



CYNGOR TREF
PONTYPRIDD
TOWN COUNCIL

www.pontypriddtowncouncil.gov.uk



ANNUAL REPORT

2024 - 2025



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Introduction

Welcome to Pontypridd Town Council's Annual Report for 2024-25. The purpose of this report is to let local residents know what the Town Council has been doing over the past year, how it has spent its money, and to highlight some of our plans for the coming year.

The year 2024-25 was very busy for everyone at the Town Council. We were delighted to be able to support the National Eisteddfod which came to Pontypridd for the first time since 1893 (131 years ago). The Town Council set up a stall on the Maes which was well attended each day, and also ran a series of events during the Eisteddfod at Pontypridd Museum (Tymor Yr Haf). These events were very successful and a report on those events will be published shortly. We had recently completed our upgrades to the Museum, and this allowed the Museum space to be used for some outstanding musical events and Eisteddfod related exhibitions. The Christmas Lights Switch On is still a key event for local residents and following some small adjustments, the event was more successful than ever. The Graig Community Centre is now being used regularly for community events and forms part of our community hub network across Pontypridd. To support the development of this community network the Town Council have invested additional money in staff resources to support our communities, and will look to expand the level of community outreach as we move forward.

Our Annual Plan for 2024, which seeks to draw out the aspirations contained in the Forward Development Plan was agreed by Council. Our report on how we met those goals during 2024 can be found [here](#).

We continue to work with our key community partners as this report will demonstrate and in addition the report seeks to fulfil our obligations under the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021, and the Well-being of Future Generations Act 2015 in which we demonstrate how we are contributing to Cwm Taf Morgannwg's Wellbeing Plan. Our latest report on our biodiversity and responsibilities under the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 was prepared in June 2024. This report is updated every 3 years and will be rewritten for 2026.

Thank you for all your support and I hope you find this report interesting and that it answers any questions you may have. If not, please feel to contact us at the Town Council (info@pontypriddtowncouncil.gov.uk).



Cllr Lynda Davies
Leader
Pontypridd Town Council



Tony Graham
Chief Executive/Town Clerk
Pontypridd Town Council

Background

Pontypridd Town Council, a Community Council which can refer to itself as a Town Council, serves a population of over 30,000 residents across 10 wards: Cilfynydd, Glyncoch, Graig, Hawthorn & Lower Rhydyfelin, Town, Rhondda, Rhydyfelin Central, Trallwn, Treforest, and Upper Rhydyfelin & Glyntaf. Established in 1974, it remains one of Wales's largest Town/Community Councils, responsible for various services including bus shelters, allotments, open spaces (Berw Rd Field, Coedpenmaen Common), and community hubs at Taff Meadow, Meadow Street Garden, the Museum and Graig Community Centre.

Our mission is to enhance community well-being through strategic partnerships and dedicated services, evident in events like the Summer Events, and Christmas festivities.

Our 5 key strategic goals taken from the Forward Development Plan 2023-27 are:

- To be a well-run, accessible and inclusive organisation.
- A focus on people and community at the heart of our work.
- Improve our environment and biodiversity.
- Encourage and fund events, culture and arts that promote well-being.
- Continue to invest in the regeneration of our town and surrounding communities.

Our Mayor, during 2024-25 was Cllr Des Paul who attended a number of functions and events through the year as the Council's representative.

Spending Priorities

For the financial year 2024-25, the Council allocated a budget of £837,970 to maintain and improve services. The Council precept for a band D property was set at £77.81 for the year, representing excellent value for the services provided. This budget ensures sustained investment in community projects and infrastructure. Other grant and rental income allowed increased expenditure in areas important to our local communities.

Financial Overview

The Council's financial strategy includes maintaining a working balance of approximately £430,800 as of March 31, 2025. Key expenditure areas in the last financial year include:



MEADOW STREET COMMUNITY GARDEN

£6,950



EVENTS AND PROJECTS

107,250

ALLOTMENTS AND SMALLHOLDINGS

£17,000



COMMUNITY ROOMS

£1,000



DIRECT SERVICES

£36,550

TAFF MEADOW HALL

£16,650



STAFF

£534,940



MUSEUM

£62,800



ADMINISTRATION

£79,730

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

£33,000



Council Activities

We are delighted to report that community engagement, alongside investment in community assets (bus shelters, bins and benches) has increased again this year and plans are underway for a series of Summer events across our community using our different Town Council run facilities.



We have also ensured that our Small Grant Scheme (£200 grants to local community projects) has been funded again this past year as it has been helpful to many small community groups.



GRANTS AWARDED 2024/2025



£5200.00

FOOD BANK

£4000.00

GWYL
MORFYDD
FESTIVAL

£2000.00

MENTER IAITH
RhCT

£1500.00

CANAL
CONSERVATION
GROUP

£1000.00

RHYDFELIN
COMMUNITY
GROUP

£600.00

PONTYPRIDD
ARTS
TRAIL

£500.00

ROYAL
WELSH
REGIMENT

£500.00

RHYDFELIN
JAZZ
FESTIVAL

£282.18

FRIENDS OF
PONTYPRIDD
COMMON

£250.00

MEN'S
SHED

SMALL GRANTS SCHEME

£200.00

THE BEHAVIOUR
SUPPORT HUB

£200.00

TRALLWYNG
INFANTS

£200.00

ST CATHERINE'S
CHURCH

£200.00

MAESYCOED
PRIMARY
SCHOOL

£200.00

PONTYPRIDD
REFEREES
SOCIETY

£200.00

PONTYPRIDD
AIR
CADETS

£200.00

PONTYPRIDD
WOMEN'S
INSTITUTE

£200.00

PONTYPRIDD
CRICKET
CLUB

£200.00

WALKING
NETBALL
WARRIORS

£199.65

COEDPENMAEN
PRIMARY
PTA

£169.89

GROWING
SPACE
PONTYPRIDD

£189.66

MEADOW CRAFT

£150.00

ST MATTHEW'S
MOTHERS
UNION

£119.98

ST DYFRIG'S
COMMUNITY
HALL

£80.00

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GRANTS RECEIVED

Food Support Fund RCTCBC	£1,000	Meadow Street Community Woodland & Garden
Graig Warm Hub	£1,000	Graig Warm Hub
Monday Warm Hub	£1,800	Monday Meet Up
Neighbourhood Network	£1,000	Monday Meet Up/Meadow Street Community Woodland & Garden
Shared Prosperity Funding	£12,480	Community Connector
Shared Prosperity Funding	£8,046.25	Graig Community Centre / Meadow Street Community Woodland & Garden
The Woodland Investment Grant	£85,144.22	Meadow Street Community Woodland & Garden
New to Nature	£2,178.29	Meadow Street Community Woodland & Garden Staff
Transport for Wales	£293.32	Meadow Street Community Woodland & Garden
Christmas Event Grant RCTCBC	£5,000	ChristmasLights Switch On
BID Ponty In Bloom	£5,000	Ponty In Bloom
Federation Museums in Wales, Small Grant SG2024/2025/011	£10,000	Replace Museum Gallery Lighting
Federation Museums in Wales, Small Grant SG2024/2025/035	£3,000	Enviro Controls equipment
Federation Museums in Wales, Small Grant SG2024/2025/042	£3,000	Additional Enviro equipment
Federation Museums in Wales, Conference Grant T&C2024/2025/025	£468	MA Conference tickets x2
Welsh Government Emergency Funding 2024-MCW-007	£10,000	Flood gates, boiler damage and amenities

Investment in, and use of, the Museum has been a key feature of the Council's activities in the past year. New carpets and lighting have been put in place and new high quality display cabinets have been purchased. This has allowed key exhibitions to be put on over the past 12 months. A report on the events, exhibitions and activities at the Museum can be found online.

Allotments and Land Holdings

The Council has made significant improvements to allotment provisions in recent years, increasing accessibility and reducing waiting times. Enhancements include creating disabled access plots and installing compost toilets. Additionally, we invested in the refurbishment of community spaces, notably in the Museum building, enhancing facilities for community use.

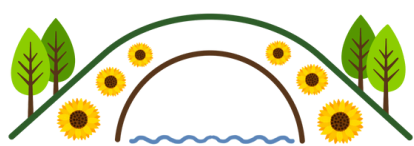
During 2024-25 we have undertaken two Land Use Development Plans at Berw Road Field and Coedpenmaen Common. The first of these at Berw Road is currently being implemented with the support of local residents and we hope to see an improved landscape with enhanced biodiversity in the coming 12 months. The project at The Common will take more time and resources due to the size and complexity of the area and we will report progress in future reports.

The 2 year development of Meadow Street Community Garden and Forest has now been completed, and we have a wonderful area for the local community, families and schools to enjoy. The site continues to win awards, and we recently enjoyed a visit from the Prince and Princess Of Wales to the site



Staffing

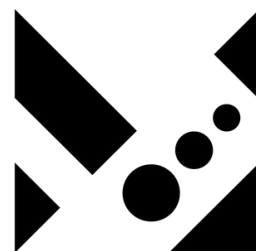
The Council continues to develop and support the staff team under the leadership of the Chief Executive supported by the Council. Staff benefit from annual appraisals and regular staff meetings and are encouraged to develop both professionally and personally. New members of staff have been added and successfully embedded into the Community Development team.



MEADOW STREET
COMMUNITY
CYMUNED
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AM GUEDDFA
PONTYPRIDD
MUSEUM



The Forward Development Plan and our Annual Plans

The Council have a 4 year Forward Development Plan which is available on our website [here](#). To make sure progress is made and that the Town Council is accountable we developed an action plan for 2024 which took various goals from the Forward Development Plan and set those out as actionable targets for the Staff and Councillors. We promised the local community when we developed the Forward Development Plan that we would be accountable for the actions in that plan and the annual plan is our way of ensuring we fulfil that promise.

Here you can find the [report on the annual plan for 2024](#) and the [annual plan for 2025](#).

The Council's Duties Under S6 Environment (Wales) Act 2016

Community and Town Councils in Wales have a legal responsibility to protect and enhance the environments and improve biodiversity in their areas wherever possible. Councils prepare a report setting out their activities in this are every 3 years and the Council's previous report can be found [here](#). An updated report is being prepared and will be published as soon as it is available.

Looking Forward

In the coming year, the Council will focus on:

- Delivering the annual plan for 2025
- Developing Community Events including Tymor Yr Haf during the Summer of 2025
- Continuing the development of the Meadow Street Community site
- Promoting community projects
- Protecting and enhancing assets including the bus shelter cleaning contract
- Work with partners to improve facilities across the Town
- Improving our Community Centre provision including increasing provision at The Graig Community Centre
- Expanding community partnerships especially focusing on youth and elderly provision
- Development of the Museum through additional grants



Councillor Attendance

An analysis of Councillor attendance from May 2024 to April 2025 reflects the commitment of Council members to their roles, ensuring robust governance and accountability.

MAY 2024 - APRIL 2025

	Invites	Attendance	Percentage		Invites	Attendance	Percentage
Bengough, Lyndon	31	21	67.74	Lisles, Cathy	32	26	81.25
Brencher, Jayne	17	14	82.35	Morgan, Carol	17	16	94.12
Carter, Steve	17	16	94.12	Paul, Desmond	12	11	91.67
Cooper, Andrea	21	2	9.52	Powderhill, Steve	11	6	54.55
Davies, Anne	16	4	25	Presse, Susan	27	0	0
Davies, Lynda	31	27	87.1	Powell, Mike	16	3	18.75
Fychan, Heledd	27	14	51.85	Pritchard, Simon	32	31	96.88
Griffiths, Eleri	26	17	65.38	Roberts, Chris	26	23	88.46
Gronow, Hywel	21	12	57.14	Thomas, Carl	31	27	87.1
Kabid, Aminur	22	16	72.73	Tomkinson, Loretta	31	23	74.19
Karadog, Angela	17	15	88.24	Wood, Dawn	21	6	28.57
Lewis, Lianne	16	2	12.5				

Meeting Well-Being Objectives

The Town Council aligns its initiatives with the Well-being of Future Generations Act 2015, focusing on sustainable development and community well-being. Key objectives include promoting safe and thriving communities, encouraging healthy lifestyles, and fostering a resilient local economy.

Although the Town Council is not part of the Public Service Board, we are also committed to helping our Local Health Board (Cwm Taf Morgannwg) achieves its goal of 'A More Equal Cwm Taf Morgannwg' and the well-being objectives set out in its most recent plan for 2023-28 as described below.

Objective 1:

Healthy Local Neighbourhoods

We want our communities to feel connected and to that end we have developed a number of local projects based at our community hubs. We have also added staff resources to ensure these projects are successful. We will ensure that local community hubs are well resourced and provide local access to services helping people to live their lives locally and minimise the effects of loneliness and isolation.

Objective 2:

Sustainable and Resilient Local Neighbourhoods

The Town Council are very conscious of the risk of climate change and over recent years have been working hard to protect and maintain our precious green spaces and improve biodiversity in areas where we can have a significant impact. Our projects at Berw Rd, Coedpenmaen Common and Meadow Street show our commitment to doing all we can to ensure these areas are maintained for the benefit of local communities.

We have also been taking active steps to promote recycling across the organisation and reduce energy consumption.

Well-Being Goals and Ways of Working

The Town Council has at the heart of all decision making, the 5 ways of working:



COLLABORATION



PREVENTION



INTEGRATION

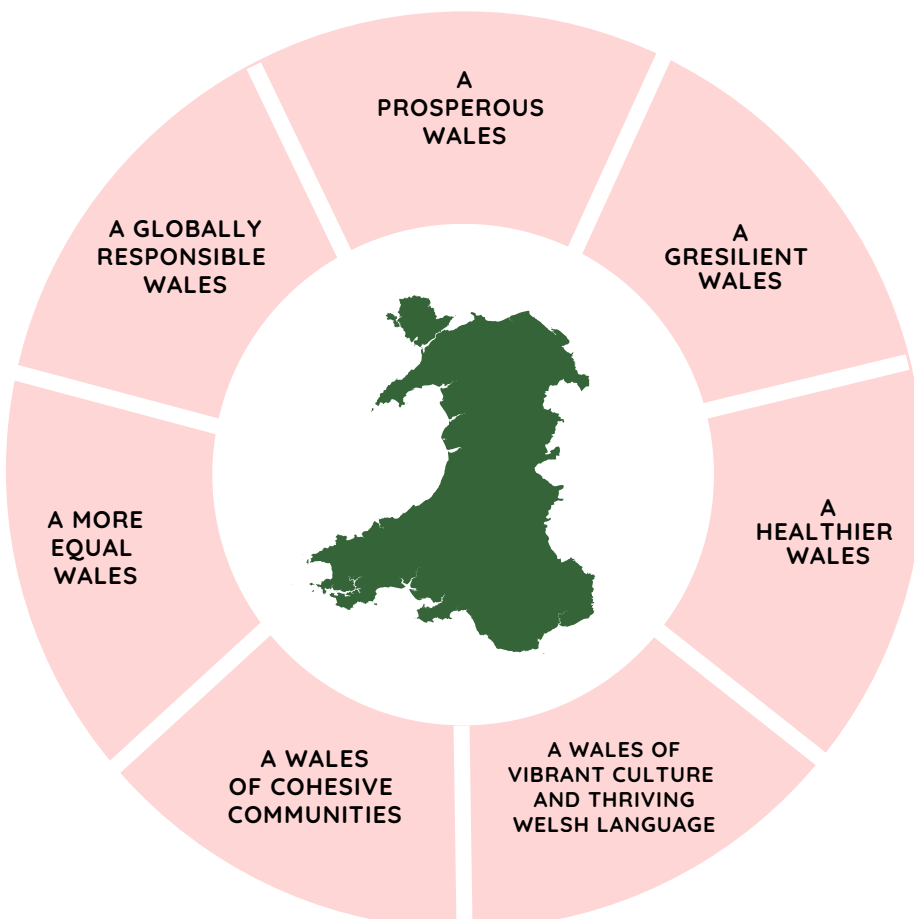


INVOLVEMENT



LONG-TERM
WORKING

We are always considering the following 7 well-being goals:



As delivered under the umbrella of the sustainable development principle.

This report therefore outlines how the Town Council has in the last financial year taken all such reasonable steps in the work that it has undertaken to meet 3 published objectives.

Conclusion

We hope you have enjoyed reading about the last year of activity at the Town Council. Thank you to all our Councillors, residents and local businesses for your continued support.

We also want to place on record our grateful thanks for all our staff team who have worked tirelessly over the last year to achieve everything detailed in this report.

We look forward to serving you in the coming year and making Pontypridd an even better place to live and work.



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