

CYNGOR CYMUNED LLANFAIR DYFFRYN CLWYD COMMUNITYCOUNCIL

[www.llanfaircommunitycouncil.co.uk](http://www.llanfaircommunitycouncil.co.uk)

CLERK – MRS EIRWEN GODDEN, 35 MAES CANTABA, RUTHIN LL15 1YP  
TEL 01824 707151 [clerk.llanfairdc@gmail.com](mailto:clerk.llanfairdc@gmail.com)

04/10/2021

**Cynhelir Cyfarfod Cyffredin o'r Cyngor ar 11/10/21 am 7 pm.**

An Ordinary Meeting of the Council is to be held on

**MONDAY 11 October 2021 at 7.00 PM.**

**This will be a video meeting held online using Zoom software.** Councillors and members of the public and press will be able to attend remotely by downloading Zoom and entering - **Meeting ID: 972 228 1061 Password: 4h6JQV**  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9722281061?pwd=V2lITTRWT0UwVXBpVy9jUk85SWhHQT09>

Please join before 7 pm [the waiting room will be open from 6.45 pm]. If you have any queries it would be helpful to receive these before the day of the meeting please. Diolch yn fawr. Eirwen Godden, Clerk to the Council

## **AGENDA**

**RHAN 1 Gwahoddir y Wasg a'r Cyhoedd fod yn bresennol**

**PART 1 The Press and Public are invited to attend this part of the meeting**

- 1 Apologies for absence
- 2 Declarations of Interest
- 3 Confirmation of minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council held on 13/09/21

**4 Materion Cymunedol/Community Matters**

**4.1 Presentation by Heather Martin, Paths to Wellbeing Officer, N E Wales** – a project run by Ramblers Cymru

**4.2 Former School Site and Playing Field Llanfair D C** - To receive and consider

- [a] steering group meeting notes 16/09/21 and 30/09/21
- [b] proposal for funding support in relation to the Community Asset Transfer [CAT] of the former school, its playground and its playing field
- [c] stage 3 detailed business plan

**4.3 Proposal to Increase the Pupil Capacity of Ysgol Llanfair DC**

To consider [a] Email dated 10/09/21 from the Governing Body of Ysgol Llanfair - to access the consultation document visit -

<https://www.ysgolllanfairdc.cymru/ymgyngoriad.htm>

<https://www.ysgolllanfairdc.cymru/consultation.htm>

[b] letter from Mr D Eifion Wynne dated 18/09/21

**5 Gohebiaeth/Correspondence** To receive and consider

**5.1 Email dated 29/09/21 from the Secretariat to the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales** - You can find the report by using the following link:

[Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales Draft Annual Report - February 2022](#)

Pages 43-51 relate to Community and Town Councils. Comments on the draft to [IRPMailbox@gov.wales](mailto:IRPMailbox@gov.wales) by 26/11/21

**5.2 Letter dated 21/09/21 from Mr Darren Millar MS** about the possibility of attending a future meeting of the Council to answer any questions and take forward any issues.

**6 I Ystyried adborth/adroddiadau o gynadleddau / hyfforddiant / cyfarfodydd**

**To consider feedback/report[s] on conferences/training/meetings**

**6.1 OVW Conwy & Denbighshire Area Committee 06/10/21**

**7 Cynllunio/Planning** [www.denbighshire.gov.uk/planning](http://www.denbighshire.gov.uk/planning) **To**

**7.1** consider applications received

**8 Priffyrdd a'r Amgylchedd/Highways & Environment** – To receive and consider a general update on ongoing matters

**8.1 Footpaths** report by Chair, Councillors Eilir Jones & Osian Owen re A525 Ruthin – Llanfair and Site Visit at Llysfasi on 20/09/21

**8.2 Speeding Device Graigfechan**

**8.3 Flood Prevention Scheme[s]**

**8.4 Request for Provision of Litter Bin by the Bus Stop in Llanfair on the A525**

**9 Materion Ariannol/Financial Matters** – To approve

**9.1** Summary of Income & Expenditure and Receipts & Payments Cashbook for the period 1 April 2021 to 30 September 2021 [Auditor General has not yet issued an audit opinion on accounts for the year ended 31/03/21]

**9.2** Payment of Accounts/Invoices

£4,743.22 R W Masonry Ltd [War Memorial Works]

£368.94 AVOW [Clerk's October salary inc payroll fee]

£206.33 Clerk [Quarterly Expenses]

£21.95 Cllr Jayne Mayers [Reimbursement of Flower/Card Purchase]

**9.2** To consider Requests for Financial Aid

**10 Dyddiadau Cyfarfodydd yn y Dyfodol/Dates of Future Meetings [7 pm start]**

**10.1** 08/11/21, 13/12/21, 10/01/22, 14/02/22, 14/03/22

**10.2** Update about local groups wishing to use Llysfasi's community hub

**RHAN 2 Eitemau Cyfrinachol – Gwaherddir y Wasg a'r Cyhoedd**

**PART 2 Confidential Items – Exclusion of Press & Public**

**11 Community Asset Transfer Process** - To receive an update on progress regarding obtaining quotations for professional and other services

Former Llanfair school repurposing leadership steering group

Notes from Zoom meeting held on 16 September 2021

1. Present were; Caroline Ross, Toria Collins, Helen Stalford, Phil Bennett-Lloyd and Steve Whipp. Apologies had been received from Buddug Williams, Richard Cotter.

The death of Alan Edwards had been announced. The group expressed its sadness on learning of Alan's death and wished to record its gratitude for the input and commitment Alan had shown to the project.

2. The notes from last meeting of 10 August 2021 were agreed.

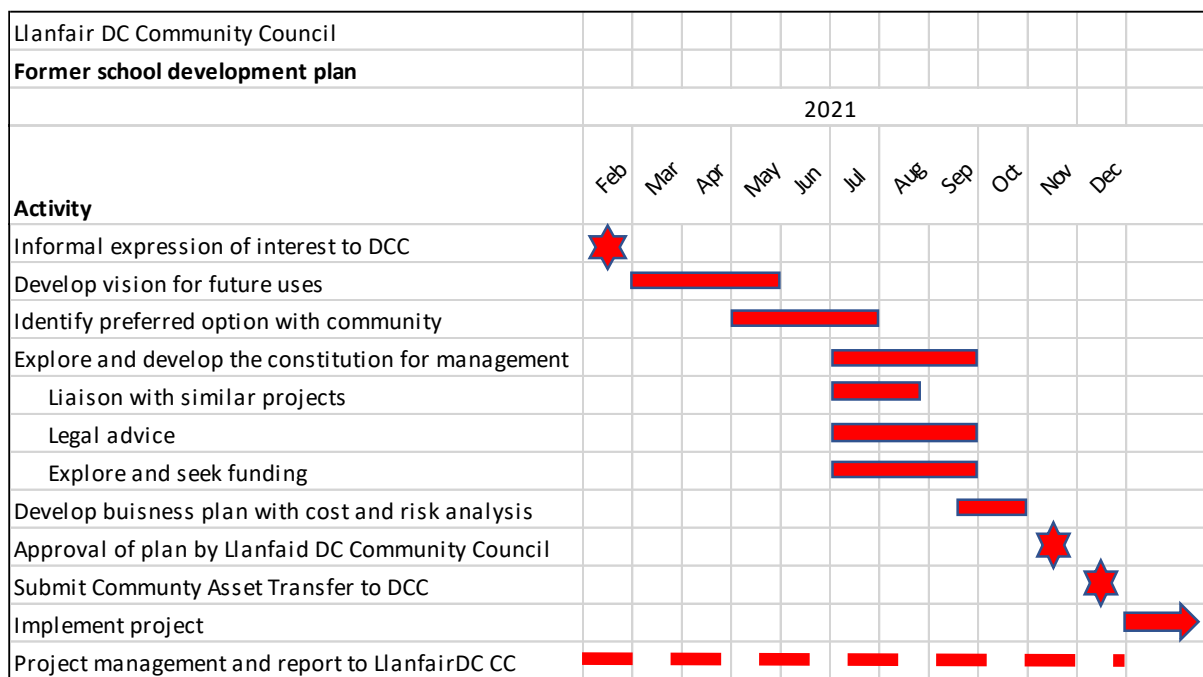
Matters carried over from previous meetings were:

- a. It had been suggested that invitations to talk with the group be extended to key organisations which included Mark Ghan from National Lottery Rural Futures and Robin Lovelock. **Mair** would follow up and see what form of contact each would prefer. It had also been proposed that Wrexham Town Square be invited to speak to the group.
  - b. The group discussed the need to write up the results from the 10 July drop-in event. **HS and TC** agreed to lead this and to collate the various inputs. A summary document would be produced drawing out the themes but much of the material could be presented as provided by the event's attendees.
3. The group discussed the outcome from the consideration by the Llanfair DC Community Council at its meeting of 13 September 2021. The Community Asset Transfer (CAT) business case for transfer of the playing field had been presented and discussed. The group noted the changes that were needed and that these would be incorporated into a redraft for submission to the October 2021 Community Council meeting. Following agreement in the CC it would be submitted to DCC. Eirwen Godden was appointing a surveyor and arboriculturalist to undertake a survey of trees on the site and to provide a plan for their maintenance. Additionally, it was required to provide costs for fencing for the site and a specification had been provided for quotations to be obtained. Eirwen Godden would also seek clarification of the boundary of the playing field from Denbighshire County Council. Steps would be taken to identify a solicitor that could act for the Community Council in the CAT. HS would advise Eirwen of a contact who may be suitable for this role. The redrafted Business Case would need to be with Eirwen Godden by 4 October 2021 to be circulated with the meeting's papers.
  4. The meeting discussed to parallel work for the school building and playground. It was agreed that the feedback from the drop in event applied to this and the group felt that it could start the process of developing the business case for these assets. Drafting the business case would identify any gaps that needed further work and the aim was to get this ready for submission to the Community Council by the end of the year. It was felt essential to maintain momentum with the activity

alongside that on the playing field. Eirwen Godden was looking to appoint a building surveyor and it was felt that drafting a brief for the scope of the work of the surveyor would be helpful. SW and PBL agreed to develop a brief. The notes provided by Buddug on the Y Shed business case were helpful in approaching this drafting.

5. A further meeting would be held on 30 September 2021 at 7pm using Zoom to finalise the playing field business case.

The timetable for the school repurposing is shown below:



Llanfair DC Community Council

Former Llanfair school repurposing leadership steering group

Notes from Zoom meeting held on 16 September 2021

1. Present were; Richard Cotter, Toria Collins, Helen Stalford, Phil Bennett-Lloyd and Steve Whipp. Apologies had been received from Caroline Ross.
2. The notes from last meeting of 16 September 2021 were agreed.

3. The group learned of the Paths to Wellbeing project being carried out by Ramblers Cymru and which could potentially provide resources to the project. A presentation would be given to the Llanfair DC Community Council's meeting on 11 October 2021.
4. The group worked on the Community Asset Transfer (CAT) business case for transfer of the playing field. This required information on costs to be included as well as output from the community consultation event held on 10 July 2021. The redraft would be submitted to the October Community Council meeting for its consideration. A request would also be made to appoint a building surveyor to inspect the school. SW and PBL had provided a brief to enable an appointment to be made.
5. The meeting discussed to parallel work for the school building and playground. It was agreed that the feedback from the drop in event applied to this and the group felt that it could start the process of developing the business case for these assets. Drafting the business case would identify any gaps that needed further work and the aim was to get this ready for submission to the Community Council by the end of the year. It was felt essential to maintain momentum with the activity alongside that on the playing field. SW agreed to circulate a skeleton that would enable the structure of the report to be set out. Group members were asked to consider this.
6. The next meeting of the steering group would be held on 14 October 2021 at 7pm via Zoom.

Llanfair DC Community Council

October 2021

Former Llanfair school repurposing leadership steering group

Report to the Llanfair DC Community Council

Proposal for funding support in relation to the Community Asset Transfer of the school, its playground and its playing field.

1. The Community Council is asked to accept and adopt the business case attached to this document for the transfer of the playing field from Denbighshire County Council. The costs that would arise to the Community Council from the transfer of the playing field are as follows:
 

a) Annual Premium to include the playing field on the insurance policy	£150
b) Installation of a fence to delineate the playing field boundary	£1500
c) Undertake full detailed arboriculture survey	£1000
d) Appoint solicitor to act for the Community Council	£2000
2. The Community Council is asked to appoint a building surveyor to carry out detailed inspection of the school buildings and to advise the Community Council of its present condition, the requirements to bring it in line with current building regulations and to provide a future maintenance regime for the building. Funding of £4000 is requested for this purpose and is in accordance with the advice from the One Voice Wales training which recommended that a prospective transferee should be fully aware of current and future building needs. The surveyor will need to demonstrate its

suitability for dealing with historic, listed buildings and provide a statement of its experience with such buildings. The funds may be recoverable at a future date if heritage grant funding is provided as a feasibility study for use of the building by the community.

Enc. CAT Business Case for the school playing field.

Steve Whipp on behalf of the repurposing steering group.  
30 September 2021

Llanfair DC Community Council

October 2021

Former Llanfair school repurposing leadership steering group.

### **Stage 3: Detailed Business Plan for Transfer of the school playing field.**

Purpose of this document:

This document sets out the business case that would enable the adoption of the former Llanfair DC primary school playing field by Community Asset Transfer (CAT) from Denbighshire County Council to Llanfair DC Community Council. The Llanfair DC ward lies to the south of the town of Ruthin and includes the villages of Llanfair DC, Graigfechan, Pentre-celyn, Pentre Coch and surrounding areas. It forms the upper part of the Vale of Clwyd and rivers and streams run principally north to the coast. The adoption of the playing field would be carried out to provide amenity and benefit to the whole community as set out in the business case.

Llanfair DC Community Council would submit its detailed business plan. This would include specific attention on: –

1. Needs analysis and projected utilisation,

The community of Llanfair DC's neighbourhood plan (dated 2019) outlines the following vision to meet the needs and aspirations of its community. We have since consulted with the community at an open day in July 2021 as well as through bi-lingual online surveys. The open consultation was strongly supported by local residents of all ages, and it was found that the aspirations expressed remain strongly in line with neighbourhood plan -

*'To have a strong, resilient and thriving community where our history and heritage are celebrated and sustained, and where our rural setting and character are preserved and enhanced for both residents and visitors.'* **Llanfair DC Development Plan 2019**

The following table outlines how those objectives are fulfilled by the acquisition of the old Ysgol Llanfair playing field; if accepted we feel confident that the developments relating to the playing field would lay strong favourable foundations for the acquisition and repurposing of the old school building:

<b>OBJECTIVES SET OUT IN LLANFAIR DC NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN 2019</b>	<b>ACTIVITY TO SUPPORT ASSET TRANSFER OF FIELD</b>
<i>Maintain and enhance the built and natural environment for present and future generations</i>	Securing the field for our future generations as a permanent carbon store for the villages.
<i>Support small scale housing and business development that meets local needs and are in keeping with the area</i>	Allowing for and promoting outdoor / well-being focussed business activities to be carried out to meet the needs of local people
<i>Encourage opportunities for residents to find enjoyment and fulfilment through a range of educational, cultural, sporting and leisure activities</i>	Encouraging community cohesion through offering volunteering and educational opportunities to promote well-being through social interaction and environmental action. To strengthen relationships - a connected community is a resilient community Developing an outdoor play and social space for different generations, including a play space for children, and an accessible garden for the elderly.
<i>Recognise and support the agricultural activity in the area, which is essential in producing food both locally, nationally and internationally</i>	Planting of co-operative community growing space will promote an increase in biodiversity. An increase in pollinators to benefit existing agricultural activity in the Vale, and to increase food and environmental literacy within the community.
<i>Ensure that the area provides a welcome setting for visitors by providing and improving facilities within the context of a safe and secure natural environment</i>	As a point of connection between the local nature reserves, the site will provide respite between walking and cycling routes and with increased visibility roadside provide a welcoming gateway to explore walking and cycling routes in the area
<i>Develop collaborative relationships with organisations that have an interest in the area to mutual benefit</i>	Working with established partners in the area (such as Llanfair Village Hall - Neuadd Eleanor; Miri Meithrin; Llanbenwch caravan park; Ysgol Llanfair & Ysgol Pentrecelyn; the White Horse Pub; and Siop Pwllglas) we will be able to support activities that are beneficial to residents in the area as well as supporting complementary businesses and services. This may be, for instance, by co-

	organising events and signposting visitors to other local services to develop a truly integrated local offering.
<i>Support local businesses and services that contribute to the quality of life of residents and visitors including support for appropriate diversification and the use of new technologies</i>	By providing a safe area for children to play and adults to meet it is anticipated that local businesses like 'The White Horse' will benefit from an increase in passing trade / footfall.

The Llanfair DC Neighbourhood Plan links closely to the aims and objectives set out in Denbighshire County Council's Corporate Plan and also to the Conwy and Denbighshire Public Services Board's aims which support the wellbeing of future generations.

Llanfair DC also has a Biodiversity Action Plan which aims to promote a green corridor across the Vale of Clwyd, linking the existing wildlife reserves, and also promoting the creation of increased awareness of environmental stewardship.

Following a community consultation in 2018 carried out by Neuadd Eleanor Community Hall, (community hall based within Llanfair DC) residents' feedback was captured and the following statements are pertinent to the aims of the CAT of the old school playing field:

1. *'Residents were very active in terms of physical activity (walking and cycling) and have a good knowledge of the area, with a thirst to know even more.'*

By providing a central hub within the village that can act as a meeting / departure point for walkers and cyclists and could provide walking /cycling buddies for those that don't know the area so well. In particular it could provide a departure point for Ruthin Cycling Club.

2. *'Volunteering per se does not seem to be strong in the village, which is probably indicative of the demographics. However, a positive is that respondents would like to volunteer for local projects, they just need more knowledge. Volunteering opportunities need communicating in a way where people can support the community flexibly according to their own time constraints.'*

An increase in activity in a central, very visible place in the village that is open access and welcoming to all will provide volunteering opportunities and social contact for more vulnerable members of the community.

3. *'Many people answering the survey were happy about their life in the Parish. The most mentioned issue was the lack of a playground for the children, followed by traffic concerns.'*

Well designed, environmentally considerate play opportunities developed in consultation with members of the community on the field will ensure a safe and secure environment



that can be explored by both young and older generations. It also allows the flexibility to be incorporated in phases in consultation with the community once they can see how they want to use the area.

4. *'The survey found that 22% of respondents were feeling lonely and sensed a lack of community spirit.'*

Greater opportunity for members of the community to come together to plan, maintain, gather, and grow the space together will increase feelings of belonging rather than being a passive onlooker. It will also provide an opportunity for intergenerational activities and relationship-building.

The steering group for the repurposing of the school held a specific consultation event in the school playground on 10 July 2021. This sought residents' views on their needs for both the school and the playing field. There were almost 60 attendees and some 50 respondents to the survey either digitally or on paper in which the community was able to express its views. Residents were also encouraged to provide free-text comments on poster boards on display at the open day. The outcome reinforced the needs identified from earlier consultations and identified a range of ideas across three broad areas; providing a place where people can meet and experience open space, use of the field for food related activities such as a community garden and as a resource to encourage outdoor education. This could support the local schools in providing a unique learning environment. The broad feedback was that the playing field was seen to have huge potential to improve people's enjoyment of their environment and would support the wellbeing of the community. This would add to the resilience of the community.

Results of the community consultation supported the findings from previous community needs consultations. Headline findings were;

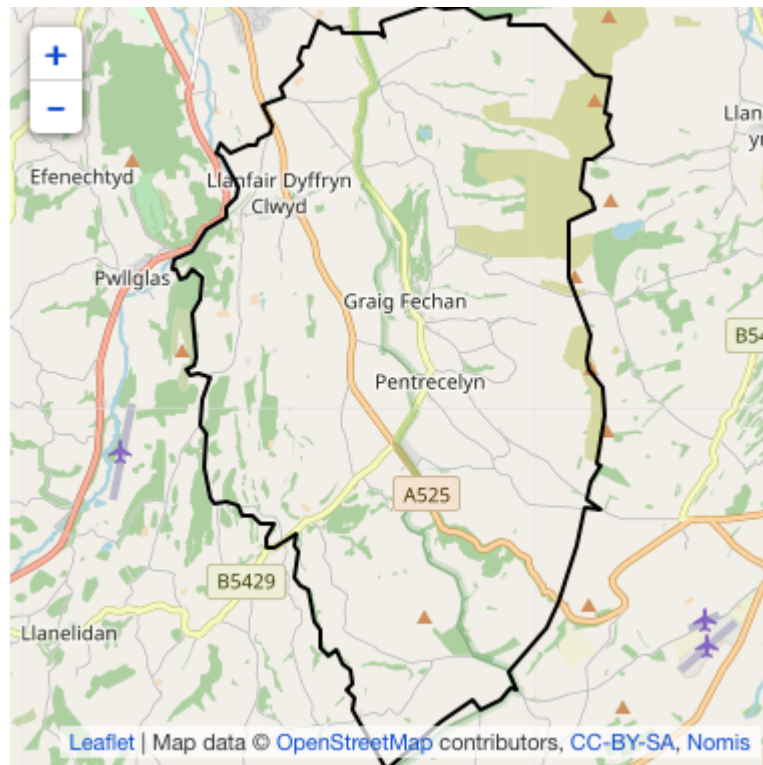
- 72% of respondents wanted a safe open space for children to play
- 56% of respondents wanted an outdoor meeting space for all ages
- 56% of respondents would like the provision of community allotment space

The importance of ensuring that the space caters to residents across the spectrum of the community cannot be understated.

2. Type of transfer sought and why the transfer is proposed,

Situated at the heart of the village of Llanfair Dyffryn Clwyd, in the valley below the Clwydian Range AONB, the Old Ysgol Llanfair School Site maintains a prominent position in the village. The site is of value to the broader population in the parish and an amenity for all residents and more widely. Located within stepping distance of the main north/south A-road (A525), it benefits from optimal transport links to the major towns of Ruthin and Denbigh to the north and Wrexham and Llangollen to the south. Quieter minor roads link to the east/west in particular connection to the villages of Pwllglas (external to the parish margins but very much connected to this community) and across to

Graigfechan and Pentrecelyn villages within the parish boundary. Most recent figures report that there are 1048 residents living in 458 houses in the parish.



***The parish of Llanfair DC***



***The site of the old Ysgol Llanfair DC Playing Fields***

With the development of 63 new build homes as well as recent ad-hoc developments in all the villages since the 2011 census, and the lack of provision in facilities for the occupants of those new homes -there is a clear need, supported by community consultation for more public open space. It is vital that the opportunity is grasped to ensure the space is retained within the villages for the use and benefit of the community.

The presence of a busy and sometimes dangerous A-road cutting straight through the village means that the village feels physically divided. Safe places for children to play are in short supply and getting to these brings risk. The situation of the old Ysgol Llanfair playing field and improvements in providing safe pedestrian access from the bridleway to the rear of the site would allow residents to make use of footpaths to the site as well as being able to access the site by bus from more outlying villages / towns. Secure cycle storage and parking requirements would be reviewed as the use of the field develops.

We request that the site be transferred as a freehold transfer to the Community Council for the sum of £1 and as such the Community Council will be responsible for its management in the future.

Maintenance of the site would initially be carried out by volunteers from Llanfair Fyw group (in partnership with officers from North Wales Wildlife Trust) - a group initially formed as part of a cross-vale eco-connectivity initiative to co-ordinate and maintain the wild spaces in the immediate vicinity of the communities of Llanfair, Pentrecelyn and Graigfechan. The group also endeavours to work with landowners within the Vale to improve bio-diversity and therefore eco-connectivity for wildlife in the area.

3. Planned outcomes and benefits and how they will be measured/monitored,

The Community Council would propose to undertake a review and produce a report on the outcomes achieved in use of the former school playing field. This would be done every two years and would refer to the needs set out in paragraph 1 of this business case to assess the achievements and make recommendations for future consultation and use. It is envisaged that the playing field and its use will evolve over time, and this should reflect the changes in needs that arise in the community. The biannual report would be posted on the Community Council website and would be communicated to all residents.

We initially anticipate 3 key uses for the playing field:

1. A Children's Play Area - tentative plans already in place for the development of a children's play area, utilising natural resources. The area would be developed in partnership with local children and young people as a community project.
2. A Quiet Space or 'Peace' Garden for all ages, but particularly older residents
3. A Community Co-operative Growing Space

The views and experiences of residents are central to the development of the space. The *process* of developing the proposed plans in collaboration with local residents is as important as the final outcome. With this in mind, we will provide opportunities for locals of all ages and abilities to be involved in development activities, such as developing the play park area. Key Performance Indicators will include:

- Monitoring the number and profile of volunteers involved in developing different aspects of the site to ensure inclusivity and responsiveness to local needs and wishes,
- Obtaining qualitative feedback from locals. We will ensure that we hold at least one open community event every two years (such as a community barbeque) where members of the steering group will be on hand to answer questions and listen to feedback from the community,
- We will consult with the community and other relevant stakeholders (through an online survey and face to face meetings) on discrete plans for development as they emerge,
- We will monitor the bookings and private usage for the facilities through a new website/online booking system and ensure that feedback on numbers utilising the facilities is collected. We aim to ensure a balance of private bookings vs open access so that the site remains simultaneously economically viable and community facing,
- We will ensure that the feasibility of the actions taken on the playing field are in cohesion with prospective plans and usage for the old School building will uphold the integrity/use and sustainability of the playing field,
- We will ensure that the space is highly accessible (providing parking spaces and wheelchair/pram accessible paths) to the different groups of users, ensuring it is compliant with current regulations.

4. Ability and experience of organisation in providing services to the public through the medium of the Welsh language,

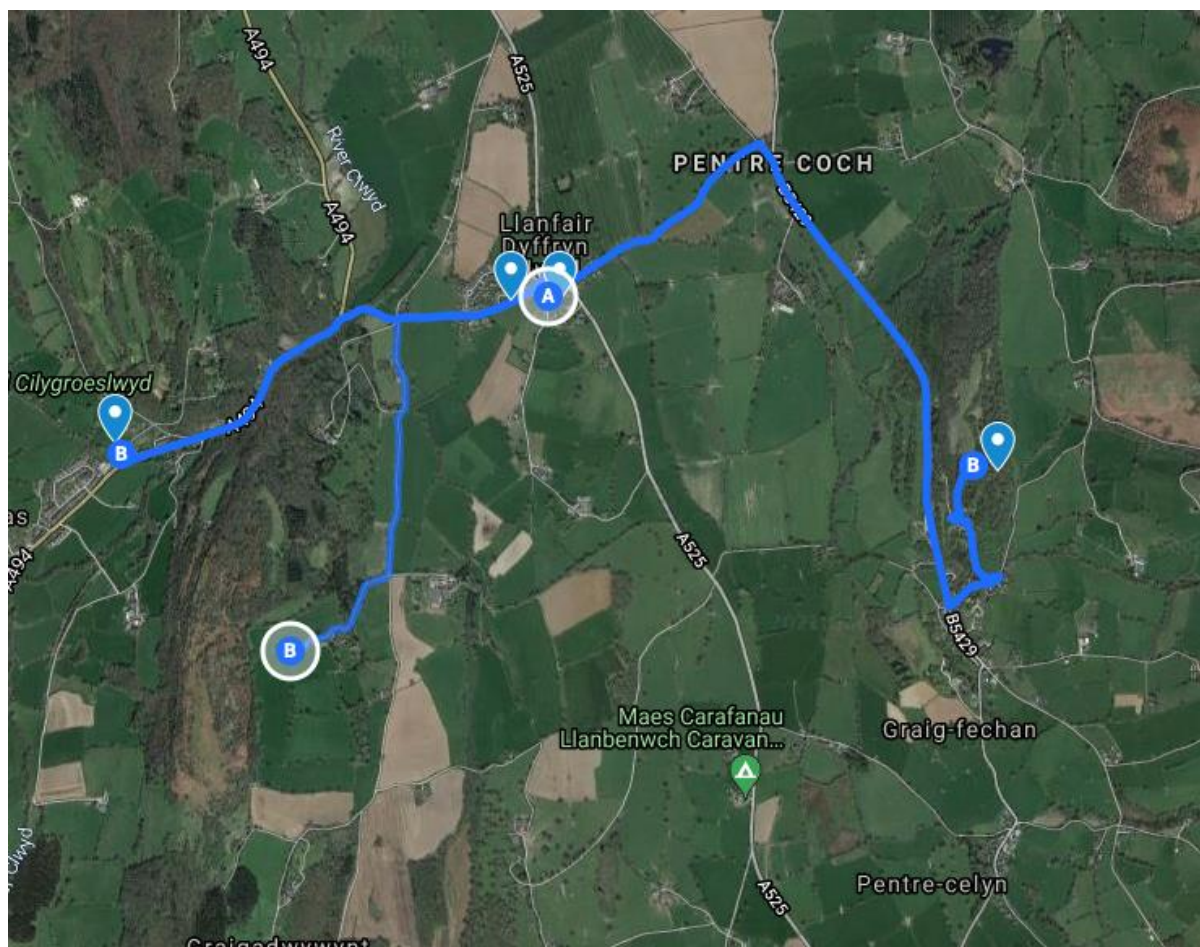
We recognise that the community in the parish is almost 50% Welsh and 50% English speaking. Volunteers working to maintain the site will be able to learn the language of nature through the medium of Welsh. The book 'The Lost Words' by Robert Macfarlane and Jackie Morris has been an excellent example of how the words used in nature are being removed from children's vocabulary. This book has now been published in Welsh and distributed to all the primary schools and early years childcare settings in North Wales. By welcoming both parish schools to use the area as an outdoor classroom we will be able to build these words back into their vocabulary in both Welsh and English. One prime example of this was a session with the children of Ysgol Llanfair collecting acorns to be sent to Natural Resources Wales. There are two different species of oak trees on the site and with the support of teaching staff we learned the words for Acorn, Magpie, Bramble for example.

In partnership with local groups, we will encourage activities that support bi-lingualism in the community. All publicly shared documents will be published bi-lingually. We have interest already from groups wanting to use the field on a weekly basis, who already offer this kind of bi-lingual activity. We will consult with Menter Iaith locally to see if they are able to support the scheme.

5. Details of any proposed partnership/collaborative working,

The initial proposal for the acquisition of the field for the community was drafted by a member of the Llanfair Fyw group working under the guidance of North Wales Wildlife Trust. As part of the eco-connectivity 'Living Landscape' initiative, the site was a natural connection point between the NWWT managed nature reserves of Graig Wyllt and Coed Cilygroesllwyd via the site managed by Butterfly Conservation - Eyrarth Rocks. Already, the site support hunting habitat for barn owl, tawny owl and little owl - other twilight visitors include bats (prob pipistrelle mainly), whilst hedgehogs, smooth newts have been recorded, as well as goldcrests, the very rare hawfinch making regular appearances, using the area as vital "stepping-stones" between their core habitats.

We will gather letters of support from prominent stakeholders (for example Ysgol Llanfair, Neuadd Eleanor and Miri Meithrin) in support of this business case and outlining any potential areas of collaboration not yet explored explicitly in this document.



**Walking Routes to surrounding managed nature reserves with the school site at the centre (Point A)**



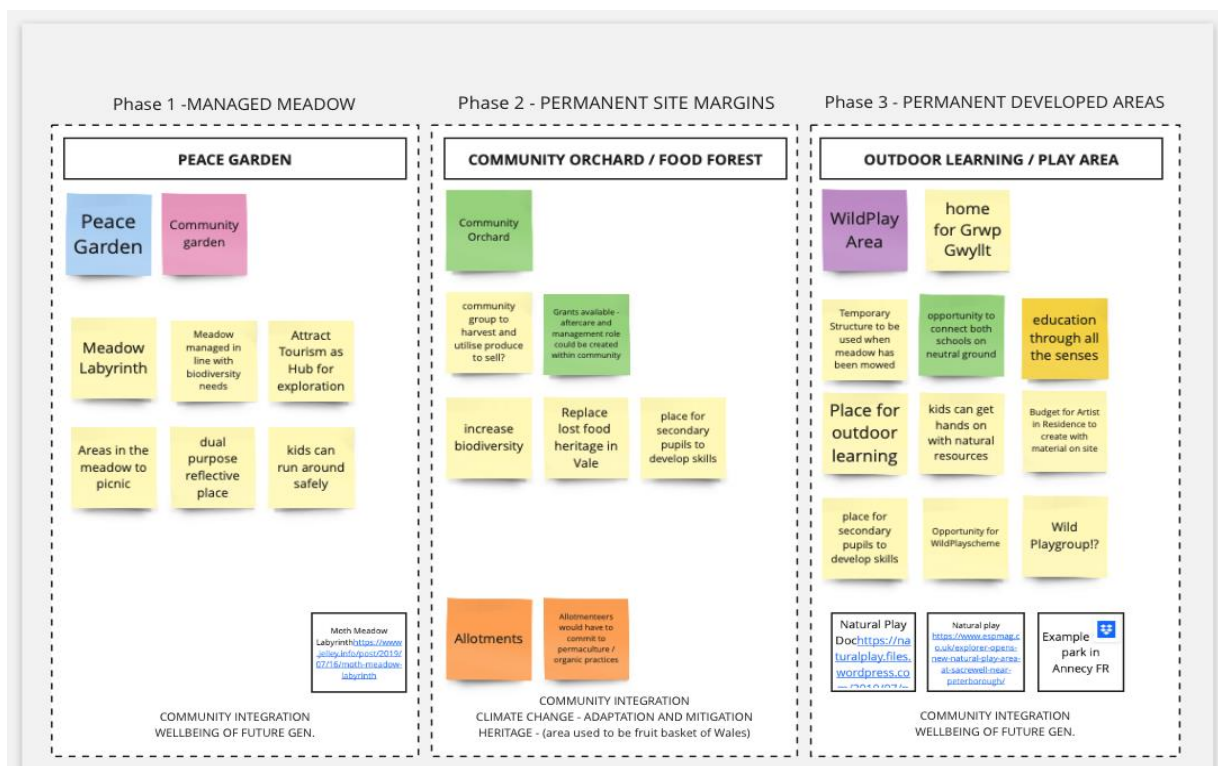
6. Track record for delivering service/managing property,

The Management of the site will be overseen by an appointed 'Field Management Group'. It is anticipated that membership of this group is initially drawn from the steering group with the addition of representation later on from lead members of regular user groups. This could include young trustees (some representatives from the local primary schools as well as some second school young people) with a particular emphasis on conservation. These would be the 'Gofalwyr Gwyllt' or 'Wild Caretakers' encouraging younger members of the community to take a role in community citizenship matters. The Field management group will report to the Llanfair DC Community Council which will appoint councillors to sit on the group.

7. Capacity to manage the asset,

It is envisaged that bylaws for use of the field will be produced and the management group will develop these for approval by the Community Council. Existing Education department rules for use of the field will be used as a basis for the future and these will ensure that the field is used responsibly with due care and consideration.

The following chart shows the vision for how the playing field could evolve over the next five years.



8. Financial Sustainability planning.

With regards financial sustainability, in the first instance costs will be covered by Llanfair DC Community Council through its precept funding and provision has been made in the budget to allow

for this. Insurance needs in terms of public liability will be covered by the Community Council and included in its insurance policy. This will allow volunteers to carry out work at the site. All practitioners leading activities will have their own insurance to cover specific needs. Maintenance will be carried out by volunteers from Llanfair Fyw, under guidance from North Wales Wildlife Trust. The land will be managed biodynamically, with hay being taken off by a local farmer once or twice a year, enabling use of the field for play / groups to use but ensuring wildlife is able to thrive in the meadow grass. It is envisaged that costs will be minimal with small sums needed initially to provide a secure accessible entrance to the field and to fence it off from the school building and playground. It is proposed that the Community Council would appoint an arboriculturalist to survey and inspect the trees on the site and to identify any action required along with a maintenance plan.

The management group plans to work closely with a national footpath initiative, Paths to Wellbeing, which is in its inception phase and being carried out by Ramblers Cymru. This has begun by consultation on the development / signposting of circular walking routes. The initiative could provide several resources including tools, a pedestrian access gate, waymarking, trees, wildflower seed and wildlife foods as well as fencing and benches.

A risk assessment has been carried out for the playing field and is available.

Indicative quotations have been sought from a number of providers in line with the Community Council's financial guidelines. The costs to enable the Community Asset Transfer are proposed to be met by Llanfair DC Community Council and are estimated to be as follows:

Annual cost:

Insurance premium to include the playing field on the policy	£150
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One-off set up cost:

Installation of a fence to delineate the playing field boundary	£1500
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Undertake full detailed arboriculture survey	£1000
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Appoint solicitor to act for the Community Council with the CAT	£2000
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Total	£4500
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Copi Cymraeg/Welsh Copy Below - Click

[Welsh Letter D Eifion Wynne](#)

3 Ffordd Cunedda  
Ruthin  
LL15 1JF  
18/09/21

Head of Education  
Denbighshire County Council  
County Hall  
Ruthin

**Re: Ysgol Llanfair DC Governors Consultation (regarding increasing school capacity)**

Dear Mr Geraint Davies

That Ysgol Llanfair DC Governing Body is seeking to consult on this proposal is premature and inappropriate and not in accordance with the regulations in the Increasing Schools Capacity Measure, based on the fact that the consultation publishes the projected numbers for local schools.

Also, I wish to draw your attention to the following facts:

1. The official name of Ysgol Llanfair DC Voluntary Controlled school is misleading. Ysgol Llanfair DC is not the only bilingual school in Denbighshire. EVERY school in Denbighshire and in Wales is a bilingual school, regardless of the number of subjects taught through the medium of Welsh in them.
2. Welsh Government is in the process of reviewing school language categorisation. The appropriate time to hold any review regarding increasing capacity is after Welsh Government adopts a new system of categorising schools according to language provision. It is possible that there will not be as much demand for places in the dual stream Ysgol Llanfair DC when Ysgol Llanfair, in conjunction with Denbighshire County Council, have decided on the linguistic category of the school under Welsh Government's new system of school categorisation.
3. Since opening the new build Ysgol Llanfair the school governors have provided accommodation for Cylch Meithrin y Graig. Every Cylch Meithrin (Welsh medium pre-school group) are totally separate to schools and are managed by Mudiad Meithrin. In a local community newspaper a photo was published of the Leader of Denbighshire County Council officially opening Cylch Meithrin y Graig in the Ysgol Llanfair new building in the company of the school's Chair of Governors. This again is misleading as it can give the wrong impression that Cylch Meithrin y Graig is provided by Ysgol Llanfair. Cylchoedd Meithrin serve areas, not specific schools. Cylch Meithrin y Graig should have been officially opened in Ysgol Llanfair by an officer from Mudiad Meithrin. It should be remembered that there is more than one school in the Llanfair DC and Pwllglas area.
4. Seeing Ysgol Llanfair consulting on increasing Ysgol Llanfair's capacity scarcely two years after moving into a new building, is a cause for serious concern and should be questioned thoroughly. Common sense says that some of the new school's capacity has been taken up by a voluntary and non-statutory nursery education provider which has no more connection



with Ysgol Llanfair than any other school in the area. The only connection between Cylch Meithrin y Graig and Ysgol Llanfair is that the Cylch meets on site.

5. Denbighshire County Council is consulting with Llanfair DC community about the possible uses that they wish to see in the former Ysgol Llanfair school building. There is sufficient space in the old building to meet the needs of any lack of capacity in the new building. Many Cylchoedd Meithrin meet in village halls.
6. As there is alleged lack of capacity in Ysgol Llanfair, before holding a consultation on increasing capacity by additional investment in the new school building, Ysgol Llanfair governing body has a moral duty to inform Cylch Meithrin y Graig that there is no longer space for them in the new Ysgol Llanfair DC school building.

Following an effort to reorganise education in the Llanfair DC and Pentrecelyn area in August 2016, Denbighshire County Council lost an appeal against that decision.

One of the intentions of reorganisation of the two schools at that time was to form a new area school with a capacity of 140. One basis for the objection by Ysgol Pentrecelyn was the intention for the new area school to be a Category 2 school. If the County Council and Ysgol Llanfair Governors had agreed during the consultation on the reorganisation back in 2015 for the new school to be a Category 1 school, reflecting the categorisation of Ysgol Pentrecelyn, the capacity of the new building today would be 140.

Considering the fact that Ysgol Llanfair, since moving into the new building, has hosted Cylch Meithrin y Graig in the building, therefore adversely affecting the school capacity, and the act of publishing projected pupil numbers of local schools in the current consultation document, it appears that this is no more than a joint effort by Ysgol Llanfair DC and Denbighshire County Council to increase the number of pupils attending Ysgol Llanfair DC, undermining local schools and, by doing so, undermining full Welsh medium education. It is merely an excuse to try to claim in the consultation document that there is a need to increase the capacity of Ysgol Llanfair partly because of the new housing development being built in the village currently. The predicted increase in the number of school pupils arising from building the new housing in the reorganising education document back in 2015 forecast that there would be an increase of between 11 and 15 children arising from the new housing development in Llanfair.

On this basis, I call upon Denbighshire County Council to intervene in this attempt by Ysgol Llanfair DC governors and to halt this deficient process of consultation by the governors regarding increasing the school's capacity immediately.

Yours sincerely

D. Eifion Wynne

Cc: Minister for Education Welsh Government  
Welsh Language Commissioner  
Llanfair DC and Pentrecelyn Community Council

Item 9.1 11/10/21 Click files below

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