

## CYNGOR CYMUNED GELLIGAER ~ GELLIGAER COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the ORDINARY Council Meeting held on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> October 2023 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, R Callison\*, D Cushing\*, W Matthews, C Moss, T Parry (Chair), H Pritchard, J Pritchard and A Wood (Vice Chair).

**Clerk:** C Mortimer

**In attendance:** Bute Energy - Mr Reece Emmitt, Mr Matthew Haughton\* & Ms Eluned Lewis.

A member of the public from Nelson - Ms. F Winter.

\* Denotes remote attendance.

*Chair Cllr Teresa welcomed everyone to the meeting.*

### 90. Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr Maryn James due to illness.

### 91. Declarations of Interest

Councillors and Officers 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 Alan Angel declared an interest in Minute No. 99 (i) Caerphilly Veterans Support Hub - Financial Assistance and Minute No.109 - Planning

Cllr Haydn Pritchard declared an interest in Minute No. 99 (i) Caerphilly Veterans Support Hub - Financial Assistance

Cllr Roger Bevan declared an interest in Minute No. 99 (iii) Disability Can Do -Financial Assistance and Minute No.101 (iv) Disability Can Do - Project

*Chair Cllr Teresa Parry welcomed Bute Energy to the meeting*

### 92. Twyn Hywel Wind Farm – Bute Energy

Members received and noted a comprehensive, informative and interesting presentation on the proposed Twyn Hywel Wind Turbine development.

In summary:

- The project responds to the Climate Emergency and will help local communities live modern electric lives, while supporting the Welsh Government's target for electricity to be 100% renewable by 2035
- The Twyn Hywel Energy Park will include up to 14 wind turbines up to 200m total height, generating 92.4MW of clean, green energy, enough to power the equivalent of 81,000 households a year.
- The clean energy generated at Twyn Hywel will help displace approximately 5.6 million tonnes of carbon dioxide, the equivalent to taking all cars off the road in Caerphilly County Borough Council each year.
- The majority of the proposed Energy Park site sits within a Pre-Assessed Area for large-scale onshore wind energy according to the Welsh Government's National Development Framework, Future Wales: The National Plan 2040
- Community Benefit Fund in the region of £693,000 – totalling more than £30 million over the up to 45- year operational life of the project.
- The aim is to keep as much of the investment in Wales for the benefit of local communities. Procurement will focus on the local supply chain, and each contract awarded during development and construction will see partners sign up to the Bute Energy Social Value Standard

Members raised many questions surrounding the baseline measurement of biodiversity and habitat etc. It was stated that the grazed land is quite degraded which creates opportunities for biodiversity net gain. The number of turbines were reduced to 14 and locations changed to minimise visual impact. All components can be recycled following its 45-year life span, as the most prominent material is steel. Drainage regulations set a high bar and hydrologists and drainage team have assessed run off over a 2-year period. There will be soakaways on the periphery of the bespoke tracks accessing the site, to alleviate issues further down.

A bespoke track made with Type 1 aggregate will be constructed for accessing the site, as opposed to roads, for maintenance purposes during the lifetime of the project and for decommissioning.

Community Benefit was discussed, and Bute Energy will return for further discussions around this.

Nelson's local resident Ms Winter was invited to speak.

### **93. Public Participation**

Ms F Winter asked the Bute Energy team whether the access roads to the turbines were permanent or temporary. Bute Energy confirmed that the access roads to the turbines would be permanent for the duration of the project as they would need access to maintain the turbines.

*Members thanked Bute Energy members and Ms Winter for their attendance and they subsequently left the meeting.*

### **94. Police Update for St Cattwg, Hengoed and Ystrad Mynach Wards Police Update St Cattwg - September 2023 was received and noted**

Crimes logged between-01/09/23 & 30/09/23 51

Incidents include:

- Violence without injury – 25
- Violence with injury – 7
- Criminal damage and arson – 4
- Vehicle Crime – 4
- Shoplifting – 3
- All other theft – 2
- Crimes against society – 2
- Public order offences – 2
- Possession of weapons – 1
- Residential burglary – 1

ASB calls logged between 01/09/23 & 30/09/2023 11

Incidents include:

Reports of youths being a nuisance in the cemetery in Gelligaer. Officers have added this area to the patrol plan. Officers did attend when the call come in but no persons found on the grounds upon attendance.

#### HIGHWAY DISRUPTION

Reports of an abandoned vehicle in the Cefn Llwynau St of Penybryn. Officers attended. Council were informed.

#### OFF ROAD BIKES

Operation Harley continues to run in the area. The neighbourhood team, work with other agencies, like we don't buy crime, the common ranger and the rural crime team to tackle the ongoing issues in the area.

## INCIDENTS OF NOTE

ASB referrals distributed in September for the area – 2

### **Police Update Report for Ystrad Mynach and Hengoed wards from 1<sup>st</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> September 2023 was received and noted:**

	September
<b>Ystrad Mynach</b>	37 (39 with Custody crime)
<b>Hengoed</b>	38

#### **Ystrad Mynach incidents include**

Violence Without Injury	12	31%
Criminal Damage & Arson	6	15%
All Other Theft	5	13%
Public Order Offences	5	13%
Violence With Injury	5	13%
Other Sexual Offences	2	5%
Commercial Burglary	1	3%
Drug Offences	1	3%
Residential Burglary	1	3%
-	1	3%

Residential burglary –  
Damage caused to window latch – Buttercups Close

Commercial burglary –  
Lead stolen from boiler room at Holy trinity church.

All other theft –  
Theft of letter from a letter box – Lewis St  
2x Items taken from parcel left on doorstep – Cwrt y Baddondy.  
Online blackmail – Bedwlwyn Road  
Other sexual offences relate to incidents at Ysbyty Ystrad Fawr

Criminal damage & arson –  
Car window smashed by ex-partner – Caerphilly Road  
Kitchen window smashed – Heron drive.  
Damage caused to college by learners – Coleg y Cymoedd.  
Ring doorbell damaged by ex-partner – Buttercups Close  
Spray paint on rear wall – Central Street

#### **Hengoed incidents include**

Violence Without Injury	16	42%
Public Order Offences	10	26%
Violence With Injury	5	13%
Criminal Damage & Arson	3	8%
All Other Theft	1	3%
Misc Crimes Against Society	1	3%
Rape	1	3%
Vehicle Crime	1	3%

Rape – Historical report – no formal police report forthcoming.

All other theft –

Theft of clothing from granddaughter – Lansbury Avenue – No complaint

Vehicle crime –

Ex-husband sold car – Old School Grange.

Crimes against society –

Threat of a group of youths attended address to fight with another youth – Valley View.

Criminal damage –

Female damaged door at Crosskeys Inn

Window smashed on Gelligaer Road

Window smashed – Hengoed Road

### Anti-Social Behaviour calls received for all Ystrad Mynach Wards

<b>Ystrad Mynach</b>	6
<b>Hengoed</b>	2
<b>Nelson</b>	7
<b>Maesycwmmmer</b>	1

Ystrad Mynach incidents include –

- Female with 3 males screaming in Ystrad Mynach Train Station.
- Youths causing issues in Ystrad Mynach Library
- Youths opening doors and running off in Dragon Way, Cwm Calon

Hengoed incidents include

No youth ASB

Neighbourhood team updates

In September we lost CSO Huw Widlake who has left the team for training to be a full time Police officer.

CSO Victoria Williams has moved to the Bargoed Neighbourhood team but will still assist in the Ystrad Mynach wards if needed.

Police Surgeries

Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> October 2023

14:00 – 14:30 @ Ystrad Mynach Library

15:30 – 16:00 @ Hengoed Train Station Car Park

17:00 – 17:30 @ Nelson library

19:30 – 20:00 @ Maesycwmmmer Community Centre Car Park

Wednesday 1st November 2023

10:00 – 10:30 @ Ystrad Mynach Library

12:30 – 1:00 @ Hengoed Train Station Car Park

Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> November 2023

10:00 – 10:30 @ Ystrad Mynach Library

## 95. Chair's Announcements

Chair Cllr Teresa Parry announced that had made the following:

- Donations to the Food Cooperative at Holy Trinity Church Ystrad Mynach and the Cefn Hengoed Food Share scheme.
- Chair Cllr Teresa Parry, Cllr Alan Angel, Cllr Gaynor Bruford, Cllr Martyn James, Cllr Haydn Pritchard, Cllr Judith Pritchard and Cllr Adrienne Wood had attended one or more climate book readings of "Penguin on the Run" with Mike Church and workshops at all eight primary schools.

A copy of the book was gifted to each child.

## 96. Minutes

**Minutes of the ORDINARY COUNCIL meeting held on 4/10/2023** were received, approved and signed as an accurate record.

## 97. Matters Arising

In respect of planning application case ref: 23/0617/FULL Minute no. 88 and our comments submitted to CCBC's planning department, members received and noted the response from consultants acting of behalf of Bryn Compost.

### 1. Intensification of use

*The proposal does not propose additional throughput but seeks to accommodate changes which optimise the site's capacity. The level of throughput will continue to be controlled through the site's permit with NRW. The technical assessments undertaken to support the application (i.e. Landscape and Visual Statement and Air Quality Assessment) have considered the proposals in the context of the cumulative development at the site and find that the proposals are acceptable.*

*The benefits of the site's operation and its importance to the Council is highlighted in the Council's planning policy guidance within the Ystrad Mynach Masterplan SPG (see Paras 5.23 and 5.24) and has been recognised by a planning inspector considering the site as part of a previous appeal:*

*"My attention was also drawn to the significant benefits in terms of its contribution to wider waste and sustainability objectives. The evidence was that the facility plays a key role in receiving green and food waste collected from residents. The Council has not raised any issue in relation to the facility in terms of the strategic policies of the Local Development Plan and I have no reason to disagree... The appellant points out that this is the waste site on which the Council relies to service its waste collections for recyclables and organic waste. It is disingenuous for the Local Planning Authority to state that this is not a planning matter. It is clearly a matter of importance to its waste collection functions." (APP/K6920/A/18/3203497 Appeal Decision)*

### 2. Visual amenity

*The submitted Landscape and Visual Statement prepared by McQuitty Landscape Design concludes that:*

*"The location of the proposed AD amendment development benefits from a high degree of enclosure from existing consented buildings and structures which themselves are set within a strong framework of previous earth mounding and mitigation planting, much of the latter now well established.*

*In this context, the proposed development represents a very small landscape and visual change which will result in generally negligible landscape and visual effects on the surrounding landscape and identified visual receptors.*

*It is our view therefore that this proposed development would have no unacceptable landscape and visual effects, including on the geographically extensive locally designated Mynydd Eglwysilan Special Landscape Area."*

### 3. Air and ground pollution

*In terms of air pollution, the air quality assessment concludes that the development will have an insignificant impact on Nelson Bog SSSI. The author of the report has provided the below summary of the assessment methodology undertaken:*

*Computer based atmospheric dispersion modelling has been used to determine the pattern of discharge from the Bryn Power installation enabling an assessment of the impact of the existing and proposed plant on local air quality.*

*Atmospheric dispersion modelling provides a means of estimating the potential impacts of emissions, by modelling the dispersion of a plume or plumes exiting a chimney in relation to a number of key parameters. This enables the calculation of an estimated contribution to ground level pollutant concentrations arising from the releases, prior to the development or authorisation of new or modified plant. The model applied was the CERC ADMS software (version 5.2) which is one of a number of models used routinely in the UK for this sort of application.*

*The data inputs included emissions releases from each of the relevant combustion units at the site – it is therefore based on actual readings attached to the existing CHP installations. Where extractive test data were available for the processes, information on the release characteristics such as temperature and volumetric flow of the flue gases were applied to the model. Where no such data was available, for example for the new processes, data on the anticipated releases when operating at maximum capacity was obtained from the technology providers.*

*Pollutants have been assumed to be released concurrently and continuously at the maximum permitted levels. This should result in a worst-case assessment as the processes should emit pollutants up to the specified emission concentrations but should always aim to remain within the permitted limits. Assuming that plant discharge pollutants at the maximum permitted concentrations on a continuous basis is therefore generally considered to result in a more conservative assessment, rather than modelling measured emissions which are often lower than the permitted limit.*

*The proposal does not have any impact on the surface water drainage regime. The area of impermeable surface will not increase as a result of the development, and therefore the ability of the site to absorb rainwater is not affected. The site is already served by existing drainage infrastructure and the development will not directly affect the function of this system, its ability to take rainwater or the volume of rainwater that it is required to carry. The proposals fall below the threshold requiring SAB approval. The application will therefore not have any impact on drainage.*

### 4. Highway considerations

*The proposals do not result in the overall site processing more waste than presently received at the site as regulated by the relevant Environmental Permits, but rather enables it to be utilised more efficiently. Accordingly, there will be no increase in vehicle movements. Likewise, this application does not seek any extension to the existing controlled hours of operation. Construction impacts will be adequately controlled.*

#### **98. Finance to 20<sup>th</sup> October 2023**

##### **(i) Balance of Funds**

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 no's 53, 69,15,14,96 were received approved and signed as an accurate record.

## 99. Financial Assistance/Grants 2023/24

*Cllr Alan Angel and Cllr Haydn Pritchard declared an interest in the next item and left the meeting thus playing no part in the ensuing discussions.*

- (i) **Caerphilly Veterans Support Hub (CVSH) Application No.17**  
RESOLVED: Council agreed to pledge up to £300 for the purchase of polo shirts for members of the CVSH

*Cllr Alan Angel and Cllr Haydn Pritchard returned to the meeting.*

- (ii) **Wales Air Ambulance Application No. 18**  
RESOLVED: Council agreed to grant the sum of £600 to Wales Air Ambulance
- (iii) **Disability Can Do Application No.19**  
RESOLVED: Council agreed to grant the sum of £500 to Disability Can Do
- (iv) **Greenhill Primary PTA Application No. 20**  
RESOLVED: Council agreed to grant the sum of £350 to Greenhill Primary PTA
- (v) **Tiryberth Primary PTA Application No. 21**  
RESOLVED: Council agreed to grant the sum of £350 to Tiryberth Primary PTA
- (vi) **Trinity Fields School PTA Application No. 22**  
RESOLVED: Council agreed to grant the sum of £350 to Trinity Field School PTA
- (vii) **Ystrad Mynach Primary PTA Application No. 23**  
RESOLVED: Council agreed to grant the sum of £350 to Ystrad Mynach Primary PTA

## 100. Biodiversity/Eco Officer Update

Members received and noted an update for September 2023

RESOLVED: Council ratified proposal no.4 for the purchase and planting of spring bulbs on the banking on the entrance to Penybryn village.

## 101. Projects

### (i) Project Summary 2023/24

Members received and noted the project summary.

### (ii) War Memorials

RESOLVED: Council received and ratified the purchase of 3 x RBL soldier silhouettes to replace damaged silhouettes at Cefn Hengoed/Glanynant Memorial/Tiryberth Memorial at a cost of £580

### (iii) Christmas Lighting

RESOLVED: Council ratified the cost of £270 for the repairs to our Christmas lighting following PAT testing.

*Cllr Roger Bevan declared an interest in the next item and left the chamber thus playing no part in the ensuing discussions.*

### (iv) New project proposal – Disability CAN DO

RESOLVED: Council agreed to fund new office furniture to the sum of £1,678.32 for their new premise.

*Cllr Roger Bevan returned to the meeting.*

### (v) Gelligaer Football Club

RESOLVED: Council agreed to grant the sum of £600 to Gelligaer FC following the receipt of a further quote.

**(vi) Michael Climer Legacy Fund – Trinity Church Food Cooperative**

RESOLVED: Council agreed to grant the sum of £2,000 for the Trinity Church Food Cooperative.

**102. Armistice Service Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> November 2023**

(i) Members receive lamp post poppies and ties for installation 1-2 weeks prior to Armistice day and to remove 1-2 weeks after the event. Risk assessment is to be emailed to members.

(ii) Wreaths for the following memorials were received;

- Cefn Hengoed/Hengoed Memorial – Derwendeg School – Cllr Teresa Parry
- St Catwg's Church Memorial – Cllr Wyndham Matthews
- Tiryberth Memorial – Cllr Adrienne Wood
- Ystrad Mynach Memorial - Cllr Mandy McCarthy

(iii) Service details were received and noted:

- Cefn Hengoed & Hengoed Memorial (in grounds of Derwendeg Primary School
- St Catwg's Church Gelligaer 10.50a.m.
- Tiryberth Memorial Churchfield Close 10.40 a.m.
- Holy Trinity Church Service 9.30 a.m. 10.55 a.m.

Parade at 10.30 to the Memorial at Ysbyty Ystrad Fawr for the Armistice Service & laying of wreaths at 10.55

**103. Ystrad Mynach Christmas Fayre Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> November 2023**

Clerk to arrive at 8.15am to set up stall

Members agreed to fronting the stall and Santa's grotto:

Cllrs Alan Angel, Martyn James, Catrin Moss, Wyndham Matthews 9.00am – 5.00pm

Cllr Roger Bevan 9am – 11am

Cllr Teresa Parry 11.00am – 3.00pm

Cllr Judith Pritchard 1.00pm – 3.00pm

Cllr Adrienne Wood 10.00am – 1.00pm, 2.00 - 2.45pm

Cllr Mandy McCarthy

RESOLVED: Council agreed to purchase 500 selection boxes for Santa's grotto. Surplus boxes will be donated to the local food banks and other causes.

**104. Pantomime**

Tickets and posters to be collected from the office 1<sup>st</sup> week of November – clerk will email members.

**105. Boundary Commission Draft Proposals on Community Council Arrangements**

(i) Members received and noted report pages 17 – 24 and approved the draft changes

(ii) Members noted the changes would mean:

An increase in Community Councillors in Ystrad Mynach from 3 to 4

An increase in Community Councillors in Cascade from 2 to 3

A decrease in Community Councillors in Greenhill from 3 to 2

Under the new proposed arrangements Gelligaer Community Council will have a total of 14 members as opposed to 13.

(iii) RESOLVED: Council agreed to the proposal by Llanbradach & Pwllpant Community Council (LLPCC), to move Llanbradach Farm, which currently lies within the Ystrad Mynach ward, to the Llanbradach ward, as the farmhouse is closer to the village of Llanbradach than it is to the town of Ystrad Mynach. Residents of Llanbradach Farm have agreed to the proposal.

(iv) RESOLVED: Council agreed to moving Glyngaer into Cascade as it is nearer the school and is a natural extension of Cascade.

**106. Vacancy exists - Minor Authority Representative on the Board of Governors at Ysgol Bro Allta (deferred from last meeting)**

Nominations required – Cllr Judith Pritchard was going to approach a suitable candidate.



**107. Training for 2023**

- (i) OVW training for 2023 was received and noted.
- (ii) Schedule for publication was noted and will be constantly updated.

**108. Planning Applications** (any additional applications will be tabled at meeting)

The following Planning Applications were received and discussed. Comments or enquiries must be emailed to [planadmin@caerphilly.gov.uk](mailto:planadmin@caerphilly.gov.uk) within 21 days of receipt of the email date.

Case Ref. 23/0691/LA Site Area: 62m<sup>2</sup>

Location: Trinity Fields School And Resource Centre Caerphilly Road Ystrad Mynach Hengoed CF82 7XW (UPRN 000043020848)

Proposal: Erect a sprinkler tank, pump house and hydrant tank

Case Officer: Elizabeth Rowley ☐ 07850 916862 ☐ [rowlee@caerphilly.gov.uk](mailto:rowlee@caerphilly.gov.uk)

Ward: Ystrad Mynach Map Ref: 314485 (E) 193997 (N)

Community Council: Gelligaer Community Council Expected Decision Level: Delegated

RESOLVED: No objection

**109. Next meeting Date: It was noted our next ORDINARY Meeting will be on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2023, 7.00pm Gelligaer Community Council office.**

**Meeting closed at 9.20pm**

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

**DATE: 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2023**