**Report to : Council**

**Date : 14th April 2025**

**Subject : Annual report 2024-25**

**Report by : Clerk**

**Background**

1. The Welsh Government introduced a requirement for Town & Community Councils to produce an annual report .
2. The reports are to be produced as soon as reasonably practical after the year end .
3. The format of this report follows the guidance given by Welsh Government .

**Governance**

1. Henllys Community Council ( HCC ) is made up of 7 Councillors who attend meetings of the Council on a monthly basis.
2. A Business Planning & Finance Working Group is in existence & this meets monthly with all Councillors invited.
3. The Business Planning & Finance Working Group oversees the projects being undertaken by HCC & will make recommendations to Council .

**Community Engagement**

1. The Council has an active Facebook group & local opinion is sought on proposed projects & other initiatives .

**Finances**

1. In 2024-25 the financial performance of the Council was as follows :

 Budget Actuals

 £000 £000

 Reserves at Start of Year 31 31

 Income for Year 44 46

 75 77

 Less Expenditure 51 47

 Reserves at End of Year 24 30

1. More information on the financial performance of HCC is included in the report on the Accounts 24/25 .

**Strategy & Achievements**

1. HCC works to a business plan which is reviewed on a regular basis.
2. Progress against the Business Plan is monitored throughout the year by the Business Planning & Finance Working Group .
3. The achievements in 24/25 include :
* Organising & funding the Village Fete
* Organising & funding the Community Cinema events at the Village Hall
* Funding the summer playschemes
* Expansion of the weekly Play Clubs to cater for older children
* Financial support to local organisations in order for them to continue to provide a broad range of activities enjoyed by the community
* Significant financial support to the Village Hall given the challenging financial climate
* Suporting the new committee at the Local Nature Reserve
* Installation of Defibrillator at Birchgrove playing field
* Supporting residents in the establishment of a Neighbourhood Watch Scheme

**Priorities for 2025-26**

**13 .** The Business Plan is to be refreshed & priorities identified for 25-26 .

14 . In order to deliver its spending plans HCC agreed a council tax increase of 7.5% , mindful of the need to support the Village Hall , LNR & Neighbourhood Watch .

15. This report is for Members information .