

Glyn Tarell Community Council - Annual Report for 2024/2025 – version 3 - final

Paul Woods (Chair), 11th June 2025

1. Introduction

This report covers the period June 2024 to May 2025 inclusive.

The Glyn Tarell Community Council currently comprises the following Councillors:

Paul Woods (Chair), Christina Rayner (Vice-chair), Pauline Hill, Edwin Harris

During the year Councillor John Murphy left the Council. The GTCC would like to thank John for his valuable contribution. Councillor Steve Coop joined the Council during the year but was unable to continue. We thank Steve for his diligent work in the short time he had on the Council.

County Councillor Raiff Devlin has provided regular reports to the monthly meetings and attended many of them and our thanks to him for this valuable link to the work of the County Council.

The GTCC met 10 times during the year in person at the Mountain Centre, and one meeting was held remotely on Zoom. Remote access via Zoom was made available for all meetings.

The GTCC are indebted to the diligent work of the Clerk to the Council, Susan Powell.

Residents in the GTCC area who would like to become Community Councillors are invited to contact Susan Powell on sueharveypowell@gmail.com. Additional Councillors will enable us to do more to support the Community.

2. Communications

A new website has been developed this year with an improved structure. The GTCC have placed notices of meetings, decision notices and minutes of meetings on notice boards and on the GTCC website. Messages have also been posted on the Facebook pages of Friends of Llanspyddid and Libanus Community Hall Trust

3. Planning

As a statutory consultee the GTCC has reviewed all planning applications submitted to the Bannau Brycheiniog National Park Authority for the GTCC area. No significant objections were raised to any of the applications reviewed.

4. Maintenance of Libanus playing field and equipment

Regular inspections of the Libanus playing field and equipment have been carried out including the annual RoSPA safety inspection procured through Powys CC. No major repairs were required. The football goal posts have been repainted. The rugby goal post has been removed as it was little used and a potential hazard.

GTCC are very grateful for the work of Martin Smith who has not just maintained the garden areas but carried out extensive new planting.

The area is mowed regularly with some perimeter areas left for wild flowers.

GTCC is investigating further improvements to the Parc including climbing frames for older children and better surfacing for the entrance footpath to make it more accessible to the elderly and wheelchair users. The area mowed may be reduced to improve biodiversity.

5. Maintenance of Llanspyddid churchyard and church field

The GTCC has arranged for regular grass cutting of the Church Field. Meetings have been held with the Area Ministry Leader and Assistant Curate for the Brecon and Epynt area to discuss the work needed to maintain St Cattwg's churchyard in the future.

After a successful grant application to Local Nature Partnership, the churchyard has been cleared and saplings removed. Wild flowers have been planted, bird boxes put up and a compost bin constructed all with local volunteer effort.

6. Pont-ar-Daf car park at Storey Arms and traffic issues

The new car park opened by the National Trust at Storey Arms has been monitored. It appears to be well-used with the charges not acting as a major disincentive. Nevertheless, at peak times in summer there are still many cars parked on the verge. GTCC remain concerned about safety in this area despite the 30mph speed limit set over weekends. The problem is exacerbated by the number of annual events that are planned such as charity walks.

GTCC remain concerned about speed limits through Libanus and Llanspyddid which are currently 50mph. Public meetings for each village are to be arranged with the relevant authorities by Councillor Raiff Devlin.

7. St Illtyd's churchyard

GTCC have carried out a survey of the trees in the churchyard to establish whether action is needed to improve public safety. It is likely that one dead tree will need to be cut back to a safe height.

8. Libanus URC chapel

GTCC are in negotiations with URC for the transfer of the chapel and surrounding land to the ownership of GTCC for community use. A draft constitution has been prepared for an organization to manage the chapel as a community facility.

9. Llanspyddid Path

The GTCC have continued to raise the issue of a new Path between the village and Brecon and note that this is now shown on the map produced as part of the local Active Travel Plan.

10. Finance

The expenditure has been in-line with budget with use made of some of the funds set aside for the playing fields maintenance. In view of the current bank balance and the cost-of living pressures, it was decided to keep the precept at the same level despite the relatively high level of inflation. The income to GTCC from the precept was £9,500.

Financial support was provided under Section 37 as follows:

Dial a Ride	£100.00
Wales Air Ambulance	£150.00
Friends of Llanspyddid	£12.00 website costs
Libanus Hall Trust	£250.00 Christmas tree and events
Friends of Llanspyddid	£250.00 Christmas events
Friends of LLanspyddid	£200.00 donation towards planter & picnic bench

For further details on other expenditure please see the annual accounts published separately.

11. Biodiversity

GTCC has a statutory duty to enhance bio-diversity and provide a report on progress made. The main achievement this year has been the improvements to the St Cattwgs' churchyard in Llanspyddid (see above). An updated report will be published on the GTCC website.

Friends of Llanspyddid organized a litter picking morning around the village and in the laybys on the A40 which proved very successful.

12. Governance

The Council has been using the One Voice Wales Finance and Governance toolkit to review its governance, adopting standard policies where appropriate. This work is ongoing. Updated financial regulations were approved at the 9th April 2025 meeting in accordance with the latest NALC model.

13. Training Plan

Councillors continue to take advantage of the training available from One Voice Wales and a Training Plan is regularly updated.