



Llangammarch Community Council

Annual Report 2021-2022

The year started off with Cllr Coldrick being nominated to continue her role as Chairman, Cllr Hather also continuing as Vice Chairman. The Council sadly accepted the resignation of Cllr Andrews, and wished him well with his house-move. Later still, Cllr Callan resigned, but fortunately was keen to continue to support the Council in practical ways maintaining the Public Conveniences and the Play Area. Cllr Jones joined us after the process of co-option was complete in November.

The death of HRH Prince Philip in April was duly remembered by the area, with a condolence book opened in the Alexandra Hall. A message of condolence from the Council was acknowledged by Buckingham Palace.

On the 14th July At the Llangammarch Community Council meeting yesterday Cllr Coldrick announced the Silver Kite Award, given by Powys County Council Chairman to Cllr Mairwen Price for her long service as a Community Councillor. Besides this, including her volunteer work to Builth Wells Hospital League of Friends, British Heart Foundation, Builth Wells Community Support Group, fundraiser for Builth Male Voice Choir and her volunteer work within Llangammarch community.

The first jobs of the year saw the ash trees in the Riverside Gardens being felled due to ash die-back. On another note, the building works at Cefn Llan were started, which created some local disruption that was eventually dealt with. The building work ground to a halt in the autumn, partly due to lack of materials, but mainly due to problems sorting out the phosphate limits on the sewerage and grey water. Building works in Cefn Gorwydd were also started, with new residents moving in in late April.

There has been a long-running problem with dog waste and this was further highlighted by the bin outside the Post Office not being emptied regularly. After much ado, the Council acquired some Keep Wales Tidy bags that were used to put the excess litter in. These are automatically collected by Powys CC. The provision of free Purple Refuse sacks for some residents was eventually resolved.

Within the Irfon Valley an issue surfaced where pasture and arable land was being used for tree planting. This involved the three local councils (Llanwrtyd, Llangammarch and Treflys) and there was a meeting with James Evans AM to ensure all councils were to be included in future planting plans.

The big 'fights' of the year landed in October/November with the potential closure of the Pharmacy in Llanwrtyd. This followed serious issues with the local Co-Responders not being used for 999 "call-outs". These both resulted in an immediate round of letters, meetings

and phone calls to the relevant bodies, namely the Powys Teaching Health Board and Welsh Government Ambulance Service respectively. Our local Senedd members and MP were brought in to help support the efforts. After much effort on behalf of the three Irfon Valley Councils, it was acknowledged that our local Co-Responders should be used where possible, preventing several hours wait for an ambulance. Likewise, the Powys Teaching Health Board eventually acted on the retirement of the pharmacist and a new pharmacy arrangement was installed in early January 2022.

Welsh Government, One Voice Wales and Welsh Audit had been working on a new Governance Toolkit for all councils. Llangammarch was chosen to take part in the pilot scheme. The full scheme is being rolled out Wales -wide in June/July, after the elections.

On our own Governance and Finance issues, we are pleased to record our third year of 'unqualified' or clear audits. The Budget has been managed well, which leaves us in a secure position for 2022-23. This means that some plans that had been put on hold during the pandemic will be able to move forward.

The future of St David's Church in Tirabad continues to rumble on. The Church in Wales unable to put it up for sale whilst there is no confirmed vehicular access. This is very sad as the building continues to fall into decay. However, with the requisite Risk Assessments in place, small events have been held there, to the delight of Tirabad residents.

The end of the council year sees the area trying to acquire another defibrillator for the new build at Cefn Llan and the residents in that part of the village. A resident has offered to house one on his boundary fence. Preparations for the coming local council and county council elections are underway, with elections on the 5th May.

Llangammarch Community Council - March 2022