



**COWBRIDGE (Ancient Borough)
with LLANBLETHIAN,
TOWN COUNCIL**

**CYNGOR TREF
Y BONTFAEN (Bwrdeistref Hynafol)
A LLANBLEDDIAN**



Town Clerk
Clerc y Dref

A.D. DOBSON

Date
Dyddiad

21st January, 1992

THE OLD GRAMMAR SCHOOL, CHURCH STREET

Many thanks for returning the slip in support of our campaign to save the Old Grammar School.

I have to report that the Education Committee of the County Council has approved the Youth Centre move to the former Magistrates Court, subject to planning permission. I have been informed by the County Council that "the future of the Old Grammar School depends on whether the Youth Centre stays or goes, and that the crux of it all is whether planning permission can be obtained for the change of use of the Magistrates Court".

The County Council has now applied for that change of use to "Youth Centre and Community Education". The County Council themselves have posted a notice at the former Magistrates Court stating that the planning application will affect the character and appearance of the Cowbridge Conservation Area. Policy 29 in the Cowbridge Local Plan states that development in a Key Conservation Area such as this will not be acceptable unless it preserves or enhances the existing character.

You may therefore wish to object to the planning application on this basis, keeping it quite separate from the issue of the Old Grammar School. Your action, nevertheless, could be critical in the fight to save the Old Grammar School building.

The Town Council and the Vale of Glamorgan Borough Council are being consulted, and must respond within 21 days from 7 January 1992. However, the County Council can grant themselves Planning Permission.

If you wish to object, please write by 7 February 1992 to: Mr. Peter Cope, County Planning Officer, County Hall, Atlantic Wharf, Cardiff CF1 5UW, quoting planning application reference number 3252. It would help if you copied your letter to the Planning Department of the Vale of Glamorgan Borough Council and the Welsh Office Planning Division, quoting the same reference.

I have been in touch with John Smith MP, Wayne David MEP, CADW and the newly formed Association of Small Historic Towns and Villages which the Town Council have recently joined.

As you can see from the appended article from last week's Western Mail, I believe the £100,000 to move the Youth Centre would be better spent on making a start on the repairs and maintenance to the Old Grammar School.

I would be most grateful for your continued support at this critical time.

Many thanks -

Cllr. Jane M Hydon - Mayor.

Town Hall, Cowbridge, South Glamorgan CF7 7DD
Telephone: 0446 773385

Neuadd y Dref, Y Bontfaen, De Morgannwg CF7 7DD
Rhif Ffôn 0446 773385

Open to the public: 9.30 a.m. to 1.30 p.m. daily

Yn agored i'r cyhoedd o 9.30 a.m. - 1.30 p.m. bob ddydd

CARDIFF AND VALE EDITION

METRO MAIL

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 15 1992

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Stores coming to edge of town

MORE THAN 350 jobs are promised in the latest addition planned for the Vale Gate development.

The development, if it goes ahead near the HTV studios at Culverhouse Cross, would bring four major high street names in a non-food retail complex of 82,000sq ft in size.

Also planned are 20,000sq ft of offices.

Atlantic Property Development who have lodged an application with Vale of Glamorgan Borough Council, are also hoping that a garden centre, a fast food restaurant, car parking and landscaping could be built at the growing out-of-town site.

And if planners give the go-ahead, it will be good news for the unemployed in the west of Cardiff with 350 full-time jobs in the pipeline.

Already situated at the prime site is a hotel and Tesco superstore, with Marks and Spencer due to open shortly.

Managing director of Atlantic Property Development, Mr David Cole, said that tenants are available for all the retail units and development could start as soon as possible should approval be given.

"Demand was such that we could have sold to twice as many tenants," he added.

"It is a plan which will add to the comprehensive development of the Vale Gate site."

Benefits of of barrage 'need to be

Town council fights youth centre move

By SIMON PERRY

COWBRIDGE TOWN Council is to fight the decision of the county council education committee to spend £100,000 to move the local youth centre to the former Magistrates' Court.

The move — from the beautiful Old Grammar School — was given the go-ahead at a meeting of South Glamorgan County Council's education committee yesterday.

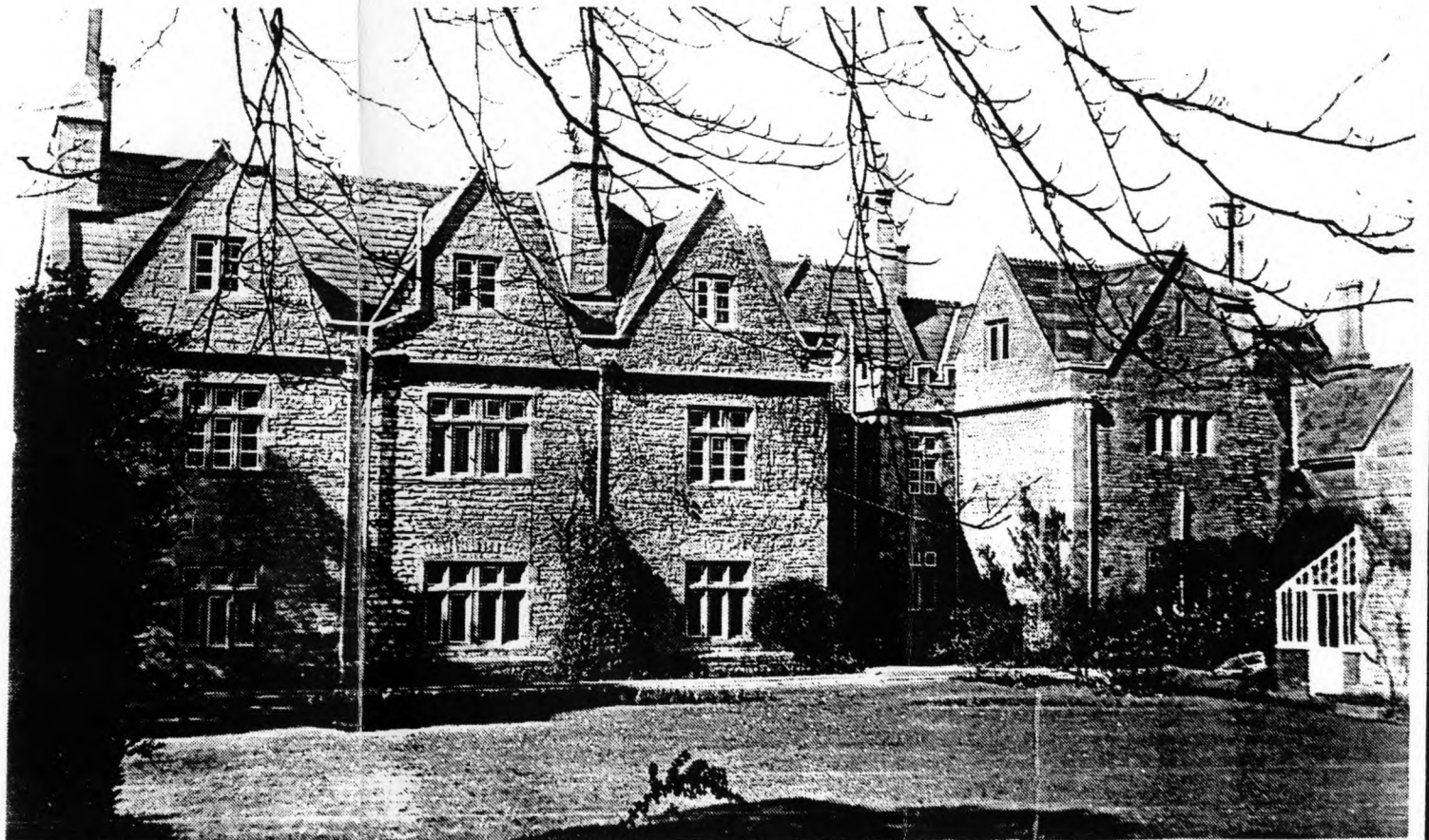
The go-ahead was given despite requests from the Mayor of Cowbridge and the local member of the county council for a decision to be deferred.

The school — a Grade II listed building — is seen as surplus to requirements now that the youth centre is moving to the former Magistrates' Court.

The mayor of the town council, Mrs Jane Hydon, said that the money set aside for the move could be better spent on renovating the Old Cowbridge Grammar School and using the Magistrates' Court building as a day care centre for the elderly.

The member for Cowbridge, Gwyn Thomas, also asked the education committee to defer making a decision until further consideration had been made, but his request was rejected.

The plan has upset local people who say the court build-



PERILOUS STATE: The Old Cowbridge Grammar School is at the centre of the youth centre dispute.

ing is in an area of prime residential property. They have also asked for the plan to be reconsidered and have suggested that the old court should be used as a centre for the elderly.

Mrs Hydon said, "The £100,000 would be much better spent on long overdue maintenance of the Old Grammar School.

"The magistrates court is

much better suited as a day care centre for the elderly and it is quite outrageous that decisions on the future and best use of these buildings should be taken in isolation and without full consultation with the local community."

The first and second floors of the Old Grammar School, which was declared to be in good condition by Cadw in 1979, are now

considered unsafe.

The town council has written letters to the chief executive of South Glamorgan demanding answers to a number of what they call "key questions":

● In particular they want to know how the grade II listed building fell into disrepair;

● And they also want to know why the local community was

not consulted before the original proposal for the youth club to be moved temporarily to the Magistrates' Court, at a cost of £35,000, was overtaken by the decision to make the move a permanent one costing £100,000.

South Glamorgan County Council will now need planning permission for the former Magistrates Court to be used as a youth centre.