – Cllr. Louise Hughes

6.6 Pen Llŷn & Sarnau SAC (1 Member) – Cllr. Louise Hughes

- 6.7 **Eryri Transport, Parking and Active Travel Provision Group** (1 Member) – Cllr. Einir Wyn Williams
- 6.8 **Strategic Forum of the Energy Island Programme** (1 Member) – Cllr. Elfed Powell Roberts
- 6.9 **Dyfi Biosphere Partnership** (1 Member) – Cllr. Louise Hughes
- 6.10 **Cambrian Coast Railway Liaison Conference** (1 Member) – Cllr. Meryl Roberts
(In Reserve - Delyth Lloyd Griffiths)

12. **Members Attendance**

A report was *submitted* by the Interim Deputy Chief Executive on the attendance of Members at the Authority and Committee meetings from 1 April 2024 to 31 March 2025.

Reported:

- that the record of Councillor Edgar Wyn Owen's attendance at Authority meetings was incorrect, and that he actually attended 6 Authority meetings during the year and not 4 as noted in the agenda (average attendance of 100%).
- The attendance of Members for the year was therefore 90% rather than 88%, and the total for all meetings was 85% (not 84%).

Resolved: — to accept the corrections and **note** the report, for information.

13. **Authority's Annual Report**

Presented by the Chairman of the Standards Committee.

Reported:

- the Committee's activities during the year;

The Interim Deputy Chief Executive *thanked* Mr Martin Hughes, Chairman of the Standards Committee for his report and also, as he was about to retire from the post, for his work as Chairman and member of the Committee over the previous nine years.

Recommendation: – to discuss and agree on the content of the report

Resolved: — to **accept** the recommendation.

14. **Twinning of Los Alerces National Park, Chubut Province, and Eryri National Park: Formal Signing of the Memorandum of Understanding / Twinning Agreement**

The report was *submitted* by the Interim Deputy Chief Executive.

Reported:

- that the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding / Twinning Agreement had been postponed due to a change of staff in Los Alerces National Park;
- that this meant that the recommendations presented in the written report had to be amended.

Recommended: that the Members agree: –

- (i) on the formal content of the MoU/Twinning Agreement;
- (ii) for the Chairman to sign the MoU/Twinning Agreement;
- (iii) for officers to continue organizing an event during the week of the Wrexham National Eisteddfod to celebrate the twinning, if practical;

- (iv) for officers to continue negotiations to establish collaboration options between the two National Parks.

Resolved: — to **accept** the recommendation.

15. **Elect a Member of the Eryri National Park Authority onto the *Ffermio Bro* Advisory Panel**

The report was *submitted* by the Head of Conservation, Woodlands and Agriculture.

Reported:

- that the Panel was expected to meet 2-3 times a year to scrutinize projects over £10,000;
- applications would be scored by officers before being presented to the Panel;
- instructions had been received that note that farmers should be included on the Panel.

Recommended: – To note the content and elect a representative and deputy on the panel

Resolved: — to **elect** Mr Brian Angell (and then Dr Salamatu Fada to succeed him following his retirement) as a representative on the panel, and Mr Tim Jones as a deputy.

16. **Official adoption of *Cynllun Yr Wyddfa 2025***

The report was *presented* by the Head of Partnerships

Reported:

- that a draft copy of the Plan has been shared online;
- that a draft copy has been shared with partners and stakeholders in workshops and drop-in sessions
- that the intention was to launch the new Plan in July.

Recommended:— that the Authority officially adopts *Cynllun Yr Wyddfa 2025*

Resolved: — to **adopt** *Cynllun Yr Wyddfa 2025*.

17. **Welsh Language Standards**

The report was *submitted* by the Head of Administration and Customer Care

Reported:

- that the Authority was required to produce an annual monitoring report on its performance against the Welsh Language Standards to which the Authority was subject under the Compliance Notice presented to the Authority by the Welsh Language Commissioner;
- that there were three parts to the report, namely
 - The Executive Summary, which summarized the main important issues in relation to the Welsh language raised during the year;
 - A brief summary of the Authority's performance against the 176 standards imposed on the Authority;
 - An appendix, which gave data on the Authority's staff and their ability to speak Welsh.

The report was discussed and it was *noted*:

- that the "Eryri Ambassador" modules did not come under the heading, "Education Courses" (Standards 84-86) because they were modules that were offered online (bilingually) where the individual undertook the course themselves, and that the standards were more related to the language of the tutor who was leading the course;
- complaints received by the Authority on language issues were brought to the Members' attention in an annual report submitted to the Performance and Resources Committee, and then to the Standards Committee; any other issues regarding promoting the language would be reported in the Authority's Corporate Work Programme;
- that the wording of point 2.8 (response to the proposal to introduce Article 4 Instruction) was not clear and would be improved.

Recommended:- that the Authority approves the report and authorizes the Head of Administration and Customer Care to publish it on the Authority's website

Resolved: — to **accept** the recommendation.

18. **Annual Governance Statement 2024/25**

The report was *submitted* by the Head of Administration and Customer Care

Reported:

- that the statement provided a summary of all significant governance matters that occurred over the last financial year;
- the statement would form part of the Authority's final accounts for 2024-25;
- the figures that were in the statement on the presence of members would be updated, following the accuracy presented to the meeting in item 12, previously.

The statement was discussed and it was *noted*:

- that it would be appropriate to add information on the Authority's compliance with Language Standards to this report;
- Members should report back and offer feedback on the support given to Members to fulfill their role;
- that Members who had been appointed by the Welsh Government were given almost no support or guidance, although this had been raised more than once with the relevant Minister;
- information about the drop-in sessions held regarding the Plas should be added to the item on Direct Consultation;
- that the Welsh Audit Report highlights a lack of clarity and inconsistency in how local authority members are nominated to sit on NPAs and that they recommend that NPAs work with the WLGA and the Welsh Government to review the protocol. It was also noted that these were matters that were beyond the Authority's control. However, the question was asked if there had been any developments regarding this, and it was proposed that the Chief Executive should formally update the Members on the latest situation at the Authority's next meeting.

Recommended:- that the Authority approve the Annual Governance Statement for the financial year 2024/25, subject to updating the Members' attendance numbers, adding a heading on the Authority's compliance with Language Standards, and adding information about the consultation obtained in the drop-in sessions held regarding the Plas.

Resolved: — to **accept** the recommendation.

19. **Annual Report of the Independent Panel for Wales on Remuneration**

The report was *submitted* by the Interim Deputy Chief Executive

Recommended: – that the Authority notes the content of the report

Resolved: — to **accept** the recommendation.

20. **Annual Report on the Social Partnership Duty**

The report was *submitted* by the Interim Deputy Chief Executive

Reported:

- the background of the duty and the statutory requirements;
- that the Authority has a duty to seek consensus or compromise with their recognized trade unions when setting welfare objectives and to report annually to show how it has complied with the duty;
- that the Authority had not reviewed its Well-being Objectives during the 2024-25 financial year, that it was intended to start the process of reviewing the Well-being Objectives at the beginning of the 2026-27 financial year, and that a formal consultation with trade union representatives would be held at that time.

Recommended: – that the Authority formally agrees on the content of the Annual Report so that it could be submitted to the Social Partnership Council as the Authority's Annual Report for the financial year 2024-25.

Resolved: — **accept** the recommendation.

23. **Minutes of the Performance and Resources Committee**

The minutes of the Performance and Resources Committee held on 19 March 2025 were *presented* for information.

Resolved: — to **note** the minutes.

24. **Report of the Members Working Group**

The report was *submitted* on the Members' Working Group meeting held on 9 April 2025.

Resolved: — to **note** the report.

25. **Report of the Standards Committee**

The report of the Standards Committee meeting held on 11 April 2025 was *presented*.

Resolved: — to **note** the report.

26. **Meetings of Other Organisations**

Reported:

- that Mr Tim Jones had attended the North Access Forum meeting, where the following matters were discussed:
 - the difficulties some people had when climbing Yr Wyddfa and what could be done about it;

- the intention to create a new route to Yr Wyddfa which would avoid Victoria Terrace, Llanberis and therefore cut down on the numbers who walked along the terrace day and night and disrupt the residents.

27. **Appointment of Director of Land Management - Shortlist Pack Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972: Exemption from disclosure of documents**

The Interim Deputy Chief Executive *explained* that the relevant exceptions to the report were that it contained information which was:

- Relevant to a specific individual
- Likely to reveal the identity of the individual
- Dealing with a particular person's financial or business affairs

He *noted* that there were no factors in favour of disclosure.

Resolved: — that the Authority **exclude** the report, "Appointment of the Director of Land Management - Short List Package".

PART 2

28. **Appointment of Director of Land Management – Shortlist Pack**

The pack was *presented* with the application forms of different candidates for the position of Director of Land Management.

The applications were *discussed*.

Resolved: — to invite four of the candidates for interview.

The meeting ended at 12:20



MINUTES
ERYRI NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY
WEDNESDAY 10 SEPTEMBER 2025
National Park Office

PRESENT:

Members appointed by Gwynedd Council

Councillor Edgar Wyn Owen (Chairman), Elwyn Edwards, Delyth Lloyd Griffiths, Louise Hughes, Meryl Roberts;

Members appointed by Conwy County Borough Council

Councillor Ifor Glyn Lloyd, Nia Owen;

Members appointed by the Welsh Government

Rhys Evans, Salamatu Fada, Tim Jones, Delyth Lloyd, Wyn Thomas;

Officers

Jonathan Cawley, Iwan Jones, Keira Sweeney, Naomi Jones, Dewi Aeron Morgan, Sian Owen, Elliw Owen, Bethan Hughes, Eifion Jones.

The Director of Corporate Services announced that the meeting would be broadcast on the web, and that it would also be available online later.

1. Apologies for absence and Chairman's Announcements

Apologies were received from Councillor Annwen Hughes, Elfed Powell Roberts, John Pughe Roberts, Einir Wyn Williams, Jo Nuttall, and Naomi Luhde-Thompson.

The Chairman reported that, over the summer months, he had:

- visited the Royal Show in Llanelwedd;
- visited the Meirionnydd Show in Tywyn;
- visited the National Eisteddfod in Wrexham, where there was an intention to sign a twinning agreement with Los Alerces National Park, but it was not possible to do so, and the date for signing would have to be rescheduled;
- attended a meeting of the Eryri Community Fund (a fund worth £100,000 from the Welsh Government), in order to decide which associations and projects within the Park would receive grants;

He said that he had received a request from some members of staff and officers to remind Members to respond to emails from the Democratic Services Officer, especially when trying to organize events that required figures for refreshments or translation services.

2. Corporate Update

An oral update was *presented* by the Chief Executive.

Welcomed:

- new Member, Salamatu Fada was welcomed to her first meeting of the Authority,

- the complete Leadership Team was welcomed to a meeting of the Authority for the first time.

Reported:

- that the arrangements for *the Welsh Members' Seminar* to be held on October 1-2 had been completed, and that the conservationist and author, Carwyn Graves had been invited to speak at the end of the first evening;
- that the *Ffermio Bro* panel met for the first time in August, that £300,000 worth of grants had been provided for agri-environment schemes, that many of the schemes were innovative and exciting, and that another panel had been arranged for the end of September;
- that the Authority's Staff were currently organizing for the celebration of 75 years since the establishment of the Park, in October 2026, and a report would come before the Members' Working Group in October to discuss the preparations;
- that the Authority had received a grant from the Welsh Government, *Sustainable Lands and Sustainable Places*, and that £100,000 had been provided to local projects;
- that the Welsh Government had encouraged the Authority to submit a bid for underspend funds within the year, and that the Leadership Team had prepared a package of projects to present to the Government;
- an Induction Session for new Members of the Authority would be held after the meeting;
- that the Induction Session for New Members of the British National Parks was being held in Northumberland in November, that two Members of the Authority were attending but there was a possibility that there would be room for more;
- that the Leadership Team were meeting the Pembrokeshire Park's and Beacons' Leadership Teams in Pembrokeshire that week;
- the CEO would be meeting the Deputy Director of the Government department responsible for the Parks at the same time.

3. Public Questions

No questions were received from the public.

4. Declaration of Interest

No declaration of interest was made.

5. Minutes

The minutes of the Authority's meeting held on 11 June 2025 were *presented* and *adopted*, and the Chairman signed them as a true record.

6. Matters for information arising from the minutes

None

7. Action Sheet

The Action Sheet was *presented* by the Director of Corporate Services.

Reported:

- Item 16 of the Authority's Meeting 8 February 2023 (Terms and Conditions of Service of the APCE Senior Management Team: Directors) had been carried out and could be deleted from the Action Sheet;

- Item 4 of the Authority's Meeting 11 June 2025 (Corporate Update) had also been carried out and could be deleted from the Action Sheet.

Recommended: that both items be removed from the Action Sheet.

Resolved: — **to accept** the Recommendation.

8. **Annual Report 2024-25**

An oral update was *presented* by the Director of Corporate Services.

Reported:

- that the Draft Annual Report being presented reported in an understandable manner the work the Authority had carried out in terms of realizing its Well-being Objectives during 2024-25.

Noted:

- that the Report noted the situation at the end of the year 24-25, and therefore did not note any developments that took place after that;
- there was no consistency in the use of certain terms (eg "continuous", "to be continued", "continually") and that it was not clear whether the different terms had the same meaning; it was explained that the various terms and expressions was simply due to differences in language use by different heads of departments; it was suggested that the use of terms should be standardized and harmonized for clarity.

Recommended: - that the Authority adopt the Annual Report and approve its publication.

Resolved: — to **adopt** the Report and approve its publication.

9. **Plas Tan y Bwlch – Update**

A report was *submitted* by the Chief Executive.

Reported:

- that much work had been carried out under the leadership of Naomi Jones, the Director of Land Management;
- that the feedback from the community had been positive, and that a number of stakeholders were keen to work together on the project;
- that the serious financial situation remained unresolved and that the Authority continued to keep a close eye on the situation.

The Director of Land Management *reported:*

- that the architects *Donald Insall Associates* had been commissioned to assist the Authority in preparing plans and documentation to support the application for the 'development phase' of the Lottery application;
- that a meeting had been arranged with *Donald Insall Associates* within the month to organize the way forward;
- there had been a meeting with Cadw over the summer, that they were extremely supportive, and that they had referred to their grant application process in order to look for matching funds from them for the bid;
- that the timetable and figures of the application remain unchanged:
 - submission of the development phase application in February 2026 (application for £325,000 – 90% of which from the Heritage Fund, the rest from other streams);
 - expected to hear whether the application was successful or not in May or June 2026;

- submission of the major application (the delivery phase application) for £9 million in 2027 (we would have to source £1.5 million ourselves).

Noted:

- there were people currently staying at the Plas, generating income, and this demonstrated that it could be successful;
- that the intention was to own only one centre, and it was hoped that the costs would not be much higher than they were at the current time;
- that there had been some discussion regarding the future of the Headquarters, but that discussions with those who had shown an interest in the future of the Headquarters could not begin until after being informed whether the application had been successful; if it was successful, discussing its future with local people would be a priority;
- that the intention was to prepare the planning application and listed building permission by the submission of the delivery phase application at the end of 2027 with the intention of being ready to start the work once the official permission came from the Fund.

Recommended: – note the content of the report and give any feedback on the process.

Resolved: — to **accept** the Recommendation.

10. **Welsh Government Strategic Grant Letter: Targets and Reporting Mechanism**

A report was *presented* by the Chief Executive.

Reported:

- that the report was being presented for information purposes and that a fuller report would be presented at the next meeting of the Performance and Resources Committee in November;
- that the Strategic Grant Letter outlined the priorities of the Cabinet Secretary for Climate Change and Rural Affairs for the coming year;
- the priorities of the Letter would be incorporated into the Authority's Corporate Work Programme;
- that a monitoring programme and targets were included with the Letter for the first time and would have to be reported on every six months.

Recommended: – to note the report for information

Resolved: — to **accept** the Recommendation.

11. **Membership of the Standards Committee**

A report was *submitted* by the Director of Corporate Services.

Reported:

- that the term of the former chairman of the Standards Committee, Mr Martin J Hughes, had ended and that the Authority therefore had to agree to establish an interview panel and begin the process of appointing an Independent Member to the Committee.

Recommended: – that the Authority advertise the post of Independent Member of the Standards Committee for a period of five years and establish an Interview Panel of five in accordance with the Regulations to include one Lay Member to be chosen by the Monitoring Officer

Resolved: — to **accept** the Recommendation.

12. **Update on the 2025/26 Budget**

A report was *presented* by the Head of Finance.

Reported:

- that the report was based on the first 4 months of the financial year (1 April 25 to 31 July 25) and that it was an update on the original budget approved in February;
- that the 25/26 salary agreement was now known, and that it came to around 3.2% on the budget, which was more than expected, but that additional money had already been set aside from slippage, and that it would not affect the deficit at the end of the year;
- the slippage had been added to the 24/25 slippage;
- in terms of the revenue budget, it was still the expectation to end the financial year with a deficit of £600,000;
- in terms of the capital budget, that there was not much change to report, but that the Welsh Government had asked us to put in a bid for an end-of-year grant.

Recommended: – to approve the report and note the current financial situation for 2025/26

Resolved: — to **accept** the Recommendation.

13. **Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) 2025/26 – 2028/29**

A report was *submitted* by the Chief Executive and the Chief Finance Officer.

Reported:

- that the paper set out what was predicted to happen in the coming years;
- that it used an inflation rate of 2%;
- that the Authority's main source of funds was the grant received from the Welsh Government, which was £4.3 million this year; that it was not expected that the grant would increase greatly in the coming years;
- that grants sometimes came at the end of the financial year as well, but that it was difficult to plan based on these because of the uncertainty of knowing whether the grant would be received or not;
- that a deficit was predicted in the coming years and that there was financial pressure on the Authority but that there were reserves, and that those reserves were healthy;
- that the Chief Executive intended to submit a report to the Members' Working Group in October on plans on how to respond to the shortfall.

At the end of the presentation, the Chief Executive was asked to present to the Authority's next meeting how much less money the Authority had received from the Welsh Government in the last ten years. The Chief Executive agreed to do so.

Recommended - that the Members: –

- (i) Note and respond to the issues that have been identified in the MTFP;
- (ii) Adoption of the Medium Term Financial Plan as a Working Document.

Resolved: — to **accept** the Recommendation.

14. **Yr Ysgwrn Annual Report 2024/25**

A report was *submitted* by the Director of Land Management.

Reported:

- that there was an opportunity to increase income by offering a tenancy for the Ysgwrn bungalow, and that the Head of Property continued to work on this, but that the work had taken longer than desired because the bungalow's Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) performance was not good enough and failed to meet the requirements of Renting Wisely Wales;
- an application would have to be submitted to renew the accreditation status of the Ysgwrn museum in January 2026; that this must be done every five years, and that it meant reaching the highest standards in terms of governance, collection care and visitor experience;
- that there had been discussions with the Heritage Fund over the summer regarding closer working between the Plas, the Ysgwrn and the Betws-y-coed Visitor Centre in the long term.
- that it was intended to submit financial applications within the next two years to record the tenth anniversary of the re-opening of the site and that the intention was to enable the creation of a strategic program for activities and the appointment of a development officer;
- it was hoped to appoint a new Head of Cultural Heritage within the next few weeks.

Noted:

- that the bungalow could bring a medium annual income in rent.

Recommended: – that members receive the report for information and discuss any issues that require further attention

Resolved: — to **accept** the Recommendation.

15. **Replacement Eryri Local Development Plan – Delivery Agreement**

A report was submitted by the Head of Planning Policy.

Reported:

- that the Delivery Agreement was divided into two sections, namely the Timetable of all the key stages, and the Community Involvement Plan;
- the process would last 4 years and that it included specific steps;
- a consultation on the draft Delivery Agreement was held with stakeholders between 16 May and 27 June 2025; 27 comments were received following the consultation;
- that the document had been slightly changed:
 - to improve clarity
 - to give an update on the Regional Strategic Plan
 - to include a number of additional stakeholders

Recommended: – To approve the Delivery Agreement to be submitted to the Welsh Government by the Eryri National Park Authority [with an Agreement under delegated powers for modifications arising from the Welsh Government's comments].

Resolved: — to **accept** the Recommendation.

16. **Welsh Members Seminar 2025**

A report was submitted by the Head of Administration and Customer Care.

Reported:

- that it was Eryri National Park's turn to host the Wales National Parks Members

Seminar this year and that it was being held in Betws-y-coed on 1-2 October

- that the theme of the seminar was, "Restoring Nature: Sowing the Seeds of Change";
- that an invitation had been extended to Huw Irranca-Davies, Cabinet Secretary for Climate Change and Rural Affairs, to attend the Seminar but that no response had been received so far.

The Chairman *thanked* the Head of Administration and Customer Care and the Assistant to the Chair, Chief Executive and Leadership Team for all their work in organizing the Seminar.

Recommended: – that the Members confirm their attendance / absence at the Seminar by informing the Democratic Services Team.

Resolved: — to **accept** the Recommendation.

17. **Minutes of the Performance and Resources Committee**

The minutes of the Performance and Resources Committee held on 9 July 2025 were *presented* for information.

Resolved: — to **note** the minutes.

18. **Reports of the Members Working Group**

A report *was submitted* on the Members' Working Group meeting held on 25 June 2025.

Resolved: — to **note** the report.

19. **Meetings of Other Organizations**

No Member had attended an external meeting as a representative of the Authority.

The meeting ended at 11:15



MINUTES
ERYRI NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY
WEDNESDAY 10 DECEMBER 2025
National Park Office

PRESENT:

Members appointed by Gwynedd Council

Councillors Edgar Wyn Owen (Chairman), Elwyn Edwards, Delyth Lloyd Griffiths, Annwen Hughes, Louise Hughes, Elfed Powell Roberts, John Pughe Roberts, Meryl Roberts, Einir Wyn Williams;

Members appointed by Conwy County Borough Council

Councillor Ifor Glyn Lloyd, Jo Nuttall, Nia Owen;

Members appointed by the Welsh Government

Rhys Evans, Salamatu Fada, Tim Jones, Delyth Lloyd, Naomi Luhde-Thompson, Wyn Thomas;

Officers

Jonathan Cawley, Iwan Jones, Keira Sweeney, Naomi Jones, Dewi Aeron Morgan, Sian Owen, Edward Jones, Rhys Owen, Nia Murray, Eifion Jones.

Also present:

Matthew Edwards (Audit Wales), Dan Price (Audit Wales)

The Director of Corporate Services announced that the meeting would be broadcast on the web, and that it would also be available online later.

1. Apologies for absence and Chairman's Statements

No apologies were received.

The Chairman *reported*:

- that he had attended the Staff Meeting held at Plas Tan y Bwlch and that it was a good meeting;
- he and other Members had visited Grŵp Cynefin houses in Harlech and there was a discussion about their work at the Plas;
- the Welsh Members Seminar was held in Betws-y-coed in October.

2. Corporate Update

An oral update was *presented* by the Chief Executive.

Reported:

- he would present corporate updates as written reports from the Authority's next meeting onwards;
- the Welsh Members Seminar held in Betws-y-coed was successful and gratitude was expressed to everyone who contributed to its success;
- the Carneddau Partnership Lottery Scheme had now ended and an event to celebrate the scheme would be held in March. It was sad that it was ending but it

would certainly leave a positive legacy;

- the preparations for the Park's 75th celebrations were continuing and the four parks that were celebrating (namely Eryri, the Lake District, the Peak District and Dartmoor) had jointly commissioned a report on the history and future of the 4 Parks and an update was forthcoming;
- a valuable Staff Meeting had been held and members of the Leadership Team gave a presentation on their vision for their work to the staff;
- discussions with the Welsh Government were ongoing in several fields of work, including governance (an update was in the pipeline), a survey on the first year of Ffermio Bro, and the budget;
- the Plas Tan y Bwlch lottery application project was ongoing, and the intention was still to submit the application in February, but there was a possibility of submitting it in May if necessary;
- Cwmni Egino, established in Trawsfynydd in relation to the possibility of getting a Small Modular Reactor (SMR) there, would end in March because Trawsfynydd was no longer on the short list to get an SMR. The CEO had agreed to have a meeting with the Egino Company Director to discuss further the situation and the implications;
- the National Parks Partnership, which receives funding for Britain's national parks, had reached an agreement with Helly Hansen for them to provide clothing for the parks.

Noted:

- there was a real concern that the money earmarked for Meirionnydd for the SMR (around £40 million) would be lost if the plan did not go ahead, the Authority was aware of the situation and supportive of the desire to create a Science Park in Trawsfynydd which could attract high quality employment, and that this would be discussed with the company's management to see what the implications and next steps were for the site;
- following a statement from the Welsh Local Government Association regarding a 4% increase in funding for councils, - it was not yet clear if this related to the county councils only, or if it also included the national parks.

3. **Public Question Time**

No questions were received from the public.

4. **Declaration of Interest**

There was no declaration of interest.

5. **Minutes**

The minutes of the Authority's meeting held on 10 September 2025 were *presented*.

The minutes were *adopted*, and the Chairman signed them as a true record.

6. **Matters for information arising from the minutes**

No matters arising from the minutes.

7. **Action Log**

The Action Log was *presented* by the Director of Corporate Services.

Reported:

- there had not been an opportunity yet to collect the figures for item 13 on the action log (The Chief Executive to present figures on "How much less money the Authority has received from the Welsh Government in the last ten years?") but they would be presented in the near future;
- regarding Item 18 on the log, the Government had just sent a draft report on governance and a report would be submitted to the Authority after considering the document, and therefore
- both items should remain on the log;

Recommended: to retain both items on the Log.

Resolved: - to **accept** the Recommendation.

8. **ENPA representation on the Trawsfynydd Site Stakeholder Group**

A report was *presented* by the Director of Corporate Services.

Reported:

- Councillor Elfed Powell Roberts was elected as the Eryri Park Authority representative on the Trawsfynydd Site Stakeholder Group during the Authority's Annual General Meeting in June;
- the Councillor, however, was already a member of the Group as a County Councillor for the Trawsfynydd area;
- he had therefore decided to resign as the Authority's representative to give another Member the opportunity to attend the group's next meeting (which was to be held a day after this meeting);

It was *proposed* and seconded that Delyth Lloyd represents APCE on the Trawsfynydd Site Stakeholder Group.

A vote was taken and Delyth Lloyd was **elected** as the Authority's representative on the Trawsfynydd Site Stakeholder Group.

9. **Financial Audit Plan 23-24**

A report was *submitted* by the Audit Manager, Audit Wales (AW).

Reported:

- the audit plan set out the information that had to be shared in terms of the international audit standards;
- the plan referred to the audit of accounts 23-24 due to the delay in the Authority's timetable to prepare accounts since Covid;
- the plan's performance audit work referred to the year 25-26;
- there was quite a difference between the previously mentioned years, but that the intention was to examine accounts 24-25 and 25-26 within the next eighteen months to catch up;
- AW would report on the results of the audit in the new year.

Noted:

- there was a statutory regulation that accounts should be completed within months of the end of the financial year, but that was not the case with the Authority;
- the Welsh Government's timetable required the Authority to aim to complete accounts 24-25 by the end of October next year (2026) and accounts 25-26 by the following September (2027);

- the timetable was challenging for the Authority, - as it would be for any organisation:-
 - a number of other public bodies / organisations were in the same situation
 - there was the same amount of work required to be undertaken by the Authority to prepare the accounts as there was for county councils, but that the Authority's staffing levels were considerably less than county councils staffing levels;
 - the finance department collaborated with an external company in order to keep up with the timetable;
- an update on the timetable and the success of adhering to it would be presented to the Performance and Resources Committee to keep track of developments.

Recommended: – to note the content of the report and provide any feedback on the process.

Resolved: - to **accept** the recommendation.

10. **The Authority's Risk Register**

A report *was submitted* by the Director of Corporate Services.

Reported:

- an overview of the Risks on the Register and the relevant changes over the past year;
- 20 risks were identified on the Register – 4 classified as High risks, 12 as Medium risks and 4 as Low risks;
- two new risks had been added to the register:
 - Risk 2: Plas Tan y Bwlch - reputational and financial risk (High Risk)
 - Risk 20: Failure to comply with the statutory requirements relating to structures and infrastructure (High Risk)
- the Register proposed to remove 3 Risks, namely:
 - Risk 13: Planning Income Generation,
 - Risk 14: Article 4 Directive with the risk of a legal challenge to the Authority via Judicial Review,
 - Risk 15: Insufficient staff capacity due to possible increase in workload through increased planning applications following Article 4 Direction.

Noted:

- (i) the May 2026 Senedd Elections and (ii) the proposed Fourth National Park of Wales should be included in the Register as Risks to the Authority;
- some inherent risks on the Register (e.g. Risk 6) had been given a lot of attention and work, but the score of the remaining risk had not decreased and this did not accurately reflect the latest situation; it was reported that the Leadership Team now went through the Risk Register on a monthly basis, and they would give due attention to this;
- the details of Risk 20 (Failing to comply with the statutory requirements of structures and infrastructure) had not been clearly described. It was explained that infrastructure across the Park was now under pressure as septic tanks were not suitable for the number of visitors received, that several sites were under inspection, that warning letters had been received for more than one location, water reservoirs were a priority and that completing the work required at Llyn Mair lake would be

implemented by July 2026, the risks were high to the Authority's reputation and to the environment;

- in response to a question on Risk 20 - whether there was enough funding to deal with the risk - it was explained that it was basically a matter of permission and not a budget matter, applications for permission and planning applications had been submitted for some time but objections had been raised;
- this was a priority for the Authority and an update report would be presented to the Members Working Group in due course;
- receipt of a Formal Warning Letter was a sign of risk to life, not only to the environment, but it was emphasized that it was an indirect risk - a siphon needed to be installed at Llyn Mair lake to control the water level at the lake if there was a significant flow.

Recommended: – to note the content of the report, and remove Risks 13, 14 and 15 from the Register.

Resolved: - to **accept** the recommendation.

11. **Draft Statement of Accounts 2023-24**

The report was *presented* by the Chief Finance Officer.

Reported:

- it was a statutory requirement that the Chief Finance Officer sign the draft accounts to indicate that they are comfortable with the content of the statement;
- the accounts had already been passed on to Audit Wales (AW) for them to commence the audit. After the audit was completed a set of final accounts would be presented together with an ISA260 report (a report that would note AW's opinion on the accounts) and the Authority would be asked to approve them at that time if they were satisfied;
- criticism had been received by the Auditor and an external company had come in to help identify areas where improvement could be made.

Recommended: – to note the contents of the Statement of Accounts 2023/24.

Resolved: - to **accept** the recommendation.

12. **Update on the 2025/26 Budget**

A report was *presented* by the Head of Finance.

Reported:

- a budget update was presented three times a year;
- there had been little to no changes since the September update:
 - everyone worked within their budgets
 - no changes to the deficit were foreseen within the year, namely £635K, and the deficit would be funded by existing funds;
 - the running costs for Plas Tan y Bwlch were expected to drop significantly this year to £150K;
 - the car parks' target had now been realized and the surplus was allocated to the asset fund;
 - no transfer/virements had been made.

Noted:

- additional money had been received from the Welsh Government at the end of the 23-24 financial year and it was resolved to allocate it specifically to address the financial challenge and the shortfall within the Authority's budgets.

Recommended: – to approve the report and note the current financial situation for 2025/26.

Resolved: - to **accept** the recommendation.

13. **Basic Revenue Budget 2026/27**

A report was *presented* by the Chief Finance Officer.

Reported:

- a provision had been made in the budget for a salary inflation of 3% in 2026-27
- a 2% increase to the Welsh Government grant settlement for 2026-27 had been forecasted;
- the recent revaluation of the local government pension fund would be very beneficial for the Authority next year;
- the formal budget would be presented at the Authority's meeting on 4 February 2026

Recommendation: – to note the baseline budget planned for 2026/27 as outlined.

Resolved: - to **accept** the recommendation.

14. **Addressing the Financial Challenge**

A report was *presented* by the Chief Executive.

Reported:

- the basis of this report was discussed by the Members in the October Working Group and an overview of the strategy in the report was provided.

Noted:

- he was confident that the income from the centres could be increased subject to the completion of adaptations to the buildings, procurement terms improvements and increasing the size and range of the stock;
- there was considerable uncertainty regarding the results of what the increase in planning fees would be and that it could lead to a reduction in the number of applications;
- a paper on the creation of the role of Commercial Manager would be presented to the Members' Working Group in March 2026;
- several other National Parks already had a Commercial Manager and the model worked well in some places;
- Recommendation g. ("not to delete any vacancies") specifically mentioned the posts mentioned in paragraph 56 of the report.

Recommended: – For Members to support the following principles to form part of the Authority's Financial Strategy for 2026/27:

- a. To agree the principle of increasing car parking charges and increase the implementation of enforcement to bring in an extra £500,000 a year
- b. To set a target of an additional £40K per year from retail income

- c. Agree to keep budgeted planning fees at current levels but monitor the new fee schedule closely over the next 12 months.
- d. Explore other potential sources of commercial income, including recruiting a Commercial Manager over the next 12 months.
- e. Note the savings of £130K in the baseline budget due to the healthy state of the current pension fund.
- f. Maintain the Authority's current capital budgets as a key part of the Authority's operation - but continue to monitor the situation
- g. No removal of vacant posts - but continue to monitor the situation relating to the Welsh Government's budgetary settlement
- h. Not to pursue any compulsory redundancies - but continue to monitor the situation relating to the Welsh Government's budget settlement

Resolved: - to **accept** the recommendation.

15. **Income Generation – Review of Parking Fees**

Report *submitted* by the Head of Property Service.

Reported:

- this report was discussed by the Members in the October Working Group;
- the Chief Executive, the Head of Property Service, Community Officers and local Wardens had met with Betws-y-coed Community Council, Llangywer Community Council and Bala Town Council since the Working Group in October as they were affected by the recommendations in the report in terms of ANPR enforcement. Following discussions it was resolved to extend residents' parking times from half an hour to an hour when residents could park before 8:00 in the morning and after 17:00 in the evening free of charge;
- Betws-y-coed Council had raised concerns about campervans parking overnight in the village and it was important that the Authority was open to their concerns, avoided conflict with the community and maintained close contact.

Noted:

- discussions had been held with other National Parks and parking prices were compared annually, and ENP's prices compared favourably with other parks;
- the increase in the fees appeared to be high because it had not been possible to increase the fees gradually over the past few years;
- the intention was to trial the ANPR system first, and the company that had been chosen to operate the system had already implemented similar systems in local areas, it was possible to make changes to suit the location, it would be fully bilingual and the Welsh language would be checked;
- a specific Vehicle Number would be registered for annual licences;
- data would be collected during the first year and examined for patterns and information;
- a four-hour stay had been selected rather than charges per hour so that visitors did not feel pressured to rush back to their cars, noting that four hours was enough time for most visitors;
- the importance of communicating these changes in a positive manner, and there had been contact between the Authority and the local communities to provide context and the reasons for the changes;

- there was no standard plug for electric bicycles and this prevented the creation of charging points in car parks;
- having designated overnight parking spaces for campsites (similar to French Aires) was not currently a policy, but it was something that would be considered during the review of the Local Development Plan;
- complaints had been received from businesses that had official camping sites that they had seen a decrease in business and an increase in roadside parking and staying overnight on roadsides / lay-bys rather than on their sites, and care should be taken that business would not be taken away from them;
- the donation machines were generally successful; the machines would accept card payments as well as give monetary change and save administrative costs compared to the old donation boxes;
- there was no reference to the Benar car park (Morfa Dyffryn) in the report, the car park was empty during the Summer months but cars were parked on the roadsides, blocking emergency services' access to the beach.

Recommended: –

- 1 To note the report and the progress already made in improving the management and income of car parks.
- 2 Accept the recommendations to review parking fees as outlined in 3.2 - 3.8 in the report and include Morfa Dyffryn Car Park to the car parks listed in 3.4.
- 3 Accept the recommendations to review the operating hours of the sites as stated in 3.9 in the report.
- 4 Accept the recommendations to trial enforcement with ANPR technology as set out in 3.10 in the report and review this at the end of the following term and discuss the matter further before extending it to other sites.
- 5 Accept the proposal to install donation machines on the sites specified in 3.11 in the report to attract contributions.
- 6 Accept the recommendation to increase the Community Fund budget as outlined in 4.2 in the report.

Resolved: - to **accept** the recommendations.

16. Section 6 Report

The Director of Land Management *noted*:

- her gratitude to Dafydd Roberts, the Authority's Senior Ecologist for preparing the report;
- nature recovery was one of the main challenges and ambitions of the Authority and the report showed how much work was taking place within the Authority;
- following a recent meeting with the Commissioner for Future Generations' Office, the Chief Executive was keen to raise the Authority's ambition in the field and this was dependent on collaboration with partners and the resources available to deliver the work;
- the report was submitted to the Authority every three years but the intention was to report annually on the work of the Nature Partnership from now on, - to report on the Authority's priorities in this area.

A report was *submitted* by the Head of Conservation, Woodlands, and Agriculture.

Reported:

- a substantial amount of work had been undertaken by a diligent team and a summary of the type of work that had been delivered over the past few years was provided.

Noted:

- the report would be published on the Authority's website and sent to the Welsh Government;
- the report had been produced according to a format and template set out by the Welsh Government – which limited the format. However, a presentation could be provided in a more visual and easier to follow format by next year;

Recommended: – to note the content of the report

Resolved: - to **accept** the recommendation.

17. **Implementation of the Wales Audit Recommendations following a Risk Assessment**

The report was *presented* by the Chief Executive.

Reported:

- Audit Wales (AW) began an Assurance and Risk Assessment of the Authority in January, there was a meeting with AW officers on 7 May, and a letter was received from AW following that meeting;
- two significant issues had arisen as a result of this work:
 - there was a lack of arrangements for protecting vulnerable adults and children with whom the Authority may interact, and
 - there was no training for officers or Members based on their safeguarding responsibilities;
- the Authority, following the recommendations received from AW, had produced a new Safeguarding Policy under the leadership of the Director of Corporate Services.

Noted:

- guidelines that were simpler than the full policy were being prepared;
- there was no mention in the policy of accusations against staff; it was confirmed that the Authority already had a specific policy and arrangements relating to this, and if necessary, the policy would be modified to include a reference to the procedure in that policy.

Recommended: – that Members:

- Note the contents of AW's letter which is included in Appendix 2
- Approve the Safeguarding Policy contained in Appendix 3
- Note that more detailed guidance and training on the application of the Safeguarding Policy will take place by Spring 2026, and
- Note that a system is in place to ensure that all corporate documents and guidelines are updated.

Resolved: - to **accept** the recommendation.

18. **Dignity at Work Policy**

A report was *presented* by the Head of Human Resources.

Reported:

- the act had recently been amended placing more specific responsibility on the Authority to explain to any third party and provide training regarding the Authority's expectations of them;
- amendment of the act provided an opportunity to update the policy.

Recommended: – to approve the Dignity at Work policy, and implement it across the Authority:

Resolved: - to **accept** the recommendation.

19. **Members Working Group Reports**

The Members Working Group meeting reports held on 21 May, 3 September, 15 October, and 12 November 2025 were *presented*.

Resolved: to **note** the reports.

20. **Minutes of the Standards Committee**

The minutes of the Standards Committee held on 19 September 2025 were *presented* for information.

Resolved: to **note** the minutes.

Matters arising from the minutes:

- the former chairman of the Standards Committee had retired and the Authority had attempted to fill the vacancy and appoint another Independent Member, unsuccessfully to date; the post had been advertised once again and adverts had been sent to a number of local papers this time; hopefully a new Member would be appointed early in the new year.

21. **Meetings of Other Organisations**

A short presentation was given on the Trawsfynydd Site Stakeholder Group. It was explained that:

- this was a committee between the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority (NDA) and Nuclear Restoration Services Limited (NRS - formerly Magnox, which ran the power station) and the community;
- anyone could join the group;
- there was concern at the time because several members of NDA and NRS staff had been offered early retirement;
- there were no developments regarding the footbridge across the lake;
- there was concern that the Small Modular Reactor (SMR) was going to Anglesey and nothing was being proposed at Trawsfynydd;
- lowering the level of the power station's roof would be starting soon;
- work was progressing to create a Science Park in Trawsfynydd, but there was concern since the loss of Cwmni Egin.

The Chairman wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

The meeting ended at 12:25



MINUTES
ERYRI NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY
WEDNESDAY 4 FEBRUARY 2026
National Park Office

PRESENT:

Members appointed by Gwynedd Council

Councillors Edgar Wyn Owen (Chairman), Elwyn Edwards, Delyth Lloyd Griffiths, Annwen Hughes, Elfed Powell Roberts, John Pughe Roberts, Meryl Roberts, Einir Wyn Williams;

Members appointed by Conwy County Borough Council

Councillor Ifor Glyn Lloyd, Jo Nuttall, Nia Owen;

Members appointed by the Welsh Government

Rhys Evans, Salamatu Fada, Tim Jones, Delyth Lloyd, Naomi Luhde-Thompson, Wyn Thomas;

Officers

Jonathan Cawley, Iwan Jones, Keira Sweeney, Naomi Jones, Dewi Aeron Morgan, Sian Owen, Rhys Owen, Eifion Jones.

The Democratic Services Officer announced that the meeting would be webcast, and that it would be available online later.

1. Apologies for absence and Chairman's Announcements

Apologies were received from Councillor Louise Hughes.

2. Corporate Update

A report was *submitted* by the Chief Executive identifying some of the key issues that had arisen since the Authority's last meeting.

It was further reported:

- that a further update on Plas Tan y Bwlch would be presented at the Members' Working Group meeting on 25 February, and the Members' Development Day (to be held on 13 March) focussing on Plas developments;
- there would be a further update on the Carneddau Landscape Partnership at the Members' Working Group meeting on 25 February;
- the NPUK (National Parks of the United Kingdom) Conference is being held between 16 and 18 September 2026 at Macdonald Aviemore Resort, Aviemore, in the Cairngorms National Park. Two officers and two members usually attend, and the Chairman would look at who is able to attend;
- the Authority has been invited to apply for year-end underspend funds from the Welsh Government. It was not known how much money was available, but a substantial request had been submitted and it would have to be spent before the end of March.

Noted:

- the Members appreciated having the update in written form;
- the Authority's planning department is now fully staffed following the recent appointment of a Senior Planning Officer;
- more money has been received for Ffermio Bro, and this has enabled:
 - the creation of two additional posts which meant that 5 officers and one administrative officer would work for Ffermio Bro;
 - the allocation of a further £100,000 (on top of the employment money) to the scheme;
- it was resolved that there would be no developments at Beddgelert or Aberdyfi TIC's in the short term because the opportunities there are limited; there was an opportunity for big developments at the Betws-y-coed centre in the medium term but there was no the capacity to do so at the moment but we are in a position to develop the shop/centre in Pen-y-Pass over the Winter.

3. **Public Question Time**

No questions were received from the public.

4. **Declaration of Interest**

There was no declaration of interest.

5. **Minutes**

The minutes of the Authority's meeting held on 10 December 2025 *were submitted*.

The minutes were *adopted*, and the Chairman signed them as a true record.

6. **Matters for information arising from the minutes**

No matters arising from the minutes.

7. **Action Log**

The Action Log was *presented* by the Chief Executive.

Reported:

- there have been no development relating to matters on the action sheet since the last meeting and they will remain on the log for the time being.

Recommendation: retain both items on the Log.

Resolved: - to **accept** the Recommendation.

8. **The Authority's Budget and Constituent Authority Levies for 2026/2027**

The report was *presented* by the Chief Finance Officer.

An overview of the situation was provided and the following was *reported*:

- the situation is much better than predicted but a baseline deficit would remain;
- a 3% wage increase has been established for 2026/27;
- a significant increase in income is anticipated.

Recommendation: –

- (i) To approve the Eryri National Park Authority's revenue and capital budget for 2026/27, as presented in the relevant appendices
- (ii) Approve the levies on the billing authorities, as stated in part 6.3 of the report.

Resolved: - to **accept** the recommendation.

9. **Capital Strategy 2026/2027**

The report was *submitted* by the Chief Finance Officer providing a high-level overview of how capital expenditure, capital funding and treasury management activity supported the delivery of National Park services.

Recommendation: –

- (i) Note that there is no intention to borrow money for capital purposes, but the restrictions below are recommended on a prudent level as a precautionary measure in case there is an emergency or expenditure is required at short notice.
- (ii) To approve no change in:
 - a. the Authorized Borrowing Limit of £500,000 for 2026/27, and an Operational Limit of £100,000, and
 - b. no limit on the proportion of interest payable at the variable rate.
- (iii) To adopt the Capital Borrowing Strategy for 2026/27 as outlined in paragraph 3.3 of the report and note the content relating to the Prudential Code (see the tables under paragraphs 2.2, 3.3 and 7.1 of the report).
- (iv) To adopt the Investment Strategy for 2026/27 as outlined in paragraphs 3.5-3.14 of the report and identify the organizations listed in paragraph 3.7.

Resolved: - to **accept** the recommendation.

10. **INRS Grant Scheme (Integrated Natural Resources Scheme)**

The report was *presented* by the Head of Conservation, Trees and Agriculture providing an overview of two projects that had received grants under the INRS Grant Scheme, namely:

- (i) The right tree in the right place;
- (ii) Regenerative farming.

Reported:

- on the purposes, implications and risks of the two schemes;
- the Welsh Government has offered less time to deliver the plan than was hoped for, but discussions have begun with Welsh Government officers to try to extend the time until March 2029;
- the ability to recruit suitable persons causes some concern, and failure to recruit would place additional pressure on the current team, which was already under workload pressure;
- another risk was being able to start the plan but not being able to complete it, and therefore not being able to reclaim the funding;
- working via the Rural Payments Wales (RPW) programme is difficult, faceless and slow;
- the team is confident about the plans and eager to deliver them.

Noted:

- in response to a question as to whether there was something different that could be

done to increase the chances of successfully recruiting someone it was said:

- in terms of the scheme, "The right tree in the right place", the RSPB is going to finance part of the scheme for the Wnion catchment area, and that a part-time officer with the Park wants to increase their working hours and is keen to be part of the scheme; and in relation to the Project Manager position, there are members of staff who were on short-term contracts that were due to expire in the near future and there is an option to extend their contracts to the scheme;
- the "Regenerative Farming" scheme could prove to be more difficult: it was a new and specialist area and recruitment for it caused some concern, but some members of staff who worked on Ffermio Bro were considering the possibility of switching to the new scheme;
- there were some organizations (e.g. Bangor University) that could be contacted to see if they had people who would be interested and have the skills to work on the schemes;
- the figures given include staff costs, and that those costs account for about a third of the total costs;
- the scheme, "The right tree in the right place", includes the removal of INNS trees from SSSI areas (e.g. Waun y Griafolen), the removal of conifer trees nearing end of life and replanting something more suitable and native, and work to make ancient trees more resilient to climate change;
- money has been set aside in the "Regenerative Farming" scheme to employ specialist consultants;
- there is money in the plan to expand the Park's nurseries and the Park already buys produce from external nurseries.

Recommendation: – To accept the proposals relating to both projects BUT vigilance is required with the RPW claim system.

Resolved: - to **accept** the recommendation.

11. **Minutes of the Performance and Resources Committee**

The minutes of the Performance and Resources Committee held on 26 November 2025 were *submitted* for information.

Resolved to **note** the minutes.

12. **Minutes of the Local Joint Working Group**

The minutes of the Local Joint Working Group held on 28 November 2025 were *submitted*.

Resolved to **note** the minutes.

13. **Meetings of Other Organizations**

Reported:

- Delyth Lloyd had attended a meeting of the Trawsfynydd Stakeholder Group, and that Elfed Powell Roberts was elected Chairman of the Group at the meeting;
- Tim Jones attended a meeting of the Access Forum, and management of fly camping and climbing Crib Goch were discussed.

It was announced that there was an intention to organize a walk/run under the supervision of Arwel Ellis and Ioan Gwilym - individuals would start their journey from different places in Eryri (Cader Idris, Yr Wyddfa etc.), each carrying a piece of a jigsaw, and would meet approximately the same time at Plas Tan y Bwlch and complete the jigsaw together.

It was announced that Tom Ellis, a former member of the Authority, had recently lost his partner, and condolences were extended to him.

The meeting ended at 11:00



**PLANNING AND ACCESS COMMITTEE
SNOWDONIA NATIONAL PARK**

Wednesday 9 April 2025

PRESENT:

Members appointed by Gwynedd Council

Councillors Elwyn Edwards (Chair), Delyth Lloyd Griffiths, Annwen Hughes, Louise Hughes, Edgar Wyn Owen, Elfed Powell Roberts, John Pughe Roberts, Meryl Roberts;

Members appointed by Conwy County Borough Council

Councillors Jo Nuttall, Nia Owen;

Members appointed by the Welsh Government

Brian Angell, Rhys Evans, Delyth Lloyd, Wyn Thomas.

Officers

Jonathan Cawley, G. Iwan Jones, Aled Lloyd, Eva Jones, Eiliw Owen, Eifion Jones.

The Deputy Chief Executive advised that the meeting would be webcasted and made available online at a later date.

1. Apologies for absence and Chair's Statements

Apologies were received from the Councillor Einir Wyn Williams, Councillor Ifor Glyn Lloyd, Mr Tim Jones and Ms Naomi Luhde-Thompson.

The Chair mentioned that Councillor Ifor Glyn Lloyd had been in hospital recently and suggested a letter be sent to him from the Members wishing him a speedy recovery.

He welcomed Mr Rhys Evans and Mr Wyn Thomas to their first meeting as Authority Members. He stated that they were unable to contribute to decisions made at the meeting because they had not yet received the relevant instruction.

2. Declaration of Interest

No member or officer declared an interest in any item.

3. Minutes

The minutes of the Planning and Access Committee meeting held on 5 March 2025 were *adopted*, and the Chair signed them as a true record.

4. Reports from the Director of Planning and Land Management

Submitted: reports by the Director of Planning and Land Management on the applications received. See the attached Schedule of Planning Decisions.

5. **New Eryri Local Development Plan – Delivery Agreement**

Submitted: a report on the New Eryri Local Development Plan – Delivery Agreement by the Head of Planning Policy

Reported:–

- there were two main parts to the Delivery Agreement, namely
 - Part A: A timetable of key stages in the preparation of the Plan; and
 - Part B: A Community Involvement Plan which outlined how and when the community would be able to participate in the preparation of the Plan
- that the delivery agreement set out how the Authority would involve the local community and other stakeholders in the preparation of the new Eryri Local Development Plan
- a draft copy of the delivery agreement had been sent to the Welsh Government for initial comments

Recommended – to discuss and comment on the content of the draft Delivery Agreement and to approve it for consultation with stakeholders.

Resolved: — to **approve** the draft Delivery Agreement.

6. **Update Reports**

- 6.1 *Submitted* update reports from the Director of Planning and Land Management on planning applications and Section 106 Agreements.
- 6.2 *Submitted* update reports from the Director of Planning and Land Management on outstanding applications that have been ongoing for 13 weeks or more.

7. **Delegated Decisions**

Submitted: A list of applications decided upon in accordance with delegated authority.

The meeting closed at 10:55



SCHEDULE OF PLANNING DECISIONS – 09 APRIL 2025

4. Report by the Director of Planning and Land Management

Submitted:

- (1) NP5/65/256B – Demolition of part of the former hotel and erection of 5 new open market houses (1 detached house and 4 townhouses), provision of 4 affordable houses with 3 accommodated with a newly built terrace and 1 within the former staff accommodation on the ground floor of the hall, Bontddu Hall, Bontddu. (Amended application).

Reported:

- that the site was within the Bontddu housing development boundary and would contribute to the number of affordable housing units and contribute to the Authority's target of providing 375 affordable homes within the lifetime of the Eryri Local Development Plan;
- that the site was in a fragile state and was detrimental to the visual amenities of Bontddu village and the wider area;
- there were restrictions on the development of the site due to the characteristics of the site and the current condition of the fire-damaged building;
- that the revised application submitted was a more appropriate development;
- that the application should be approved subject to the applicant entering into a Section 106 Agreement with the Authority for the successful provision of affordable housing.

Geraint Lewis of *Geraint Lewis Associates*, who presented the application on behalf of the Applicant, gave a presentation to the meeting noting:

- that the building was significantly damaged by fire in 2020 and that significant parts of the walls were at risk of collapsing;
- that the development would provide the village with four much-needed affordable houses;
- that the open market housing would assist in financing the affordable housing.

The application was *discussed* by Members and the following concerns *noted*:

- the design of the houses did not suit Bontddu
- that the design of the affordable housing and the open market housing was not the same;
- that the ratio between the number of open market housing and the number of affordable housing should be 4:4;
- that too much light would come from the buildings;
- that the development would provide the village with four much-needed affordable houses.

It was *recommended* that the Southern Area Inspection Panel visit the site to further examine the application.

Resolved: — to **accept** the Recommendation.



MINUTES
PLANNING AND ACCESS COMMITTEE
ERYRI NATIONAL PARK
Wednesday 21 May 2025

PRESENT:

Members appointed by Gwynedd Council

Councillors Elwyn Edwards (Chair), Delyth Lloyd Griffiths, Annwen Hughes, Edgar Wyn Owen, Elfed Powell Roberts, John Pughe Roberts, Meryl Roberts;

Members appointed by Conwy County Borough Council

Councillors Jo Nuttall, Nia Owen;

Members appointed by the Welsh Government

Brian Angell, Rhys Evans, Tim Jones, Delyth Lloyd, Naomi Luhde-Thompson.

Officers

G. Iwan Jones, Iona Roberts, Aled Lloyd, Sophie Berry, Edward Jones (Part 2 only), Naomi Jones (Part 2 only), Eifion Jones.

The Interim Deputy Chief Executive stated that the meeting was being web-broadcast and would also be made available online at a later date.

1. Apologies of absence and Chairman's Remarks

Apologies were received from Councillors Louise Hughes, Einir Wyn Williams and Ifor Glyn Lloyd, Mr Wyn Thomas, and Mr Jonathan Cawley.

2. Declaration of Interest

None.

3. Minutes

The minutes of the Planning and Access Committee meeting held on 9 April 2025 were *adopted* and the Chair signed them as a true record.

Matters arising from the minutes

The Principal Planning Officer reported that he had noted Llanelltyd Community Council's comments in response to the application to demolish the Bontddu Hotel during his presentation on the application, but that this had not been recorded in the minutes, and that he would be repeating his comments during his Inspection Panel report.

4. **Inspection Panel Report**

Submitted:

NP5/65/256B – Demolition of part of former hotel and erection of 5 new open market dwellings (1 detached and 4 town houses), provision of 4 affordable dwelling with 3 being accommodated with a new build terrace and 1 within the former staff accommodation on the lower ground floor of the hall, Bontddu Hall, Bontddu. (Revised application).

Reported:

- that the Community Council of Llanelltyd, Taicynhaeaf and Bontddu had responded to the application:
 - that they were “in favour of developing the site, but for housing that local people could afford”;
 - that the site needed to be secured as it was a danger to the public;
- that the application had been discussed at the Planning Committee meeting of 9 April 2024, and that the Members had decided that the Southern Inspection Panel should visit the site to examine the application further;
- that the Panel had visited the site on 16 April 2025;
- that the Panel had noted the need for gardens with the affordable houses, and that the plans for the gardens had now been received;
- that details for a bat shelter had been received;
- that the agent had confirmed that stones from the old hotel would be re-used in the new open-market houses;

Noted:

- that Section 106 Agreements would ensure that the affordable housing:
 - would be restricted to local people renting them, and that the price was tied into local prices;
 - would be offered to the people of Bontddu parish first, and then to people from neighboring parishes;
 - remained affordable;
 - were built before the open market houses;
- that the new open market houses were no higher than the existing hotel;
- that an assessment has been made regarding the house windows and their light reflection; it was judged that they would not reflect too much light, and the Dark Sky Officer was happy with the condition
- the developers would have to submit a drainage plan to the Authority before construction work started.

Recommended: – to **approve** the application

Resolved: — to **adopt** the recommendation

5. **Reports by the Director of Planning and Land Management**

Submitted – reports by the Director of Planning and Land Management on applications received. See attached Schedule of Planning Decisions.

6. **Update Reports**

- 6.1 *Submitted:* – Update reports by the Director of Planning and Land Management on Section 106 Agreements.
- 6.2 *Submitted:* – Update reports by the Director of Planning and Land Management on outstanding applications where more than 13 weeks have elapsed.

7. **Delegated Decisions**

Submitted: – List of applications determined in accordance with delegated authority.

8. **Plas Tan y Bwlch – Leasehold Property**

Submitted: a recommendation by the Interim Deputy Chief Executive to ask the Authority to approve the exemption of the report, "Plas Tan y Bwlch - Leasehold Property" under Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

Reported: that the relevant exception to the report was that it contained information that:

14. involved the financial or business affairs of a particular person (including the authority that held that information)

There were no factors in favour of disclosure.

Recommended: – that the Authority exclude the report, "Plas Tan y Bwlch - Leasehold Property".

Resolved: — to **accept** the recommendation.

PART 2

9. **Plas Tan y Bwlch – Leasehold Property**

Submitted: a report by the Head of Property Services

Reported:

- that a chalet on a 900+ year Lease had come up for sale within the grounds of Plas Tan y Bwlch;
- that the chalet was located very close to the western access road, which was the main access to lorries, buses and emergency services (it was explained that the bridge bend on the Maentwrog side entrance was too tight for large or long vehicles);
- that the intention was to buy the chalet, demolish the existing structure and improve the access road;
- that this was a golden opportunity to try to improve that entrance - whether the Lottery application was successful or not, as it would help with any sale;
- that the approval of the Members was needed for a decision of this type.

The request was *discussed* by the Members and the following was *noted*:

- that the purchase would not be part of the Lottery application, but the subsequent work would be;
- that the Park already owned one chalet and had the option of selling it, if necessary;
- it should be seen as an investment and not as an expenditure.

Recommended: –

- (i) that Members consider the information given in the report, approve the Authority's purchase of the chalet's long-term leasehold, to enable the improvement of Plas Tan y Bwlch's access.

Resolved: — to **accept** the Recommendation.

Daeth y cyfarfod i ben am 11:35

SCHEDULE OF PLANNING DECISIONS – 21 MAI 2025



5. Report by the Director of Planning and Land Management

Submitted:

- (1) NP2/16/442 - Creation of footpath link through woodland to include raised boardwalks, bridges, way markers, benches, interpretation panels, shelter and 'Portaloo', Coed Hendre Ddu, Cwm Pennant, Garndolbenmaen. LL51 9AX

Reported:

- Dolbenmaen Community Council had objected to the application for a number of reasons, including:
 - lack of parking space
 - fire risk
 - over-development of the countryside
 - the negative impact it could have on local people, and the area's culture and language;
- permitted development rights would allow the structures to be erected for a period of 28 days a year. The current application sought permission to keep them for just 2 more days in addition to this.

The application was *discussed* by the Members and the following was *noted*:

- it was not an application for a change of use, and a licence would be required for holding festivals, for example;
- there was no objection to the application in principle;
- it was not clear whether it was a business venture or not;
- it was not clear why the application requested permission to keep the structures for 30 days a year, i.e. for only 2 days in addition to what would be allowed without any additional permission;
- it was not clear whether the entire area of the initiative was accessible to wheelchairs;
- further information should be requested before making a final decision;

Proposed: – to postpone the decision to obtain further details regarding the application.

Resolved: — to **accept** the proposal.



MINUTES
PLANNING AND ACCESS COMMITTEE
ERYRY NATIONAL PARK
Wednesday 25 June 2025

PRESENT:

Members appointed by Gwynedd Council

Councillors Elwyn Edwards, Delyth Lloyd Griffiths, Annwen Hughes, Edgar Wyn Owen, Elfed Powell Roberts, John Pughe Roberts, Meryl Roberts, Einir Wyn Williams;

Members appointed by Conwy County Borough Council

Councillor Nia Owen;

Members appointed by the Welsh Government

Brian Angell, Rhys Evans, Delyth Lloyd, Naomi Luhde-Thompson, Wyn Thomas.

Officers

Jon Cawley, G. Iwan Jones, Keira Sweeney, Jane Jones, Iona Roberts, David Pryce-Jones, Geraint Evans, Aled Lloyd, Richard Thomas, Eifion Jones.

The Interim Deputy Chief Executive advised that the meeting was webcast and would also be available online later.

1. Chairman

The Interim Deputy Chief Executive outlined the procedure for electing a Chair of the Planning and Access Committee. He advised that, in accordance with Standing Orders 5.2 and 5.3, he had received nominations proposing only one name, namely Elwyn Edwards.

Elwyn Edwards was *elected* as Chairman of the Planning and Access Committee.

The Chairman thanked the Members for their support

2. Vice-chairman

The Interim Deputy Chief Executive outlined the procedure for electing a Vice-chairman of the Planning and Access Committee. He advised that, in accordance with Standing Orders 5.2 and 5.3, he had received nominations offering only one name, namely Nia Owen.

Nia Owen was *elected* as Vice Chair of the Planning and Access Committee.

The Vice-chairman thanked the Members for their support

3. Apologies for absence and Chairman's Announcements

Apologies were received from Councillors Louise Hughes, Ifor Glyn Lloyd, Jo Nuttall, and Mr Tim Jones.

The Chair welcomed Keira Sweeney, the Park's new Director of Planning to her first meeting of the Planning and Access Committee.

He also noted that this would be Brian Angell's last Planning meeting. He thanked him for his service over the past eight years.

4. **Declaration of Interest**

No declaration of interest was received.

5. **Minutes**

The minutes of the Planning and Access Committee meeting held on 21 May 2025 were *adopted*, and the Chairman signed them as a true record.

Matters arising from the minutes

Item 4: It was noted that the minutes indicate that the recommendation was accepted, but that it was not noted that one Member objected to the recommendation. It was explained that an objection will not be noted unless the Member specifically requests this.

Following this, Councillor Delyth Lloyd Griffiths requested that her objection to application NP5/65/256B (to demolish part of the former Bontddu Hall hotel and erect 5 new open market houses (1 detached house and 4 town houses), to provide 4 affordable houses with 3 to include a newly built terrace and 1 within the former staff accommodation on the lower ground floor of the hall) be officially included in the minutes.

6. **Supplementary Planning Guidance: Controlling the use of dwellings as Holiday Homes (second homes and short-term holiday accommodation)**

A report was *submitted* by the Planning Policy Officer.

Reported:

- the Article 4 Directive came into force on 1st June 2025, and that an important element to ensure that the wider objective of implementing the Article 4 Directive was delivered was the preparation of Supplementary Planning Guidance;
- the purpose of the Supplementary Planning Guidance was to assist individuals that submitted planning applications, and planning officers and members of the Park Authority who decided on planning applications relating to the change of use of main homes, second homes and short-term holiday accommodation;
- the guidance note is one of a series of Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG) documents that would provide more detailed information on how policies contained in the Eryri Local Development Plan (LDP) (2016-2031) would be applied in practice by the National Park Authority;

The Members *discussed* the report, and the following was *noted*:

- The department was thanked for all their work;
- It was emphasized that the Directive was one consideration among others, and the other considerations would continue even if the percentage of second homes and short-term rental accommodation within a community was below the threshold of 15%;
- It was confirmed that second homes and short-term rental accommodation within a community can be re-examined within the year, to consider whether the threshold should be changed;
- It was noted that the figures for second homes and short-term rental accommodation could rise and fall within individual communities, but the hope was that the number across the Park would decrease;
- It was agreed that it should be specified more clearly what type, and amount, of information and evidence owners of second homes and short-term rental accommodation should collect and retain.

Recommendation – that Members:

- (i) adopt the *Supplementary Planning Guidance: Formally managing the use of dwellings as holiday homes (second homes and short-term holiday accommodation)* as a material planning consideration.
- (ii) delegate the right to the Authority's Director of Planning and Partnerships to make any necessary formatting adjustments and minor corrections before publication.
- (iii) agree that the Supplementary Planning Guidance is updated annually, with updated percentages of second homes and short-term rental accommodation from the total housing stock within each community council area in Appendix B of the report.

Resolved: - to **accept** the Recommendation.

7. **Reports from the Director of Planning and Land Management**

Presented: reports from the Director of Planning and Land Management relating to the applications received. See the attached Schedule of Planning Decisions.

8. **Development Management Performance Report – Q3 And Q4 2024/2025**

Presented a report from the Head of Development Management and Compliance.

Reported:

- the team has been 50% below their normal staffing capacity during the Quarter 3 and Quarter 4 2024/2025 periods;
- the post of Planning Officer has been vacant since the beginning of March 2025 and that this has led to the remaining Principal Planning Officers being under immense pressure;
- the new Director of Planning and Partnerships started in his post on 23 June;
- a graduate trainee was advertised to try to reduce this pressure, and a new Planning Officer Graduate Trainee will commence in post towards the end of July;
- improvements had been made in the last two quarters of 24/25, and good progress had been made in the right direction given the challenges faced.

The report *was discussed* and the following *noted* :

- there is a recruitment problem throughout Wales;
- pre-application advice is given, but many ignore the advice.

Recommendation – that Members note the content of the report in relation to performance and capacity and provide any comments.

Resolved: -to **accept** the Recommendation.

9. **Compliance Update**

The Chief Planning Officer (Compliance) presented a report.

Reported:

- the background of the report and the current situation;
- the latest information on the notable cases.

Recommendation: - that Members note the content of the report.

Resolved: - to **accept** the Recommendation.

10. Update Reports

10.1 Update reports *were submitted* by the Director of Planning and Land Management on planning applications and Section 106 Agreements.

Reported:

- a response has been received from the Highways Committee regarding application NP5/77/27K Y Garej, Talsarnau, - they are looking at the application;
- Natural Resources Wales has agreed with the Habitats Regulations Assessment conducted in application NP5/61/647A Ty'n y Gwter, Harlech.

10.2 *Submitted* - Update reports by the Director of Planning and Land Management on outstanding applications that had not been decided for 13 weeks or more.

11. Delegated Decisions

Presented: the list of applications decided in accordance with delegated authority.

12. Appeal Decisions

1 (a) *Submitted:* An oral report by the Director of Planning and Land Management on the Inspector's decision to **allow an appeal** by the Ffestiniog Railway Company against Eryri National Park Authority refusal to grant planning permission for "The construction of a new railway station building on the existing concrete slab", Beddgelert Railway Station Building, Beddgelert LL49 0NF.

1 (b) *Submitted* An oral report by the Director of Planning and Land Management on the Inspector's Decision to **allow an appeal** by the Ffestiniog Railway Company against Eryri National Park Authority (ENPA) for a full costs award, Beddgelert Railway Station Building, Beddgelert LL49 0NF.

2 (a) *Submitted:* An oral report by the Director of Planning and Land Management on the Inspector's decision to **allow an appeal** by Charles Mador of Tremlett Mews Limited against Eryri National Park Authority for refusing to grant planning permission for land development without complying with conditions subject to which previous planning permission was granted, Taltreuddyn Fawr, Dyffryn Ardudwy LL44 2RQ.

Reported:

- that the circumstances of the case are unique because it relates to a listed building, and that it is a decision that could be learned from.

2 (b) *Submitted:* An oral report by the Director of Planning and Land Management on the Inspector's Decision to **reject an appeal** by Charles Mador of Tremlett Mews Limited against Eryri National Park Authority (ENPA) for a full costs award, Taltreuddyn Fawr, Dyffryn Ardudwy LL44 2RQ.

Reported:

- that the decision not to allow costs is proof that the condition given was reasonable, but for the special circumstances of the case.

The meeting ended at 11:30

SCHEDULE OF PLANNING DECISIONS – 25 JUNE 2025



7. Report by the Director of Planning and Land Management

Presented:

- (1) NP2/16/442 – Creation of a woodland footpath to include raised boardwalks, bridges, signposts, benches, and interpretation panels. Coed Hendre Ddu, Cwm Pennant, Garndolbenmaen LL51 9AX

Presented: A report by the Head of Development Management and Compliance

Reported:

- that this was a supplementary report providing more information about the application following questions raised by Members;
- the application has been amended, and the applicant has decided to remove the temporary structures from the application, and would use his permitted development rights for a maximum of 28 days in any calendar year;
- the design of the Bison Bridge has been revised to allow level access without steps on and off the bridge;
- the new path was not intended to be a walking path for all abilities but to enable the connection of two existing Public Rights of Way;
- the interpretation panels comply with the objectives of the Eryri Local Development Plan;
- Coed Hendre Ddu' is part of the National Forest of Wales, an initiative supported by the Welsh Government.

Presentation: by Mr Terry Thomas on behalf of the Applicant pleading in favour of the application.

Recommendation: – that the Members of the Authority approve the application with the conditions listed.

Resolved: — to **approve** the proposal.

- (2) NP4/29/527 – Construction of one open market dwelling, Land near Tryfan, Penmachno. LL24 0YE

Presented: A report by the Senior Planning Officer - Development Management

Reported:

- that Penmachno Community Council supports the application, on condition that the dwelling is subject to local affordable occupation section 106. It was explained that Penmachno is defined as a secondary settlement in the Development Plan and therefore the requirements of Section 106 on local affordable occupation did not have to be met and it could be considered to allow the construction of an open market dwelling.

The Members *discussed* the application and the following *was noted* :

- an advisory note would be included noting that there must be sustainable drainage and a porous surface;

Recommendation: – that the Members of the Authority approve the application with the conditions listed.

Resolved: — to **approve** the proposal.

- (3) NP5/50/532F – Removal of Condition 3 (Restriction on the retail sale of hot food off premises) attached to Planning Permission NP5/50/532C dated 11/03/2016. Unit 2, Wharf Gardens, Aberdyfi. LL35 0EE.

Presented: A report by the Senior Planning Officer - Development Management

Reported:

- the application was presented to the Committee because it related to a building owned by Eryri National Park Authority;
- the application was to remove the condition only;
- there were other amenities nearby that already offered takeaway food and drink;
- there would be a planning condition limiting use to between the hours of 09.00am and 11.00pm.

Recommendation: – that the Members of the Authority approve the application with the conditions listed.

Resolved: — to **approve** the proposal.

- (4) NP5/53/130H – Fit insulation and installation of new cladding and solar panels at the ENPA Warden Centre, installation of ANPR and CCTV cameras, and erection of a new access gate. Warden Centre and Llyn Tegid Car Park, Bala. LL23 7SR

Presented: A report by the Senior Planning Officer - Development Management

Reported:

- Because the site is within a Special Conservation Area and a Site of Special Scientific Interest an appropriate Habitats Regulations Assessment had to be undertaken, and that this had been completed by the authorities and ecologists, and that Natural Resources Wales had agreed with the Assessment;

The Members *discussed* the application, and the following was *noted*:

- Provision of bird nesting boxes to be included as part of the scheme;
- the use of local wood for the cladding should be encouraged if possible, and an advisory note would be noted as part of the application.

Recommendation: – that the Members of the Authority approve the application with the conditions listed together with an advisory note to use local trees for the cladding.

Resolved: — to **approve** the proposal.

- (5) NP5/70/122A – Renovation of existing toilets and installation of new external cladding, renovation of existing parking spaces and creation of new spaces, installation of ANPR and CCTV cameras, and installation of a new access gate. Eryri National Park Car Park, Llangywer. LL23 7DA

Presented: A report by the Senior Planning Officer - Development Management

Reported:

- the application includes the creation of 92 new parking spaces which would bring additional revenue to the Park;
- the report found that it was possible that pollution could affect Llyn Tegid. An appropriate Habitats Regulations Assessment was conducted which concluded that this could be avoided if the developers and the Authority ensured that they used anti-pollution measures while developing the site.
- Natural Resources Wales is happy with this, and that the permission includes an anti-pollution advisory note.

Members had *discussions* and the following was *noted* :

- Provision of bird and bat nesting boxes are a part of the scheme;
- an advisory note would be placed on the application promoting the use of local wood for the cladding.

Recommendation: – that Members approve the application with the conditions listed.

Resolved: — to **approve** the proposal.



MINUTES
PLANNING AND ACCESS COMMITTEE
ERYRY NATIONAL PARK
Wednesday 3 September 2025

PRESENT:

Members appointed by Gwynedd Council

Councillors Elwyn Edwards (Chairman), Annwen Hughes, Elfed Powell Roberts, John Pughe Roberts, Meryl Roberts;

Members appointed by Conwy County Borough Council

Councillors Ifor Glyn Lloyd, Jo Nuttall;

Members appointed by the Welsh Government

Rhys Evans, Salamat Fada, Delyth Lloyd, Naomi Luhde-Thompson.

Officers

G. Iwan Jones, Keira Sweeney, Iona Roberts, David Jones, Ben Jones, Eifion Jones.

The Director of Corporate Services advised that the meeting would be webcasted and would also be available online at a later date.

1. **Apologies for absence and Chairman's Announcements**

Apologies were received from Councillors Delyth Lloyd Griffiths, Edgar Wyn Owen, Einir Wyn Williams, Nia Owen, and Mr Wyn Thomas.

2. **Declaration of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

3. **Minutes**

The minutes of the Planning and Access Committee meeting held on 25 June 2025 were *adopted*, and the Chairman signed them as a true record.

4. **Reports from the Director of Planning and Partnerships**

The Director of Planning and Partnerships *submitted* a report on the applications received. See the attached Schedule of Planning Decisions.

5. **Update Reports**

5.1 Update reports were *submitted* by the Director of Planning and Partnerships on planning applications and Section 106 Agreements.

5.2 Update reports were *submitted* by the Director of Planning and Partnerships on the applications that had been outstanding for 13 weeks or more.

Reported:

- there is a possibility that application NP5/59/495C, Land near Pont yr Afon Gam, Llan Ffestiniog will be submitted to the Planning Committee at the next committee meeting.

6. **Delegated Decisions**

The list of applications decided in accordance with delegated authority were *submitted*.

7. **Appeal Decisions**

- (1) An oral report was *submitted by the Director of Planning and Partnerships* on the Inspector's decision to **reject an appeal** by Mrs Helen Fenner against Eryri National Park Authority's refusal to grant Planning permission for the construction of a wooden cabin for visitors/holiday accommodation, Waen Fechan, Llanbedr-y- Cennin, Conwy LL32 8UR.
- (2) An oral report was *submitted by the Director of Planning and Partnerships* on the Inspector's decision to **reject an appeal** by Caroline Evans against an enforcement notice issued by Eryri National Park Authority (ENPA), for "without planning permission, a significant change of use of the land from open woodland to mixed use, namely open woodland and the placement of a static caravan for residential purposes with associated residential paraphernalia, land near Plas Gwynfryn, Llanbedr LL45 2NY.
- (3) An oral report was *submitted by the Director of Planning and Partnerships* on the Inspector's decision to **allow an appeal** by Mr Alan Peter Francis and Mrs Susan Ann Francis against a decision by Eryri National Park Authority for refusing to release a planning obligation, Maes Lledfan, Rhoslefain, Tywyn LL36 9NH.

Reported:

- that there was a planning obligation that applied to the property and this appeal requires the occupation of the dwelling to be restricted to persons who are employed or were last employed in a regular trade, business or profession in a location within a 30 mile radius of the dwelling, including the dependents of such persons who lived with them, the wife or widower, or such persons;
- that the purpose of the policy in the Eryri Local Development Plan was to try to meet the housing needs of local communities, mainly to provide affordable housing;
- that the obligation did not restrict occupation to people who needed affordable housing, and that the value of the property was significantly higher than the level the Authority considered affordable;
- that the obligation therefore (in the Inspector's opinion) did not continue to serve a useful purpose and should be released;
- that it was good that the Authority had tested the argument, and that it was a decision that could be learned from.

The meeting ended at 10:30



SCHEDULE OF PLANNING DECISIONS – 03 SEPTEMBER 2025

7. Report by the Director of Planning and Partnerships

Submitted:

- (1) NP5/57AD872C – Advertisement Consent to display a memorial plaque, Car Park, Penmaenpool LL40 1YD.

Presented – a report by the Senior Planning Officer - Development Control

Reported:

- that the application was submitted to the planning committee because the advertisement would be displayed on land that was within the ownership of Eryri National Park Authority;

Recommendation: – that the Members of the Authority approve the application with the conditions listed.

Resolved: - to **accept** the recommendation.

- (2) NP5/71/499A – Amend Condition 2 (Agricultural Worker Occupancy) of Planning Permission PEN.R/1246/P dated 19/07/1973 to a rural enterprise dwelling condition, Derwen Gam, Llanuwchllyn LL23 7UN.

Presented - a report by the Head of Development Management and Compliance

Reported:

- that the site is outside the limits of an approved settlement and in a location where new residential units are normally restricted by Policy G of the adopted Eryri Local Development Plan, for certain sites, where it has been demonstrated that there is an essential and proven need for the dwelling which cannot be met in any other way or by a dwelling in some other location.

Recommendation: – that the Members of the Authority approve the application with the conditions listed.

Resolved: - to **accept** the recommendation.

- (3) NP5/75/46B – Change of land use to permit one mobile food and drink vendor to be located (Use Class A3) Car Park, Tan-y-Coed, Esgargeiliog SY20 9AT.

Presented – a report by the Senior Planning Officer - Development Management

Reported:

- that the application was presented to the Committee because there was an objection from the community council;
- that the car park area was well screened by woodland and was not visible from the A487 or the existing residential property to the east.
- it was not considered that the proposal would have an unacceptable impact on the amenities of the occupiers of this property due to noise, disturbance and cooking smells due to the distance to the property and the presence of screening;
- that the Eryri Ecologist had no ecological concerns.

The application was *discussed* by the Members, and the following was expressed:

- separate permission would be required to place an advertisement for the food and drink vendor on the A487;
- that it is a quiet, rural location, a place to meditate; that there were already enough retail spaces close to the car park, which offered nothing to local people, and that some local people were opposed to the development;

- the application ensured that it would be tidy, in accordance with the Park's requirements, and that there was nothing wrong with competition.

Recommendation: – that the Members of the Authority approve the application with the conditions listed with conditions 2 and 3 amended so that they refer to the biodiversity improvements that have been received.

Resolved: - to **accept** the recommendation.



MINUTES
PLANNING AND ACCESS COMMITTEE
ERYRI NATIONAL PARK
Wednesday 15 October 2025

PRESENT:

Members appointed by Gwynedd Council

Councillors Elwyn Edwards (Chairman), Delyth Lloyd Griffiths, Annwen Hughes, Louise Hughes, Edgar Wyn Owen, Elfed Powell Roberts, John Pughe Roberts, Einir Wyn Williams;

Members appointed by Conwy County Borough Council

Councillors Ifor Glyn Lloyd, Jo Nuttall, Nia Owen;

Members appointed by the Welsh Government

Rhys Evans, Salamatu Fada, Tim Jones, Delyth Lloyd, Naomi Luhde-Thompson, Wyn Thomas.

Officers

Iwan Jones, Keira Sweeney, Iona Roberts, Aled Lloyd, David Jones, Geraint Evans, Eifion Jones.

Also present:

Mr Dafydd Tomos, Applicant's Agent Item 4.(3)

The Director of Corporate Services advised that the meeting would be webcast and would also be available online at a later date.

1. Apologies for absence and Chairman's Statements

Apologies were received from Councillor Meryl Roberts, and Mr Tim Jones.

2. Declaration of Interest

There was no declaration of interest.

3. Minutes

The minutes of the Planning and Access Committee meeting held on 3 September 2025, and the Chairman signed them as a true record.

4. Reports from the Director of Planning and Partnerships

Presented reports from the Director of Planning and Partnerships re. applications received. See the attached Schedule of Planning Decisions.

5. Eryri Local Development Plan - Annual Monitoring Report for 2024-2025

Presented a report by the Policy Planning Officer

Reported:

- the background of the monitoring report, the main findings of the Annual Monitoring Report for 2024-25, and the next steps;
- that the figure given in the programme for the number of houses that received permission during 24/25 was incorrect, and that the true reduction was 32 units fewer than the previous year, and not 17 as appeared in the programme;

The Members discussed the application, and the following was *noted*:

- that the process of creating a new plan had begun and the Authority would, as part of the process, call for sites, and that there was room to encourage landowners to come forward and offer sites for development.

Recommendation: - that the Members of the Authority discuss and approve the content of the Annual Monitoring Report 2024-25, with any additional changes presented and agreed by the members.

Resolved : - **to accept** the recommendation

6. **Update Reports**

- 6.1 Update reports were *submitted* by the Director of Planning and Partnerships on planning applications and Section 106 Agreements.
- 6.2 Update reports were *submitted* by the Director of Planning and Partnerships on applications that had not been decided for 13 weeks or more.

Reported:

- NP5/69/354G: Maes-y-Crynywr, Llwyngwrl - the Relevant Officer would update the Member directly after the meeting;
- NP5/59/495C: Land near Pont yr Afon Gam, Llan Ffestiniog - it was expected that the application would be presented to the next Planning committee;
- NP5/58/363K: Nant Eos, Dyffryn Ardudwy (Conversion of an external building into an open market house and installation of a sewage treatment unit) - that the policy in this case was that, as it was a conversion, there was a choice to limit it as an affordable house or pay a commuted amount.
- that Applications NP4/32/358A: Nant Llyn Glan Cors, Llanrwst and NP5/78/421A had to wait a long time for a response, and officers would seek a response from the relevant agents;
- NP5/65/256B: Neuadd Bontddu, Bontddu - that an amended application had been received and a report on that amended application would be submitted to the next meeting.

7. **Delegated Decisions**

Presented - the list of applications decided in accordance with delegated authority.

Reported:

- NP5/58/100D: Cabin, Coed y Bachau, Dyffryn Ardudwy (Replacement of existing cabin with detached two-storey house) - that the existing cabin, which was a legal residential house, be demolished and a new two-storey house built in its place.

8. **Any Other Matter**

Requested: an update on Cidwm Castle; it was confirmed that officers would look into the current situation of the property.

The meeting ended at 11:10



SCHEDULE OF PLANNING DECISIONS – 15 OCTOBER 2025

4. Report by the Director of Planning and Partnerships

Submitted:

- (1) NP5/57/937Y – Erection of 13 residential houses (Use Class C3), Ground in Uwch y Maes, Dolgellau. LL40 1GD.

Presented: a report from the Head of Development Management and Compliance

Reported:

- that the application was presented to the Committee because the application was one that the Director of Planning and Partnerships considered to be a Major Development;
- that it was the final stage of a larger residential development, one that had developed in stages since the 1980s;
- that permission had been given to build a total of 94 houses and that 69 had already been built;
- that the proposed houses were open market residential dwellings with use class C3, which was a residential house used as a sole or main residence;
- that this application was an application to change designs, and it was considered that the original application - which was an application for open market housing without any affordable housing obligations - remained in force; it was explained that considerable importance must be given to the history of the site and the way it had developed over the years, and that the current proposal to develop the final stage of the estate would not be a deviation from the original intention of the outline applications; because of this, it would be unreasonable to ask for the provision of affordable housing for this final stage of development.
- that no significant adverse impact contrary to local planning policies and relevant national guidelines had been identified and the proposal was considered acceptable;
- the development would be a positive contribution to the open market housing stock, and setting a condition to ensure the use of C3 would meet the needs of local communities;
- that no harm would be done to the character and balance of the community's language.

The Members discussed the application, and the following was noted:

- it should be ensured that local stone was used for the retaining walls;
- that the plan provided space for two cars for each house and that the road was wide enough to allow access for refuse lorries;
- 50 trees would be planted along the border;
- in terms of carbon standards that the houses were in a sustainable location but that the planning policies were controlled through the building control system.

Recommended: – that the Members of the Authority **approve** the application with the conditions listed adding conditions to ensure that local stones are used for the retaining walls, and that trees, including oak trees, are planted along the boundary.

Resolved: - **to accept** the recommendation.

- (2) NP5/68/L178B – Minor amendment to Planning Permission NP5/68/L178 dated 16/03/22 to omit the chimney from the extension, insert 2 additional windows and doors on the side elevation and 1 skylight on the rear elevation, Bron Garnedd, Llanfrothen. LL48 6SW.

Presented report by the Senior Planning Officer - Development Control

Reported:

- that the application was presented to the Committee because it was a application from a member of the Authority's staff.

Recommendation: – that the Members of the Authority **approve** the application with the conditions listed.

Resolved: - to **accept** the recommendation.

- (3) NP5/75/272A - Erection of one open market dwelling, and one self-build dwelling for affordable local needs, including the formation of vehicular access, parking and turning areas and associated works (re-submission), Tŷ Gwyn, Pennal.

Presented – a report by the Senior Planning Officer – Development Control

Reported:

- that the application was presented to the Committee because the Community Council supported the application and the planning officers recommended that the application be refused;
- that the intention was that the affordable house would be "*intermediate-type housing*", and that there would be a discount on the price that would make it affordable and that would be managed through a legal agreement;
- that Pennal was a secondary settlement under SPC's strategic policy, which meant that it was a lower settlement where housing developments could be allowed for local need within the development boundary;
- that the proposed housing site was located outside, but adjacent to, the boundary of the defined settlement of Pennal, and that residential development could only be permitted on the basis of an exception under policy PI 11 for affordable housing where the need had been demonstrated;
- the open market dwelling would come under general housing policies, and would constitute a new dwelling in an open countryside location, which would be contrary to local and national planning policies;
- that the affordable dwelling was considered too large to be affordable, and that it had not been demonstrated that there was a need for a 4-bedroom affordable house.

Mr Dafydd Tomos was invited to give a presentation on behalf of the agent. He *reported*:

- that the owner of the land had submitted the application after a number of local residents showed interest in self-building houses in the area;
- that the Community Council was supportive in order to attract and retain young families in the area;
- that the development boundary was set in 2018 and that there was no more room to develop within the boundary, and that some flexibility in the policy was necessary;
- that the number of houses built in recent years in Eryri was insufficient for the need;
- these houses would be a positive addition to the village of Pennal.

The Members discussed the application, and the following was *noted*:

- that there was no objection to the development on the basis of the visual impact of the development, but on the basis of policy and principle, and that a site visit would not be useful on this occasion;
- that the decision to grant the application would not set a precedent, but could be seen to set a precedent;
- that the Authority had allowed development outside defined boundaries in the past, but only affordable housing.

Recommendation: – that the Members of the Authority **reject** the application because:

1. open market residential development is unacceptable in the countryside as part of an exemption scheme;
2. it has not been shown that an affordable dwelling of this scale is needed.

Resolved : - to **accept** the recommendation.



MINUTES
PLANNING AND ACCESS COMMITTEE
ERYRI NATIONAL PARK
Wednesday 12 November 2025

PRESENT:

Members appointed by Gwynedd Council

Councillors Elwyn Edwards (Chair), Delyth Lloyd Griffiths, Annwen Hughes, Edgar Wyn Owen, Elfed Powell Roberts, John Pughe Roberts, Eirir Wyn Williams;

Members appointed by Conwy County Borough Council

Councillors Ifor Glyn Lloyd, Nia Owen;

Members appointed by the Welsh Government

Rhys Evans, Salamatu Fada, Tim Jones, Delyth Lloyd, Naomi Luhde-Thompson, Wyn Thomas.

Officers

Iwan Jones, Keira Sweeney, Ben Jones, Aled Lloyd, Eva Jones, Eifion Jones.

Also present:

Ms Sioned Edwards, Applicant Agent for Item 4. (1)

The Director of Corporate Services advised that the meeting would be webcast and would also be available online at a later date.

1. Apologies for absence and Chair's Announcements

Apologies were received from Councillors Louise Hughes, Jo Nuttall.

2. Declaration of Interest

None

3. Minutes

The minutes of the Planning and Access Committee meeting held on 15 October 2025 were *adopted*, and signed by the Chair as a true record.

4. Reports from the Director of Planning and Partnerships

Presented - reports from the Director of Planning and Partnerships on the applications received. Please see the Schedule of Planning Decisions attached.

5. Update Reports

- 5.1 *Presented* - updated reports from the Director of Planning and Partnerships on planning applications and Section 106 Agreements.
- 5.2 *Presented* - update reports from the Director of Planning and Partnerships on applications that have not been decided for 13 weeks or more.

Reported:

- NP5/59/495C Land near Pont-yr-afon-gam, Llan Ffestiniog – It was *explained* that the original intention was to present the application to the present meeting but necessary information was not received in time. That information had now been received and it was therefore intended to present the application at the January meeting. In light of the delay that had occurred prior to the submission of the application it was suggested that it would be useful if a site visit were arranged for all Members before that meeting (rather than after) lest the decision have to be postponed again.

Recommendation: – to arrange a site visit to the land near Pont-yr-afon-gam, for all Members, to be arranged sometime in advance of the Planning and Access Committee meeting in January 2026

Resolved: — to **accept** the recommendation.

- NP5/62/LB297B Capel Gwynfryn, Llanbedr – It was *noted* that there had been scaffolding outside the building for a long time and that access to the chapel cemetery was dangerous. *It was explained* that discussions with the applicant and agent were ongoing, that the plans were being looked at by an external conservation architect and that there was work on them, and that this had taken longer than expected.

6. Delegated Decisions

A list of applications was submitted which were decided in accordance with delegated authority.

The meeting closed at 10:25



SCHEDULE OF PLANNING DECISIONS – 12 NOVEMBER 2025

4. Report from the Director of Planning and Partnerships

Presented:

- (1) NP5/76/323U – Extend the time period for the use of land approved under planning permission NP5/76/323R dated 03/01/2024 until 30th June 2028, land at Blaen Cefn, Penrhyndeudraeth. LL48 6NA.

Presented – report from the Head of Development and Compliance Management

Reported:

- that the application had come before the Committee because the Director of Planning and Partnerships considered it to be a Major Development and a deviation from the adopted policies of the Eryri Local Development Plan (ELDP);
- that the continuation of temporary use remained, in principle, contrary to the policies of the ELDP adopted, and a deviation from the ELDP; nevertheless, each planning application had to be considered on its own merits and, in this case, the officers considered that relevant planning considerations remained which justified the continuation of the temporary use for a further limited period, in order to secure the completion of the VIP Project and subsequent demobilisation.

It was noted:

- there was an inconsistency in the content of one slide between Welsh and English. It was confirmed that the true situation was that:
 1. NP5/77/336B dated 24 September 2021 was the Planning Application number for the Eryri Visual Impact Provision (VIP) Project, which comprised:
 - 1) Construction of an eastern tunnel head house (including the associated construction compound), sealing end compound, and permanent access; and
 - 2) A new sealing end compound (SEC) to connect the underground cables and the overhead line.
 2. NP5/76/323R dated 03 January 2024 was the Planning Application to support the delivery of this, namely to approve off-site temporary living accommodation and associated facilities under planning permission, to provide accommodation for up to 100 employees who were not working from home, many of whom were specialist contractors who were required on site at short notice or during extended construction periods;
 3. NP5/76/323U dated 18th August 2025 was the application to extend the time period for the use of the land approved under planning permission NP5/76/323R until 30th June 2028

Ms Sioned Edwards, the Applicant's Agent was invited to address Members. *Noted:*

- that the commencement of tunnel drilling work was delayed for reasons beyond the applicant's control, and that the timetable for the need for accommodation had changed as a result;
- that the site had now been operating smoothly for some months with nearly 100 employees on site at the time;
- that the applicant was confident that the tunnel drilling would be completed by the end of 2026, at the latest, and certainly within the time frame requested in the application.

Recommendation: – that the Members of the Authority **GRANT consent** to the application subject to the conditions listed.

Resolved: — **Accept** the recommendation.



MINUTES
PLANNING AND ACCESS COMMITTEE
ERYRY NATIONAL PARK
Wednesday 21 January 2026

PRESENT:

Members appointed by Gwynedd Council

Councillors Elwyn Edwards (Chairman), Annwen Hughes, Louise Hughes, Edgar Wyn Owen, Elfed Powell Roberts, John Pughe Roberts, Einir Wyn Williams;

Members appointed by Conwy County Borough Council

Councillors Ifor Glyn Lloyd, Jo Nuttall, Nia Owen;

Members appointed by the Welsh Government

Salamatu Fada, Tim Jones, Delyth Lloyd, Naomi Luhde-Thompson, Wyn Thomas.

Officers

Iwan Jones, Keira Sweeney, Iona Roberts, Jane Jones, Aled Lloyd, Sophie Berry, Ben Jones, Eifion Jones.

Director of Corporate Services advised that the meeting would be webcast and would also be available online at a later date.

1. **Apologies for absence and Chairman's Statements**
Apologies were received from Councillor Delyth Lloyd Griffiths and Mr Rhys Evans.
2. **Declaration of Interest**
Mr Tim Jones declared a personal interest which was not a prejudicial interest in item 4 (3) (Hydroelectricity production plan near Pont yr Afon Gam, Llan Ffestiniog), because he was a trustee of the charity, *Plantlife*, which had opposed the application.
3. **Minutes**
The minutes of the Planning and Access Committee meeting held on 12 November 2025 were *adopted*, and the Chairman signed them as a true record.
4. **Reports by the Director of Planning and Partnerships**
Submitted - reports by the Director of Planning and Partnerships about the applications received. See the attached Schedule of Planning Decisions.

5. Compliance and Performance Caseload Update

Submitted – report by the Principal Planning Officer (Compliance)

The current situation regarding caseload and compliance performance was *reported*:

- following a successful prosecution against *Tyn y Pant*, Dyffryn Ardudwy, it was not possible to visit the site to check compliance with an enforcement notice due to adverse weather and illness, but a visit had been organised;
- a visit had also been arranged to *Plas Gwynfryn*, Llanbedr, to see if an enforcement notice regarding the removal of a residential caravan had been undertaken;
- a visit to *Nannau*, Llanfachreth, at the beginning of the week revealed that no urgent repair work to the roof had been completed, and that this was due to the recent unfavourable weather; a local contractor had been appointed to complete the work, and the work was expected to start next week. The related party was aware of the importance and urgency of the problem and was keen for the work to begin;
- agents have contacted the Authority regarding *Castell Cidwm* and a meeting was in the process of being organised.

Noted:

- that the "traffic light system" used by the Welsh Government to benchmark their Performance Indicators in relation to measuring compliance performance is confusing, it is very difficult to scrutinize the figures in the current format, and it would be very acceptable to have the figures in a simpler and more understandable form.
- that officers intend to re-examine how the information should be presented to the Authority to make it clearer and more understandable.

Recommendation: – that Members of the Authority note the content of the report in relation to capacity and performance and provide any observations and comments on this.

Resolved: - **to accept** the recommendation.

6. Update Reports

6.1 Update reports were *submitted* by the Director of Planning and Partnerships on planning applications and Section 106 Agreements.

Reported:

- NP5/58/363K – Convert an outbuilding into an open market house and install a sewage treatment unit. Nant Eos, Dyffryn Ardudwy. LL44 2HX. The draft agreement had been signed.

6.2 Update reports were *submitted* by the Director of Planning and Partnerships on applications that had not been decided for 13 weeks or more.

Reported:

- NP5/69/354G - Retrospective application to install a flue on an outbuilding (Resubmission). Maes-y-Crynwyr, Llwyngwrl. LL37 2JQ. The matter would be raised with the relevant officer.
- NP5/62/LB297B - Conversion of a chapel into a house, changes to the existing entrance (Relocation of plinth), and installation of a sewage treatment unit and related drains. Gwynfryn Chapel, Llanbedr. LL45 2PA. That revised plans have been accepted by the Authority

7. Delegated Decisions

Presented - the list of applications decided in accordance with delegated authority.

8. Appeal Decisions

- (1) An oral report was *submitted* by the Director of Planning and Partnerships on the Inspector's decision to **reject an appeal** by Sunbourne Limited against the Authority's decision to reject planning permission for an extension to the holiday caravan site to provide (a) a new main entrance to the site with an internal access road and an amenity area; reclassify holiday caravans that have already been granted permission, and redevelop within the existing holiday caravan site to provide (b) 24 static holiday caravans/cabins with landscaping; (c) 12 static holiday caravans/cabins instead of a dwelling house; and (d) 3 fixed holiday caravans in place of the shop on the old site. Up to 455 holiday caravans can be pitched on the holiday caravan site.
- (2) (a) (Appeal A)
An oral report was *submitted* by the Director of Planning and Partnerships on the Inspector's decision to **allow an appeal** by Mr. Gareth Roberts against the Authority's decision to grant listed building consent subject to conditions for converting a laundry and workshop to form 2 holiday units and installing skylights, Llanfendigaid, Rhoslefain, Tywyn, Gwynedd LL36 9LS.
(Appeal B)
An oral report was *submitted* by the Director of Planning and Partnerships on the Inspector's decision to **allow an appeal** by Mr. Gareth Roberts against the Authority's decision to grant planning permission subject to conditions for converting a laundry and workshop to form 2 holiday units and installing skylights on the front and rear roofs, Llanfendigaid, Rhoslefain, Tywyn, Gwynedd. LL36 9LS.
- (2) (b) (A's application for costs)
An oral report was *submitted* by the Director of Planning and Partnerships on the Inspector's decision to **reject a n application for cost** from Mr. Gareth Roberts for a full award of costs against the Authority's decision to grant permission for a listed building subject to conditions, Llanfendigaid, Rhoslefain, Tywyn, Gwynedd LL36 9LS.
(B's application for costs)
An oral report was *submitted* by the Director of Planning and Partnerships on the Inspector's decision to **reject a request for costs** from Mr. Gareth Roberts for a full award of costs against the Authority's decision to grant planning permission subject to conditions, Llanfendigaid, Rhoslefain, Tywyn, Gwynedd LL36 9LS
- (3) (a) An oral report was *submitted* by the Director of Planning and Partnerships on the Inspector's decision to **reject an appeal** by Kath Sylvester against the Authority's decision to reject planning permission for change of use of the ground floor from mixed use Residential C3 and restaurant A3, to Residential use C3, Gwalia, High Street, Harlech, Gwynedd. LL46 2YB.
- (3) (b) An oral report was *submitted* by the Director of Planning and Partnerships on the Inspector's decision to **reject an appeal** by Kath Sylvester against the Authority's decision to reject planning permission for changing the use of the ground floor from mixed use Residential C3 and restaurant A3, to Residential use C3, Gwalia, High Street, Harlech, Gwynedd. LL46 2YB

The meeting ended at 10:35



SCHEDULE OF PLANNING DECISIONS – 21 JANUARY 2026

4. Report by the Director of Planning and Partnerships

Submitted:

- (1) NP3/12/9L - Installation of two non-flush public toilet facilities, one timber clad, one steel clad and external waterless urinals. Eryri National Park Authority Car Park, Llyn Cwellyn, Rhyd Ddu. LL54 7YT.

Presented – a report by the Planning Officer (Graduate Trainee) - Development Control

Reported:

- the application had been submitted to the Committee because it was an application by ENPA;

Noted:

- the toilets would be accessible to wheelchair users:

Recommendation: – that the Members of the Authority **GRANT permission** for the application subject to the conditions listed.

Resolved: - to **accept** the recommendation.

- (2) NP5/53/AD8N - Permission to Display an Advertisement for a digital display screen, Co-op Store, 78-86, High Street, Bala. LL23 7AD.

Presented - report by Ms Sophie Berry

Reported:

- the application was submitted to the Committee because the Community Council expressed an opinion contrary to the recommendation, based on sound planning reasons, which was accepted within the consultation period;
- the screen would be free-standing, set back from the window, and its top half would be a digital display screen;
- the intensity of the screen's glow would respond to the level of ambient light: it would light up when it was brighter outside (limited to a maximum of 700 Candelas per square meter) and dim when it was darker outside.

Recommendation: – that the Members of the Authority **GRANT permission** for the application subject to the conditions listed.

Resolved: - to **accept** the recommendation.

- (3) NP5/59/495C – Proposed hydroelectric generation scheme to generate up to 600kW in the Cynfal River, to include a pipe route, inflow weir, extraction pit, underground sluice (approx. 1.2km), turbine building, meter building, alterations to existing access and re-siting of existing highway entrance, set-down areas, temporary construction compound, temporary footpath diversion and overhead electric power connection to and from underground to the national grid (approx 600m) (Re-application). Land near Pont yr Afon Gam, Llan Ffestiniog.

Reported, by the Director of Planning and Partnerships:

- the Authority had received a large number of comments on the application very recently;

- over 1300 comments had been received by the Cymdeithas Eryri / Snowdonia Society, comments that had been published on the Society's website but not sent to the Authority until after the Committee's agenda had been published;
- it is essential that all comments on any application receive full consideration before reaching a decision on that application;
- it was not possible for officers to consider all the comments in time, due to the short time that had elapsed since receiving the comments;
- she therefore proposed that the Committee **postpone** discussion of the application until a meeting at a later date.

Noted:

- if further comments were received after the current meeting, they would also be considered and an oral update would be presented to the next meeting before the application would be discussed.

Recommendation: – that the Members of the Authority **postpone** discussing the application so that officers could properly consider the comments received and adapt the report as necessary before submitting it again to a later meeting.

Resolved: - **to accept** the recommendation.

- (4) NP5/59/814A – Change of use from a dwelling house C5 to a dwelling house (C5) and accommodation for short term commercial letting (C6) Garreg Lwyd, Bont Newydd, Ffestiniog LL41 4PT.

Presented - report by the Senior Planning Officer - Development Management

Reported:

- the application was submitted to the Committee due to opposition from Ffestiniog Town Council, contrary to the officer's recommendation, but:
- the property is located in a remote area;
- 8% of houses within Ffestiniog parish were second homes;
- the change of use would not lead to a significant loss of permanent housing, and that there would be no loss to the affordable / local housing stock.

Ms Maggie Francis, the Applicant's Agent, *was invited to address the meeting.*

She noted:

- the house has been owned by the same family since 1952;
- being able to rent out the house would assist with the maintenance of the house;
- as the house is already a second home the application should not be controversial.

Recommendation: – that the Members of the Authority **GRANT permission** for the application subject to the conditions listed.

Resolved: - **to accept** the recommendation.



MINUTES
PLANNING AND ACCESS COMMITTEE
ERYRI NATIONAL PARK
Wednesday 25 February 2026

PRESENT:

Members appointed by Gwynedd Council

Councillors Elwyn Edwards (Chair), Delyth Lloyd Griffiths, Annwen Hughes, Edgar Wyn Owen, Elfed Powell Roberts, John Pughe Roberts;

Members appointed by Conwy County Borough Council

Councillors Jo Nuttall, Nia Owen;

Members appointed by the Welsh Government

Rhys Evans, Tim Jones, Delyth Lloyd, Wyn Thomas.

Officers

Iwan Jones, Keira Sweeney, Iona Roberts, Aled Lloyd, Ben Jones, Eifion Jones.

The Director of Corporate Services advised that the meeting would be webcasted and would also be available online at a later date.

1. Apologies for absence and Chairman's Statements

Apologies were received from Louise Hughes, Einir Wyn Williams, Ifor Glyn Lloyd, Salamatu Fada and Naomi Luhde-Thompson.

The Chairman reported that Louise Hughes had recently donated a kidney to her daughter, that she had now returned home and was slowly recovering. It was agreed to send greetings to her on behalf of the Members, wishing her a speedy recovery.

2. Declaration of Interest

None

3. Minutes

The minutes of the Planning and Access Committee meeting held on 21 January 2026 were *adopted*, and the Chairman signed them as a true record.

Issues arising

Item 4(1): NP3/12/9L. It was noted that the description in the minutes was incorrect, but that the description in the original application was correct: "Installation of two public toilet facilities **with zero discharge**" was correct, and not "Installation of two **non-flush** public toilet facilities".

4. **Re-appoint the Local Access Forums by April 2026**

A report was *presented* by the Director of Planning and Partnerships

Reported:

- that the Authority had established two Local Access Forums in April 2002, one for the north of the National Park and one for the south;
- that the membership must be balanced between land management and recreational interests, and that all members needed to show a commitment to improving access to the countryside;
- that no interest group (except for disabled people's interests) was to be directly represented on the Forum;
- that membership of the Forums continued for 3 years and that the process of re-appointing members to the Forums had to be undertaken by April 2026;
- that Mr Tim Jones was the ENPA Member on the North Access Forum, and that Cllr. John Pughe Roberts was the ENPA Member on the Southern Access Forum;
- that it was necessary to appoint 4 Members to be on a selection panel to consider applications for membership of the Forums.

Noted:

- that Tim Jones and John Pughe Roberts had experience of the Forum, and that they already understood the process, and that it would be advantageous to have them on the selection panel because of that;

Councillors Delyth Lloyd Griffiths and Meryl Roberts *volunteered* to be on the selection panel.

Proposed: – that the Committee:

- i. approve the process and timetable for re-appointing the Local Access Forums;
- ii. appoint a selection panel of four members of ENPA to consider applications for membership of the Forums, namely Mr Tim Jones and Councillors John Pughe Roberts, Delyth Lloyd Griffiths and Meryl Roberts.

Resolved: — **to accept** the recommendation.

5. **Reports from the Director of Planning and Partnerships**

Reports were *presented* from the Director of Planning and Partnerships about the applications received. See the attached Schedule of Planning Decisions.

6. **Update Reports**

- 6.1 Update reports were *submitted* by the Director of Planning and Partnerships on planning applications and Section 106 Agreements.
- 6.2 Update reports were *submitted* by the Director of Planning and Partnerships on applications that had not been decided for 13 weeks or more.

7. **Delegated Decisions**

A list of applications decided in accordance with delegated authority was *presented*.

The meeting ended at 10:30



SCHEDULE OF PLANNING DECISIONS – 25 FEBRUARY 2026

4. Report by the Director of Planning and Partnerships

Presented:

- (1) NP5/70/1C - Construction of a single storey side extension, Tŷ Isaf, Llangywer, Gwynedd LL23 7DA.

Presented: a report by the Planning Officer (Graduate Trainee) - Development Management

Reported:

- that the entry (on page 12 of the programme) for consultation with a “local councillor” would be deleted;
- that the application had come before the Committee because the application had been opposed by the Community Council on the basis of:
 - that the balcony would spoil the character of a typical local cottage,
 - that steel balustrades did not reflect local architectural characteristics, and
 - that a flat roof was unsuitable in an area where it often rained.
- in response:
 - Development Policies 1 and 15 did not prohibit balconies where they were appropriately planned and did not harm the character of the dwelling or the landscape;
 - the steel balustrades matched those of the existing balcony, ensuring visual consistency and avoiding the introduction of different materials;
 - the policies of the Local Development Plan did not prohibit flat roofs if designed and located appropriately: the roof would be largely hidden by the structure of the balcony above and would not be visually obvious;
 - issues relating to drainage performance were discussed through Building Regulations rather than planning policy, and that no evidence had been presented to show that the proposed form of the roof would lead to damage to the character or function of the building;
 - the objections raised were not considered to be supported by the policy of the Development Plan and did not justify rejecting the application.

Recommended: – that Members of the Authority **GIVE permission** to the application subject to the conditions listed.

Resolved: - **to accept** the recommendation.

- (2) NP5/73/351C - Renovation and installation of a new siphon system, Llyn Mair, Tan-y-Bwlch, Maentwrog. LL41 3AO.

A report was *presented* by the Senior Planning Officer - Development Control

Reported:

- that the request had come before the Committee because it was a request from ENPA;
- that an impact due to heavy flooding had been earmarked in the area following comments from Natural Resources Wales;
- that it involved relatively small work and that it would not have a visual impact.

Recommended: – that Members of the Authority **GIVE permission** to the application subject to the conditions listed.

Resolved: — **to accept** the recommendation.



MINUTES
PLANNING AND ACCESS COMMITTEE
ERYRI NATIONAL PARK
Wednesday 25 March 2026

PRESENT:

Members appointed by Gwynedd Council

Councillors Elwyn Edwards (Chair), Delyth Lloyd Griffiths, Annwen Hughes, Edgar Wyn Owen, Elfed Powell Roberts, John Pughe Roberts, Einir Wyn Williams;

Members appointed by Conwy County Borough Council

Councillor Nia Owen;

Members appointed by the Welsh Government

Rhys Evans, Salamatu Fada, Tim Jones, Delyth Lloyd, Naomi Luhde-Thompson, Wyn Thomas.

Officers

Iwan Jones, Keira Sweeney, Jane Jones, Aled Lloyd, Dafydd Roberts, Ben Jones, Eifion Jones.

The Director of Corporate Services advised that the meeting would be webcast and would also be available online at a later date.

1. Apologies for absence and Chair's Statements

Apologies were received from Louise Hughes, Ifor Glyn Lloyd, Jo Nuttall.

2. Declaration of Interest

None

3. Minutes

The minutes of the Planning and Access Committee meeting held on 25 February 2026 were *adopted*, and signed by the Chair as a true record.

4. Update Reports

4.1 *Submitted* - update reports from the Director of Planning and Partnerships on planning applications and Section 106 Agreements.

4.2 *Submitted* - update reports from the Director of Planning and Partnerships on applications that have not been decided for 13 weeks and more:

(1) NP5/59/495C – Proposed hydroelectric generation scheme, Land adjacent to the Afon Gam River Bridge, Llan Ffestiniog

Reported:

- the Welsh Government was consulting on whether to decide on the application or send it back to the Authority;
- any third party had the right to ask the Government to consider calling in an application;
- the Government would respond in writing giving its reasons for its decision.

5. **Delegated Decisions**

A list of applications was submitted which were resolved in accordance with delegated authority.

6. **Appeal Decisions**

An oral report was *submitted* by the Director of Planning and Partnerships on the Inspector's decision to **refuse an appeal** by Sian Kohring against the Authority's decision to refuse planning permission for "Adaptation of disused farm buildings to form 2 short term holiday letting units together with the installation of package handling works", Llwyneinion Fechan, Dyffryn Ardudwy LL44 2HX.

The meeting ended at 10:10



MINUTES
STANDARDS COMMITTEE
FRIDAY 11 APRIL 2025
National Park Office

PRESENT:

Members appointed by Gwynedd Council

Councillors Elfed Powell Roberts, Edgar Wyn Owen (*ex officio*);

Members appointed by Conwy County Borough Council

Councillor Nia Owen;

Members appointed by the Welsh Government

Independent Members

Mr. Martin J. Hughes, Mr. Mark Jones;

Officers

Iwan Jones, Eifion Jones.

The Deputy Chief Executive announced that the meeting would be recorded to assist with checking the minutes.

1. Election of Chairman and Vice-chairman

The Deputy Chief Executive explained that a Chairman had to be elected onto the Standards Committee following the retirement of the former chairman, Mrs Sharon Warnes.

Mr Martin Hughes was nominated and *elected* as Chairman.

Subsequently, as the Vice-Chairman had now been appointed Chair of the Committee it was necessary to elect a Vice-Chairman

Mr Mark Jones was nominated and *elected* Vice-chairman.

2. Apologies for absence and Chairman's Announcements

Noted: as we have not yet appointed the vacant position for an Independent Member that Ms Naomi Luhde-Thompson has been asked not to attend the meeting to ensure the necessary balance of members.

3. Declaration of Interest

There was no declaration of interest in any item from a member or officer.

4. **Minutes**

The minutes of the Members' Working Group meeting held on 20 September 2024 were *submitted*.

The minutes were *adopted*, and the Chairman signed them as a true record.

Matters arising from the minutes:

- The Deputy Chief Executive (DCE) welcomed Councillor Nia Owen to her first meeting of the Standards Committee;
- The DCE reported that interviews had been held to appoint a new Independent Member to the Committee following the retirement of Mrs Sharon Warnes; that a person has been nominated following those interviews, and that a report would be submitted to the Authority recommending his appointment to the post;
- He reported that he had been unable to attend the National Standards Forum Committee which had been held in January;
- He reported that an item had arisen in a recent Planning Committee where Members of Conwy County Borough Council used a general dispensation granted to them by the Standards Committee at the meeting of 20 September 2024 to participate in the discussions and the decision. He failed to inform the Independent Members before the meeting that the members would use the dispensation but pledged that a recording of the meeting would be sent to the Independent Members. Councillor Nia Owen reported that she had benefited from having the dispensation and that she was pleased to have been able to contribute to the discussion.

5. **Annual Report to the Authority's Annual General Meeting**

Reported: matters that must be reported to the Authority and the draft proposal of the issues that would be presented.

Discussed:

1. In response to a question asking whether the report was prepared only in consultation with the Chairman, the DCE explained that the current meeting was an opportunity for the whole committee to discuss the report and to propose improvements to it, as it was currently only in draft form.
2. That the draft report states that "there have been no cases during the year where the Authority's Local Resolution procedure has been implemented", but that the minutes of the Standards Committee's last meeting (20.09.24) state, "that the Authority did not have a Local Resolution Procedure". The DCE explained that they were referring to two different things: that the minutes discussed general complaints made to the Authority and that the report discussed minor disputes between Members. He acknowledged that the terminology was similar and therefore confusing and promised to amend the report to make it clearer.

Recommendation:—

1. Discuss the content of the report.
2. Agree on the content of the Annual Report to be submitted to the Authority as stated in Section 4 above subject to any additions/amendments that the Standards Committee may wish to make to it.

Resolved: to **accept** the Recommendation

6. Declarations of Members' Interests

Noted :

- that the Declaration of Interests of former member June Jones was not on the Website, but it was explained that her details had been removed from the Website because she was no longer a Member;
- that the declarations of interest submitted to the Committee were for the period between 1 April 2024 and 31 March 2025 and not between 1 April 2023 and 31 March 2024 as the agenda noted;
- that the date of release by the Standards Committee is incorrect on one form and that it is necessary to ensure that all the forms are up to date and that the correct forms are used.

7. National Standards Forum Committee – Monday 27 January 2025

The Chairman *reported:*

- that he has recently received the minutes of the National Standards Forum Committee and that they have now been distributed to the members of the Standards Committee;
- that the meeting had discussed many issues, and that it had been a beneficial meeting.

The meeting ended at 14:40



MINUTES
STANDARDS COMMITTEE
FRIDAY 19 SEPTEMBER 2025
National Park Office

PRESENT:

Members appointed by Gwynedd Council

Members appointed by Conwy County Borough Council
Councillor Nia Owen;

Members appointed by the Welsh Government
Ms Naomi Luhde-Thompson

Independent Members
Mr Mark Jones, Mr Robert Gwilym Lewis;

Officers
Iwan Jones, Bethan Hughes, Eifion Jones.

The Director of Corporate Services announced that the meeting would be recorded to assist with checking the minutes.

Mr Robert Gwilym Lewis was welcomed to his first meeting of the Standards Committee.

1. Election of Chairman and Vice-chairman

The Director of Corporate Services explained that a Chairman had to be elected for the Standards Committee following the retirement of the former chairman, Mr Martin J Hughes, after he had completed his second term as an Independent Member.

Mark Jones was nominated and ***elected*** as Chairman.

It was explained that, as the Vice-chairman had been appointed Chair of the Committee, it was necessary to elect a Vice-chairman.

Mr Robert Gwilym Lewis was nominated and ***elected*** as Vice-chairman.

The Director of Corporate Services said that the Committee was still short of one independent member, and that the position had already been advertised.

2. Apologies for absence and Chairman's Statements

Noted: since the Committee lacked one Independent Member, Councillor Elfed Roberts had withdrawn from attending the meeting to ensure the necessary balance of members.

The Chairman also apologised that he would have to leave the meeting early.

Noted - there would not be a quorum when the Chairman left and, because of this, it was decided to change the order of the meeting and address the most important items first.

3. Declaration of Interest

Councillor Nia Owen declared a personal interest in item 7 only, because she was a member of Conwy Borough Council.

4. Minutes

The minutes of the Standards Committee meeting held on 11 April 2025 were *presented and adopted*, and the Chairman signed them as a true record.

Matters arising from the minutes:

- It was agreed that a letter of thanks should be sent to Mr Martin Hughes on his retirement from the Standards Committee.

5. To Nominate Members for the Single Status Grading Appeals Panel

Submitted: A report by the Director of Corporate Services to appoint three Members and two deputy members to the Single Status Scale Appeals Panel.

Reported:

- that the Standards Committee must consider the membership of the Single Status Grading Appeals Panel annually following the Authority's AGM;
- that the terms of reference also provided that, when appointing members on the Panel, the Standards Committee would consider the need for appropriate representation in terms of gender;
- for the Committee, on 20 September 2024, to appoint Mr Martin J. Hughes, Mr Mark Jones, and Councillor Elfed Roberts as Members of the Single Status Grading Appeals Panel and to appoint Councillor Nia Owen and Ms Naomi Luhde-Thompson as alternate / proxy members.

Recommended:— To appoint three members and two reserve members / alternates from the membership of the Standards Committee to sit as members of the Single Status Grading Appeals Panel.

Resolved:— to appoint Mr Mark Jones, and Councilors Elfed Roberts and Nia Owen as Members of the Single Status Grading Appeals Panel and to appoint Ms Naomi Luhde-Thompson and Mr Robert Gwilym Lewis as alternate / substitute members.

7. Permit Dispensations

Submitted: A report by the Director of Corporate Services recommending that the Standards Committee grant general discharge to Members of Gwynedd Council and Conwy County Borough Council.

Noted:

- the Standards Committee, at the meeting of 20 September 2024, resolved to grant dispensations for Members appointed by Gwynedd Council and to Members appointed by Conwy County Borough Council to enable them to participate fully in deciding on the affairs of their own councils for a period up to 31st December 2025 unless the period was extended by the Standards Committee before 31 December 2025;
- this period would end before the Standards Committee next meets and that it is time to consider the matter further;
- granting dispensations prevented quorum problems from arising in meetings relating to the affairs of Gwynedd and Conwy councils;

- the procedure had worked well in the past but it was important to review it regularly;
- it had been used once during the previous 12 months where Members of Conwy County Borough Council used a general dispensation granted to them by the Standards Committee at the meeting of 20 September 2024 to participate in the discussions and the decision. The Independent Members were not informed before the meeting that the members would be using the dispensation but a recording of the meeting was sent to the Independent Members.

Recommended:—

1. To grant dispensation to Members appointed by Gwynedd Council to enable them to participate fully in the process of deciding matters relating to Gwynedd Council for a period up to 31st December 2026 unless it is extended further by a decision of this Committee before 31st December 2026.
2. To grant dispensation to Members appointed by Conwy County Borough Council to enable them to participate fully in the process of deciding matters relating to Conwy County Borough Council for a period up to 31st December 2026 unless it is extended further by a decision of this Committee before 31st December 2026.

*Resolved: — to **accept** the Recommendation*

6. **Public Services Ombudsman for Wales**

Submitted: A report by the Director of Corporate Services.

Reported:

- that the Ombudsman received one complaint relating to the National Parks of Wales during 2024-25, but it did not relate to Eryri National Park.

Noted:

- that Park Members did not receive specific training on the Code of Conduct, but that any member was invited to raise any issue with the Director of Corporate Services

Proposed:

- information about the case that came before the Ombudsman should be sent to the Members, and the opportunity would be utilised to offer them further training.

Recommended:—

1. to note the content of the Report;
2. to send information about the case that came before the Ombudsman to Members of the Authority, and offer them further training on the Code of Conduct.

*Resolved: — to **accept** the Recommendation*

8. **Complaints Monitoring Report**

Submitted – A report by the Head of Administration and Customer Care on written complaints received by the Authority in 2024/25.

Reported:

- the number and nature of formal complaints received together with the responses given;
- that three complaints received related to breaches of the Data Protection Act, and that this is something to keep an eye on to see if staff would need further training.

Noted:

- that it was nice to see that only a small number of complaints were received, and that each one was fully investigated and responded to within the appropriate time limits.

Recommended: – to note the content of the Report.

Resolved: — to **accept** the Recommendation

9. **Standard Committee Chairs' Forum Monday 23 June 2025**

Submitted – Minutes of the Standards Committee Chairs' Forum meeting held on 23 June 2025.

Reported:

- that Mr Martin Hughes, former chairman of the Standards Committee attended the meeting, but that the Director of Corporate Services failed to attend, and that the minutes were presented as is, for information;

Noted:

- a note should be sent to the Chairs' Forum informing them about the appointment of Mr Mark Jones as the new Chair of the Standards Committee and asking them to invite him to their meetings from now on.

Recommended: – to note the minutes for information.

Resolved: — to **accept** the Recommendation

The meeting ended at 14:45



MINUTES
STANDARDS COMMITTEE
FRIDAY 27 MARCH 2026
National Park Office

PRESENT:

Members appointed by Gwynedd Council

Councillors Elfed Powell Roberts, Edgar Wyn Owen (*ex officio*);

Members appointed by Conwy County Borough Council

Members appointed by the Welsh Government

Ms Naomi Luhde-Thompson

Independent Members

Mr Mark Jones (Chairman), Mr Robert Gwilym Lewis;

Officers

Iwan Jones, Bethan Hughes, Eifion Jones.

The Director of Corporate Services announced that the meeting would be recorded to assist in the verification of the minutes.

1. **Apologies for absence and Chair's Statements**

Noted - as the Committee lacked one Independent Member, Councillor Nia Owen had withdrawn from attending the meeting to ensure the necessary balance of members.

2. **Declaration of Interest**

None.

3. **Minutes**

The minutes of the Standards Committee meeting held on 19 September 2025 were *submitted*.

The minutes were *adopted*, and the Chairman signed them as a true record.

Matters arising from the minutes:

- *Item 1: Election of Chair and Vice-Chair* -The Director of Corporate Services was informed that the Committee was still short of one independent member; that the post had been advertised but that only one application had been received and that person was not eligible for the post (as he was a member of a community council); - the post was about to be advertised again and the democratic services officers of Gwynedd county councils, Conwy and Anglesey had been notified about the post so that they can pass the advertisement on to their Independent Members.

- *Item 5: Nomination of Members for the Single Status Grading Appeals Panel* – The Chair thanked those Members who attended the Job Appraisal training day on 8 October and the session on conducting an Appraisal Appeal held on 15 October;
- *Item 6: Public Services Ombudsman for Wales* – Confirmed that information about the case brought before the Ombudsman had been sent to Members of the Authority, together with an offer of further training on the Code of Conduct;
- *Item 9: Standards Committee Chairs' Forum* – He confirmed that the Standards Committee Chairs' Forum had been informed of the appointment of Mr Mark Jones as the new Chair of the Standards Committee.

4. **Annual Report to the Authority's Annual General Meeting**

Submitted: Report by the Director of Corporate Services.

Reported:

- the background to the statutory duty and what was intended to be presented at the Authority's Annual General Meeting.

Noted:

- the Chair was willing to submit the report to the AGM;
- committee members' attendance at the training on Single Status Grading Appeals should be added to the report.

Recommendation:–

1. To discuss the contents of the report.
2. Agree the contents of the Annual Report to be submitted to the Authority as set out in Section 4 above subject to any additions/amendments that the Standards Committee may wish to make to it.

Resolved: to **accept** the Recommendation

5. **Declarations of Members' Interests**

Submitted: A report by the Director of Corporate Services.

Reported:

- that the number of declarations of interest is lower than usual and that this is possibly due to a decrease in the number of planning applications.

Recommendation:– to note the report, for information

Resolved: to **accept** the Recommendation

6. **Anti-Fraud, Bribery and Corruption Policy Review**

Submitted: A report by the Head of Administration and Customer Care.

Reported:

- the background to the creation of the policy and the need to review it

Noted:

- the draft policy was easy to read, and the examples contained in the report were particularly useful.

Recommendation:–

1. To discuss and review the attached updated draft policy.
2. To approve the revised draft Anti-Fraud, Bribery and Corruption Policy for submission to the National Park Authority for adoption.

Resolved: to **accept** the Recommendation

7. **Review of Confidential Disclosure Policy (Whistleblowing)**

Submitted: A report by the Head of Administration and Customer Care.

Reported:

- this report is related to the previous one;
- examples have been added to the original report in points 3.3 and 3.4 to further clarify the terms;
- some names and terms have been standardized in the update.

Noted:

- The Head of Administration and Customer Care or the Director of Corporate Services could be contacted should anyone have a concern about any aspect of the policy.

Recommendation:–

1. To discuss and review the attached updated draft policy
2. To approve the revised draft Confidential Disclosure Policy (Whistleblowing) for submission to the National Park Authority for adoption.

Resolved: to **accept** the Recommendation

8. **Standards Committee Chairs Forum – Monday 26 January 2026**

Submitted – Report on the meeting of the Standards Committee Chairs' Forum held on 26 January 2026 by the Chair.

Reported:

- Mr Mark Jones, chairman of the Standards Committee, attended the meeting;
- the minutes of the meeting had not yet been circulated but will be shared among the members once they have been received;
- it was a productive meeting, but not everything discussed was relevant to the Authority.

Recommendation:– to note the report for information.

Resolved:— to **accept** the Recommendation

9. **Any Other Business**

The Chair thanked the Director of Corporate Services and the Democratic Services Officer for meeting with him to introduce him to the position of Chair of the Standards Committee.

He also *noted* that this would be the last meeting of the Standards Committee for Iwan Jones, the Director of Corporate Services. She thanked him for all his work over the years and wished him well during his retirement.

The meeting ended at 14:25



MINUTES
PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE
WEDNESDAY 09 JULY 2025
National Park Office

PRESENT:

Members appointed by Gwynedd Council

Councillors Elwyn Edwards, Delyth Lloyd Griffiths, Annwen Hughes, Louise Hughes, Edgar Wyn Owen, Elfed Powell Roberts, John Pughe Roberts, Meryl Roberts, Einir Wyn Williams;

Members appointed by Conwy County Borough Council

Councillors Ifor Glyn Lloyd, Jo Nuttall, Nia Owen;

Members appointed by the Welsh Government

Rhys Evans, Salamatu Fada, Tim Jones, Delyth Lloyd, Naomi Luhde-Thompson, Wyn Thomas;

Officers

Jonathan Cawley, G. Iwan Jones, Keira Sweeney, Dewi Aeron Morgan, Sian Owen, Bethan Hughes, Gina Galluccio, Ioan Gwilym, Eifion Jones.

Also Present

Luned Fôn Jones (Internal Audit), Bleddyn Rhys (Internal Audit)

The Director of Corporate Services advised that the meeting would be recorded to assist with checking the minutes and noted that the recording would be available online at a later date.

1. Chairman

The Director of Corporate Services outlined the procedure for electing a Chair of the Performance and Resources Committee. He advised that, in accordance with Standing Orders 5.2 and 5.3, he had received nominations for one person only, namely Elfed Powell Roberts.

Elfed Powell Roberts was *elected* as Chair of the Performance and Resources Committee.

The Chairman thanked the Members for their support.

2. Vice-chair

Director of Corporate Services outlined the procedure for electing a Vice-chair of the Performance and Resources Committee. He advised that, in accordance with Standing Orders 5.2 and 5.3, he had received nominations for one person only, namely Annwen Hughes.

Annwen Hughes was *elected* as Vice Chair of the Performance and Resources Committee.

The Vice-chairman thanked the Members for their support.

3. **Apologies for absence and Chairman's Announcements**

No apologies were received.

4. **Declaration of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

5. **Minutes**

The minutes of the Performance and Resources Committee meetings held on 19 March 2025 were *adopted*, and the Chairman signed them as a true record.

6. **Action Sheet**

The Director of Corporate Services presented the Action Sheet.

Reported that the Authority continues to await guidance and a response from the Welsh Government re. the two items on the sheet and they should remain as they were.

Recommendation: – to retain both items on the log as they were.

Resolved: — **to accept** the Recommendation.

7. **Annual Report of the Head of Internal Audit**

A report was *submitted* by the Head of Internal Audit.

Reported:

- it was required in the public sector for the Head of Audit to reach a conclusion at an organisational level regarding matters of governance, risk management and internal control;
- the Internal Auditor's opinion was that Eryri National Park Authority had a solid framework of internal control; that the steps taken during the financial year to establish and strengthen internal controls and to ensure that actions to correct weaknesses identified by Internal Audit had been good on the whole;
- there were three pieces of work in the original Internal Audit plan 2023/24, namely:
 1. Planning service communication arrangements
 2. Support for Members
 3. Volunteers
- that the following levels of assurance had been given to the aforementioned work, namely:
 1. Sufficient
 2. High
 3. Sufficient.

Noted:

- that all the actions identified in the report under "Planning service communication arrangements" had now been completed;
- dissatisfaction with awarding a "High" assurance level to "Member Support" as only 4 responses to the questionnaire had been received out of 18;
- an expectation that more attention would have been given to accounts systems and internal control in the plan for the current year, and also to note any changes that had been made to accounts reports during the year, before presenting them to the external auditor;

- although the work plan for 25/26 claimed to be based on an analysis of risk, there was no mention in the report of any use of consultants, and it was suggested that some of the high risks of the Authority's Risk Profile could be woven into this report.

No recommendation was made to the Committee so that the report and the action plan might be re-examined.

8. External Funding Grants Update Report

The Chief Executive presented the report.

Reported:

- the various projects that were funded by external grants:
 - the project, Sustainable Landscapes Sustainable Places 2022-25, which was funded by the Welsh Government, had come to an end, and a full report on the project had now gone back to the Welsh Government; a fuller report would be presented at the next meeting of the Performance Committee.

Noted:

- the grant from the Welsh Government for the Dŵr Gwyllt Cymru project had been given specifically for the Mawddach River, but there was a possibility that some money could be provided for other rivers, including the Dysynni;
- changes had been made to the Authority's revised application to the Nature Network Fund following the failure of the first application in 2024;
- the Rainforest Scheme did not end until 2027, and discussions were already underway to submit a new application for a project worth £10M (possibly with another association leading this time);

Proposed:

- that one of the Authority's priorities for capital and revenue proposals 2025-26 should be added, namely to increase opportunities for people from vulnerable or disadvantaged groups to access the countryside;

Recommendation— that Members

1. note the update on the capital funding projects;
2. identify current and new operational projects;
3. consider and approve the two additional thematic headings and confirm priority areas for future proposals, the addition of the proposed change so that priority 12 reads:
 - a. *Increase opportunities for people in vulnerable or disadvantaged groups to access the countryside and benefit from the landscape;*
4. identify the Project Development and Approval Flow Chart;
5. note progress on live projects.

Resolved: — **to accept** the Recommendation.

9. Corporate Work Programme 2024-25 – Update on the Well-being Objectives

A report was *submitted* by the Director of Corporate Services.

Reported:

- this was the final report on the corporate work programme for this year, and the responses from the meeting would be incorporated into the annual report that would

be presented to the Members in September.

Recommendation: – to examine and discuss the Corporate Work Programme

Resolved: — **to accept** the Recommendation.

10. **The Authority's Risk Profile**

The Director of Corporate Services submitted a report.

Reported:

- the risks facing the Authority were divided into three categories, namely High Priorities, Medium Priorities and Low Priorities;
- the Profile states that 19 risks had been identified: three of them were identified as High risks, 14 as Medium risks, and two as Low risks;
- there was no change in the risk levels since the last update at the Committee's meeting on 19 March 2025. There was a mistake in the Welsh version of the report because it noted that risk 17, (The proposal to introduce Article 4 Guidance: Risk of judicial review) had increased, but it had not really changed.

Noted:

- the Risk Register was reviewed before every Performance and Resources Committee and before every meeting of the Authority; that the Leadership Team also, if it considered that a new risk had arisen, added that risk to the Risk Register to be discussed at the next meeting of the Authority, or the Performance Committee, whichever occurred first;
- that the "Remaining Risk" column noted the level of risk the Authority would like to be at, rather than the level it currently was;
- a measurable contingency plan should be prepared for the future of Plas Tan y Bwlch should the application for funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund fail;
- the Chief Executive had started to look at the possibility of looking at the *Shared Prosperity Fund* (SPF) if the funding towards developing Plas Tan y Bwlch from the Heritage Lottery Fund failed;
- the Senedd Election in May 2026 could create continuity risks and those risks should be added to the profile.

Recommendation: – to discuss the content of the report

Resolved: — **to accept** the Recommendation.

11. **Complaints Monitoring Report**

The report was *presented* by the Head of Administration and Customer Care.

Reported:

- the Authority had received 16 formal complaints directly related to the Authority during the 2024/25 financial year;
- 8 of the investigated complaints were upheld or partially upheld.

Noted:

- that informal complaints were not recorded, and that the aim was to resolve any complaint or problem there and then, if possible.

Recommendation: – to note the content of the report.

Resolved: — **to accept** the Recommendation.

12. **Revenue and Capital Outturn Report 2024/25**

The Chief Finance Officer presented the report.

Reported:

- the purpose of the report was to provide information on the Authority's expenditure for the financial year 2024/25 and compare it with the budget set before the start of the year;
- a summary of the financial position.

Noted:

- that there was an overspend of £26K on litter collection due to the exceptionally busy car parks and irresponsible litter handling:
 - ways in which other national parks have dealt with the problem should be investigated, and
 - officers were invited to present a report to the Members to discuss ways of responding to the problem;
- the Authority had received money from large wind farms because of their impact on the landscape.

Recommendation: – that Members

1. approve the transfers/virements in the revenue and capital budgets;
2. approve the transfers to the earmarked reserves;
3. identify the final position of the directorates and services from the point of view of budgetary management;
4. approve the slippages (£170,160) and the commitments;
5. Approve the transfer of the underspends from the 2024/25 financial year to the General Balances Fund;
6. Approve the Capital Financing Statement.

Resolved: — **to accept** the Recommendation.

13. **Annual Report on Actual Treasury Management Activity in 2024/25**

Presented by the Chief Finance Officer.

Reported:

- that it was required under the CIPFA Code of Practice to report on the actual results of the Authority's Treasury Management activity;
- that the Authority's activity had remained within the limitations originally set;
- that there had been no borrowing;
- that no bank that the Authority had used for investment had failed to pay.

Noted:

- that the Authority set a direction travel for the finance department on annual investment, and that the department would not invest in organizations that held values that were incompatible with the Authority's core values.

Recommendation: – note the contents of the report for information.

Resolved: — **to accept** the Recommendation.

14. **Salary Policy Statement 2025/26 and Salary Policy Annual Report for 2024/25**

A report was *submitted by* a Human Resources Consultant in the absence of the Head of Human Resources.

Reported:

- salaries of the Chief Officers and the salaries of the other staff.

Noted:

- the figure given for directors' salaries for 2024/25 was incorrect.

Proposed:

- that the second original recommendation - namely "to approve the Annual Report on the Salary Policy for 2023/24" - be withdrawn, and a further report containing the correct figures be presented at a later meeting.

Recommendation: – That the report be withdrawn and a further report containing the correct figures be presented to a later meeting.

Resolved: — **to accept** the Recommendation.

15. **Annual Report for the year 2024: Communication and Engagement Strategy Performance Indicators**

Presented by the Head of Communications.

Reported that:

- matters relating to the department had stabilized in 2024 following a period without a head of engagement during 2023, and that:
 - a Digital Content Officer with responsibility for the website had been appointed;
 - the substance in the published content had increased;
 - the number of digital followers had risen over 5%;
- the TikTok account had been re-established and had enabled engagement with more users;
- consultations regarding Article 4 and the Tree Strategy had been successful;
- lesser known areas of the Park had been promoted;
- the Authority continued to appear first in searches / queries re. terms that were most important to the Authority (Wyddfa, Eryri etc) in the most popular search engines (Google etc), and this applied in Welsh and English; it remained important that the Authority maintain this position in both languages even though the Authority no longer used the English names;
- relationships and collaboration with local and national associations/societies remained strong.

Noted:

- a desire to see more of a relationship between the Desired Communication Outcomes identified in the report with Point 5.2 (Review and monitoring of the measures in the Engagement Strategy) of the Corporate Work Programme:
 - while the current measurements showed the extent of engagement, it would be good to have a method of measuring whether engagement changed users' perception of the Park;
 - some of the Desired Communication Outcomes were vague, and efforts should be made to make them measurable;

- sentiment could be tracked, i.e. how people react to posts (whether positive or negative), to measure success;
- in response to the problem of digital influencers creating honeypots when drawing attention to specific areas within the Park and creating problems as a large number of visitors arrive as a result, it might be possible to
 - do something similar to what the influencers do and was already being done with local businesses, namely encouraging influencers to sign up to be "responsible influencers", or
 - investigate the possibility of encouraging the brands that were promoting the influencers to pledge to be responsible and pass the pledge on to the influencers;
- the first four UK National Parks were created in 1951, it would be 75 years since their creation in 2026; the Chief Executive would present a report to the Members in the coming months outlining ideas regarding noting and celebrating the occasion;
- the need to have the right tools and training to be able to respond firmly to misinformation and negative information;

Recommendation: – to read and discuss the report and appendices

Resolved: — **to accept** the Recommendation.

The meeting ended at 12:00



MINUTES
PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE
WEDNESDAY 26 NOVEMBER 2025
National Park Office

PRESENT:

Members appointed by Gwynedd Council

Councillors Elfed Powell Roberts (Chairman), Elwyn Edwards, Delyth Lloyd Griffiths, Annwen Hughes, Edgar Wyn Owen, Meryl Roberts;

Members appointed by Conwy County Borough Council

Councillors Jo Nuttall, Nia Owen;

Members appointed by the Welsh Government

Rhys Evans, Tim Jones, Delyth Lloyd, Naomi Luhde-Thompson, Wyn Thomas;

Officers

Jonathan Cawley, Iwan Jones, Keira Sweenie, Naomi Jones, Dewi Aeron Morgan, Bethan Hughes, Nia Murray, Gareth Hughes, Awel Gruffydd, Eifion Jones.

Also Present

Luned Fôn Jones (Internal Audit)
Sara Leahy (Audit Wales)

The Director of Corporate Services advised that the meeting would be recorded to assist with checking the minutes and that the recording would be available online at a later date.

1. **Apologies for absence and Chairman's Announcements**

Apologies were received from Councillors John Pughe Roberts, Louise Hughes, Einir Wyn Williams, Ifor Glyn Lloyd, and Salamatu Fada.

2. **Declaration of Interest**

There was no declaration of interest.

3. **Minutes**

The minutes were *adopted*, and the Chairman signed them as a true record.

4. **Action Log**

The Action Log was *presented* by the Director of Corporate Services.

Recommended:

- *Item 7. Income Report - Audit Wales (P&A 12.07.23)* to remain on the action log, but the Chief Executive would present an update on the item as a separate report pending a response from the Welsh Government;

- *Item 8. Diversification of Income* (P&A 29.11.23) to remain on the action log, but the Chief Executive would present an update on the item as a separate report pending a response from the Welsh Government;
- the following items from the P&A committee 09.07.25 to be deleted from the action log because they have been completed:
 1. Item 7. Annual Report of the Head of Internal Audit
 2. Item 8. External Funding Grants Update Report
 3. Item 14. Pay Policy Statement 2025-26 and Pay Policy Annual Report 2024-25
 4. Item 15. Annual Report for 2024: Communication and Engagement Strategy Performance Indicators

Resolved: — to **accept** the Recommendation

5. **Promoting Access to Eryri National Park: Report by Audit Wales**

Presented: a report by Sara Leahy, Audit Wales (AW).

Reported:

- legislation requires the Authority to promote opportunities for communities to encourage equality and encourage a wide range of people to visit the Park;
- the original project brief was published in October 2023, the fieldwork was delivered in October 2024, the draft report was sent in January 2025 and the final report in July. They apologized for the time it had taken since the start of the work and explained that they had had staffing problems;
- that AW found that "the Authority was missing opportunities to plan strategically for better access for underrepresented groups";
- recommendations were made to improve and strengthen the work the Authority was doing to promote access, including:
 - strengthening the Authority's evidence base with the aim of understanding who was, and who was not, coming to the Park;
 - mapping all the partners that could work with the Park to promote access;
 - further clarity relating to the cost of delivering the Authority's vision;
 - monitoring and evaluating whether this work was getting to the heart of what the Authority wanted these projects to achieve.
- the Authority had accepted all of the recommendations and had provided further information about the actions and the timing of those actions, and the information appeared to be appropriate and acceptable to AW.

Noted:

- it was very difficult to know who was being missed out;
- the Authority's Equality Strategy, *Cynllun Eryri* and the workshop to be held in the new year were all interwoven with promoting access, and access promotion would get due attention when developing and implementing these elements.

Recommended: – to consider and approve the draft response.

Resolved: - to **accept** the Recommendation.

6. **Strategic Equality Plan**

Submitted: a report by the Head of Administration and Customer Care and the Head of Human Resources.

Reported:

- this was the annual report for 2024-25 on the Authority's Strategic Equality Plan;

Noted:

- further to the domestic abuse policy that had been adopted it was suggested that we could look into the White Ribbon project which sought to raise awareness of violence against women in the home;
- the following would now be noted in addition to the current figures:
 - how many posts became vacant during the year, and
 - how many people were invited to interviews;

Recommended: – to approve the Annual Report for 2024-25 to be published on the Authority's website.

Resolved: — to **accept** the Recommendation.

7. **Internal Audit Plan 2025/26**

A report *submitted* by the Head of Internal Audit.

Reported:

- the report followed the presentation of an annual Audit Plan for 2025-26 to the Performance and Resources Committee on 9 July 2025;
- the Head of Internal Audit met with the Director of Corporate Services to revisit, discuss and agree the work plan;
- two things in particular were highlighted following discussions about the Authority's Risk Profile amongst the members of the Leadership Team, and the risks below were proposed to be integrated into Internal Audit work, namely:
 - Poor and ineffective management of projects by the Authority
 - Financial and reputational risk regarding the future of Plas Tan y Bwlch;
- there was flexibility in the Audit Plan for amendments to be incorporated to reflect any issue that became apparent or if there were changes to the Authority's risks and priorities;
- there were no additional resource implications as a result of the recommendations in this report.

Noted:

- external examination of the financial side of what was happening at Plas Tan y Bwlch was to be welcomed.

Recommended: – to consider the Amended Audit Plan for the 2025/26 accounting period and to accept the plan.

Resolved: — to **accept** the Recommendation.

8. **Health and Safety: Annual Report 2024-25**

A report *submitted* by the Health and Safety Officer.

Reported:

- the purpose of the report was to provide an overview of health and safety management within the Authority.

Noted:

- it would be beneficial to identify more near misses;
- in response to a comment that one table in the report showed that Plas Tan y Bwlch had noted 7 incidents during the year - which was the same number as occurred out in the field - which was unexpected, it was explained that the table was to note incidents, and not accidents or near misses, and that they included incidents such as fire alarms going off;
- in response to a comment that the figures of working days lost due to mental health issues had increased significantly between 2022 and 2023, the figures had generally increased across the country following the Covid period, and also, each incident was given more attention and recorded in greater detail;
- the Authority had launched a "Pwls / Pulse" system which enabled members of staff to note in a completely anonymous way how they felt at that time;
- it would be possible to compare the annual figures from next year.

Recommended:

1. to note the continued strong performance in health, safety, and welfare;
2. to support the following improvement steps
 - i. Develop an internal audit framework
 - ii. Improve use of absence data systems
 - iii. Implement the findings of the Stress Indicator Tool Survey, particularly in terms of workload and communication
 - iv. Continue to invest in staff welfare training and support.

Resolved: — to **accept** the Recommendation.

9. **Corporate Work Programme 2025-26**

A report *submitted* by the Director of Corporate Services.

Reported:

- the report contained details of the progress made in the first and second quarter of 2025 (April - September) to deliver the various projects and initiatives that were agreed to deliver the Authority's Improvement Objectives;
- the work on Objective AC 1.5 [Produce an Engagement Strategy for path work in Eryri] had been postponed due to absence, and that Objective AC 1.10 [Review, adopt and implement the Authority's Communication Strategy which is operational for 2026-203] has been marked red with a possible slippage due to the pressure of work and the intention to deliver it in another way.

Noted:

- it could be noted how many lights in the report were green, yellow, and red, and draw attention to any changes in it, in the report.

Recommended: – to examine and discuss the Corporate Work Programme

Resolved: — to **accept** the Recommendation.

10. **Response to the Wales Audit Report on setting Well-being Objectives (Published September 2025)**

A report *presented* by the Chief Executive.

Reported:

- Audit Wales (AW) had completed an assessment of the extent to which the Authority had applied the sustainable development principle when setting their well-being objectives – along with how this could be improved in the future;
- they needed to be reviewed, but the Authority resolved to delay reviewing the Well-being Objectives in order to integrate them into *Cynllun Eryri*;
- AW was generally satisfied that the Authority had applied the sustainable development principle when applying its Well-being Objectives;
- AW made 2 recommendations:
 - to strengthen arrangements for assessing the Authority's performance against well-being objectives, and
 - ensure that the Authority used a wide range of information to ensure that the objectives remained appropriate;
- he was confident that the Authority would be able to meet the requirements of the recommendations.

Recommended: – to approve the response in Appendix 2 as the Authority's formal response to the Audit Wales report and recommendations

Resolved: — to **accept** the Recommendation.

11. **Welsh Government Performance Monitoring Targets April – September 2025**

A report *presented* by the Chief Executive.

Reported:

- Welsh Government had presented a framework for monitoring the Authority's work performance as a result of their Strategic Grant Letter and this would be used to assess how the Government's requirements in the Letter should be met;
- the Government had consulted with the Authority on the framework before adopting it;
- the framework was presented annually and this was the mid-term report;
- there wasn't much time to prepare the report, and much of it was narrative rather than figures at the moment but this would change as the data and statistics increased.

Noted:

- the peat figures had decreased due to changes in the way they were measured.

Recommended: –

1. to approve the Authority's initial mid-year response to the Welsh Government's new performance management targets;
2. note that a further detailed assessment will follow in July 2026.

Resolved: — to **accept** the Recommendation.

12. **Welsh Government Three-Year Sustainable Landscapes Sustainable Places Grant Funding (SLSP) 2022-25**

A report *presented* by the Chief Executive.

Reported:

- this was a programme that the Government was implementing in conjunction with the 8 Designated Landscapes;
- it was a summary of what the Authority had done during 2022-25 and provided an overview of the expenditure;
- an incorrect figure had been stated in the programme, and that the Welsh Government had in fact provided more than **£11 million** of capital grant to Welsh Designated Landscapes, rather than the £1.1 million stated.

Recommended: – to identify the various projects that have been completed under SLSP funding between 2022-25, and provide any feedback if any

Resolved: — to **accept** the Recommendation.

13. **Salary Policy Statement 2024/25 and Salary Policy Annual Report for 2023/24**

A report *submitted* by the Head of Human Resources Service.

Reported:

- this report was a resubmission, because the report presented at the Performance and Resources Committee meeting in July contained incorrect salary figures;
- a further salary award had been made since July, and was paid in August, and those figures would be reported at the meeting next July.

Recommended:

1. to approve the Pay Policy Statement for 2024/25;
2. approve the Annual Report on Pay Policy for 2023/24.

Resolved: — to **accept** the Recommendation.

14. **Tourist Information Centres - Annual Report**

A report *presented* by the Sustainable Tourism Manager.

Reported:

- Beddgelert and Aberdyfi centres had been relatively static;
- Betws-y-coed centre had seen an increase in the number of visitors, but turnover had decreased slightly;
- Pen-y-pass centre saw the biggest change and plans were underway for the centre for next year.

Recommended: – to discuss the content of the report and any actions that should be taken when considering 2024-2025.

Resolved: — to **accept** the Recommendation.

The meeting ended at 10:55



MINUTES
PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE
WEDNESDAY 11 MARCH 2026
National Park Office

PRESENT:

Members appointed by Gwynedd Council

Councillors Elfed Powell Roberts (Chair), Elwyn Edwards, Delyth Lloyd Griffiths, John Pughe Roberts, Annwen Hughes, Edgar Wyn Owen, Meryl Roberts, Einir Wyn Williams;

Members appointed by Conwy County Borough Council

Councillors Ifor Glyn Lloyd, Jo Nuttall, Nia Owen;

Members appointed by the Welsh Government

Rhys Evans, Tim Jones, Delyth Lloyd, Naomi Luhde-Thompson, Wyn Thomas;

Officers

Jonathan Cawley, Iwan Jones, Keira Sweenie, Dewi Aeron Morgan, Sian Owen, Bethan Hughes, Ioan Gwilym, Eifion Jones.

The Director of Corporate Services advised that the meeting would be recorded to assist with verifying the minutes and that the recording would be available online at a later date.

1. Apologies for absence and Chair's Announcements

Apologies were received from Councillor Louise Hughes and Dr Salamatu Fada.

2. Declaration of Interest

None

3. Minutes

The minutes of the Performance and Resources Committee meeting held on 27 November 2025 were *adopted*, and signed by the Chair as a true record.

4. Action Log

Submitted - the Action Log by the Director of Corporate Services.

Recommendation: –

- that *Item 7. Income Report – Audit Wales* (P&R 12.07.23) be removed from the action log, as the Chief Executive intended to report on the matter at the next meeting of the Members' Working Group;
- that *Item 8. Income Diversification* (P&R 29.11.23) be removed from the action log, as

the Chief Executive intended to report on the matter at the next meeting of the Members' Working Group;

- that *Item 12. Revenue and Capital Outturn Report 2024/25* (P&R 09.07.25) remain on the Log for the time being; the Head of Property intended to report on the matter, but a date had yet to be confirmed.

Resolved: — **To Accept** the Recommendation.

5. **Freedom of Information Act**

Submitted - a report by the Head of Administration and Customer Care.

Reported:

- that 50 requests had been received during the year 2025: 28 under the Freedom of Information Act and 22 under the Environmental Information Regulations;
- that, of these applications:
 - 17 applications were for various types of information relating to development control and/or planning policy and related matters;
 - 11 applications were related mainly to information about the Authority's various contracts for equipment and software,
 - 4 requests were related to HR information regarding staff and training numbers and costs,
 - 2 requested a copy of responses to the consultation, and
 - 2 requests relating to supplier payment information

Recommendation: – that the Committee note the content of the report.

Resolved: — **To Accept** the Recommendation.

6. **Authority Risk Register**

Submitted - a report by the Director of Corporate Services.

Reported:

- 19 risks were identified on the Register: 1 classified as High risk, 14 classified as Medium risk and 4 classified as Low risk;
- there were two new risks on the Register following discussion at the Authority's meeting in December 2025, namely the Senedd Elections in May 2026 and the establishment of a fourth National Park in Wales;
- the Leadership Team had re-examined the risks following comments made at the Authority's meeting in December 2025, and this had led to a reduction in the levels of many of the risks;
- there was an error in the Welsh register: the result of the remainder of risk number 3 (*Plas Tan y Bwlch - short-term financial pressure on the Authority and securing its long-term future*) was recorded as "Red" but with an amber circle, - it should be "Amber" with an amber circle.

Recommendation: – the Committee note the content of the report.

Resolved: — **To Accept** the Recommendation.

7. Update on Budget 2025/26

Submitted - a report by the Head of Finance.

Reported:

- the report was submitted three times a year and this was the final submission before the budget was closed and Outturn report presented in the summer;
- the budget was set in February 2025;
- that:
 - The Welsh Government, in February 2026, allocated an additional £1,003,300 in capital funding across 29 projects,
 - An additional £30,600 received in revenue funding to support capacity pressures,
 - additional funding of £635k was also allocated at the beginning of March to meet the shortfall within the year;
- these figures were not reflected in the tables because the funds were received after the reported period (up to 31 January 2026);
- there was an error in 2.3 in the report: "**small underspend** in many services" was correct, not **overspend**.

Recommendation: – that the Committee:

1. Approve the report and set out the current financial position for 2025/26
2. Approve the transfer of £103,000 for Traditional Boundaries

Resolved: — To **Accept** the Recommendation.

8. Corporate Work Programme 2025-26

Submitted - a report by the Director of Corporate Services.

Reported:

- the report included details of the progress made in the third (and fourth) quarters re. delivery of the various projects and initiatives agreed for the delivery of the Authority's Improvement Objectives;
- three items had slipped, and the Members' attention was drawn to these:
 - AC1.5 and AC 1.6: Production of an Engagement Strategy for trail works in Eryri
 - AC1.10: Review, adopt and implement the Authority's Communications Strategy which will be operational for 2026-2030
 - CW 1.4 Develop and adopt an Information Systems Strategy and Digital Strategy to guide the Authority into the future with guidance and vision for our technical systems
- the vast majority of objectives were green (ongoing and on schedule) and that this reflected well on the officers.

Noted:

- the Staff Forum was a means for members to discuss policies, express their views and present ideas to ensure that all objectives were not imposed from above.

Recommendation:- that the Committee discuss and note progress on the Corporate Work Programme

Resolved: — To **Accept** the Recommendation.

9. **External Funding Grants Update Report**

Submitted - a report by the Chief Executive.

Reported:

- the priorities for the projects had not changed;
- Appendix 2 showed the method of approving projects that had been adopted as an Authority, but that it was being reviewed internally at the time, and a further report on this would be submitted to Members should it change in any way;
- the Carneddau project had come to an end, but the important legacy of the project should be recognized, – partnerships now worked together naturally where the partnerships did not exist prior to the start of the project;
- the Plas Tan y Bwlch development project was resource-intensive and required a lot of work, and a session on the Plas would be held at the end of the week at Members' Training Day to update Members;
- the Authority would not proceed with the Dŵr Gwyllt Eryri Wildwater project and the £200K money would be lost; this was because the time given to the project was too limited, and comments highlighting this had gone back to the Welsh Government.

Noted:

- an attempt should be made to finance a tree nursery to grow trees and native plants to renew hedges, starting with the Plas.

Recommendation: – that the Committee:

- 1 Note the update on the capital funding projects.
- 2 Review and agree priorities for grant proposals (Appendix 1)
- 3 Identify the Development and Project Approval Flowchart (Annex 2)

Resolved: — To **Accept** the Recommendation.

10. **Annual report for the year 2025: Communication and Engagement Strategy Performance Indicators**

Submitted - a report by the Head of Communications.

Reported:

- the number of Press Matters was lower in 2025 than in 2024 due to 2024 being busy with the affairs of Plas Tan y Bwlch, the appointment of a new Chief Executive, and the change to use only the names Eryri and Yr Wyddfa;
- that website usage statistics had risen;
- There had been more experimentation on social media in 2025 focusing more on the quality of content rather than the number of items published;
- a pattern had developed of producing visitor-related material between April and October, and the other qualities of the National Park during the Winter months;
- that there had been good co-operation with all mountain rescue teams operating in Eryri;
- most of the filming was carried out in-house but, where grant funding is obtained, the Authority used 3 or 4 specialist professional companies, depending on the nature of the project;
- increasing Youtube channel statistics had been a goal in 2025;

- the intention was to make 3 10-minute films during this year: on Cadair Idris, Llyn Tegid and a Short Walk through the National Park;
- 5 pieces of work that were part of the SNPA Digital Strategy 2026 were produced jointly between the communications department and the Authority's Information Technology department:
 - Communications Strategy
 - IT Strategy
 - Internal Communications
 - Artificial Intelligence Policy
 - Digital Media Strategy

Recommendation: – that the Committee note the content of the report

Resolved: — To **Accept** the Recommendation.

The meeting ended at 11:07