

CYNGOR CYMUNED **LLANGYNIDR** COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Annual Parish Meeting and Report – 2025

Meeting held 3rd June 2025

Venue: Llangynidr Village Hall

Councillors in attendance: Chairperson Jane Dawkins, Cllr David Mantle, Cllr Gene Taylor, Cllr Janine Sharpless, Cllr David Williams, Cllr Lisa Spencer-Weiss, Cllr Mark Brian, Cllr Gareth Woodcock

Clerk: Mrs Jessica Jones

Speakers:

Julie Ellis – Secretary of Llangynidr Village Hall Committee

Gail Jones – Llangynidr Community Speed Watch / GoSafe

Tom Fox – Chair of Governors at Llangynidr Primary School

Ivan Langford – Chair of Llangynidr Community Well-being Group

County Councillor - Jackie Charlton

The Annual Parish meeting was very well attended by approx. 30 residents. There were refreshments available which provided a relaxed and informal opportunity for the residents to meet and chat with the Councillors.

Welcome from the Chair Jane Dawkins:

The Chairperson Cllr Jane Dawkins welcomed everyone to the Parish Meeting and thanked all for taking the time to come along. The Chair gave a summary of the year gone by and highlighted it is a time to grab hold of the nettle and get hands on with local matters within the Community. This is evidenced with the regular litter picks, kerb side clearing by the Zig-Zagers, Community Well-being group maintenance of the benches and be-friending residents in the community.

Residents meeting held earlier in the year following a landslide in the Dyffryn Crawnon. Hopeful communication between Powys and the residents will assist with matters going forward and finding a solution.

Following a consultation held in 2024 to collate feedback on what the windfall monies should be spent on; the overall Community decision was to invest in speed awareness signs along the dangerous stretch of Cwm Crawnon Road. These are now on order however some difficulties are holding up the implementation due to a change of company ownership. The Community Council is working hard to ensure the project will be delivered and would appreciate some support from Powys County Council going forward.

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A key highlight raised by the Chair was the recently held VE Day Celebrations. This was a huge success with just under 100 residents having an afternoon tea, a sing-along with the children from the Primary School and accompanied by Rebecca Games on the piano. It was a fabulous afternoon and was quite emotional in parts with moments to reminisce and remember the importance of such celebrations within the Community.

The Chair once again thanked everyone for attending and handed over to the Speakers for the evening to give an insight into the important works being carried out by each part of the wider Community of Llangynidr.

Speakers:

Julie Ellis – Llangynidr Village Hall Committee:

- Currently being run by a small number of volunteers
- Summer Sounds Events being held on Sat 21st July – look forward to welcoming
- Following grant of planning permission for ‘The Track’ around the playing field’ work is due to be carried out in the summer months. This will make the playing field more accessible for all, pushchairs / wheelchairs / running and walking training facility.
- Ideas welcome on re-configuring the layout of the village hall: Kitchen / office space to be more accessible for the community.

Gail Jones – Llangynidr Community Speed Watch – Go Safe:

A presentation given by Gail Jones on why the Community Speed Watch (CSW) volunteer work is important to the residents of Llangynidr and the implications of the 20mph speed limit.

The three main reasons for reducing the speed limit to 20 mph:

1. To lower average speeds on Welsh Roads
 2. Reduce accidents on the roads both numbers and severity
 3. Improve the lives of those using the roads. Reduce accidents and the number of casualties on Welsh Roads
- Rule 205 of the Highway Code – You should drive with the safety of children in mind at a speed suitable for the conditions.
 - The CSW is being organised by volunteers and is sometimes supported by Dyfed Powys Police and/or County Councillor Jackie Charlton.
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- Currently 3 trained volunteers carrying out the speed watch.
 - Data can be difficult to qualify due to logos changing or no logo on some vehicles.



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Tom Fox – Chair and Governor of Llangynidr Primary School:

- Key notes from a positive Estyn report carried in March 2024. ‘Llangynidr Primary School is at the heart of its community. Leaders and staff provide a warm and nurturing environment where pupils feel safe, happy and cared for. Pupils are proud to belong to the school, and value opportunities to contribute to its life and work.
- There has been a demographic shift with pupil numbers falling – approx. 91 at present. The Governors are actively seeking new pupils.
- With the Post 16 Education at Crickhowell High School being under review, it has created unsettling times for the Governors, Staff, Parents and pupils with what the plans will transpire to be and the impacts any decision could have on the Primary School in Llangynidr being within the catchment area and feeder school for Crickhowell High School.

Ivan Langford – Chair of Llangynidr Community Wellbeing Group:

- A newly established group within the Community. The group meets on a Monday morning at 10am at the top chapel. It is open to anyone who is looking to get out of the house and meet up for a coffee & chat, whilst carrying out manageable projects around the village, such as making a maintaining flower planters, repair and maintenance of the benches sited around the village.
- The work coincides with the Well-being (Wales) Act 2014.
- First Aid & Defibrillator training has been provided to many areas of the community, including the WI, clubs at the village hall. This is an area the Community Council could assist with ensuring as many people are introduced to the use of the defibrator at possible.
- Updated report presented to the Community Council on all the benches logged within the village.
- We Listen. We Plan. We Negotiate. We Act

County Councillor Jackie Charlton:

- Surgeries held monthly between Llangynidr and Llangattock, all residents are very welcome to come along to discuss any concerns or issues.
- Public Services are having a particularly difficult time, especially within the rural area. This became evident with the shock announcement of the closure of the Police Station in Crickhowell and the reorganisation of the Fire Station. The Councillors are working hard to retain the services and not to make residents feel vulnerable within the Community.



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- Following Storm Bert and Strom Darragh, there is still a lot of repair work to be carried out, and with the landslip in the Dyffryn Crawnnon valley being an area of concern. This was followed up with a very well attended residents meeting and Powys Highways to gain a better understanding from all parties on the implications and re-iterate the urgency for repair works to be carried out.
- Some great work being carried out in both Llangynidr and Llangattock with the Litter pickers and thanks to all those who volunteer their time to come and help.
- Llangynidr Bridge – The question has been raised within the ‘Contact’ magazine on several occasions on how to proceed – is traffic movement better without the signs? General feedback to date is – yes. Please could residents report back with suggestions and ideas.
- A questionnaire was circulated to the attendees of the Parish meeting following the announcement of the Anti-Poverty funding and what residents felt the funding should be contributed towards.

Questions raised:

Does the Community Council have any plans for the traffic management with the Green Man Festival this year?

The Chair confirmed the bridge passes would again be issued to all the residents and the traffic restrictions would be in place to minimise the disruption through the village.

Would it be possible to have some pegs in the ladies’ public toilets?

This can certainly be investigated.

Please could the County Councillor keep the residents informed of any foreseeable changes to the Post 16 Education at Crickhowell High School.

Residents thanked the Community Councillors for their continued work to the Community of Llangynidr.

Formal matters were drawn to a close and the refreshments were enjoyed by all to round off the evening and the opportunity for the residents to have an informal meet & greet with the Councillors.