

	LLANFAIR YN NEUBWLL COMMUNITY COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT 2022-23	
1.	Introduction.	
	<p>This is the first Annual Report since the local government elections in May 2022. Following which the Council had 9 uncontested Council Members and two vacancies, one of which was filled following a Notice of Co-option in June 2022. 4 of those 10 Councillors are female, which is important for us as we try hard to reflect the demographics needs of the communities we represent.</p> <p>Our Councillors were Siân Enfys Jones (Chairman), Celfyn Furlong, Gwilym O. Jones, Gordon Owen, Lowri Owen, William Victor Owen, Sharon Parry, Einir Thomas, Gareth Thomas (Co-opted Member) and Dyfed Williams.</p> <p>All Members gave freely of their time and formally declined to accept the Statutory Members Allowance of £150 they were each entitled to receive.</p>	
2.	Financial Information.	
	Income and expenditure in the financial year which ended on 31 March 2023 is summarised as follows:	
	Balances brought forward from 2021/22	26,201
	Income from local taxation/levy	17,000
	Total other receipts	2,791
	Staff costs	4,406
	Total other payments	10,217
	Balances carried forward to 2022/23	31,369
	Total fixed assets and long-term assets	40,113
	The accounts have been fully audited submitted to Audit Wales and an audit opinion is expected later in the year. They must therefore be regarded as 'Not yet Audited'	
	Auditor General's report and audit opinion 2022-23 - Unqualified	
3.	Relationship with the Principal Council.	
	<p>The May 2022 Elections was also the trigger point for the implementation of the changes to the County Council Electoral Boundaries which saw Llanfair yn Neubwll join the communities of Bodedern, and Valley to create Bro'r Llynnoedd Ward. Two County Councillors: Gwilym Owen Jones and Ken Taylor were duly elected to represent the Ward, Councillor Gwilym O. Jones also serves as one of our community councillors. Both Councillors are regular attenders at Llanfair yn Neubwll Community Council meetings and are very supportive in dealing with queries from the residents in relation to services and any issues affecting residents.</p> <p>The Community Council also benefits greatly from having regular, positive dialogue with the County Council.</p>	
4.	Complaints.	
	No complaints were received about the work of the Community Council during the year.	

5.	Code of Conduct.
	Each one of our Community Councillors have formally declared their acceptance of office and pledged their agreement to abide by our Code of Conduct. Our Clerk is also fully conversant with the Code and associated guidance and is always on hand to advise when necessary.
6.	Governance.
	<p>The Council maintained high standards of governance and accountability and administered its own affairs effectively throughout the year. The Chairman and Clerk ensured that regular meetings were held and that decisions were made strictly in accordance with statutory policies and procedures. Minutes of all meetings are published on the Community Council Website.</p> <p>Annual Audits: Community Councils are audited twice a year. The first audit is an Internal Audit carried out by an independent person appointed by the Council. The Internal Auditor does a thorough check of the Council's books and accounting procedures and produces a report. The second, is an external audit carried out by the Wales Audit Office. They select a number of items for closer scrutiny and issue an Audit Opinion at the end of that process. The 'Annual Return' containing the Council's accounting figures, 'Annual Governance' statement and Auditor's Reports are available to view on the Council's website.</p>
7.	Assets managed and the services we provide:
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We represent our residents, we convey their concerns to the Community Council and, through it, to the County Council and Welsh Assembly Government; • We report back to residents on issues affecting the community; • We negotiate with, and influence, those other organisations that make decisions that affect the community; • We are consulted and give our views on planning applications; • We are consulted and give our views on highway maintenance issues, traffic calming matters, parking issues, street naming etc. • We deal with public rights of way issues – footpath and bridleway maintenance - Caergeiliog, Llanfair yn Neubwll and Llanfihangel yn Nhowyn have several miles of public footpaths; • We maintain Tre Ifan children's play area; • We maintain 10 bus shelters; • We serve on other Committees and Boards on behalf of the community.
8.	Achievements in 2022-23.
	<p>The key achievements during the year were as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Purchase and installation of a recycled plastic bench for the playing field; • Maintained the play area, footpaths and bus shelters to a good standard; • Provided support to the Village Hall; • Secured continuity of a regular bus service through Llanfihangel yn Nhowyn. • Providing grants to a range of local organisations .

9.	Challenges in 2022-23.
	<p>The Tywyn Trewan Board of Conservators' decision to disregard all opposition and erect a locked gate preventing vehicular access to Cymyran was still very unpopular with local residents had caused huge problems with parking by the RAF crash gate. They erected signs with no contact details on them, residents therefore assumed the Community Council was responsible and the clerk was inundated with the complaints.</p> <p>A similar situation arose at Beddmanarch SSSI - Natural Resources Wales with the support of some neighbouring properties were intending to erect a locked gate to prevent vehicles from going on the foreshore to launch jet skis etc. The Community Council was opposed to this as local fishermen, dog walkers etc still wanted access to the beach. It was eventually agreed not to erect a gate and that permanent prohibition signs would be erected instead.</p> <p>Traffwll Solar Farm: The Community Council objected to the proposal to create a Solar Farm at Glangors and several Councillors spent several days at the Welsh Assembly Hearings trying to protect the interest of local residents. The proposal has since been approved but the Community Council will continue to obtain the best possible outcome for residents.</p>
10.	Key Objectives for 2023-24
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To continue to provide an effective and cost effective service to our community 2. To continue to improve the facilities in the play area 3. To continue to upgrade the street furniture 4. To continue to provide support for the upgrade of the Village Hall 5. To review and impliment our Council Training Plan 6. To further our commitment to improving and protecting our environment and natural habitats.
11.	Training
	All Community Councillors attend training courses as appropriate and the Community Council is a Member of One Voice Wales which undertakes most of the training needs of local Councils. A separate Training Plan has been produced to reflect the needs of the Council.
12.	SECTION 6 THE BIO-DIVERSITY AND RESILIENCE OF ECOSYSTEMS DUTY REPORT 2022-23
12.1	Llanfair yn Neubwll Ward is committed to protecting the environment and promote sustainability and biodiversity by pursuing sustainability goals and sustainable practices whenever possible.
12.2	We monitored, maintained and protected the play area, public footpaths and rights of way within our area of jurisdiction, and ensured that they continued to provide access and amenity to residents and visitors alike. These footpaths provide direct access to Valley Wetlands, the RSPB reserve that includes Llyn Penrhyn, Llyn Dinam and Llyn Treflesg as well as provide direct access to the natural habitats surrounding Llyn Traffwll.
12.3	All planning applications submitted to the Community Council for consultation were scrutinised with a view to identifying any adverse impact on the environment. Particular care was given to ensure that any developmental impact on surface

	drainage, tree cover or impact on existing resources such as public rights of way was duly notified to the Planning Officers.
12.4	We adopted a sustainable procurement policy which included ensuring office supplies, benches etc were purchased locally and/or made from recycled material.
12.5	The Community Council is vigilant in ensuring that our Ward is kept clean and tidy and that any concerns about pollution, fly tipping etc. is promptly reported to the relevant authority.
12.6	Review of s6 duty
	The action taken to date has gone well but there is a need to identify more areas where changes can be made to enhance the environment.