

BRONLLYS COMMUNITY COUNCIL
CYNGOR CWMUNEDED BRONLLYS

Annual Report for the Year 1st April, 2025 – 31st March, 2026

1. Introduction

Section 52 of the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 requires that all Community Councils must prepare and publish an Annual Report about the Council's priorities, activities and achievements during that financial year.

2. Council Annual Report

The Community Council's Annual Report sets out information relating to the Community Council, its Councillors, Clerk, Meetings, Council Priorities, Activities and Achievements. This report sits within the Council 2022 – 2027 term.

3. Organisation of the Council

In order to act and carry out duties as a member of a community or town council all persons are required to make a formal declaration of acceptance of office. Following this declaration, members of community or town councils are then holders of elected office and occupy a role that is part of the Welsh local government structure.

4. Your Council

The Community Council is the grass roots voice of Local Government and is therefore closest to the people. It comprises 9 elected members (6 for the village of Bronllys and 3 for the village of Llyswen). Currently there are 3 vacancies – 2 for Bronllys and 1 for Llyswen. The present councillors were elected in May 2022 to serve a five-year term of office.

Councillors were elected at the Local Government Elections in May 2022 or Elected/Co-Opted later and for 2025/26 were:

Cllr Eric Doughty (Chair)	Representing Llyswen
Cllr Linda Hughes	Representing Llyswen
Cllr Elizabeth Davies	Representing Bronllys
Cllr Huw Lewis	Representing Bronllys
Cllr Christopher Williams	Representing Bronllys
Cllr Mitch Bouette	Representing Bronllys

The Council employs one part-time employee who acts as Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer:

Denise Abberley-Williams abberley-williams@outlook.com

The Council meet monthly (except August and December when the Council is in recess). It normally meets at 7.00 p.m. on the second Wednesday of each month and holds its Annual General Meeting during May.

All meetings are advertised on the Council's website (www.bronllysgc.org) and in the noticeboards outside the Royston Hall in Bronllys and village hall in Llyswen.

5. Elected Member Responsibilities as Individuals

A Councillor has an active interest in their local community and plays a vital role in representing the interest of the community in which they serve by improving the quality of life and local environment. Councillors must act within the law and must sign a declaration to say they agree to work within the Code of Conduct. They are able to suggest ideas, engage in constructive debate, represent constituents and respond to the needs and views of the local community.

6. The Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer (RFO)

The Clerk is the Council's Chief Officer employed under Section 112 (1) of the Local Government Act 1972. As the Proper Officer of the council in law the Clerk is answerable to the Council as a whole. Individual members cannot give instructions to the Clerk. The Council must also appoint a Responsible Financial Officer (RFO) to manage its finances and at Bronllys Community Council the Clerk and RFO is the same person. The Clerk can be contacted by E Mail at abberley-williams@outlook.com

7. Communication

The Community Council has a website which is www.bronllysgc.org

8. Meetings

Meetings of Bronllys Community Council are usually held on the second Wednesday of each month at 7.00 p.m. – every third meeting being held in Llyswen Hall and the others in the Royston Hall, Bronllys. All meetings are open to the public.

9. Finances

Precept

The Community Council is funded by a precept which is an additional amount added to the Council Tax from Powys County Council based on the requirements of the Council. In the year 2025/26 the precept received was £15,000. The precept covers administrative costs – payroll, expenses, website and IT costs, Internal and External Audit fees (as required by legislation), Insurance, One Voice Wales Membership. Other areas are maintenance of Bronllys churchyard, Pontywal play area in Bronllys and tree maintenance, grass and hedge cutting as well as general maintenance.

Bank Balance

The Community Council held the following bank balance:

Current Account:

Balance as at 01.04.25	£6,766
Balance as at 31.03.26	£3,775

Audit

The Accounts and Audit (Wales) Regulations 2014 require town and community councils to have adequate and effective arrangements in place for an internal audit of their accounting records and their systems of internal control. This is carried out on an annual basis by an independent internal auditor who is an independent and competent person appointed by the Council to carry out checks on its systems of control. The auditor carries out tests focusing on areas of risk to public money, reports to the Council and signs a report on the annual report to confirm that the Council's systems of controls are in place and operating.

The Community Council is then subject to a statutory external audit by the Auditor General for Wales.

Member Remuneration

In accordance with Section 151 of the Local Government Measure 2022, Community and Town Councils must publish within their authority area the remuneration received by their members by the 30th September following the end of the previous financial year. This information must be sent to the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales by the same date. Nil returns are also required.

For 2025/26 there was a nil return.

10. Responsibilities

Pontywal Play Park – The Community Council is responsible for the Pontywal Play Park including regular grass cutting, having an annual inspection carried out by ROSPA and actioning recommendations made, e.g. replacement parts.

Bronllys Churchyard – The Community Council is responsible for the upkeep of Bronllys Churchyard including regular grass cutting and also check on any trees that may be dangerous to members of the public.

Planning – The Community Council comments on all planning applications in Bronllys and Llyswen, with Powys County Council making the final decision, taking into account the Council views.