

Letterston Community Council

Annual report for fiscal year 2021-22

This report is compiled as a requirement of the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021

1. **Council membership:** Following the local elections in May 2022, the Council is fully subscribed with 10 members duly returned uncontested. The only change has been Cllr Andrew Sharp, who takes the place of Cllr Janet Williams who has resigned due to her moving away from the area. There are no longer any co-opted members sitting on the Council. A full list of elected members is at Appendix A.
2. **Priorities:** The Council's priorities for several years have been to work with Pembrokeshire County Council to ensure that services to the community are maintained, for the benefit of all. Projects include:
 - **Public Toilets:** In 2014 the Council took responsibility from the County Council for provision of public toilets at Letterston Square to prevent their closure, as unfortunately happened with the toilets at The Commons on St Davids Road. From 2022, the Council will face an increase in the costs for running the toilet, as the County Council pass on the full running costs.
 - **The Commons:** A grass bank has been built to protect the Commons from incursion by motor vehicles and the Council is considering other measures to regulate and protect this area.
 - **Playpark:** After considerable investment in 20** to replace ageing and damaged swings and slide, new equipment is being installed in the junior play area to replace vandalised multiplay equipment. Part of the funding for this has come from the sale of a piece of surplus land.
 - **Road Safety Issues:** The Council has been in negotiations with the county council and Welsh Government to seek the installation of a road crossing at the Square. Other road safety issues pursued include speeding vehicles at various locations, hazardous road developments and introduction of pavements along parts of St Davids and Station Roads.
 - **Community Improvement:** The Council is committed to improve the quality of life for residents through several initiatives, including:
 - High speed broadband for the whole community
 - Support for proposed expansion of Football Club building
 - Support for the Community Foodbox
 - Community Garden(s)
 - Information boards
 - Benches
 - Firework displays
 - Christmas trees and lights
 - New Community flag
 - **Finance:**

Total receipts for the year were £24,536.43.
Spending totals were £37,087.84, including donations of £1,250.
The opening balance was £35,037.60
Closing balance £22,486.15
The biggest single cost was £18,323 for playpark equipment (with installation costs to follow).

Despite a deficit of almost £13,000 for the year, the Council have taken the step to reduce the precept for the 2022-23 financial year from £24,000 to £20,000. Although playground equipment costs should be reduced, there will be additional costs for maintaining public toilets.

Appendix A

Letterston Community Council list of elected Councillors

Cllr. Andrew Adams

Cllr. Richard Davies

Cllr. Bethan Homer

Cllr. Gerald Humphrey

Cllr. Helena (Babs) Johnson

Cllr. Sian Millichip

Cllr. Brian Morgan

Cllr. Andrew Sharp

Cllr. Gareth Thomas

Cllr. Paul West