

Cyngor Tref Llangollen Town Council.

Agenda.

15-10-2024.

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| <p>1. Croesawiad a chyhoeddiadau Faer y Dref.</p> | <p>Town Mayors welcome and announcements.</p> |
| <p>2. Datganiadau gan y cyhoedd.
I dderbyn datganiadau oddiwrth y cyhoedd ar faterion ar yr agenda.</p> | <p>Statements from the public.
To receive statements from the public on matters on the agenda.</p> |
| <p>3. Datganiadau gan Cynghorwyr y Sir.
I dderbyn datganiadau gan Cynghorwyr y Sir ar faterion sy'n ymwneud â Llangollen.</p> | <p>Statements from County Councillors.
To receive statements from County Councillors on matters relating to Llangollen.</p> |
| <p>4. Ymddiheuriadau am absenoldeb.
I dderbyn, ystyried a derbyn ymddiheuriadau am absenoldeb.</p> | <p>Apologies for absence.
To receive, consider and accept apologies for absence.</p> |
| <p>5. Datganiadau o Fuddiant.
I dderbyn unrhyw ddatganiadau o fuddiant ar eitemau ar yr agenda.</p> | <p>Declaration of Interest.
To receive any known declarations of interest in items on the agenda.</p> |
| <p>6. Cofnodion.
a) Awdurdodi'r Cadeirydd i lofnodi cofnodion y Cyfarfod Blynyddol a gynhaliwyd ar 20-08-24.</p> | <p>Minutes.
To authorise the Chair to sign the minutes of the Meeting held on the 20-08-24.</p> |
| <p>7. Adroddiadau ariannol.
I dderbyn adroddiadau a gyflwynwyd gan yr Clerc y Dref ac ystyried yr argymhellion ynddo. Mae manylion ariannol yn ddogfennau gwaith ac felly nid ydynt wedi'u cyfieithu.
a) Taliadau Awdurdodedig.
b) Datganiadau Ariannol.
c) Cymodi banc.
d) Trosglwyddo cronfeydd.
e) Rhagflaenion y gyllideb.</p> | <p>Financial reports.
To receive reports submitted to the Town Clerk and considered the recommendations therein. Financial details are working documents and are therefore not translated.
Authorised Payments.
Financial Statement.
Bank reconciliation.
Transfer of reserves.
Budget preliminaries.</p> |
| <p>8. Adroddiadau Clerc y Dref.
a) Adroddiad Blynyddol Drafft Panel Annibynnol Cymru ar Gydnabyddiaeth Ariannol.
b) Ymchwiliad i rôl, llywodraethiant ac atebolrwydd y sector cynghorau tref a chymuned.
c) Toiledau Cyhoeddus Stryd y Farchnad.</p> | <p>Town Clerks reports
Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales Draft Annual Report.
Inquiry into the role, governance and accountability of the community and town council sector.

Market Street Public Toilets.</p> |

9. **Ceisiadau Cynllunio.**
I lystyried ceisiadau cynllunio a gyfeiriwyd at y Cyngor a gwneud unrhyw benderfyniadau angenrheidiol arno.

Cais: 03/2024/1271

Lleoliad: Bache Ganol, Fron Bache.

Cynnig: Codi garej ddwbl ar wahan.

10. **Tystysgrifau Penderfyniad**
Nodi tystysgrifau penderfyniad a dderbyniwyd oddi wrth Adran Gynllunio Cyngor Sir Ddinbych.

Ceisiadau a ganiateir.

03/2024/1026

To newydd ar yr adeilad presennol a gosod manylion cwter allanol yn lle'r parapet, Amgueddfa Llangollen.

03/2021/0801

Codi 1 annedd ar wahân, adeiladu mynediad newydd i gerbydau a gwaith cysylltiedig, Ficerdy Fronhyfryd.

03/2024/0131

Arddangos arwyddion mewn perthynas â pheiriant codi arian newydd a cholera, Trespass, 38 Stryd y Castell.

03/2024/0132

Display of signage in relation to replacement ATM and collar Trespass, 38 Stryd y Castell.

03/2024/1083

Parhau i gael ei ddefnyddio fel llety gwesty annibynnol a siop heb gysylltiad a Gales of Llangollen, 14 - 16 Stryd y Bont.

03/2024/1075

Codi caban glampio ar dir coediog a gwaith cysylltiedig, Fferm Tyndwr, Tyn Dwr.

03/2024/0134

Codi estyniad deulawr i'r ochr ac estyniad unllawr yng nghefn yr annedd, addasiadau a gwaith cysylltiedig, Bryn Howel Cottage.

03/2024/1124

Gosod system wresogi o dan y llawr a gwaith cysylltiedig (Caniatâd Adeilad Rhestredig) Fron Deg Ffordd yr Abaty,

Cais wedi'i dynnu'n ôl.

Planning Applications.

To consider planning applications referred to the Council and make any necessary decisions thereon.

Application: 03/2024/1271

Location: Bache Ganol, Fron Bache.

Proposal: Erection of a detached double garage.

Certificates of Decision.

To note certificates of decision received from Denbighshire County Council Planning department.

Applications Granted.

03/2024/1026

Replacement roof to existing building and replacement of parapet detail with external gutter detail, Llangollen Museum.

03/2021/0801

Erection of 1 no. detached dwelling, construction of a new vehicular access and associated works, Fronhyfryd Vicarage.

03/2024/0131

Display of signage in relation to replacement ATM and collar Trespass, 38 Castle Street.

03/2024/0132

Display of signage in relation to replacement ATM and collar Trespass, 38 Castle Street.

03/2024/1083

Continuation of use as independent hotel accommodation and shop with no link to Gales of Llangollen, 14 - 16 Bridge Street.

3/2024/1075

Erection of a glamping cabin in wooded land and associated works, Tyndwr Farm, Tyn Dwr.

03/2024/0134

Erection of a two-storey extension to side and a single-storey extension to rear of dwelling, alterations and associated works, Bryn Howel Cottage.

03/2024/1124

Installation of under floor heating system and associated works (Listed Building Application) Fron Deg, Abbey Road.

Application withdrawn.

03/2024/1066

Codi adeilad ar ffurf cwt bugail i'w ddefnyddio fel encil ysbrydol ar gyfer gwyliau am gyfnod, 18 Stryd y Rhaglaw.

03/2024/1066








Erection of a shepherd hut style building for use as a letting out holiday spiritual retreat on a short-term basis, 18 Regent Street.

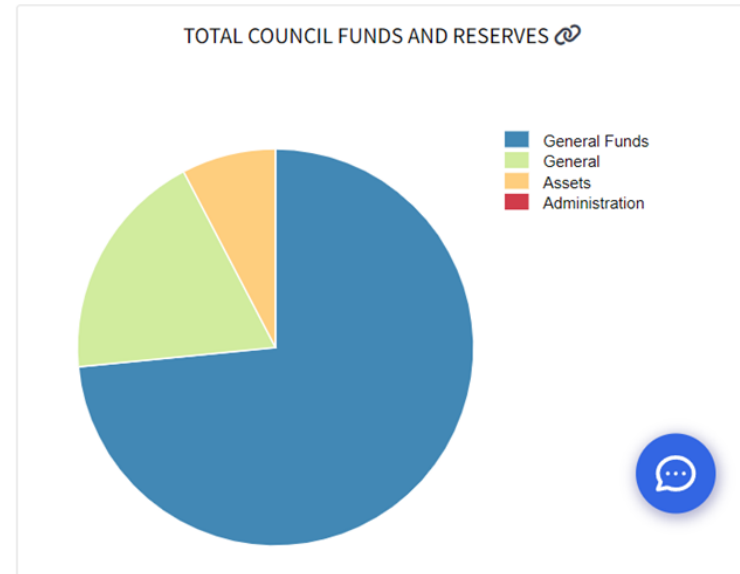
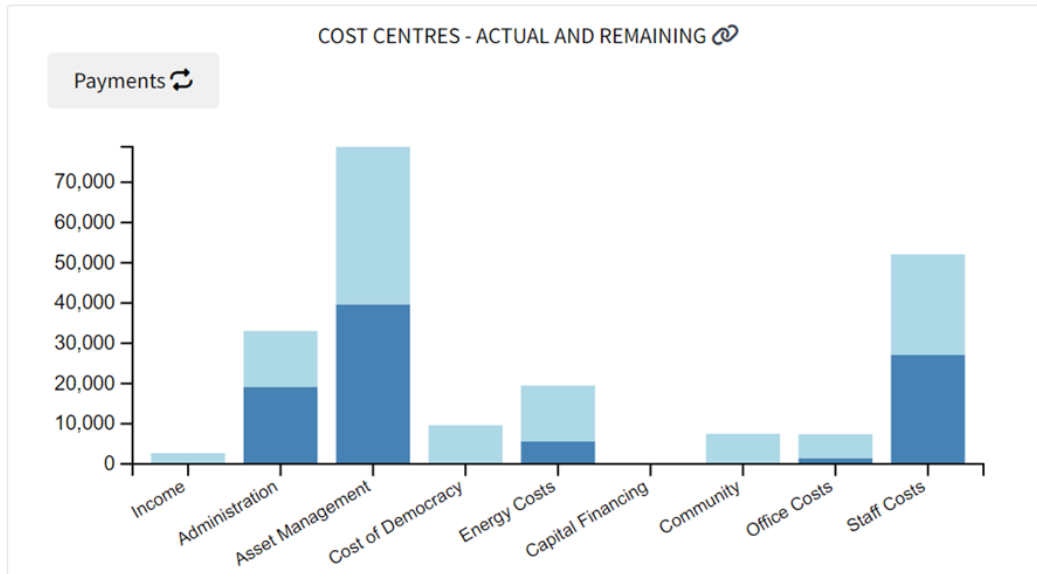
Authorised payments October

Taleb/Voucher	Description/Disgrifiad	Cyflenwr/Supplier	Net	TAW/VAT	Gros/Gross
141	Cloud Services	ACS Technology	£190.30	£0.00	£190.30
142	Corporate Card	Barclaycard Commercial	£169.14	£0.00	£169.14
143	Broadband	British Telecom	£54.56	£10.91	£65.47
144	Business Rates	CSD/DCC	£1,238.00	£0.00	£1,238.00
145	Ground works	T P Edwards	£750.00	£0.00	£750.00
146	Gas	Good Energy	£51.67	£2.58	£54.25
147	Electricity	Good Energy	£964.96	£192.99	£1,157.95
148	Electricity	Good Energy	£21.59	£1.08	£22.67
149	Electricity	Good Energy	£129.62	£6.48	£136.10
150	Electricity	Good Energy	£7,735.04	£2,082.77	£9,817.81
151	PAYE	HMRC*	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
152	Copier leasing	Grenke	£204.00	£40.80	244.8
153	Pension	Nest	£203.65	£0.00	£203.65
154	Trade Waste	CSD/DCC	£159.25	£0.00	£159.25
155	Salary	Staff*	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
156	Salary	Staff*	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
157	Salary	Staff*	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
158	Contract Cleaning	Ultraclean	£243.75	£48.75	£292.50
Total			£12,115.53	£2,386.36	£14,501.89

* Awaiting pay role.

Datganiadau Ariannol / Financial Statement.

 <p>Income last month</p> <p>£5,047.80</p> <p>Add Receipt</p>	 <p>Expenditure last month</p> <p>£9,709.40</p> <p>Add Payment</p>	 <p>Outstanding invoices</p> <p>14 (£3,042.00)</p> <p>Add Invoice</p>	 <p>Current bank balance</p> <p>£260,487.72</p> <p>Reconcile Bank</p>	 <p>Days since last all bank reconcile</p> <p>7</p> <p>Reconcile All</p>	 <p>Budget spend this year</p> <p>44.2 %</p> <p>Report</p>	 <p>Assets and total value</p> <p>153 (£492,176.00)</p> <p>Asset Register</p>
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Bank Reconciliation

	Bank Reconciliation at 30/09/2024		
	Cash in Hand 01/04/2024		217,669.55
	ADD Receipts 01/04/2024 - 30/09/2024		145,950.27
	SUBTRACT Payments 01/04/2024 - 30/09/2024		363,619.82
			103,132.10
A	Cash in Hand 30/09/2024 (per Cash Book)		260,487.72
	Cash in hand per Bank Statements		
	Petty Cash 30/09/2024	0.00	
	Llangollen Town Council Current Ac 30/09/2024	96,315.84	
	Llangollen Town Council Instant Acc 30/09/2024	164,171.88	
			260,487.72
	Less unrepresented payments		
			260,487.72
	Plus unrepresented receipts		
B	Adjusted Bank Balance		260,487.72
	A = B Checks out OK		

REPORT AUTHOR: Town Clerk.
SUBJECT: Transfer of reserves.
REPORT FOR: Decision.

1. Summary.

1.1 To authorise the transfer of reserves.

2. Background.

2.1 Over recent months invoices have been received from Audit Wales in respect of external audits that were not completed until this financial year but relate to previous audit periods and gas charges for the period 1.12.23 to the 31.03.24 s detailed below.

2020/21 Audit Fees	£1,716.00
2021/22 Audit Fees	£ 200.00
Gas charges	£1,819.86
Total	£3,735.86

3. Recommendation.

3.1 It is recommended that the Town Council authorises the transfer of £3,735.86 from the reserve to the general account to cover the cost of these historic invoices.

4. Reasons for recommendation.

4.1 To ensure, financial probity.

REPORT AUTHOR: Town Clerk.
SUBJECT: Budget preliminaries.
REPORT FOR: Decision.

1. Summary.

- 1.1 To provide Members with an opportunity to consider and discuss the underlying assumptions and service needs in the preparation of the draft budget, and precept for the financial year 2025/26.

2. Background

- 2.1 This report has been prepared to provide Members of Llangollen Town Council with an overview of the underlying assumptions and service needs for the preparation of the draft budget and precept for the financial year 2025/26. It addresses the impact of external pressures, such as inflation, staff pay awards, and the cost-of-living crisis on the electorate. Additionally, it discusses the reserve position of the Town Council and the importance of maintaining sufficient resources for Town Council assets including the Town Hall, Chain Bridge, Centenary Square, Pen y Bryn Cemetery, and the manged asset of the Llangollen Recreation Ground.
- 2.2 The effective management of resources and forward planning are underpinned by the requirements of the Town Council's Business Plan 2022/27 the statement of the Town Council's vision for the town, its purpose, values, objectives. A key priority within the plan to effectively manage and maintain both community and council assets and therefore to effectively operate the Town Council requires an appropriately balanced budget.
- 2.3 In assessing the forward needs of the Town Council as wells as the desire to deliver other aspirations in the business plan. Clearly not all of the above can be resourced as there are a range of external and internal variables that have the potential to impact upon the Town Council over the course of the next budget period as detailed below.

3. Variables.

3.1 External Environment.

It is important to note that the Council continues to be exposed to impacts resulting from current and historic inflationary pressures, coupled with the continued volatility in energy markets.

3.2 These factors could result in the following: -

- A risk that the on-going cost of living crisis will impact on income for shows and events.
- Increases in Council operating costs such annual changes in salaries driven both by sector negotiations and national pay awards.
- Inflation rate as of September 2024 of 2.2% used as benchmark for increases in public sector cost structures.

3.3 Internal environment.

The Town Council is responsible for providing services and a challenge is to allocate sufficient funds for these essential tasks to avoid a to deterioration in services. In

addition, meeting environmental targets to addressing climate change targets set by the Town Council will require significant investments.

3.3 To address these challenges, Town Councils needs to be cognisant of: -

- Prospective emergency repair works as may arise on assets.
- The instability in revenue costs in areas, such energy and building works.
- The need for further alterations to the Town Hall to reduce energy consumption and target CO₂ reduction and fire safety systems.
- The need for adequate reserves for safe operating levels and to cope with unexpected events (bearing in mind the size and scale of Town Council liabilities) or future needs/aspirations.

3.4 Reserve position.

Assessing the reserve position of Llangollen Town Council is critical for ensuring financial stability and addressing unforeseen emergencies or projects. The current assets reserves will be depleted due to a number of calls during 2023/24 namely.

- Staff changes
- Historic costs associated with the external audits.
- Works undertaken on the Chain Bridge.
- Energy costs.

3.5 The current year reserves were allocated as follows, a general reserve (6 months of expenditure) £105,000.00 an assets reserve of £17,300.00 and an administration reserve of £10,540.00 totalling £132,840.00. However, due to interests and the reclaiming of significant VAT costs the reserves now stand at £164,172. Reserves will need to be called upon to facilitate further urgent works to the Town Hall.

4. Risk

4.1 The Accounts and Audit (Wales) Regulations 2014 (as amended) state that a relevant body must ensure that there is a sound system of internal control which facilitates the effective exercise of that body's functions, and which includes arrangements for the management of risk. The Town Council identifies potential inherent risks in a risk register and aims to take all practical steps to reduce or eliminate the risks as far as is reasonably practicable. The risks identified for 2024/25, including those that have are detailed in Annex A.

5. Priority actions.

5.1 Facing some degree of uncertainty namely the continuing, if reducing, inflation rates and the cost-of-living crisis facing residents', and risks identified; the Town Council should take a rounded approach to address both short-term pressures and long-term economic stability.

5.2 Therefore, the Town Council's own resources should target the immediate operational aspects of the Town Council, support for assets and reserves, whilst collaborating with local businesses, community organisations, and other stakeholders should continue to be a longer-term policy objective.

6. Recommendations.

- 6.1 It is recommended that Members consider the underlying assumptions, and risk register, to determine the framework to be used to formulate a draft budget for presentation to the Town Council for the 2025/26 financial year.

7. Reason for recommendation.

- 7.1 To inform a crucial step in the budgeting process, promoting transparency, accountability, informed decision-making, and the ability to adapt to changing circumstances.

Annex A.

Risk Register

Assessment Criteria

Rating:	Potential Consequence	Score: 1-5	Classification:	1 – 5 Low
	Likelihood of Happening	Score: 1-5		6 – 10 Medium
				11 – 15 High
				16 – 25 Very High

Severity Level Score (SLC) = Potential Consequence (PC) x Likelihood (LH) of happening.

Risk Identified	PC	LH	SLC	Classification	Measures to be taken to Reduce/Minimise/Control Risk
Income					
Precept not submitted	5	1	5	Low	Full Budget process in place. Clerk/RFO to prepare budget annually in November. Full Council to determine precept annually in December. Clerk/RFO to notify County Council.
Precept not paid by County Council	5	1	5	Low	Clerk/RFO to monitor and report to Council paid directly to bank account by BACS.
Inadequacy of precept	5	1	5	Low	Clerk RFO to present monthly finance report. All monthly receipts and expenditure and financial summary to Council meeting. Council to review/compare budget.
Vacant units	5	2	10	Medium	Have marketing strategy in place to attract new tenants. Review market conditions regularly to identify potential business failures.
Loss of Money					
Business Interruption	5	3	15	Very High	Effect on cash flow should be mitigated by ensuring adequate reserves. income.
Funds held at private residence of Member or employee	5	3	15	High	Not allowed all cash handling must be conducted in the office.
Through theft or dishonesty of Staff or Members.	5	1	5	Low	Fidelity guarantee of £100,000 in place.
Review of charges, rent and valuations to be regularly reviewed	5	1		Low	Assets are insured to current valuation, where appropriate.

Insurance					
Income					
Adequacy of finances to repay loans	5	1	5	Low	Provision made in Annual Budget.
Reserves – General ensure adequacy	5	3	15	High	Consider at Budget Setting.
Reserves – Earmarked ensure adequacy	5	2	10	Medium	Consider at Budget Setting.
Theft/Deceitfulness of Staff	5	1	10	Low	All purchases and transactions are recorded.
Failure to fulfil Contracts/agreements	5	2	10	Medium	Clerk to monitor. Diary of work undertaken and when in place.
Loss of income	5	4	20	Very High	Consider at Budget Setting.
Inadequate insurance cover	5	2	10	Medium	Consider at Budget Setting.
Expenditure					
Illegal payment or activity	5	2	10	Medium	All statutory powers to undertake work recorded in minutes Ensure compliance with Standing Orders and Financial Regulations. Reaffirm Standing Orders and Financial Regulations annually and modify if required.
Salaries/Wages					
Wrong salary paid	5	1	5	Low	Clerk's salary presented to Council.
Wrong rate applied	5	1	5	Low	Council adopted National agreed rates for clerks.
Not accounting for correct deductions of NI, Tax	5	1	5	Low	Presented to Council monthly to scrutinise details of claim.
Payroll					
Provision of accurate payroll data	5	1	5	Low	Services outsourced to payroll agency to ensure compliance with Standing Orders and Financial Regulations.
Integration of pension costs with payroll	5	1	5	Low	Services outsourced to payroll agency to ensure compliance with Standing Orders and Financial Regulations.
VAT Payment					
Improper recording of input/output VAT	5	1	5	Low	VAT claims based on figures presented to Council monthly.
Improper identification of Non-Business Activities	5	2	10	Medium	Access to County Council's VAT unit and HMRC Helpline for assistance and guidance.
Inability to meet annual	5	1	5	Low	Monthly bill payment systems in

submissions to H.M.R.C.					place to ensure compliance and presented to Council monthly to scrutinise details.
Annual reconciliation of returns	5	1	5	Low	Systems in place to ensure compliance.
Financial Assistance					
Legal power to contribute	5	1	5	Low	Ensure support is limited to the appropriate sum for the purpose of section 137(4)(a) of the Local Government Act 1972
Compliance with council policy	5	1	5	Low	Educate/Remind members of Policy.
Overspend	5	1	5	Low	Clerk/RFO to monitor monthly and present to Council monthly for scrutiny.
Proper deduction of tax	5	1	5	Low	Audit to verify.
Maintain proper records	3	1	3	Low	Standard claim forms in place.
Supplier registration process					
Significant financial or contractor performance risk	1	5	5	Low	The supplier fraud risk questionnaire should be used where a supplier risk is identified pre-contract.
Members and staff					
Over/Under payments of Members allowances	4	1	4	Low	Members to complete and verify standard attendance/claim form.
Insufficient staff to deliver service	5	4	20	Very High	Monitor workload through employee annual review process. Review staff structures, working hours, duties, and responsibilities.
Loss of key personnel through ill health, retirement, long term sickness or even death	5	3	15	High	Review staff structures, working hours, duties and responsibilities as a matter of urgency. Other professional services outsourced from SCLC when required. Maintain specific reserve to cover any additional staff cost or use of locum services.
Lack of contracts and defined job descriptions	5	1	5	Low	All staff to have written contracts and of employment.
Election Costs					
Risk of an election cost	5	4	20	Very High	The risk is higher in an election year, but a by-election could be called for any casual vacancies. There are no measures which can be adopted to

					minimise the risk of having elections as this is the democratic process. Cost outwith election year to be borne out of reserves.
Assets					
Asset Register	5	2	10	Medium	Update annually.
Assets Loss/Damage thereof	5	2	10	Medium	Land; minor street furniture; office equipment and Council regalia – insure against all risk. Review annually.
Risk or damage to third party property or individuals	4	2	8	Medium	Minimum £5,000,000 Indemnity of Public Liability in place. Reviewed annually.
Security of Buildings and Equipment	5	2	10	Medium	Digital and suited key systems in place for access to the Town Hall. A register of key holders for the civic suite and offices is required.
Maintenance	5	3	15	High	Undertake programmed and responsive repair and maintenance.
Lack of Automatic Fire Alarm System.	5	5	25	Very High	The Town Councils insurers require the installation of a system that conforms to the minimum standard of Category L2 of British Standard 5839-1:2017 Fire Detection and Alarm Systems for Buildings incorporate a monitored remote signalling facility.
Security and business continuity					
Document Security	5	2	10	Medium	Electronic media backup systems are in place. Investigate off site backup facilities or cloud. Deposit historical records with County archives.
Internet and email Security	5	2	10	Medium	Ensure systems are encrypted, password protected, and antivirus software is maintained and up to date.
Loss of business continuity due to loss of hard copy record through fire or theft	5	3	10	Medium	The Town Council records are currently archived in Ruthin. ds Sufficient elements of records are held electronically and are recoverable in the event of loss of hard copies.
Loss of business continuity due to loss of electronically stored records due to fire or computer system	5	1	5	Low	Files electronically stored on 'Cloud' system and are recoverable.

failure.					
Loss or damage to asset	5	2	10	Medium	An annual review of assets and asset register is undertaken for monitoring purposes together with insurance provision.
Failure to inspect and act on findings could result in accident/injury and third-party claims.	5	2	10	Medium	Inspection schedules in place.
Accident or injury to public or personnel arising from defective assets.	5	2	10	Medium	Asset found to be damaged and posing a risk of injury are immediately taken out of use and warning notices displayed. Defect repairs and remediation is undertaken as soon as reasonably practical. In cases of extreme risk to the delivery of Council services, the clerk may authorise revenue expenditure on behalf of the Council which in the clerk's judgement it is necessary to conduct, subject to financial regulations.
All public seating managed by the Town Council replaced or refurbished.	5	2	10	Medium	Assets to which the public have access are routinely inspected on a set schedule. Asset found to be damaged and posing a risk of injury are immediately taken out of use and warning notices displayed. Defect repairs and remediation is undertaken as soon as reasonably practical. In cases of extreme risk to the delivery of Council services, the clerk may authorise revenue expenditure on behalf of the Council which in the clerk's judgement it is necessary to conduct, subject to financial regulations.
Governance and policy.					
Inadequate financial Records	5	2	10	Medium	Financial records updated monthly, and duplicate stored on 'Cloud' system and are recoverable.
Accurate and Legal minutes	5	1	5	Low	Reviewed, signed and dated at following meeting.
Failure to identify Health and Safety Risks	5	3	15	High	Clerk has managing safely qualification addition external

					expertise may need to be bought in. Requirements of managing health and safety aspects associated with hirers using the Town Hall.
Failure to identify and implement disability and discrimination issues	5	2	10	Medium	Town Hall DDA works undertaken. Addition external expertise may need to be bought in.
UKGDPR fines and sanctions from non-compliance	3	2	6	Medium	Ensure compliance and that appropriate licenses are in place. More secure email system in place and policy under development.
Register of Members Interest, Gifts and Hospitality	3	1	3	Low	Register of Interest file held by Council and implemented. Declaration of Office signed by all members and copies held by Council.
Conduct					
Adoption of Codes of Conduct	3	1	3	Low	Codes of Conduct adopted by Council and implemented.
Welsh Language Policy					
Failure to implement policy.	5	1	5	Low	New Welsh Language Scheme has been implemented.

Reviewed 1/10/2024

REPORT AUTHOR: Town Clerk.
SUBJECT: Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales Draft Annual Report – 2025.26
REPORT FOR: Decision.

1. Summary.

- 1.1 To consider the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales Draft Annual Report – 2025.26.

2. Report.

- 2.1 Under the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011 Community and Town Councils are relevant authorities for the purpose of remuneration. Consequently, individuals who have accepted office as a member of a community or town council are entitled to receive payments as determined by the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales (the Panel). It is the duty of the proper officer of a council to arrange for correct payments to be made to all individuals entitled to receive them. Members should receive monies to which they are properly entitled as a matter of course. These payments are defined each year in the Panels annual report.

3. Deliberations and determinations for 2025.26.

- 3.1 There have been no changes made to payments for undertaking senior roles; allowances for Travel and subsistence; Care and Personal Assistance or Attendance allowance. The details of the deliberations of the panel are appended.

4. Recommendation.

- 4.1 It is recommended that the Town Council notes the content of the report, and any Member observations should be forwarded to the Panel as the Town Councils consultation response.

5. Reasons for recommendation.

- 5.1 To respond to statutory consultations.

Appendix 1.

Community and Town Councils

The Panel continues to mandate payments for the extra costs of working from home and payments for office consumables. There is no change to the Determinations made last year.

Mandatory payments: Determination 7

Payment for extra costs of working from home.

All councils must pay their members £156 a year (equivalent to £3 a week) towards the extra household expenses (including heating, lighting, power and broadband) of working from home.

Set payment for consumables.

Councils must either pay their members £52 a year for the cost of office consumables required to carry out their role, or alternatively councils must enable members to claim full reimbursement for the cost of their office consumables. It is a matter for each council to make and record a policy decision in respect of when and how the payments are made and whether they are paid monthly, yearly or otherwise. The policy should also state whether and how to recover any payments made to a member who leaves or changes their role during the financial year.

Compensation for financial loss: Determination 8.

Compensation for financial loss is an optional payment.

Previously, the Panel determined that an appropriate level of payment should be set at the daily rate of ASHE. To maintain this link, the figures for 2025 to 2026 are now proposed as: £126.74 for a full day and £63.37 for a half day.

Reporting requirements: Determination 9.

Community and Town Councils are required to submit an annual statement of payments to the Panel by the 30 September each year, and also publish this on their website. The Panel have provided a template return for clerks to use.

The Panel have discussed and considered changing the requirements for Community and Town Councils when submitting their statement of payment returns. The Panel's aim is to simplify administration and encourage Councils to ensure all mandatory payments are made to individual members. The returns need only show the total amounts paid in respect of the mandatory payments mentioned above.

Payments to Community and Town Councils Group 4 Councils (Electorate over 1,000 to 4,999).	
Senior role	Optional; up to 3 members
Mayor or chair	Optional; up to a maximum of £1,500
Deputy mayor or mayor chair	Optional; up to a maximum of £500
Attendance allowance	Optional
Financial loss	Optional
Travel and subsistence	Optional
Costs of care or personal assistance	Mandatory for all
Extra costs payment	Mandatory for all

REPORT AUTHOR: Town Clerk.
SUBJECT: Inquiry into the role, governance and accountability of the Community and Town Council Sector.
REPORT FOR: Decision.

1. Summary.

1.1 To respond to the Senedd's Local Government and Housing Committee inquiry into the role, governance and accountability of the community and town council sector.

2. Background.

2.1 The Local Government and Housing Committee has agreed to undertake an inquiry into the role, governance and accountability of the community and town council sector

2.2 The terms of reference for the inquiry are to examine:

- The role and value of community and town councils in Wales.
- Whether the sector is fit for purpose in an evolving local government landscape.
- Governance and scrutiny arrangements and its impact on accountability and transparency.
- Scope of digital and new technology to improve decision-making, service provision and participation in local democratic processes.
- How new powers and responsibilities for this tier of government are utilised to support communities.

2.2 The rationale for this recent inquiry is difficult assess, and One Voice Wales recently held a consultation meeting with member authorities to assist in drafting of their statement to be submitted to the committee. One Voice Wales themselves do not were aware of this consultation which in their words has appeared from "left field", and were perplexed over the over the decision given that there was a good working relationship with the Senedd over a number of the years following the most recent review of the sector undertaken by the independent review panel and published in 2018. The Town council did comment on that review which has been implemented with a number of the issues raised reflected in the Local Government an Elections (Wales) Act 2021.

2.3 The consensus from the meeting with one voice Wales at a number of the outcomes of that review is still valid and that: -

- The case had been made to retain Community and Town Councils on the basis that they are very local, are democratically accountable and are able to raise resources.
- That all communities should have a Community or Town Council
- Place based services to become the responsibility of Community and Town Council
- All clerks must hold or be working towards a professional qualification and CILCA should be the expected minimum qualification.
- A core package of training should be mandatory for all councillors and that this mandatory training is repeated regularly (every election term).
- Community and Town Councils should follow a cycle of engage, plan, undertake and report.
- All Community and Town Councils should have a duty to report annually.

2.4 However it is clear that a further investigation of the sector is underway and as well as One Voice Wales providing a generic evidence to the inquiry local each individual Town and Community Council is urged to make their own response. Therefore, a detailed submission has been prepared for consideration by members Ann is appended.

3. Recommendation.

3.1 It is recommended that the written statement once considered by Members should be forwarded to the Senedd's Local Government and Housing Committee.

4. Reasons for recommendation.

4.1 To respond to consultations.

Llangollen Town Council's Written Evidence to the inquiry into the role, governance and accountability of the community and town council sector.

Introduction

Llangollen Town Council appreciates the opportunity to respond to the consultation the role, governance and accountability of the Community and Town Council sector and wishes to comment on each of the elements to be considered within the terms of reference for the inquiry as detailed below and looks forward to further discussions on this important initiative to ensure any future changes benefit the sector.

The role and value of community and town councils in Wales.

Community and Town Councils are the first tier of local government, providing a direct link between residents and decision-makers. Councillors represent the views and needs of their constituents, ensuring that local voices are heard in broader governmental discussions. They manage and deliver essential local services provision of a wide range of public services and amenities, as is detailed in the Good Councillors guide, appendix, which was revised in 2022 by the former Minister for Finance and Local Government, Rebecca Evans MS

Community and Town Councils are a fundamental part of the local government system in Wales and play an important role in the life of Welsh communities. They have considerable potential to develop their role, to play a larger part in the provision of services and amenities and more effectively to represent the interests of their communities. They foster community spirit by encouraging participation in local initiatives by facilitating dialogue between residents and local authorities, helping to build a sense of belonging and ownership within communities. Building on this interaction councils are able to drive economic development by supporting local businesses and initiatives and create opportunities for local entrepreneurs and stimulate economic growth.

In addition, Community and Town Councils are well-placed to lead sustainability initiatives. By promoting local environmental projects and encouraging responsible practices, the sector can contribute to the well-being of the sectors communities and the preservation of the sectors natural resources. Community and Town Councils enhance democratic participation by providing platforms for residents to engage with local governance. This encourages transparency and accountability, vital for a healthy democracy. They play a crucial role in preserving and promoting local culture and heritage.

The sector actively collaborates with other local organisations, charities, and government bodies, amplifying their impact on community well-being. These partnerships enhance the sectors capacity to address complex challenges and leverage additional resources. In times of crisis, such as the COVID-19 pandemic, the sector has demonstrated its ability to respond swiftly using adaptability and local knowledge allowing it to mobilise reserves and resources to support residents.

Whether the sector is fit for purpose in an evolving local government landscape.

As frontline representatives of the sectors communities, Community and Town Councils are committed to ensuring the sector remains relevant, effective, and responsive to the needs of the residents. They provide a crucial link between residents and higher levels of government. The sector is accessible, enabling residents to voice concerns and influence decision-making in a direct and meaningful way and is adept in delivering diverse services that reflect the unique needs of their communities. From local events to maintenance of public spaces, the sector's focus is on enhancing community well-being and fostering civic engagement through various initiatives and events, strengthening communities and encouraging participation in local governance.

However, while Community and Town Councils strive to meet local needs, funding constraints can hinder the sector's ability to expand services or invest in long-term projects. Increased financial support is essential to enhance the sectors capacity. As communities evolve, so do their needs. Community and Town Councils have and must adapt to address issues such as housing and population growth, service delivery, and environmental sustainability. This requires continuous training and support for Councillors and staff.

There has been some disconnect between Community and Town Councils and larger local government frameworks but through strengthened collaboration with county councils and other agencies the sector has ensured that community voices are integrated into broader planning and decision-making processes. The sector firmly believes that, with the right support and resources, community and town councils can continue to be fit for purpose in an evolving local government landscape. Community and Town Councils are committed to adapting and enhancing the sectors' role to serve their residents effectively.

The current system provides both the legislative framework and a proven record of delivery. It allows the most pro-active councils to make a real difference to their communities through a wide range of imaginative initiatives. A number of councils have been willing to take on devolved services which have included asset transfers and are more than capable of undertaking major projects.

The key factors standing in the way of Community and Town Councils are twofold, the size of the council and the willingness of principle authorities to delegate functions or to work cooperatively. Principal councils and the Welsh Government should encourage and support all Community and Town Councils to take advantage of the opportunities open to them and should formalise relationships between Community and Town Councils and other bodies.

Many are party to charters with their respective principal councils but unfortunately whist the aim of a charter is to define and enhance the existing relationship between the respective tiers of local government unfortunately, in practice much of the aspects of the charter are not adhered to. This is particularly relevant in that Community and Town Councils have a statutory ability to deliver concurrent functions held jointly with county and county borough councils.

Governance and scrutiny arrangements and its impact on accountability and transparency.

Community and Town Councils operate under a clear governance framework defined by local and national legislation. This includes adherence to the Local Government Act 1972, which sets out the roles and responsibilities of councillors, ensuring that decision-making processes are transparent and accountable.

Strong and effective corporate governance is key to the future success of Community and Town Councils. They must always ensure that they have the mechanism in place to ensure efficient and effective operation. This should be supported by adequate financial and staff resources, supported by evidence of good practice, to ensure that all communities in Wales are able to benefit from strong local-level councils.

More robust Community and Town Councils would then be able to consider greater delegation of responsibilities for concurrent functions from principal authorities, which at present is currently limited. Town and Community Councils should also engage closely with their local communities and support the empowerment of citizens to become more involved with service delivery and to challenge poor practice.

Community and Town Councils' hold regular meetings, allowing residents to attend, engage in discussions, and raise concerns. This practice not only enhances transparency but also empowers citizens to participate actively in local governance. The sector also uses committee systems to focus on specific areas, such as finance, planning, and community services, which allows for more detailed scrutiny of decisions and policies. These committees are accountable for their recommendations, enhancing the overall governance framework.

All Community and Town Councils are now required to produce annual reports detailing the sectors activities an additional layer of scrutiny, ensuring financial accountability and transparency in the sectors operations.

This effective governance and scrutiny arrangements build public trust. When residents see transparent processes and understand how decisions are made, their confidence in local governance increases. Public participation in council meetings and decision-making processes empowers residents, making them feel more connected to local governance. This involvement encourages civic responsibility and engagement.

The scrutiny of decisions through committees and public feedback leads to better-informed decisions and greater responsiveness to community issues. Community and Town Councils can adapt policies based on community input, ensuring that the needs of residents are prioritised and that there is transparency in operations. When residents can access information about council activities, the public can hold their representatives accountable, fostering a culture of openness. By fostering this open and participatory environment, Community and Town Councils strengthen the sectors connection with the community and ensure that their voices are integral to local decision-making.

Scope of digital and new technology to improve decision-making, service provision and participation in local democratic processes.

The sector has embraced the potential of digital and new technology to enhance the sectors decision-making, improve service provision, and increase participation in local democratic processes. By embracing these advancements, Community and Town Council have more engaged and empowered communities, which has resulted in better governance.

Technology has, and will continue, to improve the management of Community and Town Council resources, such as scheduling maintenance for public spaces or tracking service requests. This leads to more efficient use of funds and improved service delivery. Digital technology enables the provision of services online, enhancing accessibility for residents, such as reporting issues, requesting services, and access information, reducing the need for in-person visits.

The sector uses digital platforms for community engagement. Channels, such as newsletters, social media, and mobile apps, keep residents informed about council activities, decisions, and provide opportunities for involvement, fostering more engagement with the electorate.

In turn this provides for more inclusive involvement with the public and has facilitated quicker and more inclusive feedback on council initiatives and proposals. Community and Town Councils must continue to embrace a range of media and consultation techniques to break down traditional barriers to participation. Additionally, the use of video conferencing tools allows residents to participate in council meetings remotely, increasing attendance and engagement. This is particularly important for those who may face barriers to attending in person.

Implementing digital platforms has streamline decision-making processes. Online tools for document sharing, collaboration, and real-time communication among have improved efficiency and transparency in discussions.

However, whilst digital technology offers many benefits, it is crucial to address the digital divide that exists in some communities. It is imperative to ensure that all residents have equal access to technology, which is not always the case, and digital literacy programs are essential to avoid excluding vulnerable populations.

How new powers and responsibilities for this tier of government are utilised to support communities.

As the sector navigates the evolving landscape of local governance, Community and Town Council are committed to using these powers to enhance the well-being of the local resident population to foster sustainable community development. The devolution of powers enables the sector to engage residents more actively in decision-making processes. By involving community members in discussions around local priorities, Community and Town Council empower them to shape the future of their own neighbourhoods.

With enhanced powers Community and Town Council can influence local projects that align with the aspirations of the sectors community. This includes participating in consultations and advocating for developments that benefit the sectors residents, such as affordable housing

and sustainable infrastructure. The duty under the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 has allowed the sector to promote environmentally friendly practices. Initiatives like community gardens, recycling programs, and energy efficiency projects contribute to a greener, healthier community.

New responsibilities have also empowered the sector to customise services that address the unique needs of local residents. The Community and Town Council have effectively managed local amenities, ensuring they are maintained and enhanced based on community feedback. They have, and continue to, acquire building and facilities via assets transfers from principal councils.

The empowerment of the sector has resulted in higher levels of resident engagement. Through initiatives such as public consultations and community workshops, the sector has fostered a greater sense of ownership among residents regarding local issues and projects. In addition, the ability to collaborate with other local authorities, organisations, and stakeholders has strengthened the sector's capacity to support community initiatives. By working together, 'councils can pool resources and expertise to address complex challenges that affect residents. This expansion of grassroots leadership has inspired more individuals to become Councillors.

Whilst the recent changes to legislation are welcomed by the sector, the underlying legislation the Local Government Act 1972, which at its time was a major milestone in the history of local government in the UK by redefining the procedures, structures, duties and geographies of all English and Welsh councils, is however over 50 years old. The White Paper that preceded the enactment stated that "local authority areas should be related to areas within which people have a common interest – through living in a recognisable community, through the links of employment, shopping or social activities, or through history and tradition." This ethos remains at the core of service delivery for Community and Town Councils, but the Act is outdated given the many changes in society and local government in Wales since 1972. New models more appropriate to Wales must be explored.

Appendix

Welsh Government: The good councillor's guide For Community and Town Councillors published June 2022

Activity	Powers and Duties	Statutory Provisions
Annual report	Duty to publish an annual report about council priorities, activities and achievements.	Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021, Section 52.
Annual meeting of the council	Duty to hold	Local Government Act 1972, Schedule 12, paragraph 23
Allotments	Powers to provide allotments Duty to provide allotment	Small Holdings and Allotments Act 1908, s23
Attendance at meetings by persons not in the same place	Duty to ensure meetings can take place virtually or partially virtually	Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021, Section 47
Borrowing	Subject to Welsh Ministers' consent power to borrow money for capital purposes	Local Government Act 2003 Schedule 1 para 2
Burial grounds, cemeteries and crematoria	Power, as a burial authority, to acquire and provide with a duty to maintain Power to agree to maintain monuments and memorials Power to contribute towards expenses of cemeteries	Open Spaces Act 1906, ss. 9 and 10 Parish Councils and Burial Authorities (Miscellaneous) Act 1970, s.1 Local Government Act 1972, s. 214
Bus Shelters	Power to provide and maintain shelters	Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1953, s.4
Bye Laws	Power to make byelaws for: Mortuaries and post mortem rooms Pleasure grounds Parking places Open spaces and burial grounds	Public Health Act 1936, s.198 Public Health Act 1875, s.164 Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, s.57(7) Open Spaces Act 1906, s.15
Charities	Powers regarding local charities	Charities Act 2011, Part 15
Christmas Lights	Power to encourage visitors	Local Government Act 1972, s.144
Citizens Advice Bureau	Power to support Citizens Advice Bureaus	Local Government Act 1972, s.142 (2A)
Climate change	Power to promote local energy	Climate Change and Sustainable

	saving measures	Energy Act 2006, s.20
Clocks	Power to provide public clocks	Parish Councils Act 1957, s.2
Closed Churchyards	Powers to maintain	Local Government Act 1972, s.215
Code of conduct	Duty to adopt a code of conduct	Local Government Act 2000, s. 51
	Duty on councillors to comply with the code of conduct	Local Government Act 2000, s. 52
Common land and village greens	Power to protect common land and village greens where the owner is not registered	Commons Act 2006, s.45
Community centres	Power to provide buildings for use of clubs having athletic	Local Government Act 1972, s.133 Local Government (Miscellaneous
Community meetings	Power to convene and duty to give notice	Local Government Act 1972, Schedule 12, paragraphs 30, 30D and 30E
Community polls	Power to organise a community governance poll (no other polls are permitted)	Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021, s162 and Schedule 13
Conference facilities and exhibitions	Power to provide facilities	Local Government Act 1972, s.144
Co-option of members	Powers to co-opt persons to fill vacancies	Representation of the People Act 1985, s21
	Duty to advertise	Local Elections (Parishes and Communities) (England and Wales) Rules 2006,
Crime prevention	Powers to spend money on various crime prevention measures	Local Government and Rating Act 1997, s.31
	Duty to exercise functions with regard to the effect on crime and disorder	Crime and Disorder Act 1998, s17
Drainage	Power to deal with ponds and ditches	Public Health Act 1936, s.260
Entertainment and the arts	Power to provide entertainment and support to the arts including festivals and celebrations	Local Government Act 1972, s.145
Environment (keeping it safe)	Duty to promote and enhance biodiversity	Environment (Wales) Act 2016 Section 6
Finance	Duty to make arrangements for the proper administration of the council's financial affairs and to secure that one of their	Local Government Act 1972, s151

	officers has responsibility for the administration of those affairs	
	<p>Duty to make a budget calculation</p> <p>Power to issue a precept to a billing authority</p> <p>Duty to keep accounts for audit</p> <p>Power to make financial contributions etc for the purpose of BID projects</p>	<p>Local Government Finance Act 1992, s.50</p> <p>Local Government Finance Act 1992, s.41</p> <p>Accounts and Audit (Wales) Regulations 2014</p> <p>Local Government Act 2003, ss. 43,58</p>
General power (s137)	Power to incur expenditure for certain purposes not otherwise authorised	Local Government Act 1972, s. 137
General power of competence	<p>Power to do anything that individuals generally may do (for eligible councils only).</p> <p>Power to restrict the power of local authorities to incur expenditure for certain purposes not otherwise authorised to councils that are not eligible community councils</p>	<p>Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021, Section 24.</p> <p>Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021, Section 37 and Part 2 of Schedule 3</p>
Gifts	Power to accept gifts	Local Government Act 1972, s.139
Highways	<p>Power to enter into agreement as to dedication</p> <p>Power to repair and maintain footpaths and bridleways</p> <p>Power to plant trees etc and to maintain roadside verges</p> <p>Power to complain to highway authority regarding protection of rights of way and roadside wastes</p> <p>Power to erect flagpoles etc on highways</p>	<p>Highways Act 1980, s.30</p> <p>Highways Act 1980, ss. 43, 50</p> <p>Highways Act 1980, s.96</p> <p>Highways Act 1980, s.130(6)</p> <p>Highways Act 1980, s.144</p>

	<p>Power to contribute to traffic calming schemes</p> <p>Power to provide roadside seats and shelters</p> <p>Power to light roads and public places</p> <p>Power to provide parking places</p> <p>Power to provide traffic signs and other notices</p>	<p>Highways Act 1980, s. 274A</p> <p>Parish Councils Act 1957, s.1</p> <p>Parish Councils Act 1957, s.3</p> <p>Road Traffic Regulation Act1984, s.57</p> <p>Road Traffic Regulation Act1984, s.72</p>
Investments	Power to participate in schemes of collective investment	Trustee Investments Act1961
Land	agreement, to appropriate, to dispose of land	Local Government Act 1972, ss.124, 126, 127
Litter	Power to provide receptacles in public places	Litter Act 1983, ss.5.6
Lotteries	Power to hold a lottery operating license	Gambling Act 2005, s.98
Marine management	Power to obtain advice from the Maritime Management Organisation	Marine management Paragraph 23(1), Schedule12,
Meetings	<p>Duty to hold annual meeting</p> <p>Duty to hold meeting within 14 days of a community council election</p> <p>Power to call extraordinary meeting</p> <p>Quorum for meetings</p> <p>Duty to notify time and place of meeting</p>	<p>Local Government Act1972 Paragraph 23(2), Schedule12, Local Government Act1972</p> <p>Paragraph 25, Schedule 12, Local Government Act 1972</p> <p>Paragraph 28, Schedule 12, Local Government Act 1972</p> <p>Paragraph 26(1)(a), Schedule 12, Local Government Act 1972 as amended by the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021, s.49 and Part 1 of Schedule 4</p>
Meeting notes	Duty to draw up meeting notes within 7 working days of the meeting.	Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 paragraph 12 of Schedule 4.
Meeting venues	Power to convene meetings at	Local Government and Elections

	any place the council directs whether inside or outside the council's area	(Wales) Act 2021, paragraph 20 of Schedule 4
Mortuaries and post mortem rooms	Powers to provide mortuaries and post mortem rooms	Public Health Act 1936, s.198
Minutes	Duty to draw up minutes of community meetings	Paragraph 35, Schedule 12, Local Government Act 1972
National Parks	Duty to have regard to purposes for which National Parks are designated	to the Countryside Act 1949, s.11A
Newsletters	Power to provide information relating to matters affecting local government	Local Government Act 1972, s.142
Officers and employees of the council standing for election	Right to stand for election to their employing council	Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021, Section 20
Open Spaces	Power to acquire land and duty to maintain them	Open Spaces Act 1906, ss.9 and 10
Property and documents	Powers to direct as to their custody	Local Government Act 1972 s.226,
Public buildings and village halls	Power to provide buildings for public meetings and assemblies	Local Government Act 1972, s.133
Public conveniences	Power to provide public conveniences	Public Health Act 1936, s.87 and Public Health (Wales) Act 2017 s.116
Public participation in meetings	Duty to provide members of the public with an opportunity to make representations about any business to be transacted at the meeting	Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021, Section 48
Public spaces protection orders	Right to be notified of proposal for an order	Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014, s.72
Publication	Duty to publish documents relating to the business of the meeting Duty to have a publication scheme	Paragraph 26(1)(aa), (b), Schedule 12, Local Government Act 1972 Freedom of Information Act 2000
Parks, pleasure grounds	Power to acquire land or to provide recreation grounds, public walks, pleasure grounds and open spaces and to manage and control them	Public Health Act 1875, s.,164 (Local Government Act 1972, Sched.14 para 27) Public Health Acts Amendment Act 1890, s.44 Open Spaces Act 1906, ss.9 and 10
Recreation	Power to provide a wide range of recreational facilities	Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976, s.19

Staff	Power to appoint staff	Local Government Act 1972, s.112
Standing orders	Power to make standing orders Duty to have a standing order with respect to contracts for the supply of goods and materials	Local Government Act 1972, Sch 12, para 42 Local Government Act 1972 s. 135 (2),
Status	Power for a community council to resolve that the community shall have the status of a town	Local Government Act 1972, s.245B
Town and Country Planning	Right to request the local planning authority for notification of	Town and Country Planning Act 1990, Schedule 1A, paragraph 2
Tourism	Power to contribute to certain organisations encouraging tourism	Local Government Act 1972, s.144 (2)
Training	Duty to publish a training plan setting out the training need of councillors and council staff	Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021, Section 67.
Transport	Power to establish car-sharing schemes Power to make arrangements for taxi fare concessions Power to investigate provision of public transport services and to publicise information on such services Power to make grants to for bus services	Local Government and Rating Act 1997, s.26 Local Government and Rating Act 1997, s.28 Local Government and Rating Act 1997, s.29 Transport Act 1985, s.106A
War memorials	Power to maintain, repair, protect and alter war memorials	War Memorials (Local Authorities' Powers) Act 1923 s.1; as extended by Local Government Act 1948 s.133
Website	Duty to make specified information available electronically	Local Government Democracy (Wales) Act 2013, s.55
Well-being of future	generations Duty to take all reasonable steps towards meeting local objectives in the local well-being plan (and to report annually) if the council's gross income or expenditure was at least £200k in each of the	Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015, s. 40

	3 years prior to publication of the local well-being plan	
Welsh language	Duty to comply with Welsh language standards	Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011, s. 25
Youth representatives	Power to appoint youth representatives	Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011 ss.118-119

REPORT: Market Street Public Toilets.
AUTHOR: Town Clerk.
REPORT FOR: Decision.

1. Summary.

1.1 To consider amended proposals for the operation of public toilets on Market Street in Llangollen.

2. Denbighshire County Council Public Toilets Strategy

2.1 Following the decision of the Town Council that that neither taking ownership nor covering the full cost of Denbighshire County Council running and maintaining the public toilets would be feasible for the Town Council, County Council officers have had a series of meetings with Town Mayor, Deputy Town Mayor and the Acting Town Clerk with the aim of working with the Town Council in order to get the best outcome for the Town.

2.2 As a result of these meetings the County Council wish to continue to provide toilets that are cost neutral and are now considering the following option.

- Increase cost of the charge to per use (initial thoughts are between 50-80p) and making the site a cashless facility only; there will be no provision for taking cash. Consideration for a summer and winter pricing strategy.
- remodel the staffing structure which will result in the provision becoming an unmanned site with a decrease in the staffing hours from 60 hours per week to 28 in the winter and 42 in the summer.
- Continue to pay the community toilet Grant scheme to The Wharf for use of the toilets and consider any other businesses that express an interest in joining the scheme.
- Continued use of Library facilities on days open.

2.3 These proposals only refer to the facilities on Market Street and no reference is made to the toilets at the Riverside Park which may also be facing closure. That said, the County Council Officers are taking a report on the proposals outlined above to Denbighshire County Council's Community Scrutiny Committee and then on to Cabinet to ensure full democratic process takes place and would appreciate further discussion on the proposals and as previously requested any suggestion that the Town Council has to enable us to work in partnership would be appreciated.

3. Recommendation.

3.1 It is recommended Members should

- a. consider the proposals identified in paragraph 2.2 and, if minded, agree in principle which of the proposals to support and forward the decision to Denbighshire County Council.
- b) to continue to work in partnership with the County Council to fulfil the Town Council and residents' desires that the County Council continue to provide toilet facilities in Llangollen.

4. Reasons for recommendation.

4.1 To support Town Council priorities and resolutions.