

## GELLIGAER COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the ORDINARY Full Council Meeting held on Wednesday 23rd November 2022  
7.00pm at Gelligaer Community Council Office in a MULTI-LOCATIONAL format in  
accordance with the provisions of the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021.

### PRESENT

**Councillors:** A Angel\*, R Bevan, G Bruford, D Cushing\*, M James (Chair), C Moss, W Matthews, A McCarthy, T Parry (Vice), H Pritchard and J Pritchard.

**Clerk:** C Mortimer

**In Attendance:** Mr B Martin and Mr G Carney, Trustees of Gelligaer ABC Boxing Club

\*Denotes remote attendance.

*Chair Cllr Martyn James welcomed everyone to the meeting and invited Mr Brian Martin, Trustee of the Gelligaer ABC Boxing Club to speak.  
Cllr M McCarthy also declared an interest in the next item and played no part in the ensuing discussions*

### 93. Gelligaer ABC Boxing Club

Mr Martin introduced himself and Mr Carney to the members and gave an outline of his perspective on the recent history of the club.

A number of issues were raised which will be reported to the appropriate authorities.

*Chair Cllr Martyn James thanked Mr Martin and Mr Carney for highlighting their concerns. They both subsequently left the meeting.*

### 94. Police Update for Ystrad Mynach Hengoed & St Cattwg's Wards

Police reports for all areas within Gelligaer Community Council were received and noted.

Gelligaer Council

Police Update, November 2022

Crimes logged between-01/11/22 & 19/11/22

57 calls

Incidents include:

- Violence against the person- 13
- Highway disruption- 4
- Road related offences- 1
- Missing persons- 2
- Concern for safety- 4
- ASB- 3
- Theft and handling- 4
- Domestic incidents- 3
- Criminal damage- 2
- Sexual offences- 0
- Other/ police generated incidents- 21

#### ASB

Call was received to Heol Edward Lewis on 11/11/22 in relation to x8 quad bikes causing a nuisance.

#### HIGHWAY DISRUPTION

Nothing of note.

#### OFF ROAD BIKES

As above issues on Heol Edward Lewis in relation to x8 quad bikes, this is believed to be an isolated incident as there have been no further reports.

Several off road bike operations have been conducted in conjunction with Gelligaer common ranger along with fly tip operations.

#### INCIDENTS OF NOTE

Nothing of note.

Council Report for Ystrad Mynach and Hengoed wards  
Numbers for the month of October 2022

**Crime & ASB Overview**

Crimes recorded for all Ystrad Mynach Wards

<b>Ystrad Mynach</b>	35
<b>Hengoed</b>	36
<b>Nelson</b>	24
<b>Maesycwmmmer</b>	16

Ystrad Mynach incidents include –

Crime Categories		
	<b>35</b>	
	10	Public Order Offences
	10	Violence Without Injury
	3	Drug Offences
	2	Vehicle Crime
	2	All Other Theft
	2	Violence With Injury
	1	Misc Crimes Against Society
	1	Other Sexual Offences
	1	Shoplifting
	1	Criminal Damage & Arson
	1	Residential Burglary
	1	Commercial Burglary

The violence without injury relate to –

- Assault of emergency worker
- Protection from Harassment act
- Common assault
- kidnapping
- Stalking

Some of these crimes relate to incidents in Ystrad Custody.

Hengoed incidents include –

Crime Categories		
	<b>36</b>	
	19	Violence Without Injury
	5	Violence With Injury
	4	Criminal Damage & Arson
	3	Public Order Offences
	2	All Other Theft
	1	Theft From The Person
	1	Possession Of Weapons
	1	Residential Burglary

The violence without injury relate to –

- Protection from harassment order
- Common assault
- Assault of a constable
- Stalking
- Disclose private sexual photos/films with the intent to cause distress

Anti-Social Behaviour calls received for all Ystrad Mynach Wards

<b>Ystrad Mynach</b>	12
<b>Hengoed</b>	8
<b>Nelson</b>	3
<b>Maesycwmmmer</b>	2

Ystrad Mynach incidents include –

4 youth related calls

All 4 calls related to youth causing issues around the town.

Hengoed incidents include –

2 youth related calls.

1 for off road bikes on Lansbury Avenue - work on going to catch and deal with riders.

1 for youths setting a fire in shelter in Hengoed park.

**95. Apologies** - there were no absences

**96. 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.

Cllr M McCarthy declared an interest in min no.93 above - Gelligaer ABC Boxing Club

Clerk C Mortimer declared an interest in min no. 102 - National Salary Increase

**97. Chair's Announcements**

Chair Cllr Martyn James announced that the Ystrad Mynach Winter Fayre had been a real success with the highest recorded footfall in Ystrad Mynach ever. He thanked the following members and volunteers for helping front the stall and overseeing Santa's grotto:

Councillors Alan Angel, Roger Bevan, Wyndham Matthews, Mandy McCarthy, Catrin Moss, Teresa Parry, Haydn Pritchard, Judith Pritchard and the Clerk. Our volunteers Mr Wally Good, Mrs Jane Hayter, Mrs Alyson James, Ms Sophie Thomas and Mr Jamie Davies.

**98. Minutes**

**Minutes of the ORDINARY COUNCIL meeting held on 19/10/2022** were received, approved and signed as an accurate record.

**99. Matters Arising – there were no matters arising**

**100. Finance**

**(i) Balance of Funds to 19<sup>th</sup> November 2022**

'Balance of Funds' document was received, approved and signed as an accurate record

**(ii) Reconciliation**

Reconciliation document was received, approved and signed as an accurate record.

**(iii) Bank Statements**

Bank statement 81 was received, approved and signed as an accurate record.

**101. Financial Assistance/Grants 2022/23 – (late applications may be tabled)**

**(i) Cascade Crafters App no.18**

RESOLVED: Council agreed to fund the sum of £375 to Cascade Crafters

**(ii) Protest Against Bryn Group App no. 19**

RESOLVED: Council agreed to fund the sum of £304.88 for calibrating the dust monitor to Protest Against Bryn Group

**(iii) Rhymney Valley Music Club App no. 20**

RESOLVED: Council agreed to fund the sum of £350 to Rhymney Valley Music Club

**(iv) Tiryberth PTA App no. 21**

RESOLVED: Council agreed to fund the sum of £300 to Tiryberth PTA

*The Clerk declared an interest in the next item and left the chamber this playing no part in the ensuing discussions.*

*In the Clerk's absence Cllr Teresa Parry recorded the next minute*

**102. National Salary Award 2022 2023**

RESOLVED: Following the receipt of correspondence from NALC indicating that the NJC has reached an agreement in relation to the new salary scales for 2022-2023 Council agreed to the increase to £18.05 per hour and backdated to April 2022.

The Clerk returned to the chamber whereby the above minute and decision was relayed to her.

**103. 2<sup>nd</sup> Replacement Local Development Plan (LDP) Consultation – closing date 30/11/22**

Draft Candidate Site Assessment Summary Sept 2022 and plans were received and noted. RESOLVED: Council agreed the following comments, which are to be submitted to CCBC's LDP Planning Department by 30<sup>th</sup> November 2022, in relation to the sites proposed for further assessment:

**YM009 Land off Twyn Road, Ystrad Mynach (mixed use excluding housing)**

We support the proposed development of this land for mixed use (not housing)

**YM011 Land north of A472 Tredomen (employment)**

We are opposed to the proposed development of this site on the following grounds:

- Significant loss of green spaces, biodiversity and wildlife habitat
- A detrimental risk to protected species of butterflies in neighbouring fields.
- Loss of mature trees and hedges which form part of the scrubland
- Increased traffic on a very busy road, which has reported 9 car collisions in 10 weeks
- Increase in traffic which will mean an increase in pollution

**YM012 Land south of A472 Tredomen (400 dwellings)**

We are opposed to the proposed development of this site on the following grounds:

- Increased traffic on a very busy road thus an increase in pollution
- Significant loss of mature trees and hedgerows, which effectively means the loss of eco system for wildlife and plants, loss of biodiversity, increased flooding and erosion.
- Loss of the Rhymney Valley Ridgeway walk and therefore the loss of an amenity for mental and physical well-being.
- Sewerage infrastructure issues are documented
- River Rhymney has the highest levels of discharge; this proposed development would only exacerbate it.
- Nelson Road is prone to excess surface water and flooding, this proposed development would exacerbate the flooding problems experienced further down the village/town, which currently floods many properties. Remedial works have also been unsuccessful.

**YM 013 Land at Glyngaer Road, Penpedairheol (38 dwellings)**

We are opposed to the proposed development of this site on the following grounds:

- Incursion into the open countryside which would result in the loss of biodiversity and wildlife habitat
- Would diminish a valuable leisure amenity since it forms part of a country walk and cycle path and is included in the Caerphilly Green Infrastructure Strategy and is an amenity that should be protected at all costs.
- Development would cause increased traffic along Glyngaer Road, which is already very congested and would exacerbate existing parking problems
- A new development would be sited opposite factories on an industrial estate which would experience noise nuisance and air pollution.

**YM015 Land to North and East of Cefn Hengoed (205 dwellings)**

We are opposed to the proposed development of this site on the following grounds:

- Incursion into the open countryside with loss of biodiversity and wildlife habitat
- The site is in close proximity of several SINCS and housing development will affect movements of wildlife and birds
- Development would destroy the green wedge between Cefn Hengoed and Tiryberth, leading to the coalescence of these two communities.
- There is no road access to this site
- This would form over-development of housing in this location which has seen a number of houses built in the comparatively recent past.
- Development would exacerbate the existing flooding of properties occurring lower down in Farm Close, Tiryberth

**YM017 Land at Cefn Llwynau Farm, Penallta Road, Penybryn (200 dwellings)**

We are opposed to the proposed development of this site on the following grounds:

- Incursion into the open countryside. Loss of biodiversity and wildlife habitat.
- Danger to Highway Safety- some traffic from the development would travel north along Penybryn Terrace which is in fact a single-lane road. At certain times of day parked vehicles prevent cars travelling in both directions simultaneously.
- It would lead to over-development of the area which has recently seen 40+ houses built on a site opposite this farm.

**YM020 Land at Myrtle Grove, Hengoed (17 dwellings)**

We are opposed to the proposed development of this site on the following grounds:

- Development in the open countryside and loss of biodiversity and wildlife habitat.
- Unsuitable highway access which would be along Graig Road and Myrtle Grove, which are both far too narrow to sustain more traffic
- Likelihood that the land is unstable and liable to subsidence, therefore the topography would not allow for a sustainable development
- Loss of community recreational area including footpaths, which should be protected.
- Loss of visual amenity for residents living in Beech Grove and Hawthorn Avenue.

**YM023 Land south of Kestrel View Hengoed (18 dwellings)**

We are opposed to the proposed development of this site on the following grounds:

- Development in a green space which is a valuable amenity area.
- Loss of biodiversity and wildlife habitat
- No direct access to the road network. The access would presumably be along Kestrel View, which is totally unsuitable.
- Likelihood that there is a covenant on this land restricting its use to leisure use for the local community.

**YM027 Land adjacent to Tiryberth Farm, Hengoed Road, Penpedairheol (130 dwellings)**

We are opposed to the proposed development of this site on the following grounds:

- This is a greenfield site with many valuable ecological features including hedgerows
- It is near several SINC areas and development would interrupt the movements of mammals and bird-nesting areas
- The site is part of the green wedge between Cefn Hengoed and Penpedairheol. Housing development would lead to the coalescence of these two communities.
- The access would have to be onto Hengoed Road near a bend and near a site where there have been a number of reported car accidents.
- This site was recently the subject of a planning application which was refused by the Council Planning Committee with an appeal dismissed by the Welsh Government Planning Inspectorate.

**YM028 Land at Tir Jack Farm (45 dwellings)**

We are opposed to the proposed development of this site on the following grounds:

- This site is land-locked with no access to the road network.
- It is a greenfield site and if developed there would be loss of biodiversity and wildlife.
- Within close proximity to a SINC
- It forms part of the green wedge between Penpedairheol and Cefn Hengoed. If developed it would contribute towards the coalescence of these two communities.

**YM029 Partmart Automotive Recycling, Sparesworld and Kalen Bungalow (150 dwellings)**

We fully support the proposed development of this brownfield site for the following reasons:

- This is a brownfield site of little, if any, ecological value and an excellent location for a housing development
- The site is served by good amenities; within walking distance to a Primary School, Village Hall, Supermarket, Children's Playground, Playing Fields, Allotments and Woodland Walks. It's less than two miles to the nearest towns, Ystrad Mynach and Bargoed.
- Visual amenity for residents would be greatly improved and enhanced with houses in place of derelict and scrapped cars, creating more of a village feel for locals, and visually more appealing for cars travelling along the A469.
- It is situated within walking distance to public transport, both bus and train, which are both reasonably frequent.
- It is on the A469, the main route through the Rhymney Valley, with good links to Bargoed, Ystrad Mynach and Blackwood

**GB022 Land at Parc Gwernau, Maesycwmmmer (mixed use with 1,200 dwelling in phase 1)**

We support the proposed development of this neighbouring site on the proviso:

- that a new sewerage infrastructure is installed to cope with a development of this size, to eliminate any pressure on the sewerage system in Ystrad Mynach.
- remedial works be implemented to stop the existing flooding issues experienced by nearby properties

**104. Co-option Vacancy in Hengoed**

Members received and noted the vacancy which is to be advertised on noticeboards and social media from 23<sup>rd</sup> November until closing date 9<sup>th</sup> December 2022.

**105. Casual Vacancy exists in the Tiryberth Ward**

Members received and noted an election will be held to fill the vacancy if notice is given in writing to the Returning Officer, by TEN Local Government Electors from that ward within fourteen days from the date of the notice 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2022  
If such notice has not been received by 14<sup>th</sup> December 2022, Gelligaer Community Council will fill the vacancy by co-option.

## 106. Projects 2022/23

- (i) Members were requested to take down the lamp post poppies.
- (ii) Ystrad Mynach Christmas Fayre
  - Raffle winners are to be contacted by Chair Cllr Martyn James and Cllr Judith Pritchard and distributed.
  - It was agreed that the proceeds from raffle to be donated to Ukraine through the Disaster Emergency Committee.
  - It was agreed that the surplus selection boxes from the Fayre are to be shared between Parent Network and the local food banks
- (iii) Christmas Lighting – it was noted that reports of any lights out are to be relayed to the clerk asap with column no's
  
- (iv) Mike Church School visits as Santa in December to read  
Members agreed to attend:
  - 1<sup>st</sup> TYB – Clerk
  - 7<sup>th</sup> Derwendeg – Cllr Judith Pritchard, Cllr Gaynor Bruford and Clerk
  - 9<sup>th</sup> Ystrad Mynach Primary School – Cllr Mandy McCarthy and Cllr Martyn James
  - 12<sup>th</sup> Bro Allta – Cllr Teresa Parry
  - 19<sup>th</sup> Hengoed – Cllr Gaynor Bruford and Cllr Teresa Parry
  - 20<sup>th</sup> Greenhill – Cllr Teresa Parry and Cllr Haydn Pritchard
  - 21<sup>st</sup> YG Penalltau – Cllr Alan Angel
  - 22<sup>nd</sup> Glyngar - Cllr Haydn Pritchard and Clerk
  - Trinity Fields – to confirm
  
- (v) Books gifted to primary school children at Christmas  
It was noted that our Christmassy bilingual books will be delivered to the schools to coincide with Santa's visit.
  
- (vi) Project Summary 2022/23 – was received and noted

## 107. Training Plan

- (i) Training Plan, which will be published as a statutory duty on our website and updated regularly from this month was received and noted
- (ii) Training courses for December were received and noted.

## 108. Tiryberth Management Committee – representative

Nominations required for a representative on the committee was deferred for a future meeting when the vacancy has been filled.

## 109. Planning Applications

**RESOLVED:** Council ratified the clerk's response, under delegated powers, to the Planning Inspectorate the following appeal.

Inspectorate's reference: CAS-02115-D5J4Q6

Local Planning Authority's reference ENF/21/0169

Appellants Name: Mr M Roberts

Location: 17 Aneurin Bevan Avenue, Gelligaer, Hengoed, CF82 8ER

Breach: The erection of a wall in excess of 1m in height adjacent to a highway used by vehicular traffic

## TOWN & COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990 – SECTION 174 APPEAL AGAINST AN ENFORCEMENT NOTICE

Gelligaer Community Council are in support of the appellants appeal and strongly object to the LA's enforcement notice.

The reason given for enforcement action is the impact on local amenity. However, having viewed the wall and walked the area, Gelligaer Community Council disagrees that it has an impact on local amenity. Given the long straight road that the property is on, there is no impact on a person's sense of security or impact on the highway. The well maintained and attractive looking wall adds to the area and provides a sense of security for the house owner.

According to CCBCs enforcement charter, Enforcement Action is discretionary, if it is likely that the development would have been granted planning permission. We believe that in this instance planning would likely have been approved and therefore no action should be taken.

The enforcement Notice references guidance set out in LDP7-householder Development which highlights 2 key principles for Boundary Treatment

- Boundary treatments should match height, type and materials of properties on either side. This is particularly important where they are generally the same along a street, or a feature of the locality;
- New boundary treatments should not obstruct views of the house from the street, or of the street from the house.

Along Aneurin Bevan Avenue there is no uniformity of boundary. Boundaries have been replaced by driveways access gates, some have railings, some are brick, hedge or a combination and in some cases no wall exists at all. There is therefore no set 'feature' type or material in use in this area. In addition the wall erected is at the same height and width as the hedge of the neighbouring properties and is therefore in keeping with its surroundings as far as practicable.

The wall is not excessive in height as to obstruct the view of the house from the street, it's clear from walking the street that the house has been cladded in the same stone/slate work as that used for the boundary wall with visibility both ways.

Development guidance recognises the importance of boundary walls in contributing to the quality of the street, which we agree in this instance, that the wall actually enhances the local area rather than detracting from it.

**110. Next meeting Date: ORDINARY Meeting on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December 2022, 7.00pm at Gelligaer Community Council office.**

**Meeting closed: 9.20pm**

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ CHAIR

DATE: 14<sup>th</sup> December 2022