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Council opposes care home plans

Extension bid is rejected unanimously

A BID to extend a home for young people who have recently left care has caused uproar.

Bron Minal in Felinelli provides aftercare support for 16-21 year-olds who have spent most of their lives in local authority care, to allow them to live semi-independently in the community.

The home cares for three young adults at any one time from the Gwynedd area and its owners Hefin and Iona Williams want to convert a garage on the site for an additional dwelling.

The owners say the extension will be not be used to house more young people who have recently left care but local residents fear that is exactly what will happen.

More than 30 residents of Fe-

By Alex Hickey

linelli's Sea View and Helen Terrace have expressed their "complete objection" to expansion plans and a petition is being circulated opposing the scheme.

A letter to a Felinelli community council meeting on Tuesday objected to the extension on the grounds of overdevelopment but also raised concerns about the site as it stands. It labels the Bron Minal project "a failure" and claims the tenants have not integrated into the community.

On Tuesday night Felinelli community council voted unanimously to reject the bid to convert a garage on the site.

The village's county councillor Siân Gwendllan has been trying

to resolve some of the other matters raised by residents.

She said: "I have been working with the neighbours, police, the owner, social services and the young people themselves to try and sort out some of the problems. I sympathise greatly with the residents and also with the youngsters. I hope we can work together to improve the situation."

Cllr Gwendllan also confirmed that the council's aftercare team had no plans to house more young people at Bron Minal.

Children and Families service manager Marian Hughes said the council had a legal duty to provide aftercare support for young people from Gwynedd between 16 and 21, who leave council care to live on their own.

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