

**LLANTYSILIO**  
**COMMUNITY**  
**COUNCIL**



**CYNGOR**  
**CYMUNED**  
**LLANTYSILIO**

**DATES OF MEETINGS - 2019**

**Community Council Meetings are held on the first Monday in the month  
at 7 pm in the Conquering Hero Community Centre, Rhewl.**

January	no meeting
February	4th
March	4th
April	1st
May	13th - Annual Meeting
June	3rd
July	1st
August	no meeting
September	2nd - Open meeting
October	7th
November	4th
December	2nd

**For further information contact the Clerk to the Council. Tel – 01978 861451**

**LLANTYSILIO COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

**COUNCILLORS:**

*Telephone*

Roger Cragg	861593	<i><u>Clerk to the Council:</u></i> <i>Mrs Sandra Baker</i> <i>Rockcliffe</i> <i>Abbey Road</i> <i>Llangollen</i> <i>LL20 8EF</i>
J. G. Evans - Vice Chairman	07962229597	
David Walton - Chairman	860967	
Steven Evans	860753	
Arfon Jones	860138	
Rhys Hughes	860335	<i>Telephone: 01978 861451</i> <i>Email: llantysilio.cc@btinternet.com</i>
Paul Davies	860173	
Maggie Smith	861156	
John Pickett	860021	

## [Fire on Llantysilio Mountain](#)

Denbighshire County Council's Communities Scrutiny Committee will be examining evidence from last summer's fire on Llantysilio Mountain and its impact on the local area.

For this purpose an evidence gathering meeting of the Committee will be held at the International Pavilion, Abbey Road, Llangollen at 10 am on Wednesday 20th March 2019. this meeting will have a morning and afternoon session and will be open to the public.

The inquiry is not intended to apportion blame on any individual, service, organisation or group with respect of the fire or its management. Its aim is to understand what happened and learn lessons from the event in a bid to improve the management of similar incidents in future, and minimise the disruption caused to nearby communities and businesses.

At the morning session the Committee will be examining evidence relating to the emergency services and other public organisations responses, to the fire along with their management of the incident.

The afternoon session will be devoted to reviewing evidence relating to land management matters, and the fire and incident management's effect on local businesses, residents and communities.

Representation from various services, organisations, communities and Businesses, either involved or affected by the fire, will be invited to give evidence at the meeting. In the meantime the Committee would also like to hear from individuals affected by the fire, about their experiences during this time and the impact it has had on them, their business or Community, since.

If you have any photographic, video or written evidence you would like the Committee to consider please sent it to:

Rhian Evans  
Scrutiny Co-ordinator  
Democratic Services  
Denbighshire County Council  
County Hall  
Wynnstay Road  
RUTHIN  
LL15 1YN

Or by email to: [rhian.evans@denbighshire.gov.uk](mailto:rhian.evans@denbighshire.gov.uk)



# COMMUNITY CORNER

## CYNGOR CYMUNED LLANTYSILIO COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Gwanwyn / Spring 2019

Rhyfyn / Issue 26

### Items in this Edition.

#### Page 2

*Fire on Llantysilio Mountain*

#### Page 4

*Llantysilio Community Council.*

#### Page 6

*Pentredŵr Community Association.*

#### Page 7

*Pentredŵr Olympics*

#### Page 8

*Gardeners Corner*

#### Page 10

*A Special Day of Remembrance.*

#### Page 12

*Tidy Towns Team Annual Report*

#### Page 14

*Forecasting Stone*

## Donation to Wrexham Maelor Hospital



A series of quizzes, held before Christmas in the Sun Inn, Rhewl, raised £650.00 for the Critical Care Unit at Wrexham Maelor Hospital. It was a thank-you to the hospital for saving the life of Shep, (centre of photo), who is not only Vice Chairman of Llantysilio Community Council but someone who is well known to everyone in the community

The money was gift-aided, which means that the hospital will receive 25% extra on top of the donation. The cheque was presented at the end of January 2019. The money will be spent on a garden within the Critical Care Ward. This will enable patients to spend time in a pleasant outside space whilst rehabilitating.

Pictured above are Jess, Ieuan and Ela Evans, (managers of the Sun Inn, Rhewl), Brian Hughes and Dave who frequented the quizzes, as well as the staff from the ward.



**Welsh Cakes**

12oz self-raising flour  
 8oz margarine  
 5oz sugar  
 5oz dried fruit (currants and sultanas)  
 1 egg  
 A little milk  
 1/2 teaspoon mixed spice  
 Pinch of salt

- Sieve flour and salt together and rub in the butter
- Add sugar, fruit and spice
- Mix in beaten egg and enough milk to make a stiff dough.
- Roll out to 1/2 inch thickness. Cut into 3 inch rounds.
- Cook on a lightly greased griddle or frying pan on a moderate heat for 4 minutes each side.
- Make sure the cakes are cooked through. Sprinkle with sugar or eat with butter and jam.

**Police Contact Advice**

Telephone 999 in an emergency where there is a danger to life or a crime is in progress. Telephone 101 for **non**-emergencies where police attendance is required, to report a crime or to report any other incident. Calls to 101 have a fixed rate cost of 15p per call.

**Dee Valley Policing Team**

PS 2143 Martin Jones	<a href="mailto:martin.jones2@nthwales.pnn.uk">martin.jones2@nthwales.pnn.uk</a>
PCSO 22637 Delia Bellis	<a href="mailto:delia.bellis@nthwales.pnn.uk">delia.bellis@nthwales.pnn.uk</a>
PCSO 2914 Ceri Evans	<a href="mailto:ceri-louise.evans@nthwales.pnn.uk">ceri-louise.evans@nthwales.pnn.uk</a>
PCSO 2889 Karl Joseph	<a href="mailto:karl.joseph@nthwales.pnn.uk">karl.joseph@nthwales.pnn.uk</a>

*For further information contact: - Owl Cymru Neighbourhood Watch  
 Email: [watch@owlcymru.org](mailto:watch@owlcymru.org) / telephone: 01352 708118*

Activity continues with a meet at least once a month and with no sign yet of the chance of retirement for the 18 members of the Team.

48 full sacks of litter have been collected this year (double that of 2017) with the main problems area continuing to be the road into Llangollen from Trevor along by the "Hawthorn". Litter from along the Panorama, on Dinas Brân castle hill and around the Wharf adds to our collection.

Work in "Cemetery Woods" continues but unfortunately much of the yew hedge we transplanted there in the summer from around the Cenotaph area has failed to take. Young yews, as we acquire them, are being planted along the precipice edge. A challenge for 2019 is the removal of a couple of very tall Hemlock trees.

In partnership with DCC Countryside Services we tried our hand at hedge laying this year along the main footpath leading from the Town up to Dinas Brân Castle. We are pleased that one of our members subsequently participated in a hedge laying competition achieving a certificate for second place.

We have repaired and repainted a few seats in Plas Newydd and undertaken significant gardening and hedge cutting work around the Llangollen Health Centre.

Our services continue to be provided at the Town Christmas Festival day with our erecting stalls, traffic assistance during the Parade and fireworks and end of day clear up. Attendance at this event this year was enhanced with the use of the new "Town Square" area.

A special thank you to the Team retiring from their activities of the past seven years of daily collecting horse manure from along the canal tow path and for the income generated towards the cost of our activities.

Finally a big thank you to all Members of the Team for over 500 hours of voluntary work during the year and to our Supporters for their continued encouragement.

**David Davies**

**Co-ordinator**

**Llangollen Tidy Town Team**

Email: [yand.davies@btinternet.com](mailto:yand.davies@btinternet.com)

Telephone: 01978 860557

*Supported in 2018 by Llangollen Town Council / DCC / Keep Wales Tidy / Horse Drawn Boats*

**Footnote: -**

*Friday 1st March 2019 - collected eleven sacks of litter along the Panorama.*

*Friday 5th April 2019 - plan to paint some railings along the footpath leading up to the Wharf, also litter-pick along the canal bank opposite the Wharf and cut back vegetation on the castle path by Ysgol Dinas Brân.*

“The problem of dealing with large numbers of tourists at sites of beauty or historical interest has reached crisis proportions”. This is an extract from an article written in the Denbighshire Historical Society Handbook by Gwyn Thomas in 1975, but the ‘problems’ he is talking about are taking place in the previous century.

The guide books of the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries, with their now well-known engraved prints of particularly attractive sites, show that a travelling public existed, even if it was restricted to the educated leisured class. As the nineteenth century progressed, travelling and sight-seeing spread rapidly down the social scale, and came within the range of tens of thousands.

The spread of leisure travelling was most widespread, of course, after areas had been opened up by the growing railway network. We are familiar with the effects of this trend on coastal resorts; what is less commonly encountered is the evidence of the impact on inland sites such as Valle Crucis Abbey, and also the reactions of local people to the tourists. It is obvious from writings of previous centuries that the problems we are facing today regarding the tourist impact on rural communities is not a new one.

**Sandra Baker**

---

### The Probus Charm!

Bob, a 70-year old, extremely wealthy widower, arrived at the Probus meeting with a breathtakingly beautiful 25-year-old blonde, who knocked everyone’s socks off with her charm, and who hung over Bob’s arm and listened intently to his every word.

His friends at the club were all aghast. At the very first chance they cornered him and asked, “Bob, how’d you get the trophy girlfriend?”

“Girlfriend? She’s my wife”.

Astounded, they asked: “So, how’d you persuade her to marry you?”

“I lied about my age,” Bob replied.

“What, did you tell her, you were only 50?” they asked.

Bob smiled and said: “No, I told her I was 95”.

---

*Llangollen Probus Club meet in the Hand Hotel, Llangollen every Tuesday morning 10.30 am to 12.00 pm. If you are a retired gentleman with a couple of hours to spare why not join us for coffee and a chat. We are an easy going group who love putting the world to rights. We also have group outings. The last trip was on the 27th February when we went to see Concorde in Manchester.*

*If you are interested in joining just come along one Tuesday morning. Alternatively, join us for coffee and a chat with no obligations. You will be made very welcome.*

*For more information contact Tony Baker on 01978 861451*

The Community Centre is available for hire for meetings or parties and for overnight accommodation.

For further information contact - Cath Jones on 07769512543

Or e-mail [cathpentredwr@yahoo.com](mailto:cathpentredwr@yahoo.com)

The guide prices are as follows:-

Mornings 09.00 to 13.00

Afternoon 13.00 to 17.00

Monday to Friday £20.00

Saturday - Sunday £25.00

### Evening sessions

Evenings 17.00 to 23.00

Monday to Friday £30.00

Saturday - Sunday £50.00



*An event taking place inside the Community Centre. (Facebook)*

### Overnight

£10.00 per person per night

For overnight accommodation the Centre can accommodate a maximum of 15 people.

The Centre has a brand new shower room and fully fitted kitchen - it is ideal for scout or guide groups.

Pentredŵr is situated 3 miles from Llangollen and the Centre is within easy walking distance of the Britannia Inn.

### Community Corner

This Newsletter is published twice yearly, in March and September. It takes a lot of time and effort, but the bulk of my time is spent trying to find articles to fill this small magazine. If you have anything of interest you wish to place in the Autumn edition please do contact me. My email address and telephone number are on the back page.

On a more positive note, I’d like to say a big thank-you to everyone who did contribute to this edition of Community Corner...you know who you are!

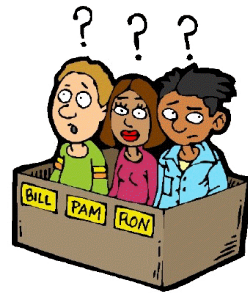
If you have an article you want me to include in the next edition please ensure I receive it before the 24th August 2019.

**Sandra Baker**

Community Corner Quiz - answers.

1. Barrel 2. Mill 3. Iron 4. Flow 5. Cisterns 6. Aqueduct 7. Chainbridge 8. Waterfall 9. Swim 10. Bailiff 11. Watercolour 12. Lilly-pad 13. Well 14. Flood 15. Wellies 16. Tank 17. Steam-train 18. Canoe 19. Ice-pack 20. Iceberg.





1. Collect rain for the garden.....
2. Grinds flour .....
3. Smooths clothes .....
4. Eddy?.....
5. W.C. ....
6. Connect Trevor to Fron .....
7. Hotel a mile out of town .....
8. Stream in a downward direction .....

9. A floating sensation at night .....
- 10 Poachers Beware .....
11. A painting but not oils .....
12. A pad on a pond.....
13. Look for puss down here .....
14. River out of control .....
15. You need these in bad weather .....
16. Purification plant .....
17. Flying Scotsman is the best .....
18. Found on a river .....
19. Soothes a bruise .....
20. Titanic's downfall .....

Answers are somewhere in this newsletter!! Good luck.

## CHARITY QUIZ NIGHTS

**The Sun Trevor Llangollen**

**Wednesday 8.30 start,  
£2.00 per player**

**Interval Picture Round**

**Delicious homemade chips at half time**

**Proceeds in aid of Nightingale House Hospice**

*Sunday,  
11th November  
2018, 11 am.*

*Cllr. Mrs Maggie Smith lays a wreath to commemorate those from the Council's area who gave their lives in the two World Wars.*



*This photograph was taken from opposite the Royal Hotel and shows the new town square and revamped War Memorial. It also shows the extent of support and comradeship on a very special day.*



*The photograph on the left is of the carpet of poppies made by residents of Llantysilio and Llangollen. These were placed on the railings of Llantysilio Cemetery.*

*We must thank all those involved in making these poppies, especially Mrs Sheena Grindley who's enthusiasm resulted in a magnificent display of poppies in*



It all started when the young people of the village of Pentredŵr went on their weekly walk up to the Ponderosa Café which, as most of you know, is situated at the top of the Horseshoe Pass, where they usually had an ice cream and a soft drink.

In hot weather the Blue Pool, at the local quarry, was a favourite place to visit. On one occasion the youngsters found an old lorry tyre and carefully rolled it back to Pentredŵr. Care had to be taken as they ventured down the old Pass. If it had rolled away it would have ended up in the village doing untold damage on its way down!

They hid the tyre in the hedge near the White Hart. Each evening they gathered and rolled the tyre around the three corners of the village. Someone brought an alarm clock so they could time each run. The usual time was 3 minutes 45 seconds.

During the summer holidays a visiting boy had a stop watch which was wonderful! Using the timer one of the older boys did it in 3 minutes 35 seconds. This record still stands today. Sadly the tyre was stolen and the games came to an end.

***John Pickett***  
***Pentredŵr***

**Adorable Pups!**

I couldn't resist this photo of a very contented, if tired, mum and her seven puppies.

They belong to Cllr. Mrs Maggie Smith who must be very proud of these little furry bundles.

They are now 6 months old, not quite as small as pictured and very active so I imagine Maggie is feeling rather 'tired' herself!



**Llangollen Library and One Stop Shop - Opening Hours**

<i>Monday</i>	<i>9.30 am - 7.00 pm</i>	<i>Telephone: 01978 869606</i>
<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>9.30 am - 5.00 pm</i>	
<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>9.30 am - 5.00 pm</i>	
<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Closed</i>	
<i>Friday</i>	<i>9.30 am - 5.00 pm</i>	
<i>Saturday</i>	<i>9.30 am - 12.30 pm</i>	

When we first moved to Rockcliffe the garden was a wilderness. Having been neglected for years the surrounding woodland had taken over, hook line and sinker! The first January I noticed a small patch of purple flowers at the top of the garden which, at that time, was completely inaccessible as it's on a very steep slope and was completely overgrown with brambles.

When we eventually cleared the area I discovered these wonderful irises, (pictured below), which flower during January/February and add a bit of colour to a winter garden. It was only recently that I discovered, (thanks to a very green fingered friend), that they are 'iris unguicularis' (stylosa).



This plant seems to thrive on neglect and really awful soil. Its natural habitat is a lightly shaded rocky area and dry alkaline soil. The flowers are very delicate and don't take kindly to being picked. Useless for an indoor display as they begin to die as soon as parted company from the plant.

Over the years I have split them and now have the plants all over the garden. At the moment they are in full flower and, even though for the rest of the year they resemble a clump of long green grass, they are a joy at the time of year when we all need a bit of cheering up!

**Ladybirds!**

During a short sunny spell in December last year the front of our house was covered in dozens of ladybirds. They were obviously enjoying the warmth of the sun, which was shining directly on the outside wall and windows. (I hasten to add that they were our native ladybirds and not aliens).

I thought no more of this unusual incident until, over Christmas, I kept finding what looked like dead ladybirds in the spare bedroom. Of course, they weren't dead but hibernating, and when disturbed tended to just walk away.

I've now, (sort of), become used to these small creatures living, rent free, in the bedroom, but I'm not sure if I'm doing them any kindness by allowing them to stay. Should I put them outside now or wait until the warmer weather? If anyone out there can tell me I'd be most grateful.

***Sandra Baker***



Do you live in an old house or know of one in your vicinity?

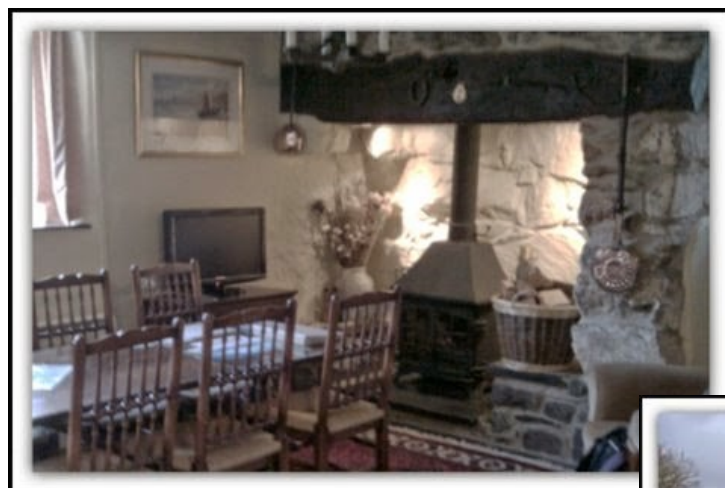
The local history group, Discovering Old Welsh Houses, is in the process of compiling a list of all houses in North Wales which predate 1700 or thereabouts. We have a list created in 1696 which we wish to amend, deleting those properties which have been destroyed and adding others which were omitted from the original survey.

I am collating the list for this area and would appreciate if you could contact me with any information at [melwilks51@gmail.com](mailto:melwilks51@gmail.com)

For more information about this history group, please visit us at [www.discoveringoldwelshhouses.co.uk](http://www.discoveringoldwelshhouses.co.uk)

Below are some photographs of our visit to Llwyn Bedw, Waunfawr in Snowdonia.

### *Mel Wilks*



The main Snowdonia - plan house has an offset inglenook fireplace and large beams, dated to 1584/5, with the sampling hole location and later a corner fireplace.



The outside view of the main building, which probably dates back to the mid 16th century. The house, as it is today, has been well maintained with lawn gardens at the front.



The parlour wing with its large undated beams and plaster shield with the Collwyn ap Tangno device. It is thought that the parlour comprised the original house which is mentioned in a 1583 document.

## Llantysilio Community Council

### **Cemetery**

The Council has received confirmation from the owners of Llantysilio Estate that they are **not** willing to sell any land to the Community Council for the extension of the cemetery.

As there are only two available plots left for burials it was agreed to investigate the possibility of utilising the area by the entrance gate. This area was originally deemed as unsuitable for full interments as the bedrock lies too near the surface, but with today's modern technology, this problem could be overcome. If this proves impossible the only other option will be use the area for the burial of ashes only.

### **Roadside Gorse**

The Council has asked DCC to cut back the roadside gorse along the stretch of road from the Britannia Inn to Oernant corner.

Following the fire on Llantysilio mountain last year the Council felt it prudent to take every precaution, as lighted cigarettes, thrown from passing vehicles onto dry gorse could prove disastrous.

### **Water Gully at Dinbren**

It was reported to the Council that, in wet weather, water running down Dinbren hill is by-passing the water gully and flooding the road.

The Clerk has asked DCC to give this matter priority as this could prove very dangerous in icy conditions.

### **Traffic Lights**

Concern was expressed at the Council's meeting in November at the impact on the area, caused by traffic lights on Llangollen Bridge. Vehicles trying to by-pass these lights at King's Bridge caused a complete bottle-neck.

The Council asked County Councillor Timms to keep it informed of any plans regarding road access /maintenance in Llangollen as it has a knock-on effect in rural areas.

### **Councillor's Resignation**

In October Cllr. Mrs Rachel Horne tendered her resignation from the Community Council on the grounds of ill health.

Rachel has been a member of the Community Council for many years and we were all sad to see her go. On a brighter note, she has promised to attend some of the Council's meeting, as a spectator, to which she will be very welcome.

### **New Councillor?**

Having adhered to all the legal requirements regarding co-opting a replacement for Rachel, Rhys Hughes was unanimously elected and will take his place as a community councillor for Llantysilio in February 2019.

It is really a case of welcome back Rhys - as he has already served a lengthy term as a community councillor and, of course more recently, as our County Councillor.

### **Llantysilio Green**

The Council has received numerous complaints of overnight parking on Llantysilio Green. There are notices in place prohibiting overnight parking but these are being ignored. It is a 'pay and display' car park but, being in such a rural area, this is difficult to police.

The toilets on the Green are overseen and maintained by John Gambles, Cymdeithas y Cwm. John keeps these toilets looking spic and span and deserves a big 'thank you' as it's not a very nice job!

The Green is overseen by DCC Countryside Services but comes under the ownership of the National Trust. The Community Council also assists with overseeing the area with the Council's Chairman, Cllr. David Walton checking all is well on a daily basis.

### **Completion of Audit 2017/18**

In accordance with the Accounts and Audit Regulations (Wales) Regulation 2014, the Council's Accounts for 2017/18 have been completed by the Wales Audit Office with no matters arising.



### Keeping Fit the Easy Way!

Begin by standing on a comfortable surface where you have plenty of room each side.

With a 5lb potato bag in each hand extend you arms straight out from your sides.

Hold them there for as long as you can. Try to reach a full minute and then relax. Each day you will find you can hold this position for just a bit longer.

After a couple of weeks move up to 10 lb potato bags, then try 50 lb potato bags.

Eventually try to get where you can lift a 100 lb potato bag in each hand.

Remember to hold your arms out for more than a minute. After you are confident at that level, put a potato in each bag.

*A. Nutter*

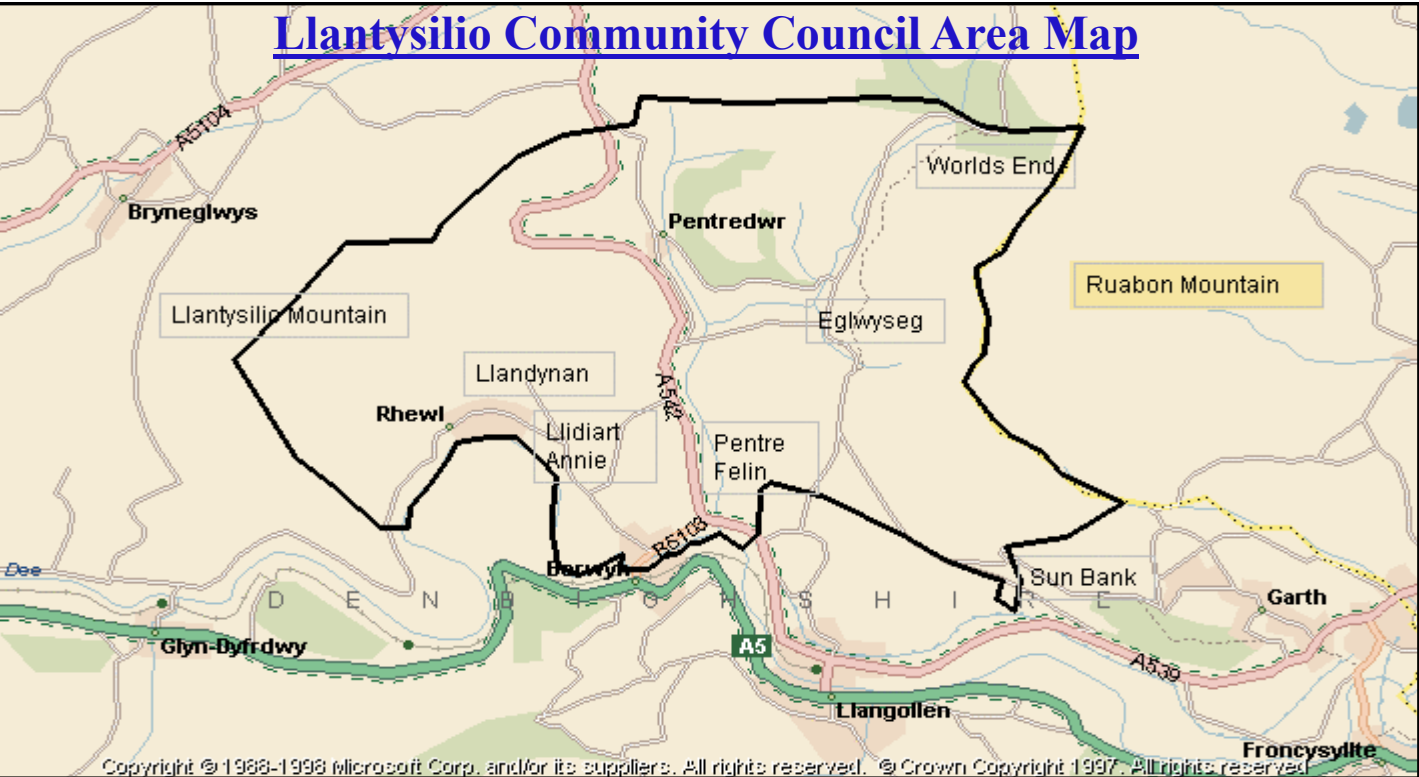
### Never leave a stone unturned!

On a farm about two miles from Bala on the Bala to Corwen road there was a herd of Welsh Black cattle and a flock of Welsh Mountain sheep. In the late sixties a six-year old cow had twin calves. Sadly one died, and the farmer asked his two teenage sons to bury the calf in the river bank near the road.

When they returned home he asked how they had got on? Both said it was very easy as it was like digging in gravel.

The farmer went down to see for himself and found there was gravel under the turf. He asked his friend to bring along his J.C.B. digger. They soon found large deposits of pure gravel. Together they started to sell to Isaac Builders and expanded very quickly. It is named “Cwmni Gro” and is still going today.

*John Pickett*



### Llantysilio Community Council

#### **Pentrefelin Footpath**

The Community Council has, for a number of years, been trying to persuade DCC to install a roadside-footpath from Valle Crucis Abbey to the turn-off to Berwyn.

The volume of traffic using this stretch of road, specifically during the summer months, is very high. Visitors to the Abbey who wish to walk this route are in constant danger due to the lack of any footpath.

Plans were drawn up and funding secured in 2011, but due to the need to implement a CPO, (Compulsory Purchase Order,) and the cost involved, the plans were shelved.

The Council is now looking into an alternative plan, thanks to the owner of the Abbey Dingle Nursing Home who has offered DCC a piece of land free of charge.

#### **Horseshoe Pass**

The Council informed DCC of its concerns regarding the illuminated road-sign which stands at the turn-off to Berwyn. Apart from the fact that it doesn't give an accurate account of the road conditions on the Pass, it's brightness makes reading the sign difficult. DCC have, since receiving the Council's complaint, altered the sign.

#### **Clocaenog Forest Windfarm Scheme**

The Council has completed a questionnaire to see if the Scheme could be advantageous to the Community Council. If successful any monetary benefits will not be forthcoming until 2020 at the earliest.

The offer is to compensate for the inconvenience caused along the A5 by the transit of parts to build the windfarm.



#### Words of Wisdom?

- ♦ The only difference between 'try' and 'triumph' is an 'umph'.
- ♦ Some days I wake up a grumpy old git. Some days I just let him sleep.
- ♦ I'm so busy doing nothing today I don't think I'll have time to do anything tomorrow!



### Maes Uchain to A542 - Britannia Inn

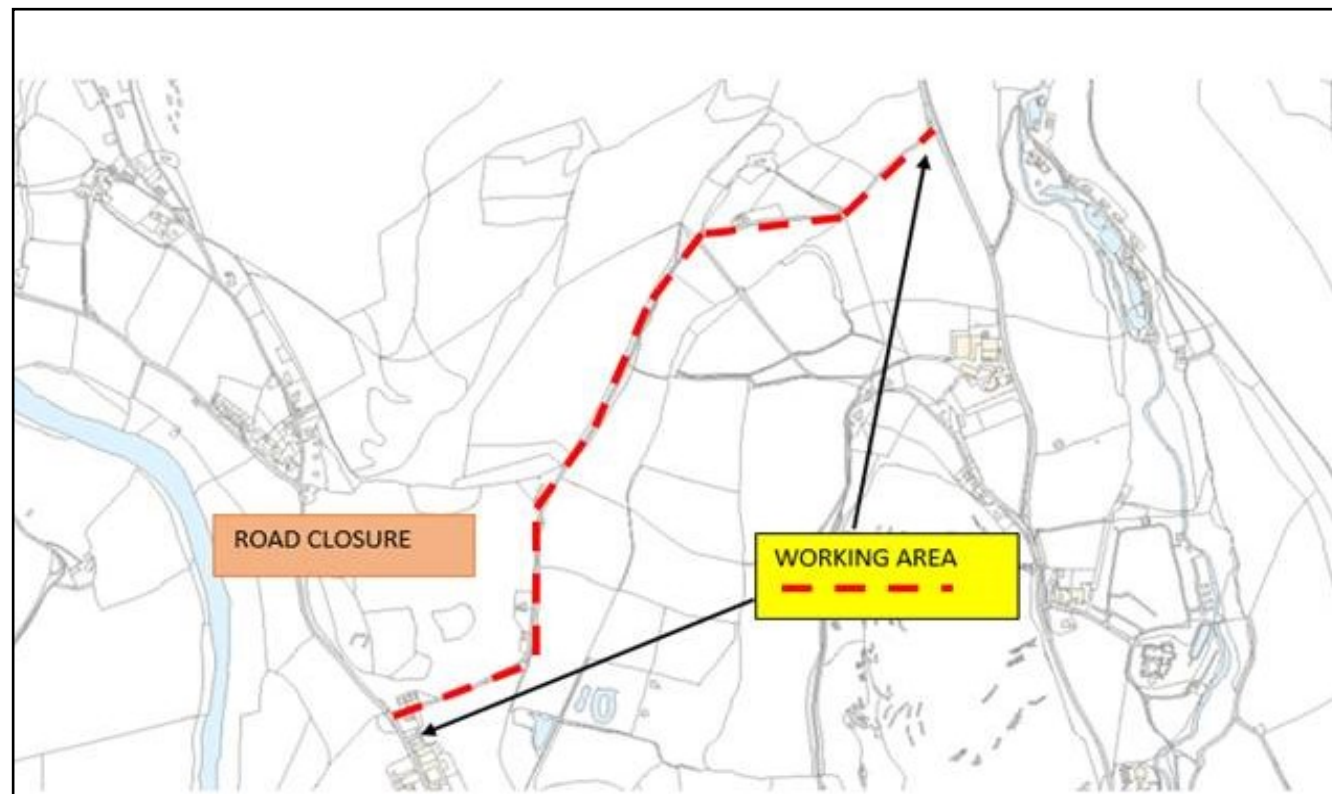
Hafren Dyfrdwy are due to replace a failing water main commencing 12 February 2019. The works are substantial and will take approximately 5 months to complete. We have been in contact with Denbighshire Highways Department to discuss the scheme detail and to issue all the relevant documentation and permissions etc.

Unfortunately, due to the narrow road width, we will have to close the road whilst we carry out the works and limited access for residents will be maintained where possible. We will be installing advance warning signage, complete a full letter-drop saturation of the affected area and the works will be advertised through the Denbighshire Councils official channels. We would also like to place some information on the community notice board and would appreciate some assistance on how we could do this.

We are more than happy to speak to anyone who would like more information or preferably, the local parish councillor who could relay the information accordingly.

Please do not hesitate to contact us on 02477 716650 or alternatively, via the return email address

Plan of the works area : -



Darren Roberts BSc(Hons) MCIOB  
Project Planning Manager  
Capital Works



\* Email: [darren-wh.roberts@hdcymru.co.uk](mailto:darren-wh.roberts@hdcymru.co.uk)