



Annual Report 2023/24

1. Introduction

Welcome to Valley Community Council Annual Report for the 2023/24 financial year.

This report has been prepared as a direct requirement of the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 which aims to ensure sound governance and effective management of public money. The report intends to increase the transparency and awareness of the work of the community council.

2. The Council

During the 2023/24 financial year Valley Community Council comprised of 13 members and one employee namely the Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer

Chair of the Council Cllr Neil R Tuck

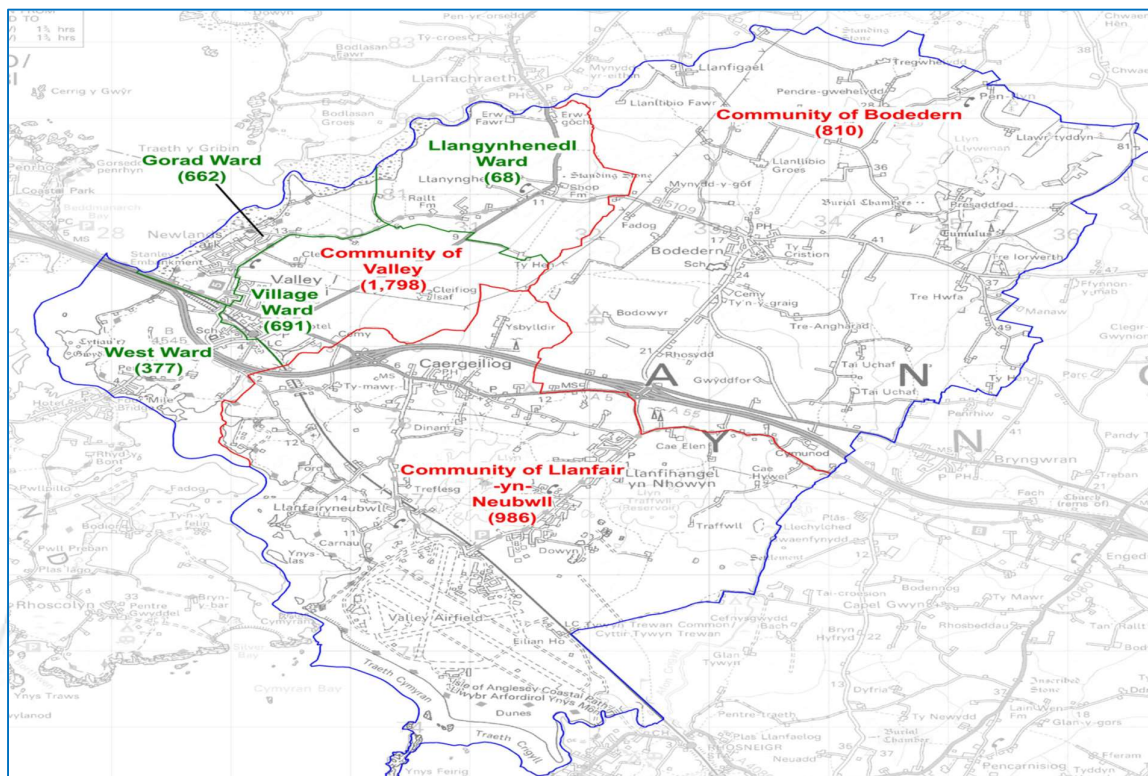
Vice Chairman Cllr Gordon David Browne MBE JP

Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer Mrs Rhianwen Sheldon

Gorad Ward Cllr Mavis Swaine-Williams Cllr Neil R Tuck Cllr Graham Richard Edward Smith (to 18/9/23) Cllr Charles Thornhill	Village Ward Cllr Gordon David Browne MBE JP Cllr Bill Rogerson MBE Cllr Ken Taylor Cllr Angela Walker Cllr Dillon James Hughes
West Ward Cllr Helen Williams Cllr Delyth Jones (to 22/6/23) Cllr Sion Williams	Llanynghenedl Ward Cllr Iwan Tudur Jones

Further information regarding committees and representation can be found through the following web-link; [Community Councillors](#)

3. Our Area



4. Key Contact Details

The main contact for the Community Council is the Clerk, Mrs Rhianwen Sheldon.

The contact address is 27 Alltwen, Llysfaen, Colwyn Bay, Conwy LL29 8PG Tel: 01492 478405 / 07786253828

The Clerk can also be reached via email at valleycommunitycouncil@gmail.com

The Chair of the Council, Cllr Neil R Tuck can be reached via email at chairman.valleycommunitycouncil@gmail.com

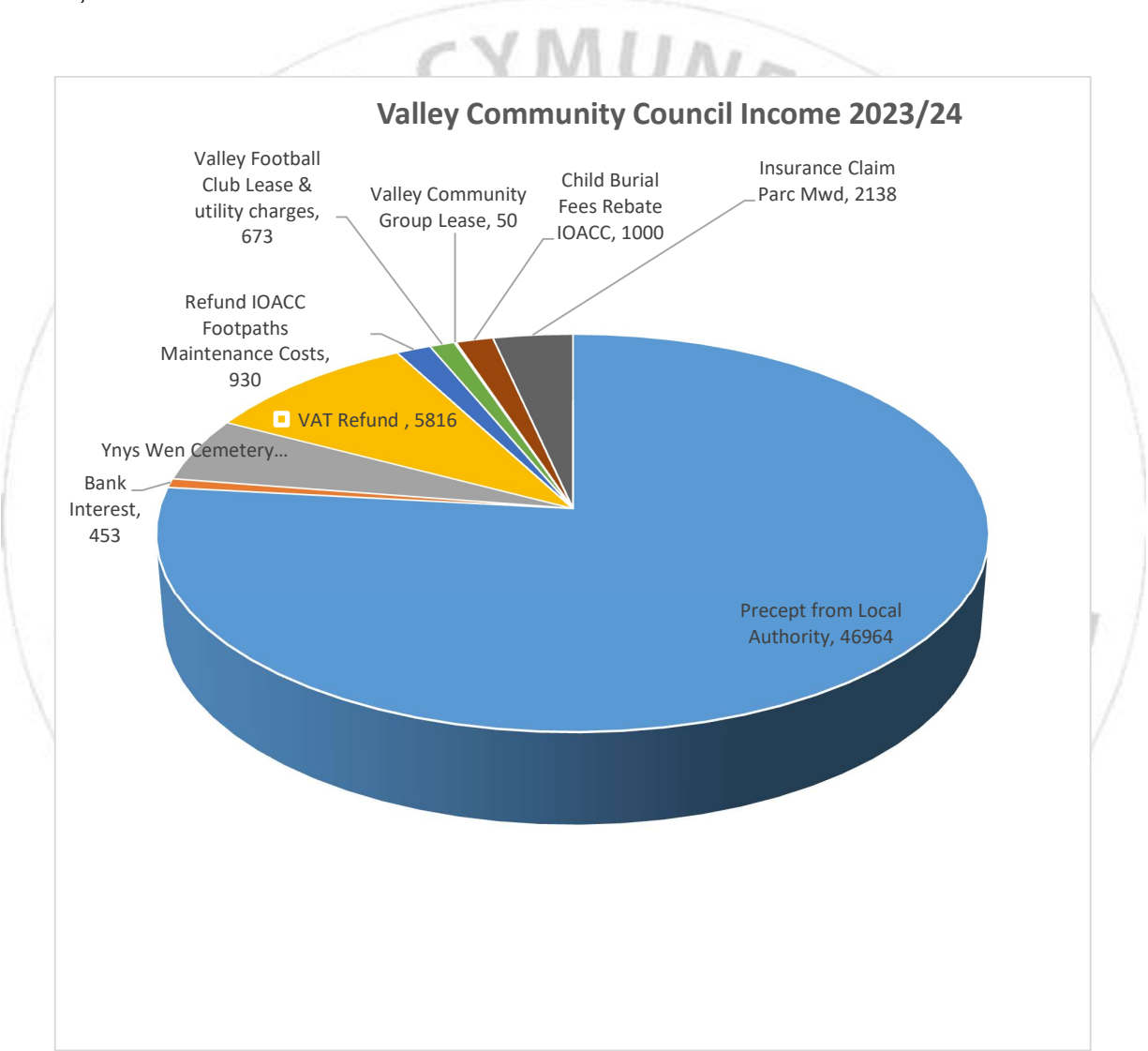
Key documents, minutes of meetings, news and general information is available via our website: www.valley-community-council.wales

5. Financial Information

A summary of the council’s financial position at the end of 2023/24 financial year is given below:

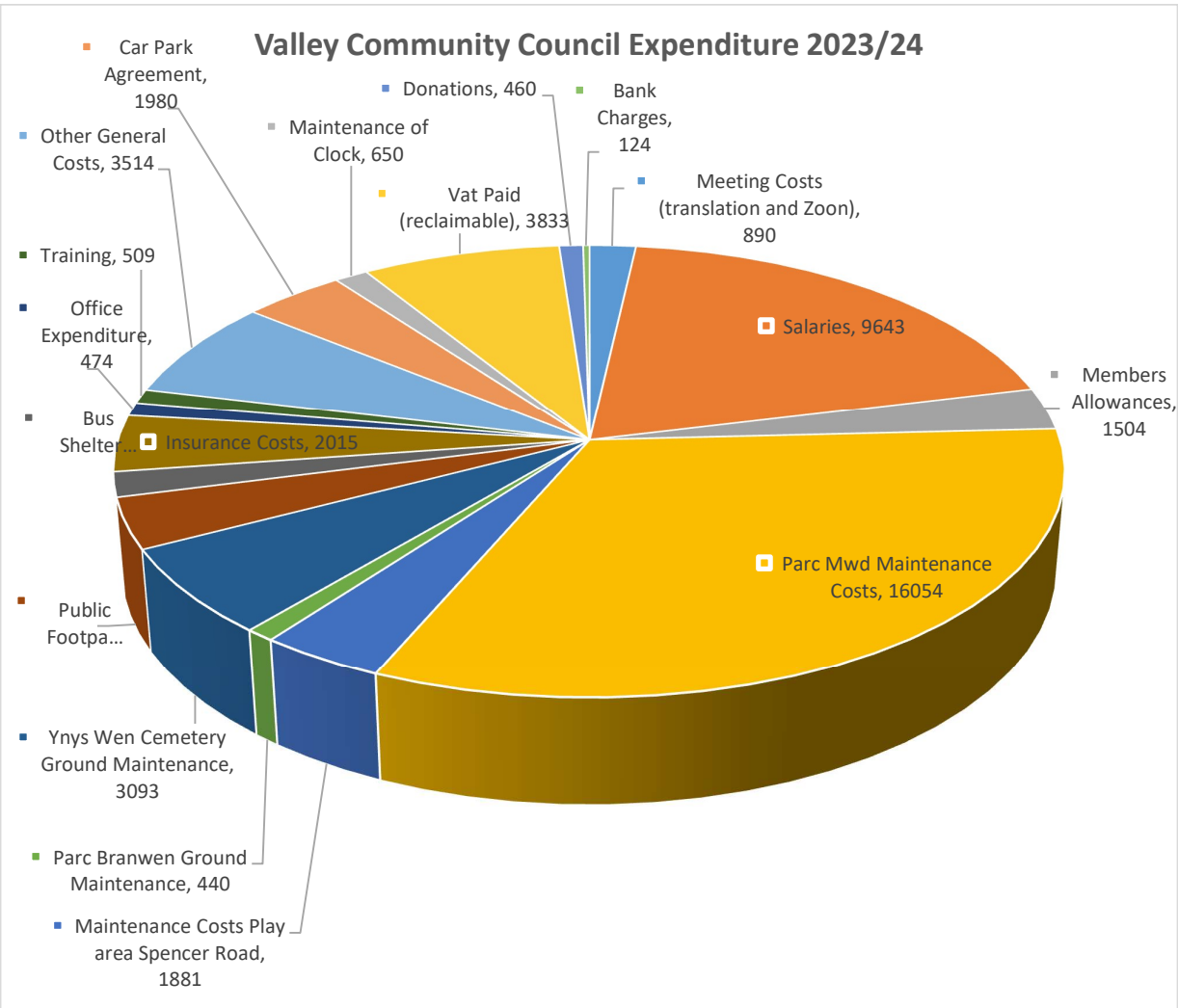
Income:

The Council received a Precept of £46,964 from the Local Authority plus additional income of £14,239 to deliver its services for 2023/24 as shown in the chart below.



Expenditure:

The total expenditure during 2023/24 was £50,894 as shown in the chart below.



Bank Reconciliation

Balance brought forward at 1/4/2023	£ 48,838
Receipts	£ 61,203
Payments	<u>£ 50,894</u>
Balance carried forward at 31st March 2024	£59,147

Valley Community Council held fixed assets valued at £ 230,304 at 31st March 2024.

The accounts are submitted to Audit Wales for review each year.

6. Relationship with the Local Authority

The Council has worked closely with the Bro'r Llynnoedd County Councillors during the year. Both County Councillors Ken Taylor and Gwilym Jones attend the Council's monthly business meetings. Councillor Ken Taylor has also been a County and Community Councillor for many years. Information is always cascaded via the Chair of the Council and the clerk. Representatives have attended all the Town and Community Council Liaison Forum meetings with the Authority and provided updates to each of the following Community Council meetings. Issues raised by Councillors relating to Local Authority responsibility are escalated to appropriate officers within the Authority for resolution.

All recommendations made in relevant reports produced by the Local Authority Standards Committee in relation to town and community council audits have been implemented.

7. Training

A training plan for the Council has been adopted reflecting the individual needs of Councillors. All Community Councillors attend training courses as appropriate. One Voice Wales provides regular training sessions for community councillors to support them in their role.

8. Complaints

No complaints were received about the work of the Community Council during the year.

9. Achievements and Activities during 2023/24

The Council provided services and maintained the following assets for the community:



- The 20.3-acre park at Parc Mwd and pavilion

Pavilion was repaired after storm damage

- Ynys Wen Public Cemetery and maintenance of burial records
- Lease the play area nr the School from the Local Authority and maintain the play equipment and pay for refuse collection at the site
- Carried out condition surveys and risk assessments on all play equipment in the community to ensure health and safety
- Millenium Clock
- 14 Bus Shelters
- 21 public benches and 3 picnic tables



Bus Stops Painted

Bench replaced after malicious damage



Benches refurbished and replaced

- 2 Community noticeboards
- Land at Parc Branwen
- War memorial
- All Public Paths on behalf of the Local Authority



Promoted heritage and beauty of the area

Cut back trees due to Ash die-back and awarded a grant from Keep Wales Tidy - Local Places for nature



Planted fruit trees and native bulbs with help from volunteers and children from Valley Community School

- Lease the public car park from the Local Authority to provide free parking
- Represent residents, by conveying any concerns from the Community to the County Council and Welsh Government where necessary
- Relay information to residents affecting the community



Heard the views and voices of young people in the village

Also consulted via face-to-face meetings and surveys with the wider community regarding plans to develop a basket ball court at Parc Mwd

- Negotiate with, and influence, those other organisations that make decisions that affect the community
- Consult on planning applications
- Consult and give our views on highway maintenance issues, traffic calming matters, parking issues, street naming etc.
- Consult of local and national policy on behalf of the community
- Enabled hybrid meeting to ensure accessibility

Remembrance Sunday Service at Valley Community Primary School and at St Mary's Church and at Ynys Wen War Memorial



The Council has also supported others who benefit the community, namely:

- £50 Valley Juniors Football Club
- £50 Valley Community Group towards a Christmas Tree for the Village
- £50 SSAFFA
- £100 Welsh Air Ambulance
- £100 Ynys Môn Young Farmers Club Federation
- £50 Urdd Gobaith Cymru Anglesey Area
- £10 Royal British Legion and also placed poppy wreaths at the School and Ynys Wen Cemetery War memorial
- £50 towards 'Y Rhwyd' Community Newspaper

10. Effectiveness of Council Meetings

The figures below demonstrated attendance rates at Council Meetings

- Community Council Meetings 70%
- Finance Committee 90%
- Parks Committee 79%
- Ynys Wen Cemetery Committee 80%

11. Aims and Objectives for 2024/25 and Strategic Direction

In 2024/25 the Community Council will continue to serve the community in line with its duties and powers under legislation.

Vision: Valley – a place where individuals and families thrive and where people want to live

Mission Statement: To be a council that engages fully with the wider community and to strive to do our utmost for every resident in Valley

Aims

- To provide effective, efficient and accountable local government for the community, enabling residents to be involved in the life of the community and its future development.
- To be a strong voice for residents and local businesses, working to improve the overall community area both built and natural, while preserving its language, culture and heritage.

Objectives

Theme 1 – Valley Community Council Governance

1. To improve communication between the Community council and residents and businesses
2. To improve effectiveness of Community Council
3. To increase influence / coordination in matters that impact on Community
4. To promote use of Welsh Language

Theme 2 - Leisure and Community

5. To improve leisure facilities for the children and older people in the community
6. To consult with the community to identify local needs and views which can be addressed by constructive council action

Theme 3 - Parish Appearance, Environment, Public Services and Safety

7. To keep roads and lanes clean for the enjoyment of residents and visitor
8. To effectively maintain Community Assets
9. To improve local infrastructure
10. To celebrate and protect the local landscape and have a say in its future management.
11. To reduce crime and to help residents and businesses feel better protected against crime.

Theme 4 – Highways, Transport and Access

12. To address highways concerns of residents and businesses and seek solutions

Theme 5 – Economy and Tourism

13. To encourage economic development.

Theme 6 - Housing and Health

14. To continue to comment on all key strategic planning documents and consultations that affect the Community ensuring the Community Council's knowledge and understanding of the local context is taken into account in decisions
15. To encourage local residents to participate in any strategic planning consultations which impact the community
16. To review the way in which the Community Council considers and makes responses on planning applications.

12. Future budget requirements

The Council approved the draft budget at its meeting on 20th December 2023 and resolved to set the precept (local taxation) at £46,963.55 for the 2024/25 financial year i.e. no increase on the 2023/24 financial year.