

Cyngor Tref Caereinion Llanfair Llanfair Caereinion Town Council

LLANFAIR CAEREINION TOWN COUNCIL

UPDATES SEPTEMBER 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 July 2023 have been prepared. A full financial report will be given at the September 2023 council meeting. 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, and we are awaiting Welsh Government audit completion for the years to 31st March 2021, 2022 and 2023.

2.3 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).
- lii) £9,950 for the Youth Club (for 2 years start up cost)

For the Autumn:

- i) Grant aid application for toilets refurbishment.

Shared prosperity fund

The grant applications for feasibility studies from this fund have not been successful. A further round of grants could be available to us via PAVO who has a large sum made available to distribute.

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3. Governance

3.1 Documents review

The document review is taking place with the first one completed. Those documents approved are being replaced on the web site.

3.2 Training

The training plan (as required by law) has been completed. This is to be delivered in the autumn.

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.

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 being arranged.

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. The Town Clerk is agreeing a programme for a start on some of the works to take place early Autumn.

5.1. 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 hedge is due for cutting as soon as the bird nesting season is over.

6. Chapel of Rest

6.1 Hedges

The hedge is due for cutting as soon as the bird nesting season is over.

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7. St Mary's Churchyard

7.1 Retaining wall behind the Institute

Retaining wall completed along with a safety rail. Contribution from the Institute has been received.

7.2 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. A programme of repair is noted in the 'works programme' later in this update.

7.3 Boundary wall along High Street/Broad Street

A specification is being prepared to gain an estimate for the repairs required to the wall along High Street and Broad Street. A programme of repair is noted in the 'works programme' later in this update.

7.4 Lychgate

The brick/stonework either side of the lychgate needs attention. A specification and estimate for the works are being gained. The timberwork on the remaining side of the structure is yet to be completed. The cross to be placed on the top of the structure is in the possession of the council. A programme of repair is noted in the 'works programme' later in this update.

7.6 Trees in churchyard

Some residents have made contact with the council regarding a Yew tree in the churchyard along the Bridge Street boundary. The council has accepted professional advice and the result the tree is to remain. Some trimming works are to take place in the Autumn.

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. No further trees are to be felled without the express approval of the council Deri Woods representatives via the Clerk.

A site meeting has been held and the next tree felling and planting programme. This is being arranged as part of the September works.

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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. Bridgen to complete the works – an estimate will be required for approval.

8.3 Ash Die Back disease

The Ash trees affected are at the Llanfair end of Goat Field. There are around 15 trees to be felled. This work is to take place in early autumn. Council approval to the cost has been gained and the works due to take place in September.

8.4 Leaky Dam

The leaky dam has been re-instated by FODW with the wildlife trust.

9. Public Toilets

9.1 Refurbishment and repair

A grant for refurbishment works is being sought in the Autumn.

A programme of repair is noted in the 'works programme' later in this update.

10. Playgrounds

10.1 Glenafton Playground

No issues with the playground at present. Annual inspection report awaited from PCC.

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.

A request for weeding and white lining has been received. 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.

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12. Street scene

12.1 Seating and bin (A483 & Bridge Street) Instructions to the contractor to complete works in autumn have been issued. A programme of repair is noted in the 'works programme' later in this update.

12.2 Phone box Watergate Street

No success in finding a contractor willing to do the painting. A programme of repair is noted in the 'works programme' later in this update.

13. Projects

13.1 Bus stops

The bus stop scheme is completed. Bi-lingual timetables are being put in each bus stop timetable case.

13.2 Tourism display boards

The English Town Trail leaflets have ended, new stock arrived. Designs for display boards awaited so that the boards can be replaced.

13.3 Town Wifi

All units installed around the town centre. Commissioning did take place on Monday 11th June. A digital town plan is issued (at no cost to the council) with each scheme installed. The plan is to be presented to council.

One idea of interest might be a display screen or screen around town which show current activities and news.

13.4 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. A meeting with some contractors to look at what can be done for the price is being arranged.

13.5 Pied Flycatcher bird box scheme

This project is funded by £250 grant. The scheme is now progressing.

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.

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14.2 Lorry traffic through town

Following a meeting held with Powys County Council and the wind farm development company regarding a possible solution to the town lorry traffic a further meeting is to be arranged for September. However the Welsh Government is considering the proposal before it moves forward.

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 as to have been a meeting with Powys County Council along with others some time ago. To take this forward a meeting with PCC has been arranged for early September.

14.4 The annual Town Plan

The annual town plan review is due to take place in the Autumn, a report will be prepared for the October meeting.

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. It is planned to run the club through the summer months. All are welcome to call in and see how it is all going. A review of the youth club and progress will be reported on at the September meeting of council.

15.2 Youth Council

The Youth Council is in place.

15.3 Cadet hut

We are still trying to get a response from the Army Cadets, will keep trying.

16. Community Cafe

The pilot scheme has been completed. The café is planning to open on 16th September on both a Thursday and Friday each week.

An agreement with the Institute has been signed so that the café will then run under the Institute Committee and move away from the council.

A report to council is being prepared as required before any residual funds are passed over.

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17. 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.

18. Works programme

Following the annual meeting and the list of works agreed to be completed in the financial year a specification has been prepared. Expressions of interest have been gained from advertising the work.

We have expressions of interest from:

Andrew Watkin
Rob Isaac
Richard Walton
Kevin Neil

All are Llanfair based

In addition we have some painting contractors on our approved list.

John Williams
M J Howell
Barry Thomas

Some interested it all and some only part.

The works being prepared include:

- i) Works to the churchyard wall and lychgate.
- ii) Telephone box decoration at Minffordd.
- iii) Painting of bollards and bench at junction with Bridge Street & the A458.
- iv) Internal decoration of the Chapel of Rest.
- v) Refurbishment of toilets including baby changing, water point and dementia friendly facilities. (Grant aid for most of this project)
- vi) Path through St Mary's churchyard.
- vii) Car park potholes at Deri Woods.

When the prices have been gained, the council will need to decide what works to proceed with and who is to complete the works. A report on funding will be required alongside the presentation of works quotes.

R A Robinson
Town Clerk