# Open Meeting of Community Councils to discuss Teifi / Tywi link

## Including: Pylon, Wind Farm(s) and Sub-station Proposals

25/07/25 - Minutes of meeting

#### Attendees:

## Llanfair Clydogau and Cellan Community Council

Dave Bartholomew (meeting chair)

## **Lianliawddog Community Council**

Andrew Rees Havard Hughes

## **Lampeter Town Council**

Eleri Thomas

## **Pencarreg Community Council**

Jon Williams

## **Apologies**

Simon Aldridge (Llanfair Clydogau and Cellan Community Council) Roger Daniel (Llanfair Clydogau and Cellan Community Council) Nicola Jones (Llanyfaelog Community Council) Angela James (Llanfirangel ar Arth Community Council)

#### Agenda.

No formal agenda for the meeting. Each council individually shared feedback and comments and/or raised questions.

#### Open

Welcome was given to two newly attending councillors; Eleri Thomas (Lampeter TC) and Jon Williams (Pencarreg CC).

#### **Lianliawddog Community Council**

Two weeks ago received an e-mail notification of a second power transmission line by Trydangwyrdd Cymru (Trydangwyrdd Cymru), which is a Welsh Government backed company, to service a windfarm in Brechfa forest which will impact their community (this has also been covered by the media). Currently unaware of proposed route of this proposed pylon line and no maps seem to be available. The line (wooden poles as it is a lower voltage) is understood to terminate at the substation in Llandyfaelog. However, it may; follow the line of the Teifi valley, through Llanllawddog, possibly route south following the line Cothi river to Nantgaredig, or connect to either the proposed Teifi or Tywi valley line

(CPRW already believe that one or either of these lines will, at some point in the future, be upgraded to a 400Kv line).

There are two other similar proposals by Welsh Government in Denbighshire and in the Rhonda valley area.

Trydangwyrdd Cymru appear to wish to engage positively and have accepted an invitation by the community council to meet and discuss the proposals.

## **Lampeter Town Council**

The Town Council have submitted a response to the second consultation held by GreenGen. The statement (with some changes) was based upon the Town councils' previous statement (<u>Statement</u>) At the time of this meeting the council have not received any response back from GreenGen. The question was raised as to when a response might be expected. \*\*

It was noted that although the route does not go through Lampeter itself, it can be seen (and the newly proposed windfarms) from the town and so may affect residents (house prices etc.) and that GreenGen has seen fit to hold the second consultation in the town thus acknowledging perhaps that there will be an impact.

Although noting that GreenGen have amended the route to avoid the school at Parc y Rhos many residents are concerned that more of the line is not being placed underground.

Questions were also raised about where the energy is to be used. Currently it is believed that the energy will not be used in Wales but will go directly to England as Wales already produces much of its own power. However, it was noted that if more large infrastructure projects, such as the planned AI Data Centre in Newport, are approved in the valleys and along the A4, they will require a substantial increase in power, in that event the power may be delivered into Wales.

## **Pencarreg Community Council**

The council and local residents will be affected by the windfarm development Nant Ceiment on Pencarreg Mountain (Nant Ceiment) and they hope that more people in the area will become aware of the developments and their local impact.

All councillors agreed to; support increasing local awareness, engaging with and soliciting views from their communities, and to spreading the word to all affected

councils to join this meeting to continue to share information and views on the developments

#### Llanfair Clydogau and Cellan Community Council

\*\*In response to the question from Lampeter TC regarding when a response maybe expected from Green Gen, it was noted that Llanfair and Cellan CC have written to GreenGen asking this, and in what format we might expect a response. The letter also extends the offer to GreenGen to come and present locally on how the response was received and how they are incorporating it into future development plans.

#### General discussion

It was also noted that the turbines are much taller than those currently placed in the area and, due to their hight, will necessitate red light warning bacons as they will represent a threat to aircraft, and this which will impact the dark skies above Brechfa and related activities such as local Astronomy groups etc.

It was noted that each new windfarm development will need to connect to the grid either by connecting (likely by wooden poles) to the Teifi/Tywi pylon lines, or directly to the substation at Llandyfaelog.

The extent of the pre-assessed area for windfarm developments in Ceredigion and Carmarthenshire is large and is shown on p94 of Future Wales 2040 (<u>Future Wales National Plan 2040</u>) \*

Currently Carmarthenshire County Council is in the process of getting its local plan approved and a series of consultation sessions are planned for the Autumn.

It is anticipated that there will be disruption as local infrastructure is redeveloped and new infrastructure developed, to support the building of the windfarms, this would include new roads to ship the turbine blades, quarries to mine rock for building, site offices and facilities for the workforce etc. Whitelee windfarm in Scotland (Whitelee Windfarm) was given as an example of the building work and disruption which can be to be expected along the route and in surrounding areas. A further consideration is the battery storage which will follow (essential for storing surplus electricity for periods when there is no wind), both the size (can be as large as a football pitch) and the safety concerns regarding the fire risk especially in forested areas and on exposed Moreland.

Finally, it was noted that a company called Thirty 4/7 (<u>Thirty 4/7 - Our Services</u>) have made enquiries about hiring halls locally. Although it is not known why they

are looking to do this, it is noted that they advertise themselves as specialists in planning communications support and are active in both the Renewables and Infrastructure sectors.

- \* Note: subsequent to the meeting the following information is added:
  - Refer to DataMap Wales issued by Welsh Government (<u>Datamap of preassessed areas for wind energy</u>) which shows the pre-assessed areas overlaid onto a more detailed map of Wales. From this it appears that the Nant Ceiment windfarm is likely to be cited outside of any of the the pre-assed areas, lying in a narrow gap between areas 6 and 8.
  - Further information of Whitelee Windfarm is available at <a href="https://committees.parliament.uk/writtenevidence/68083/html/">https://committees.parliament.uk/writtenevidence/68083/html/</a> and <a href="https://www.caruteifi.cymru/docs/Whitelee%20windfarm.pdf">https://www.caruteifi.cymru/docs/Whitelee%20windfarm.pdf</a>

Next Meeting 7.30pm on Tuesday 26th August.