



LLANHARAN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

2025/2026

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1 Foreword from the Chair of the Council

It is a great honour and privilege to introduce Llanharan Community Council's Annual Report following my first year as Chairman of the Council. I am extremely grateful to my fellow Councillors for placing their confidence in me, and I have been proud to represent the Council and the communities of Llanharan, Brynna, Llanilid, Ynysmaerdy and Bryncae throughout the year.

One of the most rewarding aspects of my role has been attending the many events organised by local groups and meeting the residents, volunteers and organisations that contribute so much to community life. During the year, I attended the annual Horticultural Show, where I had the pleasure of serving as a member of the judging panel. I hosted the Over 60s' Christmas Lunches and attended and judged the Llanharan OAP Association's Easter Bonnet Competition. These events demonstrated the creativity, enthusiasm and strong community spirit that exist throughout our area.



The Community Council has continued to provide and support a wide range of free events for residents. These included our Christmas and St David's Day celebrations at Bryncae Community Centre, the Over 60s' Christmas lunches and our ever-popular annual fireworks display. These events bring people together, provide opportunities for residents of all ages to take part in community life and create lasting memories for local families. I would like to thank everyone who helped to organise, support and attend them.

Supporting local organisations remains an important part of the Community Council's work. During the year, the Council awarded grants to a broad range of community groups, including local Rainbows, Brownies and Scout groups, Llanharan Community Development Project and the Wildlife Trust, which carries out valuable work caring for the fantastic Brynna Woods. These organisations provide essential opportunities, activities and services for residents, and the Council is pleased to support the volunteers whose commitment makes this work possible.

The Council has also continued to progress several projects funded through the Community Infrastructure Levy, commonly known as CIL. CIL is funding collected from Persimmon to help provide or improve the local infrastructure and community facilities required as an area grows. It enables the Council to invest directly in projects that will deliver long-term benefits for residents.

One significant CIL-funded project is the proposed new bridge over the Ewenni Fach, which will improve access to Brynna Woods and help ensure that this important natural space can be enjoyed by as many people as possible. The Council has also allocated CIL funding for capital works at Bryncae Community Centre, helping to protect and improve this valuable facility for current residents and future generations.



CIL funding has also enabled the Council to install new bus shelters and benches at locations across the community. Although these may appear to be relatively modest improvements, they can make a meaningful difference to residents' daily lives by providing safer, more comfortable and more accessible public spaces.

The Council has installed additional defibrillator units across the community, with particular attention given to the new housing estates. I am proud of the lead the Community Council is taking to increase the availability of this potentially life-saving equipment. Our aim is to ensure that residents are always within easy reach of a defibrillator should one be required in an emergency. The Council will continue to review provision as the community develops and grows.

We have also invested in the appearance of our local area through the installation of new planters for summer flowers, together with additional Christmas trees and festive lighting. These improvements help to create a welcoming environment, enhance community pride and ensure that all parts of the Council's area can share in seasonal celebrations.

None of these achievements would have been possible without the dedication and commitment of many people. I would like to offer my sincere thanks to my fellow Councillors for their hard work, support and the considerable amount of their own time that they give for the benefit of the community. Their contribution frequently extends far beyond formal Council meetings and reflects their genuine commitment to the residents they represent.

Finally, I would like to thank the Council's staff and officers for their professionalism, advice and hard work throughout the year. Their efforts behind the scenes are essential to the effective operation of the Council and to the successful delivery of its services, events and projects.

It has been an honour to serve as Chairman during the past year. I look forward to continuing to work with Councillors, Council staff, community organisations and residents to build on what has already been achieved and to make Llanharan, Brynna and Bryncae even better places in which to live, work and visit.

Cllr Rhys Jenkins
Chair of Llanharan Community Council
Date: May 2026



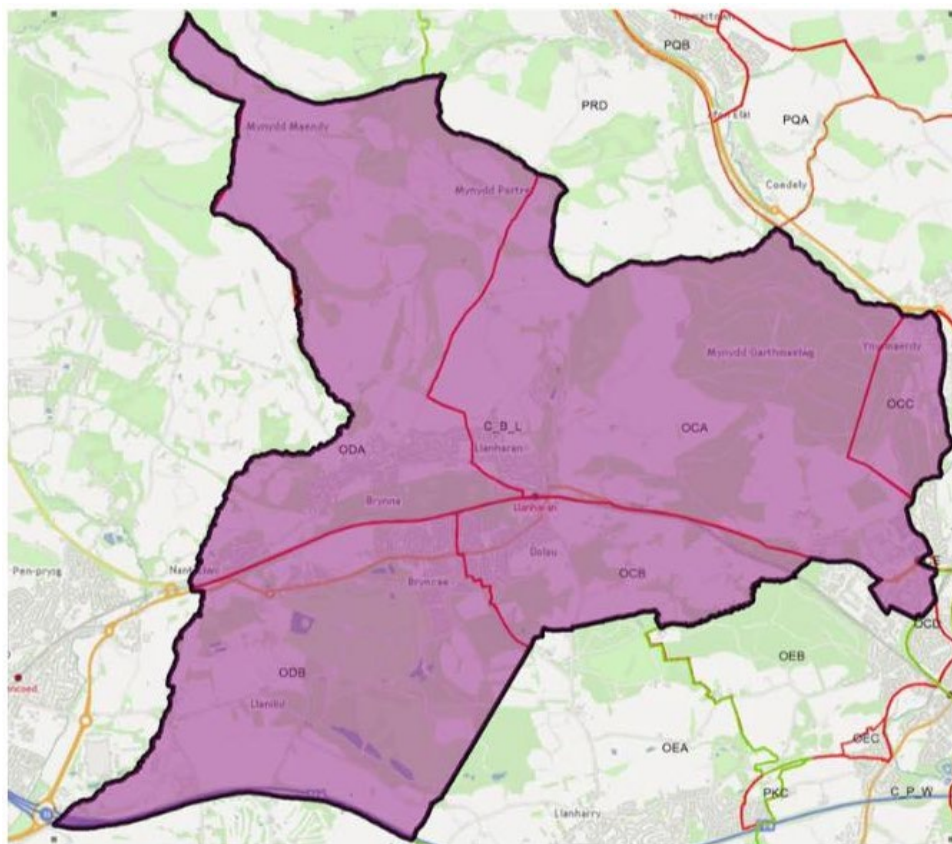
2 Contact the Council

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

Llanharan Community Council
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Llanharan
Rhondda Cynon Taf
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Telephone: 01443 231 430
Email: Clerk@llanharan-cc.gov.wales
Website: <https://llanharan-cc.gov.wales>
Facebook: Llanharan Community Council
X (Twitter): @Llanharan_CC

3 About Llanharan Community Council



Llanharan Community Council Ward boundaries



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

The Community is served by 14 Councillors in three wards: 6 for Llanharan (including Ynysmaerdy), 6 for Brynna (including Brynnau Gwynion) 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 collaborating with other Councils when necessary.

Community councils are the most local tier of elected representation and play a significant role in local democracy.

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 are likely to achieve the promotion or improvement of wellbeing within their communities.

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 Gwynion.
- 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 Williams Street.
- Upkeep of over 40 bus shelters.
- Provision and maintenance of benches.
- Older People's Christmas lunches.
- The annual fireworks display.
- The annual Remembrance Day service at Llanharan War Memorial.
- Community events.
- The purchase, operation and maintenance of defibrillators.
- The operation of three 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 2025/26

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 which makes 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 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. Will Thomas
Cllr. Janine Turner *

Brynna - 6 members

Cllr. David Evans*
Cllr. Rhys. A. Jenkins (resigned May 2025)
Cllr. Chris Parker
Cllr. Nick Richards (from May 2025)
Cllr. Mark Steer

Llanilid (& Bryncae) – 2 members

Cllr. Andrea James (resigned May 2025)
Cllr. Claire Morgan (resigned October 2025)
Cllr. Andrew Morgan (from August 2025)

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

The Chair of the Council for the municipal year 2025/26 was Cllr. Rhys Jenkins.

The Deputy Chair of the Council for the municipal year 2025/26 was Cllr. Chris Parker.

Details of members' 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 except for August. The Chair or several 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 several 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 several 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 knowledge or interest in a certain topic.

In the year under review Llanharan Community Council had 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) – 5 members.
Community Engagement Committee (CEC) – 4 members.
Bryncae Community Centre Committee – (BCC) 5 members.
Trenos and Ewenni Crossings Project Committee – (TEC) 10 members.
Events Committee – 7 members.
Welfare Ground Shower Block Committee – 4 members.

Llanharan Community Council had several working groups established, including:

The Digital Working Group.
The Walking and Multiuser Leaflets Working Group.
The Oakbrook Skatepark Refurbishment Working Group.
The Pump Track 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.



7 Liaison with External Bodies

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

RCT/Town and Community Council Liaison Committee.
Llanharan Community Development Project.
One Voice Wales Area Committee.
One Voice Wales Larger Council's Committee.
Governing bodies of Dolau, Llanharan and Brynnau Primary Schools.
The Wildlife Trust of South and West Wales (Brynna Woods)

8 Staff and Assets

The council employed the following staff:

A Council Clerk
A Responsible Financial Officer and Deputy Clerk
An Assistant Clerk
A Senior Groundsperson
A Groundsperson

The Council owns or leases several assets, including:

Allotment sites at Bridgend Road, Jubilee Street and Pendre (by 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 and Deputy Chair's Chains of Office.
Carvings at Brynna Woods.

A full list of the Council's assets can be found in the Council's Asset Register, available from the Clerk.



9 Maintenance work

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

Summer grass cutting, strimming 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.

Cleaning of benches, bus-shelters and roadside furniture.

10 Achievements in 2025/26

***Incorporating statutory contribution to Cwm Taf Morgannwg 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 Morgannwg Well-being Plan 2018-2023. We have a statutory obligation to publish an annual report and demonstrate the progress which we have made towards the Cwm-Taf Morgannwg Well-being Plan 2023 – 2028.

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



Objective One - Healthy local neighbourhoods

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 feel and be safe: Cwm Taf Morgannwg is a safe place to live with good work being done to tackle crime and anti-social behaviour, but we know that some people feel unsafe in some spaces or at certain times. Recent figures also show an increase in reports of hate crime and domestic abuse. We recognise the impact this can have and want to create communities where everyone feels safe and has a sense of belonging.

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.

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.

Biodiversity Plan

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. More information regarding the Biodiversity Action Plan 2026-2028 can be found at Section 13.

In the municipal year 2025/26 Llanharan Community Council contributed to the Cwm Taf Morgannwg well-being plan in the following ways:

Bryncae Community Centre and the Pantry



The Community Council manages Bryncae Community Centre for the community. The Council has commenced a program of capital works to improve the centre and ensure it is available for community use over the following years. In 2025/26 the Council has introduced an online booking and payment system, replaced the outdated fire shutters and stage curtain tracks with modern facilities fit for purpose and safety and has committed £100,000 for further redevelopment and refurbishment.

(Cwm Taf Morgannwg Well-being Plan Objective 1 and Objective 2)



Hosted at the Community Centre, the Llanharan Pantry provides subsidised basic food. The Pantry also offers a context for social interaction and volunteering opportunities with a large and diverse team of volunteers from all sections of the community including those with additional needs.

(Cwm-Taf Well-being plan Objective 1)

The Council donated a chest freezer no longer required by the Pantry to the Hedgehog Hospital, a local charity supporting endangered wildlife, repurposing an appliance that might otherwise have gone to landfill.

(Cwm Taf Morgannwg Well-being Plan Objective 2. Biodiversity plan)

Events

The Community Council hosted a programme of events throughout the year designed to foster community cohesion and involvement, providing safe local spaces for celebration and recreation.

(Cwm-Taf Morgannwg Well-being plan Objective 1)

The 80th Anniversary of VE Day (8th May 2025) was marked by a shared celebration with historical displays and an opportunity for all ages to enjoy the day together.



The annual fireworks display held at the Welfare ground in November 2025 was a community event open to all, fostering community cohesion. The Council made specific provision for disabled access and provided a quiet display prior to the main display for those with sensory issues.



The 2025 Over 60s' Christmas lunches at Llanharan RFC in December 2025 gave over 280 local senior citizens the opportunity to socialise and eat together. Around 60 children from local primary schools were invited to provide entertainment, fostering community cohesion.



Festive events for Christmas and St David's day organised by the Council provided opportunities for the community to gather, celebrate, encourage local businesses and enjoy social connection across the generations.





Open spaces, rights of way and allotments



The provision of over 100 allotment plots over our 3 sites creates space for members of the community to grow their own fresh produce. Allotments can also provide exercise and enhance well-being. The Council provided 'mini plots' to encourage community growing.

(Cwm Taf Morgannwg Well-being Plan Objective 1 and Objective 2. Biodiversity plan)



The Council maintains the Oakbrook skateboard park and the Mountain Hare play area. Both are well used and provide the opportunity for younger people to congregate and play in a controlled and safe environment. The Council has now earmarked funds for a full replacement of the skatepark and carried out a public consultation to gather opinions and ideas for this project.

(Cwm Taf Morgannwg Well-being Plan Objective 1)



The Council replaced the fencing at Mountain Hare play area to provide a safer environment for leisure. Repairs were made to play equipment and a new set of football goalposts installed by kind donation of Excel Power Construction Ltd.

(Cwm Taf Morgannwg Well-being Plan Objective 1)



The Council undertook investigations into the feasibility and practical implementation of “cut-and-collect” mowing techniques and identified an area at Mountain Hare to manage in this way to support biodiversity, with the collaboration of the Wildlife Trust.

(Cwm Taf Morgannwg Well-being Plan Objective 2. Biodiversity plan)

The Council replaced dying and dead trees at Meadow Rise open space with new alder saplings sourced from a local tree nursery.

(Cwm Taf Morgannwg Well-being Plan Objective 1 and Objective 2. Biodiversity plan)

The council has installed a new bus shelter at the existing bus stop on Llanharan square to provide shelter, seating and protection for bus users at this busy corner. This encourages the use of public transport as a sustainable and safe alternative to private cars.

(Cwm Taf Morgannwg 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.

(Cwm Taf Morgannwg Well-being Plan Objective 1 and Objective 2. Biodiversity plan)



The Council maintains the War Memorials at Llanharan Square and St Peter's church, Brynna, and this year provided essential support to the local British Legion in arranging their Annual Remembrance Day service in November, providing a focus for community connection, localism

and appreciation of shared values.



(Cwm-Taf Morgannwg Well-being plan Objective 1)



The Council provided and maintained 19 defibrillators around the community to provide emergency life-saving facilities wherever people live and work. A network of local volunteers was created to help monitor the appliances regularly, ensuring that they are always in full working order when needed.

(Cwm-Taf Morgannwg Well-being plan Objective 1)

Grants and funding

The community council provided £30,000 of grant funding to Llanharan Community Development Project (LCDP) to support the provision of 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 Morgannwg 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. 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 Morgannwg Well-being Plan Objective 1 and Objective 2. Biodiversity plan)



The community council directed significant sums of CIL funding to several projects and organisations that facilitate and encourage exercise, play and sport in our community, including refurbishment of dugouts at Brynna FC, pitch drainage and resurfacing works at Brynna Community Centre, improvements to the showerblock at Llanharan Welfare Ground and development of a community garden at Ynysmaerdy.

***See section 9.2.2 Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) report for details**

The Council has also provided grant funding to several local groups which facilitated aspects of the 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 section 9.2.1 General Grants Awarded for details**



The Community Council is in the process of constructing a multi-user specification pathway and bridge over the River Ewenny into Brynna woods, replacing the existing features to make this natural haven accessible to wheelchair users. The project includes extensive consultation to ensure the protection of the natural habitats in the woods.

(Cwm Taf Morgannwg Well-being Plan Objective 1 and Objective 2. Biodiversity plan)

The Council marked the 100th anniversary of coal mining in Llanharan by publishing a special feature on the 'Dram' memorial display on the site of the original shaft.





Enhancing the local neighbourhood by seasonal displays



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. For Christmas 2025 the festive display was expanded to incorporate Lanelay estate and the new housing developments in Llanharan to the South and West.



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



11 Finance

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

11.2 Income and expenditure 2025/26

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

Llanharan Community Council derives most of its income from the Precept. The precept is a tax that community councils charge their local electors 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 2025/26 Llanharan Community Council derived its income from the following sources:

Precept	£300,409
Public Sector Deposit Fund Re-invested dividend	£52,727
Other Income (e.g. Allotments, Bank interest, RCT Rights of way payment)	£28,610
Total income 2025/26	£381,746



In 2025/26 Llanharan Community Council expenditure was as follows:

Staffing costs	£144,190
HR Expenditure	£444
Office & meeting venue costs (inc stationery, IT, council tax, utilities etc.)	£21,261
Professional, Legal and Audit Fees	£7,794
Insurances	£9,282
Staff & Member Training	£2,563
Member's Allowances	£3,760
Plant and equipment	£10,413
Public clocks Maintenance	£523
Hanging Baskets & Planters	£12,201
Christmas Lights and Trees	£24,167
Senior Citizens' Christmas Lunches	£8,724
Firework Display	£9,620
Community events	£8,772
General Grants	£51,370
Skateboard Park, MH park and other Outdoor Spaces	£3,558
War Memorial maintenance	£2,770
Llanharan Pantry	£5,333
Bryncae Community Centre	£22,250
Street Lighting Electric	£402
Allotments	£975
Total expenditure 2025/26	£350,372
General Reserves held at year end 2025/26	£279,541

11.2.1 General grants awarded 2025/26

During the 2025/26 municipal year the council awarded the following general grants to community groups in line with its general grants policy:

Llanharan Community Development Project	£30,000
The Wildlife Trust (Brynna Woods)	£10,000
Dolau Primary School PTA	£2,000
1 st Llanharan Scouts	£2,000
Llanharan RFC Junior and Mini Section	£2,000
Bryncae Brass	£2,000
Ffrindiau Llanhari	£851.97
Llanharan Horticultural society (Annual show)	£750
1 st Llanharan Brownies	£670.75
Ynysmaerdy Welfare Association	£366.88
1 st Llanharan Guides	£300
1 st Brynna Rainbows	£300
1 st Llanharan Rainbows	£300
Llantrisant Netball Club	£130



11.2.2 Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) report 2025/26

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 2025/26 Llanharan Community Council received £153,861 of CIL income from RCTCBC.

£870,023 was carried over from previous years.

In total the Council spent £135,687 from its CIL funds in 2025/26 on the following projects.

Bus shelter at the High Corner
Drainage of lower pitch at Brynna Community Centre
Resurface of 3G pitch at Brynna Community Centre
Community Garden at Ynysmaerdy
Provision of all-user bridge over the River Ewenni
Improvements to Bryncae Community Centre
Refurbishment of Brynna Football Club dugouts
Improvements to the shower block at the Welfare Ground
Building of secure storage and remodelling of Memorial Garden

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



11.3 Income and expenditure 2026/27

11.3.1 Precept for 2026/27

Llanharan Community Council resolved to increase its council tax charge for 2026/27.

This constitutes a 1.8% increase on the 2025/26 Community Council tax band D rate resulting in a £1.51 per year increase and a resultant Community Council band D rate of £85.43 per year raising a precept of £320,808.44

11.3.2 Budget for 2026/27

The 2026/27 Llanharan Community Council budgeted income is derived from the following sources:

Precept	£320,808
Public Sector Deposit Fund Re-invested dividend	£22,500
Allotments	£3,250
Other Income (e.g. Bank interest, RCT Rights of way payment)	£1,830
Bryncae Community Centre income (Hire fees)	£13,500
Total budgeted income 2026/27	£361,888



In 2026/27 Llanharan Community Council budgeted expenditure is as follows:

Staffing costs	£161,391
Office & meeting venue costs (inc stationery, IT, council tax, utilities etc.)	£17,930
HR Expenditure	£750
Professional, Legal and Audit Fees	£7,650
Insurances	£9,755
Staff & Member Training	£2,900
Member's Allowances	£4,912
Maintenance/Groundworks total costs	£9,450
Public clocks Maintenance	£540
Hanging Baskets & Planters	£10,100
Christmas Lights and Trees	£24,500
Senior Citizen's Christmas Lunches	£9,000
Firework Display	£10,500
Community events	£9,500
General Grants	£47,000
Rights of Way	£1,330
Skateboard Park, MH park and other Outdoor Play Maintenance	£3,050
War Memorial maintenance	£1,867
Bryncae Community Centre Overheads and Maintenance	£16,085
BCC Business Rates	£8,600
Street Lighting Electric	£1,050
Allotments	£1,022
Electoral Costs	£3,000
Total budgeted expenditure 2026/27	£361,882
Budgeted general reserve at end 2026/27	£176,444
Actual Gen reserve at 31 st March 2026	£279,541

Note: the reason for the drop in the General Reserve at end 2026/27 from end 2025/26 is the Council's resolution to set up specific Ear-Marked Reserves (EMRs) for the new financial year.



12 2026/27 Action plan

***Incorporating statutory contribution to Cwm Taf Morgannwg well-being plan**

To complete CIL project LCC25/01 'Improvements to the Welfare Ground shower block'
(Cwm Taf Morgannwg Well-being Plan Objective 1)

To commence work on CIL project LCC23/01 'Bridge over the River Ewenny'.
(Cwm Taf Morgannwg Well-being Plan Objective 1 and Objective 2. Biodiversity plan)

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

To proceed with CIL project LCC25/09 'Oakbrook skatepark refurb'.
(Cwm Taf Morgannwg Well-being Plan Objective 1)

To proceed with CIL project LCC23/02 'Planned capital improvements to Bryncae Community Centre'.
(Cwm Taf Morgannwg Well-being Plan Objective 1)

To facilitate CIL project LCC26/03 'LRGT - resurfacing of carpark'.
(Cwm Taf Morgannwg Well-being Plan Objective 1)

To facilitate CIL project LCC26/02 'Brynna Allotment Association – Civil works to expand storage shed'.
(Cwm Taf Morgannwg Well-being Plan Objective 1 and Objective 2. Biodiversity plan)

To facilitate CIL project LCC26/01 'Llanharan Primary School - Equipment for reading corners'
(Cwm Taf Morgannwg Well-being Plan Objective 1)

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

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

To deliver an enhanced range of events through the year meeting social needs for people of all ages throughout the community including the Remembrance Day Service, Fireworks Display, Panto, Over 60s' Christmas lunches, Christmas and St David's Day events
(Cwm Taf Morgannwg Well-being Plan Objective 1)

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 Morgannwg Well-being Plan Objective 1 and Objective 2. Biodiversity plan)



13 Biodiversity Action Plan

Environment (Wales) Act 2016 Part 1 – Section 6 The Biodiversity and Resilience of Ecosystems Duty

Llanharan Community Council serves the communities of Llanharan, Brynna, Brynnau Gwynion, Bryncae, Llanilid and Ynysmaerdy, comprising three wards, with 14 Councillors serving an electorate of approximately 7500 people. At the time of writing the Council employs three part time officers, a full time Senior Grounds person and a part time Grounds person. The Council owns or leases 3 allotment sites and a number of areas of green space, including: a mixed play area and open space at Brynnau Gwynion ; a mixed mini football pitch and open space at Meadow Rise, this area also containing a small woodland; a memorial garden at Grove Terrace, a parcel of light woodland to the east of Meadow Rise, a skatepark at Oakbrook, land around the War Memorial on Hillside Avenue and around the ruins of St Peter's Church.

Biodiversity objectives:

1a - embed biodiversity into decision making & procurement.

1b - raise awareness of biodiversity & its importance.

	Action planned	Time scale	Monitored by:
1	Make sure all members are aware of the Council's duties under Section 6 of the Environment Wales Act by circulating a note/email to all members alongside this BAP.	End May 2026	ORA Committee
2	Make all members aware of available biodiversity and Section 6 duties training.	End May 2026	ORA Committee
3	Include a standard agenda item in ORA Committee's – "To Review the Council's Biodiversity Action Plan and consider any business relating to it brought in advance and distributed as a formal paper by the Clerk."	End May 2026	ORA Committee
4	Include as a standard agenda item at the Council's annual meeting – "To review the Council's Biodiversity Action Plan."	End May 2026	Council
5	To alter the wording of the paper accompanying the Planning agenda item at full council meetings to include that consideration of commenting on planning matters should consider the impact on biodiversity.	End May 2026	Council



6	For the Council to appoint a 'Biodiversity Champion' to be named on the Council's list of external representatives. For this person to attend RCTCBC Local Partnership for Nature (LNP) meetings and forums and to act as liaison with other groups.	End May 2026	Council
7	To create a separate budget line for Biodiversity/ Environmental initiatives delegated to the ORA Committee. Amount £500 - a virement to be taken from general reserves to create this budget line.	End Nov 2026	Council
9	To amend the Council General Grant Policy and CIL Grant Policy and forms to prompt members to consider the effects of any application on biodiversity.	End Nov 2026	Audit Committee
10	To publish the Council's Biodiversity Action Plan, reviews and reports on a separate section of the Council's website and to publicise these via social media when reviewed, to help inform the public.	End July 2026	ORA Committee
11	To publish tangible actions/work conducted to enhance biodiversity on the Council's social media channels, to help inform the public.	End July 2026	ORA Committee
12	Where appropriate to place signage where tangible actions/ work has been conducted to enhance biodiversity, to help inform the public.	NA	ORA Committee
13	Where biodiversity surveys are to be conducted by the Council to publicise these via social media and invite participation from the public.	NA	ORA Committee

Biodiversity objectives:

2 - safeguard principal species and habitats.

3 - restore & create habitats and resilient ecological networks.

4 - tackle negative factors: e.g. reduce pollution, use nature-based solutions, address invasive species.

14	To redesign aspects of the play area at Brynnau Gwynion to incorporate a biodiversity area. The area to be developed using cut and collect mowing methods. Appropriate signage to be placed and the area publicised on the Council's social media channels.	End Aug 2026	ORA Committee
15	To develop a hedgerow comprising appropriate species (Hawthorn, Hazel, Buckthorn, Alder, Holly etc.) in front of the newly erected boundary safety fence at the north-western boundary of the Meadow Rise open space.	End Aug 2026	ORA Committee



16	To develop a nature trail/woodland walk in the wooded area at the Meadow Rise Open Space. Appropriate signage to be placed and the area publicised on the Council's social media channels.	End July 2027	ORA Committee
17	To examine the contents of the Council's planters and hanging baskets ready for summer 2027, aiming to achieve the most sustainable, biodiverse, colourful summer display possible. To examine the types of soils used to retain as much water as possible.	End Sep 2026	ORA Committee
18	To examine the potential use of starch granules in the Council's hanging baskets and planters to help retain water. (And reservoirs, potentially using pond liners in planters)	End Sep 2026	ORA Committee
19	To make (or purchase) and place 'Bug Hotels' for the following locations: Meadow Rise open space, Brynnau Gwynion play area, Land to the east of Meadow Rise and potentially elsewhere with appropriate signage. Potentially engaging local schools to make the bug hotels and help choose locations. Fairly simple project build instructions can be found online for school projects.	From Sept 2026	ORA Committee
20	To make (or purchase) and place 'Hedgehog Houses' for the following locations: Meadow Rise open space, Brynnau Gwynion play area, Land to the east of Meadow Rise and elsewhere with appropriate signage. Potentially engaging local schools to make the Hedgehog houses and help choose locations. Fairly simple project build instructions can be found online for school projects. The hedgehog hospital charity could potentially assist in engaging the schools. Hibernation season typically begins in November each year.	Nov 2026	ORA Committee
21	Plant on available verges along New Road (Near Heol Y Parc Roundabout) and maintain in a biodiverse nature. Nature of plants to be decided.	End April 2026	ORA Committee.
22	Cut down three dead/dying trees identified on tree survey at Meadow Rise and leave as log piles. Replace with locally sourced alder saplings (<i>Alnus glutinosa</i>).	End April 2026	ORA Committee
23	Survey council land to identify INNS and develop eradication/ management plan	End Dec 2026	Officers/ interested members
24	Investigate possibility of volunteer teams to help pull Himalayan Balsam on public rights of way	End Dec 2026	Clerk



Biodiversity objectives:

5 - use, improve, and share evidence.

25	Recording of any INNS sightings on an appropriate platform. Details of how to log to be made available to interested parties and made available to the public via the Council's social media channels.	End Dec 2026	Clerk
26	For guidance sheets re INNS to be kept at the Council offices for public use along with a list of known contractors and provide links to information on INNS management on private land on the Council's social media channels.	End July 2026	Clerk
27	Share Biodiversity Action Plan, Annual reviews and three yearly reports submitted to One Voice Wales as well as publishing on own dedicated section of the Council's website and social media.	Yearly	Clerk

Biodiversity objectives:

6 - support capacity and/or other organisations.

28	The Council will continue to budget annually for grant support for the Wildlife Trust of South and West Wales, subject to the receipt and approval of a suitable annual grant application. See also actions 6 and 9, above.	Yearly	Council
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End