

Business Plan 2026- 2027

1. WHO WE ARE

Henllys Community Council represents more than 2,000 electors & is made up of 7 Councillors .

Our aim is to improve the wellbeing of all residents & protect the local environment .

2. WHAT WE DO

The Community Council is the only statutory body that focuses only upon Henllys .

We work with all other statutory bodies to ensure their actions are in the best interests of our residents .

We support a number of community groups whose activities enrich the lives of our residents .

The Community Council budget funds 4 key activities :

- Projects which will improve the wellbeing of residents & protect the local environment
- Funding to a number of community groups who improve the wellbeing, health & fitness of residents
- Maintenance & improvement of the Dorallt Park
- Community Events such as the Village Fete & Summer Playschemes

3. HOW WE WORK

From the 1st April 2016 the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act requires public bodies in Wales to think about residents now and in the future when they make decisions.

The Act has seven goals , listed below , & the objectives of the Community Council have been aligned with the Wellbeing goals .

1. A prosperous Wales

An innovative , productive and low carbon society which recognises the limits of the global environment and therefore uses resources efficiently and proportionately and develops a skilled and well educated population in an economy which generates wealth and provides employment opportunities , allowing people to take advantage of the wealth generated through securing decent work.

2. A resilient Wales

A nation which maintains and enhances a biodiverse natural environment with healthy functioning ecosystems that support social, economic and ecological resilience and the capacity to adapt to change.

3. A healthier Wales

A society in which people's physical and mental well-being is maximised and in which choices and behaviours that benefit future health are understood.

4. A more equal Wales

A society that enables people to fulfil their potential no matter what their background or circumstances .

5. A Wales of cohesive communities

Attractive, viable , safe and well-connected communities.

6. A Wales of vibrant culture & thriving Welsh Language

A society that promotes and protects culture ,heritage and the Welsh Language , and which encourages people to participate in the arts, and sports and recreation.

7. A globally responsible Wales

A nation which, when doing anything to improve the economic, social, environmental and cultural wellbeing of Wales , takes account of whether doing such a thing may make a positive contribution to global well-being .

4. WHAT WE WILL DO IN 2026-27

The table below lists the objectives of the Community Council for 2026-27 .

<u>OBJECTIVES</u>	<u>Objective Completed</u> <u>?</u>	<u>Evidence</u>
A Prosperous Wales		
Set a council tax sufficient to realise the Council's objectives whilst recognising the impact upon residents		
Apply resources to reflect the workload and priorities of the Council		

Support the work of community groups in accessing grant funding by making match funding available		
Explore the development of services devolved from the principal authority where this will lead to an improvement in that service or a cost reduction for residents		
A Resilient Wales		
Support the Torfaen Green strategy which contributes to the Torfaen Biodiversity Plan		
Set a sustainable budget & maintain a minimum revenue reserve of £20k		
Comply with all legislative & audit requirements		
A Healthier Wales		
Maintain & improve facilities at the Dorallt Park		
Provide financial assistance to community groups who improve the wellbeing, health & fitness of residents		
Work with Torfaen to improve road safety , particularly on Henllys Way		
Support activities at Birchgrove Playing Field		
Support the work of the Local Nature Reserve		

A more equal Wales		
Consult with residents about their ambitions & aspirations		
Encourage the community to participate in council business		
Further develop working relationships with local community groups		
A Wales of cohesive communities		
Collaborate with community groups & other public services to improve the general wellbeing of the community : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Promote Community Safety & maintain close links with the policing team - Support traffic surveys - Liaise with Torfaen Councillors - Manage the Village Fete - Support the Summer Playschemes - Support a Community Cinema 		
Report to the appropriate authority any planning or environmental infringement brought to the Council's attention		
A Wales of vibrant culture & thriving Welsh language		
Support a diversity of local community groups		

Use all forms of communication to maximise community engagement		
Publish an annual report		
A globally responsible Wales		
Use local businesses to undertake council projects		
Promote activities which reduce the carbon footprint : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Plants Trees & Wild Flowers - Conduct some meetings remotely - Conduct paperless meetings - Minimise vehicle usage 		

5. WHAT WE DO TO MEET THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE ENVIRONMENT WALES ACT 2016 – PART 1 **SECTION 6 – The Biodiversity and Resilience of Ecosystems Duty**

The Community Council provides a range of services to residents , some of which have an impact on biodiversity :

- We own & maintain the Dorallt Park
- We provide financial support to the Local Nature Reserve
- We provide financial support to a range of community groups & as part of the application process require information on the environmental impact of the groups activities
- We carry out tree planting in conjunction with the Unitary authority
- We continue to chase TCBC about the future of the Birchgrove football facilities .

The Community Council receives annual income from a local solar farm.

The Dorallt Park is a well used community resource that contains a large grassed area . Council considered the recommendations on grass cutting of the “ Its for Them “ campaign & decided to maintain the existing schedule of monthly cuts .

Council reports consider the biodiversity implications of intended decisions eg .

1. Environmental projects

Advice will be sought from the unitary authority on the biodiversity impact of intended projects.

2. Community Groups

When submitting requests for financial assistance community groups are required to comment upon the environmental impact of their activities

3. The unitary authority is asked for advice on restoration & creation of habitats

The Community Council has :

- Reduced its usage of paper as meetings are now conducted electronically
- Reduced mileage costs by conducting some meetings remotely
- Undertakes tree & wild flower planting in conjunction with the unitary authority

The Community Council will continue to seek opportunities to make a positive impact on local ecosystems .

Through its contact with a diverse range of community groups the Community Council will share information & inform / influence the decisions of others



