



# Annual Report 2024/25



## 1. Introduction

Welcome to Valley Community Council Annual Report for the 2024/25 financial year. The Council is pleased to celebrate 50 years since it was established in 1974.

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

Valley Community Council is a small body of 13 volunteer councillors, who work towards enhancing and maintaining our communities. Our wards cover the West and the central Village of Valley plus Gorad and Llanynghenedl. The clerk is the only employee.

**Chair of the Council** Cllr Neil R Tuck

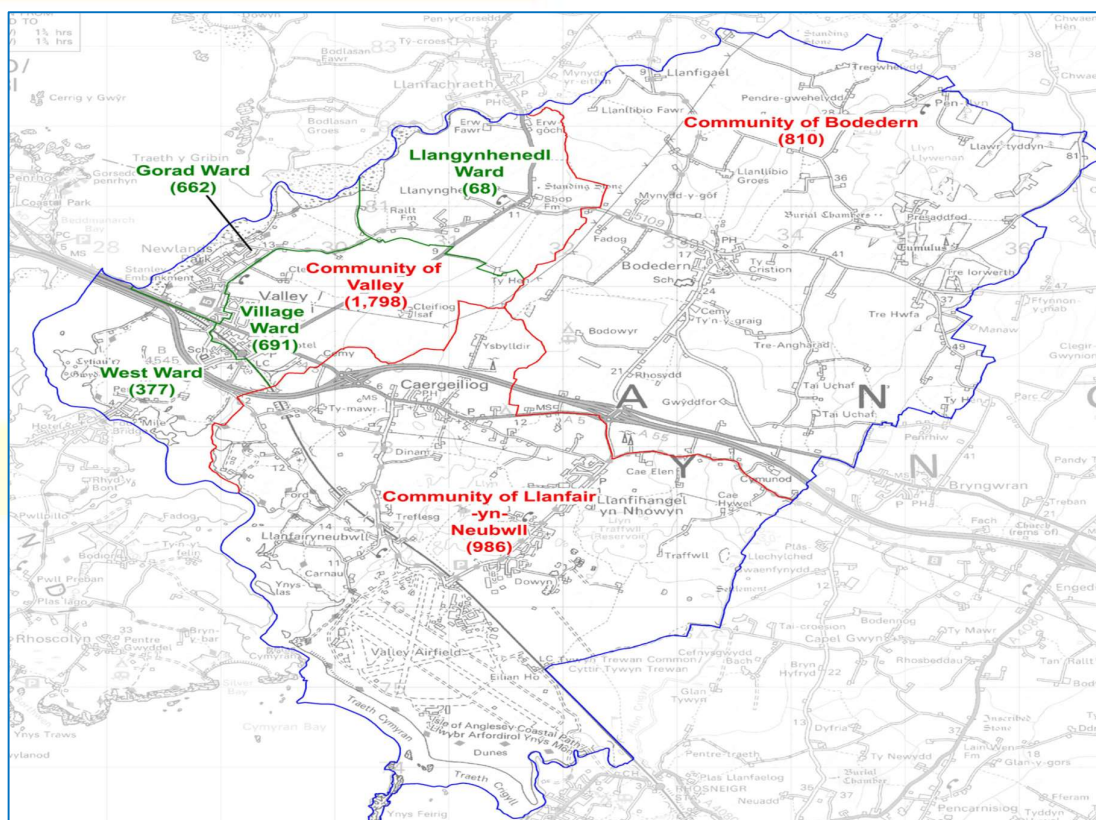
**Vice Chairman** Cllr Gordon David Browne MBE JP

**Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer** Mrs Rhianwen Sheldon

<b>Gorad Ward</b> Cllr Mavis Swaine-Williams Cllr Neil R Tuck Cllr Charles Thornhill Cllr Caroline Tattersall (from 20/12/24)	<b>Village Ward</b> Cllr Gordon David Browne MBE JP Cllr Bill Rogerson MBE Cllr Ken Taylor Cllr Angela Walker Cllr Dillon James Hughes
<b>West Ward</b> Cllr Helen Williams Cllr Sion Williams Cllr D Taylor (from 17/4/24 to 17/7/24) Cllr R Eryl Jones (from 18/12/24)	<b>Llanynghenedl Ward</b> Cllr Iwan Tudur Jones

We have three sub-committees: The Finance and Personnel Committee who oversee the effective financial control of the council funds and all employment matters. The Parks Committee who manages all play areas and open spaces and the Ynys Wen Cemetery Committee who manage the public cemetery. 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: 07786253828

The Clerk can also be reached via email at [valleycommunitycouncil@gmail.com](mailto:valleycommunitycouncil@gmail.com)

The Chair of the Council, Cllr Neil R Tuck can be reached via email at [chairman.valleycommunitycouncil@gmail.com](mailto:chairman.valleycommunitycouncil@gmail.com)

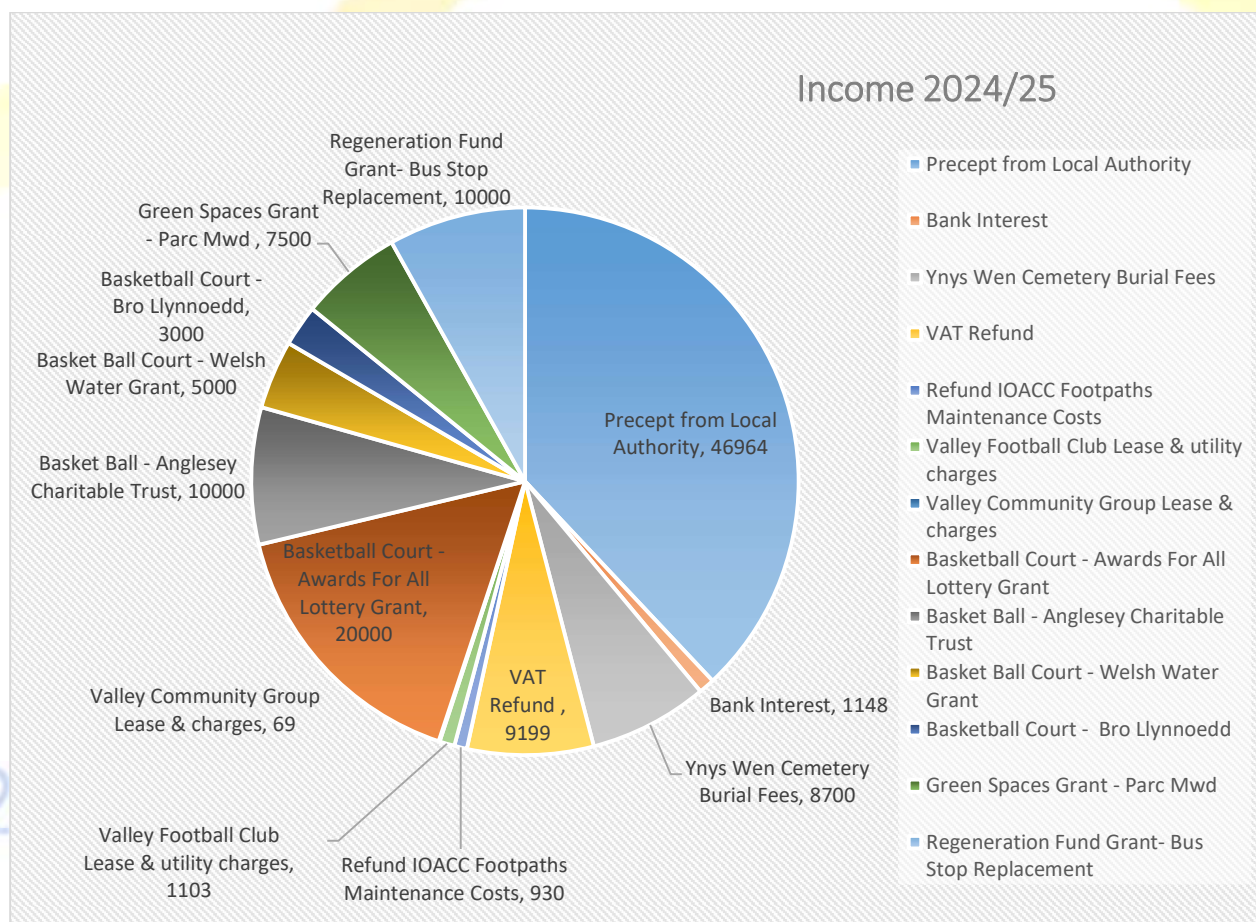
Key documents, minutes of meetings, news and general information is available via our website: [www.valley-community-council.wales](http://www.valley-community-council.wales)

## 5. Financial Information

A summary of the council's financial position at the end of 2024/25 financial year is given below:

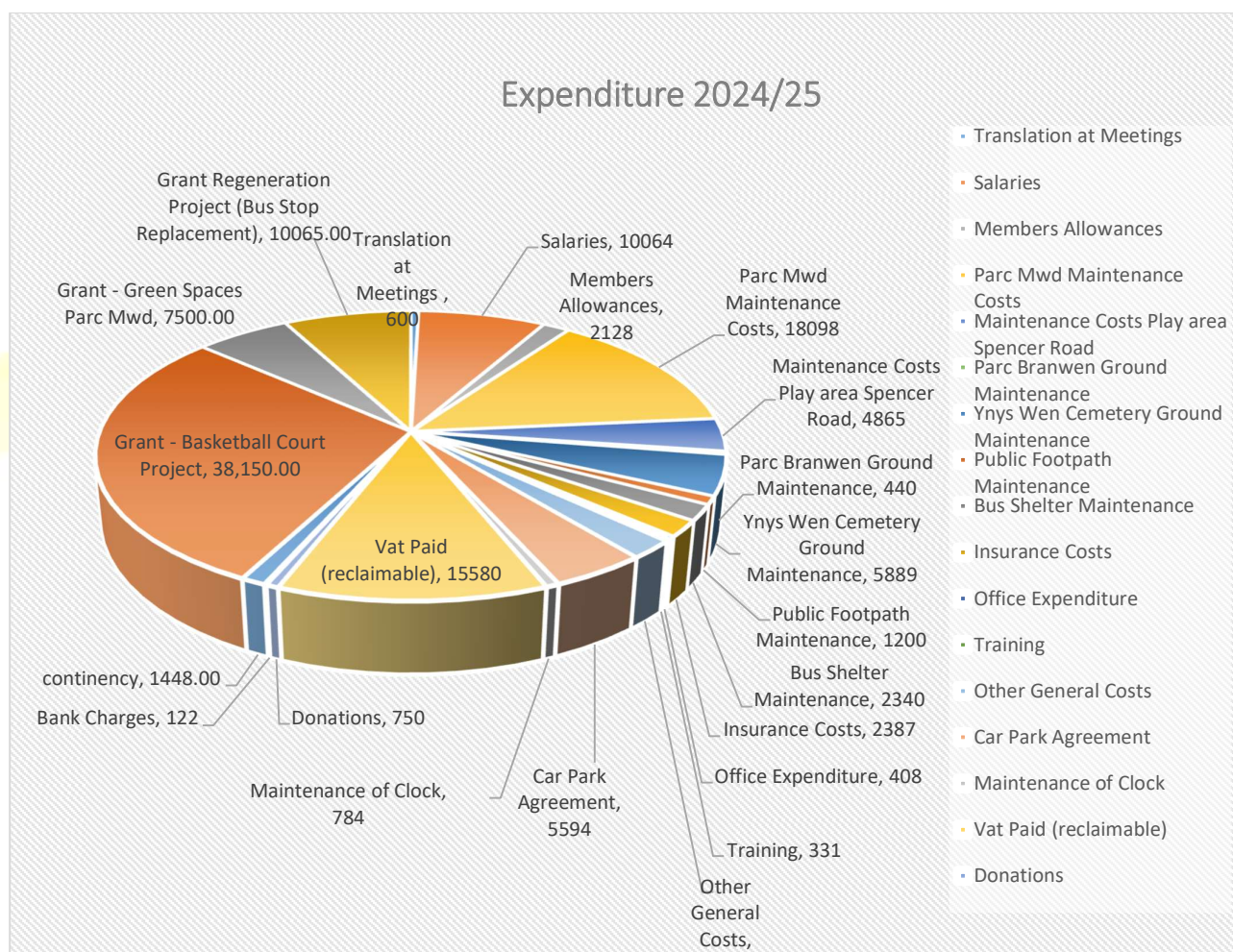
### Income:

The Council received a Precept of £46,964 from the Local Authority, other income of £21,149 plus an additional £55,500 in grant funding to deliver its services for 2024/25 as shown in the chart below.



## Expenditure:

The total expenditure during 2024/25 was £131,476 as shown in the chart below.



## Bank Reconciliation

**2024/25**

Balance brought forward at 1st April 2024	£59,147
Receipts	£123,613
Payments	<u>£131,476</u>
<b>Balance carried forward at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025</b>	<b>£51,284</b>

Valley Community Council held fixed assets valued at £ 230,304 at 31<sup>st</sup> 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 official complaints were received about the work of the Community Council during the year.

## **9. Achievements and Activities during 2024/25**

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

- The 20.3-acre park at Parc Mwd and pavilion

The Council worked in partnership with the Bro Llynnoedd Alliance and succeeded to attract over £45,500 in grants to Parc Mwd. The funding was for repairs and improvements of the triangle area, provision of outdoor gym equipment and a basketball court. A further award in terms of trees, plants and equipment valued at over £9,000 was received from Keep Wales Tidy through the Places for Nature scheme.

The Triangle: £7,500 was received towards the repairs to the triangle perimeter and to install out door gym equipment.

## The Triangle Before



The Council would like to thank all the volunteers who work hard to clear the triangle area

Kerbs and new wooden posts installed



Triangle After



Outdoor gym equipment installed



Funded by  
UK Government



Wedi ei ariannu gan  
Llywodraeth y DU

## Places for Nature at Parc Mwd

The Places for Nature Scheme from Keep Wales Tidy helped to improve the parks' biodiversity, to replace dead and fallen trees and provide a green space for residents' wellbeing.



Volunteers planted 115 trees (apple, pear, plum, beech, hawthorn, hazel) native bulbs and wildflower meadow turf around the park. Raised borders erected and planted with grasses, native flowers and herbs.



The Council also received equipment from Keep Wales Tidy to become a litter-picking hub for the community.

## You Said, We Listened! – New facility at Parc Mwd

Following a request and wide consultation the Basketball Court at Parc Mwd was built and launched on 24<sup>th</sup> May 2025. Grants amounting to £38,000 were received towards the cost of the work i.e. £20,000 Awards for All from the National Lottery for Wales, £10,000 from Anglesey Charitable Association, £5,000 from Welsh Water and £3,000 from the Bro Llynnoedd Alliance. Lagan Aviation Infrastructure Limited provided all the ground works for the project free of charge as a benefit to the Valley Community.

### Before



### During and after



The Council presented certificates of appreciation to Lagan Aviation Infrastructure Limited and to Kieran and Ryan Jones who requested the Court in the first instance and who cut the ribbon to officially open the Basketball facility at Parc Mwd.



- Ynys Wen Public Cemetery and maintenance of burial records

The council commissioned a drainage report on the cemetery field as part of the work to review the burial capacity.

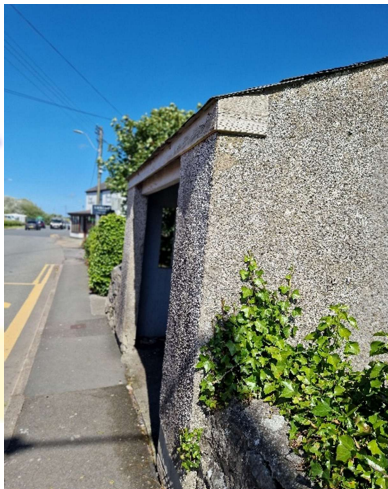
- Lease the play area nr the School from the Local Authority and maintain the play equipment and pay for refuse collection at the site
- Carried out condition surveys and risk assessments on all play equipment in the community to ensure health and safety



During the year the Council installed outdoor equipment for the children in the play area.

- Millenium Clock
- 14 Bus Shelters

The council received £10,000 regeneration grant to replace the stone bus shelter on Station Road.



Before



After

- 22 public benches and 43 picnic tables



The Council replaced a picnic bench at Parc Mwd and installed two new benches in the community



- 2 Community noticeboards
- Land at Parc Branwen
- All Public Paths on behalf of the Local Authority
- Council Tax and lease the public car park paid to 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
- Negotiate with, and influence, those other organisations that make decisions that affect the community
- Consult on planning applications
- Consult of local and national policy on behalf of the community
- Enabled hybrid meeting to ensure accessibility
- Consult and give our views on highway maintenance issues, traffic calming matters, parking issues, street naming etc.

The Council worked with the Valley Community School to try and combat the problem of dog fouling in the community. Year 3 & 4 students engaged in a project to design posters and dog waste bag dispensers to be featured on signs around the village.

The three winning entries were:



Winners were presented with drawing sets.

The Community Council was pleased to present the School with a certificate for a Valuable Contribution to the Community.



➤ War memorial

The Council commemorated the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the D-Day landings in Normandy, France on 8<sup>th</sup> June 2024



The Community Council paid its respect on Remembrance Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> November 2024. Poppy Wreaths were laid at the Valley Community School and at the War Memorial in Ynys Wen Cemetery

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

- £50 St Davids Hospice
- £50 'Y Rhwyd' Community Newspaper
- £50 Royal British Legion and also placed poppy wreaths at the School and Ynys Wen Cemetery War memorial
- £50 SSAFFA
- £50 Ynys Môn Young Farmers Club Federation
- £500 Urdd National Eisteddfod – Ynys Môn

## 10. Effectiveness of Council Meetings

The figures below demonstrated attendance rates at Council Meetings. A total of 24 formal meetings were held during the year. The % attendance was as follows:

- |                               |     |
|-------------------------------|-----|
| • Community Council Meetings  | 77% |
| • Finance Committee           | 85% |
| • Parks Committee             | 79% |
| • Ynys Wen Cemetery Committee | 93% |

## **11. Aims and Objectives for 2025/26 and Strategic Direction**

In 2025/26 the Community Council will continue to serve the community in line with its duties and powers under legislation. A consultation will be undertaken to develop a future plan.

### **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 15<sup>th</sup> January 2024 and resolved to set the precept (local taxation) at £60,994.89 for the 2025/26 financial year.

If you would like more information regarding this Annual Report then please contact the clerk at: [valleycommunitycouncil@gmail.com](mailto:valleycommunitycouncil@gmail.com)



4-2024