

**Cyngor Tref Caereinion Llanfair
Llanfair Caereinion Town Council**

ANNUAL REPORT



Year ending 31st March 2021

WELCOME

Cyngor Tref Caereinion Llanfair Llanfair Caereinion Town Council



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1. Llanfair Caereinion Town Council

Llanfair Caereinion Town Council was formed in 1974 under the Local Government Act 1972. It covers an area including Heniarth, part of Cyfronydd, Rhiwhiriaeth, Melin Y Ddol, part of Llanerfyl and the Town itself.

Llanfair Caereinion Town Council a medium sized Community (town) Council. It provides grass roots services to all parts of its community. The Council's strategic direction is set by elected Councillors (Members) who oversee the Town Clerk who is responsible for delivering services on a day to day basis.

Details of the elected members and how to contact them are available at www.llanfairtowncouncil.co.uk .

Notices of meetings, agendas, reports and minutes can also be viewed here, along with many governance documents and other information about the Council.

The Council derives almost all of its funds from its precept. That is, an additional amount which is added to Council Tax bills based upon the Council's estimated expenditure.

For the financial year 2020/2021 the Council estimated that it needed to spend £40,000 from the precept.

The Town Council is responsible a number of local services including Mount Field, Deri Woods & Goat Field, Public Toilets, Playground, Tennis Court, Bowling Green, Chapel of Rest, Erw Ddwr, St Marys Churchyard, Council Office, signs and street furniture along with other minor responsibilities which contribute to the well-being of Llanfair Caereinion and its communities.

The Councils prime responsibility is to represent the Community including being a statutory consultee regarding planning matters.

The Full Council generally meets on the 4th Monday of each month (except August). There is a Council Services Committee which oversees the Council Services.

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Also there is a Finance, Planning & General Purposes Committee which oversees finance, events, the Town Plan and other general matters.

The Council is working towards being a Quality Council. This involves 80% of Councillors being elected, unqualified accounts and a qualified Town Clerk.

The new Town Clerk meets this requirement with the Council working towards the other two requirements.

The Council also has a compliant Website.



2. Information about Llanfair Caereinion

Llanfair Caereinion Town Council serves a population of around 2,000 within the Banwy Valley, in the eastern part of Montgomeryshire.

Today, Llanfair Caereinion is essentially rural with a small town in the centre of its ward on the Rive Banwy.

There is a large Church with Churchyard in the centre of the Town along with two Chapels.

A variety of shops in the Town include Londis, Spar, Local Butchers, Antique stores, Veterinary Practice, Large agricultural general stores, Newsagents, Post Office, Fish & Chip shop, Barbers, Hairdressers and a dentist. There are also 3 thriving public houses serving food daily. There are two petrol filling stations with garage repair facilities. The town is blessed to have its own Fire Station

There are other many other local businesses along with an array of caravan parks and bed & breakfast establishments.

The main tourist attraction is the Welshpool & Llanfair Light Railway who has over 200 regular volunteers who support the Town.

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There is a Town Trail (at construction stage); Deri Woods walk by the river, a playground and recreation ground.



3. Councillors and Town Clerk

The Council has just one ward with 12 Councillors. At the date of this report there was one vacancy (subsequently filled by the election of Cllr R Derricutt).

There are 6 elected and 6 co-opted Councillors.

Details of the Councillors and how to contact them can be found on the Councils website at www.llanfairtowncouncil.co.uk.

Councillors are not paid and have not claimed any allowances during the year ending 31st March 2021.

Currently the Councillors are

 Cllr Wyn Williams Chair	 Cllr Ian Davies Vice Chair	 Cllr Rob Astley	 Cllr Hazel Davies
 Cllr Richard Derricutt (May 2021)	 Cllr Cadvan Evans	 Cllr Viola Evans	 Cllr Ursula Griffiths
 Cllr Gareth Jones	 Cllr Geraint Peate	 Cllr Kate Roberts	 Cllr Ceri Stephens

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For almost all of the year the Council has been without a Town Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer with Mr Robert A Robinson being appointed on 1st March 2021.

During the current year there was a casual vacancy which was filled by the election of Cllr Richard Derricutt in May 2021.



4. Trusts

The Council has managed two Trusts during the year as follows:

Recreation and Playing Field Charity – No 525514 (Mount Field)

The Council managed the above Charity and funded its activities in the financial year to 31st March 2021. The Council is the Corporate Trustee of this Charity.

Deri Woods Recreation Ground Charity – 524413

The Council managed the above Charity and funded its activities in the financial year to 31st March 2021. The Council is the Corporate Trustee of this Charity.

5. External Membership

The Council has continued its external interest in the following:

- a) The Institute Committee
- b) The Llanfair Partnership

There are plans to extend the Councils interest in the Youth, Business and Local Events.

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6. Power of well-being

The Council is looking to prepare a well-being plan and assessment during the 2021-2022 financial year.

7. Climate Change

The Council has agreed to progress towards adopting a Climate Change Plan in the 2021-2022 financial year.

8. Achievements

During the year the Council achieved the following:

- i) **Deri Woods & Goat Field**
Moving towards finishing the works to improve Deri Woods and Goat Field in partnership with the Montgomery Wildlife Trust and local Volunteer Group. These works were funded by a substantial Heritage Lottery Grant.
- ii) **Town Trail**
The gaining of a grant for a Town Trail including a horse sculpture. The project is being planned and should be completed early in the next financial year.
- iii) **Council Office**
Entering into an agreement to lease an office in the Institute for the Council and Town Clerk.
- iv) **Website**
The website has been upgraded to give more information to the Community.
- v) **Library**
A five year plan has been agreed to sustain the library including funding from the Town Council.
- vi) **Fence by bridge over the River Banwy**
Planning towards completing a new fence along the river by the footbridge.

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vii) Appointment of a Town Clerk

The appointment of a new Clerk from 1st March 2021 after a lengthy period without a Clerk's support.

viii) War Memorial

Refurbishment works to the war memorial were completed in the early part of the year.

ix) Documents

The Council has prepared and published the statutory and other documents on its website at www.llanfairtowncouncil.co.uk

This included a Health and Safety review.



9. Annual Return

The Annual Return for the year to 31st March 2021 is set out on the Council's website at www.llanfairtowncouncil.co.uk.

The Council has substantial funds at the year end and is planning a capital projects plan over the next 24 months whilst retaining a good level of reserves.

10. Llanfair Caereinion Town Plan

The Council carried out a survey of residents' views in 2018 and from this a Town Plan was to be formed. Work has started on the plan with a view to adopting same in the 2021-2022 financial year. The Deposit Draft Plan will be the subject of a final consultation.



11. COVID 19

Like so many Communities at this time a help scheme for the elderly and vulnerable was put in place so that they could be supported locally during the pandemic.

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12. Other things happening around the Town

During the year other events of note were:

- a) The annual act of remembrance held in November was held by the Royal British Legion with the Council in attendance.
- b) Approval was given to funding for a 'Panto in the Park' for the Community as soon as the pandemic allows.

13. Plans for 2021-2022

During the next financial year the following projects are planned to be completed:

- i) Complete preparation of the Town Plan
- ii) Complete preparation of the Climate Change Plan
- iii) Complete preparation of the Well-being Plan
- iv) Complete preparation of a Tourism Plan
- v) Implement a management scheme for the Trusts
- vi) New lighting for St Marys Churchyard
- vii) Refurbishment of the High Street telephone box as an information point.
- viii) To complete a defibullator plan for Llanfair including provision of a defibullator in the telephone box at the top of Watergate Street.
- ix) Completion of the Town Trail
- x) Setting up of Volunteer Group with the Montgomeryshire Wildlife Trust and volunteers.
- xi) Introduction of a book-start event annually.
- xii) Introduction of Community Awards.
- xiii) New playground equipment.
- xiv) Event plan for the Queens 70th year of her reign.
- xv) Implementation of a Committee system for the Council.
- xvi) The setting up of liaison with the Youth.
- xvii) The setting up of liaison with business.

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Continued....

- xviii) To host regular drop in sessions at the Institute on Friday afternoons.
- xix) The issue regular press releases and a newsletter.
- xx) To investigate a possible site for Council allotments.
- xxi) Enter into a 5 year funding plan with the Community Library.
- xxii) Introduce a 'keep Llanfair tidy day'.

14. Signatures

The annual report was approved by the Council on 26th July 2021.

Signed *Wyn Williams* Cllr Wyn Williams Chair

Signed *Ian Davies* Cllr Ian Davies Vice Chair

Signed *Robert A Robinson* Robert Robinson MBE FROCS FSLCC Town Clerk

Dated 26th July 2021