



Cyngor Cymuned **LLANEDI** Community Council

Annual Report

2019-2020 Civic Year



An introduction from our Chair:

I am pleased to be able to write this forward to this, our second Community Council Annual Report.

This year's plan reflects on a busy and productive year for the Community Council. It demonstrates the work we are doing and how this compliments and feeds into the work at county, regional and national levels in terms of Wellbeing.

Each Annual Report shows how we are continuing to contribute to the four local well-being objectives contained in the Carmarthenshire Public Services Board's (PSB)'s local wellbeing plan (May 2018), how we are embedding the five ways of working and how we are reflecting the National Wellbeing Goals.

Our Community Council has a duty to publish an annual plan under section 40(1) of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. We undertake this duty gladly; as it helps us focus on what we have contributed to our communities, and helps us mainstream the well-being objectives and national goals into our processes.

As such I commend this report to both our electorate and to the Public Service Board.

Cllr T Higgings

Chairperson 2019/2020

Llanedi Community Council

1. How we work

We:

- Work within the framework of the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act* and integrate the national seven well-being goals ¹ into our decision-making process
- Think long-term
- Think about prevention rather than cure, by identifying and helping to remove the causes of issues in our communities
- Use our local knowledge to help us develop our own objectives, which shape local opportunities and solutions
- Involve people in decisions affecting them whenever it is appropriate to do so
- Work collaboratively, and act as a signpost out to specialist service providers
- Use this report as our benchmark and annually review how we are progressing
- Prepare, revise and implement Community Development Plans
- Manage and encourage the use paths and Rights of Way
- Contribute to planning issues, including the preparation of the LDP

To help with this, the Council commits to the following set of actions:

- Publishing our annual report on our website.
- Developing, and publishing a wellbeing statement.
- Incorporating the seven national well-being goals into our Community Development reporting mechanism.
- Using our Community Development resources to help sustain general wellbeing in our communities

¹ <https://futuregenerations.wales/about-us/future-generations-act/>

2. Introduction to the Council

Llanedi Community Council represents the communities of Tycroes, Llanedi, Hendy and Fforest and Talyclun in east Carmarthenshire.

The council is made up of 16 Councillors:

- Cllr Iain Barrett
- Cllr Alan Blackley
- Cllr Berrian Davies
- Cllr Cellan Davies
- Cllr Emyr Davies
- Cllr Allan Evans
- Cllr Byron Evans
- Cllr Stuart Evans
- Cllr Lynne Griffiths
- Cllr Calum Higgins
- Cllr Tina Higgins
- Cllr Sharon Lyle (retired April 2020)
- Cllr Mike Nicholas
- Cllr Eifion Phillips
- Cllr Buddug Thomas
- Cllr Gareth Thomas

2019/2020

Chairperson: Cllr Tina Higgins

Vice Chair: Cllr Emyr Davies

Clerk: David Davies

Community Development Officer: Ruth Taylor-Davies

Geographical area:

Old Parish of Llanedi including Tycroes, Llanedi, Hendy/Fforest and Talyclun in Carmarthenshire.

Number of residents: Apx 6000 (Tycroes*: 2,534, Hendy*: 3,302, Llanedi 300, *based on 2017 Mid-Year Population Estimates, ONS)

information taken from <https://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/home/council-democracy/research-statistics/electoral-ward-county-profiles>

Hendy and Tycroes both have an industrial past, whilst Llanedi was a rural hamlet that housed the parish church. The Community Council is now mostly a dormitory area, which has seen some significant growth in housing stock in recent years. The area is served by three primary schools. The community is made up of three Super Output Areas (geographical areas used in calculating the Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation): Hendy 1 (which includes Llanedi and Fforest), Hendy 2 (Hendy village and Talyclun) and Tycroes. Hendy 1 is the least deprived ward in the County; whilst respectively, Tycroes is the 28th and Hendy 2 is the 42nd least deprived out of the 112 areas in Carmarthenshire. As such there are some pockets of deprivation. The Welsh language is very important to the community.

3. What we do

- Maintain and enhance parks, play areas, some footpaths and open spaces.
- Fund Christmas Lights in Tycroes, Hendy and Fforest, and Llanedi.
- Provide grants to local clubs, events and facilities.
- Nurture new community groups and organisations that help meet local needs.
- Undertake public consultation.
- Support the provision of community facilities such as the Reading Room/Community Café.
- Seek and secure grant aid for projects that benefit the community.
- Encourage local volunteering.

The plan below details the kinds of projects etc. that we have been involved with over the past year.

4. Finance

4.1 Income

Llanedi Community Council is primarily funded by a precept paid by local Council Taxpayers. We also receive a small amount of income from things such as bank interest and facility hire. Our budget for 2019/2020 was £216209 include grants

- For 2020/21 it is £ 243813
- For the Council taxpayer, the Band D tax levied in 2020/2021 is £109.08
- The Council attracted grants from a number of sources including Section 106, The Rural Communities Development Fund and the Landfill Tax Authority.

4.2 Expenditure

The Council's expenditure for 2019/2020 was as follows:

• Administration	£15,479
• Staff Costs	£67,940
• Members Expenses	£534
• Miscellaneous	£599
• Chairman's' Allowance	£846
• Grants Issued	£31,310
• Reading Room	£6,010
• Open Spaces	£20,583
• Clock	£386
• Parks	£15,515
• Hendy Football Field	£360
• Hendy Cricket Club	£2,117
• Capital Projects	£40,185
• Total Expenditure	£203,138

The Council has invested in capital projects including Hendy Nature Trail CCTV in Tycroes, Upgrade of Tycroes Clock, a Rebecca Riots memorial plaque and Hendy Community Centre.

The Council maintains a healthy general reserve so that it can react to community need. In addition, the Community Council has been putting £20,000 p.a. into reserves for the last seven years ready for the development of a much-needed community facility in Hendy.

5. The Council's Vision and Objectives

The Council's Vision and Objectives

The Council's vision is to help create and support attractive, safe, vibrant, healthy, inclusive, active and environmentally sustainable communities within our area; making it a place where everyone has equal access to opportunities to improve their quality of life.

The Council's main objectives are to:

- Continue to consult with our communities on their needs and concerns and to help address these.
- Preserve and promote the Welsh language and culture.
- Improve the communication networks within and between our respective communities.
- Support new and existing community groups/initiatives.
- Enhance and maintain high quality play areas for the children of our community.
- Develop, maintain and enhance community facilities
- Be developmental and innovative in our approach and to encourage that ethos in others working and living in our area.
- Contribute to:
 - the wellbeing of all residents in compliance with the Wellbeing of Future generations Act.
 - equality of opportunity and the empowerment of residents to achieve this.
 - environmental sustainability and help reduce climate change.
 - equality of purpose across our area.
- Measure, against the relevant national well-being indicators at a local level and use that information to lobby for the provision of local services.

We will review our objectives during 2020/2021 and add measurable targets where possible.

6. How the Council has embedded the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015's National Well-being Goals into our work

The council is actively embedding the national well-being goals into its ways of working. The consultation it has undertaken with communities has given an insight into the well-being needs of its communities.

We have incorporated the national goals into the reporting structure of the work of the Community Development Officer in order that councillors can monitor the council's progress.

The national goals will also be fully reflected in the Community Plans which are under development, and work streams/projects (present and future) will be measured against their contribution to those goals.

The Council has invested in appointing a Community Development Officer who is/will continue to develop a work programme alongside councillors that helps Llanedi CC to contribute towards the national well-being goals.

Our Contribution to the National Well-being Goals

National Goal	Local Activity
<p>6.1 A Prosperous Wales: An innovative, productive and low carbon society which recognises the limits of the Global environment and therefore uses resources efficiently and proportionately, and which develops a skilled and well-educated population in an economy which generates wealth and provides employment opportunities, allowing people to take advantage of the wealth generated through securing decent work.</p>	<p>We have outlined our activity in more detail in section 9. Of particular relevance to this goal is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultation • Training • Free access to Wi-Fi and IT. • Commitment to environmentally friendly development (e.g. planned community hall). • Commitment to local business directories. • Digital Champions/Bites and Bytes <p>In terms of The Art of the Possible – Simple Changes check list from the Commissioner, we achieve the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We pay our suppliers promptly. • We are a living wage employer. • We ensure that new developments and retrofitting of existing facilities must consider renewable energy sources and recycled materials. • We consider opportunities to second staff within and between organisations to share knowledge and develop transferrable skills. <p>In addition</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We are developing a pollution monitoring project. • The council is moving towards becoming paperless.

<p>6.2 A Resilient Wales: A nation which maintains and enhances a biodiverse natural environment with healthy functioning ecosystems that support social, economic and ecological resilience and the capacity to adapt to change. (see also section 9)</p>	<p>We have outlined our activity in more detail in section 9. Of particular relevance to this goal is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Nature Trail ● Ongoing consultation ● Training ● Litter picking and dog fouling monitoring groups ● Groups that stand alone e.g. Friendship Circle. ● Our response to COVID 19 <p>In terms of The Art of the Possible – Simple Changes check list from the Commissioner, we achieve the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● We provide spaces for wildlife. ● We play a part in enabling local partnerships for all aspects of the natural environment. ● We procure and plant native trees and shrubs as a first choice. ● We manage verges and connected green spaces for wildflowers and pollinators. ● We use peat free compost in planting schemes across our area.
<p>6.3 A Healthier Wales: A society in which people’s physical and mental well-being is maximised and in which choices and behaviours that benefit future health are understood (see also section 9)</p>	<p>We have outlined our activity in more detail in section 9. Of particular relevance to this goal is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Nature Trail ● Support of sports clubs and the local sports association ● Providing play areas and multi-use games areas ● Holiday sports/holiday clubs ● Intergenerational projects ● Working with the County footpaths and Rights of Way Officers. ● Our response to COVID 19 <p>In terms of The Art of the Possible – Simple Changes check list from the Commissioner, we achieve the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● We have a flexible working policy. ● We consider how we can ensure children have access to daily outdoor play and facilitate it.

<p>6.4 A More Equal Wales: A society that enables people to fulfil their potential no matter what their background or circumstances (see also section 9)</p>	<p>We have outlined our activity in more detail in section 9. Of particular relevance to this goal is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Digital competency/access to Wi-Fi and IT via the Community Café • Working with Digital Inclusion Wales and Bites and Bytes to develop volunteers and digital champions • Training • Supporting community groups – grants, advice etc. • Providing free and fully accessible facilities, e.g. the Nature Trail <p>In terms of The Art of the Possible – Simple Changes check list from the Commissioner, we achieve the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We make public information available through a variety of formats. • We encourage staff and elected members to visit local projects and meet key local people driving change.
<p>6.5 A Wales of Cohesive Communities: Attractive, viable, safe and well-connected communities (see also section 9)</p>	<p>We have outlined our activity in more detail in section 9. Of particular relevance to this goal is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The improved the play facilities in Hendy, Llanedi and Tycroes. • Intergenerational project • Friendship Circle • Forums • Our outward facing communications, e.g. newsletter, website, social media etc. • Looking at best practice and partnership within the County and in Wider Wales. • Floral arrangements, grass cutting and Christmas lighting • Consultation to assess people’s views on safety and sense of community. • Volunteering opportunities such as the Nature Trail • Our response to COVID 19 <p>In terms of The Art of the Possible – Simple Changes check list from the Commissioner, we achieve the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We enable local people to improve unloved spaces. • We play our part in enabling local people to come together in communities to meet and build social networks. • We support our organisation and others in becoming dementia friendly through joint training with other community councils. • We publicise opportunities to volunteer locally. • We actively support intergenerational activities. • We encourage community transport opportunities.

6.6 A Wales of Vibrant Culture and Thriving Welsh Language:

where we have lots of opportunities to do different things and where lots of people can speak Welsh

We would like this to be a higher ranking goal for Wales and Welsh Government and would suggest this should read: a thriving bilingual Wales where the opportunity for speaking and using the Welsh language is total.
(see also section 9)

This goal is seen as of vital importance to the Community Council and we feel it should be a top priority.

We are particularly committed to supporting the Welsh language.

- To that end, all official council documents are issued bilingually.
- All Full Council meetings are conducted bilingually.
- Correspondence is welcome in both Welsh and English.
- We have a bilingual website
- Our newsletter is bilingual.
- We are supporting a joint schools initiative (between Ysgol Yr Hendy – dual stream and Tygroes Primary – English stream) to promote Siarter Iaith and the use of Welsh in the playground.
- We support the local Meithrin to encourage Welsh from early years.
- We grant aid the Hendy Eisteddfod.
- We work with groups to produce bilingual materials, e.g. the Nature Trail

We also support this goal through other actions:

- We worked with training providers to promote a variety of training opportunities aimed at building confidence and preparing people for employment.
- We have developed a project around the Rebecca Riots which involved the local school and the renewal of the plaque on Hendy Square.
- We have supported local authors to develop a comprehensive history of the three villages.
- We have developed a project for a nature trail (funded from grant aid) to encourage people to get out and explore their environment; all interpretation will be bilingual.
- We have provided a community café which also provides a space for displaying local art/school projects etc. It is also used as a venue for meetings by the U3A Ornithology Group etc.
- We provide support for the upkeep of graveyards.
- We encourage young people and celebrate their successes through initiatives such as the annual Terry Price Awards.

In terms of The Art of the Possible – Simple Changes check list from the Commissioner, we achieve the following:

- We consider the opportunities to support and develop local clubs involved in sport.

<p>6.7 A Globally Responsible Wales: where we look after the Environment and think about other people around the World (see also section 9)</p>	<p>We have outlined our activity in more detail in section 9. Of particular relevance to this goal is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reducing paper as councillors have the option to go paperless re minutes/reports etc. • Staff working from home reduces heating/lighting costs to council and reduces travel to work mileage. • Working towards a project to monitor air pollution (from busy roads/M4) and how to mitigate it with experts from Swansea University. • Minimising and recycling waste wherever possible. • The community facility planned for Hendy has been designed to be environmentally friendly, i.e. with a low carbon footprint. • Taking Council meetings, Forum meetings, training opportunities etc., to each of the villages to reduce the travel footprint of residents. • Purchasing locally where possible to reduce our carbon footprint. <p>In terms of The Art of the Possible – Simple Changes check list from the Commissioner, we achieve the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We take action for global learning, e.g running an event during Fairtrade Fortnight.
<p>6.8 Involvement (see also section 9)</p>	<p>We talk to and represent our community. This includes events, forums and large scale surveys as well as questionnaires that go out with newsletters and online.</p> <p>In terms of The Art of the Possible – Simple Changes check list from the Commissioner, we achieve the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We work with those who already have community links to develop new projects. • We have ‘what matters to you’ conversations with people and communities we work with. • We use plain English and Welsh as standard in any documents for the public. • We use a variety of accessible, inclusive engagement methods and formats. • We engage on themes rather than specific policies. • We take a ‘you said, we did’ approach.

7. How the Council has embedded the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015’s national five ways of working into its planning and working arrangements

<p>7.1 Long Term The importance of balancing short-term needs with the need to safeguard the ability to also meet long-term needs.</p>	<p>The council understands the need to think long term.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is in the process of developing 5-year community plans which will shape decision making. These will be updated on a rolling basis to ensure the council always has an eye to the future. • It has been setting aside reserves for the last seven years for the council’s major capital project, i.e. the development of a community facility in Hendy. • It has committed to ongoing core financial support to exiting community spaces in Tycroes and Llanedi. • It is committed to maintaining our outdoor spaces and play areas (see 9.1.3/9.2.3) and sets aside a regular funding pot for this purpose. • Capital projects such as the Reading Room are designed to be low maintenance and energy efficient. • We have employed a permanent Community Development Officer who is developing plans and projects with long-term benefits.
<p>7.2 Prevention How acting to prevent problems occurring or getting worse may help public bodies meet their objectives.</p>	<p>We are mindful of the importance of prevention. For example: in terms of facilities and maintenance we have made conscious decisions to ensure we avoid problems occurring due to poor/old equipment, by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improving playground equipment • Undertaking regular playground inspections • Undertaking regular maintenance of equipment and facilities <p>In terms of preventing environmental, health and social issues, we have taken positive steps:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In partnership with local GP surgeries, we have identified the major local health issues and will be looking at projects that help prevent/mitigate these. • We are actively looking at air pollution caused by traffic and the effect of particulates on health and will be developing a strategy for reducing emissions.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We have tackled issues around loneliness via the Friendship Circle, now a stand-alone group. (see 9.2.2/9.2.5) • Through partnership we have provided specialist training • We have helped establish a local litter picking group and anti-dog fouling initiatives (see 9.1.2 and 9.1.7). • We have undertaken consultation relating to the Local Development Plan and reported this back to the County Council • We continue to liaise with County Council/Councillors re local concerns/issues that are in their jurisdiction.
<p>7.3 Integration Considering how the public body’s well-being objectives may impact upon each of the well-being goals, on their other objectives, or on the objectives of other public bodies.</p>	<p>We are mindful of the well-being goals and assess the impact of projects against them. This has been reflected in our community development reporting methods.</p>
<p>7.4 Collaboration Acting in collaboration with any other person (or different parts of the body itself) that could help the body to meet its well-being objectives.</p>	<p>As a council, we work with a range of partners in order to meet our well-being objectives. This can range from local clubs to regional and national organisations.</p> <p>E.g.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our CDO is part of a network with other CDO’s from the County. They share best practice and look for opportunities to undertake collaborative projects. • Developing training opportunities with public and third sector agencies. • Working with the Council’s Community Bureau regarding funding and support. • We also actively respond to consultation e.g. from the Health Board and the County Council. • Discussing opportunities for monitoring air pollution with Swansea University and WAWR. • Working with various sporting bodies and clubs • Working with local community groups. • Supporting cross-border initiatives such as the Hendy and Pontarddulais Christmas Parade.

7.5 Involvement

The importance of involving people with an interest in achieving the well-being goals and ensuring that those people reflect the diversity of the area which the body serves.
(see also section 9)

We appreciate the importance of involving a wide range of people who have an interest in achieving the well-being goals.

We also appreciate that different people are best reached in different ways. As such, we are continuously undertaking consultation, analysing gaps and finding ways to reach those who wouldn't normally wish to engage.

Over the last year, we have:

- Undertaken and analysed community questionnaires regarding the proposed community centre and sporting activity.
- Used existing groups as sounding boards, e.g. the Friendship Circle
- Maintained a strong social media presence.
- Continued with the community forum in Hendy and prior to the Covid 19 outbreak had an event planned in Tycroes.
- Attended community events such as Tycroes School Christmas Fayre.
- Established new volunteer groups from Hendy Nature Trail, Friends of Heol Brown Park (early stages) and COVID 19.
- Been a partner in Hywel Dda's community consultation process.
- Developed dialogue with our sports clubs and sports association

8. How the Council has embedded the four Public Service Board’s (PSB) well-being objectives into its work

<p>Healthy Habits People have a good quality of life, make healthy choices about their lives and environment.</p> <p>Early Intervention To make sure that people have the right help at the right time; as and when they need it.</p> <p>Strong Connections Strongly connected people, places and organisations that are able to adapt to change.</p> <p>Prosperous People To maximise opportunities for people and places in both urban and rural parts of our county. and Places</p>	<p>The council is actively embedding the four PSB well-being objectives into its ways of working. The consultation it has undertaken with communities has given an insight into the well-being needs of our communities.</p> <p>We are reflecting progress towards these well-being objectives in the reporting structure of the work of the Community Development Officer, in order that councillors can monitor the council’s progress.</p> <p>The PSB well-being objectives will be fully reflected in the Community Plans which are under development, and work streams/projects (present and future) will be measured against their contribution to the objectives.</p> <p>We have already listened to our communities’ concerns with regard to issues such as loneliness, pollution, road safety, safer play, lack of community meeting place in Hendy etc. and are actively investigating how we can develop projects that address these.</p>
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9. Report of Steps Taken & Progress Made Against the Carmarthenshire Public Service Board Well-Being Objectives

9.1 Healthy Habits: People have a good quality of life, and make healthy choices about their lives and environment

Steps to be taken that contribute to the Well-being Objective	Progress
<p>9.1.1 Hendy Nature Trail (see also 9.3.11)</p>	<p>Funding has been secured for a community nature trail in Hendy adjacent to the proposed site of the Community Centre. The development of the trail is well underway and has already offered a range of volunteering opportunities for local people.</p> <p>When complete, it will provide a new all-access recreation route for the whole community. We are working with West Wales Walking for Wellbeing to make sure it becomes a useful circuit for health walks.</p> <p>Through interpretation and events it will also help inspire people to appreciate their environment and their role in preserving it.</p> <p>To date, around 30 volunteers have been engaged in a variety of tasks from erecting bird boxes to cutting back bramble, working with Junior Rangers, to undertaking research for interpretation etc. (although the COVID 19 crisis has prevented them from meeting more recently). The nature trail has its own steering group and has set up its own social media channels.</p> <p>In terms of the project, it contributes to many aspects of the WFG Act including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community consultation • Community involvement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Volunteers ○ School • Biodiversity • Improving environment • Education • Exercise and health • Access for all • Available to all, at no cost

<p>9.1.2 Dog Fouling (see also 7.2)</p>	<p>Autumn 2019- ongoing Consultation in our communities shows that dog fouling is a major concern. We have established a group of volunteers in each village who monitor dog fouling and with support from the County Council supply them with materials to highlight the issue (chalk spray and stencils).</p>
<p>9.1.3 Encouraging outdoor play (see also 7.1/7.2)</p>	<p>The council has heavily invested (£230,000) in play areas since it has taken them over on asset transfer from the County Council. This has vastly increased the opportunity for safe, active play in our communities. The council monitors playground safety on a regular basis and has introduced a comprehensive reporting mechanism which identifies works required and monitors progress of those works. The playgrounds have seen a significant rise in usage. Hendy Park has been described as the second best in Wales (Wales On Line) and attracts many visitors from other communities. Children are enjoying the facilities provided. Hendy Park is being used by people for picnics and informal children’s parties. 3 councillors and the CDO undertook training in playground inspecting, significantly increasing the pool of people able to do this within the Community Council area.</p>
<p>9.1.4 Holiday sports/holiday clubs (see also 9.2.4)</p>	<p>The Community Council are keen to create opportunities for children to engage in physical sports and activities outside of school term times. In 2019/2020 we developed and funded opportunities including weekly tennis sessions in two of our Multi-use Games Areas throughout the Summer holidays, and a half term holiday club (operated by Actif Sirgar). Both initiatives were well received and it is hoped to build on them further.</p>
<p>9.1.5 Sports Association (see also 9.2.5)</p>	<p>Following support from Councillors and the CDO, the Hendy Sports Association has been re-established. The Association is looking to identify gaps in local provision, create a development plan and identify funding for sporting projects and facilities moving forward.</p>
<p>9.1.6 Encouraging sports (see also 9.2.5)</p>	<p>The Community Council helps support local sporting facilities and clubs. It directly provides Multi-Use Games Areas, as well as helping to support clubs in the area via grant aid. We have a record of formal bookings of the multi-use games areas and are in contact with the clubs/associations we support. By encouraging sports, we are enabling our communities to undertake exercise. Sports also help build confidence amongst participants.</p>

<p>9.1.7 Supporting local litter-picking group (see also 7.2)</p>	<p>Pilot run in 2018 Group established May 2019 - ongoing Officer attends meetings to track and record progress. We have helped tackle a problem in our community by assisting a locally coordinated group to become established. We will continue to support the group.</p>
<p>9.1.8 Terry Price Award</p>	<p>The Community Council runs an annual award which recognises, publicises and encourages youth achievement in any field.</p>
<p>9.1.9 Paths and R.o.W.</p>	<p>We maintain some local paths and are working on a project to improve information and access to the local Right of Way Network. We have talked to the County Council RoW officer and have been working with The Heart of Wales Line and the Llanelli Ramblers.</p>

9.2 Early Intervention: To make sure that people have the right help at the right time; as and when they need it

<p>9.2.1 Website (see also 9.3.12)</p>	<p>This is now developed. In addition to council and community news, it can be used to provide sources of support and advice. Community Groups are able to add content – for example, the Nature Trail volunteers have added their own pages and resources. Since March 2020 it has also been a useful tool for providing advice/signposting re COVID 19 support.</p>
<p>9.2.2 Friendship Circle (see also 7.2, 9.2.5)</p>	<p>The Friendship Circle was established in response to an identified need. It creates opportunities for people who would otherwise be alone to meet like-minded people and pursue common interests/activities. This support can help people from falling into loneliness and inactivity. Regular attendances are stable at around 40 per week (although the COVID 19 crisis has prevented them from meeting more recently). Anecdotal evidence suggests that it is having a positive impact upon those who attend.</p>
<p>9.2.3 Play Areas (see also 7.1/7.2, 9.1.3)</p>	<p>See 9.1.3 above. Encourages outdoor play and learning from an early age.</p>
<p>9.2.4 Holiday activity for children (see also 9.1.4)</p>	<p>See 9.1.4 above Encourages play and learning new skills from an early age.</p>
<p>9.2.5 Providing mechanism for local groups who need to develop grant bids (see also 9.1.1, 9.1.5, 9.1.6, 9.2.2)</p>	<p>The Community Development Officer has a remit to help local organisations to attract project-related funding. Support is ongoing regarding Tycoes Rugby Club and Llanedi Church Hall. We will continue to monitor the success of grant bids and ongoing project development. We have made successful bids on behalf of the community to Tesco Bags for Life (Friendship Circle); Landfill Tax (Nature Trail), Western Power (Covid 19) and Sylfaen (developing community resilience).</p>

<p>9.2.6 Supporting local Meithrin group, local Eisteddfod and PTA's via grant aid. (see also 6.6)</p>	<p>The Council provides discretionary grants to organisations in the community that children and support young people. These grants provide opportunities they would have otherwise missed out on. In the case of the Eisteddfod and the Meithrin, the Community Council is actively encouraging the use of the Welsh language from early years.</p> <p>We will monitor the number of pupils from Meithrin that go on to Welsh language schools.</p>
<p>9.2.7 COVID 19 This is an area where we have reacted quickly to help those most in need in our communities. See also 9.3.16</p>	<p>Like other community councils, we have found ourselves able to respond to the challenges of COVID 19 within our community.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recruiting and supporting volunteer shoppers/prescription collectors/telephone befrienders etc. Setting up a Facebook group that allows easy contact and coordination of effort • Working with local suppliers to develop a list of home delivery services • Setting up a dedicated helpline • Working with 2 local foodbanks to supply those either self-isolating or disadvantaged by Covid19 • Working with schools to supply support advice/collaboration re FSM pupils etc. • Leaflet dropping every household re the support we can offer • Using the website as a source of information/a one stop shop • Using social media to keep people informed and to run 'good news' stories and competitions to keep morale up • Financially supporting local community initiatives e.g. food banks and mask making group • Working in partnership with the County, CAVS and other Community Council's • Sharing information and experience etc.

9.3 Strong Connections: Strongly connected people, places and organisations that are able to adapt to change

9.3.1 Intergenerational Project	<p>This project aims to create a more cohesive society by providing opportunities for intergenerational engagement.</p> <p>Four events have now been run, with varying attendance. The last event was in conjunction with Fairtrade Llanelli.</p> <p>We will continue to record attendance numbers.</p>
9.3.2 Community Forums (see also 7.5)	<p>The community forums are citizens’ panels which enable local people to feel they have a voice and a role in developing well-being within their community.</p> <p>We will monitor the numbers attending.</p>
9.3.3 Friendships Circle (see also 9.2.2., 9.2.5)	<p>This project as demonstrated earlier is helping to connect people across our villages that would otherwise be isolated.</p> <p>See above re monitoring.</p>
9.3.4 Joint School Initiative	<p>This project aims to link young people across our communities. The first iteration is linked to sharing best practise with regards to Welsh in the playground and Siarter Iaith. The idea being that the schools learn from each other.</p> <p>This has not progressed as quickly as we had hoped. We will help deliver and then evaluate this first stage project before developing future stages.</p>
9.3.5 Digital Heroes	<p>Working with Digital Inclusion Wales, the Community Council facilitated the training of local digital heroes. We are also now partners in the Bites and Bytes pan-Carmarthenshire project.</p> <p>We will monitor numbers involved and evaluate its success.</p>
9.3.6 Heritage	<p>The Community Council sees local heritage as a useful way to help people make connections.</p> <p>Examples of what has been done to date include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rebecca Riots - the Community Council engaged with the community and the local school to develop a project related to the anniversary of the Toll House attack in Hendy. The school prepared artworks and essays (which have been displayed in the community café) and have replaced the memorial stone. The school has indicated that this project engaged the children and that the anniversary will become an annual feature of its calendar. We also plan to develop a National Lottery Heritage Fund bid regarding the Rebecca Riots as Hendy has a key role to play. This will be developed alongside the proposed community centre in Hendy.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Llanedi History Book – the Community Council supported the publishing of a comprehensive history of the old parish of Llanedi (which once equated to the area we now cover).
9.3.7 Community Events	<p>The Community Council helps the community to connect through its support of local events which includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funding Christmas lighting in Hendy, Forest, Llanedi and Tycroes. Grant aid for events like Party in the Park; Hendy and Pontarddulais Christmas Parade etc. <p>We monitor this using informal local feedback.</p>
9.3.8 Supporting Community Facilities	<p>The Community Council has taken the decision to provide support for two key community facilities that serve their respective villages, namely: Llanedi Church Hall and Tycroes Village Hall. The support the Community Council provides helps make them sustainable and therefore provides local citizens with places to connect.</p> <p>The Community Council also supports a community café in the former Reading Room in Hendy. The café also acts as an access point for free IT and internet usage (see 9.4.2)</p> <p>We will monitor community usage of facilities.</p>
9.3.9 Community Hall Development	<p>The Council’s plan to develop a community hall in Hendy will fill a void in terms of an independent, accessible place for the community to connect. Significant progress has been made towards this project over the last year and it is hoped works can start on site in the near future (subject to current COVID 19 related restrictions).</p>
9.3.10 Promoting Community Car Share Scheme	<p>The Community Council helps promote a community car scheme with its neighbouring village. This is a useful resource for people who would otherwise be isolated.</p>
9.3.11 Nature Trail (see also 9.1.1.)	<p>The nature trail has a role in helping people to connect within the community, through volunteering, informal education and recreation. It will also provide an opportunity to connect with groups and individuals from outside the area, as well as a chance to work with other public bodies.</p>
9.3.12 Website (see also 9.2.1)	<p>The council’s bilingual website is a useful connection to our citizens. We continue to monitor usage.</p>
9.3.13 Social Media	<p>We have developed a bilingual social media page and use it to communicate with citizens. Our aim is to grow the numbers of people who follow us on-line. We also share posts/information to existing local community platforms (Llanedi Chat and Fforest and Hendy News). That increases our reach by a further 1800 community members. We continue to monitor number of followers and engagement.</p>

9.3.14 Newsletter	<p>The council provides a bi-lingual newsletter to residents which updates them about council and community news and provides information on how to feed in ideas etc. We produced two newsletters during 2019.</p> <p>We monitor the number of contacts resulting from the newsletter.</p>
9.3.15 Providing support and partnership for other bodies:	<p>The Council supports a range of local groups:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pontarddulais and District summer carnival. • 4 Hendy councillors members of primary school governing body • 1 councillor on Llanedi G.B. • 3 councillors on Tycroes G.B. • Member representation on Hendy nature trail Steering Group • Member Representation on the local Sports Association <p>The Council, is also a member of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amman and District Councils Consortium • One Voice Wales
9.3.16 COVID 19 see also 9.2.7	<p>The willingness of people to volunteer has shown that our community is strongly connected. The Council has been able to enable the organisation and mobilisation of volunteers. The response has been incredible, with volunteer capacity outweighing need at the current time.</p>

9.4 Prosperous People and Places: To maximise opportunities for people and places in both urban and rural parts of our county

9.4.1 Establishing needs through regular community consultation (see also 6.8 and 9.3.2)	As has been stated above, the Community Council undertakes regular community consultation. We use our consultation to ask people what services they need locally and to find out what needs residents have in terms of business support. We will monitor this in future community consultation
9.4.2 Access to free computer and Wi-Fi usage (see also 9.3.8)	The council provides free Wi-Fi and free access to networked laptops at the community café. This provides residents who would otherwise not have access to on-line services to do so. We keep records of laptop usage.
9.4.3 Training (see also 9.3.5)	We are working with providers to develop training opportunities that meet the needs of our communities. All training will be evaluated using feedback forms and attendance records.
9.4.4. Development of Business Directories	We have begun to develop a local business directory to help people find services locally. We have started with the grocery, pharmacy and food & drink sectors. This has been particularly useful during the COVID 19 crisis. The directory has the potential to reduce carbon footprint as well as help keep money circulating within our own area. We are currently actively developing an asset register which will help to make the directory more comprehensive.
9.4.5 Local Purchasing	Wherever possible, goods and services are purchased locally to retain the benefit within the community.

10. Implementing the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015

An opportunity to reflect on how things are going.

<p>10.1 Opportunities the Council has encountered and how these have been utilised.</p>	<p>Joint working with other Community Councils – this has led to some great sharing of best practice and some shared training opportunities.</p>
<p>10.2 Barriers the Council has encountered any barriers and the actions that have been/are being taken to overcome these.</p>	<p>Apathy from some segments of society regarding completion of community consultation – we continue to target specific groups and use a variety of media including social media platforms. Lack of public knowledge about the Well-being Act – we will be featuring more about this e.g. on our web site and in officer reports etc. We would welcome more information and training</p>
<p>10.3 Challenges the Council has faced and the measures put in place to overcome them.</p>	<p>Challenges:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Time/resource • Lack of expertise in certain specialisms • Enormity of the task <p>Measures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appointed Community Development Officer • Approaching experts re advice/support <p>Particular Successes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The nature trail project and the engagement this has created (9.1.1; 9.3.11) • Identifying opportunities for more community-led groups • Holiday sports/clubs for children (see 9.1.4/9.2.4) <p>What didn't work as we expected</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Slow progress/lack of external priorities re some joint projects, e.g. mental health initiative with rugby clubs; delays to Siarter laith <p>What we need to do better:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve our overall planning and strategy – a community planning programme is in development • Improve our cultural approach and engagement – we are planning more community events and opportunities

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engage more with young people and involve them in the democratic process and in decisions that affect them directly • Have better processes and clearer operational practices • Appraise our staff and performance effectively
<p>10.4 Matters the PSB could support.</p>	<p>As last year...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A general awareness campaign. • Clearer guidance/ regular training for councillors and officers re embedding it in their plans • PSB <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The PSB as a whole needs to communicate more effectively with its component partners, as it feels like a one-way process: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The PSB should provide examples of best practice in completing annual plans/how they'd like the information presented, as each Community Council seems to be tackling it in a different way. ▪ The PSB should identify areas of best practice and share this amongst the other councils/encourage successful ideas and projects to be rolled out ▪ The whole emphasis of the Well-being Act is a bottom-up approach. The PSB, by asking for this report seem to be adopting a top down approach, i.e. how are we meeting the PSB objectives, when the PSB should be asking how it is helping us achieve our objectives 'on the ground' and feeding that back to us. ▪ The PSB is measuring need on a county level, but there may be pockets of specific need at local levels that are not being highlighted, or are lost as a result of this blanket approach. We need opportunities to feed up individual community provision needs and that should be reflected in how the PSB reacts and in how public services are provided. ▪ We acknowledge some efforts have been made i.e. the Town and Community Council Officer's liaison group and the relatively recent opportunity for community councils to have a single 'circulating' representative attend the PSB meetings.