

CYNGOR CYMUNED GELLIGAER ~ GELLIGAER COMMUNITY COUNCIL

**Minutes of the ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING held on
Wednesday 21st May 2025 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 Callison*, M James, W Matthews (Vice Chair) A McCarthy, C Moss (Chair),
H Pritchard, J Pritchard, T Parry and A Wood.

Clerk: C Mortimer

* denotes remote attendance

Chair Cllr Catrin Moss welcomed everyone to the meeting

- 12 Apologies** – were received from Cllr Gaynor Bruford and Cllr Roger Bevan due to illness and Cllr Donna Cushing due to other commitments.
- 13 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.
Clerk declared an interest in minute no.23 – Superannuation.
Cllr A Angel declared an interest in minute no. 36 – Planning.
- 14 Police Update for St Cattwg, Hengoed and Ystrad Mynach Wards**
Police reports were received and noted.
- 15 Public Participation** – there were no members of the public in attendance.
- 16 Retired Chair**
(i) Annual Report – deferred.
(ii) Civic Expenditure for 2024/25 was received and noted from Cllr Haydn Pritchard.
- 17 Chair's Announcements**
There were no announcements from the Chair. However, Cllr Alan Angel was invited to speak on the fund raising Bake Off event at Trinity Fields School, where he presented a Portofino voucher from the retired Chair's Civic Allowance for the raffle. He also presented a cheque to the sum of £1,181 to Irfon Rees, Ty Hafan's CEO, which were the proceeds from the pantomime ticket sales and tuck at Christmas.
- 18 Minutes**
Minutes of the ORDINARY COUNCIL meeting held on 23rd April 2025 were received, approved and signed as an accurate record after amending minute numbers and excluding a member's attendance.
- 19 Matters Arising** – there were no matters arising.
- 20 Minutes**
Minutes of the ANNUAL COUNCIL meeting held on 14th May 2025 were received, approved and signed as an accurate record.
- 21 Matters Arising** – there were no matters arising.
- 22 Finance to 16th May 2025**
(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 21 and 119 were received, approved and signed as an accurate record.

Clerk declared an interest in the next item and left the meeting. Cllr Teresa Parry recorded the minute in her absence.

23 Employers Pension Increase

(i)RESOLVED: Council received and approved Rates & Adjustments Certificate, increasing the employers pension contribution from 12.4% to 13.9% from April 2025.
Members noted the employees' pension contribution remains the same at 5.8%

Clerk returned to the meeting and resumed recording the minutes.

24 Business Items deferred from the Annual Meeting:

Caerphilly Borough Community & Town Council's Liaison Committee

Members were requested to approve the continuity of members unless members wish to stand down and as such a replacement would be required:

RESOLVED: Council agreed that Cllr Rhianwen Callison and Cllr Martyn James as reserve and clerk, represent the community council on this committee.

Caerphilly County Borough Council (CCBC) & Community/Town Council's Joint Liaison Committee

Members were requested to approve the continuity of members, unless members wish to stand down and as such a replacement would be required:

RESOLVED: Council agreed that Cllr Rhianwen Callison and Cllr Martyn James as a reserve and the clerk represent the community council on this committee.

CCBC Community Centre Management Committees

Gelligaer Community Centre – deferred.

Penybryn Village Hall – deferred.

25 Financial Assistance - Grants 2025/26

(i)Gelligaer Local History Appreciation Society Application No.3

RESOLVED: Council agreed to grant the sum of £250 to Gelligaer Local History Appreciation Society

(ii)Vicarage Allotment Association Application No.4

RESOLVED: Council agreed to grant the sum of £350 to Vicarage Allotment Association

(iii) Wales Air Ambulance Application No.5

RESOLVED: Council agreed to grant the sum of £1,000 to Wales Air Ambulance

(iv) Glanynant Allotment Association Application No.6

RESOLVED: Council agreed to grant the sum of £350 to Glanynant Allotment Association.

(v) Ystrad Mynach Air Cadets – this application was received late this afternoon, which didn't allow sufficient time to read through the application form. It was therefore deferred.

26 Eco Officer Update

(i) Eco Officer Monthly Report for April 2025 – was received and noted.

(ii) Proposal No.10

Council requested that this proposal be placed on hold for the time being and the clerk request a planting plan from the Eco Officer. Clerk to liaise with CCBC's Town Centre Management and request they hold off from working opposite Portofino's until the Autumn. Clerk is also to write to the Eco Officer, Andrew King, to express how pleased members are with his excellent work and to thank him.

27 Projects 2025/26

(i) Project Summary 2025/26 was received and noted.

(ii) Presentation 7th June 2025 11.00 am – 1.30pm

Clerk and members discussed final arrangements for the day.

RESOLVED: Council agreed that proceeds from the raffle would be donated to Disability CanDo.

(iii) Flowering Baskets in YM and Rail & Pavement Planter – Installation, watering, feeding May 2025 – 30th September 2025 and dismantling and returning to the nursery.

RESOLVED: Council received costings from Sion Lawns Plant Hire and agreed to his services.

(iv) Mural to the front of the YMWC – Clerk to request further information and costings in relation to commissioned work and the Valley Street Art Project. Member to obtain permission for a wall in Gelligaer.

(v) Painting the inside of the toilets in Ystrad Mynach – deferred for further quotes.

(vi) Wales in Bloom – funding for flowers Project New No.7

RESOLVED: Council agreed to fund a further £350 for Ystrad Mynach.

(vii) Kings Hill Allotments Association Project New No.8

Quotes were received and noted.

RESOLVED: Council agreed to fund £3,800 for new steel palisade gates, powder coated, at King's Hill Allotments' two entrances.

It was agreed that ward member Cllr Teresa Parry continues to support the allotment association in pursuing to extend the lease agreement, which will open up other sources of funding for the association.

28 One Voice Wales Membership 2025 -2026

Membership received and noted renewal details

RESOLVED: Council ratified continued membership with OVW for 2025-26

29 One Voice Wales – two motions

Council received and noted correspondence from OVW inviting member councils to propose a maximum of two motions for debate at the AGM on Wednesday 1st October 2025, which must arrive at this office no later than noon on Friday 20th June 2025 for consideration by the AGM Motions Committee which will meet on Thursday 26th June 2025.

RESOLVED: Council agreed the following motion:

Proposed Motion for OVW's AGM – Wednesday 1st October 2025

Gelligaer Community Council proposes the motion for One Voice Wales to debate at the AGM in October 2025, urging councils to advocate for the Welsh Government to pursue the devolvement of the Crown Estate to Wales:

Motion:

This AGM calls upon One Voice Wales to formally encourage local councils to advocate for the Welsh Government to seek full devolvement of the Crown Estate to Wales.

Proposer: Cllr Teresa Parry, Gelligaer Community Council.

Rationale:

- The Crown Estate in Wales generates significant revenue, yet decision-making regarding its assets remains under UK Government control.
- Devolving the Crown Estate would empower the Welsh Government to manage these resources in alignment with Welsh priorities, including environmental sustainability, economic development, and community benefits.
- Such a move would support greater local decision-making, ensuring that revenues from Welsh land and natural resources are reinvested into Wales to bolster infrastructure, biodiversity protection, and social initiatives.

- Scotland has already benefited from devolved Crown Estate control, demonstrating the potential advantages for Wales in terms of sustainability and local governance.
- 22 Local Authorities/County Councils in Wales have voted in favour of devolution.
- Several community and town council across Wales have already backed the motion to devolve the Crown Estate to Wales.

Action:

One Voice Wales will work with member councils to press for discussions with the Welsh Government on securing devolution of the Crown Estate.

Member councils will be encouraged to lobby their respective representatives and engage with the Senedd on this issue.

30 Biodiversity Review – deferred.

31 Decarbonisation/Green Projects – deferred.

32 Dust Monitor – deferred - verbal update.

33 Training for 2025/26

(i) Training dates from Planning Aid Wales and OVW were received and noted.

(ii) Training plan was received, noted and updated.

34 CCBC Local Development Plan

Members discussed candidate sites submitted at the eleventh hour of a consultation period. However, it should be noted that the recent consultation was about strategy and not the sites per se. It was agreed that the consultation process was flawed, as it did not allow the same amount of consultation time for late submissions. Clerk to write to CCBC highlighting the unfairness in the consultation process and to express our disappointment.

35 CCBC Audit Briefing Note – Ystrad Mynach Town Centre

(i) Briefing note was received and noted.

36 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.

Case Ref. 25/0181/HH Site Area: 223m² Location: 70 Aneurin Bevan Avenue Gelligaer Hengoed CF82 8ES (UPRN 000043011932) Proposal: Erect garage to rear of property Case Officer: Luke Buffery (01443 864709 : buffel@caerphilly.gov.uk Ward: St Cattwg Map Ref: 313172 (E) 196920 (N) Community Council: Gelligaer Community Council Expected Decision Level: Delegated
RESOLVED: No objection

Case Ref. 25/0280/HH Site Area: 139m² Location: 6D Mount Pleasant Pengam Road Penpedairheol Hengoed CF82 8BY (UPRN 000043085770) Proposal: Erect a wooden summerhouse to rear of property Case Officer: Josie Millson (01443 864708 : milsoj@caerphilly.gov.uk Ward: St Cattwg Map Ref: 314280 (E) 197575 (N) Community Council: Gelligaer Community Council Expected Decision Level: Delegate
RESOLVED: No objection.

37 Next meeting Date – Ordinary Council Meeting on Wednesday 25th June 2025 at 7pm

Meeting closed at 9.05 pm

Signed: _____ **Chair**

Date: 25th June 2025.