



# LLANHARAN COMMUNITY COUNCIL



## ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 2023/24



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## 1 Foreword from the Chair of the Council

I was honoured to be appointed Chairperson of the council at the May 2023 Annual Meeting. I have faced the responsibility of the role with the professionalism and the propriety expected of it and to the best of my ability, whilst ensuring that all decisions and actions taken by the council have had full due diligence afforded to them.

I would like to thank my fellow councillors for their support during the year and I would also like to extend a thanks to all the employees of the council whose hard work and dedication helps make our community a great place to live.

Throughout the year, I have chaired some very busy meetings that have included rigorous debates on projects and policies. Whilst not always agreeing, I believe all councillors act in the best interests of the community and I have been proud to be the leader of the council this year. We look forward to continuing our supporting of our communities.



The cost-of-living crisis has continued to have a major impact for many of our residents this year, with energy costs and food prices being some of the most impactful along with an interest rate that continues to keep many mortgage payments high. The community council's 'Llanharan Pantry' continues to operate and provide support to those who need it. The service is run voluntarily by a handful of councillors and residents and is accessible at the Bryncae Community Centre every Saturday morning from 10am until 11am.

The last year has seen some great community events such as the annual Fireworks display (which was our first all-silent show). It had the usual excellent turnout with the show provided by a local organisation. The Senior Citizen's Christmas lunches, which was a highlight for me, had the largest attendance I can remember over the 2 days that it was held. It was great to spend the afternoons in such wonderful company with musical entertainment from some of the local schools too. As chair of the council it was my responsibility to host the events and I thoroughly enjoyed this first-time experience.

Our community has continued to grow over the last year with the continued development of the Llanilid site including the start of a new phase. This major housing project continues to provide a significant income for our community in the form of the CIL (Community Infrastructure Levy). To date, Llanharan Community Council has been in receipt of over £1 million which has been used either directly on some of our own projects such as the ongoing re-development of the Grove Terrace Memorial Garden and the awesome decorative sculptures installed throughout Brynna Woods and Llanharan Marsh. Additionally, the CIL fund is used as a source of grant funding for many community organisations and over the past year we have seen it used for some amazing projects such as the new floodlights at the Llanharan Welfare Hall playing fields, a major refurbishment to Llanharan OAP hall and a new boiler system for Brynna Community Centre.

Looking to the future, there are many more potential projects on the way such as the ambitious replacement of the small footbridge in Brynna Woods with a new multiuser crossing that will, when combined with the new multiuser rail crossing being developed by Network Rail, allow much better access to the amazing spaces we have in the centre of our community. Additionally we have some exciting CIL projects planned for the future.

It gives me great pleasure to present this 2023/2024 Llanharan Community Council Annual Report. I hope you find the information within informative and that it helps to create a clear picture of what your community council is doing.

Cllr. David Evans  
Chair of Llanharan Community Council



## 2 Contact the Council

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

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Rhondda Cynon Taff

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Website: <https://llanharan-cc.gov.wales>

Facebook: Llanharan Community Council

X (Twitter): @Llanharan\_CC



## 3 About Llanharan Community Council

Llanharan Community Council serves the communities of Llanharan, Brynna, Brynnau Gwynnion, Bryncae, Llanilid and Ynysmaerdy. Llanharan community Council was formed in 1974, under the Local Government Act 1972 as the successor to the former old Parish Councils.

The community comprises of three wards, with 14 Councillors serving an electorate of 6847. Each ward has councillors for that area, 6 covering Llanharan (including Ynysmaerdy), 6 covering Brynna (including Brynna Gwynnion) and 2 for Llanilid (including Bryncae). The councillors represent our community, providing local views on planning, listening to and advising residents as well as providing a link with the local authority. Representative councillors have an active interest in their communities and work in partnership with residents, local groups and collaborate with other councils when necessary.



Community councils must act in line with their duties and can only act within the limits of their powers.



Examples of some of the activities that Llanharan Community Council carries out in line with its duties and powers include:

- The upkeep and maintenance of over 37 miles of public rights of way.
- The operation of a play area at Brynna Gwynnion.
- The creation and operation of the skatepark in Oakbrook.
- Open spaces at Meadow Rise and Grove Terrace.
- Summer grass cutting at Brynna Fields and the Welfare Ground.
- The War Memorial located on Hillside Avenue.
- Summer floral displays.
- Christmas trees and lights.
- The memorial clocks located on the Square and at William Street.
- Upkeep of over 40 bus shelters.
- Provision and maintenance of benches.
- Older People's Christmas lunches.
- The annual fireworks display.
- The holding of community events.
- The purchase, operation and maintenance of defibrillators.
- The operation of 3 allotment sites providing circa 120 plots.
- General grants to local groups and organisations.
- CIL grants to local groups and organisations.
- The inception and delivery of CIL projects.
- Planning consultation.



## 4 Membership of the Council 2023/24

Councillors help provide local services and take decisions that form the policy of the Council. Councillors are entitled to a taxable allowance in accordance with the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales who make recommendations to Welsh Government. They have to abide by a Local Government Code of Practice, declaring any financial, personal or prejudicial interest in any matter under discussion at a council meeting. Councillors are elected by local residents or co-opted by the Council.

The membership of the council during the municipal year was as follows:

### Llanharan (and Ynysmaerdy) - 6 members

Cllr. Neil Feist  
Cllr. Geraint Hopkins JP \*  
Cllr. Rhys Jenkins  
Cllr. Robert Smith  
Cllr. Janine Turner \*  
Cllr. Will Thomas

### Brynna - 6 members

Cllr. Helen Donnan  
Cllr. David Evans\*  
Cllr. Robert Lewis Watkin JP  
Cllr. Joanne Miller  
Cllr. Chris Parker  
Cllr. Mark Steer

### Llanilid (& Bryncae) – 2 members

Cllr. Tracy Allen  
Cllr. Andrea James

\*Cllrs Hopkins, Turner and Evans also sit as elected members of the principal authority, Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council.

The Chair of the Council for the municipal year 2023/24 was Cllr. David Evans.

The Deputy chair of the Council for the municipal year 2023/24 was Cllr. Helen Donnan

Details of member's political affiliations, attendance at meetings, registered interests and other information can be found on the council's website along with their contact details.

The community council produces a training plan for members and staff which is reviewed annually.





## 5 Council Meetings

Meetings of the full council ordinarily take place at 7pm on the third Thursday of each month with the exception of August. The Chair or a number of councillors may also call additional extraordinary meetings of the council under certain circumstances at any point.

All full council meetings are held on a hybrid basis - i.e. With the facility for elected members and members of the public to attend either in person at the chosen physical venue or online entirely at their own discretion.

The council has facilities and procedures in place to enable this and to allow meaningful participation where appropriate.

The council has a number of committees whose meetings are generally held entirely online. These meetings take place at various times throughout the year.

Members of the public may attend any council or committee meeting (unless the council has specifically resolved to exclude the press and public from that meeting or a section of that meeting).

At any meeting of the council, at the appropriate time and under certain conditions (unless the press and public have been excluded), a member of the public may speak on any matter contained in the agenda for that meeting. Members of the public may not participate in debates.

An agenda is published in advance of all council meetings and minutes produced following the meeting. All documents are available on the council's website. Decisions made by the council are known as 'Resolutions'. Records of all resolutions made must appear in the minutes.

The council holds an Annual Meeting in May of each year. At this meeting matters relating to the business of the council for the following municipal year are considered and decided upon. These matters include deciding upon:

- The Chair and Deputy Chair of the Council.
- Membership, Chair and dates of committees and working groups.
- Council representatives on external bodies (such as school Governors).
- Reviewing governance documents, policies and procedures.





## 6 Committees and Working Groups

The council has a number of committees and working groups.

Committees are formal meetings, largely subject to the same legislation and processes governing full council meetings.

Committees will make recommendations to full council for resolution and can under certain circumstances have powers and/or budgets delegated to them.

Working groups are more informal groupings which will usually be tasked with investigating in detail some aspect of council business and making recommendations to a committee or full council.

Some committees and working groups can under certain conditions also contain members of the public with particular knowledge or interest in a certain topic.

Llanharan Community Council currently has the following committees established:

Human Resources Committee - 5 members.

Open Spaces, Rights of Way and Allotments Committee (ORA) – 5 members.

Audit Committee (Finance) – 5 members.

Community Infrastructure Levy Committee (CIL) – 8 members.

Community Engagement Committee – 5 members.

Llanharan Community Council has a number of working groups established, including:

The Trenos Crossing and Ewenny Bridge Working Group.

The Fireworks Working Group.

The Bryncae Community Centre Community Asset Transfer Working Group.

The Brynna Woods Art Working Group.

The Walking Leaflets Working Group.

The Oakbrook Refurbishment Working Group.

The Jubilee Marsh Multi-user Route Working Group.

The Community Awards Ceremony Working Group.

The Hamlet/Ward Gateway Working Group.

The Annual Survey Working Group.

The Senior Citizen Christmas Lunches Working Group.

Oakbrook Skatepark Update Working Group.

Pump-track feasibility Working Group.



## 7 Liaison with External Bodies

The community council appoints members to sit on the following external bodies:

RCT/Town and Community Council Liaison Committee.

Llanharan Community Development Project.

One Voice Wales Area Committee.

School governing bodies for Dolau Primary School, Llanharan Primary School and Brynnau Primary School.

The Wildlife Trust (Brynna Woods).

## 8 Staff and Assets

The council employs the following staff:

A Council Clerk.

A Responsible Financial Officer.

A Senior Groundsperson.

The Council owns or leases a number of assets, including:

Allotment sites at Bridgend Road, Jubilee Street and Pendre (near Llanharan Primary School).

Land at Grove Terrace, Meadow Rise, Brynna Gwynion and Oakbrook.

Shower block at the Welfare Ground.

Play equipment at Brynna Gwynion and Oakbrook skatepark.

An electric van.

Two tractors/grass cutters.

A water bowser.

Various tools and equipment.

Various office and IT equipment.

Two memorial clocks.

'The dram' at Enterprise Way.

Defibrillators.

Noticeboards.

Bus shelters.

Benches.

Planters and hanging baskets.

Equipment and fittings for the Christmas trees and lights.

The Telephone Box at the High Corner.

The Chair's Chain of Office.

The Deputy Chair's Chain of Office.

Carvings at Brynna Woods.



## 9 Maintenance work

The community council's maintenance team carried out a number of activities during the year, including:

Summer grass cutting and litter picking at Brynna fields, The Welfare ground, the Mountain Hare park and the Meadow Rise open space.

Strimming, litter picking and general maintenance work on the local network of public rights of way.

Watering and feeding of the plants for the summer floral displays.

Maintenance of shared pathways, boundaries, borders, clearance works and other maintenance tasks at the Council's three allotment sites.

General upkeep of the War Memorial on Hillside Avenue.

General upkeep of the council's assets including bus shelters, benches and planters.

## 10 Finance

### 10.1 Financial Governance

All councils must have in place Standing Orders and Financial Regulations which govern the processes and oversight of the council's financial management.

The council has an appointed Responsible Financial Officer (RFO) responsible for financial administration.

The Council's Audit Committee scrutinises the detail of the council's financial management.

The council is subject to an annual internal audit by an independent auditor and a periodic external audit carried out by Audit Wales. The audit reports are publicly available and can be requested by contacting the Clerk to the Council.

The council as a whole and its' members are ultimately responsible for the management of public money.



## 10.2 Income and expenditure 2023/24

**Note: This section does not include Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) income or expenditure.**

Llanharan Community Council derives the majority of its income from the Precept. The precept is a tax that community councils charge their local electors in order to meet their budgetary requirements. Community councils do not receive any direct funding from central government and rely on their precept and other income they generate from lawful services or facilities they provide.

In 2023/24 Llanharan Community Council derived its income from the following sources:

Precept	£261,900
Public Sector Deposit Fund Re-invested dividend	£36,364
Llanharan Pantry income (inc grants)	£11,000
Allotments	£2,883
Other Income (e.g. Bank interest, RCT Rights of way payment)	£3,915
Total income 2023/24	£316,062

In 2023/24 Llanharan Community Council expenditure was as follows:

Staffing costs	£118,260
Office & meeting venue costs (inc stationery, council tax, utilities etc.)	£13,621
Mileage & Subsistence	£35
HR Expenditure	£248
Professional/Subscription/Legal/Audit Fees	£6,142
Bank charges	£201
Storage space rental	£720
Insurance	£7,380
Member and staff training	£356
Chair/Deputy Chair & Members allowances	£4,599
Maintenance/groundworks total costs	£6,106
Hanging Baskets	£7,384
Christmas Lights and Trees	£23,897
Public Clocks – Maintenance	£1,814
Notice Boards - Maintenance	£39
Street Lighting Electric	£131
Christmas Dinners & Firework display	£16,107
King's Coronation	£4,649
General Grants	£43,173
Llanharan Pantry	£14,451
Rights of Way	£154
Play & O/Spaces Maintenance	£150
Allotment costs (inc water)	£538



Total expenditure 2023/24	£270,155
General reserves held at year end 2023/24	£146,930

#### 10.2.1 General grants awarded 2023/24

During the 2023/24 municipal year the council awarded the following general grants to community groups in line with its general grants policy:

Llanharan Community Development Project	£25,000
The Wildlife Trust (Brynna Woods)	£10,000
Llanharan OAP association	£1,946
Llanharan RFC mini rugby section	£1,821
Bryncae Football Club Seniors	£1,300
Brynna Football Club seniors	£1,000
Llanharan Horticultural society (Annual show)	£750
Llanharan & Brynna Wimbles	£675.50
Ynysmaerdy Welfare Hall	£640
1st Llanharan Guides	£450
Llanharan Primary School PTA	£160
Mid Glamorgan mixed choir	£150

#### 10.2.2 Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) report 2023/24

The Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) is a charge which local authorities levy on new development in their area.

In practice this means that for each new property that is built, RCTCBC levy a tax on the house builder (CIL).

15% of the proceeds of that CIL Levy are paid to the local community council. Given the extent of new development in the Llanharan Community Council area this has resulted in significant CIL income to the council.

CIL monies must be used for the provision, improvement, replacement, operation or maintenance of infrastructure or anything else that is concerned with addressing the demands that development places on an area. To ensure that all CIL monies are spent in line with the regulations, Llanharan Community Council liaises closely with RCTCBC on CIL projects prior to spending any money.

In the financial year 2023/24 Llanharan Community Council received £296,947 of CIL income from RCTCBC.

£635,475 was carried over from previous years.

In total the Council spent £295,002 from its CIL funds in 2023/24 on the following projects.



Purchase and fitting of 3 x benches in the community.	£1,215
Emergency lighting in the Welfare Ground shower block.	£950
Dolau school outdoor resources. Part 2 of application.	£3,934
Maintenance of Oakbrook skatepark and Mountain Hare park.	£1,170
Defibrillator at Llanharan RFC.	£996
Replacement boiler for Brynna Community Centre.	£6,720
New rear emergency exit door and front door on the shower block at the Welfare ground.	£2,936
Replace damaged bench on Terry's Way.	£385
Investigation RE all-user bridge over the river Ewenny.	£2,400
Refurbishment of red telephone box in the square.	£4,998
Refurbishments to Llanharan OAP hall.	£71,451
'The Wimbles' overhead trellis.	£1,260
Decorative sculptures and art works for Brynna Woods.	£13,500
New noticeboard for Ynysmaerdy and Llanharan Road	£2,782
Replacement wheelchair-friendly picnic Bench, Oakbrook park.	£915
Improvements to the southern access to RAN17.5 at Enterprise Way.	£8,500
Llanharan Primary School – Outdoor classroom and biodiversity area.	£78,031
Welfare ground - floodlights on rugby pitch and football pitch.	£90,023
Garage for storage of assets and re modelling of the Memorial Garden.	£2,813

For a full list of previous, current and planned future CIL projects please contact the Clerk at Clerk@Llanharan-cc.gov.wales

### **10.3 Income and expenditure 2024/25**

#### **10.3.1 Precept for 2024/25**

Llanharan Community Council resolved to freeze its council tax charge for 2024/25.

This constitutes a 0% increase on the 2023/24 Community Council tax band D rate resulting in a £0 per year increase and a resultant Community Council band D rate of £79.17

#### **10.3.2 Budget for 2024/25**

**The 2024/25 Llanharan Community Council budgeted income is derived from the following sources:**

Precept	£271,893
Public Sector Deposit Fund Re-invested dividend	£20,000
Allotments	£2,500
Other Income (e.g. Bank interest, RCT Rights of way payment)	£2,330



Total budgeted income 2024/25

£296,723

**In 2025/25 Llanharan Community Council budgeted expenditure is as follows:**

Staffing costs	£128,136
Office & meeting venue costs (inc stationery, council tax, utilities etc.)	£14,550
Mileage & Subsistence	£200
HR Expenditure	£1,000
Professional/Subscription/Legal/audit Fees	£7,640
Bank charges	£250
Storage space rental	£720
Insurance	£10,100
Member and staff training	£1,500
Chair/Deputy Chair & Members allowances	£4,912
Maintenance/groundworks total costs	£8,900
Hanging Baskets	£8,500
Christmas Lights and Trees	£30,000
Public Clocks - Maintenance	£500
Notice Boards - Maintenance	£100
Street Lighting Electric	£350
Christmas Dinners & Fireworks display	£17,500
Community event	£6250
General Grants	£45,000
Rights of Way	£1,330
Skateboard park maintenance	£1,000
Play & O/Spaces Maintenance	£1,500
General repair consumables	£250
Allotment costs (inc water)	£822
Chain of office refurbishment	£1,000
Bus shelter maintenance	£100
Planters maintenance	£100
Benches and tables maintenance	£100
Contingency	£10,000
 Total budgeted expenditure 2024/25	 £302,310
 Budgeted general reserve at end 2024/25	 £141,343





## 11 2023/24 Achievements

**\*Incorporating statutory contribution to Cwm-Taf well-being plan and our biodiversity action plan.**

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.

Llanharan 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 2023 – 2028

The objectives of the Cwm-Taf Well-being Plan 2023 – 2028 are shown below:

### **Cwm-Taf Well-being plan 2023-2028 Objective One - Healthy local neighbourhoods**

The Cwm-Taf well-being plan states:

*To feel connected - During lockdown our local communities came together with voluntary organisations and partners to make sure that everyone had the support they needed. We are proud of our culture and heritage and our strong local communities, but we know that loneliness can affect anyone, and young people said they felt disconnected. We know that taking part in our community is good for our mental health, and there are great local activities and opportunities but some people, including those with disabilities, feel excluded and cost and transport can be a barrier.*

*Healthy places - There are great opportunities to keep fit and healthy in our community, but physical activity rates are low, we have high levels of diabetes and obesity, and people in more deprived neighbourhoods are less likely to make use of the green and blue spaces around us. Having safe local spaces and affordable opportunities to be active is important, including play for children and young people. Having access to healthy food locally is also important.*

*To live our lives locally: Local hubs and support are really valued. We want to enable more local living that would build on strengths and benefit community members, provide local training, local access to services, and offer shared use of local buildings to bring services closer to communities. This approach would reduce the cost of journeys and encourage active travel and support accessing affordable, quality food locally.*



### **Cwm-Taf Well-being plan 2023-2028 Objective Two - Sustainable and resilient local neighbourhoods**

**To protect and enjoy our natural green and blue spaces responsibly:** - We love green and blue spaces around us but we could be managing and using them better for a wide range of benefits such as climate adaption, physical exercise, coming together or just being outside. When we do use them, and in all the things we do and the decisions we make, we want to make sure that we are not doing anything that could negatively impact on the spaces around us. We need a healthy ecosystem for water and food however many of our local species of plants, animals and insects are in decline.

**To increase opportunities for active travel and using public transport:** - We find that travelling for work, shopping, appointments, and socialising can be costly and difficult without a car. Where more of the services, businesses, and activities we use are in our local neighbourhoods, we can use active travel like walking and cycling to get to them, which can improve our health and reduce the number of journeys that rely on vehicles.

**To reduce carbon use and waste:** - At present, we are using our resources in an unsustainable way, and this is contributing to the climate and nature emergencies. We already have good rates of recycling but there is more we must do to reduce the amount of waste we produce. There are good examples of how we are reducing carbon and we must all support plans to become carbon neutral. We all have a role to play in global climate mitigation: reducing our consumption and waste and energy use to create a cleaner, greener Cwm Taf Morgannwg

**To tackle Climate Change and its impact:** - We are already seeing the impact of Climate Change in our communities. Many residents have experienced devastating flooding and we are also seeing rising temperatures in the summer. Wales has declared both climate and nature emergencies and we know that extreme weather has greater impact in areas with a lower income. Climate adaptation is needed to make our most vulnerable communities resilient. We must change how we use and manage our urban and natural spaces to help us respond to climate change and the risks it poses.

Community councils also have a statutory duty under Section 6 of the Environment Act (2016) which states that every public body must seek to maintain and enhance biodiversity in the exercise of their functions in relation to Wales. To comply with this duty we must publish a report on what we have done to comply with the duty.

### **In the municipal year 2023/24 Llanharan Community Council contributed to the Cwm-Taf well-being and our duty to maintain and enhance biodiversity in the following ways:**

The holding of the King's Coronation community celebration event at Bryncae Community Centre in May 2023.  
Providing a community event open to all, fostering community cohesion.  
(Cwm-Taf Well-being plan Objective 1)



The 2023 Senior citizen's Christmas lunches at Llanharan RFC in December 2023. Providing local senior citizens with an opportunity to socialise, enjoy a community event and to receive a Christmas lunch.  
**(Cwm-Taf Well-being plan Objective 1)**



The annual fireworks display held at the Welfare ground in November 2023. Providing a community event open to all, fostering community cohesion.  
**(Cwm-Taf Well-being plan Objective 1)**

The provision of over 100 plotment plots over our 3 sites. Providing the opportunity for members of the community to grow their own fresh produce. Allotments can also provide an opportunity for exercise and play a part in enhancing well-being.  
**(Cwm-Taf Well-being plan Objective 1 and Objective 2. Biodiversity plan)**



The provision of the Llanharan Pantry, providing subsidised basic food in the community. The pantry also provides an opportunity for social interaction and volunteering opportunities.  
**(Cwm-Taf Well-being plan Objective 1)**



The purchase of 'lamp post' poppies to commemorate the war dead of the community. Each poppy being adorned by a local volunteer with the details of a local person who lost their life in conflict. This contributes to a sense of belonging.  
**(Cwm-Taf Well-being plan Objective 1)**



The upkeep of the Oakbrook skateboard park and the Mountain Hare play area. This year the council has partially refurbished the Oakbrook skate park and carried routine maintenance to both areas. Both areas are well used and provide the opportunity for younger people to congregate and play in a controlled and safe environment.  
**(Cwm-Taf Well-being plan Objective 1)**

The community council provided £10,000 of grant funding to The Wildlife Trust of South and West Wales who own and operate the Brynna Woods and Llanharan Marsh nature reserve. The funding was provided for the maintenance and upkeep of the reserve.

Working in partnership with the Wildlife Trust, the council has also funded and arranged a number of wooden sculptures to be situated in Brynna Woods. The sculptures selected were relevant to the reserve. The council also helps to publicise local education and engagement events that are held periodically in the woods.

The council's support for the reserve aims to offer the public an opportunity to exercise, attend events and to simply enjoy the beautiful outdoor environment and biodiversity available on our doorstep.  
**(Cwm-Taf Well-being plan Objective 1 and Objective 2. Biodiversity plan)**





The community council provided £25,000 of grant funding to Llanharan Community Development Project (LCDP) to support the provision of a cook for the community café and to support the 'Happy Dayz' support group. This contributed to the facilities that provide the opportunity to socialise and carry out activities for local groups and others at a central community hub, including those with additional needs.  
**(Cwm-Taf Well-being plan Objective 1)**



The council has provided a number of extra benches in the community at certain points to help ensure there are adequate resting points for those who need them and at local play areas. This helps to promote exercise and facilitates the enjoyment of outdoor spaces.  
**(Cwm-Taf Well-being plan Objective 1 and Objective 2)**





The council has continued to play its part in the maintenance of the network of public rights of way in our community. Our maintenance team have worked hard to keep paths strimmed, clear of litter and in a reasonable condition whilst acting in an ecologically sympathetic manner and maintaining the biodiversity of these routes. In addition, the council has improved access to the footpath that runs from the top of Enterprise Way down to Bridgend Road (RAN 17/5) via the installation of steps and a walkway.  
**(Cwm-Taf Well-being plan Objective 1 and Objective 2. Biodiversity plan)**



The community council has provided significant grant funding for a number of projects and organisations that facilitate and encourage exercise, play and sport in our community, including:



Llanharan Primary School – Outdoor classroom and biodiversity area  
**(Cwm-Taf Well-being plan Objective 1 and Objective 2. Biodiversity plan)**



Welfare ground - floodlights on rugby pitch and football pitches  
(Cwm-Taf Well-being plan Objective 1)

*\*See also general grants and CIL grants*



The community council provided an analysis showing where Japanese knotweed (identified in the survey undertaken in 2020/2021 by volunteers) is present on RCTCBC land to the RCTCBC Invasive Species Officer.  
(Cwm-Taf Well-being plan Objective 2. Biodiversity plan)

The Council has also provided grant funding to a number of local groups which facilitated aspects of the stated aims of the well-being plan, including the provision for members of the public to participate in local activities, access to opportunities to exercise and shared use of community facilities.

*\*See General grants awarded 2023/24 for details.*



The community council's 'Trenos Crossing Working Group' comprising community councillors, Network Rail, Persimmon Homes and other interested parties helped to facilitate the design and construction of a multi-user railway crossing bridge from Llanharan into Brynna woods, replacing the ground level pedestrian crossing that was considered unsafe. The aspiration is to provide safe access for all user groups and in the future to open up access to Brynna woods for members of the community who are currently excluded. (For example those with mobility issues).  
(Cwm-Taf Well-being plan Objective 1 and Objective 2. Biodiversity plan)





### Other achievements during the year

The community council provided large community Christmas trees at various locations in the community, smaller Christmas trees on business premises and Christmas lights and motifs.



The community council provided summer plants and floral displays around the community during the summer.

## 12 2024/25 Action plan

**\*Incorporating statutory contribution to Cwm-Taf well-being plan and our biodiversity action plan.**

To investigate the feasibility and practical implementation of 'Cut and Collect' mowing techniques.  
(Cwm-Taf Well-being plan Objective 2. Biodiversity plan)

To issue a tender for CIL project LCC23/01 'Bridge over the River Ewenny'.  
(Cwm-Taf Well-being plan Objective 1 and Objective 2. Biodiversity plan)



To complete CIL project LCC19/07 'Garage and Memorial Garden refurb'.  
**(Cwm-Taf Well-being plan Objective 2. Biodiversity plan)**

To complete the CAT of Bryncae Community Centre and begin planned improvements.  
**(Cwm-Taf Well-being plan Objective 1)**

To explore the possibility of leasing the green space around Bryncae Community Centre.  
**(Cwm-Taf Well-being plan Objective 1 and Objective 2. Biodiversity plan)**

To facilitate delivery of CIL project LCC23/Lan1 'Community Garden at Lanelay estate'  
**(Cwm-Taf Well-being plan Objective 2. Biodiversity plan)**

To complete CIL project LCC23/Lan 2 'Picnic benches at Lanelay estate'  
**(Cwm-Taf Well-being plan Objective 1 and Objective 2)**

To facilitate delivery of CIL project LCC23/Ynys1 'Community Garden at Ynysmaerdy'  
**(Cwm-Taf Well-being plan Objective 2. Biodiversity plan)**

To complete CIL project LCC22/04 'Improvements to equestrian access on Bridleway PSM40/0, Bethlehem Way to Brynna Woods.  
**(Cwm-Taf Well-being plan Objective 1)**

To deliver the 2024 Older People's Christmas lunches.  
**(Cwm-Taf Well-being plan Objective 1)**

To deliver the annual fireworks display.  
**(Cwm-Taf Well-being plan Objective 1)**

To increase the number of allotment plots available to the public by 5 plots.  
**(Cwm-Taf Well-being plan Objective 1 and Objective 2. Biodiversity plan)**

To deliver grant funding for appropriate groups contributing to Objectives 1 and 2 and the council's biodiversity action plan subject to the receipt of appropriate applications.  
**(Cwm-Taf Well-being plan Objective 1 and Objective 2. Biodiversity plan)**

**End**