

Cyngor Tref Caereinion Llanfair

Llanfair Caereinion Town Council

TOWN CLERK REPORT NO 13

11th April 2022

1. Insurances

The Town Clerk has attended an Insurance update seminar (at no cost) to ascertain the best advice on insurances for the forthcoming year. The insurance valuations will need to take into account the current building cost increases.

2. Tourism and sustainability project

The project is now complete with each element as follows:

- i) Town Guides
- ii) Electronic Town Guide on website
- iii) Town Maps (Station, Bowling Club, Broad Street, High Street & Deri Woods.
- iv) Flag Poles – along Broad Street and High Street
- v) Website posted and being added to.
- vi) Tourism Report form consultant (for consideration in May 2022).

The time spent on this project by the Town Clerk is as a volunteer. In this way the Council is not bearing the cost and it helps the volunteering aspect of the grant requirements. A local Welsh Speaker has checked all Welsh aspects and his account is paid for by the Tourism Grant.

Workshops online with local community leaders and local businesses have been completed.

The Welsh Government asked for information on the project and as a result the Council has received a national finalist's award from the GO procurement awards for all Wales.

3. Accounts

We are still awaiting the External Audit for the last two years. The delay is due to Covid restrictions. It is hoped they will be with us before May.

The Town Clerk has arranged to meet the Auditor for a pre-audit review. The new Auditor for 2021-2022 will be David M Sanders Chartered Accountants and Auditors.

4. Review of services

The Council is to review services at a Council meeting after the elections.

5. Queens Jubilee

The beacon has been registered with the National database.

The detailed plans are being set at the Council Meeting on 11th April 2022.

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6. Goat Field and Deri Woods

A grant has been obtained to support the works to paths and drainage at Deri Woods in the sum of £4,000 (Trust has to put in £1,000 which could be volunteer time).

Instructions have been issued to Bridgen Contracting to level the lower path between the pump house and the white bridge.

7. Mount Field

The fence posts at the opposite end to Mount Road are being replaced, Cllr Rob Astley is arranging for this.

The new grass compound is to be constructed on the top access road as agreed, awaiting construction, Cllr Rob Astley is arranging for this.

The Football Club have been asked to provide better public access by creating gaps in the railings. The new posts are in place and the works to achieve this completed – however the gate now needs to be open.

The agreement for the grazing license has been signed and completed. The license fee cheque has been banked.

8. Chapel of Rest

The Chapel of Rest external painting of fences has been completed.

The other external painting has been instructed and completion is sought as soon as the weather allows.

The rating appeal has been submitted and the result still awaited (delay due to Covid).

An electrical certificate is being completed by Aled Jones very soon.

9. Erw Ddwr

Entrance sign frame needs to re-set. (Rob Isaac has been asked to action).

The next area to be used for burials has been agreed as the right hand side taken from the entrance.

A plan and quote for some new paths is to be prepared.

10. Public Toilets

No issues to report.

An electrical certificate has been completed by Aled Jones.

In line with the Town Plan (Action Plan) consideration for a 'water in a bottle point' and baby changing facilities is be brought forward.

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11. Defibrillators

All the planned defibrillators are now in place, registered, working and checked weekly.

Rob Isaac has instructions to fit the final NHS coloured panel to the High Street telephone box.

Training is being arranged with dates set as 21st and 25th April at 7pm in the Institute.

12. St Marys Church Clock

A meeting has taken place with the Vicar of St Marys with the following being taken forward:

- i) Faculties and advice is being put in place via the diocese. This will include the provision of a new clock (substantially cheaper to install).
- ii) An agreement between the Council and the Church to record the working relationship for the future is to be prepared and presented to both parties.
- iii) Consideration to be given to a Community Funding Committee to help raise funds and grants towards community projects including the clock.
- iv) Those who have pledged to give some money towards the church clock to be kept informed.

13. St Mary's Churchyard

There are some issues still to resolve in the Churchyard as follows:

- i) The lamp is still not replaced, due to delivery issues. Awaiting parts.
- ii) The churchyard wall along Broad Street and High Street has some pointing which has failed and need to be repointed.
A quote under general maintenance is being gained carrying out the work over the next two years in parts. This will keep the wall up to scratch on an on-going basis.
- iii) Quotes are being gained for the works to the retaining wall behind the institute. A separate report will be issued as soon as they have been gained.

14. Playground

Approval for the new playground has been given by Council. Wicksteed have been instructed. Installation is likely to be around May 2022.

15. Planning and Development

A letter seeking listing of the Mizzen Hut at Heniarth has been sent and Cllr Gareth Jones has also spoken to Deborah Lewis the Heritage Officer who has referred the matter to CADW.

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CADW has been in contact and the appropriate form completed. CADW is now assessing the building and we await the result.

16. Newsletter

The newsletter (Chronicle) issue 4 has gone out. Issue 5 and onwards is to be bilingual.

17. Youth Council

The Youth Council is in place. A draft Youth Plan has been produced following completion of a survey of the school conducted by the Youth Council. The plan will come forward for Council consideration in May 2022.

18. The Office (Institute)

The office still has a very damp atmosphere but should improve over the coming months.

The Institute still has quite a lot of their 'stuff' in the office. It was understood that this would be removed over the last year. More space is required to house the Council equipment.

19. Street Scene

No issues to report. There is two benches needing repainting the main road side of the bridge. This can be done under the general maintenance budget in the spring.

20. Tennis Courts

The posts for the tennis nets were beginning to rust and have therefore been painted.

21. Allotments

Following the Council Meeting the survey to seek out how much interest in allotments there is has been completed. There are more than 6 registered electors interested – therefore the Council is under an obligation to progress to provide allotments. The Town Clerk has been given some contacts to enable some possible sites to be taken forward for consideration.

22. Training

The new regulations for Town and Community Councils require a training plan from 2022. A plan has been approved by Council and is published online. There will be an induction evening for new Councillors and those existing ones who wish to attend.

23. Bio-diversity Plan

There is a legal requirement for the Council to have a bio-diversity plan. This has been prepared for consideration in June 2022.

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24. Youth Club for Llanfair

There is grant aid available for starting a youth club in Llanfair. Following the Council decision in principle to progress the Town Clerk is seeking to confirm grant aid and to contact the Institute for availability and cost of hire etc. The funding and confirmation of more details will be ready for May meeting.

25. Partnership Meetings

The Partnership meetings have ceased with the school wishes to be released from running these. The Town Council was asked to take it over. The subject will be discussed after the elections in June 2022.

26. Town Plan

The Town Plan (action plan item 50) was presented to Welsh Government as part of the consultation process. Following this further information was asked for resulting in the Council receiving a National Award from GO Procurement for the Town Plan. Interest has also been shown in the Chronicle both hard and electronic copy. The awards, along with a qualified Clerk, risk assessments on the website and clear Audits led to an insurance reduction of some 20% in Welshpool and the Clerk will be seeking the same for Llanfair.

April 2022
Town Clerk