LLANFAIR CAEREINION TOWN COUNCIL

UPDATES JUNE 2024

1.Introduction

This is a general update on the Council's activities and a report from the Town Clerk on activities and progress on projects. Weekly inspections of all the council's sites are completed and logged on the website under documents and inspections.

2.Financial

2.1 Management accounts

The management accounts up to 31st May 2024 have been prepared. The bank balances are being reported to council at each meeting. The internal audit is complete.

Any councillor wishes to see the accounts and paperwork should contact the Town Clerk who will make them available.

2.2.Audit

Audit report from Welsh Government for year to 31st March 2023 has now been received and reported to council.

David Hawe Chartered Accountant) has been appointed as internal auditor.

The report for the year to 31st March 2025 will include the annual return and a written report to go with it.

2.4 Grants

The current grant aid is as follows:

- i) ££250 for a bird box scheme to support the Pied Flycatcher.
- ii) £7,000 for a trim trail (trust).
- iii) £4,500 remaining in the Youth Club grant (£9,980 originally)
- iv) £17,000 grant from PCC to complete the Place Maki Plan.

Applications

Grant aid applications which are currently with PAO -

- i) Tennis Court refurbishment
- ii) Path through St Mary's churchyard
- iii) Deri Woods car park
- iv) Mount Field car park

Further grant applications will follow as required.

3. Governance

3.1 Training

The training plan (as required by law) has been completed. Councillors are informed of training courses from time to time as offered by One Voice Wales.

3.3 Administration

All records and filing are pretty much up to date and in files clearly marked. Private and confidential files are kept in the top drawer of one of the filing cabinets which is locked.

3.4 Inspections

All property of the council is inspected every week and recorded under 'inspections' on the website.

4.Youth

4.1 General

The youth club is going well with a good regular attendance in the younger group and a growing group in the older section. More volunteers needed and work on this is taking place. A report on progress will be prepared during June.

4.2 Staffing

At present we employ a youth worker (part time) and he is supported by three volunteers (two of which are relatives). Contact is being made to PAVO to seek more volunteers. The Town Clerk has attended a workshop where we can seek volunteers. All volunteers and staff have been DBS checked where required.

4.3 Financial

The current arrangement is covered by grant aid for another 18 months. All has been allowed for in the budget set by Council in November 2023 (year to 31st March 2025)

4.4 Tuck shop

The youth club has a self-funding tuck shop selling canned or bottled drinks, prepacked sweets etc. All dates are checked regularly.

4.5 Accommodation

The Youth Room is becoming too small for the numbers attending youth club. Alternatives are being sought including the Cadet HQ. Communication with them is very difficult but is still being pursued. The MP has gained a reply but no action can be taken forward until the army has completed a review.

4.6 Youth club risk assessment

The youth club risk assessment is posted on the council website.

4.7 Youth Council

The Youth Council (following a recent council decision) is now operating within the youth club. The next meeting of the Youth Council will be with the Place Making Plan consultants.

5. Mount Field (Trust)

5.1 Agreements

The agreements with the football club have been engrossed and are ready for signature.

5.2 Posts and high fence

The works to replace two posts at the far end of the site are yet to be arranged. A quote is being obtained.

A quote to replace the top rail and netting is being sought for consideration.

5.3 Car park

The car park has several potholes which are increasing. Consideration to some remedial works being given within the 2024/2025 financial year. A grant has been applied for to create a better car park.

5.4 Grass cutting

All under control after a difficult start to the season due to weather conditions.

6. Erw Ddwr

6.1 Tree works at Erw Ddwr

A tree report has been received and various minor works to trees will need to take place around a tree to the left towards the top as you look from the road. A recommendation and quote for this work is being sought from the contractor with any works planned for September/October 2024.

6.2 Burial records

All burial records are up to date.

6.3 Tidying the site

A new 'rubbish this way' signs have been installed.

Repairs will be needed to the rubbish compound and more information will be available on this over the coming weeks. A price for a new compound is being sought.

6.4 Grass cutting

All under control after a difficult start to the season due to weather conditions.

7. Section 137 works

7.1 Parc Onnen

A request from residents to cut some grass areas and repair a gate with post has been received. As this is on land the council does not own a council decision is required.

7.2 Land by Fish and Chip shop

The flower beds at the above have been tidied. A decision on taking this area under the council's wing needs to be made.

8. Chapel of Rest

8.1 Double doors to the side

The double doors to the side of the chapel of rest are in need of replacement. A quote is being gained for this work.

8.2 Gate to front of Chapel of Rest

The gate to the road needs to be replaced (slowly rotting). A quote is being gained for this work.

9. St Mary's Churchyard

9.1 Path

Quotes have been sought for resurfacing the path from the telephone box to the toilets. Two quotes been gained.

This work has been identified in the 2024/2025 budget.

A grant application has been made to support these works.

9.2 Lychgate

The cross for the top of the Lychgate is with the Town Clerk. The supporting timber for the cross is not repairable and to replace it would mean removing part of the roof. An alternative arrangement is to be considered.

9.3 Church Clock

The Friends of Llanfair Clock have completed raising funds to restore the clock The clock has now going away for repair. It due back sometime in July 2024..

10. Deri Woods/Goat Field

10.1 General maintenance

The Town Clerk does visit site every two months to meet the FODW volunteers to offer support for the work that they do.

The general maintenance is progressing with the Friends of Deri Woods. They are working to an agreed plan which Council. The meadow is progressing and some tree thinning has been completed. A request for more plans has been received from the FODW.

There is an area of trees to be felled – work planned for September 2024.

10.2 Frends of Deri Woods

Works to the paths continue along with tidying after tree felling and other small projects agreed from time to time.

The FODW meet on the third Monday each month at 10am by the pumping station.

10.3 Pied Flycatcher bird box scheme

This project is funded by grant aid. The bird boxes have arrived and erected in locations found for them. Records will be kept as to their use by the FODW volunteers.

10.4 Car park

The car park has several potholes which are increasing. Consideration to some remedial works being given. There is money in the budget for 2024/2025. A grant application has been made to improve the car park area.

There was some graffiti on the gate and signs, all cleaned off within 24 hours.

10.5 Plaque (Astley)

The Astley plaque is with the Town Clerk and is due to be fitted very soon.

11. Public Toilets

11.21 Water and electric supplies

The electricity supply contract has been renewed for a further 3 years at a competitive rate.

In Wales we do not have the ability to choose our water supplier so the current one remains in place.

12. Playgrounds

12.1 Glenafton Playground

No issues with the playground at present. Annual inspection report received from PCC. A new timber floor to the top of the slide is being arranged along with the edging to the steps.

12.2 Trem Banwy playground (Powys County Council)

PCC is not interested in an asset transfer.

A new piece of equipment has been installed.

13. Tennis Courts

13.1 Works planned

The white lining and weeding to the tennis courts is complete ready for the season. This was done in time for the season but will need doing again mid-season when the weather gets better.

Bushes and undergrowth around the courts has been removed.

Strimming of the area along the car park side is due soon.

13.2 Meeting

A meeting with the tennis club has been arranged to discuss arrangements for usage into the future. A report will then be presented to council.

14. Street scene

14.1 Seating and bin (A483 & Bridge Street)

Instructions to the contractor to complete works have been issued. Work will be completed when the weather allows.

14.2 Phone box Watergate Street

Automatic movement batter lights have been replaced following theft.

The damaged glass is to be replaced soon.

14.3 Street cleaning

The council has allowed for some street cleaning starting in the current financial year. Powys County Council is interested in helping us get up and running. To this end a meeting with PCC is being sought and a report for council will be prepared asap. This is still awaited. Mount Road, Broad Street and High Street did get a PCC sweep for the Tour of Britain Race.

15. Projects

15.1 Tourism display boards

The final tourism boards have arrived. The one at the railway station is up and the remaining ones are due to be put up by middle of June.

The one at the Deri Woods car park will need new posts and this work is being arranged.

15.2 Trim trail (grant funded)

The grant for a trim trail funded by Awards for All Wales in the sum of £7,000 has been received and the council has approved the remaining funding required. The scheme has been approved and is to be in the playground, instructions to the contractor have been issued, deposit paid and a date for installation is awaited.

16. Planning and development

16.1 Lorry traffic through town

Discussions continue with Powys County Council and the wind farm development companies regarding a possible solution are continuing.

16.2 Transmission line Cefn Coch to Frankton (Shrewsbury)

The Bute Energy wind farm site has indicated that the transmission line would be on wooden poles.

However a pre-application for a 132kva transmission line have been submitted for power lines supported by metal pylons.

This project is considered by Welsh Government Strategic Planning section.

16.3 Planning applications

All planning applications which are within or affect the town council area are reported to Council. When planning decisions are published these are also reported to Council.

17. Plans and monitoring

17.1 Regeneration & Place Making Plan

The town plan is in place and the Council has approved progressing with a Place Making Plan to be alongside the Town Plan. This is funded by Powys County Council. The consultant has been appointed and initial meetings held. The full council will have a meeting on this subject during July. The plan should be ready for approval later in the autumn.

17.2 The annual Town Plan and other plans reporting

A review of the council plans took place at the annual meeting.

18. Publicity

18.1 Website

The website is updated every few days and meets government guidelines.

18.2 Chronicle

The next issue of the June Chronicle is ready for issue.

There is a July issue planned to cover the Errd, Tour of Britain, D Day commemorations and the Places Plan.

19. Powys County Council

20.1 Leisure Centre

The Powys County Council consultation has been completed. We are still waiting for the next stage of discussions.

20.2 School consultation

The consultation period for the future of the school has been completed. The cabinet has approved the proposals for a Welsh medium school.

20.3 Yellow Line Review

Powys County Council has confirmed that there is no planned action on the yellow line scheme in the short term.

21. Town defibrillators

The town defibrillators are checked every week and recorded on the national database.

Batteries changed in some units.

Rhiwhiriaeth village hall has its new defibrillator in place. This has been added to the council data base recording with The Circuit National Recorder.

22. Llanfair Partnership

The next meeting of the Llanfair Partnership is planned for July to consider the Place Making Plan..

24. Events

24.1 Christmas Lights

The council is due to have an initial discussion at its June council meeting.

25. Projects update from Annual Meeting May 2024

The status of each project approved at the Annual Meeting in May 2024 is set out at appendix A.

R A Robinson Town Clerk

APPENDIX A

UPDATE OF WORKS PROGRAMME FOR 2024-2025

Proposed activity programme 2024-2025	Status
Places Plan for Llanfair to be completed (grant	Consultant appointed; initial
aid funded)	meetings held. Programme of
For regeneration, leisure centre, tourism and a healthy Llanfair	consultation under way.
Complete and start street cleaning project	Meeting with PCC being sought to enable actions to be taken forward.
Replacement of top rail on Mount Field side of	Quotes being gained for this
Mount Field and repair netting and posts at far	work.
end of field along with post replacement far end of Mount Field	
New signage at Mount Field	A review of the summer will be
	completed for presentation to
	council.
Repair to car park surface at Deri Woods and	Grant aid applications
Mount Field	submitted, awaiting result.
Works of repair at Deri Woods and Goat Field to	Ongoing with FODW
paths, steps and railings to continue	
Replace cross on top of Lychgate	Cost of completing these
	prohibitive. A different proposal
	is being considered.
Minor tree works to Erw Ddwr	To take place in the autumn.
Complete town street furniture painting project	Instructions given to contractor;
	paint obtained.
Fitness Trail installation	Deposit paid, awaiting
	installation date.
	Consideration to new litter bins
	to be brought forward.
Progress to seek grant aid to help with tennis	Grant aid application submitted,
court resurfacing	awaiting result.

Complete Book start Day for reception class at	Yet to be arranged.
Llanfair	

Completion of installation of Tourism Maps around the town	First board is up at the WLLR. The others are due up in June.
Continue with progress proposals to take lorries out of the town.	Ongoing.
Complete Christmas Lights plan and implement for December 2024	Initial discussion to take place in June with council.
Banwy Estate Land asset transfer	Ongoing.
Tree works in Deri Woods	For completion September 2024.