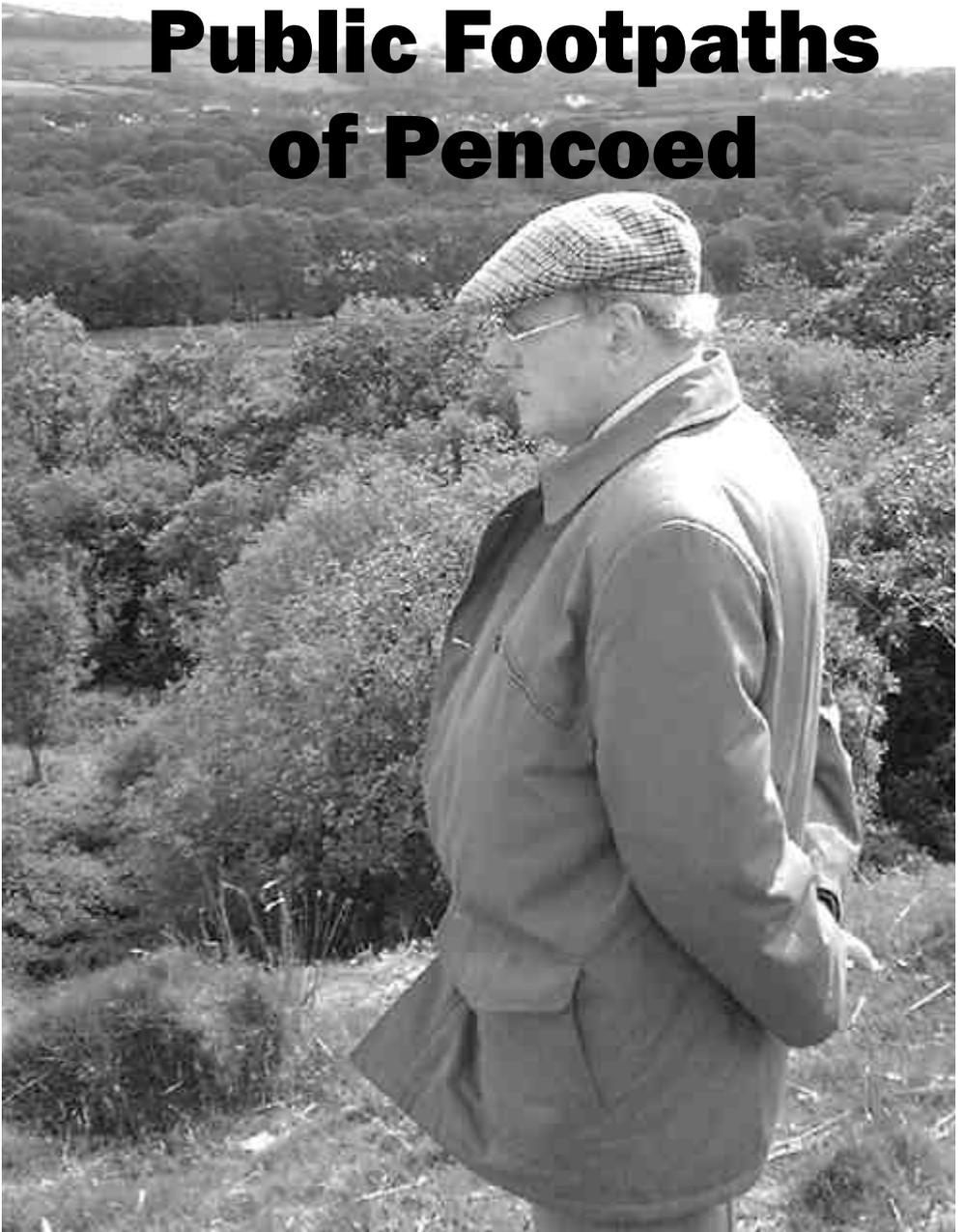


# **The Public Footpaths of Pencoed**



Designed and written by Cllr. Derek Gregory

Although the author has used the Footpath Definitive to write this booklet, neither he nor the Town Council can guarantee the accuracy of the maps and descriptions in this booklet.



## **Introduction**

A number of years ago, I wrote a number of articles on the footpath system in Pencoed for the "Diary" and later for the "Pencoed Hyphen". I have always threatened to put the footpath maps and descriptions into booklet form and this is what I have finally done - even though it maybe a restricted edition.

Firstly, what is a public footpath. As the law stands, public rights of way were set out in what is called the public footpaths definitive in 1947. The definitive came in two parts a map and perhaps more importantly a written description of where paths started, what route they took and where they ended. The footpath definitive is still in use to day but has been subject to alteration, ammendment and extinguishing orders over the years. Pencoed in particular has suffered more than most areas and today's footpath system, particularly in the south of the Parish, bears little resemblance to the system that was set out in 1947. This is due to a number of factors particularly the construction of housing, the Sony plant and the M4 Motorway.

One thing the walker should always keep in mind is that most footpaths actually pass over private land and that you have no right to wander off the footpath - which is usually a defined width normally of two feet. On the other hand, the landowner would be acting illegally if he were to obstruct a person's right of way on a public footpath. It is also up to the landowner to maintain the right of way including gates and stiles, although a lot of maintenance is carried out by the Town Council as agents of the County Borough Council.

Cllr. Derek Gregory.

**Please Remember the Country Code**

# The Footpath System in the Community of Pencoed

The notes in this booklet are set out as follows:-

[1] The Footpath number which is unique to the Pencoed area. Where footpaths cross parish boundaries they are likely to be given a different number, which would be unique to that parish.

[2] The length of the footpath given in metres. This is the figure given in 1971. Where of course a footpath has been diverted, amended or extinguished this figure would be different today.

[3] The width of the footpath in metres. This is usually 0.6 metres or 2 feet.

[4] The number of the map (1 to 4) that you'll find the footpath on. It may be on more than one map if it is a long footpath or it is in an area duplicated on another map.

[5] The definitive statement on each footpath. That is, a description in words of each footpath shown on the definitive map (OS map). These descriptions were first given in 1947 the descriptions in this book (in italics) are from the amendment of 1971.

[6] Author's notes on the situation today as far as is known.

## **Footpath Number 1 Length 366mtrs width 0.6mtrs (Map 3)**

*Commences on the Pencoed-Coychurch road near 'Goodwins House' and proceeds southwards across field via stiles, wicket gate to the county road (parish boundary).*

**Notes:** The path now starts on the A473 and finishes on Factory Lane near the sewage works.

## **Footpath Number 3 Length 384mtrs width 0.6mtrs (Map 3)**

*Commences on the Pencoed-Coychurch road near Bloomfield Cottages and proceeds south-east through fields via stiles. Continues over footbridge spanning River Ewenny to the Parish boundary.*

**Notes:** Since the development of Bocam Park this footpath has been diverted along the pavement system.

**Footpath Number 4 Length 201mtrs width 0.6mtrs (Map 3)**

*Commences on the Pencoed - Coychurch road near Pontycryff and proceeds north-west across fields to the Parish boundary.*

**Note:** This footpath crosses over the railway line and is very dangerous particularly with the modern high speed trains. After crossing the tracks it joins Footpath number 13 in Coychurch Lower.



**Footpath Number 5 Length 1097mtrs width 0.6mtrs (Map 3)**

*Commences on the County road in Hendre Village north of Ty-Isaf and proceeds south-east across fields via fieldgates and stile. Continues through Duffryn farmyard into Duffryn Lane, and Manor Lane, to the stone stile on the Hendre road adjoining Caer-Ilysi Farm.*

**Note:** This footpath is now in two sections. After crossing the fields from Hendre it meets the M4 Motorway opposite Ty-Bryn Terrace and follows the motorway to the underpass where it joins Footpaths 12 and 13. The section from near Caer-Ilysi follows the green lane until it emerges onto the new housing estate. From the highest point of this path there is a wonderful view of the communities of Pencoed, Brynna and Llanharan.

**Footpath Number 6 Length 594mtrs width 0.6mtrs (Map 3)**

*Commences at a stile on the County road in Hendre village and proceeds*

*eastwards through fields to Tre-Bryn Farm. Continues southwards through fields to the junction with footpath 5.*

**Note:** Footpath 6 has been extinguished due to the construction of the motorway.

**Footpath Number 7 Length 823mtrs width 0.6mtrs (Map 3)**

*Commences at Duffryn Farm (junction with footpath 5) and proceeds southwards over an old lane and across fields to the Parish boundary.*

**Note:** Footpath 7 now commencing on Footpath 5 on the edge of the motorway opposite Duffryn Farm. After crossing a couple of fields it proceeds by way of an old lane through Deri Cochion woods which are well worth a visit in spring when the bluebells emerge.

**Footpath Number 8 Length 2012mtrs width 0.6mtrs (Map 3,4)**

*Commences on the County road east of 'The Verlands' and proceeds south-west along bank of river to new housing estate. Path continues to Coychurch Road (A.473) via Heol Croesty Continues on the opposite side of the road past 'The Mardy', through a wicket gate and under the railway embankment to the footbridge spanning Nant-Heol-y-Geifr. Turns north from the footbridge and crossing fields via stiles and wicket gates, terminates on the Hendre road east of Caer Llysi.*

**Note:** Footpath 8 is now in two sections the centre section having been extinguished due to construction of the motorway. The first section runs from Hendre Road down the old lane to Ardwyn House (presently behind the new housing estate) and out onto the Woodland Avenue Playing Fields where it skirts the northern boundary and joins Footpaths 13 and 10. The final section commences on the Croesty Estate, crossing the school playing fields (following the river bank and emerges onto Felindre Road just east of the Rugby Club.

**Footpath Number 9 Length 46mtrs width 0.6mtrs (Map 3)**

*Branch path connecting footpaths 8 and 10.*

**Note:** Footpath 9 no longer exists since Footpath 8 is now directly joined to Footpath 10.

**Footpath Number 10 Length 347mtrs width 0.6mtrs (Map 3,4)**

*Commences on Coychurch Road and proceeds westwards under railway embankment and across Heol-y-Geifr to the footbridge spanning Nant-y-Geifr. Continues northwards through fields via stile through Maesywen farmyard to the wicket gate on the Hendre Road south of Maesyderi.*

**Note:** The latter part of this footpath from the footbridge by the Woodland Avenue Playing Fields is now part of the pavement system.

**Footpath Number 11 Length 640mtrs width 0.6mtrs (Map 3,4)**

*Commences on the Coychurch road adjoining Brynteg; proceeds eastwards across fields, over a footbridge and a stile to the footbridge on the Parish boundary west of Pant Ruthin Fawr.*

**Note:** Since the construction of the M4 Motorway, Footpath 11 has been adjusted to follow the motorway to a footbridge over the Ewnni Fawr where it turns south emerges onto the A473, which it crosses and leaves the Parish boundary by way of a footbridge over the Ewenni Fach.

**Footpath Number 12 Length 1280mtrs width 0.6mtrs (Map 3)**

*Commences on the Coychurch road north of Brynteg; proceeds westwards across fields excluding that part under the railway bridge to the old lime kilns.*



*Continues northwards alongside the edge of Coed-y-Pebyll to the junction with footpath 8.*

**Note:** This footpath now ends at the underpass on the M4 Motorway by the Woodland Avenue Playing Fields where it joins Footpaths 5 and 13.

**Footpath Number 13 Length 265mtrs width 0.6mtrs (Map 3)**

*Commences on footpath 12 at the northern end of Coed-y-Pebyll and proceeds north-east to the junction of footpaths 8 and 9.*

**Note:** This footpath now starts on the footbridge at the entrance to the

Woodland Avenue Playing Fields and follows the eastern and southern boundary of the fields to join Footpath 12 at the motorway underpass.

**Footpath Number 14 Length 914mtrs width 0.6mtrs (Map 4)**

*Commences on the County road (Heol Porth Mawr) west of Pont Melin Gross and proceeds south-east through fields to Bryn Cwthyn lane. Continues down the lane into field, skirting Bryn-Cwthyn Farm to the footbridge on the Parish boundary west of Panruthin-fawr.*

**Note:** Footpath 14 was extinguished when the Sony Plant was constructed. However, a footpath commencing on the A473 just north of the new call centre across the area between the call centre and the Sony Plant and leaving the Parish boundary on a footbridge over the Ewenni Fach by Panruthin Farm, has been designated Footpath 14.

**Footpath Number 16 Length 274mtrs width 0.6mtrs (Map 4)**

*Commences from The Green, Pencoed and proceeds south-east following bank of Ewenny River. Turn west at Melin-Groes (junction with footpath 17) and continues to estate road.*

**Note:** Now finishes on the A473 opposite Footpath 17..

**Footpath Number 17 Length 366mtrs width 0.6mtrs (Map 4)**

*Commences on footpath 18 and proceeds westwards across fields and Melin-Groes and junction with footpath 16.*

**Note:** Now finishes on the A473 opposite Footpath 16..

**Footpath Number 18 Length 823mtrs width 0.6mtrs (Map 4,2)**

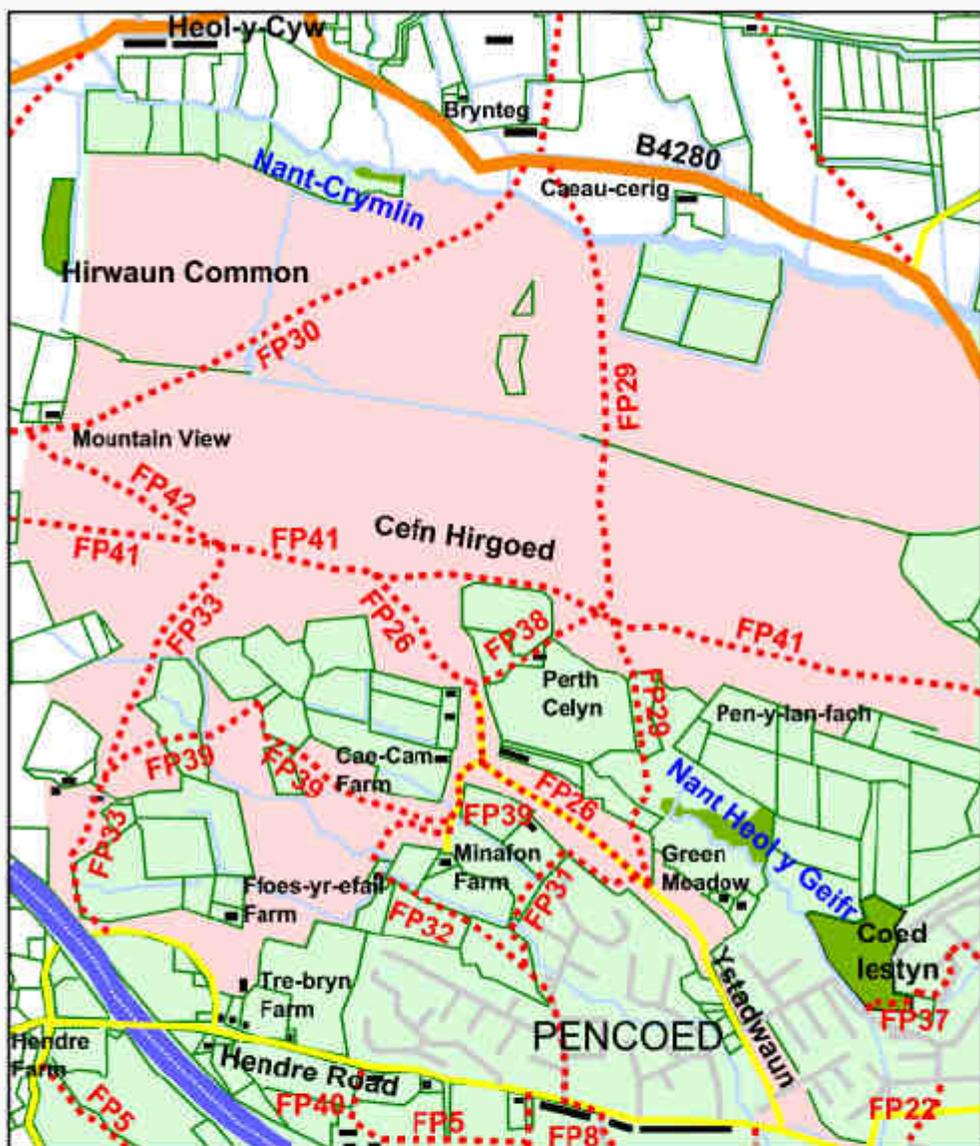
*Commences on Velindre road east of Maes-y-felin Cottages and proceeds northwards through fields and Tregoes Park to the Llanharan road.*

**Note:** Maes-y-felin Cottages no longer exist. The footpath commences on Felindre Road opposite the Pencoed Cemetery. The latter part of the footpath has also been diverted to skirt buildings of Pencoed College (formerly Tregoes House). The path crosses the now dry bed of the Melin Groes millstream before it emerges on to the Llanharan Road.

**Footpath Number 19 Length 1052mtrs width 0.6mtrs (Map 4,2)**

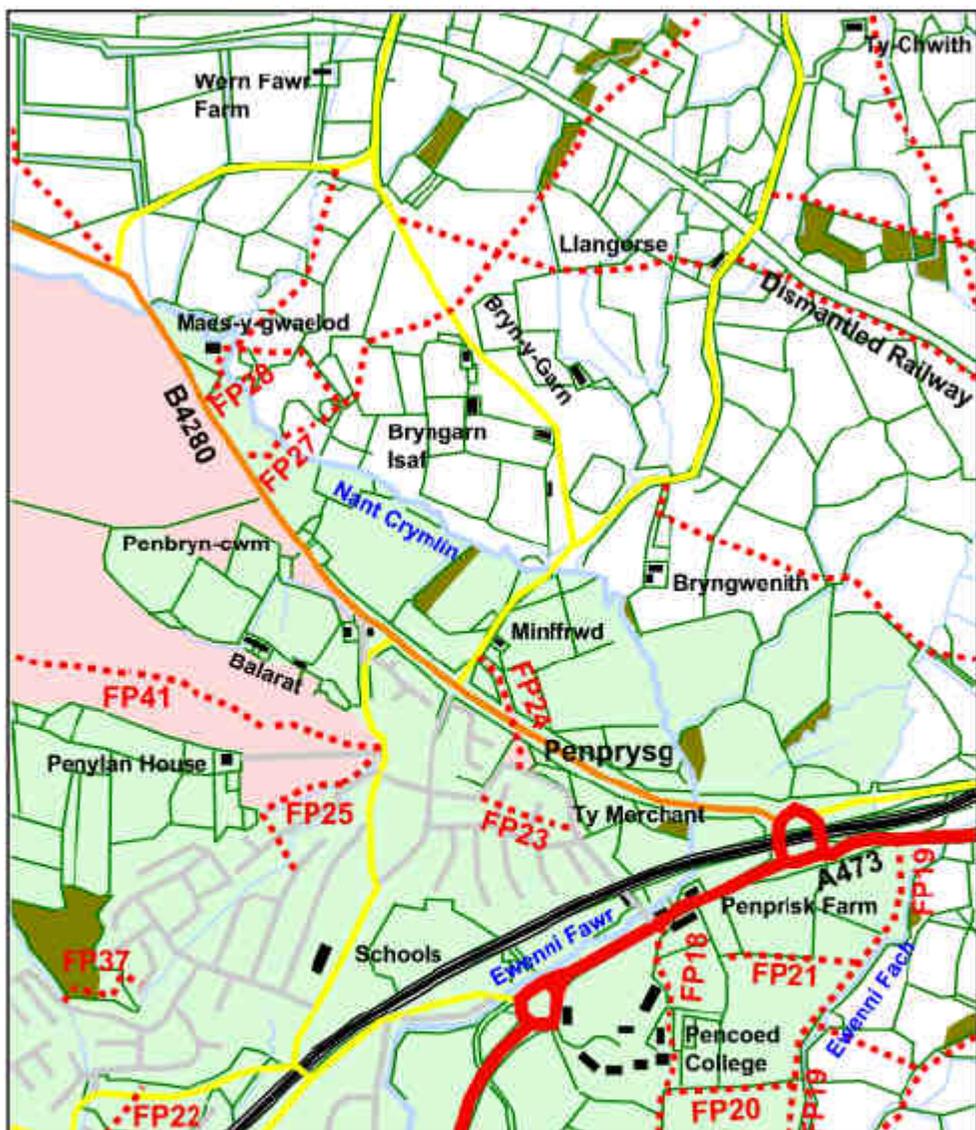
*Commences on the County road by the Fox and Hounds Inn; proceeds northwards over a footbridge spanning the stream Velindre Farm alongside the western bank of the stream. Continues across fields and a stile to terminate on the junction of the Brynna-Llanharan -Pencoed roads.*

**Note:** The Fox and Hounds is now the Harvester and the footpath now commences at the gate of Felindre Farm on a section of the old Felindre Road close to the old stone bridge over the Ewenni Fach.



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|--|--|---|
| <span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: #d9ead3; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Town Council Area | <span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; border-bottom: 1px solid blue; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Water Courses                                | <span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: #ffc000; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></span> B Roads            |
| <span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: #558b2f; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Wooded Areas      | <span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; border-bottom: 1px solid green; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Field Boundaries                            | <span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: #ffff00; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Unclassified Roads |
| <span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: #fce4d6; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Open Access Areas | <span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: #0000ff; border: 2px dotted white; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Motorway | <span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; border-bottom: 1px solid gray; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Streets   |
|  | <span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: #ff0000; border: 2px dotted white; margin-right: 5px;"></span> A Roads  | <span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; border-bottom: 1px dotted red; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Public Footpaths                                      |

# MAP 1



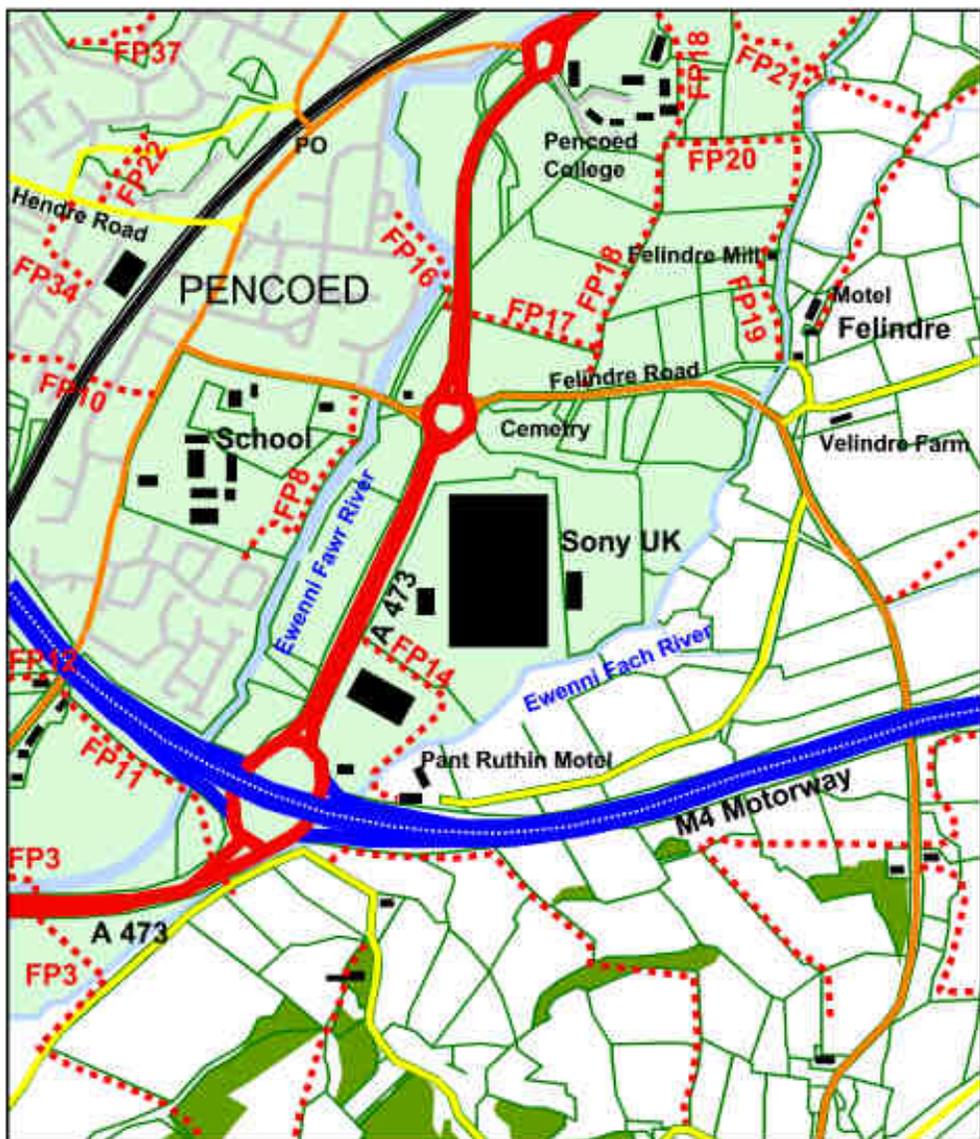
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|--|--|--|
|  Town Council Area |  Water Courses    |  B Roads            |
|  Wooded Areas      |  Field Boundaries |  Unclassified Roads |
|  Open Access Areas |  Motorway         |  Streets            |
|  |  A Roads          |  Public Footpaths   |

## MAP 2



- |                   |                  |                    |
|-------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| Town Council Area | Water Courses    | B Roads            |
| Wooded Areas      | Field Boundaries | Unclassified Roads |
| Open Access Areas | Motorway         | Streets            |
|                   | A Roads          | Public Footpaths   |

# MAP 3



- |                   |                  |                    |
|-------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| Town Council Area | Water Courses    | B Roads            |
| Wooded Areas      | Field Boundaries | Unclassified Roads |
| Open Access Areas | Motorway         | Streets            |
|                   | A Roads          | Public Footpaths   |

# MAP 4

**Footpath Number 20 Length 302mtrs width 0.6mtrs (Map 4,2)**

*Commences on footpath 18 in Tregoes Park and proceeds eastwards across the park to the junction with footpath 19.*

**Footpath Number 21 Length 274mtrs width 0.6mtrs (Map 4,2)**

*Commences at the end of the lane leading from the Pencoed - Brynna road adjoining Penprisk Farm and proceeds south-east across fields and over footpath 19 to the Parish boundary.*

**Note:** Footpath 21 now finishes in the middle of the golf links of Pencoed College..



**Footpath Number 22 Length 366mtrs width 0.6mtrs (Map 3,1)**

*Commences on the Hendre road near junction with Heol-y-Geifr; proceeds northwards skirting the Brickyard Pond, through wicket gates and across fields to Housing Estate road.*

**Note:** Footpath 22 leaves Hendre Road opposite the British Legion Club. It crosses the brickyard field and the new inner relief road to join Heol Las at its junction with Min-y-Nant. Also note the the Brickyard Pond mentioned above, which was a flooded claypit, no longer exists as it was filled in at the end of the 1960's. The pond was situated a little to the west of where Coed-y-Graig is now.

**Footpath Number 23 Length 192mtrs width 0.6mtrs (Map 2)**

*Commences on Pentwyn Road at the wicket gate near Bryn Tawel and proceeds eastwards across Crwca field to Tymerchant road.*

**Note:** This path is now totally in the Cae Crwca housing estate.

**Footpath Number 24 Length 256mtrs width 2.7mtrs (Bridleway) (Map 2)**

*Commences on the Minffrwd road south of Minffrwd and proceeds south-east to Tonffre.*

**Note:** With the building of the extension to the B4280 known as the Rockwool bypass, Footpath 24 was cut in two. There is a short section south of the bypass on what is called Tonfre Common and another section north of the bypass which joins Minffrwd Road just south of Minffrwd.

**Footpath Number 25 Length 457mtrs width 0.6mtrs (Map 2)**

*Commences on Wimborne Road, Pencoed, and proceeds north-west and over Common land to the junction of Penprisk and Penylan roads.*

**Note:** After leaving Caeau Duon, Footpath 25 follows the pavement system on the new Islawen Meadows housing estate and joins the track from Islawen Farm to Penprysg Road just to the east of the farm.

**Footpath Number 26 Length 91mtrs width undefined (Map 1)**

*Commences at the end of Ystad-y-Waun (junction of footpath 29) and proceeds north-west over an accommodation road, past Cae-Cam and Tyr-adar to the junction with footpath 41.*

**Footpath Number 27 Length 110mtrs width 0.6mtrs (Map 2)**

*Commences on the County road (Penbryncwm Hill) and proceeds north-east over common land to the Parish boundary.*

**Note:** After crossing the Parish boundary, Footpath 27 becomes Footpath 6 in Coychurch Higher and proceeds across the fields to Bryn-y-Garn Road.

**Footpath Number 28 Length 137mtrs width 0.6mtrs (Map 2)**

*Commences on the County road, Penbryncwm Hill and proceeds northwards across the common to a concrete footbridge over Nant Crymlin on the Parish boundary at Maes-y-gwaelod.*

**Note:** After crossing the Parish boundary, Footpath 28 becomes Footpath 8 in Coychurch Higher and proceeds across the fields to Bryn-y-Garn Road.

**Footpath Number 29 Length 1372mtrs width 1.1mtrs (Map 1)**

*Commences at the end of Ystad-y-Waun, Pencoed at a wicket gate near Perthcelyn and proceeds northwards over a footbridge through fields on to the Common. Continues over Cefn Hirgoed to the footbridge over Nant Crymlin on the Parish boundary.*

**Note:** This footpath passes through the Pencoed Town Council's Millennium Wood Project, which is on common land on the southern slope of Cefn Hirgoed. From the ridge of this hill, the walker has the most wonderful view of the surrounding countryside. To the south can be seen the Vale of Glamorgan from Barry to Orgmore by Sea, the town of Pencoed is laid out before your feet and in the far distance you can see the hills of Somerset and Wiltshire across the Bristol Channel. To the north, you can see the beginning of the Welsh Mountains with the high ridge of Mynydd-y-Gaer directly in front of you.



**Footpath Number 30 Length 823mtrs width 0.6mtrs (Map 1)**

*Commences on the Parish boundary east of Heol-y-Ilan and proceeds north-east to a footbridge over Nant Crymlyn an the Parish boundary south of Brynteg.*

**Footpath Number 31 Length 686mtrs width 0.6mtrs (Map 1)**

*Commences at a stone stile an Hendre road near Cae-llyst and proceeds northwards through fields, over a stile to Cefn Hirgoed Common. Continues westward to the junction with footpath 39.*

**Note:** Part of Footpath 31 now runs along the pavement system of Greenacre

Drive . It then enters the field opposite, Verland Way and goes north to meet Footpath 26 on Ystadwaun.

**Footpath Number 32 Length 640mtrs width 0.6mtrs (Map 1)**

*Commences on footpath 31 and proceeds north-west through fields to Hoel-y-efial. Continues through farmyard and turns north across Common to the junction with footpath 39.*

**Footpath Number 33 Length 960mtrs width 0.6mtrs (Map 1)**

*Commences on the County road north of Hendre Villa and proceeds northwards past Bryn-du and Tyn-y-Cernydd to the junction with footpath 31 (short branch path from the County road included).*

**Note:** This footpath commences on the old section of Hendre Road to the north of where the present Hendre Road crosses the M4 Motorway. Like a lot of the paths in this area, sections of this path pass over some very wet country.

**Footpath Number 34 Length 238mtrs width 0.6mtrs (Map 3)**

*Commences on the County road south of Old Pencoed Brickworks; proceeds southwards over Nant-Heol-y-Geifr and turns westwards to Heol-y-Geifr near the Foundry.*

**Note:** Footpath 34 now commences at the new traffic lights on Hendre Road, it goes south behind Woodland Avenue, turns east to cross Woodland Avenue and joins Heol-y-Geifr near the Pencoed Foundry. This lane is locally known as the “Dram Road” because there was a light railway (dram) track going along it from the old Pencoed Brickworks to the Railway junction by the station, where J. Davy’s Builder’s Yard is now situated.

**Footpath Number 35 Length 183mtrs width undefined (Map 4)**

*Commences at the junction of footpath 14 and 36 near Bryn-cwtyn Farm and proceeds south-east across a field to a footbridge spanning the Ewenny Fach (Parish boundary).*

**Note:.** This footpath was extinguished when the Sony Plant was constructed.

**Footpath Number 36 Length 503mtrs width undefined (Map 4)**

*Commences at the junction of footpath 14 and 35 near Bryn-cwtyn Farm and proceeds north-east and across fields to a footbridge spanning the Ewenny Fach (Parish boundary) west of Gwt.*

**Note:.** This footpath was extinguished when the Sony Plant was constructed.

**Footpath Number 37 Length 457mtrs width 0.6mtrs (Map 1,3,4)**

*Commences at a wicket gate at the junction of footpath 22 and Heol-y-Gerddi; proceeds south-west across fields and clay pits; through lower edge of Caeau*

*duon Wood and crossing field adjoining Glyn-y-Mel Terrace terminates on Ystad-y-Waun near Maes-y-deri.*

**Note:** This footpath now commences at the entrance to Coed Iestyn (the Town Council's Community Woodland Project) on Glyn-y-Mel goes through the southern edge of the wood turns north across a timber bridge to emerge at Iestyn Drive.



**Footpath Number 38 Length 320mtrs width 0.6mtrs (Map 1)**

*Commences at Ty'r - Adar (junction with footpath 26); proceeds north-east across fields, through Perth-Celyn and over the Common to the junction with footpath 29.*

**Footpath Number 39 Length 914mtrs width 0.6mtrs (Map 1)**

*Commences on footpath 33 north of Tyn-y-cernydd and proceeds north-east over the common to Ffos-Felen. Continues eastwards across common, turning north at junction with footpath 32, and terminates at the junction with footpath 26 east of Cae-Caen.*

**Footpath Number 40 Length 183mtrs width 0.9mtrs (Map 1,3)**

*Commences on Hendre road, and proceeds southwards through a field across old brickworks to the junction*

*with footpath 5 at 'The Dingle'.*

**Note:** The old brickworks mentioned above is the Hendre Brickworks and not the Pencoed Brickworks and the “Dingle” is Ty-Bryn Terrace near Duffryn Farm. Footpath 5 has been extinguished at this point and the footpath ends near Duffryn Farm on the new housing estate.



**Footpath Number 41 Length 2103mtrs width 0.9mtrs (Map 1,2)**

*Commences on the County road in Penrisk and proceeds westwards over accommodation road to Penylan. Turns north-west off accommodation road, skirting Penrisk quarries and continues westward over Cefn Hirgoed Common to the Parish boundary.*

**Note:** This is the longest continuous length of footpath in Pencoed and follows the ridge of Cefn Hirgoed from Penprysg Road to the Parish Boundary at the covered reservoir.



