



2024-25

Pennard Community Council Annual Report



Chairs Report

Welcome to the Annual Report for Pennard Community Council covering 2024-2025. This has been another busy year serving the community with lots planned for the coming year too.

As you will have read in your copies of Pennard News, Tyfu Pennard, our community growing space is finally becoming a reality. Years in planning and development and hampered by the pandemic, Cllr. Rachel Carter (our Environment Committee Chair), Community Volunteers and our Garden Coordinator have started the significant work to bring it to life for the benefit of everyone.

We consulted with the community on a what you wanted from a community building on the Playing Field. We had an incredible response which was overwhelmingly positive and aligned completely with the Community Council vision for a sustainable multi-use building fit for the future.

At the beginning of 2025 the Council went out to Tender for a partner to take the next stage forward. This resulted in a resolution to once again team up with Down to Earth who will bring their unique skills and methods to our Pafiliwn project moving it on to the next stage.

The Community Hall remains a vital facility for the villages and is a popular venue for many different groups and events from the usual sports activities to sound bathing. This popularity means it is booked for most or part of all days of the week, strengthening the need for a new community building on the Playing field, providing easily accessible indoor and outdoor recreation space with facilities for all ages and abilities.

There has been some changeover in Councillors with several casual vacancies during the year. Unfortunately, sometimes life events mean that people who commit to the role are no longer able to fulfil that commitment at that time and they feel the need to stand down. We are grateful to everyone who gives their commitment to serve the community and thank them for their service. If you'd be interested in joining the Council, please contact our Clerk, even if we don't have any vacancies, we are always grateful of members of the public joining committees to give their expertise and enthusiasm.

I hope you enjoy reading the information in this document about the Council, its finances and its people. If you have any questions on anything in this report, please contact the Clerk at clerk@pennardcc.gov.wales or by phone 07825 225567.

Finally, I'd like to say a big thank you to the Council staff, our Community Clerk, Community Manager and Caretaker for their hard work and dedication to the community, there'd be no Council without them!

Looking forward to the year ahead,



Susan Rodaway
Chair
Pennard Community Council

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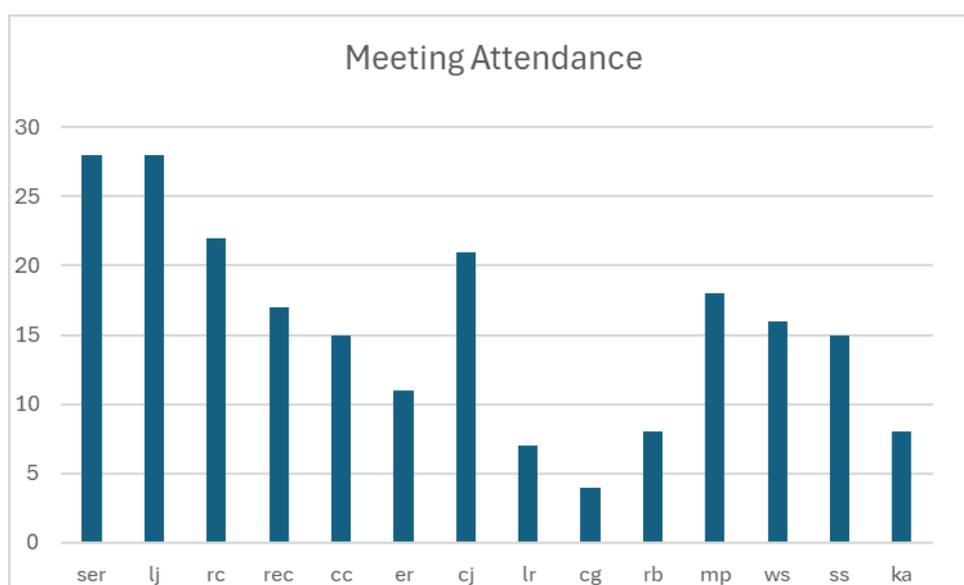
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Council Meetings

Over the last year your Community Councillors have been working hard representing your views and making things happen in the community, there have been 39 Full Council and Committee meetings. We continue to use Zoom to conduct our meetings remotely which gives flexibility meaning Councillor and members of the community can join from anywhere on line or over the telephone.

Below is a graph showing meeting attendance across all 39 meetings during 2024/25

Some of the lower rates are due to Councillors joining or leaving throughout the year and not all Councillors are members of multiple committees.



The Community Councillors in post during 2024-2025 were:

Cllr Susan Rodaway (Chair)	Cllr Mark Parkinson (Vice Chair)
Cllr Ralph Cook	Cllr Lynda James
Cllr Leanne Richards	Cllr Cai Carter (from June 2024)
Cllr Will Smith	Cllr Steve Sheriff
Cllr Christos Georgakis	Cllr Rachel Carter
Cllr Cari Jones	Cllr Richard Beynon (from Dec 2024)
Cllr Elsbeth Rodaway (resigned Feb 2025)	Cllr Keith Atkins (resigned Sept 2024)

Committees Membership

The Council uses its committees to aid discussion and to research information their membership in 2023-24 was:

Hall Committee (9)

Cllr Lynda James (Chair)	Cllr Ralph Cook
Cllr Steve Sheriff	Cllr Cai Carter
Cllr Susan Rodaway	Cllr Christos Georgakis
Cllr Cari Jones (VC)	Cllr Mark Parkinson
Cllr Elsbeth Rodaway (till Feb 25)	

Environment Committee (12)

Cllr Rachel Carter (Chair)	Cllr Mark Parkinson
Cllr Lynda James	Cllr Steve Sheriff
Cllr Susan Rodaway	Cllr Cai Carter
Cllr Cari Jones (VC)	Cllr Christos Georgakis
Cllr Will Smith	Cllr Leanne Richards
Cllr Richard Beynon	Noel Clark (co-opted member of the public)
Cllr Elsbeth Rodaway (till Feb 25)	

Planning Committee (7)

Cllr Ralph Cook (Chair)	Cllr Susan Rodaway
Cllr Mark Parkinson	Cllr Leanne Richards (VC)
Cllr Cari Jones	Cllr Richard Beynon
Cllr Cai Carter	Noel Clark (co-opted member of the public)

Land Management (8)

Cllr Cai Carter (Chair)	
Cllr Keith Atkins (till Sept 24)	Cllr Mark Parkinson
Cllr Susan Rodaway	Cllr Will Smith
Cllr Cari Jones	Cllr Steve Sheriff (VC)
Cllr Lynda James	Cllr Elsbeth Rodaway

Finance and Employment Committee (6)

Cllr Lynda James (Chair)	Cllr Mark Parkinson
Cllr Cai Carter	Cllr Rachel Carter
Cllr Susan Rodaway	Cllr Ralph Cook
Cllr Keith Atkins (till Sept 24)	Cllr Elsbeth Rodaway (till Feb 25)

Emergency Sub Committee (6)

Cllr Lynda James (Chair)	Cllr Cai Carter
Cllr Susan Rodaway	Cllr Ralph Cook
Cllr Rachel Carter	Cllr Mark Parkinson
Cllr Keith Atkins (till Sept 24)	Cllr Elsbeth Rodaway (till Feb 25)

The Council also has representatives on outside bodies in the Community

PARISH HALL

Cllr Keith Atkins (till Sept 24) Vacant

ONE VOICE WALES - Swansea Area Committee

Cllr Susan Rodaway

PACP

Cllr Will Smith , Cllr Mark Parkinson

COMMUNITY COUNCILS FORUM

Cllr Cari Jones Cllr Susan Rodaway

COMMUNITY CHARITY

Cllr Lynda James, Cllr Will Smith, Cllr Keith Atkins (till Sept 24), member of the public

Digital/Community & Practice

Cllr Susan Rodaway, Cllr Mark Parkinson

WALKER ARE WELCOME

Cllr Cari Jones

and working groups who are formed to look at certain tasks and report to the Committees

Community Hub Working Group

Cllr Mark Parkinson (Chair)	Cllr Lynda James
Cllr Susan Rodaway	Cllr Cari Jones
Cllr Steve Sheriff	Cllr Rachel Carter
Cllr Leanne Richards	Cllr Keith Atkins (till Sept 24)

Climate Emergency and Biodiversity Working Group

Cllr Cari Jones	Cllr Susan Rodaway
Cllr Rachel Carter (Chair)	Cllr Steve Sheriff

Youth Working Group

Cllr Racel Carter (Chair)

Cllr Susan Rodaway

Community Garden Working Group

Cllr Cari Jones

Cllr Rachel Carter (Chair)

Cllr Susan Rodaway

Accessibility Working Group

Cllr Cari Jones (Chair)

Cllr Susan Rodaway

Cllr Leanne Richards

Annual Return for 2023-2024

We received the results of our 2022-23 Audit in March along with the results of the 2023-24 audit both were unqualified.

Community and Town Councils in Wales Annual Return for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

Accounting statements 2023-24 for:

Name of body:

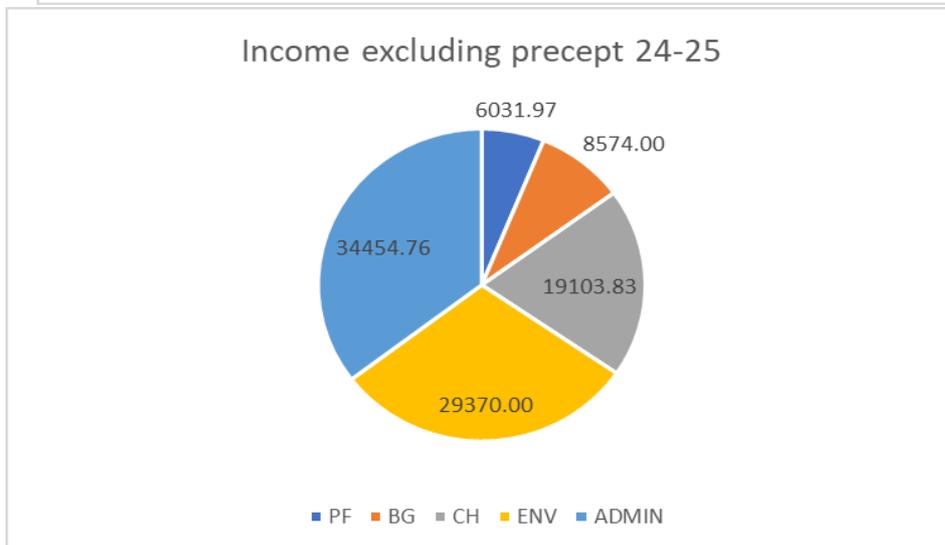
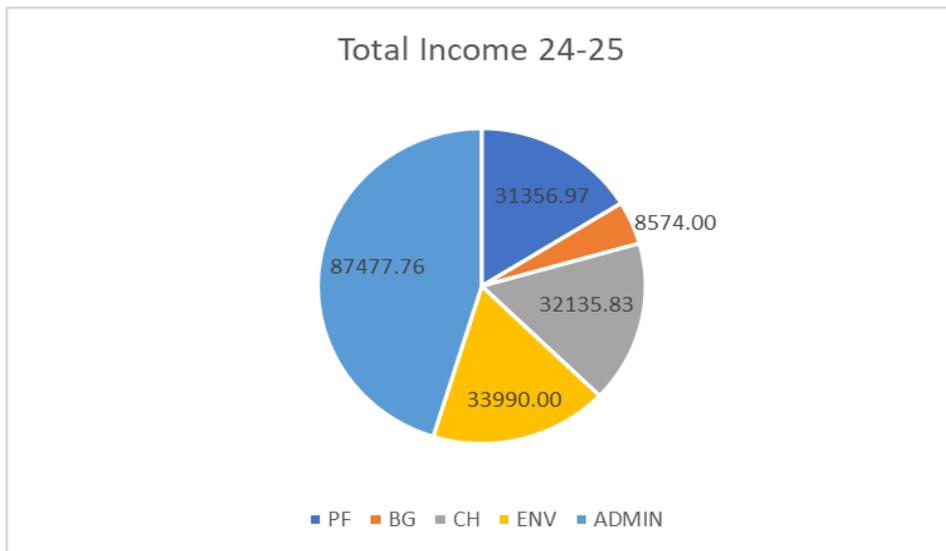
	Year ending		Notes and guidance
	31 March 2023 (£)	31 March 2024 (£)	
<p>Please round all figures to nearest £. Do not leave any boxes blank and report £0 or nil balances. All figures must agree to the underlying financial records for the relevant year.</p>			
Statement of income and expenditure/receipts and payments			
1. Balances brought forward	220764.60	226246.43	Total balances and reserves at the beginning of the year as recorded in the financial records. Must agree to line 7 of the previous year.
2. (+) Income from local taxation/levy	89172	91180	Total amount of income received/receivable in the year from local taxation (precept) or levy/contribution from principal bodies.
3. (+) Total other receipts	69330.57	73724.96	Total income or receipts recorded in the cashbook minus amounts included in line 2. Includes support, discretionary and revenue grants.
4. (-) Staff costs	52157.40	53465.21	Total expenditure or payments made to and on behalf of all employees. Include salaries and wages, taxable allowances, PAYE and NI (employees and employers), pension contributions and termination costs. Exclude reimbursement of out-of-pocket expenses.
5. (-) Loan interest/capital repayments	0	0	Total expenditure or payments of capital and interest made during the year on external borrowing (if any).
6. (-) Total other payments	100863.34	103876.82	Total expenditure or payments as recorded in the cashbook minus staff costs (line 4) and loan interest/capital repayments (line 5).
7. (=) Balances carried forward	226246.43	233809.36	Total balances and reserves at the end of the year. Must equal (1+2+3) – (4+5+6).
Statement of balances			
8. (+) Debtors	0	0	Income and expenditure accounts only: Enter the value of debts owed to the body at the year-end.
9. (+) Total cash and investments	226246.43	233809.36	All accounts: The sum of all current and deposit bank accounts, cash holdings and investments held at 31 March. This must agree with the reconciled cashbook balance as per the bank reconciliation.
10. (-) Creditors	0	0	Income and expenditure accounts only: Enter the value of monies owed by the body (except borrowing) at the year-end.
11. (=) Balances carried forward	226246.43	233809.36	Total balances should equal line 7 above: Enter the total of (8+9-10).
12. Total fixed assets and long-term assets	1512599.85	1515601.92	The asset and investment register value of all fixed assets and any other long-term assets held as at 31 March.
13. Total borrowing	0	0	The outstanding capital balance as at 31 March of all loans from third parties (including PWLB).

Finance Summary 2024-2025

The table below show the income received, broken down by month and Committee.

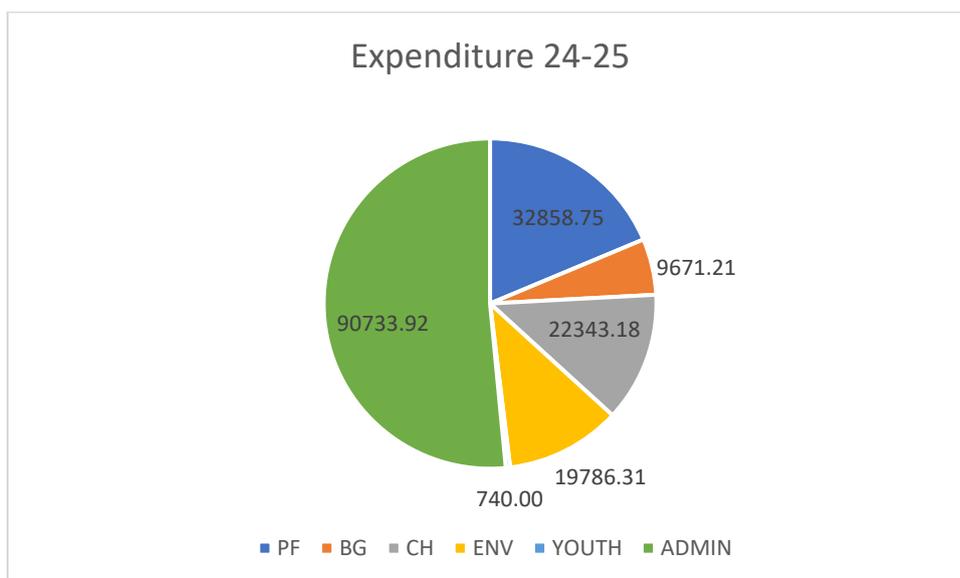
During this year we obtained grant funding amounting to £44891 due to the hard work of our Community and Grants officer and Environment Chair

ANALYSIS OF RECEIPTS- 2024/2025									
	PF	BG	CH	ENV	ADMIN	PRECEPT	VAT	BANK INT	TOTAL
April	265.00	0.00	1105.70	0.00	1108.85	32000.00		191.74	34671.29
May	0.00	1441.00	1952.25	0.00	3170.85		3625.22	198.81	10388.13
June	630.00	0.00	1161.00	0.00	1070.85			211.88	3073.73
July	105.00	58.00	2058.00	0.00	1110.85			152.85	3484.70
August	120.00	0.00	897.00	0.00	1070.85	32000.00		201.40	34289.25
September	312.97	1283.00	1016.00	0.00	5805.35			165.68	8583.00
October	365.00	2787.00	1194.50	29370.00	1460.85			157.79	35335.14
November	624.00	0.00	973.75	0.00	5920.85		8795.18	173.31	16487.09
December	450.00	1283.00	2333.07	0.00	2520.85	32000.00		148.96	38735.88
January	15.00	439.00	702.25	0.00	1058.67			165.13	2380.05
February	2680.00	0.00	1736.00	0.00	7041.46			171.29	11628.75
March	465.00	1283.00	3974.31	0.00	1023.75			151.89	6897.95
TOTAL	6031.97	8574.00	19103.83	29370.00	32364.03	96000.00	12420.40	2090.73	205954.96



The table below shows expenditure by month and Committee. Several projects were delayed this year due to the wet weather and contractors being unavailable due to the catching up from the pandemic such as the Community Hub and Community Garden but both these will continue over the next year.

	PF	BG	CH	ENV	YOUTH	ADMIN	BANK	gpoc	SUB TOTAL	VAT	TOTAL
April	5678.32	1300.00	1611.06	0.00	0.00	5998.05	10.41	481.67	15079.51	1381.78	16461.29
May	1091.85	393.32	3560.17	0.00	0.00	4685.89	15.70	306.06	10052.99	885.07	10938.06
June	1150.05	992.00	1296.51	0.00	0.00	6049.72	7.28	304.30	9799.86	575.42	10375.28
July	5458.40	355.00	3921.65	0.00	0.00	5080.54	8.70	337.30	15161.59	1865.47	17027.06
August	10818.68	1116.40	1744.99	0.00	0.00	5223.79	9.82	304.49	19218.17	2666.80	21884.97
September	1252.99	1009.70	1938.79	2500.00	0.00	15515.81	9.70	366.79	22593.78	1420.64	24014.42
October	1095.15	1173.48	395.01	0.00	0.00	9580.71	7.00	637.00	12888.35	444.14	13332.49
November	2660.35	373.80	1235.49	7434.61	0.00	6817.02	8.45	571.61	19101.33	847.66	19948.99
December	1078.47	973.48	1214.92	49.92	0.00	9401.49	11.50	845.24	13575.02	783.49	14358.51
January	1186.67	1244.80	1217.73	911.04	0.00	6419.15	8.50	527.75	11515.64	918.68	12434.32
February	1073.40	-26.20	1225.57	6675.05	740.00	4363.56	10.92	369.29	14431.59	1058.68	15490.27
March	314.42	765.43	2981.29	2215.69	0.00	6038.00	13.66	387.05	12715.54	743.20	13458.74
Total	32858.75	9671.21	22343.18	19786.31	740.00	85173.73	121.64	5438.55	176133.37	13591.03	189724.40



Main Contracts Let In 2024-2025

Pennard Pavilion phase 2

Eight companies were approached to provide Project management, architectural services, further engagement/consultation activities and capital fundraising for phase 2 of the Pavilion project on one company felt able to provide the range of tasks needed for this phase and in Feb 2025 at a meeting of Full Council the Down to Earth team were invited to work with us on the proviso that the £56000 needed was raised through grants

Groundworks at the Community Garden

At the Environment Committee Meeting held on the 2 May 2024 a proposal to consider and agree upon a contractor to complete the initial ground works at the Community Garden as delegated by Full Council. The funding for this had been provided by the heritage grant.

The Clerk read out the quotes for the work needed in the Community Garden, explaining that references had been sought and insurance documents provided.

Company A - £9390

Company B - £7450

Company C - £11250

Company D - £7100

The references were discussed along with the locality of each company.

Company D was chosen and revealed to be Price Landscaping from Loughor

Fees for 2024-25

The fees for 2024-25 were discussed as part of the committee budget process and it was agreed to increase the charges by a small amount.

Burial Ground Fees

Burial Ground Fees April 2024 to March 2025

New Grave to the depth of 2 (including the right to erect a headstone)	£2454
New Grave to the depth of 3 (including the right to erect a headstone)	£2687
Re-open existing grave (including the right to re-erect a headstone)	£1283
Cremated remains internment (no charge if at the same time as a burial)	£439
New ashes plot in Garden of Remembrance (includes Plaque)	£468
Surcharge for American casket	£100
Scatter Ashes in Rose Garden (includes Plaque)	£58
Memorial Bench (includes Plaque)	£1500

NOTE:

Should the Council incur extra costs for weekend burials or oversized caskets, then these would be passed on to the customer at cost, these additional costs will be advised at the time of the quotation to the Funeral Director.

Hall Fees

Per Session	Pennard Ward	Outside Ward
Main Hall	£17.50	£20.50
Small Hall	£14	£16
Children's Party	£30	£40
Adult Party/Event	£40	£50
Hygge	0	0
Market	£40	

An additional cleaning contribution of £15 will be charged for parties / markets

Pitch Fees

	Pennard Ward	Outside Ward
Football		
Match and Training 11 and under	£0	£15
Training juniors 11 – 18	£0	£15
Match juniors 11 – 18	£20	£30
Match Seniors 18+	£40	£50
Training Senior 18+	£15	£20
Cricket		
Juniors 11-18	£20	£30
Seniors	£33	£45
Touch Rugby	Free for first 12 months	

Pennard Burial Ground

The Pennard Community Burial Ground, adjoining St. Mary's Church, has served the Pennard Community for 73 years. It is a dignified, peaceful and well-kept area. The burial ground has benefitted from new contracts for maintenance of the area, enhancing the environment, which is enclosed by mature hedges and trees. The Burial Ground Committee ensure that the area is well planned and maintained, so ensuring that it is a suitable area for burials to be conducted in the best possible environment, which is also an ideal place to visit in the times and years following the interment.

Regular risk assessments are carried out at the ground, and any remedial work to be carried out following these assessments is carried out without hesitation to ensure that the place is safe and appropriate.

Occasionally we need to contact the owners who leased the plots for a deceased relative. Sometimes these have moved away or become non contactable, we ask community members to ensure that their details, as held by our clerk, Mrs. Jan Crocker, are kept up to date please!

On this last point, it is not unusual for relatives expecting to use an existing plot for the burial of a loved one do not have the right to the use of the plot. It is wise to keep these rights up to date. If a community member is uncertain if their ownership of the lease is correctly recorded and up to date, I would urge them to contact Jan Crocker.

The committee for the Burial Ground plans for the future of the area by ensuring that each year there is an amount put into reserves to enable additional Burial Ground land to be purchased when needed in the future.



Pennard Field and Playground

With the expert work of the groundsman appointed last year The Pennard Community Council Park is an even more attractive environment for both children in the play area and for the sports people using the sports field.

Following on from our Community consultation conducted by the Down to Earth Team to replace the pavilion with an innovative and eco friendly community hub complete with new changing facilities as well as an additional meeting room for all those birthday parties and sports events, we agreed a contract to look at phase 2 of the project which require us to raise the necessary funding from grants to proceed but will see a fabulous additional facility for our community.

There are plans in hand to:

- replace some of the boundary fencing.
- replace the slide with a wider version
- repair the slide mount to help combat the erosion either side of the slide.
- Once again run a Gower Food Festival on the 1st Saturday in Sept which was very popular last year

The field remains a popular facility for both our own community and for players from neighbouring communities. Bookings can be made via the Council clerk, Mrs Jan Crocker (07825 225567).

It is always a delight to see the Park being used so well, a great place for adults and children alike to socialise, get exercise and enjoy themselves in a safe and attractive environment, it is always lovely to see how the new equipment, tables and benches add to this.

Pennard Community Hall

The Community Hall is being utilised by an increasing number of organisations over the last year, including many users from outside the area for family gatherings festivals and weddings, as well as all the regular classes listed below which are growing year on year.

The hall is home to a monthly farmers market on the first Saturday of the month from 9.00am to 1.00pm. This is very popular with lots of stalls and refreshments. Pila Pala now holds many regular sessions each week in the small hall which they have painted and kitted out as a Pilates and wellbeing studio. The small hall does however continue to be available to any other small groups who wish to use it.

Over the past year there has been several works carried out, which included

- replacing the rear entrance door with a wider door to enable easier access for those with mobility issues.
- The path from the carpark to this door was also to be levelled to assist access.
- The Car park lines have been re painted to include an extra disabled parking slot to the rear of the hall.
- The store room door was widened and the ceiling repaired, with the new archery cupboard now situated in the hall, we have been able to rearrange the configuration of the room so all the tables can be stored there.

Cllr Lynda James

Chair of Hall 2024-25

		9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00	1.00	2.00	3.00	4.00	5.00	6.00	7.00	8.00	9.00	10.00	
Monday	clean	pilates 9.30-11.30		Fit Steps 11.30- 1.30			Bowles 2 - 4				Archery / Garden Soc 6.30 - 10					
Tuesday	clean	Parents and Toddlers 9 - 11		Chair Yoga 12.00 - 1.30 ??? after easter (6 may)			Badminton 2 - 4		Youth 4.30 - 6.00		Yoga POK 7.30 -8.30		Ping Pong 8.30 - 10			
Wednesday		Badminton 10 - 12							Ballroom hire 4-7			Karate 7.30 - 9.30				
Thursday		Art 10 - 12.30					Pickle Ball 2-4				Dog Training 6 - 10					
Friday		Pilates MG 9.30 - 10.30				Rugby Tots 2.30 -4.30					Archery 6.30 - 10					
Saturday		various														
Sunday		Church 10 -12				various			CLEANING							

Environment And Biodiversity

Under the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 Part1 section 6 Town and Community Council need to complete a Biodiversity and Resilience of Ecosystems Duty Report.

It has been three years since we drew up our initial Section 6 report below is the latest edition which covers 2022-2025

The Biodiversity and Resilience of Ecosystems Duty Report 2022 for Pennard Community Council

Introduction and Context

As the Pennard Community Council area is home to substantial non-residential land, both private and community council owned, Pennard Community Council identifies significant scope for maintaining and improving biodiversity in our area.

Council administered land such as Pennard Playing Field and Pennard Burial Ground are obvious locations for the Council to undertake action, however they both present their own unique challenges. Pennard Playing Field has been a Queen Elizabeth II protected field since January 2013 and, as such, Pennard Community Council are restricted in what we can do there.¹ Pennard Burial Ground has different but understandably sensitive needs which mean that care must be taken in any action.

In 2020 the Community Council were given access to a parcel of land adjacent to the local primary school to use as a Community Garden, this has been fenced and plans are in place to develop this through the aid of grant funding. This project is to provide growing areas for the local community and the school as well as increasing the biodiversity and ecosystems of the area.

Land not administered by Pennard Community Council presents different challenges in that the Community Council has no direct control. However, there continues to be scope to assist and encourage others as well as seeking transfer orders for land administered by Swansea County Council where we believe that we can add value.

Pennard Community Council is adjacent to and includes the Gower commons the Gower ash woodlands SAC, the Pennard Valley SSSI as well as National Trust land and the Wales coastal path.

The report went on to look at how we could contribute to the following:

- embed biodiversity into decision making & procurement
- raise awareness of biodiversity & its importance
- safeguard principal species and habitats
- restore & create habitats and resilient ecological networks
- tackle negative factors: for e.g. reduce pollution, use nature based solutions, address invasive species
- use improve and share evidence
- support capacity and/or other organisations

The full report and the narrative against the above criteria can be found on the policy area of our web site - <http://www.pennardcc.org.uk>

¹ Fields in Trust <http://www.fieldsintrust.org/FieldSite/Pennard-Playing-Field>



Changes made to our cutting regime will allow for an increased biodiversity of species and pollinator plants. This along with the changes we have made to the way we treat the wildlife which enjoys the use of our park and burial ground will also help keep us on track to meet the criteria laid out in our Section 6 plan.



LOOKING FORWARD TO 2025-26

All Town and Community Councils have a duty to make a Budget calculation in compliance with **Section 50 of the Local Government Act 1992**. They also have a power to issue a precept to a billing authority in compliance with **Section 41 of the Local Government Act 1992**

In January 2025 Pennard Community Council agreed its Budget for the 2025/26 financial year.

As with previous years we have managed to pull forward and unspent or underspent funds, by using these we have been able to reduce some of the burden on the Precept for next year.

The Council continues to put in place a budget that contains initiatives to improve its services to the community including:

- The initial stages of the Community Hub project. The completed project will see a new Park Building complete with new changing rooms and showers, electricity generated by roof panels, a meeting room and a changing places facility.
- We continue to apply for funding for the decarbonisation of the Hall, fitting LED lighting, solar panels and eventually externally insulating the whole building, as well as fitting a super-fast electric charger which will also add to the Hall's income stream.
- Environmental improvements within the community in line with our Climate and Ecological Emergency Plan and our Section 6 Biodiversity Plan
- The continuing development of a community garden and growing space.

Park improvements planned are:

- Further upgrades to the park play equipment with the installation of a new slightly wider slide and if possible, a zip wire.

Due to the ongoing cost-of-living crisis, we are still being very prudent with regards to building a reserve to fund a future addition of burial facilities within the local area.

The Budget Process

To support members in their decision making, a detailed draft budget was formulated by each Committee Chair, outlining potential options, this was presented for scrutiny at the Finance and Employment meeting held on the 8th of January 2025

Based on the information presented, and to continue with the progress it was decided to recommend a precept of £98700 to the Full Council meeting held on the 14th January 2025 where the 2025/26 Budget was ratified and accepted.

Compliance in relation to governance and accountability has been robustly maintained in line with the advice from the Wales Audit Office regarding spends being allocated against the correct powers and will continue to be so.

Final Budget 2025/26

The draft budget drawn up by the Committee before being disseminated to members for their perusal ahead of the Full Council Meeting held on the 14th January 2025, where the budget was discussed further and amended prior to ratification in readiness for submission to Swansea Council for completion of the precept council tax requirements 2025/26.

As reported the precept requirement submitted to Swansea Council for 2024/25 was set at **£98700**. Being very conscious of the impact the ongoing cost-of-living crisis was having on everyone. we were able to keep the increase to a minimum from the 2024-25 figure due to carrying over reserves and underspend from 2024/25 financial year.

The restricted reserves carried over from 2024/25 include ring fenced funds for projects includes:

- **£40,136** for the decarbonisation project for the Community Hall mentioned previously.
- **£10,000** which has been pledged to the skate park group has been reallocated as it has become apparent that the skate park project has been shelved, probably due to the new park in Mumbles and the proposed pump track in Bishopston. This allocation, still ring fenced, will be used to fund something for the older youth in the park, such as an open shelter or round house, which will also be beneficial for other Community members,
- **£3,000** which is match funding for new green path planned to run from the school gate to Green Lane,
- **£22,000** for match funding for the pavilion replacement
- **£5,000** which had been set aside from previous years participatory budgeting rounds, to fund the Community Bus,
- **£29,000** for the Community Garden being funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund.

Due to age of our facilities was felt prudent to increase the repair and maintenance reserve budget to £15,000 which is also ring fenced.

The summary budget for 2025/26 broken down by Committee is depicted below with last year's figures also shown for comparison.

	2024/25		2024/25	
	Income	Expenditure	Income	Expenditure
Administration	£30,938	£97,273.52	£51,880	£98,654.16
Burial - rev	£33,872	£17,067	£34,670	£34,670
Field - rev	£55,828	£76,753	£91,950	£113,150
Hall - rev	£33,715	£43,247	£39,937	£42,640
Environment	£67,380	£72,000	£15,050	£20,000
Youth	£4,250	£4,250	£8,000	£10,900
Emergency	£7,000	£10,000	£5,000	£15,000
Capital				
Hall capital	£46,610.54	£50,110.54	£45,636	£50,136.54
Field capital	£19,300	£23,700	£26,200	£31,800
Burial capital	£1,500	£1,500	£0	0
Reserves	£34,000	£34,000	£34,000	£34,000
Total	£334,393.54	£429,901.06	£352,323.54	£450,950.70
Precept	£95,507.52		£98,627.16	
Grand Total	£429,901.06	£429,901.06	£450,950.70	£450950.70

Precept Overview

In order to support the proposed 2025/26 Budget, an understanding of precept calculations is necessary. This will underpin and offer a wide range of considerations and options to support the Council's decision making in terms of setting the 2025/26 precept.

Based on the 2025/26 budget and the services and functions the Community Council wish to provide, it has been possible with the movement of reserves to keep the increase from the current precept of **£96000** to a minimum. The figure of **£98700** will allow for growth and future development to continue.

In terms of the precept charge, the table below shows the annual cost per household related to property bands.

Band	Band	Band						
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
42.18	49.21	56.24	63.27	77.33	91.39	105.45	126.54	147.63

Looking at a band D property the increase from the 2024-2025 rate of £62.18 equates to £1.09 per year or £0.02 per week.

General Power of Competency

Due to recent losses of Elected Councillors, we have not been able to re-affirm our General Power of Competency which under the Local Government and Election Wales Act Part 2 s2, gives eligible community councils the same powers to act that an individual generally has, thus enabling them to do similar sorts of things. For example, an individual could not impose taxes on other people – so a community council could not use the GPoC to raise taxes. However, an individual could run a community shop or a post office, so a community council could also set up a shop. It means the support we can give is not be limited to the section 137 cap. It is hoped to rectify this situation by holding an election to fill the vacancies we have and getting back to our minimum of 10 elected councillors.

Any questions regarding any of the items in this report should be sent to the Clerk as clerk@pennardcc.gov.wales

Jan Crocker

Clerk

