**ANNUAL REPORT**

**DYFFRYN ARDUDWY &TALYBONT**

**COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

**2024/2025**

**A WORD FROM THE CHAIRMAN – CLLR. WILLIAM HOOBAN**

It is a pleasure to present Dyffryn Ardudwy and Talybont Community Council's third annual report which records the work that has been undertaken in 2024/25 and how we are working with the community to improve the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of both villages to make them an even better place to live and visit. The vision is to “ensure that Dyffryn Ardudwy and Talybont continue to be a pleasant and welcoming place for people of all ages to live because they will feel safe, have opportunities to be physically and mentally healthy and to socialise and work in a quality environment. It will also be a place that welcomes visitors and lives with them easily.” The report aims to give a taste of the work of the Community Council during the year and how the Council promotes life for residents of all ages, business owners, societies and visitors to the villages. We acknowledge that this is a challenging environment for everyone and we are committed to work together with the community to achieve the vision. Although there are plenty of challenges for us as a Community Council, we have managed to carry out a number of exciting projects. It is a privilege to be Chairman of the Community Council.

**Membership**

**Llanenddwyn Ward Llanddwywe Ward**

Cllr. Deilwen Anderson Cllr. Beth Bailey

Cllr. Sian Edwards Cllr. Edward Griffiths

Cllr. John Ceri Evans Cllr. William Hooban (Chairman)

Cllr. Evan Owen Cllr. Denise Stone

Cllr. Nia Rees (Vice Chairman) Cllr. Sion Ifor Williams

Cllr. Edward Williams

Cllr. Jennifer Yuill

One Councillor represents the area on Gwynedd Council namely Cllr. Eryl Jones Williams.

In June Cllr. Steffan Chambers resigned as a Member of the Community Council and because there was no election been held, the Council co-opted Cllr. Deilwen Anderson as a Member of the Council in September.

**Staff**

The Council has one member of staff, Annwen Hughes, who is the Clerk and Finance Officer. She works part-time. The Clerk may be contacted by e-mail annwen@btconnect.com, letter to Crafnant, Llanbedr, Gwynedd LL45 2PH or phone 01341241613/07919582741.

**Meetings**

Normal meetings of the Council are held monthly except for August at the village hall, Dyffryn Ardudwy on the first Tuesday of every month.

**Website**

Information about the Community Council including the agenda for meetings, policies and news is available on the Community Council’s website: [www.cyngordyffryntalybont.co.uk](http://www.cyngordyffryntalybont.co.uk)

**EXTERNAL MEMBERSHIP**

The Community Council is a member of One Voice Wales, which is the main representative body for Community and Town councils in Wales. The Community Council elects Members to other external bodies, namely, Elin Humphreys Committee, village hall Committee, and the Governing Body of Dyffryn Ardudwy Primary School.

**ACCOUNTABILITY**

The Community Council has adopted a Member’s Code of Conduct and a register of interests is kept for each member. Each Councillor has to declare any interest they have in items to be discussed at the start of each meeting and these are noted in the minutes. The Community Council is audited by internal and external auditors annually. The internal audit is undertaken by the Audit Department of Gwynedd Council and the External Audit by the Wales Audit Office.

**FINANCE AND EXPENDITURE**

The Community Council sets a budget annually and monitors expenditure against budget throughout the financial year by receiving a regular report from the Clerk. The main source of income for the Community Council is the precept which is set annually and presented to Gwynedd Council in January for the following financial year. The precept is collected on behalf of the Community Council by Gwynedd Council and is the only source of tax revenue available to Town and Community Councils. The process of deciding on the level of precept includes the preparation of a draft budget on the basis of the financial situation of the Community Council by considering the likely costs, plans for projects, setting an amount for contributions - within the guidelines published annually - and any other financial matters. Consideration is also given to the reserves held by the Community

Council to ensure an appropriate precept is set. The level of precept was kept at £50,000 for 2024/25.

Income & Expenditure 2024/25

Income Expenditure

£ £

Bank Interest 765.60

Precept 50,000.00 Cemetery Income 11,606.00

Mantell Gwynedd SPF Grant 40,374.61

Reimbursement Footpaths Cutting 931.75

V.A.T Reimbursement 15,490.01

Cut Grass on Footpaths 2,160.00

Cut grass in play park 1,156.00

Cut grass around the new car park 135.00

Cut grass in all cemeteries 2,670.00

Cemetery Expenses 3,225.00

Cut grass in various locations 1,581.00

Upkeep of flower pots in Talybont 102.08

Eradicate Japanese Knotweed 120.00 Toilet Partnership 4,000.00 Clerk’s Wages 3,276,72

Clerk’s Costs 1,413.35

Tax on Clerk’s Wages 799.00 P.A.Y.E on line 228.00

Translator 1,458.70

Hire of Meeting Room 502.00

Internal Audit 2023/24 420.00

External Audit 2023/24 200.00

New fence around the football field 2,403.05

Inspection of Play Equipment 170.40 Development of Car Park (Final Payment) + Signs 49,047.93 Donation to Village Hall 6,000.00

Donation to Dyffryn Ardudwy Primary School 1,500.00

Donation to Cylch Meithrin y Gromlech 2,000.00

Donation to Football Club 1,500.00

Donation to Wales Air Ambulance 500.00

Donation to Snooker Club 500.00

Donation to Eisteddfod Ardudwy 500.00 Donation to Dyffryn Elves 500.00

Council’s Insurance 2,786.33

One Voice Wales Membership 348.00

Councillor’s Training 200.00

Christmas Trees 495.65 Christmas Lights 2,278.97 New Pads for Defib 60.00

Batteries for Defibs 268.00

Various 412.00

Bank Costs 107.00

£117,999.47 £94,881.18

**BUDGET**

The Council's precept is £50,000 and is earmarked as follows:-

Donates £4,000 to Gwynedd Council to keep the public toilets in Talybont open all year round.

The Council also pays a translator to attend Council meetings every month, and has spent £1,458.70 during this financial year.

The Council spends a substantial sum to cut the grass in the cemeteries of Llanddwywe and Llanenddwyn together with the public cemetery and this work is carried out every two weeks during April to October. Also spending a significant amount to cut the grass in the play park in Pentre Uchaf and also the pays to cut the grass around the new car park and this is done every two weeks, also the grass around various places is being cut every two weeks and the grass at Morlo Park and Penybont Garden and the grass on various public footpaths are cut at least twice a year. The cost of all this work in this financial year was £7,702.

The Council donates to various organisations in the area annually at their monthly meetings in October and March and have contributed £2,000 to Ysgol Feithrin y Gromlech, Dyffryn Ardudwy, £1,500 to the Dyffryn Ardudwy Primary School, contributed £500 to the Welsh Air Ambulance, £500 to Eisteddfod Ardudwy, £500 to Dyffryn Elves and £500 to the Snooker Club. The Council contributes £6,000 annually to the Village Hall Committee due to the Community Council been Trustees of this organisation. This contribution is included in the Council's precept, as is the £500 contribution to the Welsh Air Ambulance, £500 to the Snooker Club, £1,500 to the football club and £1,500 to Friends of the Primary School.

The Council annually orders a christmas tree to be placed near the toilets in Talybont and this year a christmas tree was ordered to be placed in the new car park in the village and also more christmas lights were purchased to be placed around the street lamps in the village of Dyffryn Ardudwy. Regrettably it was not possible to erect some in the village of Talybont as no poles were coming up to the required standard to hold them.

During the year the development of converting the old play park by the Post Office into a car park was completed and an official opening was held with some of the children from the local Primary School opening it. There is a lot of use been made of the new car park which is known as “Llidiart y Parc Car Park” and this means that it is possible to keep cars that need to use the Post Office or the nearby shop from parking along the side of the road and create more traffic jams in the village.

For the first time a Christmas fair and lantern parade was held on the 1st December that had been organized by some Members of the Community Council as part of the Christmas celebrations. This was a huge success with many children taking part in the lantern parade that started from the play park and along the village high street and to the Hall where Father Christmas was waiting for them. There were many different stalls in the Hall selling various items and Members of the Council were pleased to see the Hall full with some from nearby villages had turned. It is intended that a Christmas fair and lantern parade will be held again this year and this will take place on the 30th November.

**Council work and responsibilities**

**Property management**

1 play park namely Pentre Uchaf

The Public Cemetery

The Public Footpaths

Penybont Garden

Morlo Park

Bus shelters in the area

Public Seats

Arrange the Remembrance Day Service

**Administration**

Gwynedd Council appointed as Internal Auditors 2022/23

Allowances – review one Councillor claimed allowances of £156

Council website

Keep a risk assessment.

Keeping a record of interest