

## Environmental Projects within Town

The Town Council are working hard to improve the environment of our town and are committed to looking at future sustainable projects.

Over the last few years, we have planted wildflower gardens on the Recreation Field, outside Llantonian Hall and in Lorna Hughes Park. We have worked and supported Plant Llantwit. New sapling trees and hedgerows are being planted in Sea view Park.

The Town Council worked with the Chamber of Trade to offer water refill points in businesses/shops throughout the town. As a Council we are encouraging a plastic free town, encouraging hirers of our facilities to not use plastic cups/straws etc as well as recycle all their waste.

The Fairtrade Committee have also managed last year to renew the towns Fairtrade Status. Many of our local stores offer Fairtrade products for sale and as part of Fairtrade fortnight in March 2021 organisations ran Fairtrade remoted coffee mornings and schools took part in a Fairtrade competition 'choose the world you want'.

Future projects the Council will be looking at include the feasibility of installing an electric car point within the town. If you have any environmental ideas the Council could do to improve the town then please contact us at the Town Hall.

## Improvements in the Town

- A new sound system in Llantonian Hall
- The renewal of safety surfaces in playgrounds
- The installation of adult fitness equipment in the Recreation Ground with 100% grants
- 2 New CCTV cameras in the Recreation Ground
- Using over 90% grant aid to install floodlights on the increasingly popular tennis courts.
- Plans are being finalised to floodlight the Town Hall.

## Grant Aid

Each year the Town Council award small Grants to many local organisations in the Town. In the past we have supported the Boys Brigade, Rainbows, Netball Club, Women Institutes, Parkinsons Club, Vale Plus, Ladies Choir, Scout Group and many more. Applications are welcome all year round and are considered in early January. Please contact us for an application form.

Larger grants are considered for charitable events in the Town, and the Town Council are proud that they have supported the Llantwit Major 10K Committee from the very beginning and have continued to do so for the past 5 years, ensuring the continued success and growth of the 10K event held in August.

We also contribute yearly to the Christmas Illuminations in the Town. Each year those installing the Christmas Illuminations have been awarded a Grant to ensure the Town has its display for the festive period. Working closely with the Christmas Committee, in 2019 we were successful in a Grant application from the Vale of Glamorgan Council for the purchase of all new illumination and the installation of RCD boxes to ensure they could be safely installed, and the Town would be 'lit up' once again.

Last year we financially supported the RAF Voluntary Band with their open top bus being driven around the Town and surrounding area, bringing Christmas music to cheer residents up.

Each year we also financially support Llanilltud Fawr in Flower, awarding them a Grant to purchase and plant their annual flower display in the centre of the Town.

There are many wonderful, hard working voluntary groups and organisation in the Town, and we would like to thank them for all the work they do to ensure Llantwit Major continues to be the friendliest, community spirited Town to live. Diolch!



Llantwit Major Town Council

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# LLANTWIT MAJOR TOWN COUNCIL NEWSLETTER



## A Message from the Mayor

This is our first Town Council Newsletter which I hope you will find interesting and will tell you what the Town Council is doing. Since the demise of 'The Gem' local news is sometimes hard to come by and not everyone connects with 'social media'. If you find the Newsletter useful we will issue others periodically.

Our thanks must go to Mr. Ian Hunt of FILCO who came forward with the offer to have the Newsletter available in his stores and the other traders who have offered their premises.

*Councillor Gerwyn Thomas, Mayor of Llantwit Major.*



## Lockdown - March 2020

It is over a year ago we had the first serious lockdown and isolation. Although there may now be some light at the end of the tunnel those early days were very dark and uncertain.

The Town Council wishes to place on record its thanks to our small staff who immediately reacted to the situation and started delivering shopping and medical needs when little other help was available. They then organised a team of some 130 volunteers who gave up their time over many weeks to assist with the deliveries co-ordinated by Town Council staff.

Our sincere thanks goes to our staff and the volunteers who provided such essential services in the early days and weeks.





## Town Council—What do we do?

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We provide more services than any other Town or Community Council in the Vale of Glamorgan area. We are responsible for :-

The Bowling Green and Pavilion, The Tennis Courts and Pavilion, The Llantonian Hall, The Town Hall, The Old School, The Under 10s play area, The Recreation Ground and the play area and adult fitness equipment, Seaview Park, Lorna Hughes Park, The Allotments and the Cemetery.

We are not responsible for potholes in the road or defective pavements but these can be reported to the Vale Council on 700111 or by email [c1V@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk](mailto:c1V@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk)

## Weddings

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Llantwit Major Town Council have worked hard over the last few years to refurbish the Town Hall and make it popular place to hold parties, weddings, family and group celebrations, thus providing Llantwit Major with a venue to hold functions, in the heart of the community, at cost effective prices.

In 2018 the Town Council was successful in obtaining a licence to allow civic wedding ceremonies to take place in the Council Chamber, at the back of the Old School.

Less than 200 meters from the Old School is the Town Hall Building, an ideal location for the wedding reception/ evening entertainment, holding a maximum capacity of 100. The Town Council hold a music and alcohol licence for the venue.

## Remembrance Day 2020

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It was clear early in the development stages of arranging the Remembrance Service in 2020 that things would be very different than previous years. Although we were unable to have a Parade through Town, we were pleased to be able to provide an alternative service which complied with Welsh Government legislation.

Organisations were invited to have a representative lay a wreath at staggered times. A live stream was provided to allow residents to view from home.

## Council Tax

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Llantwit Major Town Council has announced there will be NO INCREASE in its Council Tax for the coming year.

Financially this has been a very challenging year and successive lockdowns has meant the Council has lost £40,000 in valuable rental income from Llantonian Hall, The Town Hall etc. as well as spending unexpected sums on PPE at our various sites.

Despite this the Council has sought to look for savings throughout the year and as a result has decided not to increase the amount of Council Tax payable to it from April. This is not to say the bills arriving will not be more, as the Vale Council and the Police have increased their requirements and these form the majority of the bill you will receive.

It is likely we will be the only Town Council in the Vale Council area not asking its residents to pay more next year.

Not increasing our Council Tax confirms the Council's commitment to look after the people of Llantwit Major and provide quality services at affordable costs.

## Family Notice Board

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With our local paper not being published, we are looking for other ways to share news. If you have a family announcement you would like to share with the residents of Llantwit Major, please call the Town Council for your notice to be displayed in our notice board at the centre of town.

Please note, all death notices must come through a funeral director as it would if being published to a local newspaper. Birth, special birthdays and wedding notices are also welcome.

Llantwit Major Town Council can be contacted via details on the back page.

## Llantwit Major in Lockdown Book

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The Town Council are currently developing the idea of collating a memory book of residents' experience during lockdown in Llantwit Major. We want the book to include pieces from all age groups, whether a toddler or senior citizen. The book can include poems, photographs, artwork, children's drawings – anything that has been inspired during your time at home. The book will then be available to purchase.

We are pleased to announce that there has been enough interest and with a kind donation from Mr Hunt, we are now able to proceed with developing the project.

If you would like to have your project featured in the book, please get in touch by messaging us on Facebook or using the contact details on the back page of the Newsletter.

## Lockdown 10k

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With a strong running community in Llantwit Major, the Town Council recognised that fun runs would be missed in 2020. As an alternative, the 'Lockdown 10k' was arranged. It invited runners, walkers, cyclist of all abilities living in Llantwit Major (or surrounding area) to take part.

Participants had a week in August to complete a 10k in their own time. The only condition was to start from the Town Hall.

The event was a great success with over 100 people taking part, all of which received their own a '10k Lockdown' t-shirt as a keepsake.

