

## **Faenor Community Council – Chairman’s Report 2018-2019**

The past twelve months have been a steep learning curve, having been thrust into the Chairs role with only one year of previous service: To that end I thank our previous Chairman Chris Simpson for leaving our business agenda in good order and give plaudits for his efficient link with One Voice Wales (OVW) and his critical analysis of council events.

Of course whilst the committee ponders slowly the courses of action it will take, none of this happens or comes to fruition without the efficient and effective guidance of our clerk. Jim Griffiths, duly appointed on the retirement of our former clerk, almost as I took up office, has stepped up to the mark; this despite several major obstacles, administrative and personal and he now has our administration on an even keel. So my thanks and gratitude go to him too and I am sure he will keep us operating within the guidelines and challenging the County on our behalf. I must also thank our County Councillor, John Roberts, for his informative overview and contributions, not least for his almost sole support to Commins Coch.

If I were to criticise myself for failings in my tenure, it would be that we had not elicited more membership support from Commins Coch and Capel Dewi and nor had we made effective public communication in the local press. So I am afraid are issues I pass on.

If I take pride in our committee work for any successes this year it would be that:

- a. After two years of discussion we now have a positive asset in Peter Hemmings as a regular go to handymen.
- b. We have a protocol for arranging urgent repairs
- c. We have replaced one bus stop, created a park shelter in Commins Coch play area and have two more replacements bus shelters on Waunfawr ready for June.
- d. We have approved and sited replacement benches for the four on Waunfawr that had decayed beyond repair and in a style for future replacements.

- e. We have linked in our handy man to the Waunfawr residents association to undertake significant restoration of the parkland.
- f. We have acknowledged the Dyfi Biosphere project and signed up as a Community Council to ensure no further undertakings on our part will damage this natural environment.
- g. We, on behalf of our residents, have been a very generous with financial support to Ceredigion's hosting of the National Eisteddfod (£4000.00). We have also donated, as usual to worthy request for financial support to Young Farmers, our Twinning Committee and Choral Society.
- h. We have a damaged tree replacement programme under Cllr Sue Wildig.
- i. Begun arranging for the permanent placement of Village Christmas Tree sites in time for December 2019.
- j. Work in progress includes the future of the Waunfawr bike track and dog fouling in that area, devolution of fund responsibilities for works to residents associations and reviewing grass cutting contracts to ensure sounder financial accountability.
- k. Our financial situation is sound and our precept puts us in a firm position to undertake projects or rise to a crisis.

My fellow Faenor community councillors sometimes wondered if it achieved anything on your behalf and is always critical of the time resolutions takes to materialise. It can be frustrating to have ideas and discuss them, only to have to wait for another monthly meeting to slowly move forward and then find it challenged by another point and so it carries on. But that is how committees work, slowly. We do not have the resources or scope for task and finish groups to report back to us nor the in house expertise to have information on tap. I'm thankful and grateful to each of them who has attended and debated and given their time for the benefit of the community.

Duncan Tibbit

Chairperson

Faenor Community Council 2018-2019

