#### **CRONICL CAEREINION CHRONICLE**

#### FEBRUARY 2024



Published by Llanfair Caereinon Town Council <a href="https://www.llanfairtowncouncil.co.uk">www.llanfairtowncouncil.co.uk</a></a>
Available in Welsh upon request.

Page	Contents
3.	Welcome from the Chair
4.	Defib information
5.	Town council news – budget
7.	Community Café news
8.	Welcome to Cllr Stephen Purser
9.	Blast from the past
10.	The return of the bongs
12.	News from our County Councillor
14.	20mph by Russell George
16.	The Chronicle Quiz
17.	What's on.
19.	Working in Goat Field
21.	New Life Church
22.	Your Councillors
23.	Adverts for local services

#### **Town Clerk:**

Robert A Robinson MBE FRICS FSLCC Crown House High Street Llanfair Caereinion SY21 0QY

Tel 01938 811378/07767 267830

Email Llanfairtownclerk@mail.com



#### WELCOME FROM THE CHAIR

Welcome to the February edition of the Chronicle.

Scheduled Work on Deri woods is due to start according to the Ancient Woodland Restoration plan prepared by Coed Cadw and the Woodland trust. This will see some thinning of non-native conifers and beech to allow daylight to the ground and encourage the succession of Oak and other native saplings. There will also be some felling of Ash trees with Ash die back disease.

The temporary closure of the leisure centre was reviewed and lifted. As a community we need to ensure we use the facilities on our doorstep to keep them viable. We're keen for ideas on how we can utilize the facilities we have. Those that can please support events within the community. Please come and mingle with your neighbours. There are a couple of warm hubs running during the winter, one run by the Church, the Library and the other due to start in the institute.

#### **Cllr Ian Davies**







#### Llanfair Caereinion Town Council

#### **Defibrillator locations**

- Mount Field (clubhouse wall)
- 2) High Street (telephone box)
- 3) Watergate Street by Maesglas (telephone box)
  - 4) Market Square (Black Lion pub)
    - 5) Leisure Centre (outside wall)
      - 6) Doctors Surgery (inside)
      - 7) Institute (back of building)

#### Cyngor Tref Llanfair Caereinion Lleoliadau'r diffibrilwyr

- 1) Cae Mownt (wal adeilad y clwb)
  - 2) Stryd Fawr (blwch ffôn)
- 3) Stryd y Dŵr gan Maesglas (blwch ffôn)
  - 4) Sgwâr y Farchnad (tafarn y Llew Du)
    - 5) Canolfan Hamdden (wal allanol)
      - 6) Y Feddygfa (y tu mewn)
    - 7) Yr Athrofa (yng nghefn yr adeilad)

#### The Town Council budget for the ensuing year

At its full council meeting on 27<sup>th</sup> November 2023 Llanfair Caereinion Town Council approved its budget for the financial year 2024/2025. The full budget report can be found the council website at <a href="mailto:llanfairtowncouncil.co.uk">llanfairtowncouncil.co.uk</a> under documents (annual reports).

An increase of 5% (£2.94p per annum per household) has been set taking the council tax element for the Town Council from £54,73p to £57.67p per band D property. The increase will cover the running of the services the council delivers annually which include:

Deri Woods and Goat Field, Mount Field, public toilets, Chapel of Rest, St Mary's churchyard and Erw Ddwr graveyards, town trail and notice boards, town wifi, street furniture, playground, defibrillators, tennis courts, bowling green (leased to Bowling Club), events, Chronicle newsletter, Website, all statutory duties (ie planning consultations) and the council offices.

The council tax has not increased its precept for a few years until last year when it was raised by 5%. During the last few years the following was achieved within the council's budget. It should be noted that inflation over the past 18 months has been at a high level but with careful management costs have been kept under control.

#### In the year to 31st March 2022 the following were achieved:

New LED coloured lighting to the church, town trail and sculpture by the steam railway station, refurbishment of street furniture and signposts, new playground equipment, repainting of the High Street telephone box, council office leased in the institute, new litter bins at Mount Field along with new dog poo bag bins at Deri Woods and Goat Field

In the past year to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023 the following were achieved: Defibrillator scheme around the town, retaining wall to the rear of the Institute rebuilt, street furniture refurbishment,

#### Continued....

mural in the pumping station at Deri Woods, works to Deri Woods paths (levelling at lower levels), new signage to combine separate signs in Deri Wooda, new paths at Erw Ddwr and town WiFi installed. New benches and seating in Deri Woods

## In the current year to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024 the following have either been achieved or planned to be completed:

Works to refurbish the churchyard wall, works to stabilise the lychgate with new foundations, refurbishment of the toilets (Dementia friendly, baby changing, water bottle point and cleaners store), redecoration of the Chapel of Rest, surface treatment of the tennis courts, refurbishment of street furniture (by the bridge), youth Club started on Monday nights with youth worker, new bus stops around town, Pied Fly Catcher bird box scheme, supporting the Community Café pilot scheme and redecoration of the Watergate Street telephone box

#### The ensuing year to 31st March 2025 will include the following projects:

New Christmas Lights, works to repair surfaces of Deri Woods car park, works to repair surfaces of Mount Field car park, resurfacing of the churchyard path, road sweeping by monthly using contractors with machines, completion of a fitness trail, new town trail tourism boards along with continuing with Youth Club.

The council will also be considering during the coming year other projects to improve the town.

#### **Toilet refurbishment completed**

The Llanfair toilets (by the Institute) have been given an overhaul. The building has been redecorated but also there have been some additions to the building.

There are now baby changing facilities in all toilets, a water bottle filling point on the outside wall and the disabled facilities have been updated and are now Dementia friendly.



#### Cafe Cymundeol Llanfair Caereinion Community Café

Open weekly - Friday from 12 noon till 4pm. The Institute. Serving hot snacks, soup and homemade cakes. Board games, music and books available!

If you'd like us to arrange support for you to attend the café, please call Christine Haslam on 810 687 or Gwen Buckley on 810 171 New volunteers welcome! Café is run by volunteers. If you have 2 - 4 hours to give a month please join us. Call Ruth on 07786 361 346

#### Caffi Cymunedol Llanfair Caereinion.

Yn agored yn wythnosol- Dydd Gwener o 12 ganol dydd i 4yp yn yr Institiwt.

Yn cynnig diodydd poeth, cawl a chacenni cartref. Gemau bwrdd, cerddoriaeth a llyfrau ar gael!

Os oes arnoch angen cymorth i ddod i'r caffi a wnewch gysylltu efo Christine Haslam ar 810 687 neu Gwen Buckley ar 810 171 Croeso i wirfoddolwyr Newydd! Caiff y caffi ei redeg gan wirfoddolwyr. Os oes gennych 2-4 awr i'w rhoi unwaith y mis ymunwch a ni os gwelwch yn dda. Galwch Ruth ar 07786 361 346

#### **Welcome to Cllr Stephen Purser**



Following a seat becoming vacant on the Town Council an election was advertised with no interest. There was then a co-option notice posted and from that a new councillor has been appointed. Please let us introduce Cllr Stephen Purser.

Stephen worked in local government for 37 years, his last role being as Assistant Ombudsman.

On retirement he joined Stoney Stanton Parish Council and was Chair for 2 years.

On moving to Llanfair he joined the Carnival Committee, chaired the Library Steering Group and then became Chair of the Library Committee. He is a Trustee of the Llanfair Caereinion Public Hall and Institute. He is also involved with the work of the Historical Society He is Company Secretary and Elections Officer for the Radio Society of Great Britain, a 20,000 member organisation representing radio amateurs in the UK.

He says experience as a Parish Councillor in Stoney Stanton is probably the most relevant to this application. During his time as Chair he negotiated a successful major land transfer, dealt with the adoption of a large area of open space, helped establish a Youth Club, helped the Clerk organise events such as the Christmas Lights switch on and Brass on the Grass and negotiated with the County Council and the bus company a new and improved bus service (which the bus company had wanted to close). We appointed a new Clerk and as her line manager I was responsible both for the formalities of her appointment and her annual appraisal. I led the Council in producing its first operational plan and risk register.



Llanfair Caereinion Station circa 1960

#### THE FRIENDS OF LLANFAIR CLOCK BONGS TO RETURN



It was just about a year ago that the Friends of Llanfair Clock was set up seeking to restore the church clock which had decided to stop working with the bells falling silent. During the past 12 months the committee has set about raising funds, gaining quotes and putting place the agreements needed to make it all happen.

We are pleased to announce that the money has been raised, the agreements are in place and instructions to the contractors should be issued before Christmas. This will enable works to start early Spring with completion early autumn. The Bongs will return.

The money raised was made of:

Church	£4,000
Council	£1,500
Grant aid	£2,500
Donations	£5,233
Total raised	£13,233

The cost of the restoration is approx. £10,000 plus VAT. The Church will be able to reclaim the VAT. Any remaining money will be held by the Caereinion Area Mission ringfenced for future maintenance of the clock so that is it protected into the future.

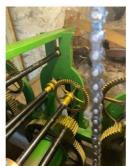
A thanks to the committee who has made this all happen working with both the Council and the Church.

More news will be issued about the project as it progresses.

Below are some pictures of the clock mechanism which is to be restored.







#### **CHURCH WALL AND LYCHGATE**

The Town Council has completed works to the churchyard wall along Broad Street and High Street as well as new foundations to stabilise the lychgate. The cross will be put back on the top of the lychgate fairly soon.

These works will ensure that the wall and lychgate will be there for us all to enjoy into the future.



# REPORT FROM GARETH JONES COUNTY COUNCILLOR (LLANFAIR CAEREINION AND LLANERFYL)

#### **SINGLE TRANSFERABLE VOTE (STV)**

Council has voted to go out to consultation on moving to STV.

#### What is STV

- STV is a multi-winner electoral system in which each voter casts a single vote in the form of a ranked based ballot.
- A move from 52 single member wards and 8 multi member wards ..to all multi member wards.
- There would remain 68 Councillors within Powys
- Voters can rank as many or as few candidates as they wish or can vote for only one candidate.

Several of you have contacted me with opinions on this and I would welcome further views.

#### **POTHOLES and DRAINS**

I recently drove a Powys officer around Llanfair and Llanerfyl highlighting a growing list of essential work needed within the ward, the Health Centre Car Park, Bitfil, High Street, St Mary's footpath, Glyndwr Lane , Pontbren Bridge , Tallerdig lane, and the Railway bridge are just a few. I will continue to chase these and other works that require urgent attention.

#### **APPOINTMENT OF DIRECTORS**

A meeting of the full council was held on the 24tj and 25<sup>th</sup> January to appoint 5 permanent directors. The successful candidates are.

Reynolds	
• Director of Corporate Services	Jane Thomas
• Chief Officer – Place	Matt Perry
• Director of Social Care and Well I	Being Nina Davies
Director of Education	Richard Jones

#### **YSGOL BRO CAEREINION**

The consultation closed in December; Officers are currently working on the consultation responses, and we wait for the results. Oficers will be submitting a report to cabinet in April 2024.

Thank you to everyone who completed the consultation.

#### **ADULT SOCIAL SERVICES – THE PRESSURES**

The service receives approximately 1300 calls per month into the information service called Assist and of which 60% of these proceed to assessment. We provide 7500 hours of domiciliary care per week and a care package lasts for approximately 2 months. November 2023, we provided 123 care packages in comparison to 105 in November 2022. We also delivered 800 more care hours in November 2023 in comparison to November 2022. 65 + years of age make up 25% of our population whereas they Welsh average is 21%.

Hospital discharge delays ranged from 41 – 67 throughout 2023.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any concerns that you wish to raise on 01938810296/07713988017 or <a href="mailto:cllr.gareth.jones@powys.gov.uk">cllr.gareth.jones@powys.gov.uk</a>

#### From Russell George – A view on the 20mph limit debate

The Welsh Government's regulations that change most 30mph speed restrictions to 20mph, came into force in September. There has been huge public reaction, including a petition on the Senedd website, that has led to the largest ever petition to the Senedd with nearly half a million signatures opposing the move. I voted against the regulations in July last year to prevent them coming into force.

While in some areas a reduced speed limit is appropriate, such as outside schools, and in many cases I have requested a change to 20mph myself, the blanket 20mph introduction is going to have a serious negative impact. I firmly believe that the Welsh Government simply needed to make the process much easier for reducing speed limits in areas where there was concern, and where there was community support, rather than bringing forward a blanket policy.

The Welsh Government claim that this is not a blanket approach, as councils can make exceptions to put to a limit back to 30mph, but in my view, the guidance to councils to bring forward an exemption is so rigid, they simply do not have the discretion needed. 97% of 30mph restrictions have been changed to 20mph across Wales. I therefore hold the view this is a blanket approach policy.

The change has cost an initial £32.5 million with a potential impact of up to £9 billion to the economy over a period of years, according to the Welsh Governments own figures.

I voted against this traffic order, as I considered the blanket approach to be wrong, The funding provided to bring this order forward, should be spent on other priority areas, such as on our Health service, a point I made to the Minister in the Senedd on the day of the vote last year.

Before the policy was agreed, there was a trial of the new limit in various parts of Wales. Data from the trial areas shows that enforcement is not consistently carried out, with one area experiencing no enforcement at all.

Before the policy came into force, an ITV poll showcased that 66% of people were against the change and even the Welsh Government's consultation in March 2022 found that 53% of respondents opposed the change.

My own online survey attracted a huge amount of interest from people who are overwhelmingly against the reductions. I ran the survey ahead of the introduction and I have detailed the response I had received up to the day of the order coming into force. 87% of people said that they were concerned about the impact the change would have to their lives. 83% of respondents felt that businesses and visitors, a vital part of Mid Wales's economy, would be affected. 88% of respondents felt that each location for reductions should be assessed to decadent the most appropriate restriction.

Common concerns raised in the survey included about the significant funds allocated by Welsh Government towards the project, policing of existing limits and the impact on public transport like buses. One resident reflected that increased enforcement costs had not been properly considered and many others that frustrated drivers could end up being less aware of road conditions as they tried to keep to lower limits.

Apart from the vote on the traffic order last July, the Welsh Conservatives brought forward a further vote to scrap the default limit change. As it currently stands, and despite the widespread opposition, the Welsh Government are currently standing by this policy. With a leadership election underway for the job of First Minister, both candidates have seemed to distance themselves away from this policy, despite supporting it previously. Whilst candidates have talked about a review of the policy, neither has yet given any firm commitments for change.

#### This month's word quiz

## Can you find the words on the right within the table of letters?

The Wizard of Oz												
W	N	Υ	U	0	Н	С	K	L	W	R	М	WIZARD
I	I	N	N	W	W	0	G	Α	L	Е	Е	JUDY GARLAND
С	K	М	С	Н	0	W	Υ	D	G	Т	Т	MUNCHKINS DOROTHY
K	K	U	L	S	R	Α	D	G	Α	Α	Ν	GALE SCARECROW
Е	0	N	Ε	С	С	R	I	0	R	W	U	TIN MAN
D	J	С	Н	Т	Е	D	G	0	L	Т	Α	TOTO COWARDLY LION WATER GLINDA
W	U	Н	Е	I	R	L	N	D	Α	0	S	
I	D	K	N	N	Α	Υ	1	W	Ν	Т	L	GOOD WITCH WICKED WITCH
Т	Υ	I	R	М	С	L	T	I	D	0	I	AUNT EM MELTING
С	R	N	Υ	Α	S	I	L	Т	Н	R	Р	UNCLE HENRY
Н	S	S	С	N	U	0	Ε	С	Υ	U	Р	RUBY SLIPPERS
D	R	Α	Z	I	W	N	М	Н	R	В	Е	NIKKO
L	Υ	Н	Т	0	R	0	D	S	W	Υ	R	
U	K	L	G	L	I	N	D	Α	Υ	0	S	



#### New Year at the Institute

The New Year is now fully underway and the Institute has welcomed back all its regular groups and activities, together with some special events lined up for February.

After the highly successful Hits from the West End in late January, the Young Farmers Club is hosting a Bierkeller night on Friday 2 Feb, followed by a 9 Feb Llanfair Urdd/Eisteddfod Noson Lawen concert on Friday, and the following weekend there is a Souljets Dance on Saturday 17 Feb.

The Community Café is now running every week on Friday 12-4pm, offering a range of Toasties, Soup, Cakes, Tea, Coffee & Squash, plus hot meals such as cottage pie and lasagne on selected days.

Zumba/Pilates is held 5.45–8.15pm every Monday Yoga is at 6.30–8pm every

Tuesday Knit & Natter meets10am–Noon 3rd Wednesday each month

Homely Club is on 2-3pm 2nd Tuesday each month

## Historical Society hold their meetings 7.30–9.30pm 2nd Wednesday each month

WI is held 6.45–9.45pm 2nd Thursday each month

Merched Y Wawr meets 7–9pm last Wednesday each month Youth Club is on every Monday 4.30–7.30pm JAM Youth Club (free) is every Wednesday3.30–5.30pm

New Life Church welcomes you to join them at 4pm every Sunday. New Life also runs the JAM Youth Club and offers mentoring at the primary school.

The Community Library is open Tues 10am–1pm, Thurs 3–6pm, Fri 2–5pm, Sat 10am– 1pm
Also as a warm hub, all welcome.

The institute is also home to the Young Farmers and meetings of the Town Council.

The Town Clerk's office is also in the Institute.

Available to book for rehearsal or recording is the fully professional Recording Studio (with a 16 track mixing desk).

A Sound Engineer for hire is also available for hire.

The Youth Room houses a Second-hand Bookstall selling cheap, quality books, CDs, DVDs at 25-50p each.

Come and join us at the heart of the community and get involved.

#### THE FRIENDS OF DERI WOODS

Just recently the Town Council as owners of The Goat Field completed the felling of trees affected by Ash Die Back. The Friends of Deri Woods have now completed the site works and their efforts can be seen here in pictures. The logs are now piled to create bug hotels to held with the eco systems in the woods.









UNDER THE MANAGEMENT OF THE ROBIN





#### **New Life Church**

There's always a buzz on Wednesday afternoons after school in the Main Hall of the Institute as children and young people gather for either JAM (High School Age Children) or Junior JAM.

Leaders and volunteers from New Life Church run these clubs each week and the different groups of youngsters come along on alternate weeks, and sessions run after school until 5pm.

The club offers a safe space for the youngsters to enjoy each other's company, chill, play games and also engage in a 10 - 15-minute slot exploring an aspect of Christian faith in a relevant way.

They also eat unbelievable amounts of toast!!

Places are limited so please contact us beforehand if your child is interested in coming along.

For more details about JAM and Junior JAM or any of the other activities of New Life Church please see our Facebook page where you can direct message us.

Huw and Jean

### Cyngor Tref Llanfair Caereinion

#### **Town Councilors/ Y Cynghorwyr Tref**

Cllr Ian Davies	Cllr Rob Astley (Vice Chair/Is-
(Chair/Cadeirydd)	Gadeirydd)
Independent Annibynnol	Independent Annibynnol
01938 810602	01938 810393
Cllr Hazel Davies	Cllr Cadvan Evans
Independent Annibynnol	Independent Annibynnol
01938 810152	07813 194862
Cllr Viola Evans	Cllr Ursula Griffiths
Independent Annibynnol	Independent Annibynnol
01938 810481	07794 499202
Cllr Gareth Jones	Cllr Melvin Jones
Independent Annibynnol	Independent Annibynnol
07713 988017	07773 591895
Cllr Mark Owen	Cllr Stephen Purser
Independent Annibynnol	Independent Annibynnol
07767 267830	07853 823846
Cllr Geraint Peate	Cllr Sam Webster
Independent Annibynnol	Independent Annibynnol
01938 810657	07711 293196

Eich Cynghorydd Sir yw -Your County Councilor is Cllr Gareth Jones (details above)

# TOP TOWN BARBERS



High Street, Llanfair Caerienion SY21 OQS M 07751 009158 **f** Follow us on Facebook

#### **OPENING TIMES**

Tuesday 9am - 6pm Wednesday 11am - 7pm Thursday 11am - 7pm Friday 9am - 6pm Saturday 9am - 4pm

#### **LUNCH TIMES**

Tuesday to Friday 2pm - 3pm Saturday 12pm - 1pm LAST ADVERT

SPACE IN

THE CHRONICLE

CONTACT

Town Clerk
Llanfairtownclerk
@mail.com

#### **Wright Computing**

Cymorth TG i bawb IT support for everyone

Computing and related support for everyone:

- · Troubleshooting
- · Upgrades and installations
- · Training and advice
- · Networking
- · Broadband advice
- · Email problems
- · Windows, Mac and Linux

We can also help with telephones, mobiles, hifi, printers, TVs, etc.

Over 20 years' experience.

Tel: 01938 433 244
Web: wrightcomputing.co.uk
Email: support@wrightcomputing.co.uk

#### **M P FOULKES**

Adfa

Newtown

**Powys** 

**SY16 3DB** 

Tel 01938 810255

Mobile 07751430701

Email terry.foulkes@virgin.net





Treatment of sporting and non-sporting injuries

Physiotherapy

Musculoskeletal Assessments

Strength and Conditioning

Musculoskeletal Correctional Programmes

Sports massage

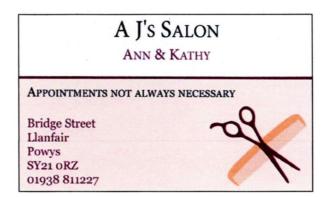
Kinesthesiology taping

Gait analysis

General exercise and nutritional advice



tel: 01686 650145



#### Vid2Usb



Let us help preserve your memories for all your family to enjoy

DVD Copying





Call: 07713 024470

## Elwyn's Taxi's

Taxi and Mini Bus Private Hire
6, 8 and 16 seats
Reliable service
In comfortable air conditioned vehicles

Tel: 07860 663509

#### WYAU RHIWHIRIAETH EGGS Free Range Eggs

£5 for a tray of 30 mixed size eggs

Delivery possible to Llanfair or pick up from farm between 9-12 every day



Contact Rhianon 07508314807



#### **ACORN BRANDING** & MARKETING

**AFFORDABLE BRANDING AND MARKETING SOLUTIONS FOR** SMALL BUSINESSES

07368 559412

info@acornbrandingandmarketing.co.uk

BASED IN LLANFAIR CAEREINION





White - Fields Florist Cae - Gwyn, Llanfair Caereinion, SY21 0BZ

Tel: 07981 824405

Email: Carasmith17@hotmail.com Creative flowers for all occasions Weddings, Gift Bouquets, Tributes





PARC CLYCHAU'R GOG BLUEBELL PARK















CAFE & PETTING FARM OPEN THURSDAY TO SUNDAY 9AM-2PM LLANEFRYL, SY21OEY



NO1938 828424 WWW.BLUEBELL-PARK.COM R@BLUEBELLPARKCCC

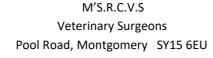






#### **Trefaldwyn Vets**







Tel: Montgomery: 01686 668234 Llanfair Caereinion: 01938 810087

Website: www.trefaldwynvets.com



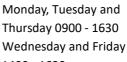
#### Small Animal Surgery hours by appointment





#### Montgomery

Mon – Fri 0830-1800 Saturday 0900 - 1300 Llanfair Caereinion





1400 - 1630

Routine fertility and health checks actively promoted in both males and females







# **Rob Astley Trailers Ltd**

Llanfair Caereinion 01938 810393

Manufacturer of ATV trailers and equipment

ATV sheep trailers, tipping trailers, rollers and chain harrows

We also offer sheet steel shearing, CNC steel folding and CNC press braking, ring and plate rolling



Gwasanaethau Amgylcheddol Technegol Technical Environmental Services





## We provide stress-free accountancy services.

- **✓** Making Tax Digital
- **✓** Cloud Accounting
- **J** VAT Returns
- **J** Bookkeeping
- **√** Corporation Tax
- **√** Accounts Preparation for Statutory Purposes

**NEW SERVICES** 

- **√** Company Formations
- **J** Confirmation Statements
- Personal Income Tax
- ✓ Capital Gains Tax
- **J** Inheritance Tax
- Accounts Preparation for Sole Traders and Partnerships
- Making Tax Digital for Income Tax Self Assessment

#### SPECIALISING IN SME'S

Get in touch to discuss your bookkeeping, accountancy and taxation needs today.

Telephone 01938 578857



angharad.williams@aswaccountancy.co.uk



Find us at Mathrafal Barns, Meifod SY22 6HT











