

Chairmans Annual Report
Gelligaer Community Council
May 2021 – May 2022

Once again, the Pandemic proved quite challenging throughout 2021, with social distancing and lockdowns. All of us trying to keep our loved ones safe. I, for one, am thankful for the vaccinations. It seems we are going to have to live with Covid for the foreseeable.

However, the community Council has not sat back on its laurels during this period.

We had some wonderful Flower displays around Ystrad Mynach brightening the town up. The Community Council took over the running and maintaining of the Toilets, after they were closed by County Council. We felt it was an essential facility required in the town and after a full refurbishment we were proud to reopen the revamped facilities.

The Council decided there was a much needed service that we could provide for the community and that was Public Defibrillators which was installed in some areas. It was concluded that the Community Council will take on the need to provide any additional repairs required to the defibrillators in our area.

Community Councillors attended Remembrance Services throughout the council area. 'Lest we Forget'

Mr and Mrs Reynolds celebrated their 60th Wedding Anniversary and I as Chair was proud to present Mrs Reynolds with a bouquet of Flowers. What an absolute pleasure it was. Mr Reynolds featured on the TV regarding his Carvings. Mr Reynolds is a master carver and I was in awe of some of carvings.

Gelligaer Community Council once again arranged for the Christmas lights and trees to be installed throughout our area.

Santa and his sleigh did a tour around Community Council area and he visited every village. The Children, and I think Parents, thoroughly enjoyed it. It cheered everyone after the lockdown of the previous year, where no one could socialise.

We provided Christmas Selection boxes for every child within Gelligaer Community Council area.

What a wonderful if somewhat socially distanced Christmas Panto that was held in every village/town. Jackerellastiltskin was enjoyed by all.

The Community Council arranged its 5th Community Awards Presentation for Volunteers at Llancaiach Fawr. Melody Makers choir were in attendance and we fundraised money for the new Breast Unit at Ysbyty Ystrad Fawr in memory of Lyn Cushing.

Our Spring Fayre, which replaced our normal Christmas fayre, due to high winds in November 2021, was a fantastic success. There was street entertainment, craft for the children and lots of stalls. Gelligaer community Council fundraised for Ukraine relief and the community were very generous with their donations and supplies.

Unfortunately, I have to end my report on a sad note that one of our ex community Councillor Graham Hughes sadly passed away during my period of office. I only knew Graham for a short period. But I understand he had been involved as a County and Community Councillor for a number of years.

Chair Cllr Donna Cushing
2021/22