



## LLANSTEFFAN and LLANYBRI COMMUNITY COUNCIL

### ANNUAL REPORT 2021 – 2022

This is the Annual Report for Llansteffan and Llanybri Community Council for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022.

Llansteffan and Llanybri Community Council is a non-political Community Council representing the two wards of Llansteffan and Llanybri. Both are rural wards with Llanybri having the greater geographical area and a slightly larger population.

The Council is comprised of 10 councillors.

#### **Community Councillors to May 2022**

Cllr Cerian Lodwick (Llanybri) – Chair  
Cllr Anthea Evans (Llansteffan) – Vice Chair  
Cllr Brian Charles (Llanybri)  
Cllr Caroline Curtis (Llansteffan)  
Cllr Mel James (Llanybri)  
Cllr Ian Roberts (Llanybri)  
Cllr Gareth Thomas (Llansteffan)  
Cllr Hywel Thomas (Llansteffan)  
Cllr Lauren Stacey (Llansteffan)  
Cllr Rhys Schelewa-Davies (Llanybri)

#### **Current Community Councillors\***

Cllr Carys Jones\* (Llansteffan) - Chair  
Cllr Gareth Thomas (Llansteffan)–Vice Chair  
Cllr Caroline Curtis (Llansteffan)  
Cllr Daff Davies (Llanybri)  
Cllr Rod Griffiths (Llansteffan)  
Cllr Mel James (Llanybri)  
Cllr Jim Laws (Llanybri)  
Cllr Cerian Lodwick (Llanybri)  
Cllr Ian Roberts (Llanybri)  
Cllr Lauren Stacey (Llansteffan)

The current (temporary) clerk to the council is Anthea Evans, Bay Tree House, High Street, Llansteffan SA33 5JZ. A new clerk will take up her position in October 2022.

\* *Current councillors at date of publication*

\* *Cllr Carys Jones is also a County Councillor for the St Clears and Llansteffan Ward.*

## **COMMITTEES**

The Council has the following committees:

- Finance
- Human Resources
- The Village Green (north)
- Planning

The committees meet as required and membership is detailed on the website.

## **BUDGET**

- The income received by the Council comes from the Precept which for 2021- 2022 was £20,000.
- The Council was found to have some 'Inadequacies in Financial Management for the year 2017/18 (initial report received from Audit Wales in April 2021). All inadequacies have been addressed and rectified and sound systems of financial management are now in place.
- The Council received a donation of £2,500 from the Cockling Processors for 2020.
- The Council has earmarked reserves of £10,000.

## **ASSETS**

- Yr Hen Gapel – Scheduled Ancient Monument in Llanybri
- The Headland Shelter – on the coastal path in the Sticks - Llansteffan
- A piece of land on the northern end of the Green – Llansteffan
- 2 Play Parks – Llanybri and Llansteffan
- Noticeboards and Display panels
- Public benches and picnic table

Full details are on the website.

## **MAIN EXPENDITURE in 2021 -2022**

- The Clerk's salary
- Maintenance of the two play areas
- Grass cutting
- New slide on the Morfa Play area
- Conversion of streetlights to LED
- Replacement of noticeboards
- Replacement of Council Laptop
- Grants and Donations to local groups

All financial information can be found on the Community Council website.

[www.llansteffanandllanybri.org](http://www.llansteffanandllanybri.org)

## AUDIT 2021/2022

The accounts for the year 2021 – 2022 were subject to an Internal Audit before being submitted to the external auditor, Audit Wales. The outcome of this audit is, as yet, undetermined.

## TRAINING

Most training is undertaken with One Voice Wales with some Code of Conduct training provided by Carmarthenshire County Council. All Councillors and officers are obliged to undertake the Code of Conduct training. A training plan will be developed shortly.

## KEY ISSUES DURING 2021 – 2022

- Resolving the issues relating to the Northern end of the Green
  - *Progress has been slower than expected and the Community Council is awaiting further contact and information from Carmarthenshire County Council. This work is ongoing.*
- Further development of Play Park in Llanybri (Parc Adrian)
  - *The Football Club, Llanybri Rangers, donated money for additional equipment in Parc Adrian.*
- Replacing and refurbishing noticeboards
  - *The Llansteffan noticeboards have been refurbished. Replacing the Llanybri noticeboard is underway.*
- Filling vacancies on the Council
  - *Four vacancies were filled by election in July 2021 and 1 by co-option.*
- Reviewing and completing several policy documents
  - *A number of policy documents and procedures required updating, several were done over the year.*
- Resolving the issue of the Definitive Map Modification Order (DMMO) for the Headland Path
  - *Progress has been disappointing due to staffing difficulties in the department that deals with Modification Orders. This work is ongoing.*
- Participating in the consultation on Lord's Park Farm with the National Trust
  - *Local consultation took place and there were additional opportunities for the residents to share their views by visiting Lord's Park.*
- Raising the profile of the Welsh language in council documents.
  - *The Council now has bi-lingual agendas and some other public documents*

## KEY ISSUES TO BE CONSIDERED IN 2022-2023 WILL INCLUDE:

- The Community Council has undergone many changes of members in a short period of time with two elections in 10 months. Establishing a cohesive, stable, well-trained council will be a priority in the coming months.
- The Llansteffan Consultation. This was begun during the summer of 2022 and will conclude in October. It is hoped that its recommendations will support the addressing of ongoing issues related to parking on the Northern end of the Green and the use of the whole of the Green and other areas in Llansteffan.

- To continue to work with the County Council Countryside Access team to seek a resolution for the Definitive Map Modification Order (DMMO) for the Headland Path.
- To secure a safe, all year round, footpath from the Northern end of the Green, past Lady Hamilton's bridge, to the beach.
- Repairs to Yr Hen Gapel, the Scheduled Ancient Monument.
- Repairs to the Headland Shelter
- To review council priorities and establish a programme of work which will best support the community through a period of inevitable challenges.

#### **ISSUES RAISED BY THE PUBLIC DURING 2021/2022**

- Car parking / camping on the northern end of the Green (*see Key Issues for 2022/2023*)
- Maintenance on the foreshore
- The use of herbicides for weed control
- Access to the Cockle beds
- Issues related to speeding, parking and tractors in the villages
- Planning related issues

#### **RELATIONSHIP WITH CARMARTHEN COUNTY COUNCIL**

- The Community Council enjoys a close working relationship with their County Councillor. County Councillor Jones attends all regular meetings and makes valuable contributions. Her monthly report can be found on the website.
- 2022/2023 will see a change in the County Ward as Llansteffan County Ward will combine with St Clears County Ward and will be served by 2 County Councillors.

#### **SUMMARY BY THE OUTGOING CHAIR**

The Covid pandemic continued throughout the early part of 2021- 2022 and with it the challenge of on-line meetings. This period saw a lot of changes to the membership of the Community Council. New members were recruited through one election and co-options. The Councillors have a variety of skills and experiences, and look forward to resolving some long-standing issues and initiating new works across the two villages.

#### **SUMMARY BY THE INCOMING CHAIR 2022 – 2023**

The Council has remained very active through what has been a very difficult period. The priorities identified for the coming year reflect what is important for the Council and the two villages. As we recover from the Covid-19 pandemic we face new challenges which must be identified and addressed for the benefit of the whole community.

Both Chairpersons have expressed their gratitude to Councillors for their hard work and support within both communities of Llansteffan and Llanybri.