CYNGOR CYMUNED GOETRE FAWR COMMUNITY COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT – CIVIC YEAR 2021 /2022

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| **Background** | Goetre Fawr Community Council is made up of 12 Councillors. The Chairman for the 2021-22 year is Cllr Owen Dodd and Vice-Chair is Cllr Andy Barnes. Goetre Fawr Community is an electoral ward in the County of Monmouthshire and consists of the villages and hamlets of Penperlleni (Goytre), Little Mill, Mamhilad, Nantyderry. As indicated above, the village of Penperlleni is also known as Goytre (where the name has been anglicized, and on very early maps it is named as Goytrey). The electoral area is named Goetre Fawr and is made up of two wards, being Goetre (nine Councillors) and Mamhilad (three Councillors). Currently the Council serves a population of c2000 residents in 1136 properties. The Council employs a part time Clerk as well as two cleaners who maintain the public conveniences in the village of Penperlleni. The Clerk can be contacted by email at: theclerk@goytre.gov.ukThe Community Council’s web site is at: [www.goytre.gov.uk](http://www.goytre.gov.uk) |

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| **The Community Council’s Vision** | As the first tier in local Government, Goetre Fawr Community Council aims to provide a voice for the Community, representing the area at County and National level. We work closely with Monmouthshire County Council, the Police, the South Wales Trunk Road Agency (SWTRA), Welsh Government and other authorities take account of the needs of our community when making decisions that affect our residents. The Council uses the powers and resources available to it to proactively and quickly react to the needs of the community and provide appropriate levels of relevant services to our community. The Council’s precept for 2020-21 was £35,000. This represents a Band D equivalent rate of £27.36. In addition, the Council also received income of £6,156 from the rental of property and land. Although technically not covered by the **Well-Being of Future Generations** **Act,** the Community Council continues to focus on activities which both support and complement these national priorities, and which also support the principal authority (Monmouthshire County Council). These priorities have been used to provide the structure for this report and are detailed in the next section |

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| **Well-Being of Future Generations Act – key priorities and actions taken** | * **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 which 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.*

• The Council makes budget provision for Community improvement activities. • The Council maintains a up to date website which is open to the Community for information exchange and regularly posts relevant news items on the village Facebook page, including employment and engagement opportunities. * **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.*
* During the pandemic the Community Council has continued to meet on a monthly basis, adopting new ways of working (including teleconferencing) and has continued to make access to public meetings via an on-line link.
* During the pandemic the Community Centre set up a dedicated Covid-19 web page with daily bulletins, updates and local news from the County Council and national advice centres.
* The Council provides for green spaces across the Community and allows these areas to grow in a way that supports biodiversity.
* The Council has provided plants within all of its amenities that support pollinators.
* The Council has approved a Biodiversity and Environment Development Action Plan setting out how its activities and policies support the Community Biodiversity and Environment
* **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*
* The Council provides a play park and playing field at Little Mill Village Hill (Mamhilad ward) which it leases from the trustees of the hall. The Community Council also supports the maintenance of the Goytre Park play area (Goetre ward) and bid for funding for the building of the Multi-use Games Area (MUGA) which has now been agreed.
* In 2020-21 the Council implemented the Public Health (Wales) Act 2017 by making the Play Areas in the ward, smoke free areas, (as required by the Act), with appropriate signage.
* In the past the Community Council has provided substantial funding to upgrade the facilities in both village halls, and refurbish the Community Centre. The Community Council is custodian trustee of the Community Centre, which it leases from the County Council and is used extensively to support local parents by providing before and after school activities (delivered by Goytre After School Club - a separate charitable foundation).
* The Council provides several benches across the area at points to encourage residents to enjoy the open spaces within the wards.
* The Community Council works with Monmouthshire County Council to maintain and improve both the urban and countryside footpaths in the area.
* As well as the provision of six defibrillators in the Community, the Community Council periodically arranges for initial and refresher training for residents.
* The Community Council has funded the installation of 20 dog waste bins across the Goetre Fawr ward and funds the collection from those bins on a regular basis at a cost of £5120.50 for the year.
* **A more equal Wales***A society that enables people to fulfil their potential no matter what their background or circumstances*
* The Council continues to seek solutions to the issues of road safety and access problems in order to ensure all residents are able to utilise all community services safely.
* The Community Council funds the provision of the room for the weekly Post Office to ensure that those without private transport have easy access to Postal services.
* Gwent Police attend some of our monthly meetings to bring to our attention issues affecting the Community, to help implement actions to address any problems. Similarly, Gwent police are notified of any concerns Councillors have to ensure that all residents are kept safe. The elimination of anti-social behaviour, scams and burglary are a key priority.
* The Community Council regularly uses the village Facebook page and other local forums to promote local community services and encourage residents to become actively involved in local consultations.
* **A Wales of cohesive communities***Attractive, viable, safe and well-connected communities*
	+ The Council continues to lobby for the installation of a pedestrian crossing across the A4042 Trunk Road in the village of Penperlleni. This will greatly improve the safety and access for pedestrians looking to access northbound bus services on the A4042 towards Abergavenny, north Monmouthshire and train services to South and North Wales.
	+ Regular review of public (street) lighting provision
	+ Regular campaign to increase the scope of the County Council’s gritting services during icy weather to minimise isolation and improve connectivity during poor weather events.
	+ In past years the Community Council has published a quarterly newsletter. This has not been possible during the last two years, but the members are actively looking to re-introduce this as soon as resources allow.
	+ The community Council’s web site has been updated to ensure that it is compliant with all the latest ‘access’ regulations.
	+ The Community Council is now an accredited ‘sight-loss friendly’ organisation, and provides all communications in a minimum font size of ‘14’, with separate large font documents (agendas and minutes etc) where these are required to comply with our commitments.
* **A Wales of vibrant culture and 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.*
* The Council provides a short local history on its web site and, with appropriate use of the Welsh Language in headings and emails to ensure that all recipients are aware of the importance of the Welsh language, even in predominantly English-speaking areas.
* In 2019 the Community Council successfully applied for funding for the installation of a Multi-use Sports Area (MUGA), and is closely working with Monmouthshire County Council to ensure the installation is completed as soon as possible. This will greatly enhance the access to Sports facilities in the village for all age levels.
* **A globally responsible Wales***A nation which, when doing anything to improve the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales, takes account of whether doing such a thing may make a positive contribution to global well-being*
* The Community Council is committed to implementing long-term well-being goals and objectives in all its activities and services. It regularly consults with the County Council, The Police, Welsh Government and One Voice Wales to ensure long-term well-being goals are embedded in our services for the long-term benefit of our residents.
* The maintenance of green spaces across the Community receives the highest priority in all Community Council actions. It is also committed to taking action to support the current environment emergency and has a Council member who is a committed member of two County Council climate action groups
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| **Services Provided** | Penperlleni (Goetre ward)* Public Conveniences
* Wildflower beds and meadow grass area in the recreational play area.
* Two bus shelters
* 16 dog fouling collection bins
* Village Cleaning Services
* Meeting the room cost for the weekly Post Office service in Penperlleni
* Purchase and maintenance of three defibrillators

Little Mill (Mamhilad ward)* Recreational Play Area and Playing Field (leased from Little Mill Village Hall)
* Two bus shelters
* 4 dog fouling bins
* Village Cleaning Services
* Purchase and maintenance of three defibrillators

General* Provision of donations to support the local community, e.g. Wales Air Ambulance, Goytre Fawr Primary School, Monmouthshire Citizens Advice to ensure the continued provision of local ‘voluntary’ services.
* Custodian Trustees of Goytre Fawr Community Centre
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| **Councillors** | The following Councillors were in post during the year in question.Owen Dodd (Chair) - Goetre ward - owen.dodd@goytre.gov.ukAndy Barnes (Vice Chair) - Goetre ward – andy.barnes@goytre.gov.ukJan Butler - Goetre - jan.butler@goytre.gov.ukPeter Daniel - Goetre ward - peter.daniel@goytre.gov.ukNigel Morrey – Goetre ward - nigel.morrey@goytre.gov.ukJanet Robins – Goetre ward - janet.robins@goytre.gov.ukSydney Welford – Goetre wardRose Thayers – Goetre wardRoger Howells – Goetre wardNicola Awni – Mamhilad ward Colin Deakins – Mamhilad wardLucyann Rands – Mamhilad wardPlus: Jonathan Lazenby (Clerk) – theclerk@goytre.gov.uk **Email addresses are not shown where Councillors are no longer sitting** |