



LLANSTEFFAN and LLANYBRI COMMUNITY COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT MARCH 2022 – MARCH 2023

This is the Annual Report for Llansteffan and Llanybri Community Council for the year ending 31st March 2023.

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:

Cllr. Brian Charles (Llanybri)	- retired April 2022
Cllr. Caroline Curtis (Llansteffan)	- retired April 2022, co-opted October 2022*
Cllr. Daff Davies (Llanybri)	- co-opted June 2022*
Cllr. Anthea Evans (Llansteffan) Vice Chair 21-22	- retired April 2022
Cllr. Rod Griffiths (Llansteffan)	- co-opted June 2022*
Cllr. Mel James (Llanybri)	- re-elected May 2022, resigned March 2023
Cllr. Carys Jones (Llansteffan) Chair 22-23	- elected May 2022*
Cllr. James Laws (Llanybri)	- elected May 2022*
Cllr. Cerian Lodwick (Llanybri) Chair 21-22	- re-elected May 2022*
Cllr. Ian Roberts (Llanybri)	- re-elected May 2022*
Cllr. Gareth Thomas (Llansteffan) Vice Chair 22-23	- re-elected May 2022*
Cllr. Hywel Thomas (Llansteffan)	- re-elected May 2022, resigned June 2022
Cllr. Lauren Stacey (Llansteffan)	- re-elected May 2022*
Cllr. Rhys Schelewa-Davies (Llanybri)	- retired May 2022

** Sitting Councillors at 31st March 2023*

Clerks/RFOs to the Council:

Rhian Worrell (Clerk/RFO - resigned June 2022)

Anthea Evans (Temporary Clerk/RFO - from June to October 2022)

Tina Roberts (Clerk/RFO - from October 2022 to present)

COMMITTEES

The following committees were established and active during 2022 -23:

- Finance Committee (Chair Cllr. Gareth Thomas)
- Human Resources (Chair Cllr. Gareth Thomas)
- The Village Green (North) (Chair Cllr. Lodwick)
- Planning (Chair Cllr. Lodwick)

FINANCE

- The income received by the Council from the Precept for 2022- 2023 was £20.000.
- The Council received a donation of £2,500 from the Cockling Processors for the 2021 season.
- The Council submitted and published its Annual Return and other Financial Information as required.

ASSETS

- Yr Hen Gapel – Scheduled Ancient Monument in Llanybri
- The Headland Shelter – on the coastal path in the Sticks, Llansteffan
- A parcel of land at the northern end of the Green – Llansteffan
- Play Park – Parc Adrian, Llanybri
- Play Park - Y Morfa, Llansteffan
- Noticeboards and Display Panels
- Public benches and picnic table.

MAIN EXPENDITURE in 2022 -2023

- The Clerk's salary
- By-Election costs
- Maintenance of the two play areas
- Grass cutting
- Conversion of streetlights to LED
- Replacement of noticeboards
- Grants and Donations to local groups

TRAINING

Most training was 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 was developed and published in 2022.

MAIN ACTIONS & PROJECTS DURING 2022 – 2023

Parc Adrian: New play equipment installed and completed - thanks to donation from the Llanybri Rangers.

Parc Adrian: New Recycling Bins installed.

Morfa Play Park: New slide installed.

Notice Boards: Council Notice Board refurbished in Llansteffan and new Council Notice Board in Llanybri.

Youth Council: Funding sought to set up Youth Council to involve younger community members in local issues.

Llansteffan Consultation: Participation in County Council Leader project for improvement of Llansteffan Village Green and other amenity areas. The independent consultation resulted in a comprehensive report in November 2022 which formed the foundation for a Brilliant Basics Funding Application in March 2023 to progress improvement works in partnership with Carmarthenshire County Council.

Meet & Eat Project: Voucher scheme to encourage residents to eat out and socialise during the cost-of-living crisis and to support local businesses over the winter months.

Definitive Map Modification Order (DMMO) for the Headland Path: Consultant appointed by Carmarthenshire County Council working closely with the Community Council to conclude the submission in 2023.

Public Consultations: The Council has actively participated in a number of public consultations which have a direct impact on our communities, including the Local Development Plan 2018 - 2033 and the Council Tax Premium Scheme for Second Homes and Empty Properties.

Lords Park Farm: Engagement with the National Trust has continued on the future of Lord's Park Farm.

Cockle Beds: The Council has continued to work with all stakeholders to ensure that access to the Three Rivers Fishery is operated effectively and with due consideration to public safety and amenity.

KEY ISSUES TO BE CONSIDERED IN 2023-2024 WILL INCLUDE:

Improvements to The Green, Llansteffan: Work in partnership with Carmarthenshire County Council will continue in designing and delivering comprehensive improvements to parking and amenity along the whole length of The Green.

Definitive Map Modification Order (DMMO) for the Headland Path: It is anticipated that the process will be concluded in 2023 as this Council works closely with the County Council towards completion.

Public Right of Way Order - Nant Jac crossing: The Council will continue to pursue the Order to establish a PROW from the north end of The Green to Ferry Point and to formalise the Coastal Path PROW along the length of Llansteffan Green.

The Bell Tower: To work with the National Trust to provide safe and convenient access to the Bell Tower points of interest.

Road Safety - Llanybri: To ensure the installation of traffic-calming measures on the north-eastern approach to the village through Section 106 funding previously secured.

Repairs to Yr Hen Gapel, Llanybri: Repairs to the Scheduled Ancient Monument are scheduled for 2023 and are expected to be completed over the summer months.

Repairs to the Headland Shelter: Tendered and budgeted for completion during 2023.

Youth Council: To establish a Youth Council following award of funding to engage local young people in the process of decision-making in their own communities and beyond.

Maes Griffiths Development: To work with Carmarthenshire County Council to liaise and mitigate the effects of the construction period on local residents and visitors.

Three Rivers Fishery: To continue to improve conditions for public safety and local amenity throughout the cockle-gathering season by initiating stakeholder consultation and liaison.

Funding for Community Voluntary Activities: To continue to support local initiatives which provide voluntary services to our residents - halls, clubs, associations, Clear Up Crew and others who give up time and energy to improve our quality of life.

Council Priorities: To continue to review council priorities and establish a programme of work which best supports the community through a period of inevitable economic and social challenges.

ISSUES RAISED BY THE PUBLIC DURING 2022/2023 include:

- Overnight-camping on the northern end of The Green, Llansteffan
- Access to the Three Rivers Cockle Beds
- Issues related to speeding, parking and industrial agricultural vehicles in and around both villages
- Issues related to Planning Applications

RELATIONSHIP WITH CARMARTHENSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Following the changes to electoral boundaries in the May 2022 Elections this Community Council area is represented by two County Councillors - Cllr. Philip Hughes and Cllr. Carys Jones. The Community Council enjoys a close working relationship with their County Councillors. County Councillor Jones is a Community Councillor and was Chair for 2022-23.

SUMMARY BY THE OUTGOING CHAIR - MAY 2022 - Cllr. Cerian Lodwick

The Covid-23 pandemic resulted in an unanticipated three-year term of office as Chair of the Community Council. I'm grateful for the hard work and support of all councillors, ex-councillors and officers during this period of grave uncertainty and many changes. I look forward to continuing to work with this positive and proactive council in my role as Councillor for Llanybri Ward.

SUMMARY BY THE INCOMING CHAIR - May 2022 - Cllr. Carys Jones

The Covid-23 pandemic recovery period continued throughout 2022-23 with the additional challenges of the cost-of-living crisis. These challenges have impacted on the well-being of our residents and brought additional pressures on the Council as we attempted to meet ever rising costs from a static income. I would like to offer thanks, on behalf of all our residents and councillors, to those "invisible" community members who work throughout the year to maintain and improve some of our public areas - cutting grass, cultivating, planting and watering floral displays and generally tidying-up. Your efforts do not go unnoticed, but are rarely acknowledged - diolch i chi.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the members who retired prior and following the May 2022 election for their collective decades of service to our communities. During 2022-23 we welcomed two new members to the Council and one returnee. Current councillors have a variety of skills and experience, and have resolved some long-standing issues while initiating new projects across the two villages. In a climate of ever-changing legislation, councillors have adapted to their many roles and met new responsibilities with vigour. Thank you to councillors, officers and residents for their commitment and ongoing support for ensuring that the parishes of Llansteffan and Llanybri grow as sustainable and flourishing communities.

Cllr. Cerian Lodwick.

CHAIR May 2019 - May 2022

Cllr. Carys Jones.

CHAIR May 2022 - May 2023.

All financial and other information can be found on the Community Council website www.llansteffanandllanybri.org