



St Harmon Community Council

Annual Report

2023/24

10 Ddole Road
Llandrindod Wells
Powys
LD1 6PF

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Introduction

This Annual Report sets out to inform the residents of St Harmon and Pant y Dwr about the activities undertaken by St Harmon Community Council during the 2023/24. It is based on the financial year 1st April – 31st March. The report contains a brief outline of the structure of the Council, an overview of the Council's activities throughout the year and a financial summary.

Contact

The Council does not have an office space. The Clerk works from home and the contact details for the council are:

Jane Johnston PSLCC, CiLCA (Wales)
Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer
10 Ddole Road
Llandrindod Wells
Powys
LD1 6PF

The Council

The Council is comprised of eight Members (Councillors) and the area does not have wards.

The Council elects a Chair and a Vice Chair at the Council's Annual Meeting every May. The Council is supported by one part-time member of staff; the Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer who is currently Jane Johnston.

Members

The following members were in place during 2023/24

Cllr David Lowde	Chair
Cllr Sheree Lewis	Vice Chair
Cllr Mark Williams	
Cllr Aaron Mills	
Cllr Daisy Davies	
Cllr Kieron Mills	
Cllr Craig Davies	
Vacancy	

Committees

The Council previously operated a Committee system. However, in response to observations made by Audit Wales, this was removed by resolution of the Council on 6th January 2022.

Task & Finish Groups

The Council did not have any Task & Finish Groups operational during this period. However, a Focus Group remains in operation to support the Community Broadband Scheme with Community Council membership. This is an on-going project in conjunction with Broadway Partners.

Services & Facilities

St Harmon Community Council provides the following services & facilities:

- Pant y Dwr Play Area
- Recreation Field at St Harmon currently a grass let subject to annual tender
- Woodland Area (Recreational Field)
- 2 Bus Shelters
- Community Noticeboards
- 2 De-commissioned ex BT telephone kiosks housing public access defibrillators/book swaps
- Marquee
- Digital projector (on loan to the Community Hall)
- Community Website - <http://www.stharmoncommunitycouncil.gov.uk/>
- Community Facebook Page
<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100067466682378>

Grants & Donations

The Council operates a grant system for the benefit of local groups which may apply for grant funding to carry out work for the benefit of members of the community within the electoral boundary of St Harmon and Pant y Dwr.

The grants application system is open throughout the year. Applications must be submitted in writing to the Clerk containing as much information as possible. The council has a limited budget allocation.

Below is a list of grants allocated during 2023/24:

Group	Amount	Purpose
Community Hall	£1500	Grant for services & operation

Bryn Titli Fund (Wind Farm)

The Council is awarded a sum of money annually from the Bryn Titli Wind Farm project. This is for allocation to community groups and community projects. The Community Council manages this fund and allocations are made under 2 separate processes: Grant Funding and Community benefit Purchases/Allocations.

- Grant Funding

This is managed in two phases

Phase 1 1st April – 31st July Allocations are made in September

Phase 2 1st October – 31st January Allocations are made in March

The criteria and application forms are held on the Community Council website - http://www.stharmoncommunitycouncil.gov.uk/?page_id=932

In the period covered by this Annual report, the following grants to local organisations were made:

Group	Amount	Purpose
Community Show	689.64	Printing
Little Lambs	1500.00	Equipment
Community Hall	3000	Chairs, Tables & Equipment
Motor Club	1500	New Building
Nantgwyn Chapel	1775	Accessibility & Ground Works
Sychpant Chapel	1500	IT Equipment
Radnor Society	200	PC

This scheme will continue for the next few years.

- Community Benefit Purchases/Allocations

The following purchases were made via the Bryn Titli Fund which were deemed for community benefit:

Item	Amount	Purpose
Coronation Gifts	766.72	Gifts for Children
Coronation Party	2068.46	Coronation Party
Children's Easter Party	395.40	Easter Party
Gazebo	63.14	Community Use
Show Giveaways	49.99	Pens
Bus Campaign	65.00	Printing
Over 60's Xmas Lunch	1431.36	Community Lunch
Children's Halloween Party	449.99	Party
New Xmas Lights Pant y Dwr	332.90	Tree Lights
New Xmas Lights St Harmon	225.00	Tree Lights
Children's Christmas Party	1055.04	Children's Party
IT Course Tutor – Gift	19.50	Gift Free IT Sessions
Community Woodland Fence	809.28	Create Woodland Section

Financial Information

The Budget

The Community Council raises most of its money via the local government precept. The precept for 2023/24 equated to £16517, equating to £51.44 per household per annum. This was a reduction of £1704 on 2022/23

Financial Summary

Budget Heading	Actual Expenditure 2023/24
Salary	4058
Training – Staff & Members, SLCC	0
Clerks Expenses – Admin Costs	173
Clerk's Home Working Allowance	156
SLCC Fees	92
Members Travel	0
Meeting Room Hire	54
Remote Hosting & IT Back Up	389

Insurance	749
Audit Fees	72
One Voice Wales	111
Website	327
Information Commissioner	35
Donations	0
Community Hall Grant	1500
Events	61
Recreational Field (Grass Let)	125
Play Area	60
Elections	0
Care Costs (Statutory)	0
Members Allowance	1040
Contingencies	221
Total Expenditure	9493.51
Total Expenditure Bryn Titli	17894.42
General Reserves – 31.03.24	22524.39
Bryn Titli Fund – 31.03.24	22129.13
Total Reserves	44653.52

Budget Monitoring

The Council is presented with a bank reconciliation report at each meeting which enables members to be kept up to date with council finances.

The Community Council is committed to using local contractors and suppliers wherever possible and believes in the value of the “Powys Pound.”

Council Financial Reserves

The Council holds financial reserves some of which are held within individual budget headings and others are held within general reserves. It is crucial the Council holds sufficient reserves to maintain its operation effectively and in preparation for future projects and services. A full list of financial reserves is provided to members at the end of each financial year (1st April.) These are also reported via the external audit process.

Council Members Code of Conduct

No reports have been made to the Public Services Ombudsman against members during the year of 2023/24.

Projects

During 2023/24 the Council worked on the following projects:

- Maintaining the via Community Woodland
- Development of increased Community Engagement
- Held a stand at the Community Show to promote the work of the Community Council and provide information to local residents. This was an extremely successful day.
- Working on partnership with local residents and the Community Hall to facilitate several community events, which included:
 - a) King Charles III Coronation Party & Summer Barbeque
 - b) Children’ Easter Party

- c) Children's Halloween Party
- d) Community Woodland Planting
- e) Children's Christmas Party
- f) Over 60's Christmas Lunch



Community Woodland





Speed Awareness Signage

Looking Forward

The Council is planning several community events including an Easter Party, VE Day 80 celebration and Hog Roast, Halloween Party, Children's Christmas Party and disco and the re-instigation of the Over 60's Christmas Lunch.

The Council continues to raise awareness within the community via the Community Council website <http://www.stharmoncommunitycouncil.gov.uk/> and the Facebook page - <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100067466682378>

We also issue Information Updates via email to local residents. If you wish to be included in the circulation list please email the Clerk to be added to the list – stharmoncc2021@gmail.com