

Cyngor Tref Caereinion Llanfair Llanfair Caereinion Town Council

LLANFAIR CAEREINION TOWN COUNCIL

UPDATES NOVEMBER 2023

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 October 2023 have been prepared. The bank balances are being reported to council at each meeting.

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

2.2.Audit

All audit work is completed to 31st March 2021, 2022 and 2023.

The external audit for the year to 31st March 2023 is still awaited.

2.3 Budget 2024-2025

The budget has been prepared and the council is due to set its precept at the 27th November 2023 meeting.

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) Grant aid application for toilets refurbishment has not been successful. An alternative grant from PCC is being pursued.

3. Governance

3.1 Documents review

The review of many documents is now completed. Now approved they can be placed on the web site.

Cyngor Tref Caereinion Llanfair

Llanfair Caereinion Town Council

3.2 Training

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

3.3 Vacant council seat

The vacant council seat was advertised to see if an election was going to be called. Following no request for an election the seat was then advertised for co-option. No applications as at 20th November 2023.

4. Mount Field (Trust)

4.1 Agreements

A Trust meeting to agree the final heads of terms for the agreements between Llanfair United Football Club and the Trust has been held. Solicitors have been instructed to prepare the lease and licenses. This has been chased up.

4.2 Posts to high fence at the far end of the site

The works to replace two posts at this end of the site are yet to be arranged.

4.3 Car park

The car park has several potholes which are increasing. Consideration to some remedial works being given.

4.4 Recycling

The county council is introducing new recycling rules. This are being considered to see what changes the town council may have to implement with regards its own rubbish collection from public places.

5. Erw Ddwr

5.1 Tree works at Erw Ddwr

A tree report has been received and various minor works to trees will take place over the autumn period.

51. Tidying the site

A new 'rubbish this way' sign has been ordered. The general tidying of the site is being done including removing small branches from the grave areas and the entrance area (lorry dropping straw). The hedges have been cut.

Cyngor Tref Caereinion Llanfair

Llanfair Caereinion Town Council

6. Chapel of Rest

6.1 Hedges

The was cut recently.

7. St Mary's Churchyard

7.1 Path

Investigations into the best way to repair the surfaces of the path from the West end gate to the Toilets have been completed. Powys County council has not responded to a request to repair. The town clerk is seeking quotes for resurfacing.

7.2 Boundary wall along High Street/Broad Street

The works to repoint the wall have commenced.

7.3 Lychgate

The brick/stonework either side of the lychgate needs rebuilding. A contractor has been appointed and the works have commenced.

7.4 Lighting by toilets

The lights installed by the toilets are to be adjusted to reduce glare.

8. Deri Woods/Goat Field

8.1 General maintenance

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.

There is an area of trees to be felled over the winter agreed on site.

8.2 Paths and drainage

There is work required to the drainage from the top path to the bottom. Re-instatement of a path is to be completed at the same time.

Contractor for the works to be sought.

8.3 Ash Die Back disease

The Ash trees affected are at the Llanfair end of Goat Field and all but one has been felled and piled on site. The felling of the final tree plus repair works to one damaged rail is to be completed soon.

Cyngor Tref Caereinion Llanfair

Llanfair Caereinion Town Council

8.4 Car park

The car park has several potholes which are increasing. Consideration to some remedial works being given.

9. Public Toilets

9.1 Refurbishment and repair

A grant for refurbishment works has been declined. One further source of funding is being considered.

Contractor has quoted for the works but none has started until after grant funding know.

10. Playgrounds

10.1 Glenafton Playground

No issues with the playground at present. Annual inspection report still awaited from PCC. Several visits have required the removal of excessive litter and glass.

10.2 Trem Banwy playground (Powys County Council)

A meeting with Steve Gealey of Powys County Council has been asked for to seek a way forward for the restoration of the playground. To date this meeting is awaited. The Town Clerk will keep chasing to get same.

11. Tennis Courts

11.1 Request for works.

The weeds and bush are being removed or cut back in September. The white lining will be completed just before the start of the tennis season.

12. Street scene

12.1 Seating and bin (A483 & Bridge Street)

Instructions to the contractor to complete works have been issued.

12.2 Phone box Watergate Street

Quote for repainting of the telephone box has been accepted. Work has started.

12.3 Phone box in High Street

The telephone box in the High Street is used for a defibrillator and a book exchange. New signage is to be put in the box as people are dumping books in there in larger bags which can inhibit access to the defibrillator.

Cyngor Tref Caereinion Llanfair

Llanfair Caereinion Town Council

13. Projects

13.1 Bus stops

The bus stop scheme is completed.

13.2 Tourism display boards

The English Town Trail leaflets have ended, new stock arrived.

Designs for display boards completed. Awaiting final design so that the boards can be erected at the various locations following the finger post signs.

Locations are railway station, bowling club, Market Square, top of High Street and Deri Woods.

13.3 Town Wifi

All units installed around the town centre. The digital town plan was issued (at no cost to the council) with each scheme installed. The plan was presented to council. The plan may aid grant aid into the future.

13.4 Trim trail (grant funded)

The grant for a trim trail funded by Awards for All Wales in the sum of £7,000 and has been received. Awaiting prices and location recommendations from 3 contractors.

13.5 Pied Flycatcher bird box scheme

This project is funded by grant aid. The scheme is progressing. Locations suitable for a bird box identified. Bird boxes due to arrive vary soon.

14. Planning and development

14.1 Yellow Line Review

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

14.2 Lorry traffic through town

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

Cyngor Tref Caereinion Llanfair

Llanfair Caereinion Town Council

14.3 Regeneration plan

The town plan is in place but a regeneration plan is required to plan a way forward to improve the town centre. A grant from the shared prosperity fund has not been forthcoming so an alternative funding route is needed. There have been meetings with Powys County Council. To take this forward a further meeting with PCC has been arranged for 28th November.

14.4 The annual Town Plan and other plans reporting

A review of the council plans is to take place at the December meeting of Full Council.

15. Youth

15.1 Youth Club

The Youth club commenced on 1st June and is running well. There are between 15 and 20 younger members and 5/6 older members. All are welcome to call in and see how it is all going.

15.2 Youth Council

The Youth Council is in place and developing.

15.3 Cadet hut

A response has been received; we will know if the HQ could be available over the next few weeks.

16. Community Cafe

The pilot scheme has been completed and passed over to the Institute.

17. Publicity

17.1 Website

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

17.2 Chronicle

The Chronicle issue in November was completed. The next issue is due to be in January 2024.

17.3 Leisure Centre

A public meeting was held to encourage people to complete the survey. PCC will now consider its options before consulting with the Town Council. Awaiting the next stage.

Cyngor Tref Caereinion Llanfair Llanfair Caereinion Town Council

17.4 School consultation

The proposal to change the school in Llanfair to a Welsh medium school has now reached consultation stage. The town council is considering its response to the consultation on Monday 27th November.

R A Robinson
Town Clerk