

Cyngor Cymuned **Llandybie** Community Council

Annual Report

2021/2022

Chairman : I. Rh. Llewelyn

# Chairman's Introduction

I have been honoured to act as Chairman for Llandybie Community Council during 2021/2022. We have continued to experience very difficult times with the impact of Covid remaining a key part of everyone's lives during the year. Recent easing of restrictions is helping everyone get back to a sense of normality and I can only hope that we see continued improvements over the next few months. During the year, the Council have met virtually for most of the year, but there was a return to face to face meetings in the autumn before yet another return to virtual meetings. Moving forward, the Council will hold its meetings in a hybrid fashion, with Councillors and members of the public able to attend either in person at the Chamber, or online. I see this as a positive improvement in allowing easier accessibility for all.

The work of the Council has continued during the crisis and I am delighted to report that following a local consultation in Penygroes with the police and public , a new CCTV system was installed at Penygroes park. The service level agreement with Carmarthenshire County Council for grass cutting , litter collection, herbicide treatment and hedge cutting at the parks has ensured that our 11 parks are maintained and cleaned to a very good standard. However, the Council is well aware of the need to keep improving the facilities and I am delighted to report that it has agreed to improve the small park at Bonllwyn during the next financial year. Annual tree surveys are undertaken with any issues addressed with public safety in mind.

Public conveniences at Llandybie and Penygroes have remained open.

Maintenance of wayside and park seats throughout the area has been completed with new seats ordered to replace many of those which were in a poor state of repair. A programme of annual maintenance will continue to ensure that our stock remains in good order

# Chairman's Introduction

Local organisations have continued to benefit from grants made available by the Council, and I am deeply indebted to the work of these organisations who have worked so diligently during the pandemic to ensure that our local communities have clubs and organisations to attend as they begin to reopen. My gratitude is extended to those who continue to work across society and our communities including those helping those experiencing challenges in life. Thank you also to the volunteers at our churches and chapels who continue to maintain the graveyards with the help of Council funds.

Footpaths and Rights of Way in the community are maintained through regular grass cutting and hedge trimming across many of the footpaths. It has been good to see that many more people have used our local footpaths over the last two years, and whilst they are ultimately the responsibility of Carmarthenshire County Council, we as a community council have taken responsibility with an annual maintenance programme for some footpaths.

The Community Council now has a duty to publish an annual plan and incorporates a community action plan which complements the work at all levels which is required under the Well Being of Future Generations Act (2015) section 40(1) and links directly to the objectives of the Carmarthenshire Public Services Board and the National Wellbeing Goals.

Thank you all for your support and let me assure you that the Councillors will do all they can to create a bright , vibrant local economy to ensure a future for ourselves and our children

Diolch yn fawr

*/ RH Llewelyn*

# Our preferred way of working

Consider the well being goals at all times

Use our local knowledge for the benefit of our community

Involve local people in local decisions where appropriate

Work with other local organisations

Publish our annual plan on the website

# Income and Expenditure

- Llandybie Community Council is funded mainly from a precept paid by local taxpayers. In 2021 /2022 total income was £203,644 ( ex VAT).
  - For 2022/2023 it is expected to be £199,975.
  - The Band D tax levied in 2022/2023 is £40.34 a reduction from £40.96 - the lowest compared to other neighbouring large Councils.
  - No precept increase for the last 5 years
- Expenditure in 2020 /2021 was £205,362 ( ex VAT)
    1. Parks and Play Area           £ 62856
    2. Grants                               £ 18,931
    3. Admin/ Salaries                 £ 76,380
    4. Community Development   £11,099
    5. Footpaths / lighting / Public Conveniences                 £ 36096

# What do we do ?

Maintain and improve parks and play areas – some owned by the Council and others maintained on behalf of local village associations.

Maintain a network of local public footpaths.

Wayside seat maintenance and replacement

Support local organisations, clubs, and events with grant support.

Support community facilities with annual grant funding for the village halls.

Help nurture new community groups that help meet local needs.

Encourage local volunteering.

# Councillors

## **Llandybie Ward**

- Cllr Anthony Davies
- Cllr Andrew Evans
- Cllr David Hopkins
- Cllr Anthony Jones
- Cllr Dai Nicholas
- Cllr Emyr Nicholas
- Cllr Bryan Rees

## **Heol Ddu Ward**

- Cllr. Ian Llewelyn – Chairman

## **Penygroes Ward**

- Cllr Mrs Janet Collins
- Cllr Mrs Llinos Hindley
- Cllr Mrs Llywela Latham
- Cllr Peter Roberts – Vice Chairman
- Cllr Mrs Sian Thomas

## **Saron Ward**

- Cllr Mrs Karen Davies
- Cllr Mrs Anita Evans
- Cllr Carl Harris
- Cllr Mrs Carey Thomas
- Cllr N Evans ( part of year only)
- Cllr S.J. Roberts ( part of year only)

# Staff

## **Clerk to the Council and Responsible Financial Officer**

- Stuart Griffith

## **Administration Assistant**

- Mrs Rhian Thomas

# Population

(based on no of electors in the ward)

• Llandybie inc Heol Ddu	3316
• Penygroes	2361
• Saron	3415
• TOTAL	9092

# The Council's Vision

To improve everyone's quality of life by providing equal opportunities for all by creating attractive, safe, vibrant, healthy , inclusive and environmentally sustainable communities.

# The Council's Objectives

- To consult with our communities
- To encourage environmental sustainability and help reduce climate change
- To preserve and promote the welsh language and culture
- To support our local community organisations
- To improve our parks and play areas
- To create, maintain and improve community facilities
- To contribute to the wellbeing of all residents in compliance with the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act

# Embedding the Five Ways of Working

## **Long Term**

– balancing short term needs to safeguard the long term

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## **Prevention**

– of problems occurring or worsening

- The Council has set aside £150k for park repair and replacement
  - It is committed to core financial support for all local village halls
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- Improved playground equipment since Asset Transfer from CCC
  - Undertake regular playground inspections
  - Undertake regular maintenance of equipment
  - Maintained local footpaths with annual schedule of grass cutting
  - Wayside seat maintenance programme
  - Continual liaison with County Councillors on local issues

# Embedding the Five Ways of Working

- Integration
  - impact on other bodies' objectives
- Collaboration
  - working together
- We are mindful of the well-being goals and assess the impact of projects against them.
- Clerk regularly attends local West Wales Clerk's meeting and One Voice Wales meetings
- We actively work with other local organisations in order to meet the well-being objectives.
- Actively respond to consultations
- Work with various sporting bodies
- Work with local community groups

# Embedding the Five Ways of Working

- Involvement – of other interested people with the diversity to achieve well-being goals.
- We appreciate the importance of involving a wide range of people who have an interest in achieving the well-being goals.

# What approach has the council taken to embed the four PSB well-being objectives into its plans ?

- **Healthy Habits** - people have a good way of life and make healthy choices about their lives and environment.
- **Early Intervention** – people have the right help at the right time.
- **Strong connections** – from people, places and organisations that are able to adapt to change.
- **Prosperous People** – maximise opportunities across all areas.
- The Council are actively embedding these into its way of working.
- The PSB well-being objectives will be fully reflected in any Community Development Plans.
- We have already listened to our communities' concerns on road safety, play area replacement, CCTV and actively listen on all other areas of concern.

# What approach has the council taken to embed the national well-being goals into its plans ?

- A Prosperous Wales
  - A Resilient Wales
  - A Healthier Wales
  - A More Equal Wales
  - A Wales of Cohesive Communities
  - A Wales of Vibrant Culture and ^thriving Welsh Language
  - A Globally Responsible Wales
- The Council actively embeds these into its way of working.
  - The national goals will be fully reflected in any Community Plans, or work streams/projects (present and future).

# Carmarthenshire PSB Well-being Objective

## Healthy Habits

- Encouraging Outdoor Play
- Encouraging Sports

## Progress

- The Council has invested heavily in play equipment since taking them over on Asset Transfer. This has increased the opportunity for safe, active play in our area.
- The Council monitors playground safety with regular inspections which identifies works required and monitors progress of these works.
- Helps support Multi Use Games Areas and supports local sporting clubs with grant aid for the junior sections and with ground maintenance.
- The tennis courts and bowling green at Llandybie are maintained to a very high standard.
- Grant support has been provided to Saron Juniors FC, Penybanc RFC Juniors and Penygroes RFC specifically for ground improvements.

# Carmarthenshire PSB Well-being Objective

## Early Intervention

- Website
- Play Areas
- Local Organisations grant aid
- Support for organisations supporting children and young people

## Progress

- Fully functional bilingual website which has been upgraded during 2020 to make it accessible to all. Council and community news added.
- See above - encourages outdoor play and learning from an early age.
- Grant requests considered twice per annum with presentation evening for the successful organisations.

# Carmarthenshire PSB Well-being Objective

## Strong connections

- Heritage

## Progress

- The Council sees local heritage as useful way to help make connections. There are information boards at Llandybie, Penygroes and Pantllyn
- Pencae'r Eithin Coal dram - a reminder of the coal industry which was so prevalent locally.
- Cilyrychen clock – returned to Llandybie and placed centrally in the village as a reminder of the industrial history of the Lime Firms at Cilyrychen.
- Support with footpath maintenance for the Heart of Wales walking trail.

# Carmarthenshire PSB Well-being Objective

## **Strong connections**

- Community Events
- Supporting Community Facilities
- Website

## **Progress**

- Support for xmas lights at Llandybie Parish Church.
- Annual grant aid for all local village halls.
- Full maintenance of Llandybie bowling green, tennis courts and pavilion and Saron Juniors FC pitch and changing rooms.
- Public Conveniences at Llandybie and Penygroes open daily.
- New accessible website has been developed and is operational

# Carmarthenshire PSB Well-being Objective

## **Prosperous People and Places**

- Community Consultation

## **Progress**

- Improved facilities at the play areas
- New CCTV system introduced at Penygroes park after consultation with public and police