**Minutes Extra-Ordinary Meeting Machynlleth Town Council**

**Y Plas Hall 1/6/21**

**One Agenda item – to discuss the proposed change to the language status at Ysgol Bro Hyddgen.**

**Present**

A. Jones

N. Elliott

G. Davies

R. Gaskill

G. Jones

A. Macgarry

M. Atkins

J. Honeybill

M.Williams

J. Paige

**Apologies**

M. Rowlands

Non Pecuniary Declarations of interest received from Cllr M.Williams and Cllr A. Macgarry. Cllr M.Williams left the meeting.

Cllr A. Jones, Mayor, opened the meeting by saying he believed the Dual System at the school should remain. He invited councillors to make comments.

Cllr R. Gaskill said we should support local people – the Town are against it

Cllr Elliott said it was a parental right to choose the type of education. Will ALN children be well supported?

Cllr G Jones commented that it was unfair to remove choice from those whom we represent. He has not been approached by anyone who supports the change. He indicated he would vote to oppose the change and that a comprehensive letter should be written. The Town Council should have been more supportive to parents opposing the change and a vote must be taken this evening.

Cllr A Jones said he had written a personal letter to Cllr Harris

Cllr J Honeybill spoke in support of the proposed change referring the most recent Estyn report, the recent consultation and the Government target of 1m Welsh speakers by 2050. He said he believed no children would be left behind as appropriate support would be in place. He continued to say bilingualism is the way forward it encourages a greater understanding of culture and leads to greater respect. He hopes every child will be bilingual and beyond.

**The following resolution was proposed by Cllr G Jones and seconded by Cllr R Gaskill**

*Machynlleth Town Council is opposed to the move to change the status of Ysgol Bro Hyddgen from Dual Stream to a Welsh Medium school. Machynlleth Town Council will write to Powys County Council when the statutory notice is published to oppose the change.*

**Votes For 7**

**Votes Against 1**

**Abstentions 0**

It was agreed that the letter would come from the Clerk and that Cllr G Jones would draft the content. The letter would be sent as soon as possible after the publication of the Statutory Notice, which at the time of the meeting had not happened.