



**CYNGOR CYMUNED
LLANBRADACH & PWLL-Y-PANT
COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the ORDINARY Council Meeting held on
Monday 8th July 2024, 6.15pm, at Llanbradach Community Centre
in a MULTI-LOCATIONAL format in accordance with the provisions of the
Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021.**

Present

Councillors: V Alexander*, N Cabble (Chair), D Edwards, G Enright*, N Hewer*, B Newton*,
V Noble and A West,

Clerk: C Mortimer

In Attendance: PCSO Wall Gwent Police and Mr W Hallinan, member of the public.

*** denotes remote attendance.**

Chair Cllr Norma Cabble welcomed everyone to the meeting.

53 Apologies – were received from Cllr C Mann due to family commitment.

54 Declarations of Interest

Councillors 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.

There were no declarations of interest.

Chair Cllr Norma Cabble invited PCSO Wall to present the next item

55 Police Update July 2024

Members received and noted the police update:

Crimes logged between 08/06/24-02/07/24

76 calls

Incidents include:

- Missing persons
- Obstruction
- Concern for safety
- Vehicle damage (mobility Scooter)
- Assault
- Violence
- Threats
- Criminal damage

BYPASS / PWLL Y PANT ROUNDABOUT

9 Calls.

BDV (Broken down vehicle).

RTC (road traffic collision)

Debris in road

11 MISSING PERSONS

9 Calls relating to TY Isaf and 2 other

Persons -18 years as per protocol, must be reported as missing by staff at the home.

NOTHING TO NOTE

PCSO Wall was thanked for his update, and he subsequently left the meeting.

Chair Cllr Norma Cabble welcomed Mr Hallinan to address the members.

56 Public Participation

Mr Hallinan spoke about the worsening extent of invasive plants on Colliery Road, the river banks and on private land. He stated that Caerphilly County Borough Council (CCBC) had been informed but nothing had been done.

As this item was not on our agenda, Mr Hallinan was kindly requested to email the issues to the clerk, who in turn will raise it with CCBC, and to place the item on our next agenda when hopefully more information would be available.

Mr Hallinan was thanked for his attendance, and he subsequently left the meeting.

57 Chair's Announcements – there were none.

58 Minutes

Minutes of the ORDINARY COUNCIL meeting held on 10/06/2024 were received, approved and signed as an accurate record.

59 Matters Arising – there were none.

60 Minutes

Minutes of the ORDINARY COUNCIL meeting held on 25/06/2024 were received, approved and signed as an accurate record.

61 Matters Arising – there were none.

62 Finance to 2nd July 2024

(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 158, 253 & 254 were received, approved and signed as an accurate record.

63 Financial Assistance/Grants 2024/25

Cerebral Palsy Cymru

RESOLVED: Council agreed to fund the sum of £100 to Cerebral Palsy Cymru

64 Projects 2024/25

(i) Project summary was received and noted.

- Clerk was requested to obtain quotes from Centregreat and Elsbury for the installation of Christmas lighting.

(ii) Email from H Davies regarding the summer playscheme was received and noted. Clerk had requested further information and costings from Ms Davies, but there were none forthcoming.

(iii) New projects were discussed:

(a) Living Christmas tree – new project

RESOLVED: Members agreed to purchasing and installing a living Christmas tree by the waterfall opposite the Wingfield.

Cllr B Newton to enquire regarding a suitable tree. Clerk to enquire about suitable location and electrical supply.

Cllr B Newton briefly left the meeting and then returned in time to discuss the next item.

- 65 Social Media**
(i) Facebook
RESOLVED: Following much discussion it was agreed that no one person has the authority to remove members from the Facebook group, it must be a collective decision. It was also agreed that only members serving as Chair and Vice Chair will be added to the group for posting community council material alongside the clerk.
- (ii) WhatsApp**
RESOLVED: Members agreed that messages were to stop after 9pm with no comments posted on weekends. Members were also requested to be respectful of one another and to have in person discussions if warranted.
- 66 Training**
Members were encouraged and supported to attend training and noted the following:
- (i) Training overview
 - (ii) Training schedule
- 67 CCBC Enforcement Notice – redacted**
 Notice was received and noted.
- 68 CCBC Consultation on Lewis Girls School**
Consultation period 3rd July - 15th July 2024
 To receive, discuss and comment on the following:
 “Caerphilly County Borough Council has announced plans which could transform secondary education in the Upper Rhymney Valley over the next few years. A special Board of experts have been considering options for the future of single sex education, as well as looking at the impact of surplus places on the current school configuration in the area.
 Caerphilly is the only council area in Wales to still operate single sex comprehensive schools - one at Lewis Girls School in Ystrad Mynach and the other at Lewis School Pengam. The Board agreed to explore ways in which families can be brought together and re-united and avoid the division that some experience when, due to the current arrangement of schools, children from the same family are split apart at age 11.
 Lewis Girls School and Lewis School Pengam share the same catchment areas, with many families having children at both schools. The surplus places at both schools are also a key consideration, with 38.8% surplus places at Lewis Girls and 41.84% at Lewis School Pengam. As a result, the Board has proposed moving away from single sex provision to co-education in the Upper Rhymney Valley. This would involve locating pupils from both sites to Lewis School Pengam, while retaining the Lewis Girls School site to manage the transition over a number of years.
 The proposal will now go through the council’s relevant decision-making process and, if agreed, the matter would then be subject to formal consultation.
 When considering current and projected demographics and the variable quality of the secondary school buildings, the Board felt it would seem appropriate to reduce the number of secondary schools in the Upper Rhymney Valley (Lewis Girls, Lewis School Pengam, Idris Davies School and Heolddu Comprehensive) from four to three and consider the possibility of a new build in this revised configuration.
- Subject to the necessary council agreement and Business Case approval by Welsh Government, the council plans to formally consult on developing a new secondary school on land adjacent to the existing Heolddu School in Bargoed.
 The proposals would also include upgrading the existing Leisure Facilities to serve the school and the surrounding community”.
- “These are an exciting set of proposals which could deliver significant benefits for our pupils and the wider community across the Upper Rhymney Valley,” said Cllr Carol Andrews, CCBC Cabinet Member for Education. “We are still in the early stages and all stakeholders will get the chance to have their say as we move through the decision-making process. We will keep everyone updated over the coming months as we take these ambitious proposals forward.”

Lewis Girls School - Oakfield St, Ystrad Mynach, Hengoed CF82 7WW

Lewis School Pengam - Gilfach, Pengam, Bargoed CF81 8LJ

What are we proposing?

The proposal seeks to close Lewis Girls schools and make a regulated alteration to Lewis School Pengam to change from single sex to co-education with effect from September 2025.

The Lewis Girls School site would be retained as a provision to Lewis School Pengam to manage the transition over a number of years. (minimising impact on exam pupils and enabling staff and pupils to be integrated over an appropriate timeframe).

Consultation Stage: In Progress **Anticipated Completion Date:** September 2025

[Latest News\(External link\)](#)

Why are we consulting?

The requirement to undertake Consultation applies to all of our school proposals in respect of maintained schools (as defined by the School Organisation Code 2018). The consultation process represents an opportunity for people to learn about the proposal and make comments that will be recorded and summarised in a Consultation Report which will be considered by our Education and Social Services Scrutiny Committee and the Council's Cabinet.

Stage 1 of the process is designed to gather your views which will be summarised in the Consultation Report.

For these to be included, they must be submitted in writing and submitted within the consultation period dates.

Stage 3 of the process provides that anyone wishing to make objections to a school organisation proposal has the opportunity to do so. To be considered as statutory objections, objections must be made in writing and sent to the Council within the 28-day period.

Ways to give your views

Post: **Lewis Girls School and Lewis School Pengam Proposal**

Sustainable Communities for Learning (21st Century Schools)

Directorate of Education and Corporate Services

Caerphilly County Borough Council

Penallta House, Tredomen Park, Ystrad Mynach, Hengoed CF82 7PG

Email: 21stcenturyschools@caerphilly.gov.uk(External link)

Electronic response: [Via Microsoft Forms\(External link\)](#)

Subject to Cabinet approval, Formal Objections will only be valid at Stage 3 when the Statutory Notice is issued and the Objection period opens.

RESOLVED: Members declined to comment.

69 Correspondence from Mr Ken Skates Welsh Government AS/MS and Cabinet Secretary for North Wales and Transport Re: 20 mph

Members were in support of the 20pmh speed zones but agreed that some roads needed reviewing.

70 Ty'n y Graig Footbridge Update - Transport for Wales (TfW)

There were no further updates.

71 Bluebell Woods Bluebell Woods Update - Llanbradach Area Regeneration Committee (LARC)
It has previously been noted that LARC has received a charitable status.
RESOLVED: Clerk is to determine LARC's new bank account and transfer their monies back to them at the earliest opportunity.

72 Land Lying to the East of Berllanlwyd Llanbradach CF83 3RW – there were no further update until the end of the nesting season and ecological surveys completed.

73 Planning Applications

Members received & discussed the following planning application.
Comments or enquiries must be emailed to planadmin@caerphilly.gov.uk within 21 days of receipt of the email date.

Case Ref: 24/0325/HH

Convert existing detached garage to a garden room annexe and construct a single storey conservatory Oxford House Clos-y-cedr Pwllypant Caerphilly
GRID REFERENCE - 315244(E) 188903(N)
Contact/Cysylltwch â: Lorna Berrow Telephone/Ffon: 01443 864429
E Mail/E Bost: planning@caerphilly.gov.uk
RESOLVED: No objection on the proviso there is no loss of off-street parking.

74 Next meeting Date: ORDINARY Meeting on Monday 16th September 2024, 6.15pm at Llanbradach Community Centre.

Meeting closed at 7.50pm

Signed: _____ **Chair**

Date: 16th September 2024