

## A day on, Caerphilly is still giving me hope

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As a matter of policy, we are now posting some polls with related discussion on YouTube, with the material being derived from non-video content here, and that appears to be a surprisingly popular strategy, because I presumed YouTube users would always require there to be video content attached to a post, but it appears not.

This was [yesterday's post of this sort](#):



Richard J Murphy 19 hours ago

The by-election in Caerphilly has shattered the myth that the Labour Party remains dominant in Wales. The scale of defeat makes clear that loyalty rooted in habit has evaporated.

This matters because, firstly, voters have rejected a Labour Party that appears to serve a narrow elite rather than ordinary people.

Secondly, they have rewarded Plaid Cymru, a party that projects conviction, clear ideas and hope – not just protest or opposition.

Thirdly, this result signals that both the far-right and the traditional right can be defeated when an authentic, alternative steps forward – an outcome of structural significance.

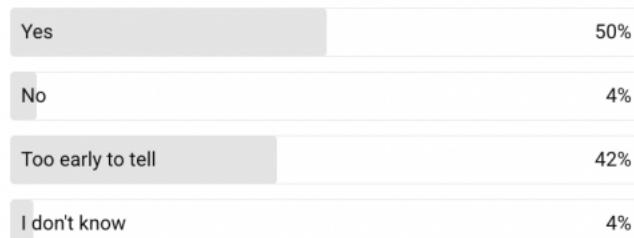
What follows is the challenge to all parties: will you stand for something meaningful, form alliances where needed, and recognise that the old political order—neoliberal, centralised, habitual—is under real threat?

👉 [Read on Funding the Future](#)  
<https://www.taxresearch.org.uk/Blog/2...>

Poll Question – Has the old political order in Wales been overturned?

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2K votes



I post it not to repeat the discussion, but to highlight the poll, in which at least 2,000 people cast votes.

The overwhelming sentiment is that the Caerphilly election result is significant, but there is a considerable reluctance to decide how significant it might be as yet.

I understand that. As I said yesterday, by-election results are fickle. Two things persuade me that this is not an aberration, or just a protest vote by the disaffected.

The first was the level of turnout, which at 50 per cent was high for any by-election. It seems that this vote mattered to people.

The second is how vertiginous the decline in support for both Labour and the Tories was, with Labour's falling by more than 30 per cent and the Tories' by 15 per cent (to near non-existence). I am sure precedents for falls of this scale, followed by a bounce back, can be found, but this was staggering, nonetheless.

A day on, I remain hopeful. The political map is, I think, being rewritten.