

LLANGAIN COMMUNITY COUNCIL NEWSLETTER 2001

The Community Councillors are:

Roland Jeremy (Chairman); Margaret Jenkins (Vice Chairman); Peris Williams; Terry Griffiths; Glyn Williams, John Jones; Haydn Williams.

The Council meets on the third Thursday of each month at 7.30 pm in the Memorial Hall. Notices for each meeting are displayed on the two village noticeboards and a press release is published in the Carmarthen Journal following each meeting.

The precept for this year is £4000. The Band D Council Tax for 2001/2002 is £16.62. This is a reduction of £1.92 on last year. In March the Council made the following donations: Smyrna Chapel-£90; Llangain Church-£90; Llangain Players-£90; Memorial Hall-£40; Bobath Cymru-£90. In addition the Council made a donation of £100 to the Youth Club in memory of James Preece.

A number of achievements were made during the year:

- Footpath FP25/10 at Coedmor Avenue has been diverted
- New drainage systems have been installed at Coedmor Avenue-Dol y Dderwen and Plas Cwrt Hir-Towy Lodge.
- The streetlight at "Troon", Heol Smyrna has repositioned by Swalec at no cost to the Council.
- Llangain won the Community Life category of the "Rotary Village of the Year" Award.

Several outstanding problems remain:

- Although British Gas have accepted responsibility for the screening of the LP Compound at Dol y Dderwen, no work has yet been undertaken to construct a hedge and bank along the main road. The Council is pursuing this issue with the Planning Department.
- A storm overflow has not been installed at Penycoed Pumping Station due to several objections. As the County Council is no longer responsible for the maintenance of the plant the Community Council is seeking reassurance that planning applications requiring mains sewerage will be objected to by the Director of Environment.

The Council will continue its campaign for traffic calming measures. The Community Council has been campaigning for such measures for a number of years but the issue has been of particular concern in recent months following the tragic death of James Preece. Councillors have met with officers from Dyfed Powys Police to discuss the problem and following the meeting the police agreed to monitor the traffic situation in the village. The Council's application for a speed camera has been refused

by the County Council for this year but will be considered again after Christmas. The Council has requested the implementation of alternative traffic calming measures in the interim period. The Council is also concerned at the problem of speeding along Heol Smyrna and has requested the provision of additional 30mph signs.

The Council met with Christine Gwyther AM to discuss concerns over the policy for allocating bungalows in Maes yr Awel.

The Council believes that priority should be given to elderly or disabled people and to those needing such accommodation who wish to remain within the community. The County Council has confirmed that the bungalows are let in accordance with their lettings policy in the following order: if the applicant or their spouse is an OAP; if the applicant or spouse is disabled and requires ground floor accommodation; any other applicant. If anyone requires the Community Council's assistance in being allocated a bungalow please put your request in writing. The Council can then pursue your request with the Housing Department.

Efforts have been made to obtain a gas supply for the village. Transco are currently laying a new high pressure pipeline from Pontyates to Bancyfelin which runs through land very close to the village centre. The Council asked whether it would be possible to connect Llangain at the same time as a residents survey showed a substantial level of interest in obtaining a gas supply. Anyone wishing to add their name to the list should contact R Jeremy. Unfortunately, despite the support of Nick Ainger and Christine Gwyther, Transco have refused as they have no statutory duty to connect premises outside 23 metres of a main. They also maintain that the new pipeline is not intended to extend the low pressure gas distribution system. The Council has contacted Llansteffan Community Council to ascertain their level of interest before considering obtaining a gas supply through an alternative gas supplier.

Llangain has again been entered in the Wales in Bloom and Village of the Year Competitions. Judging will take place during July/August and everyone's help in keeping the village tidy and litter free would be very much appreciated. Unfortunately if litter continues to be such a problem in the village the Council will have to consider introducing measures to tackle the issue. The cost of these will be borne by the community through a raised Council Tax.