



Annual Report 24/25

Spring saw the newly painted village planters, prompt many favourable comments from residents. We hope you enjoyed the colour they brought to the village. Our summer newsletter was published in its usual format and was delivered to all houses in the area. Moving forward, Council has agreed to support the relaunched Community Times Caerleon, which now incorporates Ponthir and Lower Llanfrechfa.

Council was pleased to award the inaugural Stuart Bailey Memorial Cup to a Ponthir School student who had helped most with environmental issues during the year.

Late summer, saw the Community Council host an event for Paralympic Cycling gold medallist James Ball. The event saw many residents' keen to congratulate him and see his gold medal.

To honour this achievement, we were joined in September by James and his family, MP Nick Thomas-Symonds, MS Peter Fox and Councillors Karl and Jo Gauden to unveil a gold bench in the centre of the village.

In the autumn, again supported by the Royal British Legion Caerleon, we had poppies on our lampposts in the village. We provided a Christmas tree at the Village Hall, and another at All Saints Llanfrechfa. Many residents commented about our Christmas lights, now a regular feature over the festive period.

It was a busy year for the Chair and Clerk, supporting numerous events in Torfaen:- Official opening of the PSCC, war memorial dedication ceremony in Llanyrafon, PSCC firework display, Blaenavon Town Council civic event, TVA awards where we were pleased to be judges, village Remembrance service and Christmas carol concert, Croesyceiliog and Llanyrafon CC annual grant presentations and Cwmbran CC and Pontypool CC annual celebration dinners.

Ponthir CC were pleased to support the following organisations and charities this year: - Cancer Research, Ty Hafon, Ponthir Rainbows and Guides, New Fosse wine society, Ponthir Village Hall and the purchase of four trees to celebrate the 50th birthday of Ponthir School.

In January, the Council hosted the first "Drive for Five" initiative, seeing major stakeholders in the village come together to discuss how we all could work together for the benefit of the village.

Council increased the precept for 25/26 by 5%. This increase of £1346.85 takes the total precept to £28,283.85. This is based on 735 houses in our area.

Council have welcomed residents and visitors to our meetings this year. Regular attendees have included PCSO James Llewellyn, Cllr Karl Gauden and Dave Leech of TCBC. Peter Fox MS was a very welcome visitor to our February meeting.

The Clerk resolved over 30 residents' issues during the year, from replacing the broken speed signs at no cost, to issues with drains and replacement of surfaces in the park. Our Facebook following continues to grow, and we hope residents find the information shared useful.

Ian Danaher Chair 2024/25