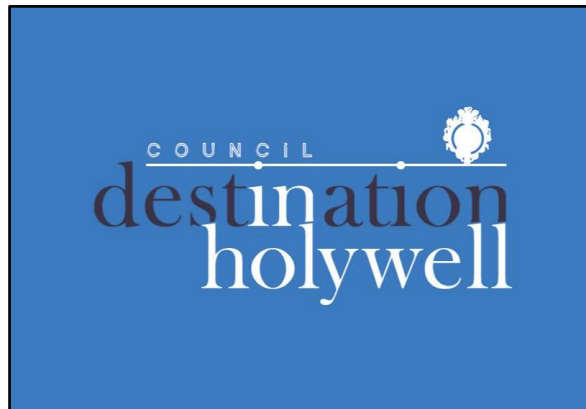




HOLYWELL TOWN COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT 2021/22



LIST OF CONTENTS

	<u>Page Number</u>
Introduction	3
Mayoral Statement	4
Organisation	5
Financial Information	8
Relationship with Flintshire County Council	10
Business Planning	15
Assets and Services	16
Community Engagement	18
Events	24
Training Plan	27
Complaints Policy	27
Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015	28
Aspirations For the Coming Year	30
Holywell Town Councillors 2021/22	31
Council Staff & Contact Details	32

INTRODUCTION

Section 52 of the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 places a duty on town and community councils to prepare and publish an annual report about the council's priorities, activities and achievements over the previous year.

Relevant local councils also have a separate duty under Section 40 of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 to publish a report annually on its progress on meeting the local wellbeing objectives in its area. The trigger for this report is if a council has an annual turnover of £200,000 or more in the previous three financial years. Holywell Town Council reached the trigger point in the 2019/20 financial year and duly produced its first wellbeing report. From the 2021/22 year onwards the wellbeing duty will be combined and incorporated into this new report format, and the relevant section is highlighted in the list of contents.

Town and community councils are also required to publish a further report under Section 6 of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 every three years setting out what they propose to do to maintain and enhance biodiversity and promote resilience. Holywell Town Council produced its first report at the end of 2019, and a further report is due to be completed by the end of this year. Although the biodiversity duty and its report could have been combined with this report the council have determined to produce a separate report to maintain the three year cyclical approach.

Holywell Town Council have also recently published their updated business plan that sets out the council's strategic vision, aims and objectives during this current term of office. The business plan informs some of the detail included in this report.

The annual report is designed to open the work of the council to the local community and highlight some of the key achievements from the last year. It also explains how the council works, introduces its councillors, staff and the governance arrangements needed for a successful council.

The council welcome constructive feedback on the report from its residents and businesses and will consider any opportunities for future improvement and engagement.

MAYORAL STATEMENT

It is my honour and privilege to welcome you to the council's first annual report. The report sets out the work of the council and how this benefits the local community.

I would like to thank all town councillors, council staff, businesses, organisations, voluntary groups and residents that have contributed to the wellbeing of the Holywell and Greenfield communities.

The past year has been a difficult year in many respects as the community followed a pathway to emerge out of the coronavirus pandemic and the restrictions that we all had to work under, to finally look to the future with renewed optimism. The council followed the legislative guidance and invested in video conferencing equipment in November 2021, to prepare for a return to physical meetings. Councils must allow for remote access for councillors, staff, the public and press at their meetings and cannot resolve to just meet in person any longer. The council held its first hybrid meeting (physical and remote attendance) using its new equipment in March 2022.

I want to thank everyone that supported me during my term of office and donated towards my two nominated charities the Daniel Inskip Memorial Fund and Holywell Swimming Club.

I wish my successor Councillor Ian Hodge good luck and best wishes as he seeks to take the new council forward following the May 2022 elections.

I am confident the Holywell and Greenfield communities will continue to grow and prosper.

Councillor Ted Palmer

Holywell Central Ward

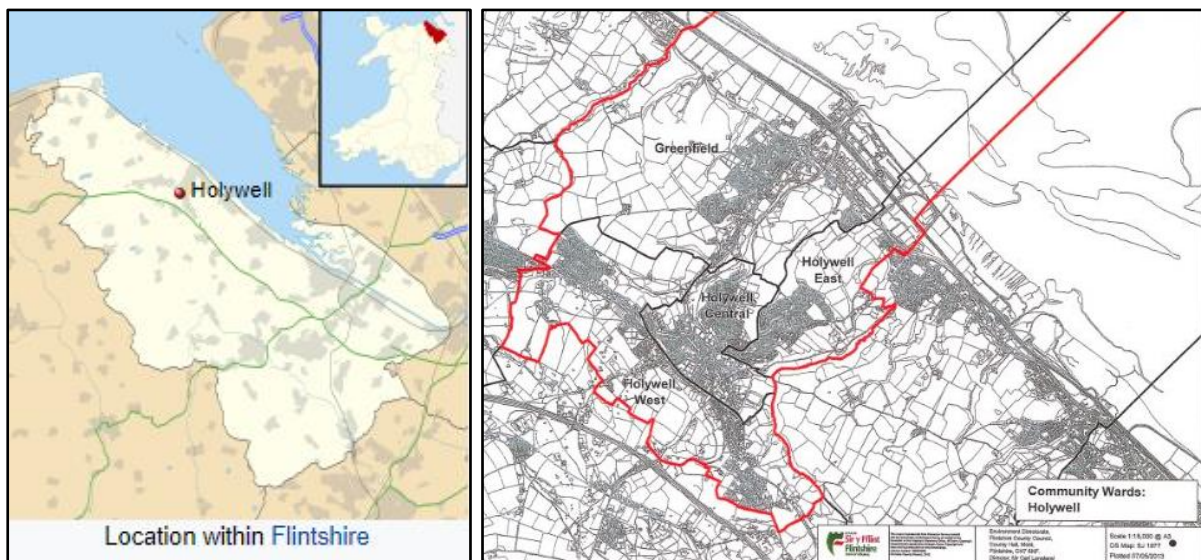
Town Mayor and Chair of the Council

2021/22 Civic Year



ORGANISATION

Holywell Town Council is an elected body of fifteen councillors with a number of statutory powers and duties. It operates at grass roots level and is nearest the electorate and local community. The geographical area covered by the council includes the wards of Holywell Central, Holywell East, Holywell West, and Greenfield. Holywell and Greenfield have an aggregated population of circa 12,000 and there are circa 6,500 residents registered on the electoral roll. Both Holywell and Greenfield are within the County of Flintshire. The area is steeped in history with the town centre home to the oldest High Street in Flintshire. There are also key tourism attractions which thousands of people visit each year, such as St. Winefride's Holy Well, Greenfield Valley Heritage Park and the Greenfield Docks leading to the Wales Coastal Path. The council meets regularly to consider and take decisions on various matters affecting the Holywell and Greenfield communities.



The council meet on the third Tuesday of every month for its main meeting. There is no meeting held in August and the Annual Meeting is held in May. The Council Offices are located in the row of cottages in the middle of Tesco car park. The postal address is Holywell Town Council, Bank Place Offices, Holywell, CH8 7TJ.

The council also operate several committees and working groups to cover specific areas of its business.

CHAIRS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

This committee reviews the strategic direction of the council and its business planning process and makes appropriate recommendations for consideration by the council. It also reviews the council resolutions made at all meetings of the council and considers any appropriate remedial action to progress them to a satisfactory conclusion. It also reviews the meeting protocol, committee structure and committee terms of reference. It has

delegated powers granted by the council to administer its own arrangements. However, all decisions and resolutions made are referred to the Full Council for approval.

RESOURCES COMMITTEE

This committee reviews the council's banking balances and management accounts on a quarterly basis. It also reviews the council's business plan objectives on a quarterly basis and ensures any remedial action is taken to maintain delivery of its key tasks and activities. It considers any emerging budgetary issues and recommends to the council appropriate action to manage and mitigate any financial risks. It reviews the council's forward planning and investment strategy on an annual basis, also the council's internal control mechanisms. It is delegated to review policies, manage staffing matters and deal with any audit issues.

This committee also manages the repair and maintenance of the council offices and any associated contracts. It also considers requests from outside bodies to utilise the community office facilities. It reviews the communication framework for the council's website, newsletter, social media, and press releases. It has delegated powers granted by the council to administer its own arrangements and make its own decisions and resolutions.

TOWN CENTRE AND EVENTS COMMITTEE

This committee considers opportunities for improving and developing the town centre environment for the benefit of the local community. It also reviews the CCTV operations in the town centre on an annual basis. It receives periodic reports from the County Council's Streetscene Team and consider any matters arising from the information reported.

This committee reviews the contractual arrangements for Christmas Lighting and reviews the annual events programme for the town centre. It also reviews the annual arrangements for the Well Inn Music Festival following consultation with local stakeholders. It considers applications for the awarding of events grants to prospective applicants looking to utilise the Tower Gardens Events Area. It has delegated powers granted by the council to administer its own arrangements and make its own decisions and resolutions.

DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

This committee reviews the County Council's active travel policy and public transport arrangements as a key stakeholder and makes appropriate recommendations in the best interests of the local community. It considers the approval of any recommendations from the Greenfield Railway Station Working Group. It investigates opportunities to link the coastal path, Greenfield Valley, St Winefride's Holy Well and the town centre in line with the council's business plan. It investigates road and traffic related issues in the local community and makes appropriate recommendations.

This committee reviews the Wales in Bloom Judge's report each year and considers opportunities for improvement and development of the council's entry into the

competition. It reviews the procurement arrangements relating to the Wales in Bloom contracts annually, including the provision of basket displays and watering duties. It promotes and supports the council's commitment to the Bee Friendly initiative. It also supports local and national environmental clean-up campaigns and investigate methods to reduce litter across the community. It supports the County Council's recycling initiatives including the reduction of plastic waste and emerging initiatives such as water refill stations. It has delegated powers granted by the council to administer its own arrangements and make its own decisions and resolutions.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

In common with most local councils Holywell Town Council is funded from its local taxation precept. This is charged to residents as part of the annual invoice for Council Tax sent out by Flintshire County Council. The invoice is made of three component charges, the charge levied by Flintshire County Council for their services, the charge made by the North Wales Police and Crime Commissioner, and the charge made by town and community councils.

For the financial year 2021/22 Holywell Town Council set a budget of £262,900. £254,900 of this amount was funded from the precept with the remainder funded from other income, and the council's reserves. The precept equated to a charge per household of £75.40 on a band D property.

The budget for the year is broken down into several cost centres as shown in the table below. This enables the council to monitor the budget as the year progresses and keep control of its finances.

HOLYWELL TOWN COUNCIL	
BUDGET 2021/22	
COST CENTRE	£
Employees	94,200
Council Offices	23,550
Christmas Lights	21,200
Contribution - Holywell Leisure Centre	12,000
CCTV	18,000
Loan Repayments	15,000
Establishment	14,500
Well Inn Music Festival	10,000
Play Area Upgrades	10,000
Summer Play Schemes	11,800
Grants / Donations	7,000
Wales In Bloom	6,300
Line Dancing & Other Events	4,900
Civic	4,500
Community	3,300
Members	2,050
Town Centre Projects	2,100
Environment	1,500
Woodland	1,000
TOTAL	262,900

The accounts for the year 2021/22, and the previous year 2020/21 are set out below. The accounts are unaudited, and no audit opinion has been given, as of 26th October 2022.

ANNUAL RETURN FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022 Holywell Town Council 2021/2022			
SECTION 2 - THE STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS			
In completing the boxes below please explain any significant variances on a separate sheet and send this to the external auditor together with a copy of your bank reconciliation as at 31 March 2022. See page 6 and the Practitioners Guide for guidance			
	Last Year £	This Year £	General Notes for Guidance
1 Balances brought forward	108,320	139,491	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	252,000	254,900	Total amount of income received/receivable in the year from local taxation (precept) or levy/contribution from principal bodies.
3 (+) Total other receipts	3,217	14,367	Total income or receipts recorded in the cashbook minus amounts included in line 2. Includes support, discretionary and revenue grants.
4 (-) Staff costs	92,301	102,427	Total expenditure or payments made to and on behalf of all employees. Include salaries and wages, PAYE and NI (employees and employers), pension contributions and related expenses eg. termination costs.
5 (-) Loan interest/Capital repayments	15,000	15,000	Total expenditure or payments of capital and interest made during the year on external borrowing (if any).
6 (-) Total other payments	116,746	140,258	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	139,491	151,074	Total balances and reserves at the end of the year. Must equal (1+2+3) - (4+5+6).
8 (+) Debtors	12,208	19,493	Income and expenditure accounts only: Enter the value of debts owed to the body at the year-end.
9 (+) Total cash and investments	145,428	169,342	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	18,145	37,761	Income and expenditure accounts only: Enter the value of monies owed by the body (except borrowing) at the year-end.
11 (=) Balances carried forward	139,491	151,074	Total balances should equal line 7 above: Enter the total of (8+9-10).
12 Total fixed assets and long-term assets	606,760	613,551	The asset and investment register value of all fixed assets and any other long-term assets held as at 31 March.
13 Total borrowing	85,000	70,000	The outstanding capital balances as at 31 March of all loans from third parties (including PWLB)

RELATIONSHIP WITH FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Holywell Town Council maintain a strong collaborative relationship with Flintshire County Council across different service areas.

CCTV Provision in Holywell Town Centre

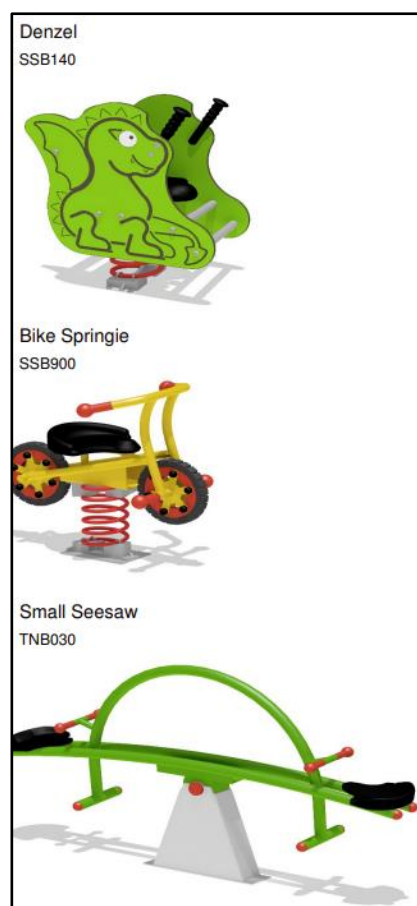
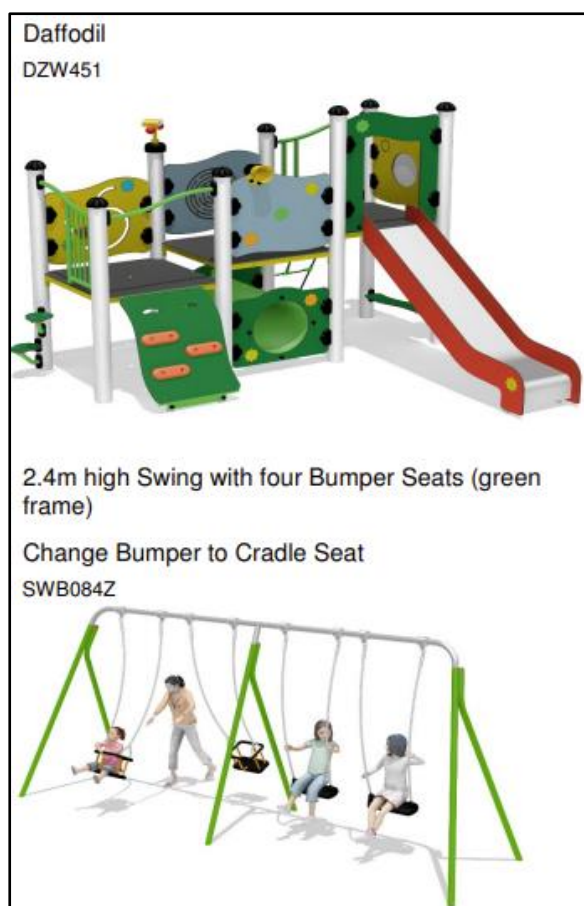
We operate a service level agreement with the County Council that provides fixed unit CCTV cameras in the town centre. The cameras support the police's work in dealing with reported crime and provide assurance to businesses and shoppers that the town centre is a safe place to visit. The cost of the CCTV provision for the 2021/22 year was £13,192.



Play Area Upgrades

We take part every year in the County Council's match fund scheme to upgrade play areas in Holywell and Greenfield. The scheme is managed by Aura Leisure and provides modern, fit for purpose play equipment in the upgraded schemes. The table below shows the amount of funding and the scheme locations, over the last ten years. The upgraded play area for the 2021/22 year was at Groesffordd, Greenfield.

Count	Year	Location	Ward	Match Funded (£)
1	2011/12	Clwyd Avenue	Greenfield	10,000.00
2	2012/13	Groesffordd	Greenfield	10,000.00
3	2013/14	Penrhyn, Pen-y-Maes	Holywell East	10,000.00
4	2014/15	Strand Walk	Holywell Central	10,000.00
5	2015/16	Pen-y-Maes Gardens, Pen-y-Maes	Holywell East	12,364.36
6	2016/17	Holway	Holywell West	10,000.00
7	2017/18	Bryn Mawr Road, Strand	Holywell Central	10,000.00
8	2018/19	Tan-y-Felin, Greenfield	Greenfield	10,000.00
9	2019/20	Pen-y-Maes	Holywell East	10,000.00
10	2021/22	Groesffordd	Greenfield	10,000.00



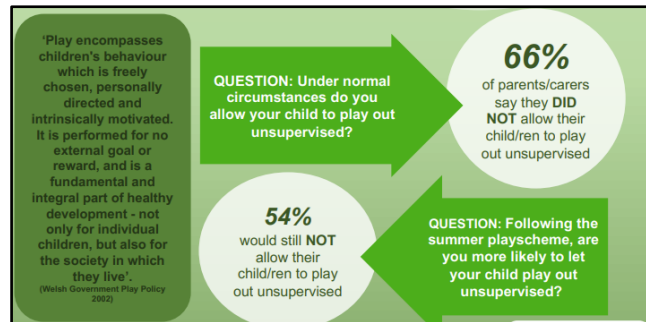
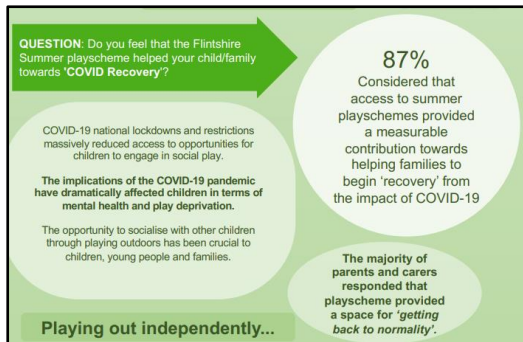
Summer Play Schemes

We fund the summer play schemes that are organised and managed by Flintshire County Council. For the 2021/22 year there were four play schemes operating at the Holway Meadowbank, Greenfield Community Centre, Holywell Penrhyn, and Pen Y Maes Recreation Ground. The schemes were run for six weeks to cover all the school summer holiday period.

The aggregated cost of the playschemes for the 2021/22 year was £11,431. The attendance statistics for the 2022 summer schemes are set out in the table below.

Play Scheme Location	Duration	Total Attendance	Average Daily Attendance	Registrations
Holywell Penrhyn	6 weeks	188	6	22
Pen Y Maes Rec. Ground	6 weeks	240	8	47
Greenfield Community Centre	6 weeks	280	9	67
Holway Meadowbank	6 weeks	580	20	36

The County Council completed a 'snapshot' evaluation for the summer playschemes held in 2021 with families across the County. The questions and responses are summarised below.



Community Asset Transfer

The Town Council has applied to the County Council for the asset transfer of the former toilet block building, located next to the car park at Tower Gardens, to use as a storage facility for operational and event equipment, school uniform stocks for the Eco Uniform Initiative, and to enhance the public toilet provision in the town centre. The former toilet block unit comprises of the former ladies and gent's toilets that were to be converted to storage rooms, and the former disabled toilet that could potentially re-open in the future.

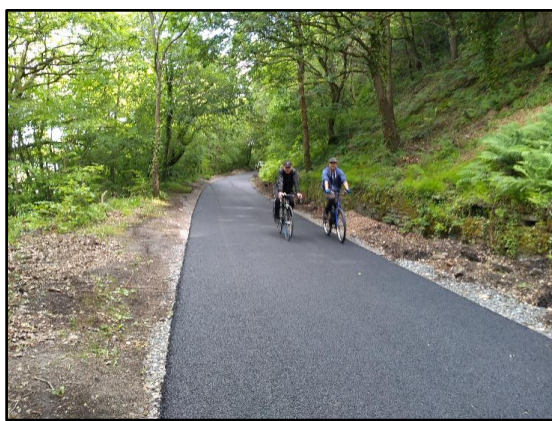


The council has signed off on the community asset transfer agreement and final paperwork and is currently waiting on a handover date. A contractor has been appointed to complete the remedial works required to open the building for council use.

Active Travel

The Welsh Government wants to increase levels of walking and cycling in Wales to realise the many benefits that travelling actively brings - for individuals and for society. In the Programme for Government, they made a commitment to introduce legislation in support of this aim. The Active Travel (Wales) Act 2013 (Active Travel Act) received Royal Assent in November 2013 and came into force in September 2014. It paved the way for a lasting transformation of how we plan and build walking and cycling infrastructure as well as encouraging behaviour change in Wales. The Active Travel Act focuses on walking and cycling as a mode of transport for purposeful journeys.

The Town Council has worked in partnership with Flintshire County Council as a key stakeholder in the development of an active travel network joining Holywell and Greenfield. The main part of this pathway goes up Greenfield Valley and connects both the Strand and Pen-y-Maes residential estates. The pathway also enables a route over the old railway bridge on the A548 coast road, with the aspiration to join up with the Wales Coastal path on Greenfield Docks and a future railway station.



Reopening of Greenfield Railway Station

The council hold a long term aspiration to re-open Holywell Junction railway station which closed in 1964. The North Flintshire Transport Study completed in 2021 went into detail about the benefits to the whole West Delyn area that a railway station at Greenfield would bring and determined that the former Holywell Junction site is the only site worth considering. Holywell Town Council's preferred option is also to use the former Holywell Junction site, which has much of the original infrastructure still intact. The access would be along Dock Road through the existing road network and active travel route.

The station would stimulate the demand for better transport links and would serve the whole West Delyn area, not just Holywell and Greenfield. It would provide a boost to tourism and the local economy, and support West Delyn residents, including our young people access better jobs.

The council are working closely with Flintshire County Council, both the UK and Welsh Governments, and other stakeholders to ensure the aspiration becomes a reality. The project is at the second stage of a rigorous assessment process with further updates expected in Autumn 2022.



BUSINESS PLANNING

Holywell Town Council produce a Business Plan. The Plan sets the council's vision, objectives and key priorities and projects. It is the council's intention to produce a new plan at the beginning of each new electoral term.

The plan will only be realised if the collaborative and partnership working continues with several stakeholders including Flintshire County Council, Holywell Business Group, Community Organisations, Cadwyn Clwyd and other groups. The council reviewed its committee structure and terms of reference at the Annual Meeting in May 2022. Each of the listed projects are sponsored by one of the committees and its members.

Notable key projects which feature include the reopening of the former Holywell Junction Railway Station which closed in 1964, enhancement of active travel links, improving the transport infrastructure, and enhanced town centre features.

The council's Strategic Objective –

“Engage with key stakeholders and the local community to develop and actively promote the town and wider area as a high-quality visitor destination and a place to live, work and shop. Make full use of the unique heritage and tourism opportunities that exist within its area.”

The Council's Key Priorities are –

1 - Linking the town with Greenfield Valley, Greenfield Dock, Wales Coast Path and Heritage Park, Greenfield Business Park and Industrial Estate and the Holy Well. Initial suggestions include a main railway line train station and metro service at Greenfield, cycle path from the coast path, shuttle and community bus services, encompassing active travel arrangements.

2 - Establishing Holywell as a quality visitor destination and premier town centre events venue. Setting up of community tourist information points and arrangements for leaflet distribution to them. Developing the Council's website and social media platforms. Developing links with Greenfield Valley Trust and St. Winefrides Well.

3 - Maintaining the provision of assets including public toilets in the town and ensuring adequate space at agreed locations for car parking, including some electric car charging points.

4 - Regenerate the Holywell and Greenfield communities, aligned to Flintshire County Council's Development Plans.

5 - Co-ordinated joint working between the County Council, Town Council. Improve and develop community engagement with local businesses and community groups with an emphasis on building partnerships.

6 - Maintain other service priorities such as grants, contributions, health and safety, governance, finance and business processes and facilities management.

The current business plan can be viewed on the council's website www.holywell.wales.

ASSETS AND SERVICES

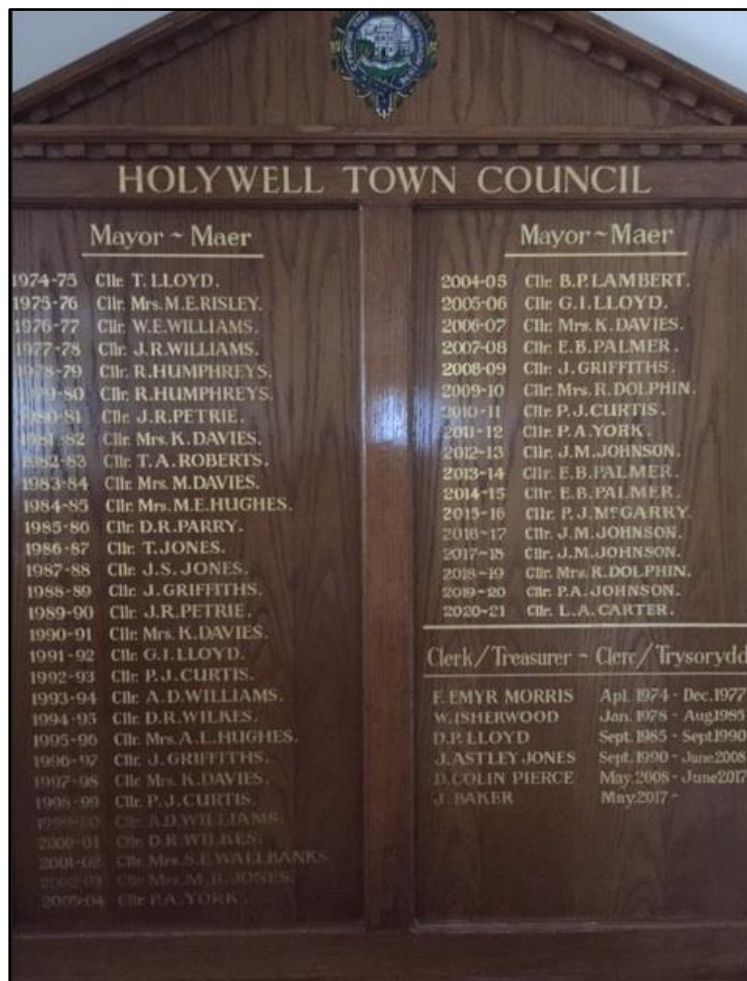
The council is responsible for the following land and property in Holywell and Greenfield.

Council Offices, Bank Place, Holywell

This is the main operational base of the council, and it contains the offices of the staff, community facilities and the council chamber. The offices are open to the public between 9.00am and 1.00pm Monday to Friday.

The council allow community groups the opportunity to use the ground floor facilities for meetings free of charge. Groups that have benefitted from the community facilities include Holywell Autumn Club, The Holywell and District Society, Age and Dementia Holywell and Headway Flintshire.

The council chamber and annexe area are home to a significant number of historical items and memorabilia, that showcase Holywell and Greenfield's rich heritage and history. The council honours boards are also displayed here with the oldest record dating back to 1862. The image below shows the Holywell Town Council honours board, listing Mayors from 1974 to 2021, spanning a near 50 year period.



Lluesty Woodland, Halkyn Road, Holywell

The council owns and manages this woodland which is maintained as a nature reserve.

War Memorials

Assumed responsibility for the Panton Place and Greenfield War Memorials. Pictures below show Panton Place War Memorial Gates and Greenfield War Memorial, Dock Road, Greenfield.



Contribution to Holywell Leisure Centre

In 2015 Holywell Leisure Centre was under threat of closure due to austerity measures. A group of locals got together to form a working party to investigate the possibility of taking over the centre to run it as a charity. Flintshire County Council provided support and in April 2017 the working group formed a Board of Trustees and registered the leisure centre as an independent charity. The charity trustees support the leisure centre management team and employees to run the leisure centre for the health, well-being and social benefit of the local community. Holywell Town Council were involved at the early stages of this process and since 2017 have contributed £82,000 towards the management and maintenance of the centre. The contribution for the 2021/22 year was £10,000.



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Community Endeavour Awards

The council run an annual community endeavour awards programme. For the 2021/22 year the recipients were nominated by councillors and the local community and presented with their awards by the Mayor and councillors in the Tower Gardens Events Area on 16th February 2022. All winners were nominated for their contribution to the local area and received a certificate and high street shopping vouchers.



**WE NEED YOU TO VOTE!
CLOSING DATE THURSDAY 23RD
DECEMBER 2021**



**HOLYWELL TOWN COUNCIL
COMMUNITY ENDEAVOUR
AWARDS
2021**

Do you know somebody who goes above and beyond for our community, has somebody you know been a hero to their neighbours? Does someone you know deserve recognition for their fundraising perhaps or volunteering/running a club in their own free time?

There will be 6 categories – 1 for each of the 4 wards of Holywell East, Holywell West, Holywell Central and Greenfield, and an Under 18 category for both Greenfield and Holywell.

To be eligible for an award, the nominee must either live in one of the 4 wards of Holywell & Greenfield, or their efforts must be of relevant benefit to the wards of Holywell & Greenfield. Nominations are open to both the community and town councillors.

Please send your nominations to town.clerk@holywell.wales

High Street Shopping Vouchers

During the summer of 2021 the council launched its successful shop local voucher scheme, designed to provide a boost to the local community and businesses, at a difficult time in the pandemic period. Vouchers were given out in units of £10.00 that cost the user £5.00 with the council funding the rest. The vouchers had to be spent in local shops and businesses and this provided a boost to the local economy. The council ran the scheme for several weeks at a cost of £4,000, which meant local businesses received £8,000 turnover from the scheme. The community shoppers were able to double their money and spending power from the scheme.



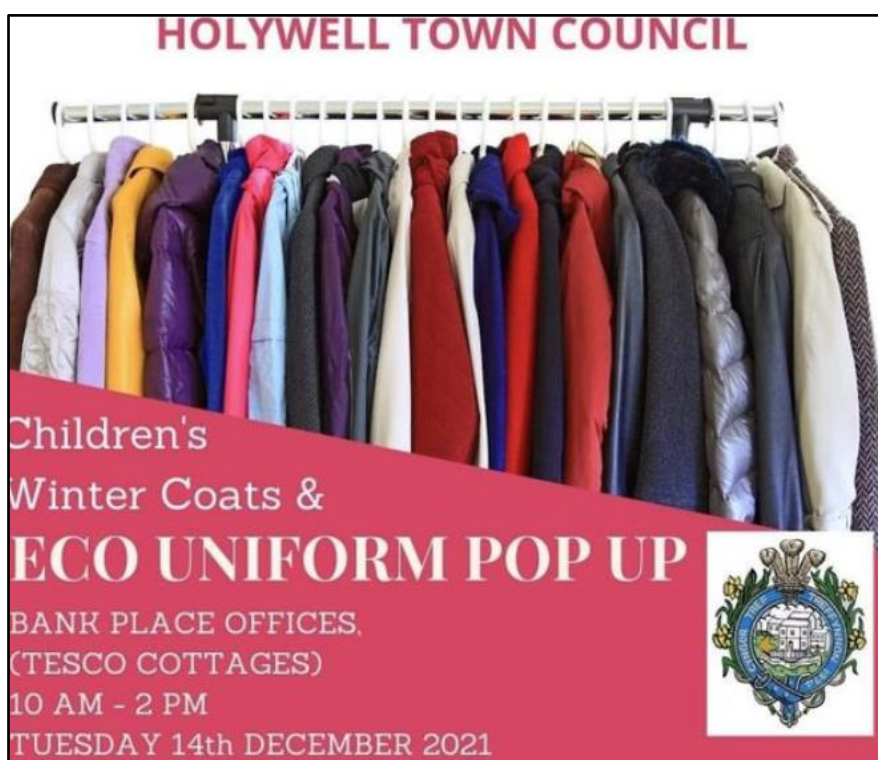
Grants to Community Clubs, Groups and Societies

Through use of its statutory powers the council considers applications for financial assistance twice per year from organisations providing benefit to the Holywell and Greenfield communities. For the year 2021/22 a total of £2,500 grants were approved to Delyn Recreational Gymnastics Club, Citizens Advice Flintshire, Urdd Gobaith Cymru, Samaritans, Kings Head CIC, and Holywell Market Group.

Eco School Uniform Initiative

During the 2021/22 year the council continued with its eco uniform pop up stall that operated from the weekly market and the council offices on a regular basis. Residents can call in and make a uniform donation that are then recycled back into the community.

Customers can make a small donation if they wish for any items they need. All cash collected on the stall is given back to the local schools. Pictured below are Councillors Lynda Carter and Ian Hodge making a £100 donation from the initiative to Ysgol Maes y Felin.



Wales In Bloom

Wales in Bloom judging took place following a two year gap on Wednesday 21st July 2021. Judge John Woods (pictured) toured the Holywell and Greenfield communities before a walk through the town centre. Also pictured here: Mayor Ted Palmer and Development Committee Chair, Councillor Ian Hodge.



The Wales in Bloom entry allows the council to showcase the town's horticultural displays, highlight community involvement by several stakeholders, and also highlights the town's progress with biodiversity measures.

The council produce a portfolio of evidence and engage with stakeholders that support the entry including all the local schools, Greenfield Valley Trust, Transition Holywell and District that maintain the community gardens at Greenfield Valley, and Flintshire County Council's Streetscene Services. The council also started a successful partnership with Holywell Garden Centre to manage the watering and planting duties during the 2021 season. The town was awarded a Silver Gilt at the awards ceremony held at Beaumaris, Anglesey in September 2021.



Remembrance Sunday

The council contributes to the organising of the annual Remembrance Sunday services and parades through the town. Holywell and Greenfield Churches, the Royal British Legion Holywell Branch and the Holywell Military Cadets work in partnership to ensure all the planning, preparations and invitations are completed prior to the event.

This year the service took place on Sunday 14th November 2021 at St James Parish Church, Holywell. The councillors take the salute outside the Flintshire Connects Building (former Town Hall) before a small service was conducted at the Panton Place Memorial Gates for the final laying of wreaths. A small service and wreath laying ceremony was also held on Thursday 11th November 2021 at Greenfield War Memorial attended by the Mayor and other dignitaries.

Remembrance Sunday
Service at the Memorial Gates

Hymn (O God, our help in ages past)
Reading
Prayers
Act of Remembrance
Silence
Last Post/Reveille
Laying of Wreaths
National Anthems
Final Prayers



LEST WE FORGET



LEST WE FORGET

HOLYWELL & GREENFIELD SCHEDULE
THURSDAY 11TH NOVEMBER 2021

11.00 AM SERVICE AT THE GREENFIELD WAR MEMORIAL ONLY

SUNDAY 14TH NOVEMBER 2021

11.00 AM ST JAMES CHURCH - (APPROX 30 MINUTE SERVICE)

- MASKS TO BE WORN AT ALL TIMES IN CHURCH
- RESTRICTED NUMBERS ALLOWED IN THE CHURCH ONLY (FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED)
- TRACK & TRACE FORMS TO BE COMPLETED IN CHURCH

11.45 AM (APPROX) PARADE FROM ST. WINEFRIDE'S CHURCH THROUGH THE HIGH STREET

12.00 PM (APPROX) SMALL SERVICE AND LAYING OF WREATHS - PANTON PLACE

Woodland Heritage Grant

The council were successful in obtaining a £22,000 National Lottery Heritage Grant in late 2021 to establish a nature and wildlife corridor in Pen y Maes Woods and Greenfield Valley. We have partnered with Greenfield Valley Trust and local schools to deliver the project which should be completed by the end of the 2022/23 financial year.

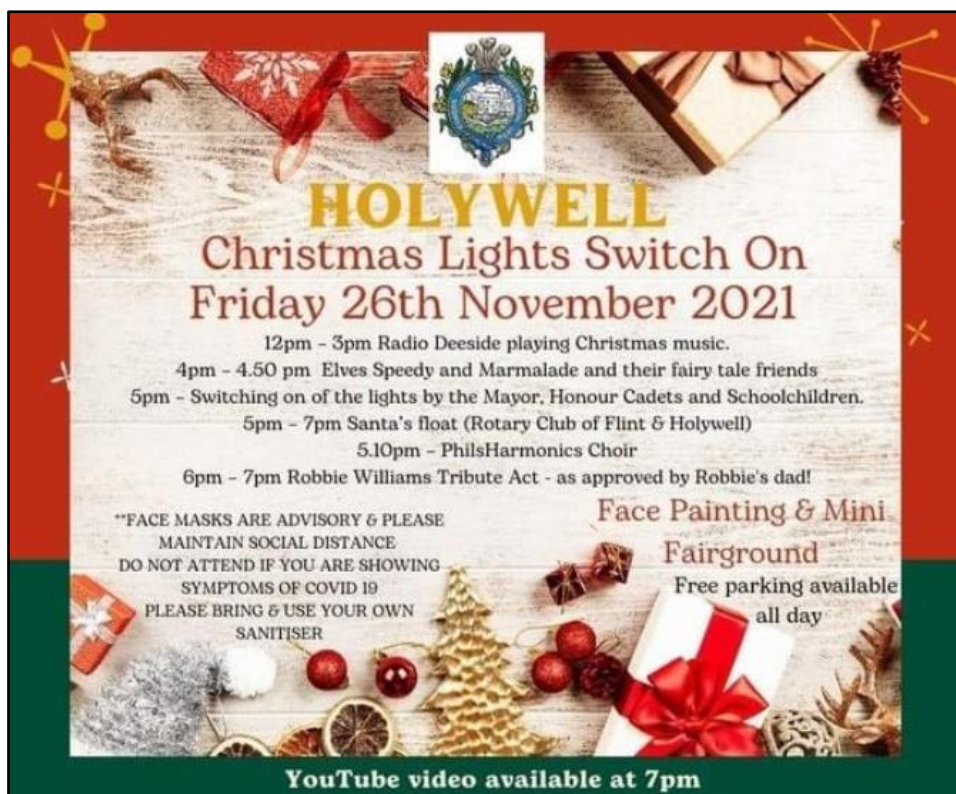
This project will enable an urban local community to access and enhance nature on their doorstep by creating a wildflower meadow, a new woodland and a nature corridor between two ancient woodland sites, on an existing sloping wasteland area, which currently requires mowing and maintenance and is linked by a recently installed active travel link.

The project also involved the installation of bird boxes, bat boxes and bug hotels, the installation of a public water refill station, and interpretation and information boards to promote and raise awareness of nature on the site. The project will create local engagement opportunities, including recruiting of volunteers, and organising training and education opportunities.



Events

With the enforced restrictions starting to ease the council looked forward to the re-establishment of its annual events programme. The first event held was the Christmas Lights Switch On Friday 26th November 2021. As always this was a very busy and enjoyable event well attended by the local community.



For St David's Day 2022 the council arranged a best poster competition with the local schools. A small selection of the work is shown below, kindly supplied by Ysgol Gwenffrwd.



Local businesses took part in a Best Welsh Window Competition. Well done to Tower Crafts, D.A.S.U (Doreen's), and Holywell Museum for being awarded Best Welsh Windows for St. David's Day. The windows were judged by the Mayor and Menter Iaith.



TRAINING PLAN

Section 67 of The Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 requires town and community councils to make and publish a training plan about training provision for its members and staff. The training plan should reflect on and address whether the council collectively has the skills and knowledge it needs to deliver its aims and objectives in an effective manner. The training plan includes councillors and members of staff.

To determine training priorities, it is necessary to assess the essential skills needed by the council and whether there is sufficient depth and coverage across the council. A training needs analysis form should be completed by councillor and staff to determine any training required.

Applicable training courses will be considered for all councillors to ensure the council as a corporate body has sufficient coverage across the core skill areas. Sector specific staff qualifications will be considered to ensure the staffing team has sufficient coverage across their core skill areas.

The first training plan will be published prior to November 2022. The council will undertake an annual review of the plan to ensure it remains fit for purpose and in line with the council's aims and objectives. The plan will remain active for the whole council term until the next ordinary election.

The council's training plan can be viewed on its website www.holywell.wales.

COMPLAINTS POLICY

The council has adopted a complaints policy to administer any complaints received about the services provided by the council. If the council receives complaints about its councillors these follow a separate procedure and may be referred on to the Public Services Ombudsman For Wales. The PSOW have legal powers to investigate complaints about public services in Wales. They also investigate complaints that local government councillors have breached their authority's code of conduct. They are independent of all government bodies and their service is impartial and free of charge.

The council's complaints policy can be viewed on its website www.holywell.wales.

WELLBEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS (WALES) ACT 2015

The content of this report demonstrates the council's commitment to wellbeing in the local community. The council is committed to sustainable development that ensures the needs of the present are met without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs.

The Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 defines sustainable development as the process of improving the economic, social, environmental and cultural wellbeing of Wales by taking action, in accordance with the sustainable development principle, aimed at achieving the wellbeing goals. The Act lists seven wellbeing goals:

- 1) A Prosperous Wales
- 2) A Resilient Wales
- 3) A Healthier Wales
- 4) A More Equal Wales
- 5) A Wales of Cohesive Communities
- 6) A Wales of Vibrant Culture and Thriving Welsh Language
- 7) A Globally Responsive Wales

The council supports these wellbeing goals and will consider them when making future decisions that affect peoples lives withing the local community.

The Flintshire Public Services Board (PSB) is a partnership of public bodies working together to improve the well-being of the county. The PSB has a membership made up of both statutory bodies and other invited organisations. The four statutory bodies are Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board, Flintshire County Council, Natural Resources Wales and North Wales Fire and Rescue Service.

The PSB has produced a draft Well-being Plan which sets out the challenges the communities of Flintshire face. The Plan outlines how the collective work of the partnership can protect and improve the quality of life for residents, communities and businesses now and in the future. The five priorities of the Plan and how Holywell Town Council contribute to them, are listed below.

Priorities Of The Flintshire Well Being Plan

1) Community Safety

Liaison with North Wales Police, CCTV coverage in the town centre, Deployment of mobile CCTV cameras at targeted community hot spots, Councillor representative on Community Liaison Meetings, funding of summer play schemes.

2) Economy and Skills

Implementation of 50/50 voucher scheme for local businesses and the community, encourage volunteers and community engagement, re-establishment of the Holywell Business Group, establishment of a business showcase page on Facebook for all local businesses to use and promote their businesses.

3) Environment

Wales in Bloom participation, hanging basket displays in the town centre and other areas, establishment of wildflower verges, community litter picks, annual participation in the match fund scheme to upgrade existing play areas across the community.

4) Healthy and Independent Living

Contributions to the Mayoral Charities the Daniel Inskip Memorial Fund and Holywell Swimming Club, grants and contributions to community groups, contribution to Holywell Leisure Centre, offering use of the Council Offices to community groups free of charge.

5) Resilient Communities

Remembrance Sunday Service and parade, Christmas Lights Switch On event, St David's Day Celebration, annual Community Endeavour Awards, the continued operation of the Eco School Uniform Initiative.

The council has a limited scope in some of these priorities, but it has provided demonstrable evidence of its intentions to work towards a number of initiatives, events and partnerships which clearly contribute to community wellbeing, and have a positive impact on the lives of local residents.

The council will always operate with sound governance and probity in an open, transparent, and democratic manner complying with legislation and within the council's powers.

The council ensures council decisions are taken legally and reviews all its policies including code of conduct, standing orders and financial regulations on a cyclical basis.

ASPIRATIONS FOR THE COMING YEAR

- Continue to serve the local community and its residents.
- Continue working towards achieving all the objectives in the council's business plan.
- Continue the progression of key projects including the reopening of Greenfield railway station.
- Continue to develop the council's transport aspirations associated with active travel routes and local bus route provision.
- Continue to review the financial position of the council and research grant opportunities.
- Consider the social, economic, and environmental aspects of the council's projects and key priorities.
- Maintain and promote the Welsh culture and language.
- Support local businesses and community groups in achieving their objectives.

HOLYWELL TOWN COUNCILLORS 2021/22

Name	Ward	Political Party	Email
CARTER, Lynda Ann	Holywell West	Independent	lynda.carter@holywell.wales
DAVIES, Karin	Holywell East	Welsh Labour	
DELANEY, Sue	Greenfield	Independent	
* DOLPHIN, Rosetta	Greenfield	Independent	rosetta.dolphin@holywell.wales
HODGE, Ian	Holywell East	Independent	ian.hodge@holywell.wales
* JOHNSON, Joseph Malcolm	Holywell East	Welsh Labour	
* JOHNSON, Paul Anthony	Holywell West	Welsh Labour	paul.johnson@holywell.wales
JOHNSON, Susan	Greenfield	Welsh Labour	
LEWIS JONES, Mike	Holywell Central	Welsh Labour	mike.jones@holywell.wales
* PALMER, Edward Brian	Holywell Central	Welsh Labour	ted.palmer@holywell.wales
PATTISON, John	Holywell Central	Independent	
SCRAGG, George Barry	Greenfield	Welsh Labour	barry.scragg@holywell.wales
TRUMPER, Andy	Holywell West	Independent	
WALLBANKS Sheena Elizabeth	Greenfield	Independent	
YORK Peter Astell	Holywell West	Independent	

* Also a County Councillor

COUNCIL STAFF & CONTACT DETAILS

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Martin Fearnley

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