**LLANWERN COMMUNITY COUNCIL – PRIORITIES, ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS:**

**CLERK’S REPORT APRIL 2024 – MARCH 2025**

Llanwern Community Council (LCC) started this financial year with 7 councillors. With the aid of a laptop and Microsoft Teams, we are able to give everyone the option of attending either in person at Llanwern Village Hall or remotely.

Cllr George was re-elected as Chair and Cllr Davies re-elected as Vice Chair.

We proactively try and engage with local residents and promote a public participation section at each Council meeting. This has been regularly utilised by residents.

The Clerk is a member of the Village Hall Management Committee and represents this Council at the meetings. The VHMC actively encourages community engagement, regularly polling for ideas for events.

We would like to thank our Ward Councillor Martyn Kellaway for his continued help and advice.

The Clerk is accountable to LCC for the effective management of its resources ensuring quality and well-maintained services and events for the community. The Clerk is also the Responsible Finance Officer and accountable for all financial records and proper administration of its finances.

LCC conducts its business under 4 separate sections:

**Section A – Planning (Councillors Clemo, Davies and Grant)**

We are pleased to say that the new spine road, which adjoins Station Road, was reconfigured and is now accessible to all sizes of vehicles, especially agricultural and horse transport which needs to navigate Bishton Road and vice versa. The new drainage system funding is still being negotiated with the Welsh Assembly Government by Newport City Council. Numerous meetings have been held with the Leader of Newport City Council to help escalate.

Glan Llyn are still experiencing a spate of burglaries and speeding motorists, apart from being a concern to pedestrians the latter has caused injury and death to the local goose population. Gwent Police regularly attend the Community Council meetings and a monthly report is received.

LCC have again kept the lines of communication open by building good working relationships with all these Agencies.

A solar farm application is proposed for Bishton. This application is now with Welsh Government, LCC will continue to support Bishton with their objections to the scheme.

**Section B – Finance and Local Government (Councillor Brown)**

LCC raised a precept of £39,892, resulting in a levy of £20.12 per Band D household. The tax base is 1,982.

Our charitable donations amounted to £500, divided between 5 charities, with £1,748 also being donated to St Mary’s Church for the repair of the churchyard wall.

The 2023/24 audit was unqualified, which means that no matters needed attention. A minor rounding error was found in the Accounting Statement.

Cllr Brown sits on the governing body of Glan Llyn Primary School and Cllr Collingbourne sits on the governing body of Llanmartin Primary School.

All Councillors agreed that they did not wish to claim the £156 plus £52 incidental allowance granted by Welsh Government.

Training was undertaken during the year by the Clerk.

**Section C – Leisure and Amenities (Councillors Collingbourne and Grant)**

The village playing field and children’s play equipment are owned and maintained by LCC. Annual safety inspections take place and equipment repaired as necessary. A budget amount was set aside of £14,000 to replace the large climbing frame and slide. Three quotes were received and the order placed for a replacement.

LCC became the Trustees of the Village Hall in February 2010 along with the formation of Llanwern Village Hall Management Committee (LVHMC). The Management Committee are responsible for the day-to-day management and running of the Hall.

LVHMC is a non-profit making. Where profit occurs, it is utilised to assist the committee in achieving its stated aims.

The hall floor was replaced last year and the opportunity taken to install underfloor heating, this has proved to be very satisfactory and has reduced the utility costs.

The roof repairs and installation of a disabled toilet are next on the list.

Utility bills for the hall are funded by the Community Council. The Community Council also fund the annual insurance.

The committee have had a very successful year and organised numerous events for the community. The Clerk sits on the committee and updates the Council on forthcoming events.

The planning application for a car park to be built for the village hall, together with a path leading from the car park to the rear of the hall was successful (application 21/0223). Newport City Council planning department are now requesting additional information owing to the recent updates made to Chapter 6 of Planning Policy Wales Edition 12. A Green Infrastructure Statement (GIS) is required to be submitted with the application, as this is a material policy change since the original approvaI. We are now seeking the advice of a consultant to undertake this and advise on how biodiversity enhancement can be achieved for the development.

The Clerk maintains the battery and accessories for the two defibrillators and has ensured that both defibrillators, one situated on the outside wall of the Village Hall and the other on the Glan Llyn development at the Llanwern Bull), are kept in working order and registered with ‘The Circuit’.

**Section D – Highways and Utilities (Councillors George and Davies)**

Concerns are still being voiced by this Council regarding the inadequate drainage into Monks Ditch from the Redrow site, which has caused flooding on the corner of Station Road and consequently flooding to the frontages of properties. Works are currently being undertaken by Redrow and closely monitored by LCC.  The Station Road drainage upgrade is still an ongoing issue, the matter is with Welsh Government to grant monies under the Coastal Flood Erosion Scheme to NCC.

20 more large lamp post poppies were installed in November, both in the Village and Glan Llyn.

Community Council meetings are public meetings and anyone can attend. We meet eleven times a year on the last Monday of each month; no meeting in August.

 If you wish to attend remotely, please use the link on the Agenda for that meeting, please advise the Clerk by 12 noon on the day of the meeting that you will be attending. Alternatively contact the Clerk, clerk@llanwernvillage.org.uk for the joining instructions by 12 noon on the day of the meeting.

You are also welcome to attend in person at the Village Hall, Llanwern, NP18 2DW. Meetings usually start at 7pm, although please check the Agenda for that meeting.

Members of the public will be allowed to speak only during the public participation session (15 minutes) or at the invitation of the Chair. Please advise the Clerk in advance if you wish to speak on any item.

Mandy George

Clerk

Llanwern Community Council

May 2025