

Llandybie Community Council

Annual Report 2025/2026

Cyngor Cymuned Llandybie Community Council

Chairperson: Councillor Julian Tandy

Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer: Dai Nicholas

Presented at the Annual Meeting of Council 27th of May 2026

Chairperson's Introduction

It has been another productive and ambitious year for Llandybie Community Council as we continued to invest in our communities, strengthen local partnerships, and improve facilities across our wards.

This Council remains committed to delivering practical improvements that enhance quality of life for residents while ensuring that our decisions align with the principles of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. During 2025/2026 we have continued to focus on maintaining and enhancing parks, improving sporting and recreational facilities, supporting village halls and community groups, and preserving the unique heritage and culture of our area.

Unexpectedly we have had to move chambers to the tennis/bowls club house and coped with the disruption that involved with minimal impact to our tenants and I look forward to further changes to the building later this year. After a 'pitch invasion last summer we have installed safety gates to protect Penygroes Park. We trialled brilliant new 'Pooh Patrol' mobile CCTV across the wards in a first for Wales. We completed the move to paperless for meeting and financial matters.

Significant achievements this year have included the refurbishment of the Llandybie Tennis Courts, continued investment in playgrounds and outdoor recreation facilities, improvements to community parks, enhanced accessibility measures, and continued support for local sporting clubs and voluntary organisations.

We have increased our visibility amongst our community and the wider Carmarthenshire area, attending more events and getting more press/social media coverage than ever. On a personal note, it has been a privilege to judge school art competitions, open both the bowls and tennis courts new seasons and even open a new restaurant in the community along with all the other event I attended. It was also amazing to wear the Llandybie chains of Office in Front of King Charles at a Buckingham Place Garden Party and represent all our residents at such a prestigious occasion.

The Council is proud of its strong financial stewardship, having continued to deliver improvements while maintaining one of the lowest Band D precepts among neighbouring larger community councils and we only increased its precept modestly by 3.5% a little below inflation. Through partnership funding and grant support, we have ensured that local taxpayers' contributions continue to achieve maximum value for money.

It has been an honour to represent this council as Chair for the last 12 months and I wish my successor all the best for 2026/27. On behalf of the Council, I would like to thank all councillors, staff, volunteers, partner organisations and residents who continue to contribute to making our communities vibrant, inclusive and resilient places to live.

Councillor Julian Tandy
Chairperson 2025/2026

About the Council

[Llandybie Community Council Official Website](#)

Llandybie Community Council serves the communities of:

- Llandybie
- Heol Ddu
- Penygroes
- Saron including Penybanc

The Council represents a population of approximately **9,238 residents** based on the electoral register.

Population by Ward

Ward	Electors
Llandybie inc Heol Ddu	3,366
Penygroes	2,391
Saron	3,481
Total	9,238

Our Vision

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

Our Objectives

The Council's objectives are to:

- Consult with our communities
- Encourage environmental sustainability and help reduce climate change
- Preserve and promote the Welsh language and culture
- Support local community organisations
- Improve parks and play areas
- Create, maintain and improve community facilities
- Contribute to the wellbeing of all residents in compliance with the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015

Our Preferred Ways of Working

The Council seeks to:

- Keeping the wellbeing goals in our vision at all times
- Use local knowledge for the benefit of our communities
- Involve local people in local decision-making
- Work collaboratively with local organisations
- Publish plans and information openly through the Council website

Councillors and Staff

Llandybie Ward

- Councillor Anthony Davies
- Councillor Simon Roberts
- Councillor Eifion Davies
- Councillor David Hopkins
- Councillor Anthony Jones
- Councillor Huw Davies
- Councillor Emyr Nicholas

Heol Ddu Ward

- Councillor Lynne Wilkins

Penygroes Ward

- Councillor Julian Tandy
- Councillor David Thomas
- Councillor Richard Barnes
- Councillor Peter Roberts
- Councillor Leila Jones

Saron Ward

- Councillor Karen Davies
- Councillor Anita Evans
- Councillor Carey Thomas
- Councillor Amy Thomas
- Councillor Craig Davies
- Councillor Griffith J Davies

Staff

- Dai Nicholas — Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer
- Sian Taylor — Administration Assistant

Financial Overview

Llandybie Community Council is funded primarily through the local precept.

Key Financial Information

- Total income during the year was £261,520 (excluding VAT) which was an increase of £16,361
- The Band D Council Tax equivalent for 2025/2026 remained amongst the lowest of neighbouring larger community councils
- The Council increased its precept modestly by 3.5% (to £193,860) to ensure continued investment in parks, community facilities and public amenities
- £135,000 remains earmarked as reserves for future park repairs, upgrades and replacement works

The Council continues to demonstrate prudent financial management while investing significantly in community infrastructure and services.

Year-end accounts and bank reconciliation

Llandybie Community Council

2025 -2026

Cyngor Cymuned Llandybie Community Council					
Mantolen 2025-2026 Accounts from April 1st					
Prepared by - D Nicholas					
Financial year ending 31/04/2026					
BALANCE OF ACCOUNTS					
					£
Brought Forward (opening balance at Bank)					
					£244,691.25
Add Income in the year					
					£261,776.75
Total					
					£506,468.00
Less outgoings					
					£312,826.50

Closing Balance Finance Spreadsheet					£193,641.50
(receipts - payments)					
Unpresented payments/cheques					£0.00
TRUE STATEMENT BALANCE					£193,641.50
Lloyds Acc					5,843.86
Lloyds Business Account					508.29
NSI					25873.26
Swansea Building Society					161416.09
Bank Rec for March 31st					193,641.50

Final Budget Report
for 2025 - 2026

Llandybie Community
Council

INCOME

HEADING	BUDGET	ACTUAL INCOME	DIFFERENCE	NOTES
Precept	193860.00	193860.00	0.00	
Vat Return (Rebate)	24000.00	24797.16	797.16	
Administration	3000.00	14395.73	11395.73	
Bank interest	4300.00	5417.69	1117.69	
Hire Agreement/Grants/106	20000.00	23050.00	3050.00	
Total	245160.00	261520.58	16360.58	

EXPENDITURE

HEADING	BUDGET	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE	DIFFERENCE	NOTES
Grass Cutting	£31,500.00	£36,581.94	-£5,081.94	Less than 15% variance
Staff Salary and PAYE	£57,252.00	£67,798.71	-£10,546.71	less 1329.50 expenses is less than 15% variance

Office Services	£7,500.00	£8,465.37	-£965.37	Less than 15% variance
Insurance	£3,240.00	£3,295.22	-£55.22	Less than 15% variance
Financial Grants (Open Spaces, Hall, Cemetery)	£20,000.00	£13,859.00	£6,141.00	
Asset Maintenance (Public conveniences, premises, parks, rights of way, burial grounds)	£47,495.00	£78,138.09	-£30,643.09	Explanation on note below;
Services & Subscriptions	£6,050.00	£5,446.70	£603.30	
Members Allowances & Paye	£14,000.00	£10,844.23	£3,155.77	
Election Costs	£8,000.00	£7,011.27	£988.73	
Section 137	£20,000.00	£12,025.00	£7,975.00	
Lighting	£4,000.00	£6,207.42	£292.58	
Community Development	£61,000.00	£62,951.14	-£1,951.14	Less than 15% variance
Total	£280,037.00	£312,624.09	£32,587.09	

Variation from the 2025 – 2026 Budget agreed in minutes as ‘from reserves’ as follows;

- September Finance Meeting 2025, Items 788, 789 and 790
- October Ordinary Meeting 29th Item 818 (iv) acceptance of Budget Review from Septembers Finance Committee and the Clerks report Item 820 paragraphs (f), (g), (k) and (i)
- February Finance Meeting 11th of February 2026, Item 891, Budget Review and Budget Variation

Asset Maintenance Budget: £47,495

Actual Spend: £78,138.09

Difference: £30,643.09

From Reserves.

1a. Chamber & Office Move:

- Office conversion £4,098.20

- Doors and locks £239.06
- Sealing shed, shed locks and lining shed £1601.88
- Drainage for shed £756.00
- Alarm system £1806.00
- Document digitisation 1st batch £2502.00
- Document digitisation 2nd batch £558.00
- Screen and trolley £478.28
- Wi-Fi and moving IT £640.80, 47.99, 57.60
- Removal costs £350
- Painting toilets £950
- Welsh Water compliance £288
- Moving Chairs Board: Electrics: £160.00 and handyman £156 (inc new keys)

Subtotal: £14,533.81

1b. Fence/Gates at Penygroes Park:

- Supply and instal: £3,820.00
- Locking gates at Penygroes park: £1,305.00

Subtotal: £5,125.00

1d. CCTV Saron Park: £3,793.20

Subtotal: £3,793.20

2. Overcharge of Electric £3116.14

NB: This was refunded into Income.

Conclusion of explanation to Councillors:

Totals overspend; £30,643.09

Total agreed from reserves and paid but refunded: £26,568.15

Difference: £4,074.94

Note: This is less than 15% variation on the original budget of £47,495.00

We also received a part refund over two years on Carmarthenshire County Council on rates overpayment of £7,029.62

What the Council Does

The Council provides and supports a wide range of local services and facilities including:

- Maintaining and improving 10 parks and play areas, all parks are currently Green Status that shows a high level of good maintenance
- Managing and maintaining 120 public footpaths
- Maintaining and replacing wayside seating
- Supporting over 50 local organisations and clubs through grant funding
- Supporting village halls and community facilities via grant funding
- Supporting sporting organisations and recreational opportunities
- Encouraging volunteering and community participation
- Managing 2 public conveniences and 3 recreational facilities including Saron Juniors Football Field and Changing Rooms, Llandybie Bowling Green and Tennis Courts
- Llandybie Pavilion
- Penygroes Rugby Field
- 15 Information Boards and parcels of land related to them

Delivering the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015

Integration with the Well-being Goals

The Council actively embeds the seven national well-being goals into all areas of decision-making and project delivery.

Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015

The Council contributes towards:

- **A Prosperous Wales**
Through investment in community infrastructure, local facilities and supporting local organisations.
- **A Resilient Wales**
Through environmental improvements, biodiversity enhancements and sustainable management of assets.

- **A Healthier Wales**
Through maintaining parks, play areas, sports facilities and promoting active lifestyles.
- **A More Equal Wales**
Through accessible facilities, inclusive play opportunities and support for community wellbeing.
- **A Wales of Cohesive Communities**
Through supporting village halls, local events, community safety and volunteering.
- **A Wales of Vibrant Culture and Thriving Welsh Language**
Through support for local heritage, bilingual communication and community identity.
- **A Globally Responsible Wales**
Through sustainable practices, long-term planning and responsible resource management.

Embedding the Five Ways of Working

Long-Term

The Council balances immediate community needs with long-term sustainability by:

- Maintaining a dedicated reserve fund for park replacement and repair
- Investing in durable community infrastructure
- Supporting long-term viability of village halls and sports facilities
- Planning future improvements to parks and public spaces

Prevention

The Council seeks to prevent issues escalating through:

- Regular playground inspections
- Ongoing maintenance programmes
- Footpath grass cutting schedules
- CCTV investment in parks and public spaces
- Working proactively with local County Councillors and enforcement teams

Integration

The Council assesses how decisions support wider community wellbeing objectives and integrates the national wellbeing goals into all major projects and policies.

Collaboration

The Council works with:

- Carmarthenshire County Council
- Local schools
- Sporting organisations
- Village associations
- Community groups
- One Voice Wales
- SLCC West Wales Clerks' Network

Involvement

The Council actively engages residents and community organisations in shaping priorities and responding to local concerns including:

- Road safety
- Park improvements
- CCTV provision
- Accessibility improvements
- Community development priorities

Progress and Achievements During 2025/2026

Drawing upon Council activity and updates published during the year, the following achievements highlight continued progress across the community. (llandybie.org.uk)

Parks and Play Areas

The Council continues to manage and maintain ten community parks — more than any other community council in Carmarthenshire.

Achievements this year included:

- Continued weekly visual inspections and monthly technical inspections of parks
- Installation of additional safety fencing at Saron Park
- New Cableway/Zipwire and Spinner Roundabout at Saron Park
- Improvements to play equipment at various parks and including table tennis board at Penygroes.
- Safety access gates at Penygroes Park
- Development planning for upgrades at Blaenau and Penygroes parks
- Ongoing improvements to accessibility across facilities
- Continued investment in outdoor gym and recreation equipment

The Council maintained a strong record of compliance in annual park inspections undertaken with Carmarthenshire County Council. (llandybie.org.uk)

Refurbishment of Llandybie Tennis Courts

A major achievement during the year was the successful refurbishment of the public tennis courts at Llandybie. The project secured external grant funding alongside Community Council investment and safeguarded an important recreational asset for future generations.

The improved facility supports increased community participation, coaching opportunities and wider access to sport for all age groups. (llandybie.org.uk)

Rights of Way Footpaths.

- The Council has currently rendered all 120 footpaths accessible except for 5 that are under maintenance project guidance by Carmarthenshire County Council.
- The council opened up the Ammanford Llandybie loop by clearing and reestablishing the footpath joins Ammanford, Bonllwyn and Llandybie

Community Safety and CCTV

The Council continued to invest in community safety initiatives including:

- CCTV measures in parks and public spaces with a full CCTV Scheme Saron Park
- Launching of the Poo Patrol Mobile CCTV Ai Cameras a UK first
- Anti dog fouling initiative Schools Competition in conjunction with Saron, Llandybie, Blaenau and Penygroes Primary Schools
- Partnership working with local police and environmental enforcement teams

Refurbishment of Llandybie Pavilion.

- The pavilion underwent a part refurbishment to provide a meeting space for the Community Council.

These measures support safer and cleaner public environments for residents and visitors. (llandybie.org.uk)

Support for Community Organisations

The Council continued to provide grant support to:

- Village halls
- Sporting clubs
- Youth organisations
- Community events
- Voluntary organisations
- Ammanford Foodbank

Grant schemes remain an important part of the Council's commitment to community resilience and wellbeing.

Heritage and Culture

The Council continued to preserve and celebrate local heritage through:

- Heritage interpretation boards
- Support for local history initiatives
- Preservation of historical assets including the Cilyrychen Clock
- Support for walking trails and public footpaths
- Promotion of local identity and Welsh culture

Supporting Health and Wellbeing

The Council recognises the importance of active lifestyles and healthy communities.

Projects supporting this objective included:

- Maintenance of bowling greens and tennis courts
- Support for football clubs and junior sports
- Outdoor recreation improvements including our 120 Rights of Way footpaths
- Public open spaces and green infrastructure
- Encouraging outdoor play and physical activity

Community Engagement and Communication

The Council continues to maintain a fully bilingual and accessible website which provides:

- Council agendas and minutes
- Community newsletter
- Press coverage in the local newspapers
- Launch of Facebook pages
- Financial information
- Public notices
- Consultation opportunities

The website remains a key tool for transparency, communication and community engagement.

[Council Minutes and Documents](#)

Looking Ahead to 2026/2027

The Council's priorities for the coming year include:

- Continued investment in parks and recreational facilities
- Further accessibility improvements
- Development of additional CCTV and safety initiatives
- Support for community resilience and volunteering
- Environmental sustainability and biodiversity projects
- Continued partnership working to maximise external funding opportunities
- Ongoing support for local organisations and facilities
- Two Cableway installations at Blaenau and Penygroes parks
- A new greener heating system at Llandybie Pavilion.
- Exploration of new LED Floodlights at Llandybie Tennis Court
- Exploration of a new community sporting and wellbeing event

Conclusion

Llandybie Community Council remains committed to delivering high-quality local services while embedding the principles of sustainable development and community wellbeing into all aspects of its work.

Through careful financial management, strong community partnerships and long-term planning, the Council continues to improve facilities, support local organisations and enhance the quality of life across all wards within the community.

Prepared by:

Llandybie Community Council

2025/2026 Annual Report

(landybie.org.uk)