

**CYNGOR CYMUNED  
LLANFIHANGEL-AR-ARTH  
COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

**ANNUAL REPORT  
2024-2025**

Approved:  
21.07.2025

## LLANFIHANGEL-AR-ARTH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

### ANNUAL REPORT 2024-2025

We are pleased to present the Annual Report of Llanfihangel-ar-Arth Community Council for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2025.

Llanfihangel-ar-Arth Community Council is a non-political Council and comprises of 11 Community Councillors:

- Cllr. Martin Griffiths (Chair)
- Cllr. Rhian Thomas (Vice Chair)
- Cllr. Wayne Cole
- Cllr. Annette Davies
- Cllr. Dylan Davies
- Cllr. Val Davies
- Cllr. Deian Griffiths
- Cllr. Angela Lake James
- Cllr. Glyn Jones
- Cllr. John Jones
- Cllr. Haulwen Lewis

We are also grateful to County Councillor Linda Davies-Evans who regularly attends our meetings in her role as County Councillor for the area of Llanfihangel-ar-Arth Community Council.

The Clerk to the Council and Responsible Financial Officer is Mrs. S. Anita Evans, Frongelli, New Inn, Pencader, Carmarthenshire. SA39 9AZ. Tel: 01559 384266.

e-mail: [cyngorcymunedllanfihangelarth@outlook.com](mailto:cyngorcymunedllanfihangelarth@outlook.com)

Of the eleven Councillors named above, nine reside within the area served by the Council, namely the villages/communities of Llanfihangel-ar-Arth, Pencader, Pontwelly, New Inn, Gwyddgrug, Dolgran and Alltwalis, with two residing within the distance permitted outside the area. There is currently one vacancy.

In May 2024, we were pleased to welcome Cllr. Wayne Cole as a new member of the Council.

We should wish to record our gratitude and appreciation to Cllr. Shirley Mason who resigned in October 2024 and thank her for her support and loyalty over recent years. We wish her every happiness for the future.

#### **Meetings**

The Council meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month at Tabernacle Chapel Vestry, Pencader, except for the months of August and December when no meeting is held.

In addition, the Finance Sub-Committee meets quarterly to monitor/review the Council's finances, while other sub-committees, namely Planning, Website and Premises, meet on the basis of need.

## **Budget**

Llanfihangel-ar-Arth Community Council receives its income primarily via the Precept. For the year 2024-2025, this amounted to £53000.

The Council's expenditure during 2024-2025 was mainly in respect of the following:

- Staff salaries
- Further payment in respect of upgrading street lighting to LED
- Maintenance of sites for which the Council is responsible, e.g. play area, cemeteries, public conveniences, war memorial
- Refurbishment of building at Pencader Cemetery
- Upkeep and maintenance of flower planters and seating in all villages within the Community Council area
- Further purchase and maintenance of defibrillators
- Requests for financial assistance, e.g. Local organisations – Urdd Gobaith Cymru, Cerebral Palsy, Pencader Family Centre, Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal, Carmarthenshire Toy Box Appeal.
- Eleven Councillors accepted the annual allowance payment of £156.00 each (some on a pro-rata basis due to length of service during the year) set by the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales. In addition, two Councillors claimed the additional allowance of £52.00 for consumables. The total remuneration paid to Councillors during 2024-2025 was £1898.00

A full breakdown of the Council's expenditure is available in the Annual Accounts for 2024-2025. Please refer to the Council's website.

## **Relationship with Carmarthenshire County Council**

The Council works closely with County Councillor Linda Davies-Evans who attends most meetings and is supportive in dealing with any queries from the Council and its residents in relation to services and any issues affecting residents within the Community.

The Council regularly communicates with Carmarthenshire County Council with regards to issues brought to the Council's attention which are governed by the County Council.

## **Training Plan**

The Council is a member of One Voice Wales which provides most of the training undertaken by Councillors and Clerk. During the year, the Council has reviewed both its Training and Development Policy as well its Training Plan detailing the proposed training to be undertaken by individual Councillors for 2025-2026, as well as providing information on training undertaken during 2022-2023, 2023-2024 and 2024-2025. This continues to be reviewed regularly and is amended as required at various times during the year. Councillors are regularly advised in monthly meetings of the training opportunities available.

## **Audit**

Annual accounts are subject to an Internal Audit by a professional person appointed by the Council prior to submission of accounts for External Audit by the Auditor General for Wales. Following conclusion of the External Audit, accounts as well as the Auditor's opinion are published on the Council's website. For the year 2024-2025, Llanfihangel-ar-Arth Community Council will receive a basic audit under the Auditor

General's new audit arrangements. A full audit was last undertaken for the year 2022-2023. It is a requirement since the year 2021-2022 that all Community Councils are subject to a full audit every three years, with a basic audit being undertaken during each subsequent year. The next full audit will be undertaken following the end of the year 2025-2026.

### **Complaints**

No complaints were received during the year 2024-2025.

### **Key Objectives for 2024-2025**

The Council's Key Objectives for the last year were:

- Review the upkeep of Pencader Cemetery, with maintenance as necessary especially the entrance area, and ensure that both Pencader and Alltwalis Cemeteries are kept to a high standard.
- To complete arrangements in order to facilitate hybrid meetings.
- To complete the leasehold transfer in respect of the Public Conveniences at both Alltwalis and Pencader.
- To prepare and publish its Biodiversity Plan.
- Review the Council's Welsh Language Scheme.
- Update the Council's Website.

### **Assets**

Pencader Play Area

Pencader Cemetery

Cemetery at Troedrhwi Chapel, Alltwalis

War Memorial at Pencader

Hen Wŷr Memorial at Pencader

Land for proposed Picnic Area at Llanfihangel-ar-Arth

### **Asset Transfers**

Arrangements continue to be ongoing regarding the transfer from Carmarthenshire County Council to Llanfihangel-ar-Arth Community Council of the Leasehold for the Public Conveniences at both Alltwalis and Pencader.

### **Activities**

Continued maintenance of play equipment at Pencader Play Area, which is very well used, to ensure a good and safe condition for the benefit of all its visitors.

Maintenance of all benches and flower planters in all villages served by the Community Council.

Maintenance of Pencader and Alltwalis Cemeteries, War Memorial and Hen Wŷr Memorial at Pencader.

Ensuring representation on / support of committees of local organisations.

Arranging the Annual Remembrance Day Service at the War Memorial in Pencader.

## **Achievements**

Further provision and maintenance of defibrillators as planned in specified areas of the Community Council.

Work completed on refurbishment of building at Pencader Cemetery.

Work completed on refurbishment of Public Conveniences at Pencader and Alltwalis.

Completing arrangements to facilitate hybrid meetings.

Further provision of LED lighting throughout the area.

Updating the Council's Website on a regular basis.

## **Priorities**

The Council's Priorities for 2025-2026 are:

- Review the upkeep of Pencader Cemetery, with maintenance as necessary especially the entrance area.
- To complete the leasehold transfer in respect of the Public Conveniences at both Alltwalis and Pencader.
- To complete ownership of the designated picnic area.
- To endeavour to complete the Council's Defibrillator Project.
- To appoint a new Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer for the Council.
- To continue to support improvements in our community while ensuring the continued maintenance of all services and facilities currently provided.
- To encourage members to be involved in as wide a range of organisations as possible within the area served by the Community Council.
- To complete and publish its Biodiversity Plan, ensuring implementation of its objectives.
- To ensure publication of all required documents on its website.

---

I am pleased to present the Annual Report for 2024-2025 for Llanfihangel-ar-arth Community Council. This report marks the end of the third year of the election term. It has been encouraging to welcome one new member during the last year and, it is sincerely hoped that the remaining one vacancy will soon be filled.

As you will note from the report, the Council has endeavoured to progress a number of issues of concern within the community and will continue to prioritise any issues / matters not fully addressed during 2024/2025 again during 2025/2026.

I should again wish to take the opportunity to thank all Councillors and Staff for their continued support, commitment and contribution to the role of serving the community, as well as to record the Council's appreciation to members of the electorate for their support of the work of the Council during the past year.

Martin Griffiths  
Chairman – Llanfihangel-ar-Arth Community Council

---