

CYNGOR CYMUNED GELLIGAER ~ GELLIGAER COMMUNITY COUNCIL

**Minutes of the ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING held on
Wednesday 17th December 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:

R Bevan, W Matthews (Vice Chair), T Parry*, H Pritchard, J Pritchard, A Angel, A Wood*, G Bruford, D Cushing, A McCarthy

Clerk: In the clerk's absence, Cllr H Pritchard took the minutes.

* denotes remote attendance.

Vice Chair Cllr Wyndham Matthews welcomed everyone to the meeting.

117. Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr R Callison, Cllr C Moss and Cllr M James.

118. 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 Cushing declared an interest in minute no 135 (iii) due to personal reasons.

Cllr Angel declared an interest in minute no 135 due to his being part of the CCBC Planning Committee.

Cllrs J Pritchard, G Bruford and D Cushing declared an interest in minute no 127 (viii) due to involvement with the Cefn Hengoed Youth Centre.

119. Public Participation

Mrs Nicola Quarry of Shappelles Moana Dance Group had arranged to address the members, but did not attend and sent her apologies. The representative from the Rhymney Valley & Caerphilly Schools District Rugby Club was unable to attend due to work commitments but had briefed Cllr Angel on the information required by the members and Cllr Angel would speak on his behalf when the item was discussed.

120. Police Update for St Cattwg, Hengoed and Ystrad Mynach Wards

The reports were noted.

121. Retired Chair Report – Deferred

Annual Report – Cllr H Pritchard gave a powerpoint slide presentation to the members.

122. Chair's Announcements

Chair Cllr Catrin Moss was unable to attend the meeting and as a result there were no Chair's Announcements.

123. Minutes

Minutes of the ORDINARY COUNCIL meeting held on 12th November 2025 were received, approved and signed as an accurate record.

124. Matters Arising

The following matters were discussed:

- a. Further discussion is required about the CCBC Events funding for next year.
- b. Money from Pantomimes is to be handed in to Cllr H Pritchard and a record kept by him.
- c. Finance Committee – Cllr J Pritchard has agreed to be the third member of this committee.
- d. Business Continuity Committee – Cllr A Woods confirmed that she is able to be the fifth member of this committee.
- e. Neurodiversity Tea & Chat – Cllr J Pritchard had spoken with the group and discovered that the insurance payment that had been agreed at the November meeting has already been funded and paid. It was requested that the GCC could instead fund Publicity Leaflets and the already agreed Rent. The members voted unanimously to provide this funding.

125. Finance to 17th December 2025

(i) Balance of Funds

Deferred due to absence of GCC Clerk.

(ii) Reconciliation

Deferred due to absence of GCC Clerk.

(iii) Bank Statements

Deferred due to absence of GCC Clerk.

126. Business Items deferred from the Annual Meeting:

CCBC Community Centre Management Committees.

Gelligaer Community Centre – a meeting has been held with the committee and an AGM will take place in January 2026 and will be attended by Cllrs H Pritchard and W Matthews.

Penybrynn Village Hall – a meeting will be arranged for January 2026.

127. Financial Assistance/Grants 2025/26

(i) Gelligaer & District Welfare Association – deferred from last meeting for quotations. Only one quote received when two had been requested. Defer to next meeting.

(ii) Gelligaer ABC Boxing Club (Project no.CB5)– deferred from last meeting for further information. RESOLVED: Members agreed to fund the full cost of a running machine up to £2,000. 2 x Quotes for machines at this price were presented to the members.

(iii) Shappelles Moana Dance Formation. Mrs Quarry had not attended the meeting. Deferred until next meeting. Cllr H Pritchard to make contact with her.

(iv) Rhymney Valley Music Application no.14

RESOLVED: Members agreed to grant £350.

(v) Rhymney Valley & Caerphilly School District Application no.15

RESOLVED: Members agreed that this should be a project and funding agreed for £1400 to cover the cost of the new kits for the team.

(vi) Urdd 2026 Fund For All Appeal Application no.16

RESOLVED: Members agreed to grant £460.

(vii) Cerebral Palsy Cymru Application no.17

RESOLVED: Members agreed to grant £250.

Cllrs Judith Pritchard, Donna Cushing and Gaynor Bruford declared an interest in the next item and subsequently left the chamber thus playing no part in the ensuing discussions.

(viii) Cefn Hengoed Youth Centre Application no.18

RESOLVED: Members agreed to grant £1,600 to the centre.

Cllrs Judith Pritchard, Donna Cushing and Gaynor Bruford returned to the meeting.

(ix) Melody Makers (Project no.CB6)

RESOLVED: Members agreed to fund £1250 towards the cost of the trip as a one-off payment.

(x) Children's Party at Gelligaer Community Centre (Project no.CB7)

RESOLVED: Members agreed to fund £250 towards the cost of a party for the children of the village.

(xi) Children's Party at Penybrynn Village Hall (Project no.CB7)

RESOLVED: Members agreed to fund £250 towards the cost of a party for the children of the village.

128. Eco Officer Update

(i) Eco Officer Monthly Report – received and noted.

(ii) New project proposals:

RESOLVED: Funding of £704 for the garden at Waun Rhydd OAP Complex was agreed by the members.

129. Projects 2025/26

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

(ii) Surplus Selection Boxes – these have all been handed out to deserving causes by the members.

(iii) New Projects added to the Project Summary (discussed under Financial Assistance Minute no. 127 above)

Gelligaer ABC Boxing Club Project no. CB5 (£2,000)

Melody Makers - Project no. CB6 (£1,600)

Children's Christmas Party – Project no. CB7 (£250 each) to Gelligaer Community Centre and Penybrynn Village Hall.

130. Caerphilly County Borough Council Event Dates 2026

The Members discussed proposed dates (Christmas Fayre is proposed for the earlier date: 7th November) and agreed that they were not happy with having such an early date for the Christmas Fayre. The Community Council will need to contact CCBC to discuss moving the Christmas Fayre to a suitable date nearer to Christmas as this date is too early.

131. Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP)

Duty 6, under the Environment (Wales) Act 2016, places a legal responsibility on all public authorities in Wales to maintain and enhance biodiversity and promote the resilience of ecosystems in the exercise of their functions. This means we must consider biodiversity in decision making, land management, procurement and community engagement. A report must be published by December 2025, to comply with this duty outlining the actions taken.

ADDENDUM - A report has been prepared by KWT and will be published on our website.

132. Dust Monitor - Deferred.

Cllr H Pritchard to speak with Mark Roberts and confirm where the dust monitor currently is kept.

133. Training for 2025/26

Members received and noted:

- (i) Training Modules and Dates from OVW
- (ii) Free Digital Training & Guidance
- (iii) Training Plan

134. Cleaners Contract/Agreement - deferred

(i) Members received and discussed renewed contract. A council resolution is required to approve the new contract/agreement for the next three years. Cllr McCarthy agreed to investigate other providers in the area. Other members were encouraged to forward names of interested providers also.

135. Planning Applications

(i) **Case Ref. 25/0777/COU** Site Area: 213m² Location: 36 Penallta Road Ystrad Mynach Hengoed CF82 7AN (UPRN 000043019748) Proposal: Change the use of disused office into 5 bed HMO.

RESOLVED: Members objected to this proposal on the grounds that there is insufficient parking at the site and that there is no provision for storage of refuse bins.

Cllr J Pritchard will draft an objection to this application and forward to CCBC Planning Dept.

(ii) **Case Ref. 25/0779/OUT** Site Area: 386m² Land Within Curtilage 33 Downey Grove Penpedairheol Hengoed CF82 8LE (UPRN 000043043024) Proposal: Erect a one-bedroom house.

RESOLVED: No objection.

(iii) **Case Ref. 25/0782/CLPU** Site Area: 604m² Location: 161 Gelligaer Road Cefn Hengoed Hengoed CF82 7HH (UPRN 000043029116) Proposal: Obtain a Lawful Development Certificate for proposed construction of a new side and rear extension. RESOLVED. No objection.

(iv) **Case Ref. 25/0796/HH** Site Area: 445m² Location: 17 Tai'r Heol Penpedairheol Hengoed CF82 8DL (UPRN 000043012360)

Proposal: Demolish single storey section and erect two storey extension, small rear extension and associated works.

RESOLVED: Cllr J Pritchard has already raised an objection to this application on a number of grounds and will draft an objection on behalf of GCC and submit to CCBC Planning Dept.

(v) **Case Ref. 25/0791/HH** Site Area: 323m Location: 4, Acacia Ave. Hengoed CF82 7JR (UPRN 000043020390)

Proposal: Erect front porch.

RESOLVED: No objection

136. Next meeting Date – Ordinary Council Meeting on Wednesday 28th January 2026 at 7pm was noted.

Meeting closed at 8.50 pm

Signed: _____ Chair Date: 28th January 2026.