



## Chair's Report GDLLDG Annual General Meeting March 2023

### General Summary 2022/23

2022 was a busy year for GDLLDG and you will see from our finance report alone that activity levels were very high. We introduced a work plan which we continually reviewed and we were pleased to regularly see around 18 people at each of our meetings.

GDLLDG aims to support the community, businesses, visitors and the environment in equal measure and we tried to represent this in our work plan and efforts across the year. Our work included consultations, feasibility studies, one major event, receiving presentations from local initiatives and more practical endeavors to improve the environment and appearance of the High Street.

Whilst we would have liked to have developed our ideas for the Electric Mountain Visitor Centre further we had to accept that our ambitions cannot be realized in that building. Hopefully in future we may be able to develop a centre that truly brings together residents, community, visitors and businesses under one roof to celebrate our culture and heritage.

Whilst we are wary of worthy goals and talks, there are a number of local initiatives that complement our aims - the GwyrddNi Climate Assembly project and Ardal Ni 2035 in particular. Hopefully there will be opportunities to work in partnership in future and explore how we can develop GDLLDG itself and get more people involved

### Particular highlights

We started the year with a complete rewrite of our website based on an extensive piece of work with CGC developing a comprehensive directory for businesses and detailed information for visitors. We now work hard to keep Llanberis.org updated and this is especially important now that it is the landing page for the Smart Town free Wifi!

We submitted bids to the CGC Enterprising Communities fund which resulted in some valuable funding for our leaflets and website materials and also for a feasibility study into a local market. There was strong support for this as an idea but a lot of work for GDLLDG to take it forward. However it is still an ambition to at least pilot a market of local produce and hopefully develop it as a regular event.

We worked closely with Menter Mon on a project to involve young people and to think how we could allow them more of a voice in GDLLDG. We even sent Rob back to school to discuss the ideas of local young people in a lesson in Ysgol Brynrefail. They were kind enough to not snigger at his spoken Welsh too much!

Improving the High Street is a priority for GDLLDG and we had some successes and some less-successful ideas here! We started with our now traditional display of Welsh Flags on the High Street (now also complemented by flags on the Sword Car Park) to brighten up Stryd Fawr. Our lovely grant-funded hanging baskets seemed to require more maintenance than was available and therefore shrivelled in the summer heat. This looks to be tricky without fancy irrigation system or expensive contract.

Labour shortages delayed start to replacing the planters outside the Spar and materials seemed difficult until Joe the Farmer provided us with local boulders. In the end our solution used local materials which should last for a few million years although they were heavy. Special thanks to Nigel and Llanberis Bike Hire for their help though the open-toe sandals were a worry!

2022 saw the return of the Ffair Nadolig to Llanberis. Some room for improvement in how the evening flows but the event was a great celebration of local talent, creativity and culture. Our thanks to the Working Group: - Lisa, Toby,



Wendy, Eric, Elaine, Diane, Ross, Fiona, Lowri, and especially Tam, Thanks also to the many local businesses, arts and community groups and organisations that supported the event. Hopefully we can improve and repeat this huge feat of organization but as Rob will explain, these things are expensive even with so much voluntary support. Special thanks to Stephen Edwardes for his support and help.

The Ffair Nadolig was also illuminated by some of the best Christmas lights in North Wales! GDLLDG worked closely with the Community Council to coordinate a simple but very effective display that really brightened the darker month and we are grateful for all fundraising efforts that enabled this to happen. Special thanks to Eric for practical help on this and other High Street projects.

Following on from our summer meetings and our consultation with young people we commissioned a feasibility study into Pump Peris- a multi-use 'flow parc' for local young people and as a free visitor attraction for bike-riders and skaters. Again very positive but unclear where it could actually be positioned and how it would be managed but a dedicated Reference Group has been working hard with our outside consultant on this and we will arrange a presentation soon.

### **The Future**

We have a vision for the village that seeks to regenerate it through protecting Welsh culture, the natural environment, providing services for residents of all ages, building community and celebrating all of these for the many visitors to the village. As a group we must be proactive, generate ideas and work with other agencies to claim some of the grant funding that is available in Gwynedd. As such we have attended numerous meetings, conferences and zoom calls over the last 12 months and joined in with many projects and consultations.

Opportunities are available to us through Gwynedd's Ardal Ni 2035, GwryddNi's Climate Action Plan, Shared Prosperity Fund, the National Grid Community Grants and of course the UNESCO World Heritage Status. We do need to remind everyone that without a small Committee we cannot take on all of this work and balance day jobs, voluntary work and our own enjoyment of this wonderful place so building capacity in GDLLDG will be a vital part of our work in the coming year.

There are many ideas- developing our Twin Town links with Morbegno, developing an art installation trail to attract visitors into the village, developing our existing Heritage Trail, developing Oriel Eryri (somewhere), and trying a pilot for a local market. We would also like to learn more from local successes at Partneriath Ogwen and consider what we can do here.

We are very aware that our website, literature and social media posts tend to be mainly in English and our progress in developing materials in Cymraeg is limited by our Secretary's progress in learning the language! However we do still want to provide a fully bilingual service and growing our committee will help us to achieve this.

Joining the Committee does not in fact require any particular work to be done as the Chair, Secretary and Treasurer are willing to continue but a little more capacity to join the odd zoom meeting, offer ideas and skills and perhaps develop a project you are passionate about could be what you can offer to Llanberis- Pentref Yr Wyddfa!