

CYNGOR CYMUNED
LLANGELYNNIN
COMMUNITY COUNCIL



ANNUAL REPORT 2021/22

May 2022

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Kevin Goodchild

Chairman of
Llangelynnin Community
Council 2021/22



Chairman's statement

2021/22 has been a challenging year for the Llangelynnin Community Council as our Council members and residents moved out of the COVID restrictions and life in the community started to return to some normality.

Despite this, several notable achievements were made throughout the year and on behalf of the Council I am pleased to present this first ever Llangelynnin Community Council annual report which details some of the services we have provided for the community and the governance and financial arrangements in place during this period.

First and foremost, the achievements of the Community Council in 2021/22 could not have been possible without the dedication and tireless work of our ten unpaid Community Councillors. I am pleased to report that excellent attendance rates of 100% were maintained for most of the meetings held and in addition to this, the Council also welcomed the input and commitment of the local County Councillor Louise Hughes who continued to help provide a voice for our community in promoting local issues within Gwynedd Council. This year was also a significant change to the Community Council Officer support with the recruitment of a new Clerk Debbie Taylor-Bond in October 2021. Debbie replaced the previous Community Clerk Glenda Edward's, and many will be aware that Glenda provided excellent and dedicated services in her role as clerk to the Council for some 10 years.

In terms of delivering for our community, throughout the year our Councillors continued to provide their strong governance of the community council. All members of the Council are unpaid for the work they undertake in the community and they have spent many hours of their own time communicating with residents, clearing debris from the beach, inspecting grit bins, providing transport of goods needed, fixing and repairing, inspecting and reporting issues in the villages, assisting residents in cutting back foliage, representing the Community at civic events including Remembrance Sunday and responding to Government consultations and numerous planning applications.

Of note this year, the Council arranged a scheme to support the realignment of the mouth of Afon Gwri. Prior to the work being carried out the council had to apply to Natural Resources Wales for a Flood Risk Activity Permit. The area of beach in question is a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and therefore there were numerous conditions of how and when the work could be carried out. The application took several months to determine because of Covid 19 but was finally issued for a period of four years at a cost of £360 in July 2021. The Council successfully bid for funding to pay for cost of the excavator and operator by the Gwynedd Council Rights of Way. The aim of the intervention was to make access to the beach and circular walk safer. It is not a permanent solution, but the work carried out in October 2021 has to date been successful but may have to be repeated if circumstances dictate.

Our residents are our eyes and ears within the community and your feedback and information has helped us to prioritise the work that is needed in maintaining and improving our local area. I would like to thank you all for your continuing involvement which I hope will continue in the future, in particular, special mention should be made to the donation provided by local resident Buddug Jones who is helping with the purchase of additional fitness equipment in the playpark, and the Robert's family who have donated a Christmas tree for Llwyngwrl for many years.

The Council receives an annual precept which is used to support the community objectives and the governance and compliance of the Council in undertaking its duties and caring for the environment. It also supports the maintenance and stewardship of our community assets and the promotion of areas of importance which help with both public access, our enjoyment of the area and last but not least, our community health and wellbeing.

Despite the annual cost of living increases the Community Council in 2021/22 did not apply for an increase in the annual precept for our community which has remained at £9,800 for the last three years. This has been achieved through strong financial management, using volunteers where possible and sourcing the best prices possible to provide the best value for money in everything we do.

In brief, when looking at the work undertaken during 2021/22, I can report that we continued to invest in improving the local community through the maintenance of the playground, grass verges and footpaths, protection of the verges around the war memorial, public conveniences, benches and noticeboards. In addition, the community council provided funding to support the Y Ganolfan and the St Celynnin Church.

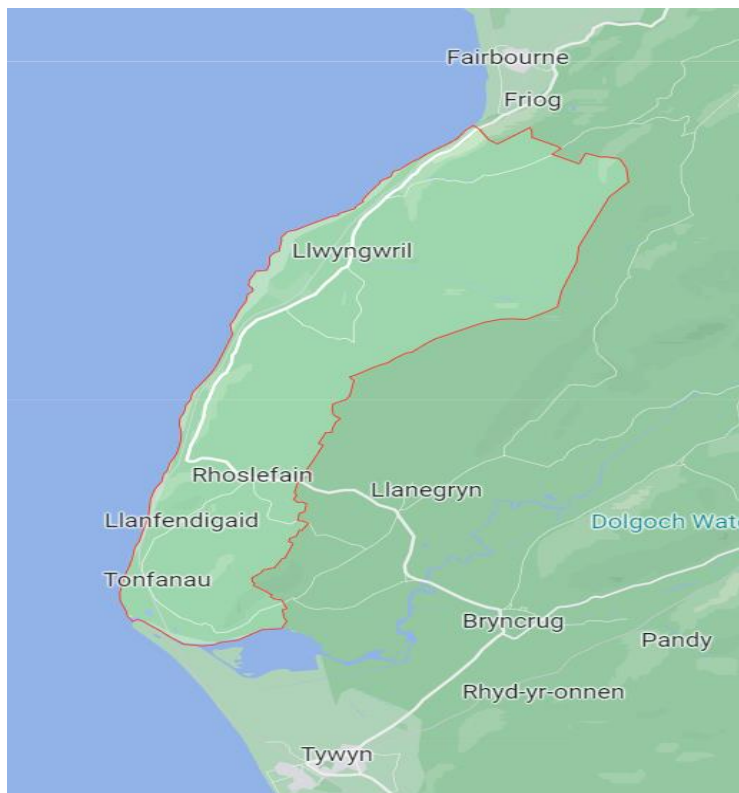
Key projects included the successful application of a small projects grant of £250 from the Snowdonia national park to assist with the replacement of a bench in Rhoslefain. This new bench is constructed with recycled plastic, and it will hopefully require less maintenance in the long term. The Council also secured funding from Gwynedd Council to assist in the footpath ground works around the river Gwrl.

Without a doubt, the work undertaken by all members of the Community Council and the input of residents during the challenging period brought upon us by the coronavirus pandemic has assisted in helping to improve Llangelynnin for our community and our many visitors to the area.

Kevin Goodchild – Chairman of Llangelynnin Community Council

Date. 7th April 22

1. Llangelynnin - Our Area and Community Council Annual Report



LLANGELYNNIN

Area covering Llangelynnin Community Council.

Llangelynnin fall within the Snowdonia National Park and has a population of 562 on its Electoral Register (Dec 2016) with the community ward covering Rhoslefain and Llwyngwril .

- **Community Council Annual Report 2021/22.**

In February 2021 the Community Council was advised of the introduction of a new duty under the Local Government and Democracy (Wales) Act to produce an annual report as soon as practicable after the 1st of April 2022 and annually thereafter.

There is no template for a community council annual report as the format and level of detail is expected to reflect the size and scope of council activity. However, the overarching purpose of the report is to provide the Council with an opportunity to detail its governance and financial arrangements, and demonstrate the work undertaken to both address any local concerns and improve the local area.

This is the first Annual Report for Llangelynnin Community Council for the financial year 2021/22.

2. Councillors

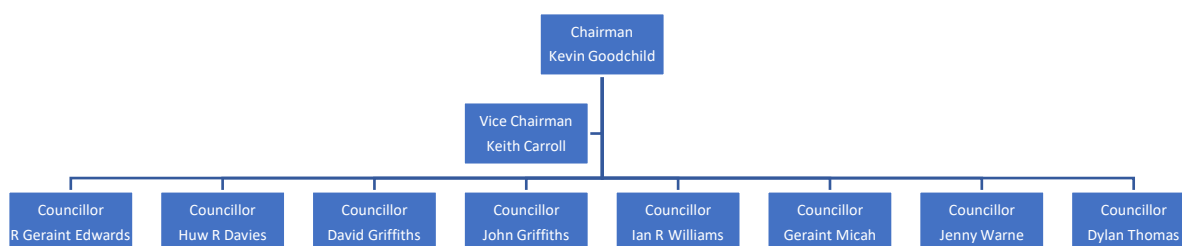
Llangelynnin Community Council has ten elected members who hold ten formal meetings a year. The meetings take place on the second Wednesday of the month with the exception of April and August when there are no meetings.

A Chair and Vice-chair are elected each year at the Annual General Meeting in May. Community Councillors are elected every five years. The next election will be in 2022. The present Councillors are members of the Community Council until May 2022.

The County Councillor for the ward is invited to attend every meeting.

2.1 Our Councillors in 2021/22

During 2021/22 the elected members comprised: -



Ward County Councillor - Mrs Louise Hughes

Clerk to the Council between April 2021 and November 2021 Glenda Edwards

between November 2021 and March 2022 Debbie Taylor-Bond

2.2 Meetings in 2021/22

In 2021/22, there were eleven formal meetings held on the following dates: -

April – no meeting	May 12 th 2021 (AGM)	June 9 th 2021	July 14 th 2021
August 11 th 2021	September 8 th 2021	October 13 th 2021	November 10 th 2021
December 8 th 2021	January 26 th 2022	February 9 th 2022	March 9 th 2022

Minutes of the meetings held were made available on the internal and external notice boards at Y Ganolfan and on the Llangelynnin Community Council website.

3.Key contact and information

The key contact for the Community Council is

Clerc – Mrs Debbie Taylor-Bond

Plas Y Machlud

Stad Gwastadgoed Isaf

Llwyngwriil

LL37 2LA

☎ 01341 250817 - Mobile 07830536645

✉ Clerc@cyngor-llangelynnin-council.org.uk

The minutes of the meeting are displayed on the external and internal notices boards at the Y Ganolfan and on the Llangelynnin Community Council website.

Dates of meetings are displayed on the internal and external noticeboard at Y Ganolfan and the noticeboard in Rhoslefain.

4. Governance and Compliance

Llangelynnin Community Council has a number of policies to support the governance of the Council which are updated regularly.

Code of Conduct for Members

Language Policy

Environmental Policy

Donations Policy

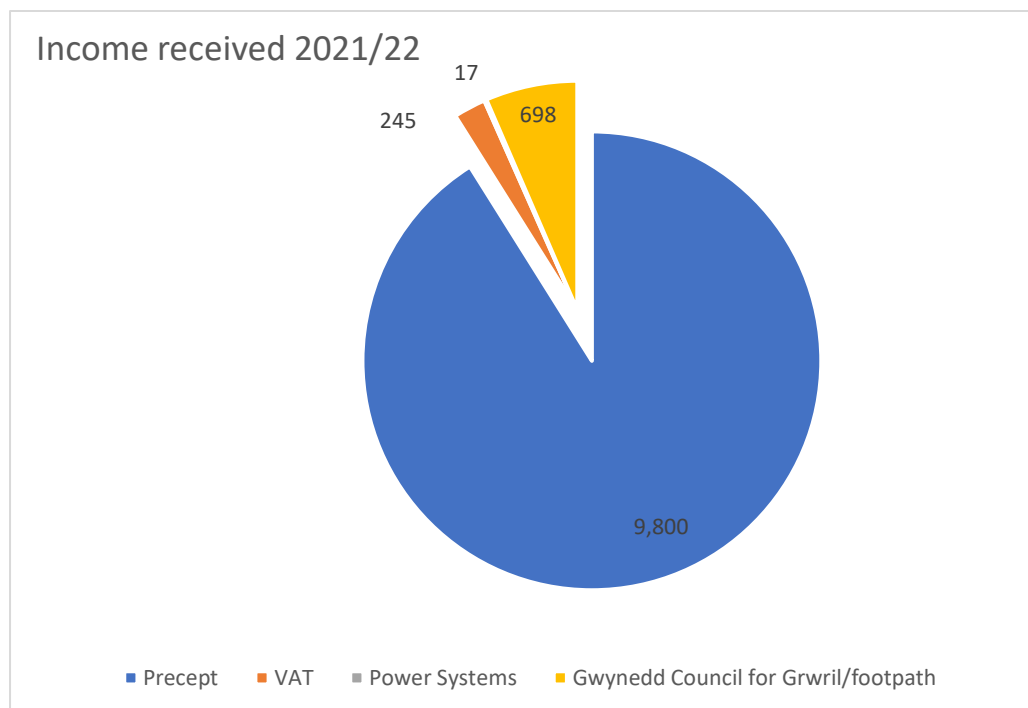
GDPR

Asset Register

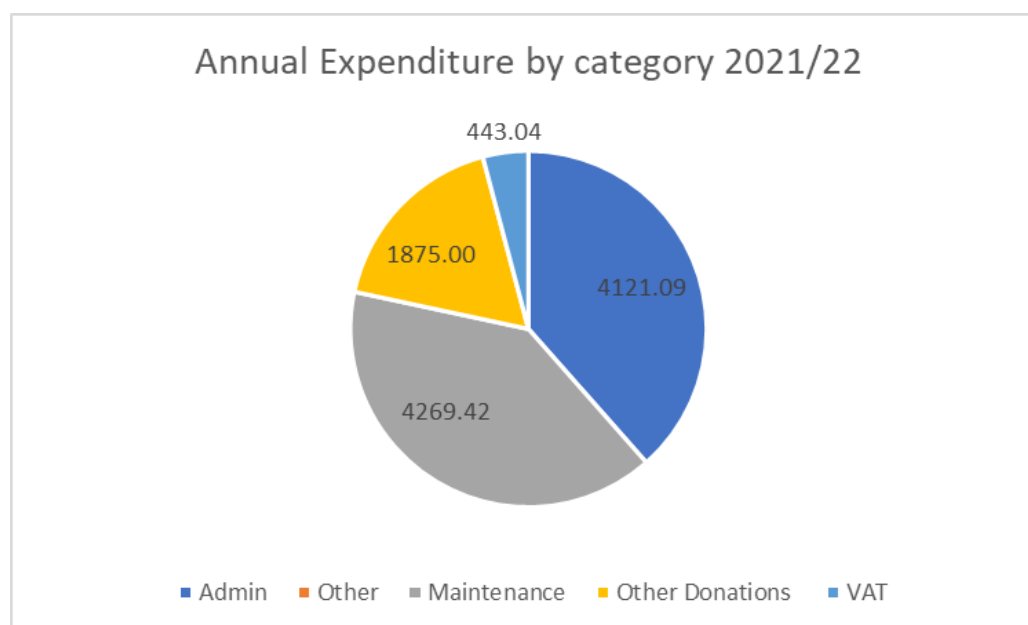
COVID Policy

5. Our finances and how we spend the precept

5.1 **Income** - The total income received in 2021/22 was £10,760.88.



5.2 **Expenditure** – In 2021/22 the total expenditure was £10,708.55. Maintenance works formed part of the highest spend in year and this included the contribution to the upkeep of the public toilets, grass cutting across the area including the playpark, replacement benches, works to the footpath near the river. The second largest area of spend related to the running costs for the Council including insurances, audit payments, clerk’s wages, licences and membership of the One Voice Wales.

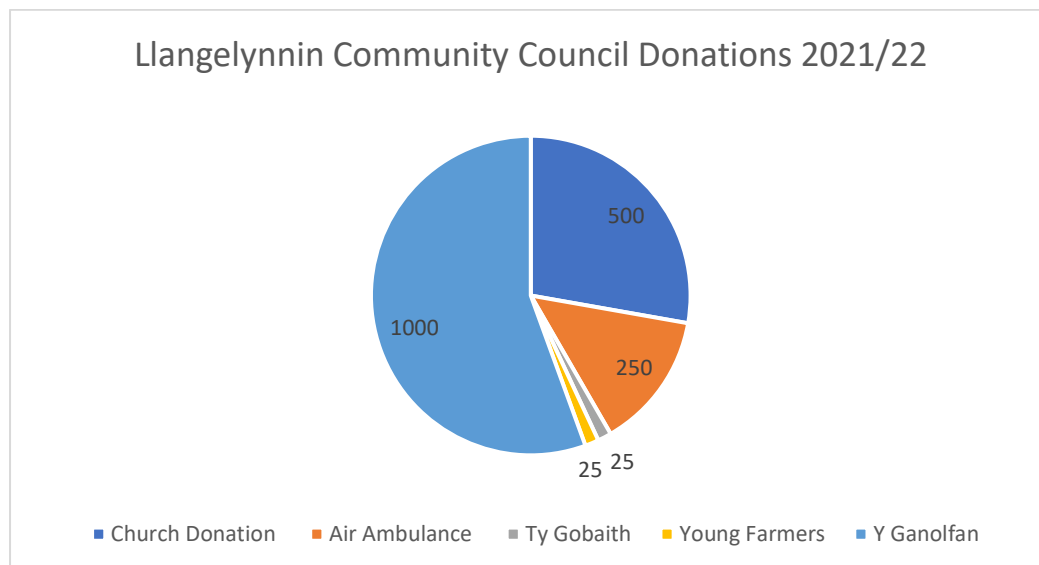


There were several items of unplanned expenditure that occurred throughout the year which added £826.00 of costs which were not identified in the setting of budget at the beginning of the year. This included the introduction of bank charges which took place from November onwards, licencing costs for Natural Resources Wales, electrical works for the xmas tree lights, the advertisement of the vacancy for a new clerk, a replacement bench at Rhoslefain and work to address a problem with moles in the playground. Funding for these items was assisted by savings made in not having to pay for the refilling of the grit bins.

5.3 Grants and Donations 2021/22

In 2021/22 the Community Council received a local donation of £4,000.00 for the purchase of additional play equipment. This equipment has been ordered and is planned to be in place early in the new financial year.

Llangelynnin community council made several charity donations in 2021/22 totalling £1,800.00 to help to support the continuation of both important Services and local organisations.



5.4 Audit and compliance

Audit for financial year 2020/21

As a small Community Council there are several annual financial actions that are required to be completed throughout the year. In 2021/22 the audit actions comprised of completing and sign off for the financial activities for the previous year 2020/21. This included preparation of the budget, receipt of the annual return from the external auditors, close and balance the cash book for the year, arrange an internal audit, complete the annual return, and display the notice inspection rights.

We received notification of the completed Audit for the financial year 2020/21 in March 2022. This was received later than normal due to delays caused by Covid restrictions. The notice regarding the inspection rights were publicised on 17th March 2022 and

displayed on the notice boards in Rhoslefain, and the external and internal notice boards in Y Ganolfan Llwyngwrl and on the website.

6. Activities in 2021/22 to help improve our local area.

The activities undertaken by the Community Council in 2021/22 were wide and varied and include: -

- Realignment of the mouth of the Afon Gwrl.
- Responded to consultations for double yellow lines
- Liaison on local Rights of Way issues and application for a modification order
- Reporting of damage to Playpark wall
- Reporting to Snowdonia National Park on local planning conditions
- Highway's liaison– speed reduction on A493
- Reporting of Japanese Knotweed
- Reporting of blocked footpath
- Review/receipt of the Gwynedd Highways works programme
- Report of safety concerns with parking near to the play park
- Report through to Network Rail and lobby for repairs to crash barrier between Llwyngwrl and Friog. Meeting representatives on site to discuss works.
- Arrange RoSPA playpark inspection
- Liaise on provision of new Playpark equipment including discussions regarding a local donation and meeting on site with RoSPA and
- Reporting of overgrown trees and weeds, drainage issues, boundary wall damage, road marking refurbishment to Gwynedd Council.
- Confirmation of maintenance works to war memorial
- Site visit with Gwynedd Council regarding obstructive parking on the main road in Llwyngwrl
- Traffic calming measures review with Gwynedd Council – traffic monitoring arranged
- Overgrown trees and weeds on Llwybr Perthi
- Acceptance of Snowdonia National Park tree planting pack
- Reporting waste collection issue to Gwynedd Council
- Responded and reviewed Government consultations for Second homes, the dangerous use of recreational and personal watercraft and the new technical advice note on development flooding and coastal erosion.
- Responded to Gwynedd Council on the Regeneration Framework
- Attending Remembrance Sunday to represent the local community
- Attending the presentation regarding the St Cadfan's Way
- Cleaning of war memorial
- Clearance of overhanging foliage Rhoslefain
- Arranging for xmas trees in Llwyngwrl and Rhoslefain
- Clear debris from Llwyngwrl Beach
- Liaised with Gwynedd Council regarding road closures and reporting traffic management issues.

7. Our Achievements in 2021/22.

LOCAL DEVELOPMENT Responded to 24 planning applications	ROADS AND HIGHWAYS Contact with Gwynedd Highways on 21 highways issues	ASSET MAINTENANCE Successful bid for small grant of £250.00 towards a replacement bench	MAINTAINING ACCESS Successful bid of funding for footpath works near to river Gwriil of £498.00
FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT No increase in local precept 2019 - 2021	SAFETY Contact with Network Rail to help with scheme prioritisation of safety barrier renewal.	REPRESENTING COMMUNITY NEEDS 5 site visits with organisations including Gwynedd Highways/Network Rail/RoSPA	REPRESENTATION Over 85% of Council meetings achieved 100% attendance
FINANCIAL COMPLIANCE Successful Audit achieved for 2020/21	GOOD GOVERNANCE Updating of language policy, donation policy and environment policy, asset register.	COMMUNITY REPRESENTATION Represented the Llangelynnin area at Remeberance Sunday event in the village and St Cadfans footway consultation in Twywn	