



2021/22 ANNUAL REPORT

CYNGOR CYMUNED LLANTRISANT
LLANTRISANT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

FORWORD FROM THE CHAIR

CLLR JULIE BARTON



I am delighted to introduce Llantrisant Community Council's Annual Report for 2021/22.

This municipal year began in the second year of the coronavirus pandemic and throughout that period the Council faced similar challenges in carrying out its functions to the whole public sector, businesses, communities and people throughout the land.

It has been a year of continuous transition, as government regulations changed, frequently requiring the Council to review its operations as we moved from stricter ways of working throughout 2021 towards the easing of restrictions, and by the time this report was published in May 2022, the return to a semblance of normality.

On behalf of the Council, I wish to put on record our thanks to our amazing staff for the way they continued to provide services to the public throughout this challenging period. By and large, the day-to-day services continued to be delivered to the high standard expected.

Some of the larger project works suffered some delays, and of course many of the events we would normally run were not possible.

Nevertheless, as we emerge, we hope from the worst of the last two years, we look forward to a full programme of activities in the coming year, including the celebrations of Her Majesty the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

May I also take this opportunity to thank my fellow Councillors for their work throughout the year and convey to those who retired at the 2022 Local Government Elections our gratitude for their service and our very best wishes for the future.

This Report is written in a format which reflects our duties under the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act, and we hope as residents you will find it informative and helpful.

ABOUT THE COUNCIL

Llantrisant Community Council first came into existence along-side Llantrisant & Llantwit Fardre Rural District Council in 1894. It then became Llantrisant Parish Council before becoming Llantrisant Community Council in 1974 following the creation of Communities in Wales by the Local Government Act 1972.

Llantrisant Community Council is made up of the four wards of Beddau, Llantrisant, Talbot Green and Tynant. Overall, there are fourteen elected Members (Councillors) that represent the four wards, serving an electorate of 10,912.

Community councils have a wide range of duties and powers vested by Acts of Parliament. They may determine the types of positive actions and activities that is likely to achieve the promotion or improvement of the economic well-being, social well-being and/or environmental well-being in their communities. Community Councils cannot act beyond their duties and powers.

The Community Council Office is open to the public Monday to Friday between the hours of 9.30am and 1.30pm.

**Parish Office
Newbridge Road
Llantrisant
Rhondda Cynon Taff
CF72 8EX**

**Telephone: 01443 223796
Email: office@llantrisant-cc.gov.wales
Twitter: @Llantrisantcc**

MEMBERSHIP OF THE COUNCIL

Llantrisant (4 Members)

Cllr Brian Farr	Labour
Cllr Tony Crutcher	Labour
Cllr Allan Mattheson (Vice Chair of Council)	Labour
Cllr Adam Robinson	Conservative

Beddau (4 Members)

Cllr Julie Barton (Chair of Council)	Labour
Cllr Veronica Nicholas	Labour
Cllr Carys Romney (Co-opted from January 2022)	Labour
Cllr Sam Trask JP	Conservative
Cllr Kerrie Williams (until December 2021)	Labour

Talbot Green (3 Members)

Cllr Stephen Powell	Labour
Cllr Paula Williams (until December 2021)	Independent
Cllr Jeff Woodington	Labour
Cllr Glynne Holmes (Co-opted from January 2022)	Labour

Tynant (3 Members)

Cllr Ron Hunt	Labour
Cllr Mal Davies	Labour
Cllr David Nicholas	Labour

COUNCIL MEETINGS

Llantrisant Community Council meets ordinarily on the second Tuesday of each month, typically at 6.30pm. During much of last year the meetings were held entirely online, in line with pandemic regulations. Towards the end of 2021, meetings began to be held in hybrid format – i.e. with some members attending in person, and others by remote attendance.

One of the legacies of the past two years, which has been enshrined in the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act of 2021 is that the Council will now continue to meet in the future with this hybrid facility available.

This means that Councillors and members of the public may attend our meetings in person or online, entirely at their own discretion, and we have facilities in the hall now to enable this.

STAFFING

CLERK & PROPER OFFICER

**MR GERAINT HOPKINS JP
(SINCE OCT 2021)**

RESPONSIBLE FINANCIAL OFFICER & DEPUTY CLERK

**MRS ALISON JENKINS
CILCA**

ASSET SUPERVISOR

MR JASON AKERS

OUTSIDE ASSET MAINTENANCE

MR LEWIS WILLINGTON

CLEANER: CAERLAN HALL

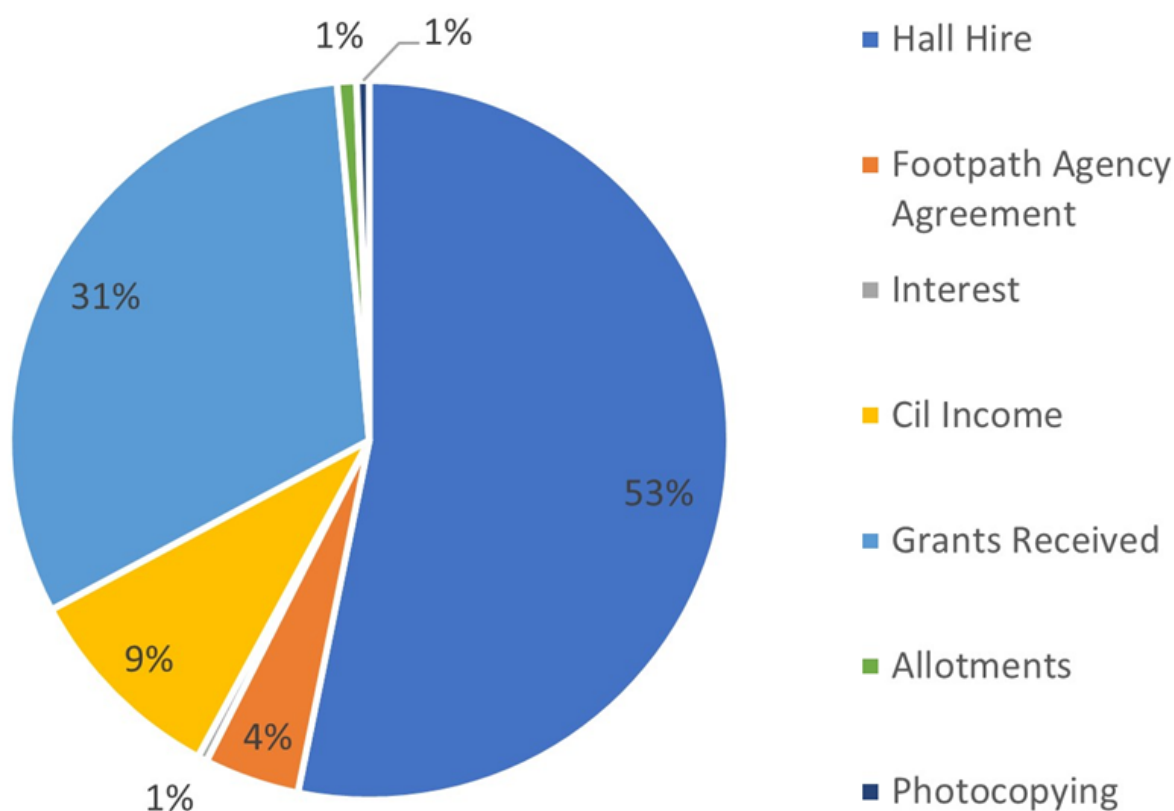
MR MICHAEL SHEVYN

CLEANER: LLYS Y CWM HALL

MRS LYNNE JONES

FINANCE

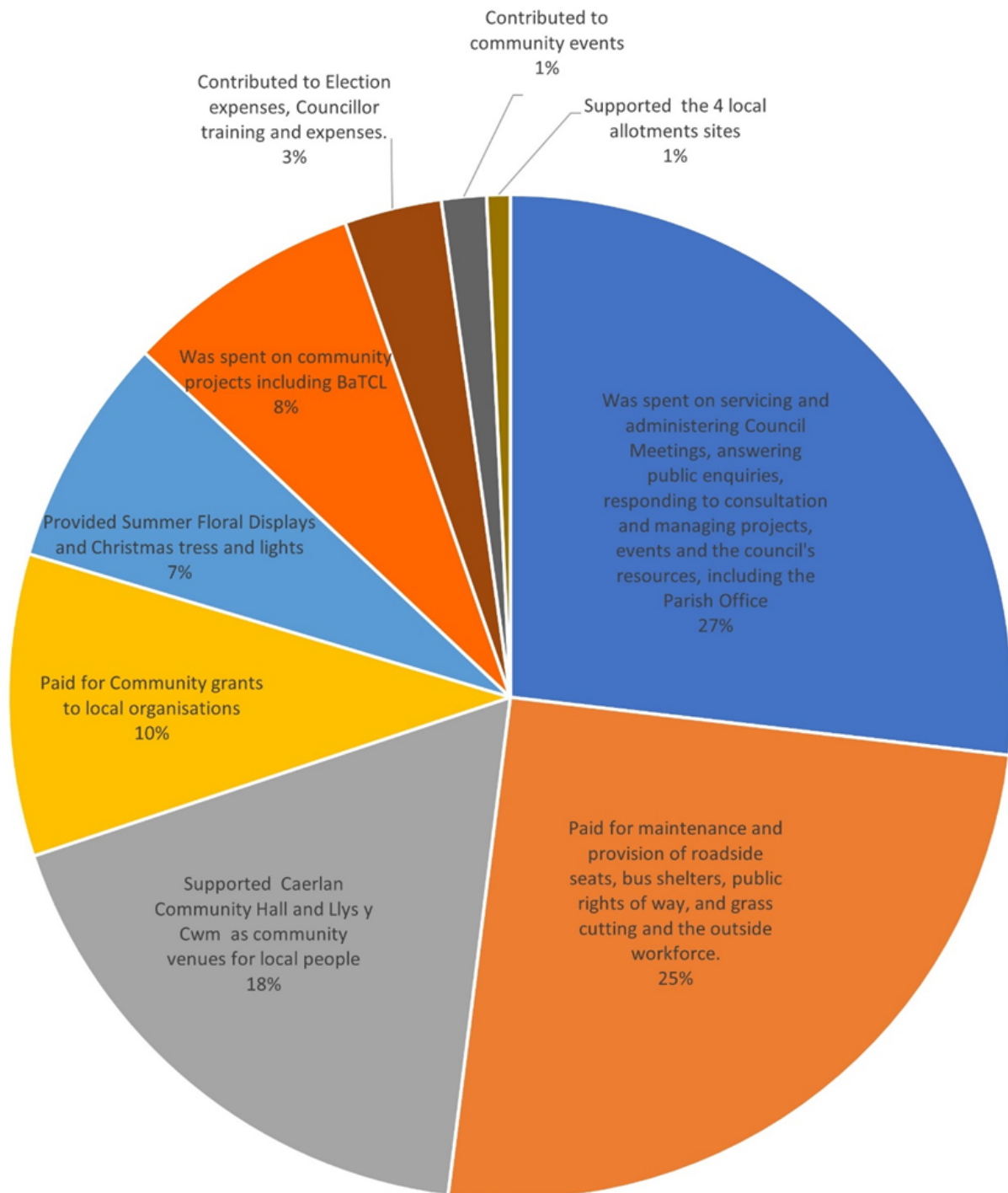
Other income 2021/22



The main source of funding for community councils is the funds raised through what is referred to as a precept (a charge) to council tax under section 41 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992.

Llantrisant Community Council must calculate its budget requirement for a financial year in accordance with section 50 of that Act and issue a precept to the billing authority. In 2021/22 the Llantrisant Community Council precept was £230,841. A band D property for Council Tax paid £43 for the year towards the Community Council. The remaining income generated by the Community Council comes from hire charges for Caerlan and Llys y Cwm hall, allotment rents, interest, grants, RCT agency agreement and Community Infrastructure Levy payments.

Expenditure 2021/22



THE COUNCIL'S DUTY TOWARDS WELL-BEING

The Wellbeing of Future Generations Act was introduced in 2015 by the Welsh Government with the aim of improving the social, economic, environments and cultural wellbeing of Wales.

The Act is seeking a more joined-up approach between public bodies to think about the long-term to create the Wales that we all want to live in, now and in the future.

Llantrisant Community Council is not a member of the Public Service Board but has a duty to take reasonable steps towards meeting the local objectives as set out in the Cwm-Taf Well-being Plan 2018-2023 and publish an annual report of the progress which we have made.

We have a statutory obligation to publish an annual report and demonstrate on the progress which we have made towards the Cwm-Taf Well-being Plan 2018-2023.

The Cwm-Taf Wellbeing Objectives:

Cross Cutting Objective: Tackling Loneliness and Isolation
We will work in new ways to channel the undoubted strengths of our communities, including volunteering to tackle more effectively the loneliness and isolation which often exists within many of them.

Objective 1: Thriving Communities

To promote safe, confident, strong, and thriving communities improving the well-being of residents and visitors and building on our community assets.

Objective 2: Healthy People

To help people live long and healthy lives and overcome any challenges.

Objective 3: Strong Economy

To grow a strong local economy with sustainable transport that attracts people to live, work and play in Cwm Taf.

TACKLING LONELINESS & ISOLATION

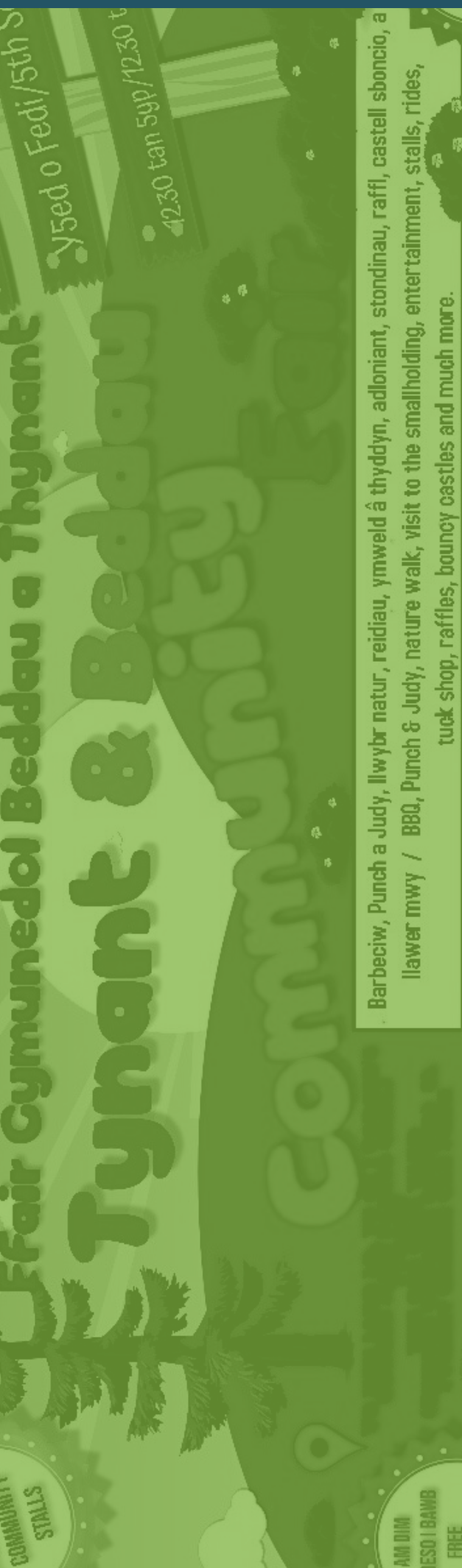
TYNANT & BEDDAU COMMUNITY FAIR

The Council was very involved in the Tynant & Beddau Community Fair in 2021, with the maintenance staff preparing the Old Coal Yard in advance ready for use, and the events organisation capacity of the Parish Office fully deployed to making the event a success. Convened with the community under the Chair's direction, the event was extremely successful, and was a welcome event for the community after the easing of lockdown restrictions.

Following the success of the event, the Council agreed with the Chair's proposal to hold a further event in the Spring of 2022, which was again an enormous success, and enjoyed by people of all ages within the community.

CHRISTMAS

Christmas events returned in 2022 for the first time since the outbreak of the pandemic. We organised a community event at Beddau and Tynant Community Library in partnership with a range of organisations, including ~Litter Free Beddau & Tynant.



TACKLING LONELINESS & ISOLATION

CHRISTMAS (CONTINUED)

In Llantrisant town, the lighting of the Christmas Tree returned, and Father Christmas was present to lead the singing of Carols around the Christmas Tree, with the support of the Model House, and businesses like O'Sullivan's which prepared mulled wine and mince pies.

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

The Community Council was proud to play its part in the community's commemoration of Remembrance Sunday, assisting with the technical and practical arrangements for both the Llantrisant service on the Bullring, and for the first time playing the lead role in organising the service at the Memorial Gardens in Beddau and Tynant.

Objective 1:

THRIVING COMMUNITIES

Providing Meeting Space

The Community Council own 2 halls:

Caerlan Hall, Newbridge Road, Llantrisant

The larger of the 2 halls, holding up to 100 seated. Caerlan is regularly used by local community groups such as Welsh Classes, Gwynfa Camera Club, Ballet lessons, yoga and Llantrisant WI as well as being booked for parties.

Llys y Cwm Hall, Gwaunmiskin Road, Beddau

Llys y Cwm the home of the home of the local Meithrin and is also used for other groups throughout the week.

As with most other public indoor facilities, the halls were closed for much of the past two years. As restrictions have eased, many of our groups and hirers have started back, and its been good to see old and new beginning to gather again.

Grants

During 2021/22 the Council provided over £20,000 in grant money to support over 50 community organisations and groups. These groups are vital to the richness and diversity of community life and activities, and the Council is proud to exercise this important role to support them, especially as we emerge from the pandemic.

Security and Safety

Throughout 2021 and 2022 the Council worked in partnership with the South Wales Constabulary and community organisations to improve community safety. Through a joint project with the Safer Streets initiative, we installed a new security camera at the Old Coal Yard, Tynant. We worked closely with our community police officers and CPSOs throughout the year. The Council operates another security camera at Codgers' Corner which was accessed on a number of occasions by the Police to assist in inquiries.

Pride in Appearance

The Council and its staff take great pride in the community it serves, and much of the work our maintenance team does improves the appearance of the area.

Our floral display involved around 90 baskets and 50 planters throughout the community during the summer and were well received by residents. Our community gardens, such as Hunters Gate field, Mount Pleasant, etc. are kept beautifully by our team for the public's enjoyment.

And throughout the year, the team went above and beyond our expectations, by cleaning and making more easily accessible areas like the Castle steps, community paths, and removing fallen trees blocking pathways.



Objective 1:

THRIVING COMMUNITIES CONTINUED

Dog Waste Bag Dispensers

Dog-walking is a healthy and increasingly popular pastime, and it has been encouraging to see so many using the community route and facilities on offer. Unfortunately, dog fouling has been on the rise, and to counter this, and encourage responsible dog-ownership, the Council operates ten dog waste bag dispenser units throughout the community to encourage those who may have used their last or forgotten to bring with them a bag to pick up after their dog.

Litter Hub

Llantrisant Community Council continued throughout the year to work in collaboration with Keep Wales Tidy to host a Caru Cymru Litter Picking Hub to help make our community a cleaner and safer place to live, play and work. As a hub we have a supply of 20 litter pickers, hoops and hi-visibility jackets along with a supply of RCT rubbish bags.

Litter-free Beddau and Tynant already have a supply of litter pickers available to the local community. The Parish Office now provides for the Llantrisant and Talbot Green area too.

Equipment can be borrowed free of charge by individuals, groups, schools, organisations and businesses. Once they have completed their litter pick we work in partnership with RCT Streetcare to ensure the full bags are collected.

Objective 2:

HEALTHY PEOPLE

DEFIBRILLATORS

The Community Council has worked in partnership with community organisations and others to provide a network of emergency defibrillators throughout the Llantrisant and Talbot Green area.

The locations of our defibrillators can be found at: www.defibfinder.uk

ALLOTMENT COMPETITION

Allotments are a great way for people of all ages to grow and use good, healthy food, and gain fresh air and exercise while doing so. Our allotments are also a place where plotholders come together to share their experiences, learn from each other and support each other.

Llantrisant Community Council operates four allotments sites: Brynteg, Penycoedcae, Southgate and Tynant. The popular annual Allotments Competition was held again, which drew entries from across all four of the Council's allotments sites.

Objective 3:

STRONG ECONOMY

LLANTRISANT BUSINESS FORUM

We have worked closely with Rhondda Cynon Taf officers responsible for town centre development and regeneration to re-establish and promote the Llantrisant town Business Forum. The events we run in partnership with the community help to bring more people in to the town and spend their money in local businesses. Whilst there were much fewer events during this year due to the changing situation with the pandemic, the objective is to return to our full programme in 2022/23.

NEW BUS SHELTERS

The quality of our public transport network in our community depends not only on well-run, efficient buses, but also the physical infrastructure in place to support people using the services. In partnership with RCTCBCI, 5 of our bus shelters were replaced on the 100 bus route through the community. A new sedum bus shelter had been ordered for the Gwaunmiskin terminus.

Objective 3:

STRONG ECONOMY

NEW BENCHES

Benches well-placed throughout the community are pleasant for people to sit and enjoy some of the spectacular views on offer in our area. They do however also have an added benefit of encouraging more people of differing abilities to get out and about, safe in the knowledge that there are places to stop and rest on the way.

Six new benches were installed throughout the area by our maintenance team, including five on the Community Route, and one memorial bench on Llantrisant Common. The Council now maintains over 110 benches in the community.

Other Statutory Functions

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT CONTROL

Community and town councillors represent the people living in their local area at the closest level to the community. When decisions are being made, they are there to put the views of their electors across.

Local councils have an important role and contribution to the planning process. The Local Planning Authorities have a duty to notify local councils on any relevant planning applications as well as any decisions on a planning application within the local council area. At its meeting Llantrisant Community Council considers all planning applications and makes comments to Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council when warranted.

