



# Llandeilo Town Council Newsletter

## Working in partnership with Menter Bro Dinefwr

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**On behalf of Llandeilo Town Council, I welcome you to the first issue of the Town Council newsletter!**

This is the beginning of a closer working relationship between the Town Council and the residents of Llandeilo, an opportunity to keep you informed about what we are doing as a Council and to hear your views in return.

As a lifelong resident of Llandeilo, I have been honoured to serve you as your Town Mayor this year, an exciting and important time in which we have taken on two of the town's prized assets, Penlan Park and Parc Le

Conquet, *the Rec* as it is known by most of us. I welcome this opportunity to tell you about the development of the Parks' transfer so far and look forward to hearing more of your ideas and suggestions.

At this moment however, the greatest issue once again facing residents of Llandeilo is the by-pass. There are ongoing problems with lack of traffic management, congestion and high levels of pollution. A public forum will be held on February 13 between 14.00 and 19.00 at the Civic Hall, Crescent Road, Llandeilo. This will be an open forum, giving you the opportunity to raise issues and pass comment on options. Please try to attend.

Eifion Davies, Town Mayor



### St David's Festival

Last year, for the first time, Llandeilo Town Council organised a week-long festival to celebrate the life of St David. Its success has convinced the council to make it an annual event and this year's festival promises to be even better. A key principle which underpins the festival is that it should be accessible to all. To that end, admission to all events, with the exception of the dinner and dance on Friday evening, will not exceed £5 and school children will be admitted free of charge.

A feature of the week will be the inaugural St David's lecture by Dr. Lyn Davies. This will become an annual event and Welsh people who are prominent in their field will be invited to deliver the lecture. The festival will

take place from 25 February to 3 March so please make a note of these dates:

25 February - Multi-denominational Service at Capel Newydd with Bois Y Castell

26 February - Evening with Clive Harpwood

27 February - Lecture with Dr Lyn Davies

28 February - Sports Quiz

1 March - Schools' Concert

2 March - Dinner and Dance with Baldande

3 March - Town Band, Musicians, Dancers



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## Llandeilo Parks' Asset Transfer

In 2014, Carmarthenshire County Council offers parks for transfer to interested local councils. Llandeilo Town Council debates the takeover of Penlan Park and Parc Le Conquet and sets up an Asset Transfer sub-group.

### 2016

A full public consultation is undertaken. Llandeilo is the only Town or Community Council to do this. Councillors deliver 850 letters. The public response indicates 88% support for the venture.

The Council votes in favour of the asset transfer but also commissions an independent survey and report.

A comprehensive report is presented to the Council. It includes suggestions for maintenance over the short, medium and long term. The Council

votes again in favour of proceeding with the transfer.

### 2017

The lease on Penlan Park is signed in April. The lease on Parc Le Conquet awaits the Charity Commissioners' approval.

In December, parents are consulted regarding playground equipment. Using grant monies to finance the equipment, the Council also intends to set aside funds for lighting and CCTV.

### 2018

The Council is successful in obtaining grant funding towards the provision of a multi-use games area in Parc Le Conquet. The transfer of both parks will soon be complete. Residents of Llandeilo will have noticed already an improvement in the maintenance and appearance of both parks.

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## Introducing a Town Councillor...

Llandeilo Town Council is made up of twelve members of the local community, publicly elected to serve a five year term of office.



Owen James

**Hello Owen, how long have you been on Llandeilo Town Council?**

Coming up to two years service, enjoying helping any way I can.

**With which local organisations are you involved?**

Llandeilo Football Club, and I'm captaining the side this year which is a great honour. And, of course, the Town Council.

**What is your earliest memory of living in Llandeilo?**

Living above the Gwili Cafe, playing board games with friends and family when I was in nappies! Before iphones and ipads existed!

**Tell us an interesting fact about yourself!**

My brother and I aren't twins but we're the same age for six days of the year.

**Could you describe yourself in just three words?**

Hardworking, ambitious, generous.

**What made you become a Councillor?**

I joined the Council to offer a fresh, youthful, hands-on approach. And, with technology taking over society, it's great to help and advise where I can.

## Any thoughts?

Please let us know your opinions of this newsletter. Do you have any ideas on how it might be improved or what it should include? Or maybe you would like to suggest a suitable name for this little publication?

You can send any comments or suggestions to Roger Phillips, our town clerk, at: [clerkllandeilo@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:clerkllandeilo@yahoo.co.uk)

Did you know that all council meetings, with rare exceptions, are open to the public? Full details can be found on Llandeilo Fawr Town Council website: <http://www.llandeilo.gov.uk/>



## Donations

**We are committed to encouraging local community groups. Any community group or charitable organisation may apply for financial support towards a project that will benefit people living in Llandeilo.**

## County Councillor News from Edward Thomas

**Although I am proud to be a member of Llandeilo Fawr Town Council, I am equally as proud to have represented my home town as a county councillor since 2012.**

The role of county councillor is to raise the concerns of residents, and also of representatives of town and community councils, with the local authority and Welsh Government. I deal with a variety of issues from housing and dog fouling to rubbish collections and traffic matters.

Austerity and concerns around Brexit are making it difficult for local authorities to maintain services, with less money coming from Westminster to Wales and so on to Carmarthenshire. I will continue to

ensure that this area is not left out.

2018 is going to be an interesting year, with the Welsh Government at long last starting its consultations regarding the much-needed by-pass. Llandeilo has suffered too long from high levels of pollution as well as chaotic traffic conditions at peak times. In addition, two projects, namely the Old Market Hall and Shire Hall, may hear whether funding has been granted to renovate and regenerate these iconic buildings.

I am also pressing for a decision to be made regarding the Tregib site so that our primary schools can be modernised. Consideration should also be given to an extension to the Beechwood site in order to generate much-needed jobs in our town.