

Llannon Community Council

Forward Development Plan

January 2025 – April 2027



Chief Officer: Mrs Clare Hope

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Introduction from the Chief Officer

I am delighted to present Llannon Community Council's first Forward Development Plan for the period January 2025 – April 2027.

I joined Llannon Community Council's team in June 2021 as the Interim Clerk and in November 2021 I was appointed to the role of Chief Officer (Proper Officer) of the Council.

It is a great honour to serve the community of Llannon Ward and I am extremely proud of our team of staff and Councillors who work tirelessly to improve Llannon Ward.



Consultation

In October 2023, Llannon Community Council consulted with our residents through surveys delivered to every household and online

The team engaged with 212 people directly and 3,500 people indirectly through social media. Following this, the Council identified the following themes which mattered most to the public:

- Cost of Living
- Mental Health
- Activities for the elderly
- Activities for young people
- Improvements to Parc Y Mynydd Mawr to include: new changing facilities; training facilities; public toilets; community café.
- Improvements to Cross Hands Park to include: new playing & training pitches; upgraded tennis courts; changing facilities; public toilets; community café.
- Improvements to Y Graig to include: better access to the viewing point; new footpaths; new playground.
- New playground in Tirwaun Park.
- More facilities in Llannon village (ideally a village hall)

Following the consultation results and considering Carmarthenshire Public Service Board's Well-being Objectives, Llannon Community Council published a Well-being Plan 2023-2028.

Our Forward Development plan incorporates our contribution to the Well-being of Future Generations in Llannon Ward and outlines capital projects we wish to develop and how we will look to finance them.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Clare Hope".

Mrs Clare Hope, Chief Officer

Our Vision

“Llannon Ward – One Community”

Llannon Community Council's is committed to work with and on behalf of all residents and stakeholders of the ward (namely the villages of Llannon, Tumble, Cwmmawr and Cross Hands together with surrounding areas, Llechyfedach, Llwynteg) with the aim of protecting, enhancing and improving the communities core services, environment and the wellbeing of residents.

Our Mission Statement

1.0 Purpose

1.1 To understand and represent local interests, and to be responsive to the needs of the community

1.2 Support the Welsh Language and Culture.

1.3 To act as first point of contact for residents' concerns (for matters of Community Council responsibility).

1.4 Actively protect and enhance the environment and nature within the means of the Community Council.

1.5 To submit views on planning applications.

1.6 To support voluntary and community groups for the benefit of the wider community.

1.7 To provide opportunities for residents to participate in community life and activities.

1.8 To provide high standard and cost-effective services to meet the needs of the community.

1.9 To seek funding opportunities to improve facilities.

2.0 Objectives

2.1 to work with and on behalf of all residents and stakeholders of the ward (namely the villages of Llannon, Tumble, Cwmmawr and Cross Hands together with surrounding areas,

Llechyfedach, Llwynteg with the aim of protecting, enhancing and improving the communities core services and environment.

2.2 To support voluntary and community groups and to encourage residents to participate in community life and activities to enhance their wellbeing and social engagement.

2.3 To enhance the Community Council's role and improve its communications with the wider community.

2.4 To promote and encourage social interaction and engagement across the whole community.

2.5 To work closely and effectively with existing stakeholders and potential new partners.

3.0 Methods

3.1 Utilise available financial funding opportunities together with voluntary resources to deliver core goals.

3.2 Engage in ongoing and open dialogue with residents and together work out how we can address those needs within the resources and powers available to the Community Council.

3.3 Encourage and assist government, charitable and private companies to provide services to the ward.

3.4 Embrace collaboration with all organisations able to help address community needs.

3.5 Ensure councillors are properly trained and kept up to date with Community Council best-practices.

3.6 Ensure council employees have received required training to perform their duties efficiently and effectively.

Our Values

“People, Pride & Place”

Existing Services and Facilities

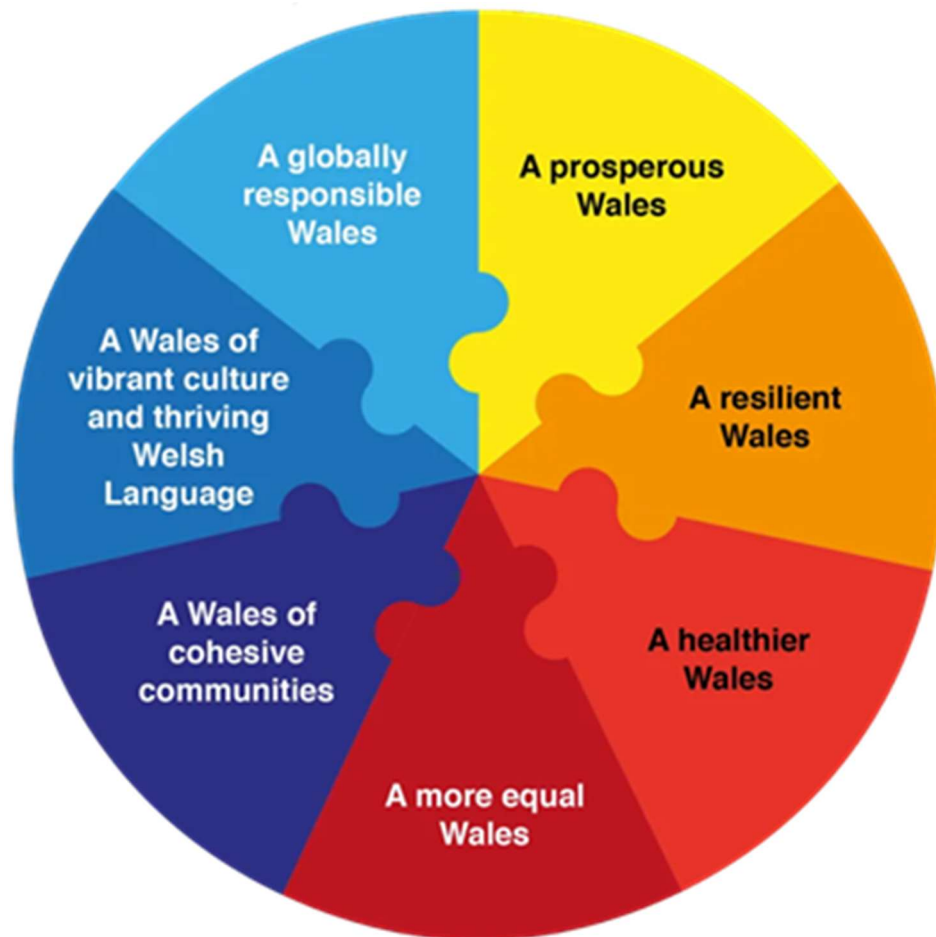
Llannon Community Council is also responsible for many services within Llannon Ward, including the following:

- Tumble Hall
- Y Cwtsh (Community Supermarket, Warm Space and Advice Service)
- Parc Y Mynydd Mawr, football pitch, changing rooms and playground.
- Tumble Memorial
- Upper Tumble Public Cemetery, shelter, car park and toilets.
- Ebenezer Cemetery
- Y Graig (Llechyfedach)
- Llannon playground
- Llannon square
- Maes y Ffynnon playground
- Tirwaun Park (Caeglas) and playground
- Cross Hands Memorial
- Cross Hands Park, changing rooms, bowls pavilion, tennis courts and new playground.
- Tyisha Park (lower end) and shelter
- Maintenance of ten public footpaths
- Street lighting
- 15 Bus shelters
- Provision of bins within our open spaces
- Provision of seating within our open spaces
- Provision of CCTV at Tumble Hall; Y Cwtsh, Tumble Memorial, Tumble Cemetery, Parc Y Mynydd Mawr and Cross Hands Park.
- Christmas Trees and lights
- Remembrance Day Services in Tumble & Cross Hands.
- Providing grants and other support for local organisations and good causes.

The Well-being of Future Generations Act 2015

The Well-being of Future Generations Act 2015 requires public bodies in Wales to think about the long-term impact of their decisions, and to work better with people communities and each other to try and prevent persistent problems such as poverty, health inequalities and climate change.

The Act sets out seven well-being goals (see below). It is unique to Wales attracting interest from countries across the world as it offers a huge opportunity to make a long lasting, positive change to current and future generations.



Llannon Community Council's Well-being Objectives

Ensure a sustainable economy and fair employment

- To continue to be a Real Living Wage Employer and promote the Real Living Wage locally.
- To further develop our workforce by following the Council's Training & Development Plan and review this annually.
- To work towards developing a Community Food Strategy and Community Food System.
- To create a Renewable Energy Plan where we consider only using renewable energy.
- To arrange drop-in sessions for residents with Business Wales/Job Centre.
- To create a new website that includes practical employment support with links to public transport timetables; car sharing schemes; job search websites and business development start-up information.
- To provide support for staff to learn the Welsh language and work with Menter Cwm Gwendraeth Elli to promote the use of the Welsh language in local businesses.

Improve well-being and reducing health inequalities

- To continue to provide and maintain our vast recreational and green spaces within Llannon Ward.
- To continue to provide our Social Supermarket and Warm Space, Y Cwtsh.
- To assist with the delivery of the Healthy Weight, Healthy Wales programme and NHS Eat Well programme by educating residents via our Y Cwtsh project.
- To continue to offer a mental health support service in Tumble Hall and advice clinics at Y Cwtsh.
- To establish a group to support young people.
- To continue arranging seasonal community walks.
- To continue to offer low rental for community groups hiring Tumble Hall and to continue to provide Tumble Hall for Hywel Dda health clinics, flu vaccinations etc.
- To continue to arrange a weekly luncheon club for over 50's, "Cinio A Chlonc."
- To create a masterplan for Cross Hands Park specifically targeting improving well-being and reducing health inequalities.
- To create a plan to make improvements to The Graig area of Llechyfedach.
- To create a plan to make improvements to Tirwaun Park, Caeglas.
- To signpost residents to local social groups such as 'Walk and Talk, Coffee and Chat'.
- To signpost residents to local organisations that offer support and volunteering opportunities.
- To continue to support Tumble football and rugby festivals.
- To provide as many opportunities as possible to increase sports provision within Llannon Ward.
- To undertake a local 'Bag it. Bin it' campaign.

Respond to climate and nature emergencies

- To actively follow the Council's Biodiversity Plan.
- To carry out a review to establish areas where we might incorporate EV Charging points.
- To implement an E-bike scheme.
- To assist in the development of Active Travel Schemes.
- To produce a "Net Zero by 2030" Plan.
- To incorporate energy efficiency improvements in our buildings and encourage residents and businesses to do the same.
- To establish a Community Growing Project.
- To establish a Repair Café.
- To establish a Clothing Amnesty, specifically targeting local school uniforms, PE Kits and coats, that can be re-distributed through Y Cwtsh.
- To continue to support the work of local community groups such as Cyfeillion y Coetir and Cadw'r Mynydd Mawr yn Daclus'
- To eliminate single use plastic
- To continue to ensure that coffee, tea and sugar is Fair Trade
- To continue to ensure that glass, tins, paper, plastic and food waste is recycled.

Tackle poverty and its impacts

- To continue to signpost and refer service users of Y Cwtsh to support services.
- To build on current advice and support provision to residents through Y Cwtsh, by developing opportunities for collaboration across PSB organisations.
- To continue to provide IT equipment to support residents in making applications for benefits, employment etc.
- To support the 'Claim What's Yours' campaign, with consistent messaging on support for residents.
- To support residents facing fuel poverty by providing a Warm Space at Y Cwtsh. Re-start our Winter Soup programme and distribute blankets, hot water bottles and other items to help residents to keep warm.
- To reach out and support people who are facing the danger of becoming homeless by signposting them to the relevant services, hopefully before crisis point has been reached.

Help to create bilingual, safe and diverse communities.

- To actively follow the Council's Community Engagement Policy.
- To establish a Community Volunteer Hub.
- To create a plan to tackle loneliness and isolation and promote inclusion.
- To develop a support service for vulnerable adults, for example new Dads.
- To continue to support Tumble Family Centre by working in partnership to develop the service they provide, including encouraging Welsh language lessons.

- To develop a Youth Council to have a better understanding and connection to the needs and desires of young people in the Llannon Ward.
- To create Welsh language learning and engagement opportunities.
- To continue to support Eisteddfod Gadeiriol Y Tymbl with free hire of Tumble Hall and financial donations.
- To continue to promote Côr Ieuenctid Cwm Gwendraeth.
- Arrange events at Tumble Hall with Welsh artistes.

Llannon Community Council (LICC) will strive to deliver improvements to the following areas within Llannon Ward:

Parc Y Mynydd Mawr

During the past eighteen months, the Chief Officer has been working closely with V15 Consulting Ltd regarding the re-development of the pavilion and improvements to training facilities which Tumble Rugby Club, Tumble United AFC and Tumble Family Centre desperately need to support their activities. It is also important to consider LICC's well-being objectives and the continued requirement to provide a safe, warm space to support our cost-of-living projects.

Plans are now complete and final reports are being compiled that are required as part of the planning application. LICC hope that the planning application will be ready to submit by mid-February 2025. LICC estimate the build will be approximately £1.2m, however the final figure will be confirmed through a tendering process if funding is secured.

In order to meet the costs of the build without further increases to the local precept required, LICC has submitted an application for £500,000 to the Cymru Football Foundation and an application of £300,000 has been submitted to the Welsh Government Communities Fund by Tumble Family Centre. There are some other funding pots available in the region of £200,000 if we secure these two applications. The remainder of the money would be sourced from a Welsh Government loan with re-payment terms that will be met by LICC's future projects budget.

LICC will also source further funding from the Cymru Football Foundation and Sport Wales to create a training area behind Tumble Hall and an all-weather training facility on the bowls green.

Cross Hands Park

Over the past two years, LICC has invested in significant improvements to Cross Hands Park. In 2023, the Council installed a new playground worth £165,000. In 2024, LICC worked with the Lawn Tennis Association (LTA) to re-surface the tennis courts. The £60,000 investment included £25,000 of funding from the LTA.

The Chief Officer is currently working with Carmarthenshire County Council and the Coal Mining Charity, CISWO to finalise the Community Asset Transfer of Cross Hands Park and allow a sub-lease for Cross Hands Bowls Club to officially take over responsibility of the bowls pavilion and bowling green.

In 2024, LICC secured £40,000 of funding from the UK Shared Communities Fund to create a Masterplan which includes the re-development of the changing rooms and further improvements to the park. This funding covers project management fees; planning and topographical studies; civil and structural engineers fees; infiltration assessments; feasibility studies and reports regarding pitches.

The Cross Hands Park Masterplan will shortly be published and residents will be provided with the opportunity to have their say on what facilities they feel would be of benefit to them. The publication of the Masterplan will also allow Carmarthenshire County Council to release the £35,000 maintenance grant still owed to LICC.

To fund any further upgrades to Cross Hands Park, LICC has a future projects budget to allow for match funding and will apply to various funding streams including: UK Shared Communities Fund; CISWO; The National Lottery; Welsh Cycling; Cymru Football Foundation; Welsh Government.

Y Graig, Llechyfedach

Following extensive consultation with residents of Llechyfedach and advice from biodiversity experts, LICC established a phased plan to make improvements to Y Graig. Extensive areas of bracken and gorse have recently been removed by LICC to start opening up the footpaths that lead to the top of Y Graig and the stunning views. Work will continue over the coming year to improve the footpath access.

In early Spring, LICC will apply for funding from the Shared Communities Fund to install a new playground with fencing around the surround. LICC will include a match fund of £10k, sourced from the future projects budget and will not require a rise in the precept.

There is currently still £42,000 Section 106 funding outstanding from the Llys Ifan housing site. This is currently with Carmarthenshire County Council's enforcement team. If this money becomes available, LICC could apply for the funding to improve the rest of the footpaths on the site.

Tirwaun/Caeglas Park

The Community Consultation carried out in 2023 revealed a need from residents to install a new playground in Tirwaun Park. As the Council has installed a playground in the Cross Hands area within the past two years, LICC will look to install a new playground in the 2026-27 financial year.

Residents and the young people in particular will be provided with the opportunity to comment on the improvements during a consultation process towards the end of 2025.

Llannon Park

The 2023 Community Consultation informed LICC that residents of Llannon were very keen to have a village hall/hub. There will shortly be £61,000 of Section 106 funding available from the two new housing developments in Llannon and the residents would like that money to be re-invested in the village.

LICC asset transferred the land where the playground is currently sited so will continue to work with Carmarthenshire County Council with the view to transferring the school field.

Light feasibility work is currently taking place to establish whether the playground can be moved back, to allow the space required to build a village hall. Extensive consultation would need to be carried out with residents with the aim of using the Section 106 funding to create a plan.

If a feasible plan is created, LICC would consult further on funding opportunities available at the time.

Conclusion

We trust having read this Forward Development Plan you will agree that Llannon Community Council has great ambitions for Llannon Ward.

To ensure accountability, LICC will produce an action plan each year that sets out what we have achieved in the previous year and what projects and ideas still need to be pursued in the coming years.