

Cyngor Tref Amlwch Town Council

Amlwch Town Council called a Public Meeting at the Dinorben Arms, Amlwch last week to discuss the plans presented for Wylfa Newydd, to raise awareness of the associated developments in the area. This was an opportunity to seek the opinion of the community.

The meeting was chaired by Cllr Gareth Winston Roberts OBE, also invited and in attendance were Albert Owen MP, Cllr Aled M Jones and Cllr Wil Hughes (IACC) and representatives from Horizon in addition to Amlwch Town Council Members. Apologies were received from Rhun Ap Iwerth AM and Cllr Richard Jones (IACC).

Gareth Winston Roberts OBE chairing the meeting welcomed and thanked everyone present for attending on what was relatively short notice. The Chair also thanked the Dinorben Arms for the use of the venue for such a meeting.

The Town Council were concerned and disappointed with the content of the consultation document (PAC2). Gareth Winston Roberts OBE noted that the lack of clear statement by IACC regarding the development in Amlwch and NE Anglesey. We should learn from our forefathers and a good example of major benefit is the building of Maes Llwyn Estate, a legacy of the first Wylfa Power Station.

There were four points identified for discussion, these being:

- 1) A5025 Cemaes to Amlwch
- 2) Housing
- 3) Camp (Rhosgoch)
- 4) Local Employment

A5025

There were grave concerns regarding the safety and capability of the A5025 between Amlwch and Cemaes. The structural integrity of the road was questioned along with the increased volume and type of traffic anticipated. The road has a history of fatal accidents and yet Horizon's recent documents propose traffic calming measures.

Those present at the meeting showed overwhelming support for the Town Council to pursue the issue of road safety with Horizon and IACC regardless of associated development.

Housing

There were no objections to the building of permanent housing as proposed. It was strongly believed that the development should become social/rented housing when no longer required by Horizon as this would be most beneficial to the young people of Amlwch.

The Town Council also questioned why the IACC are not working in partnership with Horizon to build houses on IACC land.

Camp (Rhosgoch)

Those present were surprised to see proposals for the development of a temporary camp in the town despite feedback for the first round of consultation clearly in favour of developing the Rhosgoch site. The Chair confirmed that the Town Council strongly oppose the proposal for a temporary camp in the town.

Main point of concern was the statement made and lack of support shown by Anglesey County Council towards the development of Amlwch and in particular the Rhosgoch Site. *'The Isle of Anglesey County Council stated that Rhosgoch should only be considered as an additional site subject to relevant planning policies when other steps in the approach have been exhausted'* (page 11 summary consultation feedback)

The Town Council and the community of Amlwch, by means of a petition, ask that IACC revisit their policies regarding the development of the brown field site at Rhosgoch. Horizon are asked to develop quality workers accommodation / leisure village on the Rhosgoch site and improve the road between the new power station and the junction to Rhosgoch.

The development of Rhosgoch has a possibility to create an extra 70-80 jobs and maintenance work for local contractors for 20 years or more. A leisure village would be a positive legacy for Amlwch and the area.

Local Employment

Those present voiced concerns that a ninety minute commute deemed someone 'local'. Concerns were noted regarding the anticipated 25% local employment rate during the building stage and, according to IACC Leader's statement in the Daily Post, 45% local employment during operation. Those present were concerned at such a statement by the Leader as obviously discussions have been ongoing between Horizon and IACC for some time.

Work is required to ensure that local businesses (Anglesey) are included in the supply chain and aware of the opportunities available and how to secure them.

Training opportunities for local people to gain the necessary skills now in preparation for the development is of great importance. The partnership between Horizon and Coleg Menai to develop apprenticeships however is to be welcomed. It was noted that the training programme for local people at Dinorwic Power Station was provided up to three years prior to the building work commencing to ensure that the necessary skills were available locally.

In closing the meeting, Gareth Winston Roberts OBE thanked all for their attendance and input. It was agreed that the only way to secure opportunities for development and safeguard the area was to work in partnership. It was requested on behalf of the Town Council that Albert Owen MP arrange a meeting for himself, relevant Senior Officers at Horizon, Rhun ap Iorwerth AM, the County Councillors, and representatives of the Town Council to discuss a way forward. The Chair thanked Horizon for attending the meeting at short notice, and working with the community.

Albert Owen MP thanked Amlwch Town Council for arranging the meeting and for the invitation to attend. He also stated that he was in support of the proposals put forward this evening.

24/10/2016