



Llangunnor Community Council

“Working to support the community”

Issue 1

Welcome to the first issue of the Community Council Newsletter.

Your Councillors: East Ward



Cllr Robin Griffiths
Independent



Cllr Vivian Davies



Cllr Paul Totterdale



Cllr Elwyn Williams-
Plaid Cymru



Cllr Dafydd Williams

West Ward



Cllr Geraint Bevan-
Plaid Cymru

COMMUNITY COUNCIL WEBSITE

Visit the Community Council website for updated council information at: <http://www.llangunnorcommunitycouncil.co.uk>

YOUR COMMUNITY COUNCIL

The Council, which is divided into two Wards, comprises of thirteen elected members, who are either voted onto the council following an election or co-opted onto the council in the event there are insufficient numbers to hold an election. The council employs one part-time clerk who works from home.

WHAT AREA DOES LLANGUNNOR COMMUNITY COUNCIL COVER?

The Parish of Llangunnor covers some 2340 hectares, from near Capel Dewi at the northern end, Cwmffrwd in the south and almost to Llanddarog in the east. It mainly occupies the high land on the eastern side of the beautiful fertile valley of the River Tywi and includes the villages and hamlets of Pensarn, Login, Tregynnwr, Pibwrlwyd, Llangunnor and Nantycaws. The Council represents approximately 1225 homes.



HOW TO CONTACT THE COUNCIL?

All communication with the Community Council should be referred to the Clerk by e-mail, letter or telephone using the following contact details:

Mr. Clive Thomas, Clerk to the Council, 59 Nantyrarian,
Carmarthen, SA31 3JQ

Telephone 01267 232665 or email: clerk@llangunnor-cc.org.uk

WHERE AND WHEN DOES THE COUNCIL MEET?

It meets on a monthly basis (apart from August) on the third Thursday of every month at 'Yr Aelwyd' at 6.30pm. You are all welcome to attend this meeting. There is an opportunity at each meeting for you to ask questions or raise matters of concern.

Your Councillors: West Ward



Cllr Sandra Thomas



Cllr Alexandra
Trowbridge-Matthews



Cllr Alun West



Cllr Jennifer Slate



Cllr Lee Whatley



Cllr John Porter

INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR COMMUNITY COUNCIL

WHAT ARE COMMUNITY COUNCILS?

A Community Council is a body corporate consisting of the Chair and the Community Councillors, who are elected by the local government electors for the community and hold office for a term of 4 years. The Chair is elected annually by the council from among the councillors.

WHAT IS THE ROLE OF THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL?

- to represent the whole community and reflect the views of the community it represents
- to deliver services to meet local needs, and strive to improve quality of life in the community
- to liaise with other community groups in the area
- to fairly express the diversity of opinions and outlooks of the people
- to express the views of the community to the Local Authority for the area, to public authorities and other organisations
- to take such action in the interests of the community as appears to it to be desirable and practicable
- to promote the well-being of the community and to foster a community spirit
- to be a means whereby the people of the area shall be able to voice their opinions on any matter affecting their lives, their welfare, their environment, its development and amenity

HOW DO THEY MAKE THEIR DECISIONS?

Your local council is made up of a number of councillors who meet regularly to make decisions on the work and direction of the council. As elected bodies local councils are responsible to the people they represent – that's our local community. Attending a council meeting is the best way to find out what they do.

Various sub-committees are in place so that projects can be discussed and formulated to take to the main council for decisions. We currently have committees for Planning, Finance, Park, Media & Web, Christmas Tree, and Valero Task & Finish.

WHERE DO THEY GET THEIR MONEY FROM?

Each year a sum of money called a 'precept' is collected through your council tax. This money is invested back into your local neighbourhood by your local council to improve facilities and services for you and your neighbours.

WHAT ARE THE MAIN DUTIES OF THE COUNCIL?

- Look after the local playing field and park, public seating and notice boards
- Maintain public footpaths, bridleways, car parks, litter bins
- Responsibility for bus shelters, street lighting and street cleaning
- Consider planning matters
- Suggest improvements regarding highways
- Work with the Police to safeguard the community
- Provide financial assistance for various voluntary organisations and charities
- Appoint representatives to numerous local and outside bodies

AIMS FOR 2018-19

One of our aims this year is to engage more effectively with the community so that we can carry out our role more successfully. We want to represent the majority of the community rather than the minority, and one of the ways we can do this is to let you know what your council is doing and give you the opportunity to share your opinions and concerns. We cannot please everybody all of the time, but if we know what most people's concerns are, and what they would like to see in the community, we can do a better job for you.

Many other community councils have found that issuing a newsletter is a positive way of communicating with residents and Llangunnor Community Council have decided to do the same. We will use the newsletter to let you know what we are doing, what we have done, and let you know good news stories and also tell you about things that we have been unable to achieve.

DO YOU WANT TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN YOUR COMMUNITY?

How about becoming a Community Councillor and making a difference to your local community? A vacancy for a Councillor exists on Llangunnor Community Council and this is your chance to be co-opted as a member. It's a great opportunity for you to make a difference to the local area by contributing towards improving the quality of life in the community and positively influencing the delivery of public service that meet local needs.

If you are interested please complete the form on our website, or contact the Clerk, Mr. Clive Thomas, 59 Nantyrarian, Carmarthen SA31 3JQ – 01267 232665 – clerk@llangunnor-cc.org.uk.

WHAT HAS THE COUNCIL BEEN DOING OVER THE LAST FEW MONTHS?

The Park

The park is a vital part of our community, and we have been working hard to make improvements so that the park can be enjoyed by all. You will hopefully have seen that the play equipment in the park has been painted in bright primary colours, and we are hoping that after the summer we can paint the railings too. The edge of the path has also been repaired. We have ordered a goal post which can double up for football and rugby posts, and we are awaiting delivery.

Towry Riders will be using Llangunnor Park every Saturday till Christmas and local children are welcome to join them between 10am and 12noon for a taster. Visit their webpage for details. www.towryriders.org.uk



Tesco Bags for Help (blue tokens) scheme – Defibrillators



We were fortunate to receive money from Tesco's blue token scheme, which we have put towards providing three defibrillators for the community. They are due to be located at Yr Aerlwyd and the school, and we are hoping to install one in the park if we can identify a suitable electric point. If an emergency arises and you need to use a defibrillator, please be aware that the machine talks you through exactly what you need to do. The defibrillators have a lock on them to prevent vandalism. The code is available when you phone 999. For your information, Morrisons have provided a defibrillator inside their store. Training for the community will take place in the new year. Keep an eye out for details on noticeboards and a website.

Local amenities

Bollards have been placed on the pavement at Capel Dewi to protect pedestrians and prevent damage to the pavement from vehicles cutting the corner. The underpass at the bottom of Babel Hill was cleaned in readiness for the Tour of Britain. We have installed benches at Login Road, Llangunnon Road, Pensarn Road and Babel Hill top and bottom, and at the entrance to Tregunnon. These are already being put to good use by people who are enjoying the walk around the area and offer a place to rest and appreciate the views. We wanted to promote walking in the area as healthy exercise and we hope that more of you will enjoy walking around the area.

Flower planters have been installed in the Pensarn area to help make it more pleasing on the eye. They were a little later than planned but worth the wait.



Community Council AGM

At our AGM in May, we gave out some awards for Services to the Community. The following people were presented with awards; Eileen Jones for all her hard work raising money for charity over the years with her coffee mornings; Michael Phillips and Hywel Evans for their years of service delivering milk to the community, and Cyril Phillips, for years of raising money for charities, his service to the community of Llangunnon, Llangunnon church and the school over many decades. We give our continued support to Llangunnon School and we welcomed Gruffydd Caradog, Chair of Llangunnon School Council to our AGM, together with headmaster, Aled Davies. We were very impressed by Gruffydd's maturity and confidence when giving his speech to the AGM. Well done Gruffydd.

If you know of anyone that you think deserves to be recognized by the Community Council for services to the community, then please let your council know.



Valero

Following a leak of kerosene from a pipeline owned by oil giant Valero Energy Ltd. a donation of £40,000 was made to the community. We resolved to consult widely with residents in the community to find out how they would like this money spent for the benefit of the whole village community. Despite public notices, and posts on social media, we did not receive many suggestions. We held a consultation meeting earlier this year. However, we had very few residents turn up to give their views. We formed a sub-committee to discuss the viability of the suggestions that were received. So far we have awarded money to the chapel for improvements to the graveyard, and money to make improvements at the junction in Nantycaws. We are still open to suggestions so get in touch if you have another suggestion.

LOCAL ISSUES

Dogs in the Park

The Community Council Park and Environmental sub-committee, following complaints to the Council, have discussed reports of dogs off the lead which have frightened local children. In order to establish what we could and could not do to resolve this matter, we asked Carmarthenshire County Council if we could order dogs to be kept on a lead in the park. We have been advised that we have to provide an area within the community where dogs may be exercised off the lead, and so this is not an option. One of their suggestions was to provide a fenced off area where dogs can be exercised off the lead away from the children's' play area. We have discussed this option and have decided not to go ahead.

Haulfryn Parking issues

We have worked hard, together with our local PCSOs, to try and resolve the issues with parking in the Haulfryn/Penymorfa Lane area. However, we have been unable to find a solution that will allow both residents and school traffic to park in this area. One option we can consider is to introduce permit parking in the area, which would mean that no-one would be able to park in the area without a permit. However, this is a cost that residents should not have to endure. We understand that parents need to collect their children from school but we would ask all parents to respect the residents and be more considerate when parking.

Bus stop in Penymorfa Lane

Following previous site visits by the relevant authorities, due to the location of underground services, and the health and safety risks to both pedestrians and motorists, we are unable to do anymore with regards to the provision of a bus stop in Penymorfa Lane.

EVENTS IN THE COMMUNITY

CIVIC SERVICE

The Chair of Llangunnor Community Council, Mrs Sandra Thomas, held a Civic Service in Llangunnor Church at 11am on Sunday 9 September 2018.



DYFED POWYS POLICE OPEN DAY



On Sunday 16 September there was an open day at Police Headquarters between 12 noon and 4pm. The event included displays from the Fire and Ambulance Services and other partners. There was an opportunity for children and young people to see how the police service operates within the community as well as a circus workshop for them to enjoy.



CCTV CAMERAS

The Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) of Dyfed Powys Police, Dafydd Llywelyn, pledged to invest in a modern CCTV infrastructure to improve the safety of the towns and communities of Carmarthenshire, Ceredigion, Pembrokeshire and Powys. according to demand, crime, anti-social behaviour and calls for service. This will include a staffing model to monitor cameras in order to keep our communities safe, utilising modern technology and software to deliver a system that is future-proofed and supports operational policing.

A CCTV camera has now been replaced on Towy Roundabout.

THE TOUR OF BRITAIN

On Saturday 2nd September 2018 the Tour of Britain began its journey from Pembrey Country Park on its 1,140-kilometre route to London. We had the chance to see some of the country's leading riders in action, including Welsh hero Geraint Thomas, as they travelled through Llangunnor and through Carmarthen. Many residents were out in force along the route to welcome the riders as they rode through Llangunnor.



Chair of Llangunnor Community council, Sandra Thomas, with Mayor and Mayoress of Carmarthen for the Tour of Britain Cycle Race



Residents lining the route at the bottom of Babel Hill

THE BATTLE'S OVER – 11 NOVEMBER 2018



On 11th November 2018, the United Kingdom and its friends overseas marked the day 100 years ago when the guns fell silent at the end of the First World War. In order to play our part in remembering the sacrifice of millions of men and women, Llangunnor Community Council joined in an evening event, which took place at Llangunnor Church.

At 6.55p.m.: 'Battle's Over' - The Last post

7.05p.m. 'Ringing out for peace!' - the church bell was rung.

Over fifty people were in the church.

CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTS SWITCH ON CEREMONY – 21 NOVEMBER 2018

As has become tradition, the Community Council is planning to turn on the lights of the Christmas Tree located at Tywi garage roundabout on Wednesday 21 November 2018 at 6pm. Children from Llangunnor Primary School will be singing some Christmas Carols and there will be refreshments served at Babel Chapel after the switch on.

SAFER CHRISTMAS EVENT – 30 NOVEMBER 2018

An event is being held at Morrisons store in Carmarthen from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. The event will be supported by the Police, Fire Service, Ambulance Service, Road Safety Team, Go Safe Team and Training Standards. There will also be a Christmas Fair, and the children from Llangunnor Primary School and Bro Myrddin will be providing entertainment.

GENERAL INFORMATION AND REQUESTS

LITTER BINS

It has come to our attention, that some residents have been depositing household waste into council litter bins. Action has already been taken in relation to this, but please can all residents be aware that rubbish bins are being overfilled with rubbish, which then ends up strewn over pavements, grass verges and roads. Foxes, birds, dogs and rats do not take long to realise this is a food source and we are seeing the bags being torn open and waste being left on the ground, which someone then has to clean up. Please can everyone make an effort to ensure that waste goes into bins and if the bin is full, use another bin, and inform the clerk or another councillor so that we can monitor the situation. We are currently looking into whether we can have a recycling facility in the park area, to help with the volume of rubbish.

DOGS

It is an offence to allow your dog to carry out its business in a public place. It is well known that dog faeces can cause disease in humans and especially children. We can all appreciate how unhygienic it can be if stepped in outside and walked into the house. There was a recent incident where a dog owner did not clean up after their dog right outside the entrance to the children's play area. We know that most of our residents are responsible dog owners, but please can everyone ensure that they clean up after their dogs. We would also like to request that you do not deposit the 'poo' bags in the litter bins next to the children's play area for obvious hygiene reasons.

PLEASE.....KEEP OUR ENVIRONMENT AS CLEAN, HEALTHY AND SAFE AS WE CAN.

MOBILITY SCOOTERS

It has been brought to our attention that some disabled scooters and electric wheelchairs are being used on the road coming up past Babell Chapel. This causes a hazard to other road users, and we would respectfully request that these mobility scooters keep to the pavement before a serious accident occurs. Our local PCSO has been informed and will be keeping a check on this matter.

FOOTPATHS

We have been asked by Carmarthenshire County Council to take over the maintenance of a number of footpaths in the area, in order to keep them open and available for use. We have not yet made a decision over which paths we will take over, but we would like to ask all residents to let us know if you use any footpaths in the area which are overgrown or have any other matters of concern.

PARKING

It can be deemed an offence to park a vehicle on the pavement or with two wheels on the pavement and two wheels on the road, as it causes an obstruction. Parents with children and prams, pedestrians, and the disabled (especially with wheelchairs) have difficulty passing such vehicles. There are signs outside of the park, advising motorists not to park in front of the park at any time. Please can those persons visiting the play area, park their cars away from the entrance.

LATEST NEWS

Just as we were going to print, the Parish of Llangunnor suffered major flooding following Storm Callum. We are sure you will all join with us to send our best wishes and thoughts to those who suffered loss during the floods and we will be doing everything we can to help those in need. There will be work needed to help clean up after the floods, and we trust that the community spirit evident during the floods will continue on to help those affected return to normal as soon as possible.

COMMUNITY POLICE OFFICERS

Meet your local Neighbourhood Team that cover the Llangunnor and the surrounding areas. They can offer help and support in matters that concern the community. They are usually present at the Community Council monthly meeting.

You can contact the team by telephoning 101 or Email CarmarthenTownNPT@dyfed-powys.pnn.police.uk
Visit website for further information on [Dyfed Powys Police website](#)

CLUBS AND ASSOCIATIONS

There are a number of clubs and associations that meet in the community. If you have any events you would like to publicise, or any information that you would like to add to the newsletter and/or the website, please send details to the Clerk. Please note that posters etc should be bilingual.

St Cynnwr Women's Institute/Llangunnor Women's Institute

St. Cynnwr WI started in 1967 and is one of 52 Institutes in the Carmarthenshire Federation. They meet once a month and have talks of interest, ranging from Forensics, the History of Underwear, cheese making, to Winter colour in our gardens. In addition, there are trips, visits, walks as well as events organised by the County, including dominoes, darts, book clubs, quizzes, bowls and fashion shows, something for everyone.

They usually meet on the 1st Tuesday of the month in Llangunnor Primary School at 7pm and are always pleased to welcome new faces. Why not visit, make new friends and enjoy a chat over tea and biscuits, possibly cake! **Enquiries to** Barbara Quick, 01267 220795 or barbaraquick@hotmail.co.uk

Carmarthenshire & District Sugarcraft Guild

The Carmarthenshire & District Sugarcraft Guild was formed in 1994 and it has held meetings on a regular basis since. If you are interested in sugarcraft and cake decorating, the local Sugarcraft Guild meets once a month where you can see a demonstration of sugarcraft and learn lots of new tips. Meetings are held on the 1st Thursday of each month in Yr Aelwyd, Tregynnwr. Contact 07952 727980 or visit their Facebook page: Carmarthen Sugarcraft & Cake Decorating Club.

Carmarthen modellers

The Carmarthen Modellers' Club was formed early in 2012 with its primary aim to "foster and promote the activity of model-making at all levels, providing opportunities for recreation and competition". Meetings are held in Yr Aelwyd on the 2nd Wednesday of each month. For further information please contact carmarthenmodellersclub@gmail.com or 01267 220380.

Friendship Centre - Babel Chapel

The Friendship Centre at Babel Chapel opened 19 September 2013 and offers people the opportunity to come and gather. There is no religious motive behind the centre and it is purely for the community to come and share. Drop in to the friendship centre at Babel for a chat over a cup of tea and cake. For further information contact Babel Chapel. Thursdays 10.30am to 1.30pm.

Art, Craft and Chat Group

An Art, Craft and Chat Group is the perfect opportunity for the over 50's to get together and get creative. The cost will be £1.00 a week, this will cover tea/coffee/ etc and materials going forward. This group is part of the West Wales Befriending Links Project, a BIG Lottery funded scheme, the age range is 50+. Every Wednesday 2pm – 4pm.

Llangunnor & Cwmffrwd Mothers Union

Llangunnor Church Mothers Union group meets at 7pm on the second Wednesday of the month. There is normally a guest speaker with tea, coffee & biscuits to follow. Meetings take place in Llangunnor Church Hall. There is usually an outing in the summer. For more information 01267 234482.

RECYCLING CENTRE/RUBBISH COLLECTION DATES – NANTYCAWS

Nantycaws HWRC, Llanddarog Road, Nantycaws, Carmarthenshire SA32 8BG

Summer opening times (April 1 - Sep 30) Mon – Sun: 8.30am-7pm

Winter opening times (Oct 1 – March 31) Mon - Sun 8.30am - 5pm

The site is closed Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day

Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve 8.30am – 12pm

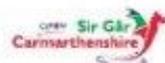
Merlin's Magic Compost for sale here

BLUE / BLACK BAG COLLECTION WEEKS				2018									
January 18		February 18		March 18		April 18							
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
29	30	31					26	27	28	29	30		
May 18		June 18		July 18		August 18							
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6				1	2	3	4
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
28	29	30	31				25	26	27	28	29	30	
September 18		October 18		November 18		December 18							
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
											1	2	3
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	29	30	31				

PCU18070_WS

REMEMBER your food bin is collected weekly.

Bank Holidays - Check for changes



BICH CYNGOR arleinamdani
www.sigarilw.cymru/aigylchu
YOUR COUNCIL doitonline

WS

Graphic from CCC

HAVE YOUR SAY....

What would you like to see happening in your community in the future? Would you like to see more community events? Would you support community events if they were put on? Do you have any ideas for what sort of events we could hold? Please complete the attached survey.

Do you have any concerns that you would like to raise? Do you know how to report a faulty street lamp, or other damage? Do you know how to make a complaint? Do you want to promote one of your events in the Parish of Llangunnor? Do you want Llangunnor Community Council to promote it on their website? Do you want support from your council? If you have anything you would like to raise, then please email or telephone the clerk to the council. This will ensure that your correspondence will be formally noted and it can then be passed on to your local councillors. (Please note all items for the website must be bilingual)

FINALLY....

We hope that you have enjoyed this first newsletter from the Community Council, and that you are more aware of who your councillors are, what the Council does for you, and what is going on in the Community.

We would like you to participate in a short survey. All completed surveys returned will be entered into a free draw where two of the submitted surveys will be drawn out to win a £25 cash prize each.



SURVEY

Before the newsletter:

- Did you know about Llangunnor Community Council? Yes No
- Did you feel you knew enough about what the Community Council does? Yes No
- Did you know any of your local Community Councillors? Yes No
- Did you know how to contact the Community Council? Yes No
- Did you know where the Community Council got its money from? Yes No

After the newsletter:

- Do you feel you understand more about what the Community Council does? Yes No
- Do you feel more able to contact the Community Council if you have a matter of concern? Yes No
- Do you know where the community council puts up information for the community? Yes No
- Did you think the newsletter was interesting and informative? Yes No
- Do you want to continue receiving period editions of the newsletter? Yes No
- What else would you like to see in your newsletter?

Your views:

What do you think the community council should provide in the future? Better facilities for young people Better local community events Better parks and leisure facilities Cleaner streets Towns "in bloom" More noticeboards Community Hall Other Please detail

Do you know that most households (however many people live in them) pay less than £25 per year for the community council (this is called the precept)? Yes No

Do you think the Community Council should do more for the parish of Llangunnor and increase the precept (money received from the council tax) in order to do so? Yes No

The newsletter cost 86p per person in the community. Do you think this is a good use of money to communicate with all the residents within the Parish of Llangunnor? Yes No

To save money on delivery and/or printing costs:

Would you be willing to collect your newsletter from a local pick-up point? Yes No

Would you be willing to read the newsletter online on the community council website? Yes No

If you want to continue having your newsletter delivered please provide us with your name and address below.

Please provide name/address/email/phone number to notify you if you are the winner or to receive future newsletters by post.

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How many in household? Can we contact you to discuss further? Yes No

Please complete this form and return it to Mr. Clive Thomas, Clerk to the Council, 59 Nantyrarian, Carmarthen, SA31 3JQ, Telephone 01267 232665 or scan and email to: clerk@llangunnor-cc.org.uk. Alternatively you can drop it off with any of your community Councillors.