

CYNGOR CYMUNED GELLIGAER ~ GELLIGAER COMMUNITY COUNCIL

**Minutes of the ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING held on
Wednesday 29th April 2026 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:

Cllr C Moss (Chair), Cllr W Matthews (Vice Chair), Cllr R Bevan, Cllr T Parry*, Cllr H Pritchard, Cllr J Pritchard, Cllr A Wood, Cllr A Angel, Cllr M James, Cllr G Bruford

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

In Attendance: PCSO McKeon and PC George of Gwent Police

* denotes remote attendance.

Chair Cllr Catrin Moss welcomed everyone to the meeting.

209. Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr A McCarthy.

210. 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 A Angel declared an interest in item 218 and the Planning items on the agenda Minute 231.

211. Public Participation

No members of the public attended the meeting.

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

The police update provided during the meeting covered recent crime statistics, ongoing community concerns, specific law enforcement operations, and community engagement activities:

- (i) **Crime Statistics**
- (ii) **Antisocial Behavior (ASB) & Community Concerns**
- (iii) **Winding Wheel:** There is a significant problem with youths accessing a building to throw stones, which recently hit a person and were also thrown into a neighbouring school, causing deep concern for the headteacher. Police are patrolling the area, have met with the building owner, have agreed to speak to the school and have requested making the site more difficult for youths to enter.
- (iv) **E-scooters:** E-scooters are a major safety concern, with young teenagers (around 12 to 13 years old) reportedly riding recklessly without helmets. Police seize illegal e-scooters when they can catch

- them and plan to visit parents, as many adults are unaware the scooters are illegal. A council member provided a specific residential address to the police where some of these underage riders live.
- (v) **Town Centre Youths:** Police have instituted daily evening patrols in the town centre to handle ASB.
 - (vi) **Targeted Police Operations**
 - (vii) **Road Safety (March 10):** A traffic operation focused on speeding and seatbelts, resulting in five people being reported for traffic offenses and one vehicle being recovered for lacking insurance.
 - (viii) **Drug Arrests:** During the traffic operation, the Roads Policing and Special Operations (RPSO) team arrested a subject found in possession of heroin. In an even larger success, the Crime Action Team (CAT) was searching for two e-scooter riders using a drone and instead stumbled upon a suspect carrying over a kilo of cocaine and £30,000 in cash, who was subsequently remanded into custody.
 - (ix) **Community Engagement** Local PCSOs have remained active in the community.
 - (x) **Reporting Community Intelligence.** The officer advised on the best ways for the public to report intelligence such as drug dealing. Residents can attend Police surgeries or use Facebook Messenger app.
 - (xi) **Car Boot Sale Disruption.** There was a lengthy discussion about the car boot sale on the New Road in Tiryberth and the disruption that it caused the previous Sunday.

The officers were thanked for their attendance at the meeting.

213. Chair's Announcements

- (i) A thank you to the outgoing Clerk, Ceri Mortimer, was recorded and noted by the members.
- (ii) Cllr Moss has made a financial contribution from the Chair's Fund to support the Shapelles Dance Group that Mrs Quarry has spoken about at the previous meeting.
- (iii) The Spring Fayre has taken place since the last meeting and was a success.

214. Minutes

- (i) **The Minutes of the ORDINARY COUNCIL meeting held on 18th March 2026** were received, approved and signed as an accurate record.
- (ii) **The CONFIDENTIAL ITEM Minuted of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 18th March 2026** was received, approved and signed as an accurate record.

215. Matters Arising

Cllr H Pritchard to update the record of grants to reflect the changes made in the minutes.

216. Finance:

(i) **Balance of Funds**

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

(ii) **Reconciliation**

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

(iii) **Bank Statements**

Bank Statements numbers 130, 24 were received, approved and signed as an accurate record.

(iv) **Chair's Civic Allowance**

The Chair's Civic expenditure report was deferred.

217. Interim Audit for 2025/26.

The members agreed the process and appointments. The members agreed the proposal for outgoing clerk to complete and submit the audit at a cost of the equivalent of 3 days pay.

218. Vacancy in Hengoed Ward

Members were read the transcripts of the two applications received for the position by the Chair. Candidates were known only as Candidate A and B at this point. Members discussed the nominations and voted on them with Candidate B being the successful candidate. Cllr H Pritchard to notify the candidates by phone.

219. Financial Assistance/Grants 2026/27

(i) **Gelligaer Local History Appreciation Society Application no. 3**

RESOLVED: Members agreed to grant £250.

(ii) **Ystrad Mynach Boys and Girls Club Application no. 4**

RESOLVED: Members agreed to grant £1600.

(iii) **Vicarage Allotment Association Application no.5**

RESOLVED: Members agreed to grant £350.

220. Business Items deferred from the Annual Meeting:

CCBC Community Centre Management Committees.

Penybryn Village Hall – a meeting will be arranged by Cllr Matthews for May 2026.

221. Eco Officer Update

(i) **Wild Flower Patches.** A number of these have been mown by CCBC teams. Cllr J Pritchard has raised a complaint with CCBC about this and will follow it up with Andy King, who carried out the work.

(ii) **Project update.** Deferred.

222. Projects 2026/27

- (i) **Project Summary 2026/27** – received and noted.
- (ii) **School Dog fouling project.** Cllr T Parry gave an update on this.
- (iii) **Golden phone box Ystrad Mynach.** Cllr Wood suggested approaching three schools in Ystrad Mynach town centre to create floral or biodiversity-themed artwork to decorate the three available sides of the phone box. The students' artwork will be scanned at 300 DPI and printed onto foam board panels that will be stuck inside the box. A local printing company in Caerphilly provided a quote of just under £150 to print all the foam panels, which includes a plain colour for the smaller side panels so people cannot see inside the box. This was significantly cheaper than an online quote of £1,300. The members approved the £150 quote for the artworks and the £111.43 quote for the new polycarbonate window panels. The artwork has been requested from the schools by June 7th, ahead of a judging period in mid-July.
- (iv) **Bike bells.** This was deferred until the next meeting to allow more time for costings for bicycle bells to be obtained.
- (v) **Cascade Methodist Church** – The church is requesting a grant towards the cost of a new kitchen. The overall cost in the original quote was reported to the committee £8,300, but a lower quote of £7,600 has since been submitted. The Church is also requesting a Welsh Church Fund grant of £5,000. The members had previously agreed to fund the difference between the Welsh Church Fund grant and the quote of £8,300, a total of £3,300. It was agreed to still grant £3,300 and the balance would go towards the cost of the new flooring and decoration in the kitchen.

223. Dust Monitor - Deferred.

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

224. Training for 2026/27

Members received and noted:

- (i) Training Modules and Dates from OVW.
- (ii) Training Plan.

225. Wales in Bloom

Members agreed to funding for planting in Gelligaer and Ystrad Mynach at the same rate as last year.

226. Clerk Appointment Update.

Cllr Moss informed the members that the process for appointing was ongoing.

227. Celebration Event 16th May 2026

The event scheduled for the 16th of May is the community council's upcoming presentation lunch. During the meeting, the members discussed several logistical details and awards for this event:

Event Logistics

- (i) **Food & Seating:** The council is waiting for menu confirmation from Rolling Jacks, specifically regarding the two meat options, dessert, and whether coffee will be provided. Cllr Parry volunteered to handle the table plans and create name cards detailing each guest's meal choice.
- (ii) **Entertainment:** Contact will be made with Steve Derby from Hope Church regarding entertainment.
- (iii) **Attendance:** Numbers and meal choices are to be confirmed with Cllr Parry asap.

Awards and Gifts

- (i) **Trophies:** The council decided to present the award winners with small glass trophies or mementos that they can keep, rather than giving them gift cards, as some gift cards expire after six months or a year.
- (ii) **Award Recipients:** The council agreed on a maximum of four awards to be handed out at the event. The confirmed recipients are Yvonne Thomas for her extensive community work, Steve Derby for his broad support and volunteering, and a "young volunteer" award for two local sisters who helped with the Wales in Bloom project.
- (iii) **Other Gifts:** The council agreed to gift a bottle of whiskey to Roger Biddle as a thank-you for stepping in to play Santa.

228. Western Electrical

Five year service quote received. This was agreed by members.

229. Utility Aid

Received communication from Utility Aid. Deferred.

230. Any Other Business

- (i) **Members' Interest Declarations:** The members were reminded that members' interest declarations needed to be completed and filed before Ceri takes the audit paperwork in at the end of May. Missing this deadline could result in the council being penalized in the audit. Several members had not yet filled out their forms, so arrangements were made to nudge them and distribute the remaining blank forms.
- (ii) **Council Photographs:** Cllr James suggested taking formal photographs of the chair and the current sitting members to display in the chamber. While the council agreed it was a good idea, they decided to defer the matter and add it to the agenda for the next meeting because they currently have too much going on.
- (iii) **Committee Volunteers:** A brief call was put out for volunteers to sit on the Community and Town Council Liaison Committee and the CCBC Joint Committee. When no one volunteered, the council agreed to defer the appointments to the upcoming Annual General Meeting (AGM).

231. Planning Applications

- (i) **Case Ref. 26/0248/HH 319729** Site Area: 340m² Location: 33 Valley View Cefn Hengoed Hengoed CF82 7JG (UPRN 000043090625) Proposal: Erect a first and second floor rear extension.
Resolved: Community Council to raise an objection. (Cllr H Pritchard to draft and submit).
- (ii) **Case Ref. 26/0257/ADV** Site Area: 248m² Location: Greggs 15 Bedwlwyn Road Ystrad Mynach Hengoed CF82 7WS (UPRN 000043063538) Proposal: Erect non illuminated free standing A board sign.
Resolved: Community Council to submit an objection on grounds of safety (Cllr C Moss to draft and submit).
- (iii) **Case Ref. 26/0270/HH** Site Area: 335m² Location: 5 Nant-y-ffyddlon Penpedairheol Hengoed CF82 8DQ (UPRN 000043012727) Proposal: Erect two storey side extension combined with attic conversion.
Resolved: No objection.
- (iv) **Case Ref. 26/0206/HH** Site Area: 125m² 38 Station Road Ystrad Mynach Hengoed CF82 7AT (UPRN 000043018799) Proposal: Demolish single storey rear extension, erect two storey rear extension and amend internal layout.
Resolved: No objection.
- (v) **Case Ref. 26/0179/FULL** Location: Site Area: 480m² Land Within Curtilage Of 44 Brynavon Terrace Hengoed CF82 7NA (UPRN 000043030202) Proposal: Erect 2 No. 2.5 storey semi-detached dwellings.
Cllr T Parry to visit the site and make an assessment.
- (vii) **Case Ref. 26/0223/HH** Site Area: 230m² 6 Cylla Street Penybryn Hengoed CF82 7GE (UPRN 000043011658) Proposal: Erect single storey side extension and detached garage to rear.
Resolved: No objection.

206. Next meeting Date – Ordinary Council Meeting on Wednesday 27th May 2026 at 7pm was noted.

Meeting closed at 9.00 pm

Signed: _____ Chair Date: 27th May 2026.