



CYNGOR TREF
LLANFYLLIN
TOWN COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT 2025/26



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MAYOR FOREWORD

It is my privilege to present the Annual Report for Llanfyllin Town Council for 2025-2026.

Over the past year, the Council has continued its work to strengthen its internal structure while supporting a range of improvements across the town. Following a period of instability in previous years, this has been a year focused on rebuilding, with particular attention given to governance, financial oversight, and ensuring that the Council is operating in a clear and accountable way.



CLLR. ANDREW GRIFFIN
MAYOR - 2025/2026

Alongside this, a number of tangible projects have been delivered or progressed. These include improvements to public spaces such as Cae Bodfach and The Wetlands, the delivery of the Coed y Cain Bike Park through strong partnership working, and the continuation of town centre improvements through the Town Regeneration programme.

Equally important has been the continued strength of community activity within Llanfyllin. Events throughout the year, including national commemorations and seasonal activities, have once again demonstrated the active and engaged nature of the town.

While there is still work to be done, the progress made this year provides a solid foundation for the future. The Council remains committed to working responsibly, collaboratively, and in the best interests of the community.

I would like to thank fellow councillors, staff, partners, and residents for their continued support.



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ABOUT LLANFYLLIN TOWN COUNCIL

Llanfyllin Town Council is the first tier of local government serving the town of Llanfyllin, working on behalf of residents to support local services, community facilities, public spaces, and initiatives that contribute to the wellbeing and development of the town.

The Council plays an active role in representing the views and interests of the community, engaging with residents, local organisations, Powys County Council, and external partners on matters impacting Llanfyllin and the surrounding area. This can include community projects, environmental improvements, events, grants, local amenities, regeneration initiatives, and responding to issues raised by residents.

The Council is made up of 12 councillors, consisting of both elected and co-opted members, who serve on a voluntary basis. Councillors are responsible for making decisions on behalf of the community, setting the Council's priorities and policies, overseeing budgets and expenditure, and helping guide the strategic direction of the authority. Councillors may also serve on working groups and committees relating to specific areas of Council activity.

The Mayor and Deputy Mayor are elected annually from within the Council and act as civic representatives for Llanfyllin. Alongside chairing meetings and supporting the work of the Council, they may attend community events, ceremonies, and local engagements throughout the year in support of the town and its organisations.

The Council is supported by the Town Clerk, who serves as the Council's Proper Officer and is responsible for the day-to-day administration and operation of Council business. The Clerk provides professional and procedural advice to councillors, ensures decisions are implemented correctly, manages governance and compliance requirements, and helps ensure the Council operates in accordance with relevant legislation, financial regulations, and statutory obligations.

HOW COUNCIL OPERATES

Llanfyllin Town Council meets formally on the third Wednesday of each month, excluding August, at The Public Institute. Meetings are generally open to members of the public and press, except in circumstances where confidential or legally sensitive matters must be considered in accordance with relevant legislation and statutory guidance.

The Council carries out its work through a combination of:

- Full Council meetings
- Committee structures, including the Policy & Finance Committee
- Working groups and project-based discussions where appropriate
- Delegated responsibilities assigned to the Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer in line with the Council's Standing Orders and Financial Regulations

Decisions are made collectively by councillors through formal resolutions during properly convened meetings. The Council aims to conduct its business in a manner that is lawful, accountable, transparent, and focused on serving the best interests of the community and the long-term wellbeing of Llanfyllin.

Agendas and supporting documentation are prepared and published in advance of meetings wherever possible, allowing councillors and residents to remain informed about matters under consideration. Minutes are subsequently published as an official record of decisions and actions agreed by the Council.

Public Participation

Members of the public are encouraged to attend Council meetings and engage with the work of the Council. Opportunities are provided during meetings for public participation and questions, subject to the meeting agenda and procedural requirements.

The Council recognises the importance of openness and community engagement, and seeks to ensure residents are able to access information relating to Council activities through published agendas, minutes, notices, policies, and updates made available via the Council's Website, Town Square Noticeboard and Facebook Page.



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YOUR COUNCILLORS

Llanfyllin Town Council is made up of up to 12 elected or co-opted councillors, who serve the community on a voluntary basis.

Each councillor represents the interests of residents, contributes to decision-making, and helps shape the direction and priorities of the Council. Collectively, councillors are responsible for ensuring that the Council operates effectively and in the best interests of Llanfyllin.



Cllr. Sean Cowham - cldr.seancowham@llanfyllin-tc.gov.wales

Cllr. Peter Lewis - cldr.peterlewis@llanfyllin-tc.gov.wales

Cllr. Ann Williams - cldr.annwilliams@llanfyllin-tc.gov.wales

Cllr. Ian Jones - cldr.ianjones@llanfyllin-tc.gov.wales

Cllr. Lynnette Kretchmer - cldr.lynnettekretchmer@llanfyllin-tc.gov.wales

Cllr. Sophie Nazar - cldr.sophienazar@llanfyllin-tc.gov.wales

Cllr. Fiona Waldron - cldr.fionawaldron@llanfyllin-tc.gov.wales

Cllr. Zarena Allan - cldr.zarenaallan@llanfyllin-tc.gov.wales

The Council also recognises and thanks those councillors who served during the 2025/26 municipal year but had left office before publication of this report:

Cllr. Andrew Griffin

Cllr. Darren Mayor

Cllr. Steve Wilkinson



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COUNCIL

COMMITTEE STRUCTURE



Public Amenities Committee

Management of Council assets including public toilets, green spaces, play areas, and general maintenance.



Policy & Finance Committee

Financial matters including budget setting, monitoring income and expenditure, audit, grants, and policy development.



Market & Events Committee

Delivery of markets, community events, and seasonal activities across the town.



Full Council

Overall decision-making body of the Council and consideration of recommendations from committees.

The Council uses committees to consider specific areas of work in more detail, allowing time for discussion, review, and development of proposals before they are brought to Full Council. This helps ensure that decisions are informed, balanced, and properly considered.

Each committee operates within an agreed remit, with recommendations made to Full Council for approval. This structure supports effective governance, clear accountability, and a consistent approach to managing the Council's responsibilities.

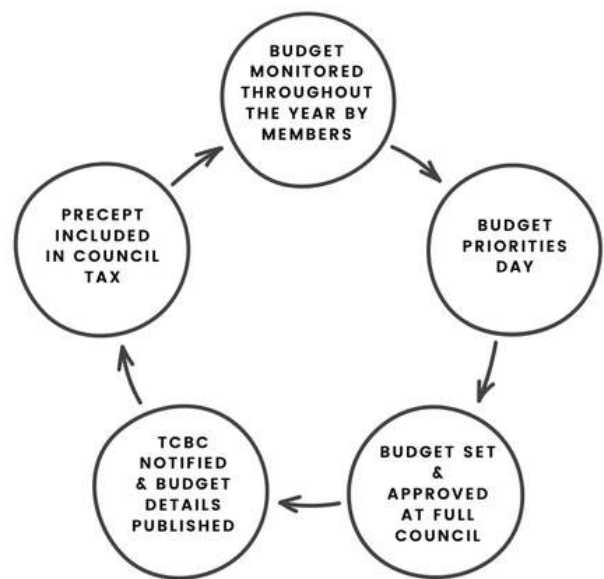
HOW WE SET OUR BUDGET

During 2025/26 the Council continued to strengthen its financial governance building on improvements to budgeting, reporting, internal controls and financial oversight.

One of the key statutory tasks a Council undertakes, regardless of its size, is to prepare an annual budget.

Once approved, the budget is used as an active tool to manage the Council's finances.

Every month, the Clerk presents all relevant financial information to the Council. Detailed budget monitoring reports are also presented quarterly to the Policy & Finance Committee enabling members to monitor income and expenditure against the approved budget.



The Council monitors its finances throughout the year to ensure spending remains within approved budgets. Financial reports are reviewed regularly by councillors, supported by independent internal and external audit, helping to ensure public money is managed responsibly and transparently.

The Council also holds earmarked reserves, which are set aside for specific purposes and to save towards future projects. The level of reserves is monitored closely.



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MAYORS CHARITIES

This year, Llanfyllin Town Council has supported two organisations through the Chair's Charity initiative.



Dementia UK

"Dementia UK provides specialist support for families affected by dementia through its Admiral Nurse service, offering practical and emotional guidance when it is needed most."



The Royal British Legion (RBL)

"The Royal British Legion supports members of the Armed Forces community, providing lifelong care, advice, and assistance to veterans and their families."

Throughout the year, fundraising activities have taken place across a number of events and initiatives, with contributions collected through community engagement and Council-supported activities.

In total, £744.27 was raised, with funds shared equally between the two charities.



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EVENTS & PROJECTS

Find out more about us on our website





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In June, Cllr Andrew Griffin formally took office as Mayor of Llanfyllin, alongside Cllr Sean Cowham as Deputy Mayor. This marked the beginning of a new civic year, with both taking on their respective roles in representing the town and supporting the work of the Council.



A commemorative VE Day Beacon, fabricated by Marrill Powys, was installed and lit during the ceremony on Cae Bodfach. The beacon formed a central part of the event, aligning with national acts of remembrance and creating a focal point for the community to gather.



The town marked the 80th anniversaries of VE Day and VJ Day with commemorative events that brought the community together in remembrance and reflection. These occasions provided an opportunity to recognise the significance of these historic milestones and to honour those who served.





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As part of Learning Disability Week, councillors attended a Mencap presentation, supporting awareness and engagement around learning disability issues and highlighting the importance of inclusive community initiatives.



The Council supported Llanfyllin Under 16s Football Team with a new kit, contributing to youth participation in sport and encouraging continued involvement in local football.



The Council provided support to a range of local organisations and continued to invest in community facilities. This included improvements such as the installation and upkeep of defibrillators, contributing to improved public safety and community wellbeing.





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COUNCILLORS IN THE COMMUNITY

Councillors play an active role beyond formal meetings, supporting a range of local initiatives, events, and community groups. This helps maintain strong connections and ensures the Council remains visible and accessible.

Pensioners' Lunch Club

The Pensioners' Lunch Club, established by Cllr Ann Williams over ten years ago, continues to thrive as a valued part of the community. Monthly attendance typically ranges between 25 and 40 residents, reflecting its ongoing popularity.

Members enjoy a two-course meal with a hot drink for £13, alongside the opportunity to socialise and maintain important community connections. The welcoming and informal atmosphere remains central to the club's success.

The club is often attended by representatives from PAVO, healthcare services, and other social and welfare organisations, providing an informal setting for residents to access information and support. It also offers a valuable opportunity for attendees to speak directly with Town Councillors, who regularly join the sessions.

The December lunch is a highlight of the year, featuring a traditional Christmas dinner funded by Llanfyllin Town Council. This special event also includes entertainment and a gift bag for each attendee, containing marmalade, jam, chutney, a diary card, and chocolate.

A raffle is held at each meeting, adding a light-hearted and much-enjoyed element to the gatherings.

The Lunch Club is open to all residents aged 60 and over. Anyone wishing to join is encouraged to contact

*Cllr Ann Williams on 01691 648293
or 07976 311047.*





CHRISTMAS MARKET

The Llanfyllin Christmas Market has taken place indoors for the past two years, with the Council working creatively with local businesses and venues to deliver a festive event that works for the town, its traders, and its visitors regardless of the winter weather.

The decision to move the market indoors came initially in response to a combination of inclement weather and restrictions beyond the Council's control, but what began as a practical adaptation has developed into an approach that the Council is increasingly proud of. By engaging shops, hospitality venues, and community spaces across the town to open their doors and host stalls, crafters, and creatives, the market has become something genuinely distinctive: a festive trail through the heart of Llanfyllin rather than a single-site event.

Visitors have been able to move between participating venues, each offering its own warm and welcoming atmosphere, browsing handmade gifts, food and drink, and seasonal produce while staying sheltered from the elements. Local businesses have played a generous and central role, providing comfortable spaces that allow traders and creatives to showcase their work at its best, free from the challenges of outdoor trading in December.

Over the two years this format has been in place, it has demonstrated real strengths: supporting local businesses, encouraging visitors to explore the town, and creating a festive atmosphere that feels rooted in Llanfyllin's character rather than transplanted into it.

The Council thanks every venue, trader, crafter, and volunteer who has made the market possible over the past two years and looks forward to continuing to develop the event as a highlight of the town's annual calendar.





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COMMUNITY CLEANUP AND LITTER PICK

Keeping Llanfyllin clean, tidy, and well-maintained is a shared responsibility between the Council, Powys County Council, and the wider community. During 2025/26, the Council was pleased to support a programme of community cleanup activity, including organised litter picks involving residents from across the town.

Working alongside Powys County Council, the events provided equipment, support, and coordination to help volunteers make a visible difference to the local environment. Activity took place across the town centre, car parks, green spaces, pathways, and riverside areas, with volunteers giving their time to help improve the appearance of Llanfyllin.

Beyond the practical benefits, the cleanup events helped bring people together around a shared sense of pride in the town and its environment. The Council is grateful to everyone who took part, and to Powys County Council for their continued support and partnership.

The Council hopes to build on this work during 2026/27 and encourages residents and community groups interested in future cleanup activities to get involved. Small actions, taken collectively, can make a lasting difference to the community and environment we all share.





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COED Y CAIN

The delivery of the Coed y Cain Bike Park has been one of the standout achievements of the 2025/26 year. The project, which saw a purpose-built mountain bike facility created on the edge of town, was made possible through strong partnership working between the Council, Powys County Council, and a dedicated group of local volunteers and cycling enthusiasts who gave their time and energy to see the project through from concept to completion.

The facility provides a range of trails and features suitable for riders of all abilities, from complete beginners taking their first turns on two wheels, through to more experienced cyclists looking for a genuine challenge. It has already attracted visitors from across the region, bringing new footfall to the town and raising the profile of Llanfyllin as a destination for outdoor activity.

For residents, and particularly for young people in the town, the bike park offers a free, accessible, and genuinely exciting outdoor activity right on the doorstep. It provides a space for informal recreation, social activity, and the development of skills and confidence in a safe outdoor environment.

The Council is proud to have played a role in bringing this project to fruition and extends its sincere thanks to all partners, funders, and volunteers whose hard work, commitment, and belief in the project made it happen. The bike park stands as a lasting example of what can be achieved when a community works together with a shared purpose.





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CAE BODFACH & WETLANDS

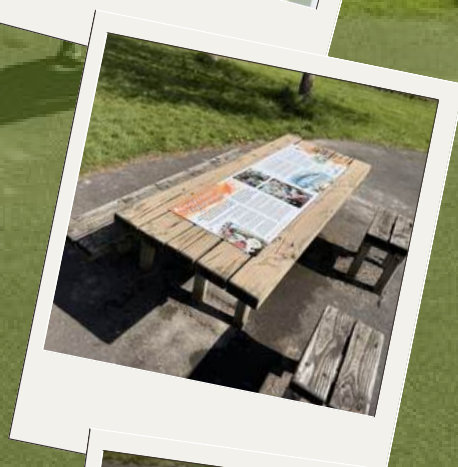
Work continued during 2025/26 to improve and maintain the public spaces at Cae Bodfach, with particular focus on the ongoing enhancement of the wetlands area at the centre of this important community green space.

Key improvements included the extension of the boardwalk from the wetlands into Cae Bodfach, helping improve connectivity across the site. New gates and fencing were also installed, alongside the creation of a fenced dog-free zone both are which designed to support wider community engagement and activity safety.

Councillors also undertook work to clean and refresh the wetlands benches, including replacing tired and weathered signs, helping preserve the area for a new generation of residents and visitors to enjoy.

Cae Bodfach also hosted one of the year's most significant community events, with the VE Day commemorative beacon installed and lit on the site as part of the national 80th anniversary celebrations, bringing together residents of all ages.

The Council remains committed to the long-term stewardship of Cae Bodfach as a valued community asset and will continue exploring further improvements during 2026/27, particularly around accessibility and inclusive use of the space, subject to available funding.





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TOWN REGENERATION

Llanfyllin has continued to benefit from investment in its town centre through the Town Regeneration programme during 2025/26. The Council has worked alongside Powys County Council and business owners to support improvements that enhance the appearance and vitality of the Town centre for residents, businesses, and visitors alike.



The town centre is the commercial and civic heart of Llanfyllin, and the Council recognises the importance of sustained investment and attention to ensure it remains an attractive and welcoming place. Work carried out through the regeneration programme during the year has contributed to visible improvements that benefit everyone who lives in, works in, or visits the town.



Looking ahead, the Council remains committed to playing an active role in the regeneration and continued development of Llanfyllin town centre, working with partners and the community to make the most of the opportunities available and to ensure that the town is well placed to thrive in the years to come.





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LLANFYLLIN LIBRARY & COMMUNITY HUB

Llanfyllin Library remains open thanks to the ongoing support of Llanfyllin Town Council and neighbouring community councils, who contribute funding each year through the precept. At a time when many communities across Powys have lost their libraries, this local commitment helps preserve an essential service for residents of all ages.

The library provides:

-  Access to books and reading opportunities for children and adults.
-  Free computer and internet access, together with digital support.
-  Assistance with bus passes, Blue Badge applications and other practical services.
-  Help navigating Council Tax, Attendance Allowance, Universal Credit and other complex administrative processes.

More than a library, it is a community hub that supports learning, inclusion and independence.





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BIODIVERSITY & ENVIRONMENT

Biodiversity & Environment

Llanfyllin Town Council continues to fulfil its duties under Section 6 of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 by actively enhancing biodiversity across Council-managed land and public spaces.

During 2025/26, the Council supported habitat creation and restoration projects at Cae Bodfach and the Wetlands, maintained pollinator-friendly areas through reduced mowing, installed and monitored bird and bat boxes, and continued to avoid the use of pesticides and herbicides where possible.



The Council also supported salmon conservation initiatives, native tree and hedge planting, riverbank restoration, and community-led environmental projects.

Partnership working remained central to delivery, with volunteers, schools, environmental organisations, and community groups contributing to practical conservation work, educational activities, and site management.

The Council also continued to improve biodiversity through sustainable procurement, local sourcing of materials, support for allotments and community growing spaces, and ongoing investment in the Wetlands and Cae Bodfach as important ecological and community assets.

Looking ahead, the Council will develop a management plan for Cae Bodfach, expand biodiversity monitoring, and continue working with partners to secure external funding and deliver future environmental improvements across the community

LOOKING AHEAD

As we move into 2026/27, Llanfyllin Town Council remains committed to supporting a vibrant, welcoming and sustainable community.



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Our priorities for the coming year include:

- *Continuing improvements at Cae Bodfach and the Wetlands, balancing recreation, biodiversity and community wellbeing.*
- *Supporting Llanfyllin Library and Community Hub, ensuring residents continue to have access to books, digital services, advice and support close to home.*
- *Maintaining and improving public spaces, including the town square, car parks, cae bodfach, wetlands, public toilets and playparks.*
- *Supporting local events, organisations and volunteers who help make Llanfyllin a thriving place to live, work and visit.*
- *Working with Powys County Council, local businesses, community groups and residents to identify opportunities for investment and regeneration.*
- *Promoting biodiversity, environmental sustainability and climate resilience across Council-managed land.*
- *To improve communication and engagement so that residents can stay informed and involved in local decision making.*

The Council recognises that the challenges facing rural communities continue to evolve. By working together, Llanfyllin can remain a strong, resilient and ambitious town that values its heritage whilst embracing new opportunities for the future.





THANK YOU

Llanfyllin Town Council would like to thank everyone who contributes to the life of our community.

This includes residents, volunteers, local businesses, community groups, partner organisations, Council staff and fellow councillors.

Many of the achievements highlighted throughout this report are only possible because of the time, energy and commitment given by people across our town.

Together we continue to maintain local services, support community projects, celebrate our heritage, protect our environment and create opportunities for future generations.

We welcome your ideas, feedback and involvement.

Contact Llanfyllin Town Council

Website: www.llanfyllin-tc.gov.wales

Email: townclerk@llanfyllin-tc.gov.wales

Llanfyllin Town Council

Serving our community, preserving our heritage and investing in our future.