Welcome to our new bulletin. Here's where we'll bring you the latest news about Menter Môn, our projects and work across Anglesey, Gwynedd and beyond. Please contact us for more information about us or any of our projects. Our work falls into three main themes:



**Community** 



**Economy** 



Energy

A financial boost to protect water voles in North Wales

For over 20 years, we have been leading preservation work on Anglesey, focusing on controlling mink populations in order to protect the island's water voles. Water voles, which were once a common sight along the UK's waterways, are now one of the country's most endangered mammals. Unlike many other areas in the UK, where captive-bred water voles have been reintroduced, Anglesey has remained a stronghold for wild water voles.





If you're a landowner, interested in volunteering, or passionate about protecting wildlife, we would love to hear from you.

For more information contact laura@mentermon.com.

### Araf Fashion Show creates a Buzz in Bangor



If you were at Pontio in Bangor in April, you probably noticed a rather special event happening there! With support from Llai, the centre was transformed to welcome hundreds of people to celebrate and enjoy slow and sustainable fashion. There was something for everyone — a fashion show, a repair café, a swap fair, workshops and various stalls, plus a Q&A session with former contestants from the popular BBC series, The Great British Sewing Bee!

The event was an opportunity to educate people about the impact of fast fashion on the environment, and to share skills and ideas on how to make the most of old clothes and materials we already have, with circular principles at the heart of all the activities.

Find out more about the next event here.

#### Over the coming months, we will be holding a series of online masterclasses for Gwynedd businesses, to help them unlock new supply chain opportunities in the renewable energy sector. If you're looking for guidance how on strengthen your tender writing skills understand or procurement processes, these sessions will provide the tools and insights you need to compete and thrive.

### **Supply Chain Masterclasses**



There will also be an opportunity to take part in one-to-one sessions following the masterclasses, giving you the chance to discuss your specific needs and receive tailored advice.

Book your space on a Masterclass <u>here</u>.



## Celebrating the Foundational Economy

A recent event, 'Celebrating the Foundational Economy,' was held as a valuable platform for projects and initiatives committed to supporting local communities and strengthening the foundational economy.

Among those who took part was the Larder Cymru project – Welsh Food for Schools, which presented the support they offer to local authorities across Wales. The project highlighted its ongoing work to increase the procurement of Welsh products in schools, ensuring that more local food is served to pupils across the country.

Contributions were also made by other projects working to promote local products, encourage sustainable practices, and support the goals of the foundational economy. The event was an opportunity to share experiences, celebrate successes, and reaffirm the commitment to building local economies that are resilient and rooted in the community.

For more information contact david@mentermon.com.

## Chair of Great British Energy visits Morlais

The Morlais team was proud to welcome Juergen Maier, Chair of Great British Energy, to the substation of our tidal energy scheme on Holy Island this week. This was Mr. Maier's first visit t

to the site and It was an opportunity for him to learn more about the Morlais scheme and its potential to provide clean, renewable energy to the grid. During the visit, Mr. Maier was given a tour of the site and introduced to key members of the Morlais team. It was also an opportunity to showcase the progress made with the scheme so far and highlight the ambition to support the growth of the tidal energy sector in Wales

and beyond.

The visit also included an update on the work being done as part of the Marine Characteristics Research Project (MCRP) – a project that collects important environmental data to support the development of Morlais and other future marine energy projects. As one of the largest tidal energy sites in Europe, the scheme has the potential to play a key role in ensuring that Wales meets its net-zero targets while creating significant economic opportunities for the local area.



#### Learn more about Morlais here.



# Research forms the basis of the Crown Estate report.

A new report by the Crown Estate highlights the latest developments in environmental monitoring for tidal flow energy, drawing on data collected by the MCRP project on Anglesey. The report looks at how the tidal energy sector is working to improve understanding of the potential environmental impacts of devices like turbines, with a particular focus on how they interact with marine wildlife.

Helen Roberts, Project Leader for MCRP, said: 'It's great to see the work we've been leading in Wales playing such a key role at the UK level. The MCRP has brought together sector experts, researchers, and regulators to build a clearer picture of how tidal flow devices can interact with the environment – this report by the Crown Estate is a result of that work and effort.

The MCRP is part of our portfolio of energy projects that was

established to support the responsible development of the Morlais tidal energy scheme. In the long term, the findings in the report will help shape how data is shared and transferred across the tidal energy sector, making better use of the available evidence.