

Annual Report 2025/26

Welcome to the Trefriw and Llanrhychwyn Annual Report

Your Clerk / Responsible Financial Officer / Burial Clerk is Vikki Teasdale (you will know her as “the Clerk”)

Your Community Councillors (you will know us as “Councillors”) for the year have been:

| | | |
|------------------|------------|-------------------|
| Kim Ellis | Chair | Trefriw Ward |
| Jasmine Kelly | Vice Chair | Trefriw Ward |
| Idris Bowen | | Trefriw Ward |
| Bronwyn Griffith | | Llanrhychwyn Ward |
| Jackie Jewett | | Trefriw Ward |

As we complete this year, there are four Councillor vacancies to be filled – three for Trefriw and one for Llanrhychwyn. Please contact the Clerk at clerk@trefriwcommunitycouncil.co.uk or call 07305 316095 if you are interested in joining the Community Council.

As a Community Council we do our very best to do the following:

- Represent and act as a voice for our communities.
- Work to obtain services that meet local needs and improve the quality of life of our residents.
- Influence, enable and support community groups.

Village amenities that the Community Council monitors, and may also manage, on behalf of the community:

Trefriw Cemetery

The Village Hall

Playgrounds on Gower
Road and at
Bro Geirionydd

Public Toilet Facilities

However, while there will be periodic consultation with appropriate bodies, please note that the Community Council is NOT responsible for the following:

- Roads / Highways / Planning
- Waste / Rubbish Collections
- Council Housing and Benefits
- Education and Schools

What your Community Council has been doing in 2025/26

Trefriw Cemetery Extension Comments received from the community indicated that we should create a memorial garden, seating and space for both burials and interment of ashes. We also engaged with Ysgol Dyffryn yr Enfys to work with some of their pupils to see how they envisage this new space. The children have submitted their design ideas and these were reviewed with Ned Lomax, the head gardener at Bodnant Gardens. Big thanks to the pupils for their amazing input to our scheme. Ground works will shortly begin on this memorial garden.

Should you need to discuss the interment of a loved one, please contact the clerk at clerk@trefriwcommunitycouncil.co.uk or call 07305 316095.

Trefriw Children's Play Parks The Park Trustees, Community Council and Conwy County Borough Council (CCBC) continued to inspect and maintain the village play equipment. All parties have been engaged in protracted discussions to get the basket swing reinstated. NRW are due to carry out drainage works within the play park on Gower Road in 2026 and install some safety surface under some equipment. Repairs have also been made to the wall and footpath gate in the Bro Geirionydd play park.

Village Hall is available to book for a number of uses for both regular and ad-hoc events, and it's great to see this important village amenity being used. Whether it's a fitness class, charity cake sale, film club, ceilidh or for use as a wi-fi enabled work space, contact the clerk at clerk@trefriwcommunitycouncil.co.uk or call 07305 316095.

Monthly Coffee Mornings with an opportunity to meet your Councillor. These were held in the Village Hall on the 2nd Thursday of the month and all are welcome. Come and chat with your neighbours over coffee and cake, and maybe play a game of cards.

Christmas Tree and Festive Lights In 2025/26 a tree was again donated to the community, and transport and siting of the tree was carried out by local residents, who we thank for their hard work. The illuminated tree was again sited in St. Mary's church yard for all to see. The Community Council helped to support Trefriw Outdoors in providing seasonal mulled wine, nibbles and mince pies in the Village Hall.

Newsletters We have paused our TCC newsletters but will consider this decision when we recruit more councillors.

Tree Management The Council continued to build on the current reserved funds to ensure that the necessary tree inspections and works continued in line with our seven year programme of works.

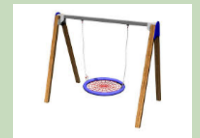
Trefriw Trail 1 adjacent to Gower Road sadly now floods several times a year. The Council and Natural Resources Wales worked together to cement the first section of TT1 to provide a more robust surface where it suffers the most during floods.

Litter picks are organised seasonally to keep our lovely village as clean as possible.

Rights of Way were maintained, with part-repayment by CCBC. The Council also continued to work with the Trefriw Outdoors group to keep public Rights of Way clear by walking the paths and reporting issues to the appropriate authority.

B5106 Flood Alleviation Works CCBC presented plans to close the B5106 at The Maze for 12 weeks whilst they raise the level of the road. We lobbied for works to be carried out with traffic lights, making the journey to Dogarrog easier for the community than detouring on the far side of the valley. We await further information about Conwy's plans and start date.

Llanrwst North train station now has additional platform signs to advise passengers that the station is also the stop for Trefriw, as well as directional signage to Trefriw by foot or cycle.



Village Benches need regular maintenance and the Council replaced the seating slats on the bench along Gower Road with slats from recycled materials. This will resist rotting due to frequent floods in the area. Following the success of this change, Council has identified a grant to replace the old wooden bench slats all around the village with this plastic. We have submitted our application and await the outcome of this with fingers crossed. This will relieve the expense and workload both now and for many years to come.

Public Toilets The public toilets, managed by CCBC, were facing closure due to their budget constraints. CCBC proposed a recharge of £16,625 to continue servicing the public toilets (which would more than double our precept request). TCC came to an agreement with CCBC to keep the toilets open from April to October, with the £8,313 cost met by TCC. The toilets remained closed over the winter months. Meanwhile, after feedback from the community, TCC decided to trial the vastly cheaper option of a portaloo in 2026/27. A unit has been installed outside the old toilet block until the beginning of June when we will review its success or not.

So, how does the Council pay for all of this? The Clerk estimates what the Council will need to deliver all the services that it is required to manage for the coming year (the budget) and then works out the level of precept needed taking into account, and deducting, the likely amount of income for the year from things such as Village Hall hire and cemetery fees. This amount is then advised to CCBC who recharge this budget to residents as part of the annual Council Tax (CCBC also include elements such as the Police and the Fire Service).

For the year 2025/26 the annual sum charged for the Community Council budget was £72.62 for a Band D property – that's just £6.06 per month. See the attached budget out-turn for the year.

More Information

Your Clerk is employed part-time by the Community Council and receives a salary.

Your Councillors are elected or co-opted to the role to represent the local community.

Your Conwy County Councillor is Cllr Liz Roberts who attends our monthly Council meetings and coffee mornings whenever her work schedule allows. Liz can be contacted at cllr.liz.roberts@conwy.gov.uk or on 01690 750246.

Council meetings are held monthly, other than in February and August, and Councillors must attend unless they have a compelling reason not to do so. In 2025/26 the winter meetings were held online, and from March to October in the village hall.

Meeting agendas and minutes are affixed to the Community Council noticeboard, together with any other relevant documents. They are also published on the Community Council's website www.trefriwcommunitycouncil.co.uk. The website has a calendar of events, statutory and adopted policy documents, and other community-based news and information.

Facebook TCC has its own Facebook account to share important information. This can be found at "Trefriw Community Council".

Training Your Councillors and Clerk attend various training modules, and also attend external meetings and webinars to enhance their working knowledge of the law and other requirements of local government. The Clerk and Chair attend CCBC Town and Community Council forum meetings to stay in touch with output that is important to our community. The Clerk is in contact with a Clerk's forum.

Planning Applications are reviewed as received, and are detailed in meeting minutes.

Plastic Free As a member of the Betws and District Plastic Free Community steering group we work together to run events to raise awareness of opportunities to reduce and remove single use plastic.

Defibrillators in and around the village can be found at The Princes Arms, Roualeyn Nursery, the Village Hall, Llanrhydwyn cross roads, Crafnant Cafe, Llyn Geirionydd, Nant BH and Nant Conwy Rugby Club.

| Summary of Account 2025/26 | | £ |
|---|--|------------------|
| Precept | | 28,607.96 |
| VAT Reclaim | | 3,390.47 |
| Trefriw Village Hall Hire Revenue | | 1,830.92 |
| Trefriw and Llanrhychwyn Cemetery Fees | | 3,205.00 |
| Public Footpath Maintenance, part reimbursement from Conwy CBC | | 1,000.00 |
| Investment monies withdrawn towards costs of | | |
| (i) Gower Road public toilet recharged by CCBC | | £10,990.00 |
| (ii) Trefriw Trail 1 footpath resurfacing costs | | |
| Other Miscellaneous receipts: a donation towards future defibrillator maintenance, annual cemetery contribution from the War Graves Commission and the HSBC deposit account interest for the year | | 417.06 |
| Total Income | | 49,441.41 |
| | | |
| General Running and Maintenance Costs: | | |
| Administration including employment costs, banking, insurance, office equipment, printing costs, postage, stationery, telephone and internet | | 14,934.34 |
| Village Hall Maintenance and Operational Costs | | 2,775.22 |
| General Village Maintenance costs | | 471.25 |
| Cemetery Maintenance and Development Costs | | 3,551.97 |
| Public Footpath Maintenance | | 4,238.04 |
| Tree Maintenance Works - Ash dieback and other safety works | | 4,960.00 |
| Defibrillator Maintenance | | 79.20 |
| Gower Road Public Toilets – contribution made towards running costs | | 9,975.60 |
| Set up costs for Portaloo following closure of public toilets | | 235.20 |
| Gower Road Play Park – contribution towards costs of reinstating the basket swing | | 1,264.80 |

| | |
|--|------------------|
| Governance | |
| Audit fees, legal/professional advice and fees, training, councillor allowances and subscriptions | 1,179.55 |
| Public Information | |
| Translation services | 366.38 |
| Donations | |
| (i) Donations made to Eisteddfod Gadeiriol Dyffryn Conwy and Marie Curie (ii) Annual Donation to The Royal British Legion for providing the poppy wreath for the community Memorial Service | 275.00 |
| Miscellaneous | |
| Chair's Discretionary Fund and Village Festivities | 264.98 |
| Total Expenditure | 44,571.53 |
| | |
| Monies from 2025/26 budget to be carried forward pending anticipated expenditure or to be transferred to allocated reserves | |
| General Running and Maintenance Costs: employment, office costs, village maintenance/repairs and village hall maintenance/general repairs | 2,096.32 |
| Governance: audit fees | 1,425.45 |
| Gower Road and Bro Geirionydd Playparks | 1,302.25 |
| Gower Road Toilet Facility | 3,803.50 |
| Ash Dieback and General Tree Works | 640.00 |
| Defibrillators | 714.00 |
| | |
| Allocated Reserves held within investment account as at 31/03/2026 | 41,758.15 |
| Monies held in HSBC bank accounts as at 31/03/2026 | 23,342.60 |