

## **REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR HEULWEN D HULME – PORTFOLIO HOLDER FOR ENVIRONMENT, HIGHWAYS, TRANSPORT & RECYCLING**

**DECEMBER 2019**

### **KNIFE ANGEL**

The knife angel will arrive at the Oriel Gallery, The Park, Newtown on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2020 for 28 days. Because of the increase in county lines, assaults and poverty concerns in the county – Newtown wants to make a stance against violence. There will be a programme of engagement and education with children and adults on anti violence in our communities. This is the first time the knife angel has come to Wales along with an amnesty bin for weapons to be handed anonymously. It is hoped that primary and high schools, community groups of all ages will visit during this time.

### **MID WALES GROWTH DEAL**

This is a joint venture between Powys County Council and Ceredigion County Council and will be funded by the Welsh Government with £55m over 15 years. As the title states its purpose is to grow Mid Wales. The key themes are Energy, Research, Tourism, Food, Skills, Connectivity. PCC need to identify key projects which currently inhibit development/growth of companies/businesses – but through this investment we can ensure the future growth of our economy. If you wish to make a comment on this please contact me as detailed below.

### **EDUCATION BRIEFING 20.12.19**

I attended an informative briefing and I detail it as follows:

Primary School – We have 9099 pupils in the county. Ysgol Rhiw Bechan, Tregynon has 149 pupils = 40% are taught through the medium of Welsh and 60% taught in English.

Total budget per pupil in Powys is £3978

Building Sufficiency – Green

Building Suitability – Amber

Building Condition – Amber

Secondary School – We have 7244 pupils in the county. Caereinion High School, Llanfair has 456 pupils = 58% taught through the medium of Welsh and 42% taught in English.

Total budget per pupil in Powys is £4849

Building Sufficiency – Red

Building Suitability – Amber

Building Condition – Red

Following the Estyn Report in September, considerable consultation has taken place, School engagement, collaborative working in North Powys between schools, financial stability, Education outcomes i.e. results, Leaders need support to focus on education and staff and pupil wellbeing. Considerable work has to be done on Post 16 education as many students are seeking their final years education over the border because they provide more specialist and varied courses.

### **HIGHWAYS, TRANSPORT & RECYCLING – DECEMBER UPDATE**

The service came into 2019/20 with a really ambitious financial improvement target of circa £3M, and are forecast to achieve the majority of this through next year. As always there is still much to do and improve, and with this in mind we have drawn up plans for the next 3 years.

Recognising all that has already been achieved over recent years (£15M savings/income over last 5 years), our forward plans are based on the expectation of what is realistically possible in terms of further savings and income and that there is a core cost of delivering our frontline services which in many respects we are now very close to.

Ground services were also 'brought back in house' after being provided through an external supplier previously. There has been much praise received for the improved quality of service now being delivered, and through working collaboratively with our colleagues in Housing, we can maintain the teams throughout the year.

## **ENERGY FROM WASTE**

The Welsh Government recycling target increased from 58% to 64% for this year. We had previously reached this target level, our rate at the start of the year was around 51%. This has improved through the year, but to have any chance of reaching the 64% and avoiding fines, we are now diverting waste to an energy recovery facility (ERF). We are hopeful that with this contribution and with a new concerted communication drive we will reach the target. Unfortunately the transfer of our waste to ERF is more expensive than disposal to landfill, and therefore does put a further financial pressure on us; albeit less than the fines which would be applicable if we failed to reach the statutory target.

## **ABSORBENT HYGIENE PRODUCTS (AHP)**

Welsh Government are supporting us and most other Welsh Authorities in their project to develop an improved recycling technique for nappies. This will in time mean that this product will be collected separately and recycled, which will again contribute to the level of recycling and importantly have a major positive impact on the environment.

Around 2.5 billion nappies are thrown away in the UK each year (about 7 million a day). This accounts for 2.4 per cent of all household waste.

## **POWYS COMMUNITY HEALTH COUNCIL**

Maternity Services in Wales — Share your Views Healthcare Inspectorate Wales (HIW), in collaboration with Community Health Councils (CHCs), wants as many people as possible to share their views and experiences of maternity services in Wales by completing a short survey <https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/HIWMaternity>

## **PLANNING IN THE RHIWCYNON WARD**

### **ABERHAFESP PLANNING**

- 19/1560/HH – 1<sup>st</sup> floor extension above single storey, Woodview, Aberhafesp SY16 3HL
- 19/1724/HH – extension to property, Caebryn, Bwlch Y Ffridd SY16 3HZ
- 19/1825/FUL – 4 Shepherd Huts for holiday accommodation, Bronfynnon, Bwlch Y Ffridd. SY16 3JA
- 19/1954/RES – Reserved matters for 10 dwellings, Beechcroft, Aberhafesp SY16 3HW
- 19/1861/HH – Demolition of shed, erection of single storey extension, Sunnyview, Bwlch Y Ffridd SY16 3JF

### **DWYRIW PLANNING**

- 19/0995/OUT – Agricultural dwelling, garage and assoc. works, Argae Fields, New Mills, SY16 3NG
- 19/1475/FUL – Egg production unit at Tyn Yr Wrtá, Llanwyddelan, SY16 3BT
- 19/1211/FUL – Agricultural building and access at Mount Pleasant, Adfa SY16 3DR
- 19/1542/DEM – Demolition of Agricultural Buildings at The Bryn, Adfa Sy16 3DL
- 19/1623/FUL – Installation of a Biomass System, Ffraithwen, Adfa SY16 3DB
- 19/1901/FUL – Excavation and hardstandind, Tyn Y Llan, Cefn Coch SY21 0AG
- 19/2011/FUL – Erection of a manure store, Tyn Yr Wtra, Llanwyddelan, SY16 3BT

### **MANAFON PLANNING**

- 19/1391/RES – Agricultural Workers dwelling at Caenant, Llanfair SY21 0DG
- 19/1523/FUL – 3 pods, Tan Yderwen, Llanfair SY21 0DG
- 19/1803/ELE – Upgrade Electricity Supply to 3 phase – Hillview, New Mills SY16 3NW

### **TREGYNON PLANNING**

- P/2018/0580 – 76K Poultry Rearing Shed, Red House, Tregynon
- 19/1532/RES – Reserved matters for 4 affordable houses, Ty Perllan, Tregynon SY16 3EH
- 19/1633/REM – Section 73/ Conditions at Dolycoed, Tregynon SY16 3PY
- 19/1939/FUL – Change of use of Agriculture bldg/wedding venue, Gwaentrebeddau, Tregynon, SY16

## **HAPPY NEW YEAR TO YOU ALL.**

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