



GELLIGAER COMMUNITY COUNCIL
CYNGOR CYMUNED GELLIGAER

E-mail: mortic1@caerphilly.gov.uk Tel/Ffon: 07933 725094

Ceri Mortimer

CLERK TO THE COUNCIL / CLERC Y CYNGOR

COUNCIL OFFICE / SWYDDFA Y CYNGOR

LLWYN ONN, PENPEDAIRHEOL, HENGOED

www.gelligaercommunitycouncil.org.uk

CAERPHILLY COUNTY BOROUGH CF82 8BB / BWRDEISTREF SIROL CAERFFILI

www.romangelligaer.org.uk

NOTICE OF ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING
WEDNESDAY 25th September 2024 at 7.30pm

19th September 2024

Chair and Members of Gelligaer Community Council

Dear Chair/Councillors

You are summoned to attend the **ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING** of Gelligaer Community Council which will be held on **WEDNESDAY 25th SEPTEMBER 2024 at 7.00pm** at Gelligaer Community Council Office, Llwyn Onn, Penpedairheol, Hengoed CF82 8BB

The meeting will be in a MULTI-LOCATIONAL format in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021.

Members of the press and public are permitted to attend our meetings in person at the above address or electronically by clicking on the following link.

Microsoft Teams [Need help?](#)

[Join the meeting now](#)

Meeting ID: 317 519 392 473

Passcode: 3s3iJ7

The business to be transacted is set out in the agenda below.

Yours sincerely

Ceri Mortimer

Clerk to the Council

AGENDA

1. Apologies

2. Declarations of Interest

Councillors and Officers are 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.

3. Police Update for St Cattwg, Hengoed and Ystrad Mynach Wards – to receive and discuss reports.

4. Public Participation - members of the public are requested to speak with the clerk in advance of the meeting should they wish to address members on a particular agenda item.

(i) [Glanynant Memorial Hall](#)

5. Retired Chair's Annual Report - deferred

6. Chair's Announcements

7. Minutes

To receive and if approved to confirm and sign the **Minutes of the ORDINARY COUNCIL meeting held on 24th July 2024** as an accurate record.

8. Matters Arising

Due to insufficient time for members to comment on recent CCBC consultations and CCBC conducting the surveys during the August recess, the clerk used her delegated powers to respond on behalf of the Community Council:

Direct Meals Services

Gelligaer Community Council are opposed to the cessation of Direct Meals Services in the community on the grounds of:

1. The service provides a host of benefits to some of our most vulnerable members in the community, such as people with disabilities, ill health and the elderly.
2. In many cases, the meals provided by Direct Meals Services will be the only source of nutrition they have.
3. The daily visits from the staff are in many instances the only contact the users have with people. Therefore from a social perspective, the visit is more than just food as the interaction between user and staff can help to alleviate loneliness and isolation.
4. Staff can also detect if the user is unwell and can alert the emergency services if assistance is needed. The multifaceted role of the staff should not be underestimated.
5. Providing meals and regular interaction with the users does facilitate independent living, putting less strain on other departments.
6. Removing this invaluable service will undoubtedly put extra strain on social services, therefore monies saved in one department could potentially increase the resources and costs in another.

Llancaiach Fawr Manor

Gelligaer Community Council strongly object to the proposed closure/mothballing of Llancaiach Manor House due to it being a significant historical and cultural landmark in the Caerphilly borough for the following compelling reasons:

1. Historical Importance

The Manor, which is a grade I listed building, and considered to be one of the most important gentry houses to have survived the 16th and 17th century period. It is one of the finest examples of a semi fortified Manor house in Wales and has significant historical value.

2. Educational value

The Manor serves as a living history museum, providing educational opportunities for schools and visitors to learn about life in the 16th and 17th century. It offers a unique immersive experience that brings history to life.

3. Tourism and Economy

As a popular tourist attraction Llancaiach Fawr Manor contributes to the local economy. It attracts visitors from all over, supporting local businesses and generating revenue for the area.

4. Community Engagement

The Manor is a focal point for community events and activities such as weddings, birthdays, Sunday lunches, exhibitions and award ceremonies to name a few. It hosts various events throughout the year fostering community spirit and providing a venue for local gatherings.

5. Cultural Heritage

Preserving Llancaiach Fawr Manor is crucial for maintaining the Welsh cultural heritage of the region.

6. Employment

The Manor provides jobs for local residents. Closing it would result in job losses and will negatively impact the livelihoods of those employed there.

Given these reasons it's clear that Llancaiach Fawr Manor holds significant value beyond just its financial cost. Its closure would be a loss to the community, the local economy and the preservation of Welsh heritage.

Planning Applications

Under delegated powers the clerk responded to the following planning applications on behalf of members during the August recess:

Case Ref. 24/0461/LA Site Area: 135m² Location: Lewis Girls Comprehensive School and Leisure Centre Sue Noake Leisure Centre Pengam Road Ystrad Mynach Hengoed CF82 8AA (UPRN 000043019970) Proposal: Partially demolish changing rooms due to subsidence and restore area on completion of demolition works Case Officer: Joe Simmons (01443 864428 : simmoj1@caerphilly.gov.uk

Ward: Ystrad Mynach Map Ref: 314757 (E) 194369 (N)

Community Council: Gelligaer Community Council Expected Decision Level: Delegated

RESOLVED UNDER DELEGATED POWERS: No objection

Case Ref. 24/0571/TPO Site Area: 59m² Location: 2 Kingswood Close Hengoed CF82 7LU (UPRN 000043030494) Proposal: Cut back to growth points taking 25% off branches (Tree Preservation Order 49/82/RVDC) Case Officer: Lorna Berrow (01443 864429 : berrol@caerphilly.gov.uk

Ward: Hengoed Map Ref: 315290 (E) 195186 (N)

Community Council: Gelligaer Community Council Expected Decision Level: Delegate

RESOLVED UNDER DELEGATED POWERS: No objection to it being trimmed but would not support its felling.

Case Ref. 24/0585/FULL Site Area: 280m² Location: British Telecom Telephone Exchange Central Street Ystrad Mynach (UPRN 000043019815) Proposal: Remove Six Glass Panes and replace with New Aluminium Ventilation Louvres, to Match Existing Louvres Installed Case Officer: Luke Buffery (01443 864426 : buffel@caerphilly.gov.uk Ward: Ystrad Mynach Map Ref: 314458 (E) 194204 (N)

Community Council: Gelligaer Community Council Expected Decision Level: Delegated

RESOLVED UNDER DELEGATED POWERS: No objection

Case Ref. 24/0525/FULL Site Area: 208200m² Location: Gelliargwellt Uchaf Farm Gelligaer Road Gelligaer Hengoed CF82 8FY (UPRN 000043086592) Proposal: Enable extension to existing quarry operations including drainage, landscape bunds with associated works and erect sports pitch and circular walkway footpaths Case Officer: Anthony Pyne (01443 864523 : pynea@caerphilly.gov.uk Ward: St Cattwg Map Ref: 312485 (E) 196441 (N) Community Council: Gelligaer Community Council Expected Decision Level: Committee

RESOLVED UNDER DELEGATED POWERS: Gelligaer Community Council would like to object to planning application 24/0525 - Enable extension to existing quarry operations including landscape bunds with associated works and erect sports pitch and circular walkway footpaths on the following grounds:

- The development will have a significant and long-lasting impact on residential amenity. The impact on health and mental wellbeing of the current quarrying works is well documented. Residents have had to deal with the constant noise dust and traffic for a significant number of years; it's unacceptable to extend this for 20+ years in to the future. The cumulative impact on residential amenity from the various works on the site should be considered as part of the application.
- The quarrying work will impact significantly on air quality in the area which will have a detrimental impact on residents. No independent monitoring has been conducted of the surrounding air quality. Given its potential for significant harm the true extent of its impact needs to be explored further before planning permission is granted. The 250m buffer zones set in the LDP should be recognized as a minimum and not a target. The landscape bund is still in development and it will be a significant number of years before the trees in this area are mature enough to provide any genuine protection and or privacy to residents.
- The air quality Impact report states that extraction will take place at a 300m distance from local dwellings. It is unclear whether the buffer zone includes the haulage routes or the quarrying only – we would like clarification on this prior to planning permission being granted.

- The extent of the impact on water levels and the subsequent impact on the Nelson Bog SSSI has not been considered in enough detail. Mitigation reports and further study should not be a condition of planning but completed prior to planning being granted.
- There will be a significant and unacceptable impact on protected species – those at Nelson bog and those that have been discovered on site. These include red list birds, European protected Great Crested Newts and reptiles. CCBC operate a reptile trans relocation site in the grounds adjacent to the development - any development would likely have an impact on this habitat.
- Within the application there is a proposal to remove significant amounts of peat within the site. Damaged peatlands are a significant source of greenhouse gas emissions. The extraction of water from peat sources and its disturbance will result in significant levels of CO2 release into the atmosphere from the peat which has been absorbing CO2 for thousands of years. Peatlands can absorb significantly more CO2 than any other land type and should be afforded our protection now for the benefit of future generations. Caerphilly's LDP aims to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from developments.

Quarrying activity should only take place where there is a demonstratable need for the stone – particularly as in this case where it is likely to impact significantly on the surrounding area for a considerable period of time. CCBC's LDP annual monitoring report 2023 shows that there is already significant stone of similar grade available beyond the required 10 year landbank. This shows that the extension to Bryn Quarry is unnecessary and should not go ahead.

9. Business deferred from Annual Meeting and Ordinary Meetings:

A. Minor Authority Representatives on Schools Board of Governors:

- Ystrad Mynach Primary School – vacancy exists
(Andrew James who transferred to a minor authority rep has stepped down)

B. CCBC Community Centre Management

- Gelligaer Community Centre
- Glanynant Memorial Hall (not owned by CCBC)
- Penybryn Village Hall

- Gelligaer Community Centre
- Glanynant Memorial Hall (not owned by CCBC)
- Penybryn Village Hall

10. Finance to 19th September 2024

(i) Balance of Funds

To receive, confirm and approve 'Balance of Funds' document.

(ii) Bank Statements

To receive, confirm and approve bank statement no's 63,64,78,79,109,110,111.

(iii) Unity

To receive and note correspondence dated 29/07/24 and 28/08/24 regarding changes

11. Utilities

(i) Council is requested to consider installing SSE smart meters at the office and at the public toilets in Ystrad Mynach for the provision of up to date and accurate energy readings for billing purposes.

A council resolution is required

(ii) Council is requested to consider setting up a direct debit to Welsh Water for the toilet in Ystrad Mynach (we already have a Direct Debit set up for Welsh Water for the office)

A council resolution is required

(iii) Telephone and Alarm

Council is requested to consider finding an alarm system that could be linked to the WiFi as opposed to the telephone line, to reduce line rental costs.

12. The Pension Regulator

To receive and note re-enrolment and re-declaration: your legal duties as an employer. The clerk to action.

13. Financial Assistance/Grants 2024/25 – (late applications may be tabled)

(i) Penallta RFC – Minis and Juniors

(ii) Ystrad Mynach Male Voice Choir

(iii) Bushscout Cymru

14. Eco Officer Update – to receive and note (to be tabled).

15. Projects 2024/25

(i) Project Summary 2024/25 – to receive and discuss

(ii) Newsletter

(iii) Ystrad Mynach Town Toilets – to receive clerk's report (to be tabled)

(iv) To receive email from CCBC – regarding a one off offer to help with planting the wild patch in Ystrad Mynach

(v) Project proposal – Christmas books

To receive email

(vi) Christmas market – to discuss arrangements

(vii) Forgotten Soldier Plaque

To receive plaque sample and quote from Horizon Forge, Llanbradach.

(viii) KWT - Orchards

(ix) New project proposals

16. CCBC Ystrad Mynach Town Centre Audit - July 2024

17. Biodiversity Report - deferred

18. Decarbonisation/Green Projects – awaiting to hear from P Rossiter.

19. Dust Monitor – deferred - verbal update

20. Training for 2024/25

(i) To receive training dates for September – December 2024

(ii) To receive and to update training plan.

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

To receive & discuss planning applications. Comments or enquiries must be emailed to planadmin@caerphilly.gov.uk within 21 days of receipt of the email date.

22. Next meeting Date: Ordinary Meeting 23rd October 2024.