

Rheoli Asedau / Asset Management Committee

Agenda

22.09.26

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>1. Cadeirydd.
Penodi Cadeirydd ar gyfer y flwyddyn ganlynol</p> <p>2. Ymddiheuriadau am absenoldeb.
I dderbyn, ystyried a derbyn Ymddiheuriadau am absenoldeb.</p> <p>5. Datganiadau o Fuddiant.
I dderbyn unrhyw ddatganiadau o fuddiant ar eitemau ar yr agenda.</p> <p>6. Cofnodion.
Awdurdodi'r Cadeirydd i lofnodi cofnodion cyfarfod blaenorol y Pwllgor a gynhaliwyd ar 28.04.26 fel cofnod cywir.</p> <p>4. Adroddiadau i Pwyllgor.
I dderbyn adroddiadau a gyflwynwyd gan yr Clerc y Dref ac ystyried yr argymhellion ynddo. Mae adroddiadau yn ddogfennau gwaith ac felly nid ydynt wedi'u cyfieithu.</p> <p>a) Prosiect Meinciau Cymunedol
b) Gwych ffin mynwent Pen y Bryn
c) Digwyddiad Ymchwiliad Paranormal</p> | <p>Chair.
To appoint a Chair for the ensuing year</p> <p>Apologies for absence.
To receive, consider and accept apologies for absence.</p> <p>Declaration of Interest.
To receive any known declarations of interest in items on the agenda.</p> <p>Minutes.
To authorise the Chair to sign the minutes of the previous meeting of the Committee held on the 28.05.26 as a correct record.</p> <p>Reports to Committee.
To receive reports submitted by the Town Clerk and considered the recommendations therein. Reports are working documents and are therefore not translated.
Community Benches Project
Pen y Bryn cemetery boundary hedge
Paranormal Investigation Event</p> |
|---|--|

REPORT AUTHOR: Deputy Town Clerk.
SUBJECT: Community Benches Project
REPORT FOR: Decision.

1. The purpose of this report

- 1.1 To consider the provision of more benches around the sunglass hen town council area based on the previous successful community bench scheme.

2. Background

- 2.1 Earlier this year, the Council successfully completed the Community Benches Project using Commuted Sums funding, which contributed towards the purchase and installation of twelve new benches across the town. In addition, Little Learning Company supported the project through the delivery of community pyrography workshops, enabling local people to create artwork for the benches.
- 2.2 The project has been a considerable success, demonstrating the benefits of partnership working and generating positive feedback from residents. The benches have been well used, and the community art element has encouraged participation by a wide range of local people.
- 2.3 Following completion of the project, residents have expressed a desire for additional benches in other locations. In response to this demand, the Deputy Town Clerk submitted a further application for Commuted Sums funding to extend the project. The application was successful and the full amount requested has been awarded. This is a particularly positive outcome, as available funding is often shared between a number of competing projects.
- 2.4 To complement this funding, a match-funding application has been submitted to the National Landscape (AONB) Partnership following initial discussions indicating strong support for the project. If successful, the only contribution required from the Town Council will be staff time and the provision of meeting space for workshops.

3. Proposal

- 3.1 It is proposed that the Council extend the Community Benches Project through the installation of additional benches in suitable locations throughout the community.
- 3.2 As with the original project, Little Learning Company would be invited to deliver community pyrography workshops, allowing residents to contribute artwork and designs to the new benches. This element of the project has proven particularly successful in bringing people together and fostering a sense of ownership and pride within the community.
- 3.3 In addition, it is proposed that a professionally designed leaflet and map be commissioned to highlight the location of benches throughout the area. The

leaflet would encourage residents and visitors to explore local walking routes and make greater use of the facilities provided.

3.4 The project would provide a range of benefits, including:

- Increased accessibility by providing additional places to sit and rest.
- Encouragement of walking and outdoor activity, supporting physical and mental wellbeing.
- Reduced social isolation by creating places where people can meet and interact.
- Increased awareness and appreciation of the local landscape, heritage, and biodiversity.
- Opportunities for community participation through the creative workshop programme.
- Continued partnership working with local organisations and community groups.

4. Financial Implications

4.1 The total estimated project costs are as follows:

Funding Source	Amount
Commuted Sums Funding	£3,376.56
Match Funding Sought from National Landscape	£2,538.00
Town Council Contribution (staff time and room hire)	£1,949.00
Total Project Cost	£8,143.55

4.2 The Town Council's contribution is limited to in-kind support through officer time and the provision of community facilities. An application has been submitted to the National Landscape Partnership following an indication of support for the project. Should this funding not be secured, the Council has sufficient provision within the 2026/27 grounds maintenance cost centre to meet the shortfall.

5. Environmental Implications

5.1 The project encourages sustainable leisure activities by promoting walking and access to local green spaces. The installation of benches enables people of all ages and abilities to make greater use of outdoor routes and enjoy the surrounding natural environment.

5.2 The proposed bench-location leaflet will help raise awareness of local landscapes, wildlife and biodiversity while encouraging residents and visitors to explore the area responsibly. By supporting outdoor recreation and appreciation of nature, the project aligns with the Council's wider environmental and wellbeing objectives.

6. Equality Implications

- 6.1 The project is intended to benefit all members of the community. Additional seating improves accessibility for older people, those with mobility challenges, families with young children and individuals who may otherwise be unable to enjoy longer walking routes.
- 6.2 The community workshop programme provides inclusive opportunities for residents to participate in a creative project regardless of background, age, or experience. The provision of additional resting points throughout the area will help make local walking routes more accessible and welcoming to a wider range of users.

7. Recommendation

- 7.1 It is recommended that the Committee: -
 - a) approve the extension of the Community Benches Project.
 - b) supports the continued delivery of community pyrography workshops and the production of a bench-location leaflet and map.
 - c) authorise the use of grounds maintenance cost centre to meet any funding shortfall should the National Landscape funding application be unsuccessful.

8. Reason for Recommendation

- 8.1 To respond positively to community feedback, enhance local accessibility, promote wellbeing, and strengthen community involvement in local projects.

REPORT AUTHOR: Deputy Town Clerk.
SUBJECT: Pen Y Bryn Cemetery – Boundary Hedge Management
REPORT FOR: Decision.

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to update Members on maintenance issues at the former Pen Y Bryn Cemetery site and to seek approval for improvement works to the boundary hedges.

2. Background

- 2.1 Members will be aware of ongoing maintenance issues relating to the former Pen Y Bryn Cemetery site. The cemetery remains closed to the public for health and safety reasons due to the condition of a number of gravestones.
- 2.2 Residents of neighbouring properties have raised concerns that vegetation within the site has become overgrown and is affecting light levels and extending over boundary fences and walls. In response to these concerns, boundary grass cutting has been undertaken, and the site has been inspected to identify any maintenance work required.
- 2.3 Whilst some vegetation management has been completed, more substantial works to the boundary hedges could not be undertaken earlier in the year. This was due to environmental considerations and the need to avoid disturbance to nesting birds during the nesting season. The timing is now appropriate to consider improvement works to the boundary hedges in a manner that is environmentally responsible and compliant with wildlife protection requirements.

3. Hedge laying project

- 3.1 Officers have identified a specialist hedge-layer who is willing to provide a practical hedge-laying course on site at a cost of £500. The project would provide several benefits, including:
- Improving the condition and appearance of the boundary hedges.
 - Reducing encroachment onto neighbouring properties.
 - Improving light penetration where overgrowth has become an issue.
 - Supporting biodiversity through the long-term management of traditional hedgerows.
 - Providing a community learning opportunity and encouraging local involvement in the stewardship of the site.

4. Financial Implications

- 4.1 The cost of the proposed hedge-laying course is £500. Which can be funded from the Ground Maintenance Budget. No additional budget allocation is currently required and any future costs arising from further hedge restoration, tree works or site improvements would be the subject of a separate report to Council.

5. Environmental Implications

- 5.1 The proposed works will contribute positively to the management and long-term sustainability of the site's boundary hedges. Hedge laying is a traditional countryside management technique that can extend the life of existing hedgerows, improve habitat connectivity, and provide enhanced shelter and nesting opportunities for wildlife.
- 5.2 The works have been scheduled following the main bird nesting season to minimise disturbance to protected species and to ensure compliance with environmental responsibilities. Improved management of the hedgerows will also help maintain biodiversity while addressing concerns raised by neighbouring residents.

6. Equality Implications

- 6.1 There are no direct negative equality impacts arising from this proposal. The hedge-laying course will be promoted openly within the community, providing opportunities for residents to develop practical skills and participate in environmental improvement activities. Participation will be offered on an equitable basis and reasonable adjustments will be considered where appropriate.

7. Recommendation

- 7.1 It is recommended that Councillors approve the hedge-laying project for the boundary hedges at the former Pen Y Bryn Cemetery with the expenditure being cover from the

8. Reasons for the Recommendation

- 8.1 To ensure the responsible environmental management of the former Pen Y Bryn Cemetery site by addressing neighbouring residents' concerns, enhancing biodiversity, and encouraging community involvement in the long-term stewardship of the site.

REPORT AUTHOR: Deputy Town Clerk.
SUBJECT: Paranormal Investigation Event
REPORT FOR: Decision.

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To consider a request received from DeadLive Events to undertake a paranormal investigation of Llangollen Town Hall.

2. Background

- 2.1 A request has been received from DeadLive Events, a company which organises paranormal investigation events at historic venues throughout the United Kingdom operating since 2000 and conducts professionally managed events with controlled guest numbers, experienced hosts and public liability insurance. It states that no actors are used and that any investigations are conducted respectfully.
- 2.2 DeadLive Events has expressed an interest in hiring Llangollen Town Hall for an overnight paranormal investigation. The company considers the building's history, architecture and original use as an assembly and market hall to make it a suitable venue for such an event.
- 2.3 The company has indicated an interest in discussing access to various areas of the building, potentially including:
- The auditorium
 - The balcony
 - The Council Chamber
 - Backstage areas
 - Outbuildings
 - The historic town morgue

3. Llangollen Town Hall

- 3.1 The Town Hall is not known to have any established association with paranormal activity, hauntings or similar. The proposal would therefore represent the creation of a new association between the building and paranormal investigations.
- 3.2 Members may wish to consider whether permitting such events could have any impact on the reputation and public perception of the Town Hall as a civic building and the principal administrative base of Llangollen Town Council. Whilst some may view the event as an innovative and commercially beneficial use of the asset, others may regard paranormal investigations as inconsistent with the Town Hall's civic functions and public role.
- 3.3 Consideration should therefore be given to whether hosting such an event could affect the Council's reputation, public confidence in the authority, relationships with stakeholders or future use of the building by community groups, visitors and commercial hirers. Options for the Committee.

4. Recommendation

- 4.1 That the Asset Management Committee considers the request from DeadLive Events and determines whether it considers a professionally managed paranormal investigation event to be an appropriate use of Llangollen Town Hall.

5. Reason for recommendation

- 5.1 To assess whether the financial benefits of the event outweigh any potential reputational risks arising from such an association.