

# Llangain Community Council

## Annual Report 2026



This report outlines the activities, challenges and achievements of Llangain Community Council over the past year and provides an update on ongoing initiatives that aim to enhance community life within Llangain.

### Council Information

Llangain Community Council comprises 9 members.

#### Details of Councillors:

Cllr David Roberts (Chair)  
Cllr Carl Atkins (Vice Chair)  
Cllr Terry Griffiths  
Cllr Wayne James  
Cllr John Jones  
Cllr John Starzewski  
Cllr Haydn Williams

#### Full Council Attendance:

6/7  
2/7  
4/7  
5/7  
3/7  
6/7  
7/7

The Council continues to be with Susan Holmes as Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer, and LHP acting as Internal Auditors.

The Council currently has two vacancies.

### Our Work This year

#### Community Engagement and Communication

Staying connected with residents remains a key priority for the Council.

A Community Engagement Day was held on 4 November, giving residents the opportunity to share their views and ideas. Despite poor weather, the event was well received and provided valuable feedback.

To improve communication, the Council has set up a [Facebook page](#) where it will share information and links to meeting minutes.

The Council continues to maintain village noticeboards, information panels, benches and a [website](#)

## **Llangain Park Improvements**

The village play park has been a major focus this year.

The existing climbing tower and slide were removed, and new safety measures were introduced, including a self-closing gate to address concerns such as dog fouling. These works were generously supported by local contributions.

The project is currently being funded from existing reserves, a £5000 grant from Pobl Homes, and a 2026/27 budgeted spend of £3500 from the Community Council. Working with the Ysgol Llangain PTA, an application was submitted to the All Wales Play Opportunities Grant but was unfortunately unsuccessful. However, the Council will explore future grants as the project continues.

Progress was also made in formalising ownership of the recreation field, with legal discussions ongoing. In addition, negotiations continue with Carmarthenshire County Council regarding a lease for the other part of the land.

The Council also confirmed that appropriate insurance arrangements are in place.

## **Road Safety and Infrastructure**

Improving road safety continues to be a key priority.

Following discussions with Carmarthenshire County Council, plans were agreed for traffic calming measures on the B4312. These include a raised speed plateau, improved road markings, a satellite island, better bus stop facilities, and signage to encourage safer driving. The Council continues to explore further road safety measures although we have been advised by Carmarthenshire County Council that there is insufficient verge width to accommodate white village gateway features.

A number of local issues, including potholes and blocked drains, were reported and many have already been addressed. Concerns about street lighting and communication around road closures have also been raised on behalf of residents.

## **Supporting the Community**

The Council continues to support local services and organisations.

To help maintain vital local services, the Council agreed to provide weekly financial support to keep the part-time Post Office and village shop running.

We have also engaged with Ysgol Llangain PTA, particularly in relation to the play park, and provided donations to a number of local groups to support community activities.

## **Environment and Biodiversity**

Looking after the local environment is an important part of the Council's work.

One of our Councillors has been appointed as our Biodiversity Officer, and he has developed a draft Biodiversity Action Plan to guide work over the next few years.

Steps are also being taken to address dog fouling, including plans to install additional signage in key areas.

## **Planning and Development**

Although the Council does not have any direct powers regarding planning and development it continues to review planning applications and represent community views.

Work has also begun on developing a Role of Place Plan to help protect important community assets and guide future development.

## **Financial Overview**

The Council remains committed to managing its finances responsibly.

The 2024/25 audit was completed with a qualified opinion relating to payslip documentation. Steps are being taken to address this, including introducing new accounting software and reviewing working arrangements.

The budget for 2026/27 has been approved, with the precept set at £25,261. This increase reflects the need to support ongoing projects, maintain community assets, and ensure the Council can continue to deliver effectively.

The Council has also begun moving towards online banking to improve efficiency.

## **Governance and Committees**

This year, the Council has strengthened its internal processes.

New and existing sub-committees, including the Park Committee and Business/Finance Planning Committee, have been formalised with clear roles. These groups have helped develop a Corporate Plan and a Grants and Donations Policy.

A Human Resources sub-committee has also been established to support the Council in its role as an employer.

## **Working with Partners**

The Council continues to work closely with the County Council and other organisations and County Councillor Carys Jones attends most Community Council meetings, providing an effective two way communication channel.

We have also initiated the exploration of opportunities to be involved in a project, centred around Fernhill, with its links to the heritage of Dylan Thomas, and have reached out to neighbouring Community Councils to progress this.

## **Conclusion**

This has been a busy and productive year for Llangain Community Council, who remain committed to improving local facilities, supporting community groups, and listening to residents.

By continuing to work together and plan for the future, we aim to help ensure Llangain remains a thriving and welcoming community for all.

END OF REPORT

*Author: Susan Holmes – Clerk 2026*