St. Fagans Community Council

NEWSLETTER/*CYLCHLYTHYR – SUMMER/ HAF 2023

CARDIFF REPLACEMENT LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN



Cardiff Council are currently preparing their Replacement Local Development Plan (RLDP). The plan, which will determine how the City develops until 2036, will replace the existing plan which ends in 2026.

The RLDP will detail the number of new residences to be built, where they will be built, the number of new jobs needed etc.

Cardiff Council are currently consulting on the Preferred Strategy - what they believe is required. The consultation runs until **5 October 2023**.

We encourage everyone to respond to the Preferred Strategy. It will affect us all.

To respond you can email ldp@cardiff.gov.uk or visit the Virtual Consultation Room on the Cardiff website and respond online. It is very important that you do this as we need as many responses from residents as possible.

The Community Council will be responding to the consultation, and we want to know what you think. If you are emailing Cardiff Council please copy in clerk@stfaganscc.gov.wales, or send us a separate email, in order that we may consider your views when preparing our response.

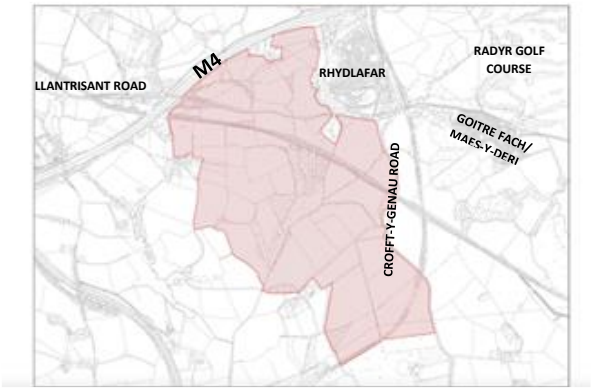
There are two large sites that will particularly affect the residents of the St. Fagans ward. One is "Plas Dwr Uchaf" (to the West of Crofft-y-Genau Road and Rhydlafar) and the other is "Goitre Fawr" (the fields between Rhydlafar and Radyr, opposite Goitre fach/Maes Y Deri). There are also many other new sites along the Llantrisant Road from Rhydlafar to Creigiau (see maps overleaf).

We are still assessing our full response, but our initial thoughts are:

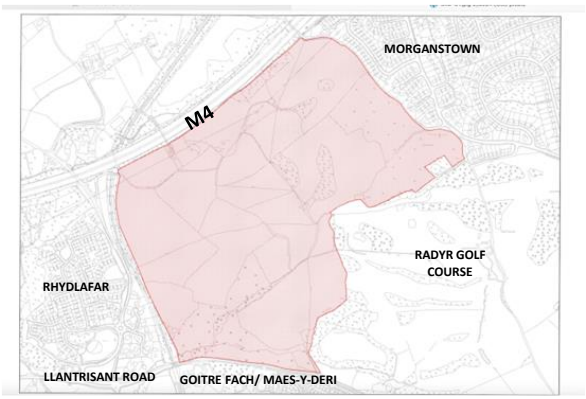
- The RLDP must be realistic and achievable.
  - the current LDP is based on population growth estimates and build rates that have proven to be exaggerated and overly optimistic.
- Cardiff does not need any more greenfield development.
- Focus needs to be on finishing the developments already started, including delivering the essential infrastructure and community facilities.
- Infrastructure must be in place **before** new development starts - transport, sewerage handling, utilities etc.
- New developments must be provided with good public transport or people will use their cars.
- Congestion is increasing; this has an economic and health cost through poor air quality.
- Mature green infrastructure must be protected, for example fields, hedgerows and trees.
- Building on greenfield sites:
  - causes more surface water runoff and increases the risk of flooding
  - allows more carbon dioxide to be released as it is not being absorbed
  - mitigation measures/new plantings take many years to deliver benefits (a recent application spoke of mitigation planting producing "some positive change to land use which will increase by year 15").
- Brownfield development prevents sites from becoming derelict and eyesores.
- Some of the proposed new sites are rich in biodiversity, including the SSSI at Ty Du Moor in the St. Fagans Ward and located in the middle of the Plas Dwr Uchaf Candidate site.

- Many of the "Candidate Sites" in North West Cardiff are located in countryside that the Preferred Strategy has designated as "countryside to be enhanced and protected". These "Candidate sites" should therefore be rejected.

Candidate Site 23: Plas Dwr Uchaf



Candidate Site 61: Goitre Fawr



Further information is available from: **www.cardiffldp.co.uk/consultation**.

Details of community consultation events and drop-in sessions are also available on the above website.

Health and the Old Peoples' Commissioner for Wales (OPCW)

In a recent update from Heléna Herklots, the OPCW, she notes that concerns have been raised about reported pressures on the NHS being a barrier to older people accessing health services.

Further concern has been expressed about the increased use of digital technology being required to access services, leading to digital exclusion.

If you, or someone you know is struggling to access the help they need, the OPCW would like to hear from you. The **Advice and Assistance Team**, are there to help, so please contact by calling: **03442 640 670** or emailing **ask@olderpeople.wales**. The newsletter from the OPCW can be read here: **https://olderpeople.wales/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/230710-July-Newsletter-FINAL.pdf**.

Digital support is available from Adult Learning Cardiff who run workshops, in a variety of locations, to help build digital skills. For further information call: **029 2087 1071**, or if you are able, visit: **https://www.adultlearningcardiff.co.uk/digital-support/#1592818460104-574bcaed-87dc**

Community Involvement

We are keen to hear from members of our community and would remind everyone that there is a chance to meet and discuss issues and ideas with the Community Council on the first Monday of every month (except bank holidays) at St. Fagans Village Hall. The public session commences at 8pm, and if you are a resident of the constituency, you are welcome to attend.

Electric Scooters

Electric scooters are growing in popularity; however, there is a lot of confusion around where they can be used. South Wales Police have recently provided the following information with regards to the use of electric scooters:

- E-scooters can only be used legally on private land, with the landowner's permission
- It is illegal to ride e-scooters on public roads or pavements.

- Parents could be liable to prosecution if their children are found to be breaking the law.
- Officers have the power to seize e-scooters being ridden illegally.

Flooding

St. Fagans CC is fighting the risk of flooding on two main fronts:

1. By questioning all planning applications relating to Plasdwr about how the developers intend handling rainwater runoff.

2. By conducting regular drain inspections to identify blocked drains.

1. Plasdwr

When ground is covered over with tarmacadam or concrete it loses a significant amount of water holding capacity. Removing mature trees has a similar effect due to the way tree roots allow deeper water penetration. As a CC we study the Plasdwr planning applications carefully and challenge any that we feel will have an adverse effect on the village and beyond. Of particular concern are developments feeding surface water into the stream running under Crofft y Gennau Rd, near the cricket club, and water being sent to a stream which ultimately ends up running under the Fairwater Pub car park. Cardiff CC consistently refuses to accept our detailed arguments about the increased flood risk due to climate change weather extremes, but we will continue to put our case on residents' behalf.

2. Drains

At a much more local level we do regular drain inspections in the village to ensure they are working. We have had support from local Cardiff Councillors to get drains cleared - Cardiff does not have enough drain clearing equipment and crews in our opinion. Autumn is the main period of concern with drains blocked by falling leaves and branches.

The best time to do a drain inspection is when it's raining, so if you see someone trying to fill in a form while walking about in pouring rain, it's us working on your behalf!

To date we have concentrated on the village as that has historically been the main problem area. However, if you have concerns about potential flooding in your area, please bring it to our attention by completing the contact from on our website or e-mailing: clerk@stfagans.gov.wales.



Petty Theft

It has been brought to the Community Council's attention that shop lifting and petty theft is on the increase, particularly pick pocketing within the Culverhouse Cross shopping area – please keep your valuables safe!

Reminder

We have received requests from community members to ask residents to keep their dogs on leads whilst walking through housing estates, and especially when close to roads, for everyone's safety.

Litter Picks



Some of the litter collected during the organised litter pick on 12th August.

Many thanks to everyone who works to keep the community tidy by litter picking, tidying grass verges etc. making our community a cleaner, tidier place to live. We appreciate that many of you regularly take action.

For those who would like to get involved, future organised litter picks will continue to be advertised on our noticeboards.

Not Really Goodbye…

Some of you will be aware that Andy Gowman, Clerk to the Council has resigned his position to take up a new role at St. Ninian's School in Cardiff. Andy has served the council well and we are sorry to see him go.

Andy is a valued member of the community, and we will stay in contact with him, but for now, we want to express our thanks for a job very well done.

Contacts

If you would like to contact the community council, you can:

Visit our website: https://stfaganscc.gov.wales/

E-mail the council clerk, Hilary Dyer at: clerk@stfaganscc.gov.wales

Or contact our Community Councillors:

Councillor Frances Lewis (Chair)
Mobile: 07972134658
E-mail: flewis@stfaganscc.gov.wales

Councillor John Griffiths (Vice-Chair)
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Councillor Bethan Devonald
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You can contact your local Cardiff County Councillors as follows:

Councillor Rhys Owain Livesy Dysgwr
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Councillor Andrea Gibson
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Councillor Catriona Reckless-Brown
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***Sylwch y gallwch gael mynediad at y cylchlythyr hwn yn Gymraeg ar ein gwefan/ Please note that you can access this newsletter in Welsh on our website.**