

## **Request to change the name of Llanaelhaearn Community Council to CC Trefor and Llanaelhaearn.**

### **1. Background**

The parish/community/town council is a lower tier of local government, so it should reflect that population.

The name of the present community Councils comes from the old parochial order (parish council).

In our case the ecclesiastical parish is Llanaelhaearn.

Under the Local Government Act 1972 the 'parochial' system was reorganised into community units. The names were not changed to reflect the local community everywhere, and this is the crux of our request.

### **2. Name change rationale.**

The church of Llanaelhaearn dates back to the sixth century, and the parish of Llanaelhaearn was the name for the local Government of a wide and scattered area from the 16th century onwards.

During the 19th century there was great population growth due to the coming of the granite industry and as a result the creation of the new village of Trefor (1856) in the lower part of the parish area.

Trefor Village is the most populous in the community although the name is not recognised in the name of the new community Council. Here are the statistics :

**1. Electors 2024 :** Trefor 511 Llanaelhaearn 287 (email from an electoral officer)

**2. Dwelling houses 2021 Census :** Trefor 334 Llanaelhaearn 121 (email from data officer)

It should be noted that there are 12 community Councillors, and the arrangement is that two thirds – eight of the twelve – represent the village of Trefor.

### **3. History of the request**

In September 2021 the Community Council received a letter from residents in Trefor asking for fairness for the village of Trefor. The request was to change the name of the Community Council to include the whole area. The application was discussed at a formal Council meeting on 4/10/2021 and it was decided that the application was completely reasonable and unanimously supported by the council. The then County Councillor, Aled Wyn Jones, was asked to take up the matter.

In January 2022 Aled confirmed that a change was possible, but that a proposal needed to be put before the County Council proposing a new name. 'Bro'r Eifl' was the natural choice, but that name had just

been given to the County Ward. After discussion it was decided on 'Trefor a Llanaelhaearn' – in that order to avoid mutation!

In 2024 our current County Councillor, Jina Gwyrfai, picked up the application to change the name again. She was instructed by Gwynedd County Council's Legal Department to carry out a public consultation to establish the views of local residents. We agreed the form of consultation by inviting observations rather than arranging costly, public meetings. At a Community Council meeting in June 2024 she agreed to act and conduct a consultation.

#### **4. Consultation with the public**

The consultation period was 21 days, June 4-25th.

A notice was posted on the the Community Council's website, on local Facebook pages and also in the shops and post office asking for comments on the proposed name change to Cyngor Cymuned Trefor a Llanaelhaearn, comments to be sent by e-mail or letter to the Clerk or the County Councillor.

There was only one written reply – supporting the change.

There have been a number of verbal supportive comments, and a number of 'narrative' comments on 'facebook'.

There has been no objection to the intention.

#### **5. Conclusion**

Although response to the public consultation was disappointing, Community Councillors do not believe there is no purpose in enquiring further or further delay. This document is therefore submitted as our request to change the name of our Community Council as previously stated, to 'Cyngor Cymuned Trefor a Llanaelhaearn.

Yours sincerely

Clerk