

16<sup>th</sup> August, 2018

**Minutes of the Gilfach Iago Working party meeting held at the Council Offices, High Street, Llandybie on Thursday, 16<sup>th</sup> August, 2018 at 6.00 p.m.**

**Present**

Councillors	P.H. Roberts	Mrs S. E. Thomas	Mrs K.D. L Davies
	R.A. Davies	C.J. Harris	I. RH. Llewelyn

**351.**

**Reinstatement of Public Access at Gilfach Iago**

A letter had been received from Caroline Ferguson, Countryside Access Officer at Carmarthenshire County Council relating to the reinstatement of public access across the former opencast site.

Celtic Energy had submitted a new planning application (E/25759) in 2011, to vary the original planning conditions in relation to reinstatement of the roads. This planning application had recently been approved, as a result of the Community Council removing its objection on the basis that the varied conditions were acceptable given the potential benefits to the community once Celtic Energy have completed the remedial works that the permission requires them to undertake.

The planning permission, as granted, prescribes that the former public roads across the site be reinstated as bridleways. Alongside this, the existing obligations to reinstate all public footpaths through the site under planning permission C6/190B granted in 2001, will reopen a significant and valuable network of recreational public access in the community.

Carmarthenshire County Council must now make an application to the Magistrates courts in order to reclassify the roads as bridleways, and this will include the creation of one new bridleway, and alterations to seven of the routes. A plan had been given to the Councillors for their consideration.

It was **recommended** by the Members present that the Community Council support the reclassification of the roads crossing Gilfach Iago to bridleway status, and to undertake alterations to seven of the routes to better follow the relief and features of the restored land to accommodate recent developments.

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Chair