

Abermule with Llandyssil Community Council – Chairman’s Report May 2021 - 2022.

The recent election on 5th May, saw the first contested election in the Abermule Ward for many years. I wish to congratulate new Councillors, Mark Pearce and Ann Thompson along with re-elected Councillors Alan Meredith-Jones, Gary Orrells, Gareth Pugh, Gareth Thomas and myself form the seven Councillors for Abermule Ward. Llandyssil ward an uncontested election for four Councillors, two new Councillors Martin Aymes and Jackie Matthews, along with existing Councillors Anne Brewin and Gwyneth Jones. I also wish to congratulate our County Councillor Garth Pugh on regaining his seat in Powys County Council.

We have gained new Councillors but sadly have lost long standing members, Bryan Williams, Paul Davis, Richard Jerman and Glen Lloyd, whom we owe a depth of gratitude for their commitment to this Council and their Community.

The past year was again fraught with covid restrictions, although not entirely free of covid in the area, there are currently no restrictions on face to face meetings. We now have the requirement for online audio access to meetings (WiFi and technology permitting.) Provision of Broad band for Llandyssil Hall is ongoing to facilitate Council meetings in their Community.

Looking back on last year’s report, work had started on building the Bulk Recycling Facility. Powys County Council having built the facility presumed their application to NRW for permit to operate would be a forgone conclusion. However, that application was recently refused. We now await the new administration at PCC, decision on whether to re-apply to NRW. The middle section of the Business Park is currently being developed by PCC to accommodate Business Units and the section nearest Abermule is now offered for sale or lease.

Last year I reported that an application for 32 dwellings on the site to the rear of The Meadows on Cefn-Y Coed road had been refused. Developers have now begun a consultation for 53 dwellings, yet to be considered by this Council.

Sadly Llandyssil village no longer has a Bakery or Public House, the Old School Hall now the hub of the village is struggling to appoint Trustees, any support this Council can offer would be appreciated.

Council continue their financial support of bot The Abermule Community Centre and Llandyssil Old School Hall as well as Community Organisations, who have been struggling to resume activities after being, shut down by covid regulations.

This Council form the ‘Millfield Trust’, after many years liaising with developers, Severn Trent Water Authority and Solicitors, over ownership and responsibilities, the land registration and associated documents have been completed, for this we owe a depth of gratitude to the Chair of the Millfield Trust Cllr. Jones and our Clerk for their perseverance and attention to detail on behalf of this Council.

Ongoing projects include the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee Celebrations, replacing a broken item in the Millfield Play Area with an inclusive use roundabout and a Memorial to be sited on the Millfield, to commemorate those lost in the Abermule Train disaster 26th January, 1921.

My thanks to fellow Councillors for their support and commitment to this Council, their representation on Community associations, One Voice Wales area committee and Vale of Montgomery Cluster Group. The Finance Committee for due diligence, in particular Cllr. Jones for checking the accounts prior to audit. Also my sincere thanks to our Clerk and Financial Officer Gwilym for the admin, accounting, updating the website and keeping us up to date on new policies, his expert knowledge of Council procedure is invaluable.

I sincerely hope as we begin a new five year term of office, that the Council will continue to work together, representing the best interests of our Communities in whatever challenges lie ahead.

Thank you.

Jane Rees

Chair of Abermule with Llandyssil Community Council