

LLANELLI TOWN COUNCIL

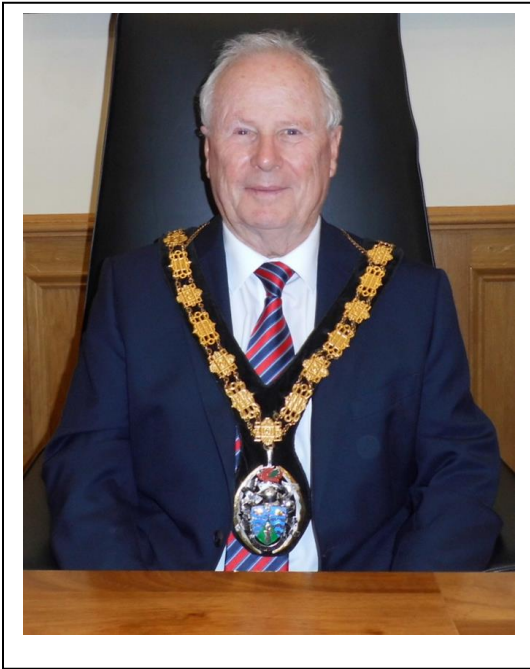
Annual Report 2021-22



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1. Introduction – Cllr. Michael Cranham J.P. – Llanelli Town Mayor 2021-22



It is my pleasure to present the Llanelli Town Council Annual Report for 2021-22. This year's Annual Report outlines the activities and services of the Town Council during the 2021-22 financial and civic year.

During my term of office, the Council has continued to maintain and build upon its important role in our Community, and it's a role which I believe is still much appreciated by the people of Llanelli. I have been delighted to see developments at our Parks and Playing Fields during the year with the creation of the new Cruyff Court at Penyfan and the skate park in Peoples' Park. Both facilities are already proving to be incredibly popular.

With the progressive loosening of the COVID19 restrictions, our open spaces have been well utilised throughout the year. The Town Council has become even more of a focal point for the people of Llanelli and it is a clear demonstration of the vital grass-roots link which the Town Council has with the residents of Llanelli.

The Council's Biodiversity Programme has been developed during the past year with a large-scale project completed at Crown Park, the project was supported by the Local Places for Nature programme funded by Welsh Government and the National Lottery Heritage Fund. I was pleased to be able to open the planted areas in Spring 2021. These projects continue to grow and involved the public and pupils from 5 local schools whilst restrictions are being eased.



Of course, one of the more solemn moments of my year was the Remembrance Sunday Service in the Town Hall Grounds, where appropriate arrangements were put in place to enable serving and retired service personnel to pay their respects to fallen comrades.

I was also pleased to be able to support a number of projects in the Christmas period including the Christmas lights switch on in the Town Centre and a number of Community Christmas Trees across the Town.



My Christmas Card was designed by pupils of Stebonheath School. A large number of entries were provided and I was delighted with the quality of all the designs, finding a winning entry very difficult to choose. In the end the cards by Kate Howells (Year 1), Grace Hughes (Year 4), and Annaleise Bell (Year 5) were successful with each receiving shopping vouchers worth £15 along with a framed print of their design.





I was also able to reach an agreement with Father Christmas to be able to provide a post box for children's letters to be delivered to him from the Old Vicarage.

My year as Mayor has also involved a number of visits to those dedicated organisations providing social care, food bank and food distribution services to the Community during the pandemic.



Events in Ukraine have impacted upon a large number of Llanelli residents and as would be expected, they have shown great generosity in responding to an appeal for support to refugees from Ukraine escaping from the conflict caused by the Russian invasion of their country. Parents from St Mary's School and members of the Llanelli Catholic Church organised a collection on Sunday 27th February at the Church Community Centre which was met with an incredible response. I visited on the day to thank the organisers and

volunteers for their outstanding work and provided a donation of items on behalf of the Town Council



For the 2021-22 year, my Mayoral Charities were, Ty Bryngwyn Hospice, C.Y.C.A. and Teddy Bach. Each of these excellent organisations received a £1,730 donation towards their service provision in Llanelli.

A real highlight of the year was the Meet the Mayor Project at the Old Vicarage which saw 6 primary schools visiting the Mayoral Parlour as part of the National Lottery Funded Connect 2021 project.

Over 230 pupils and teachers visited the Town Council Chamber during the three day project. Pupils received information on the work of the Town Council, electoral arrangements, the importance of voting and had an opportunity to find out about the role of the Town Mayor. I was very pleased to answer their many interesting questions during these sessions.





I would wish to thank my fellow Town Councillors for the great honour bestowed on me to hold the role of Town Mayor for 2021-22 and to my Mayoress Megan and Deputy Mayor and Mayoress, Cllr Sean Rees and Sarah Rees for their support through the year.

I would also want to take this final opportunity to express my sincere thanks and to pay tribute to all those residents of Llanelli who provide voluntary and other support to the Town through their activities Organisations, Charities and Sporting Clubs, many of whom I have had the great pleasure of meeting during the last year.

Cllr Michael Cranham J.P.
Llanelli Town Mayor
2021-22



2. Annual Review - Cllr David Darkin, Leader of Llanelli Town Council 2021-22



I am pleased to be able to provide an overview of the work undertaken by Llanelli Town Council in 2021-22 as part of our annual report. The Council has continued to ensure that all its activities and policies take account of the Well-being of Future Generations Act 2015 and we have adopted the 7 key goals and 5 ways of working set out by the Act which continues to inform our community work. This annual report details the Town Council activities in relation to these 7 key goals.

Following the Town Council elections held on the 5th May 2022, the Town Council administration has changed and I was appointed Leader of the Council. I would wish to record my thanks to my predecessor, Cllr John Jenkins for his dedication to the role and work as Leader during the period covered by this report.

The 2021-22 year has been a busy one for the Members and Officers of Llanelli Town Council. As COVID-19 restrictions were steadily loosened throughout the year, activity at our Community Centres, Parks and Open Spaces has gradually increased as organisations return to activity. The way that the Llanelli residents have continued to support each other has, while not at all surprising, been so pleasing to see. So many of you have volunteered to help your neighbours and the wider Community. I have been incredibly touched by these acts of kindness and I pay tribute to you all.

The Town Council can be proud of the support it has provided to the Hywel Dda Health Board in the fight against the COVID19 pandemic through the provision of the Selwyn Samuel Centre as the Ysbyty Enfys Selwyn Samuel. The return of the Centre to Town Council Management is now complete and we look forward to the return of our friends at the Llanelli Indoor Bowls Club during the autumn

As restrictions continue to be loosened our thoughts turned to the recovery of our business and local services. Llanelli Town Council has worked with Ymlaen Llanelli and

Carmarthenshire County Council to obtain UK Government Community Renewal Funding which has been used for Community Projects and a successful Town Centre Ambassador and Product Delivery scheme.

Llanelli Town Council has continued to provide a wide variety of services to the people of Llanelli. This has only been possible through extensive partnership working and I would wish to thank all of our key partners for their dedication to the people of Llanelli.

During the 2021-22-year, work has been completed on the programme of Community Centre facilities improvements. The Town Council has also carried out facilities improvements at our Parks and Playing Fields. A new skate park has been created at Peoples' Park with funding from the Carmarthenshire County Council administered, Welsh Government Funded, All Wales Play Opportunities Grant scheme, Llanelli Town Council and National Lottery Awards for All. Construction works were completed in April on the Cruyff Court Penyfan at Penyfan Park. Llanelli Town Council developed the court with funding support from the Cruyff Foundation (set up by legendary Dutch Footballer Johan Cruyff, who had the dream after his career, to create space for children to develop through sports), Carmarthenshire County Council Targeted Finance Fund, Carmarthenshire County Council Welsh Church Fund and Llanelli and District Rotary Club.

The Town Council continues to be very proud to be part of a unique partnership through the Parc Howard Collaboration Group. This Joint Working Group with Carmarthenshire County Council funds and manages Parc Howard, ensuring the facility is improved and remains in public ownership. This partnership has led to a large scale project to upgrade the fabric of the Museum building with further development work planned for the future.

The Town Council was very pleased to support the Carmarthenshire County Council Toy Box scheme, providing a £1,000 worth of toys for families requiring support during the Christmas period.



The Town Council continues to maintain each of its facilities and open spaces to a very high standard and has supported the Caru Cymru / Keep Wales Tidy Leave Only Paw Prints Campaign, which is promoting responsible dog ownership. The Town Council, the Carmarthenshire County Council Pride In Your Patch Scheme and Transforming Tyisha Team have continued to monitor Llanelli parks and play areas and carrying out educational sessions within the schools in Llanelli.



The Council has continued its work in the Community and has shown how important our Community Development Service is within the Town with extensive support provided to organisations in continuing their service safely in a way permitted by Welsh Government Regulations.

I would wish to record my thanks to all my fellow Councillors for their service to our Town and to the Town Council staff team for their dedication to their role on behalf of the Town Council. I would also wish to note our gratitude to those former Town Council members who did not seek re-election or were not re-elected for the new term.

The Town Council will continue to develop its service provision during 2022-23 with a wide range of plans and projects envisaged for the coming Council Terms as we work to ensure that Llanelli residents continue to be provided with the highest possible standard of facilities and services by your Town Council.

Best wishes

Cllr David Darkin, Town Council Leader

3. Llanelli Town Council Structure and Governance

May 2022, saw the election of the current Llanelli Town Council with 22 members elected for to the Town Council. Members elected were as follows:

Llanelli Town Council Members 2022-23

Cllr A.R. Bragoli
Cllr A.A. Carter
Cllr M.D. Cranham
Cllr S.A. Curry
Cllr D.Ll. Darkin (Leader of the Council)
Cllr T. Davies
Cllr J.R. Elliott
Cllr S. Evans
Cllr L. Fenris
Cllr S. Greaney
Cllr R. James
Cllr J.P. Jenkins
Cllr J.E. Jones J.P.
Cllr G. Lloyd
Cllr A. Lochrie
Cllr A.S.J. McPherson
Cllr D.J. Nicholas
Cllr N.J. Pearce (Deputy Town Mayor)
Cllr S. Rees
Cllr B.A.L. Roberts
Cllr. P.T. Warlow (Town Mayor)
Cllr J.R. Williams

Llanelli Town Council Members 2021-22

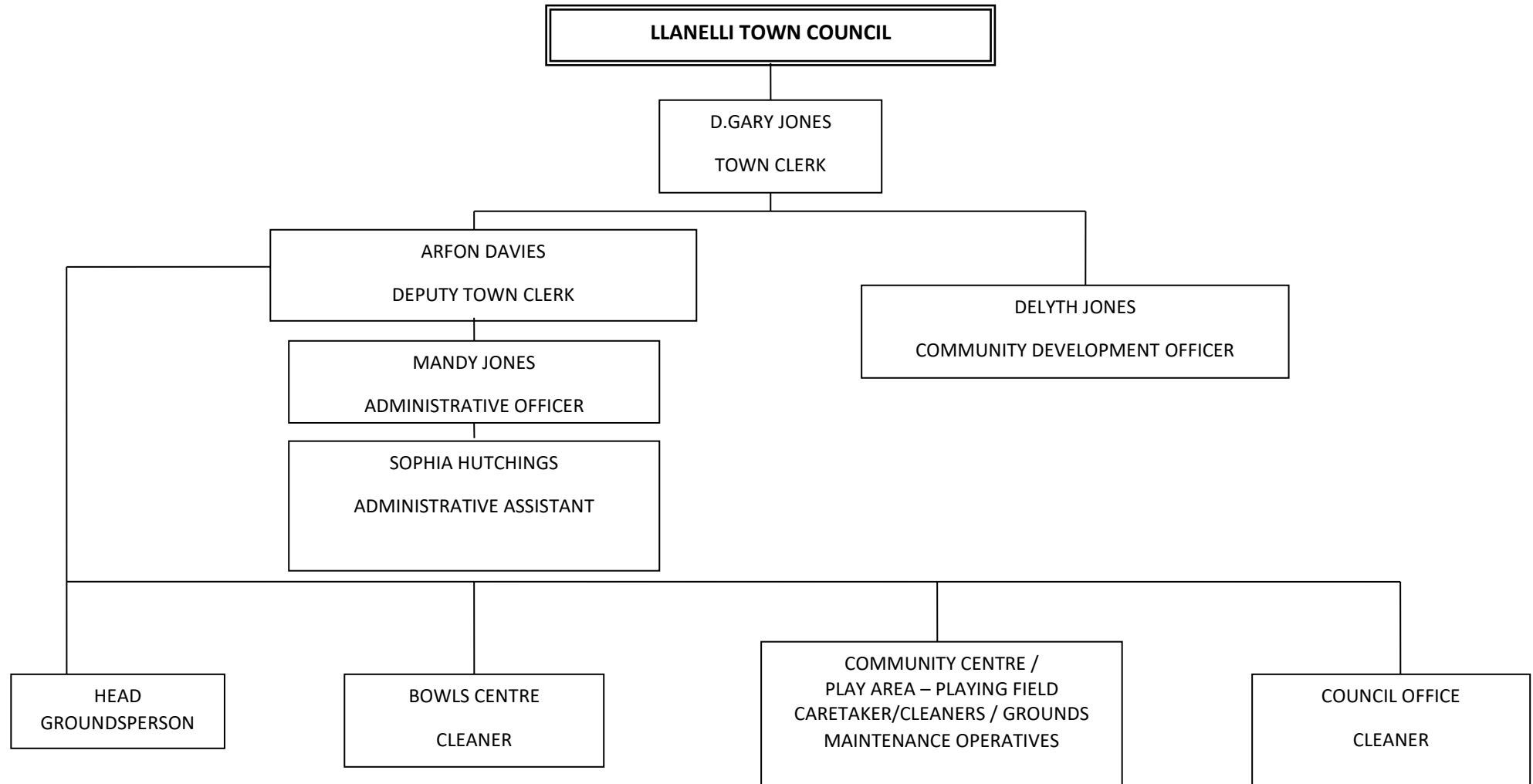
Cllr M.D. Cranham (Town Mayor)
Cllr S.A. Curry
Cllr D.Ll. Darkin
Cllr T. Davies
Cllr J.S. Edmunds
Cllr L.A. Edmunds
Cllr M.P. Edmunds
Cllr C. Griffiths
Cllr S.J. Griffiths
Cllr J.P. Jenkins (Leader of the Council)
Cllr J.E. Jones J.P.
Cllr W.J. Lemon
Cllr A.S.J. McPherson
Cllr S. Najmi J.P.
Cllr N.J. Pearce
Cllr J.G. Prosser
Cllr C.A. Reed
Cllr S. Rees (Deputy Town Mayor)
Cllr B.A.L. Roberts
Cllr W.E. Skinner
Cllr. P.T. Warlow
Cllr J. Williams

Council Meetings during the pandemic

During the 2021-22 Civic Year, in accordance with the provisions of Schedule 12 of the Local Government Act 1972 and Section 47 of the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021, meetings of Llanelli Town Council continued to be held by a mixture of online and face to face means at the Old Vicarage, Town Hall Square.

Llanelli Town Council employs a group of dedicated officers and staff to support the actions and policies agreed by the Town Council.

Llanelli Town Council Staffing Structure – 2021-22



4. The Services We Deliver

Recreation and Sport

The Town Council provides excellent facilities at Stebonheath Park, home to Llanelli Town Football Club and West Wales Raiders Rugby League, and at the Selwyn Samuel Indoor Bowls Centre. The Town Council also own Clos yr Ysgol Park, Crown Park, Havelock Park, Morfa Park, Nightingale Park, Penyfan Park and Peoples' Park. Asset transfer has recently been completed for Penygaer Playing Fields and Llanerch Field with the park at Anne Street to follow shortly. The Council continues through the financial contribution and membership of the Parc Howard Collaboration Group to work in partnership with the County Council to manage Parc Howard, ensuring the facility is improved and remains in public ownership.



During the 2021 summer period, the Town Council managed splash pads and paddling pools at Crown Park, Havelock Park, Parc Howard, Penyfan Park and Peoples' Park were able to re-open and proved again to be very popular attractions throughout the period.

Further development at the parks have been completed during the year with the new Cruyff Court at Penyfan and the Skate Park at Peoples' Park opening in April.

Events and Promotions

Throughout the year, the Town Council continued to fund events and promotions that were held in person and online in partnership with Llanelli Business Improvement District and Carmarthenshire County Council including:

- St David's Day activities with Menter Cwm Gwendraeth Elli;
- Town Centre Food Festival
- 80s Festival

During the 2021-22 Summer Season, the Town Council continued to fund the provision and maintenance of the Hanging Baskets in the Town Centre, providing a blaze of colour throughout the summer months.

Additionally, in order to support our local businesses the Town Council, Llanelli Business Improvement District and Carmarthenshire County Council have developed a UK Government Community Renewal Fund project providing for a Town Centre Ambassador and delivery scheme.

The Council looks forward to working closely with the Llanelli Business Improvement District (Ymlaen Llanelli) to further events in the coming year.

Community Support

The Council owns and manages seven community centres providing subsidised facilities for use by the public of all ages.



Glenalla Community Centre

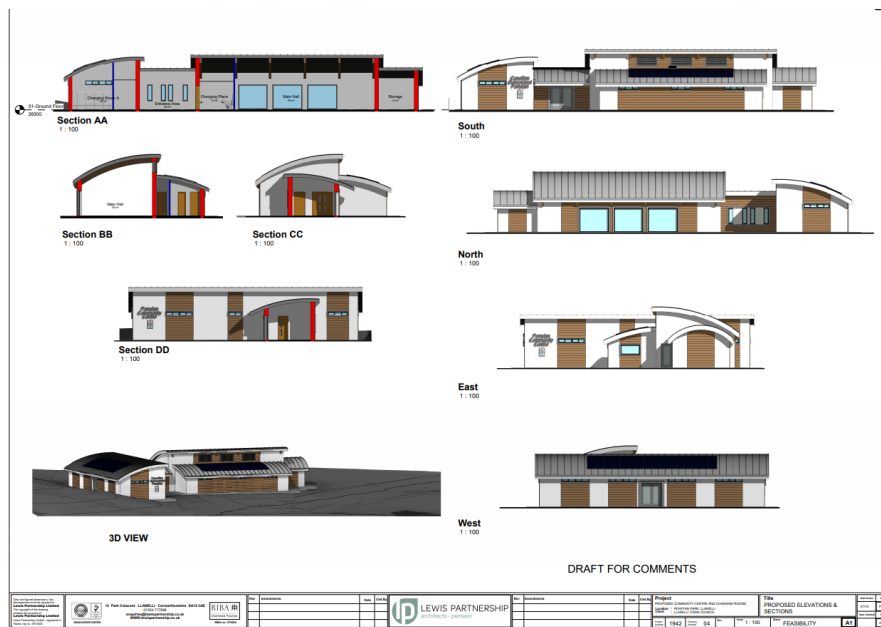
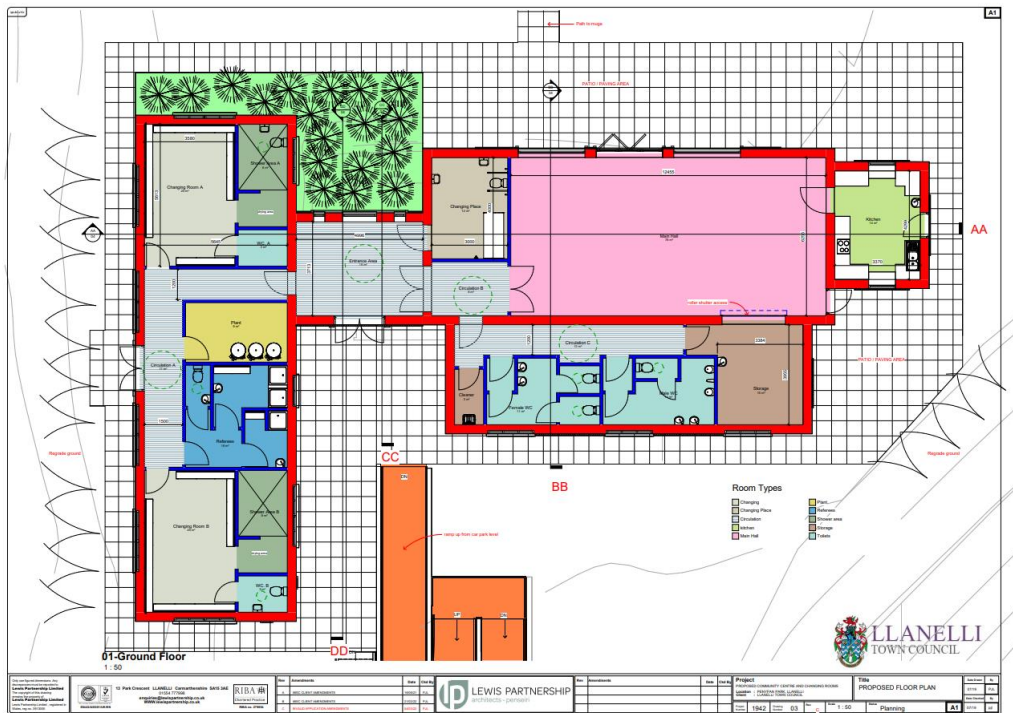


Llanerch Community Centre

Additionally, it advises and assists community groups on a wide range of issues and provides grants and sponsorship to support the work of many local clubs, societies and organisations. Our Community Development Officer continues to work with many organisations delivering projects such as Connect 2021,

The Town Council, in partnership with the Penyfan Community Facilities Working Group, has undertaken extensive consultation in support of funding applications to be made to

provide for a Community facility and changing rooms. A planning application is currently under consideration with a final funding application to be submitted during the 2022-23 financial year.



Plans of the Penyfan Community Centre

Footpaths and Lighting

The Town Council continues to inspect and maintain the town's public footpaths on behalf of the County Council as well as funding the energy and maintenance costs of the lighting on these pathways.

Work has been undertaken during the 2021-22 year to improve the lighting at Peoples' Park along with commencement of a footpath improvement project at Penyfan Park to be carried out by Carmarthenshire County Council.

Llanelli Town Mayor

The Llanelli Town Mayor is the Civic Head of the Council and the first citizen of Llanelli. The Town Mayor is supported by a Secretary and the Town Council Staff.

Llanelli Cemetery

Llanelli Town Council jointly owns Box Cemetery with Llanelli Rural Council and through this partnership and our role on the Llanelli Joint Burial Advisory Committee continue to fund the cemetery.

Cultural and Heritage

Llanelli Town Council owns Llanelly House which it has leased to CHRT on a long lease. The Town Council and the County Council continue to provide financial support to the House to ensure that the Grade I listed building is maintained to the high standards already being set enabling it to be a significant asset to the town centre and its visitors. The Town Council's involvement in the Parc Howard Collaboration Group continues to ensure the museum building remains in public ownership and available to the whole Community.

The very successful Connect 2021 schools project has gone from strength to strength throughout the year working in 6 Llanelli Schools and developing activities across the Town.

5. 2021-22 Financial Report and Accounts

Community and Town Councils in Wales Annual Return for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

Accounting statements 2021-22 for:

Name of body: Llanelli Town Council

	Year ending		Notes and guidance for compilers													
	31 March 2021 (£)	31 March 2022 (£)														
Statement of income and expenditure/receipts and payments																
1. Balances brought forward	522,105	698,855	Total balances and reserves at the beginning of the year as recorded in the financial records. Must agree to line 7 of the previous year.													
2. (+) Income from local taxation/levy	950,000	950,000	Total amount of income received/receivable in the year from local taxation (precept) or levy/contribution from principal bodies.													
3. (+) Total other receipts	498,965	734,123	Total income or receipts recorded in the cashbook minus amounts included in line 2. Includes support, discretionary and revenue grants.													
4. (-) Staff costs	-316,833	-369,543	Total expenditure or payments made to and on behalf of all employees. Include salaries and wages, PAYE and NI (employees and employers), pension contributions and related expenses eg, termination costs.													
5. (-) Loan interest/capital repayments	0	0	Total expenditure or payments of capital and interest made during the year on external borrowing (if any).													
6. (-) Total other payments	-955,382	-1,270,923	Total expenditure or payments as recorded in the cashbook minus staff costs (line 4) and loan interest/capital repayments (line 5).													
7. (=) Balances carried forward	698,855	742,512	Total balances and reserves at the end of the year. Must equal (1+2+3) – (4+5+6).													
Statement of balances																
8. (+) Debtors	263,941	312,671	Income and expenditure accounts only: Enter the value of debts owed to the body at the year-end.													
9. (+) Total cash and investments	543,455	546,858	All accounts: The sum of all current and deposit bank accounts, cash holdings and investments held <u>at</u> 31 March. This must agree with the reconciled cashbook balance as per the bank reconciliation.													
10. (-) Creditors	108,541	117,017	Income and expenditure accounts only: Enter the value of monies owed by the body (except borrowing) at the year-end.													
11. (=) Balances carried forward	698,855	742,512	Total balances should equal line 7 above: Enter the total of (8+9-10).													
12. Total fixed assets and long-term assets	6,759,820	6,958,677	The asset and investment register value of all fixed assets and any other long-term assets held as <u>at</u> 31 March.													
13. Total borrowing	0	0	The outstanding capital balance as <u>at</u> 31 March of all loans from third parties (including PWLB).													
14. Trust funds disclosure note	<table border="1" style="display: inline-table; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Yes</td> <td style="text-align: center;">No</td> <td style="text-align: center;">N/A</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Yes</td> <td style="text-align: center;">No</td> <td style="text-align: center;">N/A</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><input checked="" type="radio"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="radio"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="radio"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input checked="" type="radio"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="radio"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="radio"/></td> </tr> </table>	Yes	No	N/A	Yes	No	N/A	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>			The body acts as sole trustee for and is responsible for managing (a) trust fund(s)/assets (readers should note that the figures above do not include any trust transactions).
Yes	No	N/A	Yes	No	N/A											
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6. The Strategic Context – What’s happening across Wales?

The Well-being of Future Generations Act launched in 2015 and the Carmarthenshire Well-Being Plan 2018-2023 *‘the Carmarthenshire We Want’* set out the priorities and themes for Wales and Carmarthenshire for the coming years. The act continues to provide a framework for Town Council activities and Llanelli Town Council is committed to continuing the implementation of the themes which are taken into consideration when developing all Llanelli Town Council future work programmes.

The Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 was passed on 20 January 2021. The act provides for the establishment of a reformed legislative framework for local government elections, democracy, governance and performance.

The legislation impacts upon the community and town council sector in a number of ways:

- It gives eligible community councils, a general power of competence. Providing for enhanced ability to make expenditure in areas felt to benefit their communities;
- Makes accessing Council meetings from multiple locations using technology a permanent provision;
- Requiring the provision of opportunities for public participation at public council meetings;
- Requiring the preparation and publishing of annual reports;
- Requiring the preparation and publishing of a training plan to support training for councillors and council staff.

7. How will Community and Town Councils get involved?

The Well-being of Future Generations Act places a duty on certain Community and Town Councils in Wales to take all reasonable steps towards meeting the local objectives included in their local well-being plan. A Community or Town Council is subject to that duty only if its gross income or expenditure was at least £200,000 for each of the three financial years preceding the year in which the local well-being plan is published. The Town Council is therefore subject to the provision of the act.

Llanelli Town Council is implementing the requirements of the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 in all its administrative arrangements and passed a resolution

at the May 2022 Annual Meeting in accordance with Schedule 4, Part 1 of the 2021 Act confirming itself as an eligible Competent Council under the act.

8. The Carmarthenshire Public Services Board and the Carmarthenshire Well-Being Plan

During 2021-22, Llanelli Town Council has continued to be instrumental in working with the Carmarthenshire Public Services Board (PSB) to develop the outcomes of the Carmarthenshire Well-being plan: The Carmarthenshire We Want 2018-2023 published in early 2018.

<http://www.thecarmarthenshirewewant.wales/media/8331/carmarthenshire-well-being-plan-final-may-2018.pdf>

Town Council members and Officers have continued to meet regularly online with the PSB developing the plan and working to provide an agreed reporting mechanism for Town and Community Councils in order to meet the requirements of the Act. Community and Town Council are full members of the board with a representative of the sector invited to each meeting.

Following the provision of the first annual reports for 2018-19, the reporting mechanism has been further updated for 2021-22 to improve the way we report to the PSB against priorities set out in the 'Carmarthenshire We Want 2018-2023'.

The 'Carmarthenshire We Want' sets out Short, Medium and Long-Term goals and targets in the following areas of work



Healthy Habits

People have a good quality of life, and make healthy choices about their lives and their environment.



Strong Connections

Strongly connected people, places and organisations, that are able to adapt to change.



Early Intervention

People have the right help at the right time; as and when they need it.



Prosperous People and Places

Maximise opportunities for people and places in both urban and rural parts of our county.

All Town and Community Councils are encouraged to use the 5 sustainable development principles as set out in the Act:

- **Long Term** - The importance of balancing short-term needs with the need to safeguard the ability to also meet long-term needs.
- **Prevention** - How acting to prevent problems occurring or getting worse may help public bodies meet their objectives.
- **Integration** - Considering how the public body's well-being objectives may impact upon each of the well-being goals, on their other objectives, or on the objectives of other public bodies.
- **Collaboration** - Acting in collaboration with any other person (or different parts of the body itself) that could help the body to meet its well-being objectives.
- **Involvement** - The importance of involving people with an interest in achieving the well-being goals and ensuring that those people reflect the diversity of the area which the body serves.

THE WALES WE WANT

Our common purpose – the seven well-being goals for Wales

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
A Prosperous Wales	A Resilient Wales	A Healthier Wales	A More Equal Wales	A Wales of Cohesive Communities	A Wales of Vibrant Culture and Thriving Welsh Language	Globally Responsible Wales

The way in which we will measure progress

9. How the Town Council has embedded the Future Generations Act in its activities, structures and policies.

Llanelli Town Council has embedded the core principles of the Future Generations Act and the Carmarthenshire We Want. These can be detailed in three specific areas:

(a) Structures

The Town Council reporting structures for 2021-22 ensure successful delivery of the requirements set out in the Act. Direct reporting mechanisms are in place and Members are fully consulted on the development of activities:

- Well-Being of Future Generations Working Group;
- Monthly, Six-monthly and Annual Reporting to the Town Council;
- Annual Reporting to the Carmarthenshire Public Service Board which in turn reports to the Welsh Government.

(b) Policy and Procedures

All new Town Council Policies and Procedures are measured against the Well-being goals to ensure that all actions undertaken by the Council are working towards these agreed short, medium and long term targets.

(c) Activities

The Town Council is required to show how it is delivering against the identified strategic goals.

All Town Council activities are shaped by Community Need. These are developed by working closely with the Community to ensure that the services provided by the Council are meeting Community requirements. The Town Council utilises national ward and date profiles such Wales Index of Multiple Deprivation, census data and Public Service Board reports to help inform our strategic plans.

Annual work programmes, detailing the Town Council's proposed Community Activities, are developed and approved by the Town Council. This work programme is kept under constant review and is flexible enough to enable changes as and when the Community requires change. These areas of work are measured against the 7 key national goals and 4 Public Service Board local targets.

10. Review of Town Council Activity in the Llanelli Community 2021-22

Llanelli Town Council works closely with residents within our Community providing a wide range of services within the Town. A review of how the Town Council has performed against the agreed targets for 2021-22 are set out in Annex 1.

(a) Healthy Habits

(i) Biodiversity and Environmental Action Plan

Llanelli Town Council has agreed and implemented a biodiversity and environmental development action plan to support wildlife in our areas and to create a better environment for all residents (Annex 3). Activities undertaken include:

- Increasing litter picking activities in all Town Council parks;
- Carrying out discussions with allotment holders in relation to insecticide use and planting choices.
- Completed the Crown Park Environmental project with funding from the Welsh Government Local Places for Nature scheme, delivered in partnership with National lottery Heritage Fund.
- Creating butterfly garden facilities at Crown Park and Peoples' Park.
- Changing mowing habits to suit the locations and green space areas.



Crown Park Environmental Project

Connect 2021 Primary based school's project

Throughout the COVID19 restrictions, Llanelli Community Partnership worked very closely with the Community in partnership with Llanelli Town Council. From this work it was clear that the pandemic affected many families with many schools and pupils being badly affected by the Covid restrictions. This left children having to learn from home, isolated, missing their friends and peers and feeling that they had lost their connection to the wider community in Llanelli.

Working closely with schools the Connect 2021 project gave the opportunity to 8 primary schools in Llanelli to reconnect the schools, pupils, and families to the community via a number of activity opportunities. The project targeted year 6, the transitional year for many pupils to secondary school. The COVID recovery project works within the current Government guidelines and links to the national curriculum. Working together several opportunities have been created, firstly getting the children out into the park areas of Llanelli. *The Learn into Nature project* supported by Llanelli Town Council looks to educate through nature. Building community gardens, learning about the animals that live in the area, identifying / planting trees, shrubs and building new homes such as bird, kestrel boxes and hedgehog homes. We also looked at citizenship and our wider world, how as an individual they fit into the community and learning about local democracy, heritage and understanding community networks around them. The project has eased young people back into the community following the release of the COVID restrictions, it has built confidence and provided team building skills.

The Community told us that the project really matters and is a positive step forward, these actions have benefited youngsters and families' resilience, created active lives and boosted confidence.

The project also planted over 220 plants / shrubs and trees, creating meadow gardens in Llanelli parks, including Peoples' Park, Penygaer Playing Fields and Penyfan Park. The project has worked with 4 primary schools in rain and in sunshine with over 160 young people taking part. The project continues to run through 2022.



Connect 2021 Project

Project work is being planned for 2022-23 including reviewing the management of our open spaces in order to provide a more welcoming home for wildlife across the Town Council Parks. You may see these signs in areas as you walk the parks.



(ii) Cancer and Life Limiting Illness Projects

The COVID19 pandemic meant that a number of support organisation activities were suspended. Town Council officers continued to support vulnerable and shielded individuals who had been supported by these projects through creating communication trees and provision of supporting contact and signposting to advice sources. Many of the patients were supported via the early transfer of the People Speak Up Story Care and Share activities online.

Early discussions have commenced on provision of a new cancer unit at the Pentre Awel, Delta Lakes development due to be opened in 2023.

(iii) Dementia

Where possible the Town Council supported Story Care and Share activities and online dementia services that were transferred online for Llanelli Care Homes. These proved popular with residents and carers, further development of these services has been taken forward with the development of the Wellbeing Centre at the Ffwrnes Fach. The Town Council has been a member of the Dementia Coalition in Carmarthenshire since 2021. The Coalition looks to strengthen the service provision for those living with Dementia.

(iv) Mayoral Visits

The Town Mayor carried out a number of visits to Llanelli Food Distribution Centres and Care Homes in the run up to Christmas in order to thank staff for the support they provide to residents and to provide donations towards their services.



Visit to Ty Gwyn

(v) Park and Play Area Improvements

The Town Council continues to invest in the play areas in the Community with a maintenance programme in place and daily visits by our Grounds Staff to each location. Opportunities to carry out improvement projects are continually sought with upgrade projects completed to create the Cruyff Court Penyfan and Peoples' Park Skate Park projects. These two new facilities are proving to be incredibly popular with local youngsters especially the activities being arranged by Llanelli Town AFC Community Hub and the Swansea Premier Kicks at Penyfan.

During the year, the Asset transfer of Penygaer Playing Fields and Llanerch Field was completed. Plans are now being considered for improvements to the Changing Rooms facilities at Penygaer during the 2022-23 year.



Peoples Park Skate Park



Cruyff Court Penyfan

(b) Early Interventions

(i) Youth Activity Programme

The Town Council supported the provision of Youth activity through a number of projects delivered through the year.

- **People Speak Up Play Works Holiday Project** – 2021 saw the introduction of the *Play Works Holiday Project*, which continues to provide community-based play provision and Street Play targeting areas that have been identified by Carmarthenshire County Council as requiring support and focused on those 0-25

years of age. Funded by Welsh Government and delivered across the academic school holidays in partnership with Carmarthenshire County Council and others. The project continues to be successful.

- **Meet the Mayor and Young Citizenship Project** - The 2021-22 Meet the Mayor Project saw 230 young people from 6 local schools in Llanelli. The project has been developed to take account of citizenship, democracy and a sense of place within the Community following a very disrupted year caused by COVID 19. The 2021 programme delivered early spring in line with the Connect 2021 schools' project for 2022.
- **Young People Speak Up** – The project, created by People Speak Up continues to focus on supporting mental health and a positive attitude mainly through their outreach programme and drop-in centres. This project has been highly successful in working with young people to bridge the gap to the older generation in Llanelli.
- **Go Girls project** – The Go Girls project is funded by Plan UK, Champions of Wales curriculum, saw young girls from Ysgol Coedcae School focused on self-esteem and positive body image, year 9 (ages 13 to 14) supported by Carmarthenshire Youth Support Service, Llanelli Town Council, Pobl and Tyisha Regeneration Team. A follow-on project Coedcae Girls project was developed in the Spring of 2022 and continues to run to date. The programme consists of 5 different modules and with the Go Girls delivering a minimum 10 sessions (2 per module). The project formed part of the targeted approach.
- **My Time Project-** *My Times Project* a community youth project focused on inspiring young people to take the lead on developing a programme of activities which will help them engage with their town. The project followed the end of the three-year community archaeology project, Unloved Heritage, funded through the National Lottery Heritage fund. My Time built on the previous project based on feedback from the young people. The three overarching aims of the project were:
 - To put young people in the lead. Participants have a say in how the project progresses.
 - To build youth resilience – Helping young people to maintain a healthy and positive mental well-being by offering ways to learn new competencies when dealing with adversity.
 - To provide participants (young people and adults) with transferrable skills – An opportunity to increase their skills base outside of a classroom in a less formal learning environment.

The project led by Dyfed Archaeological Trust works alongside project partners, Carmarthenshire Youth Service, Llanelli Town Council and Coedcae School. Several partners were involved in the delivery of the project including Llanelli Community Partnership, Carmarthenshire Libraries, People Speak Up and other volunteers. Following on from the success of the Unloved Heritage in Llanelli, *My Time* aimed to build on the achievements continuing to support our young people. Events include activities based on team building, mental health and activities which has help to develop skills. The group also gained their John Muir award and Duke of Edinburgh award.

- **Young Traders Project** – 2021-22 saw the second year of a youth trading project taking place in Llanelli in July 2021. The project involved young people trading in the outdoor markets of Llanelli. With the UK National Markets Federation support saw category winners going to the National UK finals in Stratford Upon Avon in the August. The project saw young people from Llanelli learning skills in relation to money, trading and being their own boss and will be supported by Carmarthenshire County Council Markets Department, Llanelli Town Council, The My Time Project, Coleg Sir Gar and Coedcae School.

(ii) Tyisha Working Group

The Town Council continues to be a partner of the Tyisha Working Group which is carrying out major improvements within the Tyisha Community taking account of the social and other issues experienced by residents. A detailed action plan has been developed with an extensive project currently under implementation by the County Council and key partners.

(iii) Llanelli Foodbanks, Food Distribution and Feeding Stations

The Town Mayor and the Council's Community Development Service worked closely with organisations such as Ty Gwyn Life Café, Greenfield Soup Kitchen and Sospan Soup Kitchen throughout the year to ensure they had the necessary provision to support service users. The Town Council worked with Llanelli Community Partnership and Carmarthenshire County Council on maintaining these provisions for vulnerable Communities in Llanelli.

(iv) Toy Box Appeal

Every year the County Council undertakes a Toy Box appeal for disadvantaged families and individuals across the County. The Town Council continues to support this appeal in Llanelli by working with a number of organisations, supplying the 'toy boxes' and 'well-being' packs.



(v) Dyfed Powys Police Safer Streets Funding

The Dyfed Powys Police Safer Streets funding supported improvements to Peoples' Park in relation to security and to upgraded public lighting facilities across the park and the Pont Twym area.

(c) Strong Connections

(i) Llanelli Community Partnership

Llanelli Community Partnership has been in place for 7 years. The Town Council and Rural Council support the working of the Partnership. During 2021-22 a detailed working programme was in place and arranged a number of successful events undertaken face to face and online. The partnership between the Town Council and the Community Partnership has been instrumental in obtaining funding and developing services throughout and following the pandemic. We look forward to continuing to develop projects such as Connect 2021 during the coming year.

(ii) Strategic Working with the Public Services Board

The Town Council continues to work closely with the Public Services Board to develop reporting mechanisms for Town and Community Councils in relation to activities undertaken for the Well-Being of Future Generations Act and the 'Carmarthenshire We Want'. These arrangements are seen as an exemplar across Wales and are being adopted in many other areas.

(iii) Community and Town Council Development Officer Networks

Town Council Officers continue to work in partnership with a number of agencies to develop Community Officer Network Groups in order to pool resources and to work on areas of commonality across the Town Council area. These include the:

- Town and Community Council Community Development Officer Working Group;
- Town Centre Community Development Officer Working Group;
- Town and Community Council Development Officer Working Group with the Carmarthenshire Public Services Board.

(iv) Llanelli Christmas Celebrations

The Town Council continued its financial support in conjunction with Carmarthenshire County Council and Llanelli Rural Council of the Annual Christmas Carnival and Switch on.

Town Mayor, Cllr Michael Cranham J.P. invited Stebonheath School to design his annual Christmas card.

In 2021, the Town Council supported local organisation in the provision of Community Christmas Trees or lights, trees were provided by the Town and County Councils in each of the Town Council wards. These included:

- Llanerch;
- Havelock Park;
- Penyfan;
- Seaside;
- Town Council Offices



(d) Prosperous People and Places

(i) Parc Howard Collaboration Group

In 2021-22 Llanelli Town Council and Carmarthenshire County Council continued its partnership in managing Parc Howard and Llanelli Museum through the Parc Howard Collaboration Group. Through its financial contribution and membership of the Group, the Councils manage Parc Howard, ensuring the facility is improved and remains in public ownership. During the year extensive works have been undertaken on the Museum building including the roof, tower and internal decoration of the building.

(ii) Mayoral Charities

Every year the Town Mayor nominates Charities that benefit from a donation of £1,000 from the Town Council. With fundraising activities arranged a total of £1,730 was donated to each of the Charities:

- Ty Bryngwyn Hospice;
- CYCA;
- Teddy Bach.

(iii) Community Projects

The Llanelli Town Council Community Development Service works in partnership with a number of other agencies supporting community projects such as Llanelli Community Partnership, Multicultural Networks, Breaking Barriers Group, People Speak Up, Young People Speak Up, Llanelli Goods Shed, Rose Garden, Tyisha Regeneration Project, Fusion and the Connect 2021 project.

A wide range of Community groups were supported financially during the year and also through the Community Development service supported to move services to face to face services or were necessary a hybrid of both.

(iv) Partnership Working with Ymlaen Llanelli and support to Town Centre businesses

Llanelli Town Council works closely with Ymlaen Llanelli Business Improvement District providing officer support to the BID and match funding 3 planned events arranged during the year. In 2021-22 these were:

- Food Festival
- Reindeer Parade
- 80s Festival



During the year, the Town Council worked with Carmarthenshire County Council and Llanelli BID to develop a UK Government Community Renewal Fund application that has enabled the creation of a Town Centre Ambassador and Product Delivery project. Additional funding has supported Community Activity, training and school facilitated workshops.

The Town and County Councils took part in the UK Markets Federation, UK Young Market Trader Competition. Llanelli Market was the only one in Wales represented.

(v) Community Funding Support

The Town Council continues to provide financial assistance to local Community Organisations, sports groups and Charities to support their activities. These requests continue to grow year on year.

The Town Council also provided match funding enabling a number of activities undertaken during the year, that included: Multicultural events, Community Fusion events and St David's Day events promoting Welsh language and culture.

(vi) Twinning

The 2021-22 activity programme with our Twin Town of Agen was severely disrupted.

During the year preparations have continued for future activities including those being rolled out via the Connect 21 primary school project. During the Spring of 2022 7 sessions were held with primary schools educating on the importance of Twinning and why we are Twinned with Agen. Online community link ups with Agen were also delivered in 2021.

11. Llanelli Town Council 2022-23 Action Plan

This report provides a flavour of the activities carried out by the Town Council during 2021-22. The Town Council will continue to develop its activities and services throughout 2022-23 and the Community Activity and Development Work Programme for the year has been approved by the Town Council and is attached at Annex 2.

Residents will see a number of Town Council services further developed during the next Council Term with expansion of activities intended across Town Council Facilities including:

- Further provision of play facilities;
- Grounds Maintenance / Park Keeping;
- Activity provision at parks, playing fields and Community Centres;
- Further development of allotment provision.

The Town Council would wish to place on record its thanks to all its key partners in the delivery of its services such as Carmarthenshire County Council, Llanelli Rural Council and all the Community Organisations and Llanelli residents who have supported the delivery of our work.