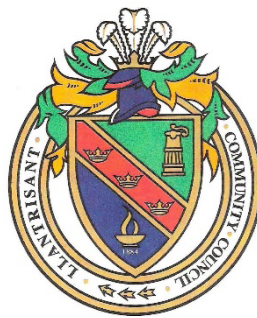


CYNGOR CYMUNED LLANTRISANT LLANTRISANT COMMUNITY COUNCIL



ANNUAL REPORT 2023/2024

Published by Llantrisant Community Council

on 13th May 2024



Foreword from the Chair

Cllr Anne Callow

It's my great pleasure to introduce Llantrisant Community Council's Annual Report for the municipal year 2023/2024.

It has been another extremely busy and productive year for the Council and a time of growth and change.

As a Council we are proud to say that this year has seen several new developments which have resulted in tangible benefits for the communities we represent:

We have strengthened our outside maintenance team so that we can respond better and more quickly to maintain the appearance of our communities to a high standard.

We've taken over the responsibility for running Beddau Community Centre, which is a significant investment in the community amenities at that site for the benefit of residents in Beddau and Tynant.

We've strengthened our Events and Public Engagement capacity, running nine major events across the community and using our human and other resources to support many more.

We've awarded nearly £40,000 in grant support to around 40 community groups, clubs and sports associations in the Llantrisant, Talbot Green, Beddau and Tynant Area, including a block grant to support Beddau and Tynant Community Library, and a block grant to the local food bank.

We've continued to ensure our local environment is kept clean and attractive. Our staff have worked tirelessly to ensure that our gardens, flowers and planters are kept immaculate. Graffiti is washed away and repairs and maintenance kept up at our halls and other assets. We're enormously grateful to the many volunteers who support our work as a Keep Wales Tidy Hub, and help clear litter on weekends. We've also established a new partnership with HM Probation Service, which has provided much extra capacity to respond to local issues.

We've made extra efforts and put in more resources to bring our street furniture, halls and assets up to a superb presentable standard.

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.

May I also take this opportunity to thank my fellow Councillors for their work throughout the year which is entirely on a voluntary basis.

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.

A community council like ours is not a huge organisation, and we have limited funds, but I believe we punch well above our weight in delivering for the residents and businesses of this community. I hope you enjoy reading our report.

Cllr Anne Callow

Chair of Llantrisant Community Council 2023/2024

Contact the Council

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

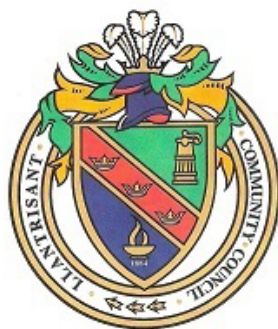
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Telephone: 01443 223796

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X: @Llantrisantcc / Facebook: Llantrisant Community Council



About Llantrisant Community 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.

Membership of the Council 2023/2024

The Membership of the Council during the Municipal Year was as follows:

Llantrisant (4 Members)

Cllr Anne Callow
Cllr Lynne Murdoch
Cllr Adam Robinson
Cllr Ellie Townsend Jones

Labour
Labour
Conservative
Labour

Beddau (4 Members)

Cllr Julie Barton
Cllr Mal Davies
Cllr Dr Catherine Preston
Cllr Paul Thomas

Labour
Labour
Labour
Conservative

Talbot Green (3 Members)

Cllr David Brown
Cllr Glynne Holmes
Cllr David Myles

Labour
Labour
Labour

Tynant (3 Members)

Cllr Ron Hunt
Cllr David Nicholas
Cllr Carys Romney

Labour
Labour



Council Meetings

Llantrisant Community Council meets ordinarily on the second Tuesday of each month, typically at 6.30pm. All of the full meetings of Council are held in hybrid format – i.e. with the facility for elected members and the public to attend in person or online. Some of our Standing Committees meet in hybrid format, but mostly they have been held entirely online.

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.

Council Staff

During the municipal year 2023/2024, the Council employed seven members of staff to carry out the decisions of the Council across a range of functions and services.

The staff at the time of publication of this Report were as follows:

Clerk and Proper Officer:	Mr Geraint Hopkins JP BA (Hons)
Responsible Financial Officer and Deputy Clerk:	Mrs Alison Jenkins CiLCA
General Maintenance Manager:	Mr Jason Akers
General Maintenance Officer:	Mr Gareth Povey
Halls Caretaker:	Ms Amanda Stokes
Events and Public Engagement Officer:	Ms Stephanie Todd
Summer Labourer (From 1st May 2024):	Mr Blake Richardson



***The Council operates two vehicles to deploy outside maintenance staff across the community.
The Renault (left) is fully electric.***

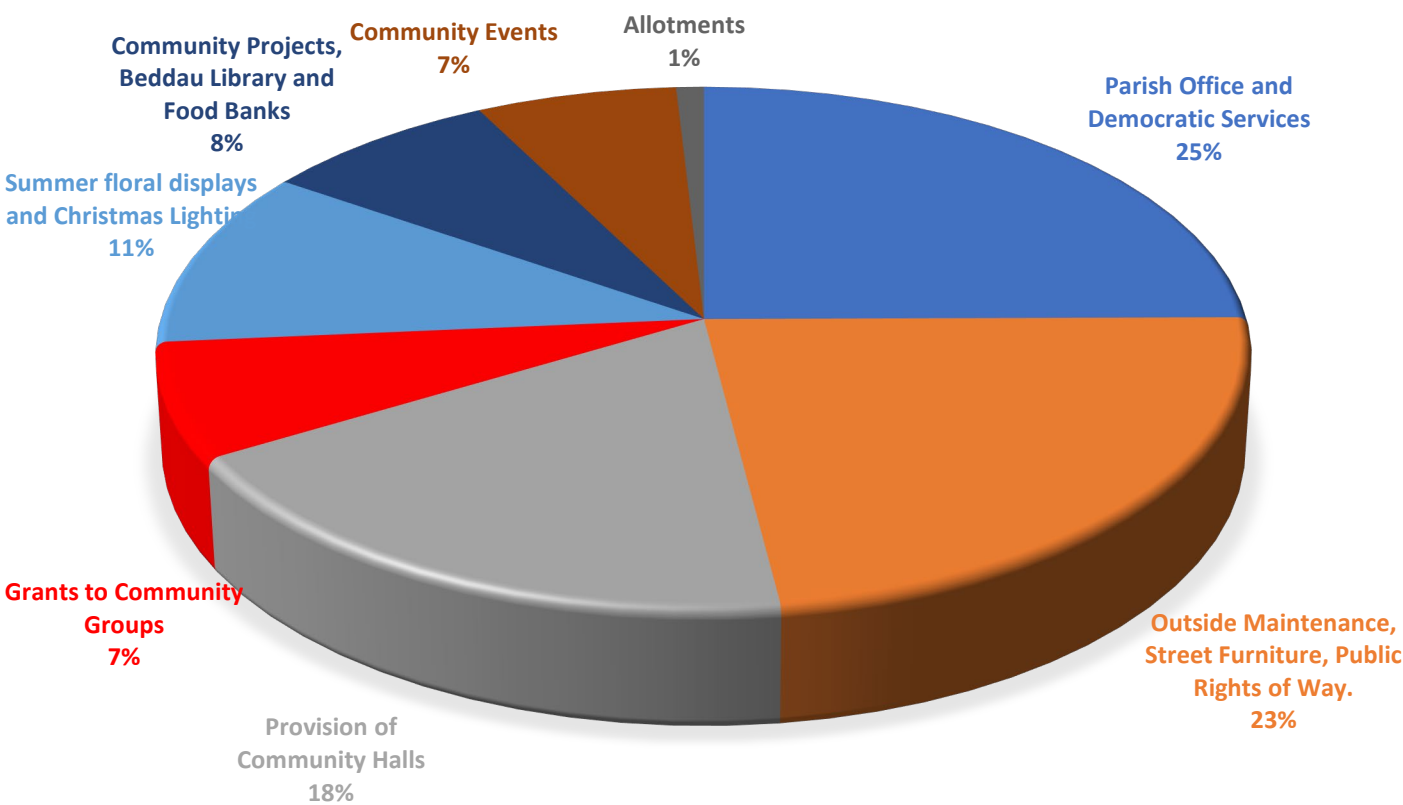


Finance

The main source of funding for community councils is the fund 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 2023/2024 the Llantrisant Community Council precept was £295,315. A band D property paid £55 for the year towards the Community Council (£1.06 per week). The remaining income generated by the Community Council comes from hire charges for community halls, allotment rents, interest, grants, RCT agency agreement and Community Infrastructure Levy payments.

WHERE WE ALLOCATED RESOURCES IN 2023/24



The Council's duties 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 for Cwm Taf Morgannwg but has a duty to take reasonable steps towards meeting the local objectives as set out in the CTM Well-being Plan 2023 to 2028, "A More Equal Cwm Taf Morgannwg" 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.



The Cwm-Taf Morgannwg Wellbeing Objectives

Objective 1: Healthy Local Neighbourhoods

We aim to do all we can to see that Llantrisant, Talbot Green, Beddau and Tynant are places where our local communities are inclusive and feel cohesive and people feel safe, supported and valued.

We'll do what we can to support communities where people feel connected, in healthy places, and to live our lives more locally. The outcomes we're looking for are that people feel more connected, less lonely and isolated and that there are a range of community activities for everyone.

We aim to promote healthier lifestyles where more people are active and there are more opportunities to be active locally and affordably.

Llantrisant Community Council aims to work our communities to help people to access local services, through our Parish Office and through the provision of community buildings for everyone to access and use.

Objective 2: Sustainable and Resilient Local Neighbourhoods

We aim to help make our communities places where we understand and respond to the risk of climate change to our communities. To do this Llantrisant Community Council aims to value, manage and enjoy our green spaces responsibly.

We want to protect and enjoy our natural green spaces; to reduce our carbon use and waste, and to tackle climate change and its impact. By working together, we will improve, use, enjoy and protect our natural local spaces so that we see more local, accessible green spaces, more resilient, healthier ecosystems and natural environment in our local area. We'll do what we can to reduce our energy consumption and improve management of our land and open spaces to reduce carbon emissions.



Objective 1: Healthy Local Neighbourhoods Events

One of the ways an organisation with the size and resource that we have as a Community Council can help boost our local neighbourhoods is to make sure we contribute to a lively and inclusive range of community activities which the public can come to and enjoy together.

Not only do the major events we put on help to support a sense of community, but they also bring people in to the community that might not otherwise visit. We have been keen to involve businesses in our events planning, and to recognise the important role of events in helping to boost spend in local businesses.

Tynant and Beddau Community Fair 2023

The Council was very involved in the Tynant and Beddau Community Fair in 2023, with the maintenance staff preparing Beddau Community Centre and grounds in advance ready for use, and the events organisation capacity of the Parish Office fully deployed to making the event a success. Led by a local partnership of Beddau and Tynant organisations, the Community Council was pleased to play its part in making the event a success.

Christmas 2023

Our celebrations of Christmas have broadened again this year, running an event in Talbot Green for the first time in a number of years, along with the usual “Christmas on the Hilltop” in Llantrisant, and the Beddau and Tynant Christmas Fayre.



“Christmas on the Hilltop” was a weekend festival delivered in partnership with Rhondda Cynon Taf CBC, the Llantrisant Guildhall, Llantrisant Parish Church and the Llantrisant Workingmen’s Club.

The event was a great success and saw several thousand people coming in to the old town across the three day event to enjoy the festivities. In Beddau and Tynant we worked in partnership with the Community Library in partnership





with a range of community groups, to organise a carols around the Christmas Tree event which was well supported by the community.

Father Christmas made a special visit to Talbot Green to join in with Community Councillors, Alex Davies Jones MP and members of the community for carol singing around the Christmas Tree.

We also ran our Annual Schools Christmas Tree Competition, which is always well-supported by our primary and secondary schools.

RCT Community Wind Band lead the carol singing at Beddau and Tynant Community Library (left.)

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 third year running playing the leading role in organising the service at the Memorial Gardens in Beddau and Tynant.



Remembrance Sunday services at Llantrisant (left) and Beddau Memorial Gardens (above).

Providing Meeting Spaces

This year the Community Council took responsibility for the running of Beddau Community Centre, on behalf of Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council.

The Community Council own 2 other halls, Caerlan Hall, Llantrisant and Llys y Cwm, Beddau.

The halls are well used by community groups who provide great opportunities for social activities, sport, special interests and other community gatherings.

Llys y Cwm has again this year been the venue for the Welsh language children's setting, Cylch Meithrin from Mondays to Fridays.

Beddau Community Centre (right) which the Community Council took on in December 2023.



Grants

During 2023/24, Llantrisant Community Council provided over £40,000 in grant money to support over 40 community organisations and groups. These groups are vital to the richness and diversity of community life and the Council is proud to exercise this important role to support them.

Some of the groups we've supported include:-

Afon Community Dance
1st Beddau Scout Group
Beddau & District Royal British Legion
Penycoedcae Allotment Association
Beddau & Tynant Senior Citizens Club
Beddau RFC Mini & Junior Sections
Cwm Welfare AFC
Friends of Bryn Celynnog Association
FO Gwaunmeisgyn Primary School
Monday Club
Tynant Allotments Association
YGG Castellau PTA
Active4Blood Charity
Llantrisant Horticulture Show
Bosom Pals (Breast Cancer Support Group)
RCT Community Wind Band
Taff Ely (Llantrisant) Ramblers

Brynteg Allotment Society
Club Alawon Llantrisant Tune Club
Gwynfa Camera Club
Llantrisant & District Art Society
Llantrisant Ladies Choir
Llantrisant Ladies Bowling Club
Llantrisant Primary School PTA
Un Llais (Pupil Voice)
Penygawsi Primary School PTA
1st Pontyclun Scouts
Southgate Ladies Bowling Club
Talbot Green Football Club
Tonysguboriau PTA
Talbot Quilters
Ynysmaerdy Creative Crafts
Young at Heart (Thursday Club)
Young at Heart (Tuesday Club)

New Defibrillator for Beddau

The Community Council were very pleased to give a grant towards the cost of a new defibrillator for Beddau in partnership with the First Responders and the customers of the Spar shop in Beddau.

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



Community Assistance Fund

The Community Council provided an annual block grant of £5,000 towards the provision of the Beddau, Llantrisant and Tynant Food Bank, which is also hosted by us at Beddau Community Centre in order to help alleviate the affects of poverty in our community.

Welsh Government Minister, Jeremy Miles MS, visited the food bank (left) in March this year.

Beddau and Tynant Community Library

Llantrisant Community Council provided a block grant of £5,500 towards the running costs of Beddau and Tynant Community Library. The Library is a vibrant community hub, not only providing traditional book lending, but as a provider of a wide range of community services, and is an excellent meeting venue.

We were, therefore absolutely thrilled when the Library was awarded the High Sheriff of Mid Glamorgan's Certificate in recognition of their contribution to the community in June 2023.



High Sheriff of Mid Glamorgan, Prof. Jean White CBE MStJ at Beddau and Tynant Community Library in June 2023 (above).

Llantrisant Guildhall

Llantrisant Community Council provided the Guildhall with a one-off grant of £5,000 to assist in their investment towards becoming a self-sustaining community enterprise.

Huge work has been undertaken at the historic building, including a new tea room to attract more visitors.

We also mourned the death of Mr Dean Powell, who managed the Guildhall for many years, and who helped lay the foundations for the future of the building.



The Council puts up circa 60 Welsh flags throughout the community to fly during the month of March, like these at Talbot Green Post Office (above).

Objective 2: A Sustainable and Resilient Local Neighbourhood



Llantrisant Community Council aims to do all it can to understand and respond to the risk of climate change to our communities. To do this we must value, manage and enjoy our green spaces responsibly.

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 displays involved around 90 baskets and 50 planters throughout the community during the summer and were well received by residents. By planting perennials in our flowering baskets and planters, we've been able to save water and also enhance the environment for biodiversity in our built-up areas.

Our community gardens, such as the Memorial Garden, 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 community paths, and removing fallen trees blocking pathways.



Choice of planting in our hanging baskets and planters (above) helps to reduce water use, and proves quite popular with our little friends in the bug world.

are

Electric Van helps reduce carbon footprint

The Council's fully-electric second van helps to better deploy our outside maintenance team across the community efficiently whilst reducing our carbon footprint.



Keep Wales Tidy 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.



Allotments 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 plot-holders come together to share their experiences, learn from each other and support each other.

Llantrisant Community Council operates four allotments sites: Brynteg, Penycoedcae, Penygawsi and Tynant.

The popular annual Allotments Competition was held again, which drew entries from across all four of the Council's allotments sites.

Footpaths Maintenance

Under a service level agreement with Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council, Llantrisant Community Council maintains several miles of footpaths and walkways in the community, including the "Bunny" walks.

Our amazing outside maintenance team trim, and mow, and weed and wash, to keep these routes clear and accessible for all. We're very proud of the many wonderful walks available in this beautiful part of Wales.

Llantrisant Community Council staff repairing damaged fencing at Hunters Gate, Cross Inn (right)



Llantrisant Community Horticultural and Craft Show

Another successful show was held on 13th August 2023, and we were delighted to welcome new entrants as well as old friends.

The next competition has already been scheduled for 11th August 2024!

It can get fairly competitive at the horticultural show to win one of these prizes! (right)



Other Statutory Functions

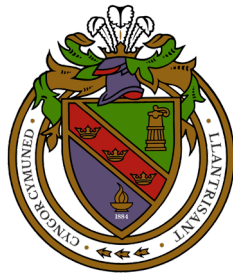
Planning and Development Control

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.



Beddau Clock (above)



CYNGOR CYMUNED
LLANTRISANT
COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MAY 2024