HBI -GEH MATERIALS CHOICE

Cefn Sandstone

JUNE 15, 2026

BAYNON PROPERTY SREVICES
The Ebenezer, Cefn Square, Crane Street, Cefn Mawr, Pontcysyllte WHS, Wrexham, LL14 3AB

Introduction.

It is recognised from the Pre Application Advice that the Conservation Officer commented on the use of red brick under the Design & Visual Impact section of the report, ENQ/2026/0070. Therefore, here is the justification for our choice of finishing materials for the retaining wall.

We would like to finish the retaining wall in Cefn Sandstone for the following reasons:

1. Heritage, the very stone we will be finishing the retaining wall with will be exactly the same stone that the original building, the oldest part of the Holly Bush Inn is built from. The oldest part of the Holly Bush Inn (and the oldest pub in Cefn Mawr), the section coloured yellow is a stone building built in 1800. All the early buildings in Cefn Mawr were built from the stone rubble left over from the construction of the Pontcysyllte Aqueduct, and that includes the original part of the Holly Bush Inn as we see it today. Therefore, finishing the wall in Cefn Sandstone literally builds in heritage to the works.

2. Although the GEH, Oxford Street and other bits of minor walling are finished in red brick, this is modern brick with no heritage value as such and certainly not a locally sourced material.

3. Perhaps the only wall with any heritage value in it is the broken walling in the middle that is built from Red Terracotta Brick which we will be repairing and repoint accordingly with Red Terracotta Brick and lime mortars.

4. It is also notable that the finishing material for Oxford Street is a form of Sandstone although this was not sourced locally and it is unknown where the material comes from.

5. It is also notable that Sandstone is the preferred finishing material in the area as it is seen as relating to our past and makes even new build look far better than if finished in modern materials.

6. We have saved all the genuine Cefn Sandstone from our refurbishment of the Ebenezer during 2025 and 2026 for reuse.

7. This provides a high-quality building material with an almost zero carbon footprint, unlike new brick which has a high carbon footprint in production and then in transport to site from who knows where?



Oxford Street lined both sides with stone.

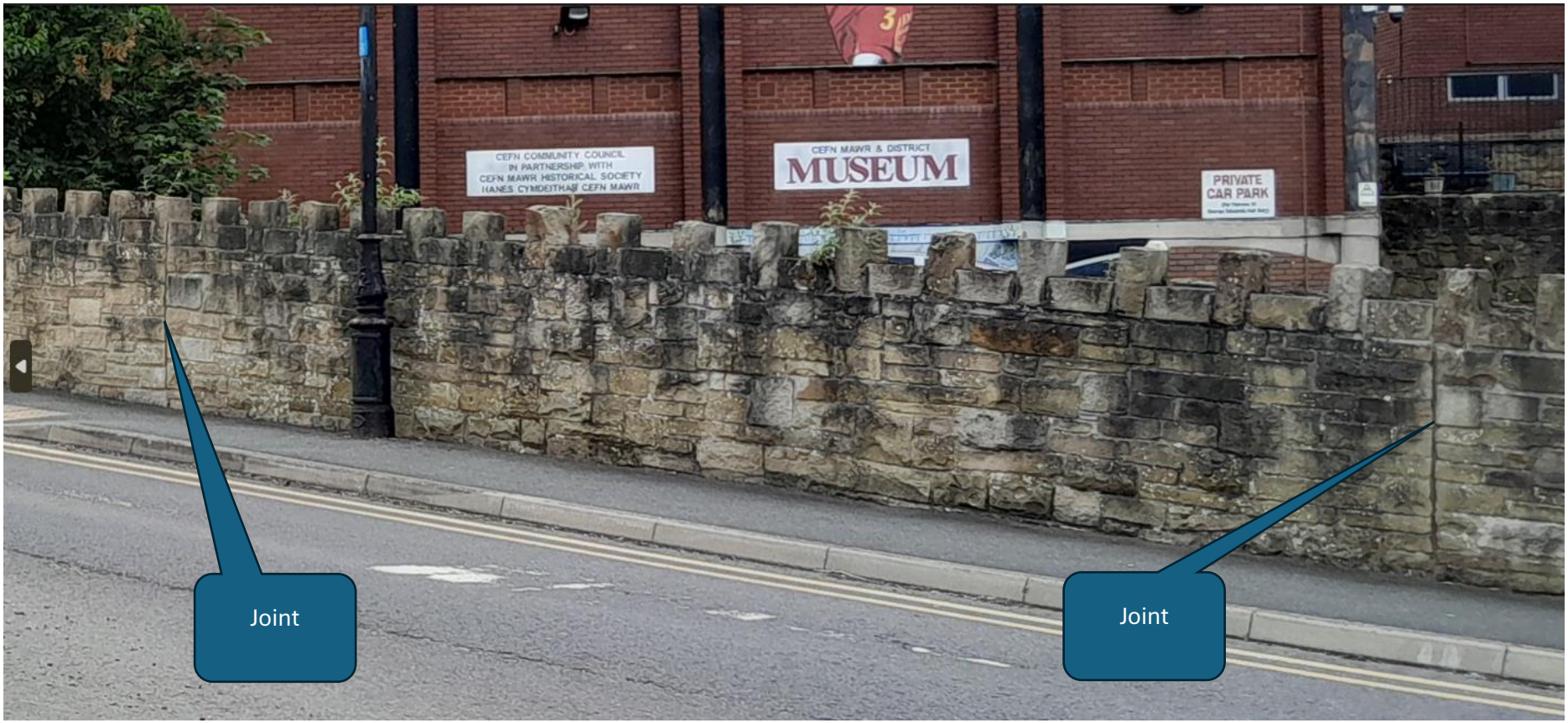


HBI & GEH, George Edwards Hall on Oxford Street, please note the show side of this wall along Oxford Street is stone.



Please note this is Oxford Street by passing Cefn Mawr and serving Tesco. This was built in 2012, and all bus services were moved to it in 2014 leaving our village centre without public transport. The only public transport facility our traditional village centre has since then is half a bus stop at the Holly Bush Inn.

Please note the stone facia on both sides of the road. If closer inspection is made of the stonework, it will be seen to be mass produced somewhere. It is loaded into place in large sections, rather than built as a stone wall. Please also note we have just weeded the HBI - GEH side of Oxford Steet. The opposite side will be weeded next weekend by our gardener.



One section of precast stone walling. However, the overall appearance is the next best to the real thing.



The Holly Bush Inn and the only bus stop serving our village centre, which has both Doctors Surgeries, and the only Pharmacy in our community of 10,000 people.



Real Cefn Sandstone walling and our beer garden. Please note the pristine condition of this bus stop which is kept by us. We have made large efforts in uplifting the area and would like to complete works for the benefit of our community. Hence this planning application. We would like to complete works in our chosen locally supplied material (all be it quarried over 200 years ago), genuine Cefn Sandstone.



And we have stockpiled sufficient supplies by wheelbarrow (Zero Carbon Transport) for reuse in building the wall. Please note red terracotta bricks stored in our brick yard.



And we have stockpiled sufficient supplies by wheelbarrow (Zero Carbon Transport) for reuse in building the wall. Please note red terracotta bricks stored in our brick yard ready for reuse. This is real Circular Economy practice with minimal waste.