



GELLIGAER COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the ORDINARY FULL COUNCIL MEETING of Gelligaer Community Council held on Wednesday 30 September 2020 at 7.00pm, remotely, in accordance with the provisions of the Local Authorities (Coronavirus) (Meetings) (Wales) Regulations 2020.

PRESENT

Councillors: D Cushing, C David, W David, W Griffiths, M James, T Parry (Vice Chair), J Postians and J Pritchard (Chair)

Clerk: C Mortimer

Chair Cllr Judith Pritchard welcomed everyone to the remote meeting

225 Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllrs T Matthews, who is absent until physical meetings resume, and Cllr A Angel due to ill health.

226 Declarations of Interest

Councillors were reminded of their personal responsibility to declare any personal and/or prejudicial interest(s) in respect of any item of business on this agenda in accordance with the Local Government Act 2000, the Council's Constitution, and the Code of Conduct for both Councillors and Clerk.

Clerk, C Mortimer declared an interest in minute no.232 – National Salary Award

Cllr Judith Pritchard and Cllr Donna Cushing declared an interest in minute no. 234 (i) - Youth Centre Cefn Hengoed and minute no. 234(ii) - Croeso Club

Cllr Jodie Postians declared an interest in minute no.239 – Penallta Rugby Club

227 Chairman's Announcements

Chair Cllr Judith Pritchard reminded members to be vigilant regarding email scams which had targeted fellow councillors and other community councils in the borough and advised on the following

- Check the sender's details: move the cursor over the sender's address to see who it's from;
- Look for spelling errors;
- What's the warning: fixed penalties aren't dealt with in county courts.
- If you have received an email that you think is fraudulent
- Don't reply or click the links to pay
- Contact @actionfrauduk on 0300 123 2040 or online at <http://actionfraud.police.uk/contact-us>

It was recommended that members create a separate email for community council work as opposed to using their personal email address, which some members already had in place.

228 Minutes

Minutes of the **ORDINARY FULL COUNCIL meeting held on 29/07/2020** were received, approved and to be signed by the Chair as confirmation of an accurate record.

229 Matters Arising

Unpresented cheques from 2019/20:

- Penallta Rugby Club - Cllr Jodie Postians confirmed previously that the cheque had been found at the club and was to be presented at the bank. Cllr Martyn James will chase it further.
- Gelligaer Allotment Association - Cllr William Griffiths will speak further with the club.

230 Finance to 25th September 2020

(i) Balance of Funds

'Balance of Funds' document was received, approved and to be signed by Chair as confirmation of an accurate record.

(ii) Bank Statements

Bank statements no's 10,31,1, 45,46 & 47 were received, approved and to be signed by Chair as confirmation of an accurate record.

231 Playworks Payroll Bureau

Members noted and approved the sudden increase in fee for the time being, albeit receiving a lesser service, hence the reason for not processing members remuneration as of yet. Clerk continues to make enquiries with other providers. Caerphilly County Borough Council (CCBC) have been approached and we await the outcome. It was suggested that enquiries be made with GAVO.

*Clerk declared an interest in the next item and played no part in the ensuing discussions.
Cllr Donna Cushing recorded the next minute no.232.*

232 NALC - National Salary Award 2020 21

The National Joint Committee for Local Government Services (NJC) has agreed the new pay scales for 2020-21 to be implemented from 1 April 2020.

RESOLVED: Council approved the increase of 2.7% in the clerk's salary from April 2020 Based on SCP 28, it will equate to an increase of £44.70 per month based on 23 hours per week.

Clerk returned to discussions and minute taking.

233 Notice of Vacancy – Ystrad Mynach Ward

Members received and noted a Notice of Vacancy for the Ystrad Mynach ward, following Cllr Richard Osborne's resignation. The notice is to be displayed on our social media, website and noticeboard in the town.

An election will be held to fill the vacancy if notice is given in writing to the Returning Officer by 10 electors by Tuesday 20th October.

If an election is held, it will not be called until February 2021 at the earliest. If no notice is received, the Council can fill the vacancy by co-option.

Chair Cllr Judith Pritchard and Cllr Donna Cushing declared an interest in the next two items.

Vice Chair Cllr Teresa Parry chaired the meeting.

234 Financial Assistance/Grants 2020/21

(i) Youth Centre Cefn Hengoed Financial Assistance Application no.9

RESOLVED: Council agreed that the sum of £1,300 be granted to the Youth Centre Cefn Hengoed

(ii) Croeso Club Financial Assistance Application no.10

RESOLVED: Council agreed that the sum of £375 be granted to the Croeso Club

Cllr Donna Cushing and Chair Cllr Judith Pritchard returned to discussions.

Chair Cllr Judith Pritchard resumed to chairing the meeting.

235 Gwent Police Messaging/Alert System - SCAMS

Notification following incidences occurring in our area, which was received and noted and previously discussed under Chairman's Announcements, minute no.227.

236 Projects - new and updated projects

(i) Phone boxes at Hengoed Road, Penpedairheol and Penallta Road, Ystrad Mynach
RESOLVED: Council agreed that the boxes become time capsule projects for the schools, whereby children can submitted pictures, diary entries, stories, social media posts, photos, creative masks etc. depicting the best and the worst of 2020. Following maintenance, repairs and the safe storage of the children's work, the boxes will be sealed.

(ii) Glanynant Garden
RESOLVED: Council agreed to the purchase of a large brown picnic table, made from recyclable materials, suitable for disabled access, priced at £450 plus costs for materials & installation

- (iii) Poppies
RESOLVED: Council ratified the purchase of 100 lamp post poppies from JV Graphics this year as RBL confirmed that they will not be producing any this year due to Covid-19.
- (iv) Cwm Calon Christmas Lighting
Members noted letter to be distributed to local residents in relation to the proposed erection of Christmas lighting on 4 columns on Heol Cwm Calon.
- (v) Community Awards – nominations were received
RESOLVED: Council agreed five nominations
- (vi) New Project – Relocate Roll of Honour
RESOLVED: Members agreed to relocate the Roll of Honour from Horeb Chapel to Glyngaer Primary School, to be sited in the building that was the former Gelligaer Village Infants School that was opened in 1914, which is very fitting. Clerk agreed to obtain quotes from builders.

ADDENDUM: Due to the Roll of Honour being made of marble the clerk took the decision following approval from the Chair to commission the specialist services of Hengoed Memorials, at a cost of £360.
- (vii) Project Summary – received and noted:

ANNUAL 2020/21 PROJECTS	
1	Intergenerational Luncheon - Lewis School Pengam for the 50+ To support the provision of luncheon club £1,000
2	Christmas Lighting Erect Christmas lighting throughout all wards £10,710 LGA 1972 s.144 (encourage tourism/visitors)
3	Ystrad Mynach Christmas Market - CANCELLED Contribution towards the Christmas market to ensure its continuity Saturday 21st Nov 2020 £2,000 LGA 1972, s.145 (provision of entertainment, festivals & support of the arts)
4	Hanging Baskets at Ystrad Mynach 17.5 summer hanging basket throughout town plus 3 planters of flowers attached Installation, watering, taking down and storage. £3,917 LGA 1972 s.144 (encourage tourism/visitors)
5	Family Day Trip – CANCELLED 24/06/2020 Fund 5 x 49 seater coaches £775 LGA 1972 s.137 / LG (Wales) Measure 2011 (well-being power)
6	Pantomimes - £5,040 - CANCELLED (1) Penybryn Village Hall Wed 02/12 6.30pm (2) Gelligaer Community Centre Mon 07/12 6.00pm (3) Lyndsey Club Wed 9/12 5.30pm (4) TYB Primary Thurs 10/12 6.30pm (5) Lewis Girls Sunday Sun 13/12 2.30pm (6) Glanynant Memorial Hall Sun 13/12 7.00pm (7) Hengoed Community Centre Mon 14/12 Dec 5.30pm (8) Cascade Community Centre Thurs 17/12 5.30pm LGA 1972, s.145 (provision of entertainment, festivals & support of the arts)

7	<p>Presentation at Llancaiach - CANCELLED Presentation of Young Citizens and Community Service awards & grants to clubs (up to 10 nominees) 80 -100 volunteers invited 28th November 2020 2.00 - 4.30pm £1,724 (funded with Chairman) LGA 1972 s.137 / LG (Wales) Measure 2011 (well-being power)</p>
8	<p>Community Newsletter Issue - no. 10 (Summer/Autumn) Spring/Summer & Autumn/Winter Art & print £1417 x 2; Distribution £500 x 2 LGA 1972 s.142</p>
9	<p>Ystrad Mynach Public Toilets - CLOSED Maintenance/cleaning £10k</p>
OTHER PROJECTS & COMMUNITY BENEFIT	
10	<p>Youth Centre, Cefn Hengoed Installation of new roof £3,000</p>
11	<p>Cwm Calon –the conversion of 4 columns £1,200 & supply & installation of 4 no. Christmas LED figurines along Heol Cwm Calon approaching school £1,600</p>
12	<p>Ystrad Mynach Town Christmas Lights – purchase of tree & installation and dismantling costs £250</p>
13	<p>Ystrad Mynach Christmas Fayre – promotional items £1,500 CANCELLED</p>
14	<p>Glanynant Garden Christmas Lights – supply & install feeder pillar and supply LED lights for December 2020 £1,287 (£887 plus £400)</p>
15	<p>Glanynant Garden – Supply picnic bench at £245, assembly and installation cost £500</p>
16	<p>Poppies - purchase 100 lamp post poppies and 200 ties for various locations £363</p>
17	<p>CAB – to reinstate CAB £6,000</p>
18	<p>Schools Environmental Project - £3,000</p>
19	<p>Community Centres – to assist with cost to keep open £3,000 – CANCELLED</p>
20	<p>Chapel Tce – Installation of bollards – GCC to facilitate with CCBC</p>
21	<p>Rear of Kings Hill – Installation of fruit trees – Keep Wales Tidy (KWT) – Clerk to continue without volunteers and work alongside Project Officer from KWT</p>
22	<p>Wild flower planting throughout our area – members to submit suitable areas</p>
23	<p>Gelligaer Cemetery – an additional standing pipe as elderly and infirm are having to walk great lengths to obtain water. Ideal location would be on the slight incline. Clerk awaiting response from CCBC.</p>
CIL PROJECTS	
CIL1	<p>Bedwlwyn Road Footbridge - Analysis £3600 – completed</p>
CIL2	<p>Welfare, Cefn Road Hengoed - Install footbridge & drop kerb £1819 – completed</p>
CIL3	<p>Ystrad Mynach Toilets Refurbishment – £13,454</p>
	<p>Remaining CIL Balance £1,355</p>
Potential Projects:	
<p>Black Ash Path – To resurface remaining half of path – Hengoed Avenue to New Road TYB</p>	
<p>WHQS 4</p>	
<p>The Walk by kissing gate – Tarmacing</p>	

237 Ystrad Mynach CCTV Review

RESOLVED: Council agreed to the continuation of CCTV surveillance cameras in Ystrad Mynach as a deterrent and for gathering evidence due to an increase in anti-social behavior.

238 Vacancies as Minor/Community Authority Representatives on the board of Governors at:

(i) Glyngaer Primary (Chair Mr Dave Cook)

Nominations were invited – there were no nominations received.

(ii) Ysgol Penalltau (Chair Ms Kate Grindal)

RESOLVED: Council agreed to approve nominee Ms Lisa Williams as our community/minor authority representative on the board of governors

Cllr Jodie Postians declared an interest in the next item and played no part in the ensuing discussions.

239 Consultation – Expansion of Trinity Fields and Resource Centre

The consultation period will run from the 14th September 2020 to the 26th October 2020. Full details in relation to the proposal can be found at:

www.caerphilly.gov.uk/Services/Schools-and-learning/21st-Century-Schools

Members received and discussed Caerphilly County Borough Council's (CCBC) consultation on the proposed expansion to Trinity Field School on one of the last remaining green fields in Ystrad Mynach.

The proposed new building will provide additional facilities to accommodate growing demand for places and provide additional classrooms, specialist intervention areas and outdoor play space. It will also house a new flexible hall, hydrotherapy pool and soft play facilities to increase provision on site which will also be considered for community use at suitable times in keeping with the curriculum timetable.

To future proof the current site by ensuring that it can cater for the changing and more complex requirements of those with Additional Learning Needs.

Cllr Martyn James stated that he wasn't opposed to the school's expansion and recommended that CCBC look for an alternative site and build a state of the art school fit for the 21st Century or consider implementing further satellite bases.

Cllr Martyn James highlighted the following:

- Since 2007 Ystrad Mynach have lost two football fields, two small rugby fields, a large rugby field and a cricket pitch to development.
- CCBC's preferred option is to make improvements to a pitch at Sue Noakes Leisure Centre and provide two other pitches at Trinity Fields, which are of poor quality and often flood.
- 450 children would have to walk over a half a mile to the Sue Noakes Centre, crossing busy roads, before and after each game, which would also result in the displacement of children already using it for junior sports
- Building on a flood plain would exasperate an area already prone to flooding.

RESOLVED: Given that CCBC have a statutory duty to provide school places for children within the borough and the lack of finances to build elsewhere, Gelligaer Community Council accepted the proposed development as laid out in the document with an amendment that CCBC explore further details on providing a playfield for the children who will be displaced.

For the record Cllr Martyn James objected to the amended proposal, Cllr Jodie Postians abstained from the vote and six other members present voted in favour of the amended proposal.

**240 Planning Appeal 20/0025/REF – 131 dwellings and associated works on land adjacent to Tiryberth Farm
Town and Country Planning Act 1990- Section 78
Comments on Appeal by Mr. & Mrs. Evans and Franks re Land Adjacent to Tiryberth Farm, Hengoed Rd., Penpedairheol, Hengoed:
Erect residential development up to 131 houses and associated works
Ref: APP/ K6920/A/20/3257989 / Application Ref 20/0025/REF 18/0160/OUT**

Members agreed to comment further to our original objection dated 26th April 2018, which will be submitted to the Planning Inspectorate, as follows:

'Gelligaer Community Council wishes to maintain its objection to this proposed development and to make the following additional comments.

1. It has been a longstanding policy of both Caerphilly County Borough Council and its predecessor Rhymney Valley District Council to preserve green wedges between villages in order to prevent their coalescence and to preserve the entity of each village. This development forms part of the green wedge between Penpedairheol and Cefn Hengoed. The application represents a considerable erosion of this green wedge. Although members are aware that each application is considered on its own merits they feel that allowing the appeal would create a precedent for further development on the green wedge, both opposite the site in question and on the same side of the road on land adjacent to Tir Jac Farm further to the north. The reasons for allowing the appeal would be advanced by further applications on the green wedge land.
There has been a growing awareness among the public of the valuable role played by green spaces and the countryside in close proximity to built-up areas in maintaining mental health, especially as a result of the coronavirus lockdown

2. This site is outside the settlement area in the adopted Local Development Plan, on a greenfield site. If built on it would be an incursion into the countryside. Arguments in favour of over-riding the Council's policies regarding development outside settlement areas rest on the failure of the council to provide a 5-year supply of housing land. However Welsh Government's guidance on this issue in Tan 1 is now subject to review and should not be given the weight it had previously.

There is an adequate supply of brownfield sites in the vicinity to satisfy local demand and therefore no need to develop a site in open countryside. The local demand for expensive larger houses for owner-occupation, as planned for this development, is likely to fall considerably in light of the severe economic recession widely expected as a result of the coronavirus crisis.

At the same time public awareness of the absolute necessity of maintaining and extending biodiversity, encouraging wildlife and insects and alleviating flooding to combat the effects of climate change mean that residential development on greenfield sites should not be allowed.

3. There are six hedgerows within the proposed site, all of which were assessed under the Hedgerow Regulations 1997. Out of the six hedgerows five qualify as "Important" hedgerows, the one hedgerow that did not qualify was the one located along Hengoed Road, however this still acts as an important wildlife corridor for species moving through the site. Therefore it is important that all hedgerows need to be retained and enhanced as part of the development and excluded from garden boundaries by suitable fencing. The breaks in the hedgerows for access roads will need to be mitigated, and existing gaps enhanced through enhancement planting. Hedgerows are so important as they hold invaluable habitat for many species. EU HABITATS DIRECTIVE asks if the development would affect any protective wildlife species? The proposed site is located due north of the community boundary of Cefn Hengoed and consists of two hedgerow bound fields.

Within 250m of Penpedairheol in close proximity of the boundary of the site there are areas of scrub and a pond and links to three sites of importance for nature conservation.

- (i) At Pottery Road Slopes west of Gelligaer SINC.
- (ii) At Tir Jac Slopes East of Penpedairheol SINC.
- (iii) Cefn Hengoed Hillside, North of Hengoed SINC.

The two fields proposed for development are linked to these SINC's and the wider landscape by the well-connected hedgerows.

This development could potentially harm the existing SINC's.

With regard to the protected Species, several were recorded to be using the site in the environmental survey.

There were 42 species of invertebrates recorded within the site during the survey. Pipistrelle bats were recorded to be using the boundary and internal hedgerow between the two parcels of land this being the most heavily used by bats for both foraging and commuting.

All bats have their roost sites protected by law, in the survey report page 12 recommends that the foraging routes along the hedgerow are not only maintained but enhanced.

As you enter the farm access there are two semi mature trees noted in the environmental survey report that have the potential of a small number of bats roosting beneath the ivy cladding on the trunks of these trees.

During the site meeting an officer said that the hedgerow on the right would have to be destroyed to allow access to the proposed site, however within the environmental report it was suggested that the farm access was to remain and the hedgerows remain in situ and an alternative access be made to the site, and in so protecting the valuable ecology of the area'.

241 Meeting Start Time

RESOLVED: Council agreed to continue with a 7pm meeting start time

242 Planning Applications

Planning applications were received & discussed. Comments or enquiries must be emailed to planadmin@caerphilly.gov.uk within 21 days of receipt of the email date.

Email: 25/09/2020

Case Ref. 20/0770/FULL Site Area: 596m²

Location: 2 Duffryn Street Ystrad Mynach Hengoed CF82 7GJ (UPRN 000043019995)

Proposal: Demolish existing rear porch, erect single storey rear extension and convert attic

Case Officer: Mr A Pyne ☐ 01443 864523 ☐ pynea@caerphilly.gov.uk

Ward: Ystrad Mynach Map Ref: 314321 (E) 195265 (N)

Community Council: Gelligaer Community Council Expected Decision Level: Delegated

RESOLVED: No objection

Case Ref. 20/0778/TPO Site Area: 140m²

Location: 25 Kingswood Close Hengoed CF83 7LU (UPRN 000043174985)

Proposal: Fell Lime Tree T2 (Tree Preservation Order No. 49/82/RVDC)

Case Officer: Miss E Rowley ☐ 01443 864776 ☐ rowlee@caerphilly.gov.uk

Ward: Hengoed Map Ref: 315268 (E) 195055 (N)

Community Council: Gelligaer Community Council Expected Decision Level: Delegated

RESOLVED: No objection

Email: 18/09/2020

Case Ref. 20/0653/FULL Site Area: 4965m²

Location: Cwm-yr-allt House Cwm-Yr-Allt Lane Tir-y-berth Hengoed CF82 8AW (UPRN 000043084927)

Proposal: Erect single storey flat roof rear extension

Case Officer: Mr J Cooke ☐ 01443 864347 ☐ cookej1@caerphilly.gov.uk

Ward: St Cattwg Map Ref: 314607 (E) 197358 (N)

Community Council: Gelligaer Community Council Expected Decision Level: Delegated

RESOLVED: No objection

Case Ref.20/0702/FULL Site Area:289196m²

Location: Gelliargwellt Uchaf Farm Gelligaer Road Gelligaer Hengoed CF82 8FY (UPRN 000043086592)

Proposal: Enable the retention of, and proposed extension to, quarry operations including new drainage systems and settlement ponds, landscape bunds and associated works and a site restoration scheme.

Case Officer: Mr A Pyne ☐ 01443 864523 ☐ pynea@caerphilly.gov.uk

Ward: St Cattwg Map Ref: 312485 (E) 196441 (N)

Community Council: Gelligaer Community Council Expected Decision Level: Delegated

RESOLVED: Council agreed to replicate our response at the pre-planning stage minute no. 222

Case Ref.20/0736/FULL Site Area: 321m²

Location: 26 Bryncoed Terrace Penpedairheol Hengoed CF82 8DE (UPRN 000043021801)

Proposal: Erect hardstanding and associated groundworks

Case Officer: Mr J Cooke ☐ 01443 864347 ☐ cookej1@caerphilly.gov.uk

Ward: St Cattwg Map Ref:314208 (E) 197772 (N)

Community Council: Gelligaer Community Council Expected Decision Level:Delegated

RESOLVED: No objection

Email:14/09/2020

Case Ref. 20/0690/FULL Site Area: 252m²

Location: 23 Cedar Way Ystrad Mynach Hengoed CF82 7DR (UPRN 000043018273)

Proposal: Erect single storey rear extension and two storey side extension

Case Officer: Mr J Cooke ☐ 01443 864347 ☐ cookej1@caerphilly.gov.uk

Ward: Ystrad Mynach Map Ref: 314302 (E) 193979 (N)

Community Council: Gelligaer Community Council Expected Decision Level:Delegated

RESOLVED: No objection

Case Ref. 20/0721/FULL Site Area: 367m²

Location: 1 Bedwlwyn Close Ystrad Mynach Hengoed CF82 7BA (UPRN 000043019616)

Proposal: Erect single storey extension, remodel garage roof and external alterations

Case Officer: Mr C Powell ☐ 01443 864424 ☐ powelc2@caerphilly.gov.uk

Ward: Hengoed Map Ref: 314799 (E) 194699 (N)

Community Council: Gelligaer Community Council Expected Decision Level:Delegated

RESOLVED: No objection

243 Next meeting Date: Wednesday 28th October 2020 at 7.00pm

Meeting Closed at 9.00pm

Signed: _____ **Chair**

Date: 28th October 2020