

Clerk's Report 27/11/24

To: Chair and Members of Council.

(a) Parks;

(i) Saron and Capel Hendre 106. Still on the list of follow up with Carmarthenshire County Council.

There is no further update on the two amounts of £22,320.00 for future education provision at Saron and £17,680.00 for Cwmgwili park. The Clerk is pressing for news.

(b) Footpaths. There are no further updates on the below Footpaths.

The Clerk and Administrative assistant continue to press the County Council team of the following footpaths and will keep these in the Clerk's Report until they are resolved.

- **Penygroes 51/34 and, 51/33;** the Clerk will investigate and update on these at the meeting. 51/33 is to get the landowner to cut the overhanging branches.
- **51/51;** This is still being dealt with by Carmarthenshire County Council's legal team as a resident has built a garage base over the right of way and another resident has put play equipment across it. Clerk to update councillors at the meeting.

The final cut of paths has been undertaken by contractors within the budgeted amount set for 2024/25.

(c) Penygroes RFC and Gate locking at night.

The Clerk as per the agreement in the May meeting has written to Carmarthenshire County Council and asked them that offer responsibility if Community Council property is damaged overnight. He is still waiting for a reply.

Update; the Clerk as of writing this report emailed a request for a reply on the 22.11.2024.

(d) Banc Y Ddraenen Park Project;

An update: This project is now actioned and will be undertaken over the coming months.

- The Hedge line along the length of the park along with two planting benches had now been agreed to be installed by Carmarthenshire County Council at no cost to our budget.
- The Bird Box and Scholls project was in hand and would be carried out in the coming month.
- The two Apple Trees that failed to root are being replaced at no cost.
- The Clerk has not yet looked the 'Vision Sign' for the park to inform residents, but was planning to tackle that in the coming months and was looking at the cost of planting tubs for veg and flowers on the hard surface area.
- He was also working with the council on managing the meadow and scrub areas with sympathetic cutting and planting schemes.

(e) Llandybie Tennis Courts Moss Prevention;

The Clerk met officers from Carmarthenshire County Council on the 21st of November and the following recommendations are being confirmed in an email and are listed here as part of the Clerks full recommendations;

- There is no need to cut the trees adjacent to the courts as the problem of leaves is seasonal, but they have advised cutting back the ‘crowns’ of two trees and the overhanging branches to about 1.5 meters.
- Treat the new courts once the moss is eradicated by adding the new surface with a Glycophate weedkiller in late spring and late August. The area must be sealed off until the substance dries at which point it becomes harmless. Check all soak away points to avoid contamination into the water system. Only use an approved licenced contractor.
- From early September clear the leaves weekly until early late November.
- Remove all overhanging creepers and ivy currently on the fence.

(f) Heating System at Bowls and Tennis Pavilion;

The Clerk has now met a specialist company onsite who have surveyed the building and will make recommendations in order for a detailed specification to be produced. This will be shared at January’s meeting once received and it may be the case that an indication of price and grants will available by that time too. An application will be submitted for circa £7,500 for a green energy grant and £10,000 to the Betws Windfarm Fund to match the allocated £26,000 budget figure tabled to be ratified in tonight’s meeting.

(g) Clerks CiLCA Training;

The Clerk is now in the first month on his training and has found a bursary from Welsh Government to cover his fees of Circa £1000.00, the course will take 12 months. He is allocating his own time to most of the work to complete the 30 modules but is asking for some time as indicated in the ‘Time and Motion’ report to have some work time to complete the estimated 90 hours of training. He has indicated 20 hours during the year for online training and some preparation of the 90 hours. Two of the six sessions have already been completed.

The Clerk is currently updating the authorities training plan that will include recommendations for both Councillors and the Administrative Assistant.

Dai Nicholas – Clerk

November 27th 2024