



# Annual Report

## April 2022 to March 2023

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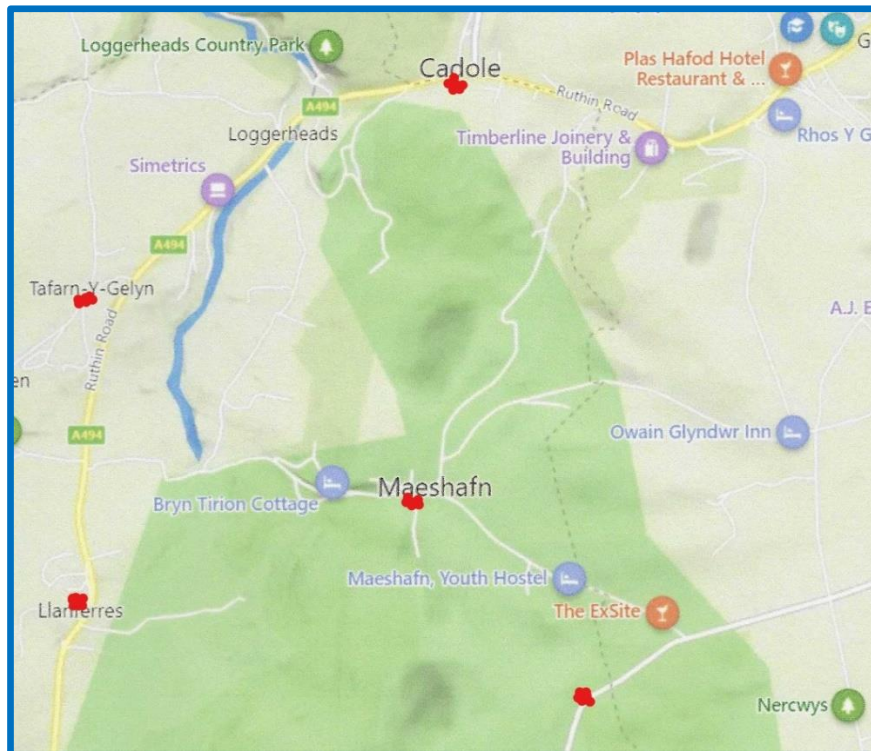
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### Council Profile

Llanferres Community Council is a small rural council in Denbighshire. Following the boundary changes in May 2022, it became part of the Moel Famau ward which comprises Llanbedr Dyffryn Clwyd, Llanferres and Llangynhafal.

The Council has an allocated complement of nine elected or co-opted members and employs a Clerk who also acts as the Responsible Financial Officer.

The Council acts on behalf of residents in the villages of Llanferres, Maeshafn, Tafarn-y-Gelyn, Cadole and Pant Du. There were 631 registered electors in the area during the 2022-23 financial year.



### Councillors

Prior to the election in May 2022 the Council had eight serving members and one vacancy.

Four of the Councillors were re-elected unopposed in the May 2022 elections. Four more were co-opted onto the Council during the course of the year but two resigned within a month of taking office citing lack of time due to other commitments.

Despite extensive advertising, it was difficult to fill the vacancies and there were five vacancies at the end of the year.

Councillors were summoned to attend the AGM and eleven general meetings during the year.

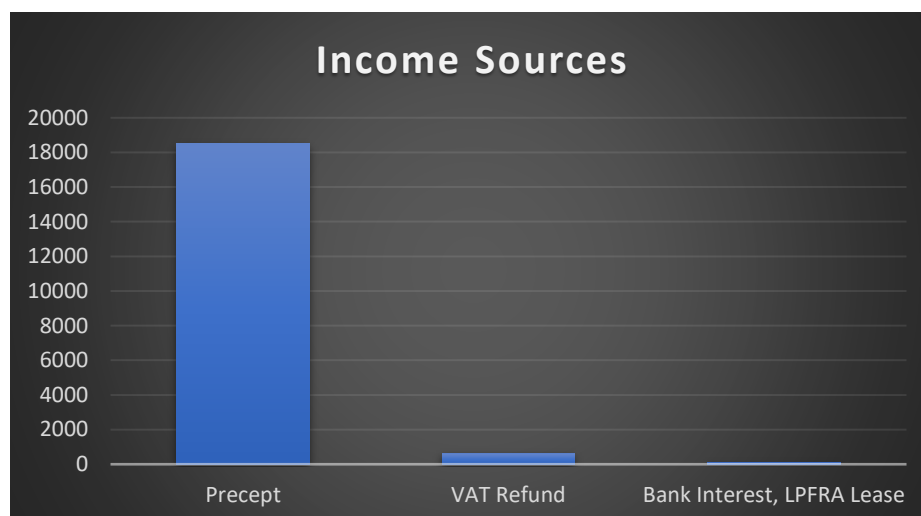
Appendix 1 shows Councillors attendance record at the meetings.

Appendix 2 shows Councillors declarations of interest during the meetings.

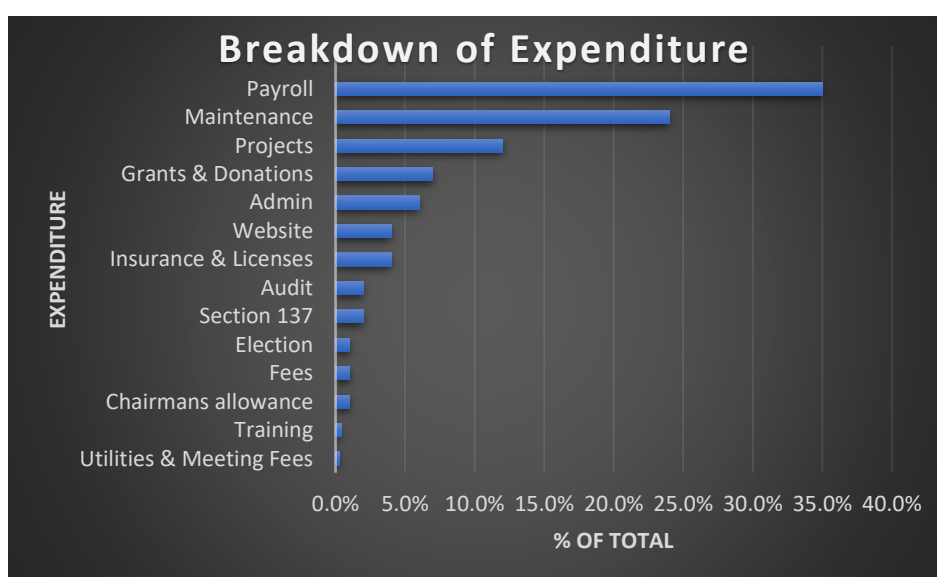
Appendix 3 details the committees and organisations the Council is involved with together with the names of the council representatives on each.

## Financial Information

Total income for the year was £19,174 which was £1,952 or 9% lower than the previous year due to the Council not having received any grants.



Total expenditure for the year was £16,997 which was £3,786 or 30% higher than the previous year. This was due to unexpected maintenance costs because of bad weather and flooding and replacing the Clerks laptop.



One Councillor claimed their Councillors Allowance during the year.

The total value of reserves carried forward into 2023-24 was £9,416 of which 55% was ringfenced for future election costs and potential councillor allowance claims and 45% for planned work the Council was unable to complete during 2022-23.

The total value of community assets excluding land, was £135,396 an increase of 0.5% on the previous year.

The audited accounts and opinion can be viewed on the council's website:

[www.llanferrescommunitycouncil.org](http://www.llanferrescommunitycouncil.org)

## Key Objectives and Outcomes

The councils' main objectives for the year were to:

1. Hold regular meetings to discuss, investigate and resolve both national and local activities that could impact the local community.

The AGM was held in May 2022 and General Meetings every month except August during 2022-23. Members of the public attended all but one meeting in September and had the opportunity to speak at the start of each meeting.

The Council was able to meet its statutory obligation to hold multi-location meetings from September 2022 when broadband was installed in Llanferres village hall. Although this new facility was advertised on the Public Notices of meetings posted on the website and seven noticeboards each month, not one member of the public or press took advantage of the new service.

2. Review planning applications and notices

The council received and responded to sixteen planning applications/notices in its area during the year.

3. Maintain assets and amenities

In July 2022 the annual assets risk assessment was completed and all actions and work identified as needing doing were completed before November 2022.

The noticeboard in Llanferres came to the end of its natural life and was replaced.

4. Improved facilities

A bench was installed in Tafarn y Gelyn along the old road for visitors to enjoy the view.

5. Support local organisations

- The Council renewed the lease agreement with Llanferres Playing Field and Recreation Associations (LPFRA) for another 25 years and provided a grant to pay their annual insurance premium.
- Llanferres Village Hall was given a grant towards the cost of installing broadband.
- St Berris Church was given a grant towards maintaining the church yard.
- The publishers of Llanferres News and Views were giving a grant towards the production and distributions costs of magazine.
- The Older People's Welfare Committee were given a grant towards holding an afternoon tea party to celebrate Queen Elizabeth II platinum jubilee.
- Children attending Bro Famau County Primary School in Llanferres were gifted a commemorative coin to celebrate the Queen's jubilee.

6. Work with other organisations to improve facilities

During the year the council was actively involved in:

- Working with Denbighshire CC highways dept to prevent flooding at the bottom of Maesahfn Road.
- Lobbying Welsh Assembly Trunk Roads Agency, and Darren Millar the local AM to improve road safety along the A494 by install flashing speed signs along the main road from Mold to Ruthin.
- Surveying potholes along various roads and lobbying Denbighshire CC to have them repaired.

### 7. Improve Biodiversity

The Council continued its work to improve biodiversity by:

- Working with its appointed ground works contractor to reduce the use of chemicals for weed control.
- Leaving borders around the boundaries of Maes Ysgawen park and Maeshafn playing field uncut to attract more pollinators and wildlife.
- Laying the hedge along the boundary between Maes Ysgawen park and the school to regenerate growth.
- Planting three new trees to celebrate the Queens jubilee.
- Installing a new planter on Maeshafn village green.
- Using wood from fallen trees and branches pruned from existing trees to create natural habitats for wildlife.
- Arranging for trees with ash dieback to be removed in the Huelog.

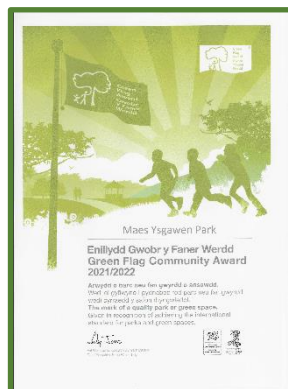
### 8. Identify Training Needs

The Council agreed and published its first formal training plan during the year which included a 'skills analysis' form to identify training needs for Councillors and the Clerk. All new Councillors are required to complete Induction and Code of Conduct training and all re-elected Councillors refresher training on the Code of Conduct within one month of their appointment.

The Clerk completed the CiLCA course during the year and is became fully qualified in January 2023.

### Awards

The council applied for and won its sixth Green Flag Award for Maes Ysgawen Park and its second for Maeshafn playing field and orchard area.



### Future Priorities and Funding

Short term (one year), the council intends to continue maintaining services for the community, improving biodiversity and supporting local organisations using funding from the precept.

Longer term (two to five years), a sub-committee will be formed to consider how facilities in Maes Ysgawen park and Maeshafn playing field and orchard area can be improved and what funding sources are available to complete the works.

### Complaints

No complaints were received during the year.

# CYNGOR CYMEITHAS – LLANFERRES – COMMUNITY COUNCIL

## Appendix 1

### Councillor's Attendance Record at Meetings

April 2022 Prior to Election of New Councillors

Councillor	Attendance at Council Meetings											
	14th April											
Clerk	P											
John Almond	P											
Michael Cordiner	P											
Allan Morgans	P											
Ivy Watts	P											
Isla Watts	P											
Amanda Curtis	P											
Jac Armstrong	P											
Paul Sheldon Co-opted May 20	P											
Vacancy	n/a											
Key:	Present Formal Meeting - Face to Face P Present Formal Meeting - Video Conferenc P * Apologies APP Not Responded NR No Meeting NM											

### Councillor's Attendance Record at Meetings

May 2022 to March 2023 Following Election of New Councillors

Councillor	12th May AGM	7th June	14th July	August	8th Sept	20th Oct	10th Nov	8th Dec	12th Jan	9th Feb	9th March
Clerk	P	P	P*	NM	P	P*	P	P	P	P	P
Allan Morgans	P	P	P*	NM	P	P*	P	P	P	P	P
Amanda Curtis	P	P	P*	NM	P	P*	P	P	P	P	P
Jac Armstrong	P	App	App	NM	App	APP	APP	P	APP	APP	P
Paul Sheldon	P	P	P*	NM	P	P*	P	P	P	P	P
Simon Grice - co-opted Nov 22	n/a	n/a	n/a	NM	n/a	n/a	P	P	P	P	P
Lyn Gibson - co-opted Jan 23	n/a	n/a	n/a	NM	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	P	P	P
Tim Healy - co-opted Oct 22	n/a	n/a	n/a	NM	n/a	P*	WITHDREW	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Ann Catherall - co-opted Oct 22	n/a	n/a	n/a	NM	n/a	P*	WITHDREW	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Vacancy	n/a	n/a	n/a	NM	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Vacancy	n/a	n/a	n/a	NM	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Vacancy	n/a	n/a	n/a	NM	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Key:	Present Formal Meeting - Face to Face P Present Formal Meeting - Video Conferenc P * Apologies APP Not Responded NR No Meeting NM										

## Appendix 2

Register of Councillor's Interests Declared at Meetings										
April 2022 Prior to Elections										
Date of Meeting	Declarations of Interest	Name								
		A Morgans	J Armstrong	J Almond	M Cordiner	Ivy Watts	Isla Watts	A Curtis	P Sheldon	Vacancy
14th April	None									

Register of Councillor's Interests Declared at Meetings										
May 2022 to March 2023 following elections										
Date of Meeting	Declarations of Interest	Name								
		A Morgans	J Armstrong	A Curtis	P Sheldon	S Grice	L Gibson	Vacancy	Vacancy	Vacancy
12th May	None									
7th June	Planning appeal 21/2021/1021				personal & prejudicial interest					
14th July	None									
August	No meeting									
8th September	None									
20th October	None									
10th November	None									
8th December	Planning application 21/2022/0970					personal interest				
	NALAC salary scales for the Clerk	personal & prejudicial interest								
12th January 23	Llanferres News & Views grant					personal interest				
9th February 23	None									
9th March 23	None									



*Appendix 3*

## List of Committees and Organisations with Names of Community Council Representatives

As agreed at AGM on 11<sup>th</sup> May 2023

Name of Committee or Organisation	Community Council Representative
One Voice Wales	Allan Morgans - Chair Margaret Narburgh - Clerk
Llanferres Village Hall Management	Jac Armstrong – Vice Chair
Park Improvements sub-committee	Allan Morgans, Lyn Gibson, Margaret Narburgh, Dawn Skelhorn and 2 members of the general public (Ann Catherall, Sean Thomas)
Llanferres Playing Fields & Recreation Association	Full Council
Community Open Spaces Maeshafn Playing Field & Maes Ysgawen	Full Council
Clwyd Branch of Society of Local Council Clerks	Margaret Narburgh - Clerk
Planning sub-committee	Full Council
News & Views Reporter	Margaret Narburgh - Clerk
Website Management	Margaret Narburgh – Clerk Amanda Curtis - Councillor
Internet Banking Check	Paul Sheldon