



# Onllwyn Community Council

## Annual Report 2024 - 2025

### Organisation of the Council

In 2024 - 2025 the Council comprised of the following members:

Lee Reynolds (Chair)

Ruth Stone (Vice Chair)

Dean Cawsey, Sonia Coy, Angela Thompson, David Wise, Gareth Llewellyn, Emlyn Griffiths, Andrew Jones and Steve Thomas

**Key contact information** - due to a period without a permanent clerk Mr Simon Chaplin was interviewed and appointed at the beginning of 2024. The previous email address can no longer be used but the email address of onllwyncommunitycouncil@gmail.com is valid for all correspondence with the clerk concerning Community Council matters.

**Website** - [www.onllwyncommunitycouncil.org](http://www.onllwyncommunitycouncil.org)

### Financial information:

Income: Precept for 2024/25 was set at £27588 representing a small increase on the previous year, at the end of the financial year the balance carried forward was £21421.39.

Expenditure: The running costs of Onllwyn Community Council take up the majority of the budget over the year, however within our budget, projects are under consideration and for discussion.

The running costs include the Clerks salary and expenses, audit fees both internal and external, Community Council liability insurance, One Voice Wales (body representing local councils) and SLCC (Society for Local Community Councils representing Clerks) membership fees, ground maintenance, play park maintenance, training fees, cemetery maintenance.

This year extra costs were paid for unpaid items from previous years invoices.

The accounts and annual summary can be located on the Community Council website.

**Reserves and assets:** The community council does hold reserve funds to meet the needs of running the council in the event of a financial decline in precept. The Community Council holds a number of items in it's assets such as playparks, multi games areas, cemetery, monumental stone, pond (to list a few) and these are all managed from the budget.

**Audits of accounts 2023 - 2024** were scrutinised by both internal audit and external audit. Audit Wales gave us a recommendation of qualified due to minor recommendations that needed to be made. The accounts for 2024 - 2025 have been prepared and have been subjected to an internal audit and are currently sitting with Audit Wales awaiting their findings which will be published when received.

### Community Council reports:

At the AGM the Community Council reviewed policy documents such as Financial Regulations, Standing Orders, Code of Conduct, Asset Register, Training plans and all these documents are available on the website to view.

### Activities undertaken:

The Community Council aims to engage with its community through use of it's website and notice boards. Information is published to keep the community up to date with matters that may concern them.

### Other news:

The community council secured necessary funding from the Maesgwyn windfarm to install a new play park at the Dove area, this area previously had a wooden play park that was in a poor condition and was not being used however since the new park has been installed the area has improved dramatically and the park is being used again.



To make sure that the Community Council are maintaining their play parks in line with legislative requirements, all our establishments now have a place specific notice board that advises all users of remaining safe whilst playing.



Work is ongoing in the cemetery to improve record keeping, the Clerk is digitising the old record books but this is just a part of the work. It is also a requirement under Health and Safety to maintain an environment free from injury and the Clerk has attended a memorial testing course and will be visiting on a regular basis to ensure that any memorial headstones are correct. The cemetery has been listed with BRAMM to ensure that any mason work is done to the correct standard. This also goes inline with the new policies surrounding the cemetery which are listed on the Community Council website.

### Looking forward to 2025 - 2026

The Community Council is working to establish is Biodiversity plan, although some small areas have been touched in the last year they are actively looking to improve for the future and would welcome any suggestions from residents. They continue to support the Maesgwyn Windfarm with a panel made up from local residents and councillors for groups to apply for to assist with community elements.

**Please get in contact if you have any questions or suggestions that you would like to make.**