

CYNGOR CYMUNED LLANBRADACH & PWLL-Y-PANT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

C/o C Mortimer, Clerk to the Council 38 Nant Fawr Road, Cyncoed. Cardiff CF23 6JR Email: mortic1@caerphilly.gov.uk Tel: 07933 725094

NOTICE OF ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING MONDAY 8th JULY 2024, 6.15pm

2nd July 2024

Chair and Members of Llanbradach & Pwllypant Comm (unity Council

Dear Chair/Councillors

You are summoned to attend the **ORDINARY MEETING OF LLANBRADACH & PWLLYPANT COMMUNITY COUNCIL** which will be held on Monday 8th July 2024, 6.15pm at <u>Llanbradach</u> Community Centre.

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 remotely or in person but are kindly requested to contact the clerk prior to the meeting commencing.

The link for the meeting is set out below.

Microsoft Teams Need help?

Join the meeting now

Meeting ID: 368 394 325 619

Passcode: VyLpV8

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

Yours sincerely

Ceri Mortimer

Clerk to the Council

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<u>AGENDA</u>

1 Apologies

2 Declarations of Interest

Councillors 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 to be tabled
- 4 Public Participation
- 5 Chair's Announcements

6 Minutes

To receive and if approved to confirm and sign the **Minutes of the ORDINARY COUNCIL meeting held on 10/06/2024** as an accurate record.

7 Matters Arising

8 Minutes

To receive and if approved to confirm and sign the **Minutes of the ORDINARY COUNCIL meeting held on 25/06/2024** as an accurate record.

9 Matters Arising

10 Finance to 2nd July 2024

(i) Balance of Funds

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

(ii) Reconciliation

To receive, confirm and approve reconciliation document.

(iii) Bank Statements - to receive, confirm and approve bank statement no's 158, 253 & 254

11 Financial Assistance/Grants 2024/25

12 Projects 2024/25

- (i) To receive project summary
- (ii) To receive and discuss email from H Davies
- (iii) To discuss new projects

13 Social Media – to discuss

14 Training- Members are encouraged and supported to attend training To receive:

- (i) Training overview
- (ii) Training schedule

15 CCBC Enforcement Notice – redacted

To receive and note

16 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

<u>Latest News(External link)</u> 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.

- 17 Correspondence from Mr Ken Skates Welsh Government AS/MS and Cabinet Secretary for North Wales and Transport Re: 20 mph
 To receive and discuss
- 18 Ty'n y Graig Footbridge Update Transport for Wales (TfW)
- 19 Bluebell Woods Bluebell Woods Update Llanbradach Area Regeneration Committee (LARC)

It has previously been noted that LARC has received a charitable status.

- 20 Land Lying to the East of Berllanlwyd Llanbradach CF83 3RW update
- 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.
- **Next meeting Date:** ORDINARY Meeting on Monday 16th September 2024, 6.15pm at Llanbradach Community Centre.