



# Merthyr Tydfil Heritage Trust

'Heritage Park' should be retained in Ffos y Fran restoration

Ref: htlt370-04-24

Llyr Gruffydd MS  
Climate Change, Environment, and Infrastructure Committee  
Senedd Cymru  
SeneddClimate@senedd.wales

Wednesday, 24 April 2024

## **Ffos y Fran opencast aftercare – heritage, public access and wildlife concerns**

Dear Llyr Gruffydd,

Merthyr Tydfil Heritage Trust shares the concerns that have been raised in submissions to the Climate Change, Environment and Infrastructure Committee about the devastation of East Merthyr through 17 years of opencast mining operations.

We are aware that the committee is this morning discussing what must now be accepted as the total failure of the Ffos y Fran Land Reclamation scheme.

However we would like to draw attention to important features of the 2007 Ffos y Fran Restoration Strategy<sup>1</sup> adopted as a condition of planning approval. These include provision for:

- the preservation of heritage sites
- the conservation of wildlife and
- the re-instatement of a network of public rights of way and footpaths.

Can we ask that the committee calls for the Welsh Government to intervene to make sure Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council has the best possible support and advice immediately? This so that any revision of the Restoration Strategy does not fail the present and future generations of our town.

Kind regards,

*Rob Thomson*

Projects Officer

Merthyr Tydfil Heritage Trust

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<sup>1</sup>Restoration-Strategy-Consented-Scheme-Revised-Dates-22.05.2007.pdf (coalaction.org.uk)