



**Cyngor Cymuned CERI / KERRY Community Council**  
Serving the Villages of Kerry, Sarn and Dolfor.

**Annual Report for Kerry Community Council 2022 -2023**

**ORGANISATION:**

Kerry Community Council (KCC) encompasses the villages of Kerry, Sarn and Dolfor. The three villages are represented by the following councillors/ officials:

<b>Chair</b>	Cllr. D. Jones (Sarn)
<b>Vice-Chair</b>	Cllr. C. Seal. (Kerry).
<b>Cllrs.</b>	Cllr. V. Wildish (Kerry) Cllr. S. Holloway (Kerry) Cllr. D. Lush (Kerry) Cllr. B. Pryce. (Sarn) Cllr. I. Jones (Dolfor) Cllr. R. Gardner (Dolfor) Cllr. P. Jenkins (Kerry) Cllr G Evans (Kerry) Cllr M Morgan (Sarn) Cllr L Powell (Kerry) Cllr N. Hayward (Kerry)
<b>County Cllrs</b>	Cllr. K. Lewis (Dolfor) Cllr. B. Breeze (Kerry & Sarn)
<b>Biodiversity Officer</b>	G. Gough
<b>Clerk/ Proper Officer (RFO).</b>	Ria Roberts

Contact details for councillors can be found on the Kerry Community Council website or upon request from the clerk [clerk@kerrycommunitycouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@kerrycommunitycouncil.gov.uk)

The Council aims to communicate with residents, to represent their views at council meetings and to ensure the well-being and maintenance of the three villages. To facilitate this, councillors sit on a number of diverse committees and sub-committees to make themselves as approachable and visible as possible.

**KERRY COMMUNITY COUNCIL COMMITTEES AND SUB-COMMITTEES & COUNCIL REPRESENTATION ON OTHER ORGANISATIONS' COMMITTEES:**

<b>Committees/ Sub Committees/ Organisations</b>	<b>Councillors/ Officers</b>
Planning Sub-Committees	Kerry – Cllr. V. Wildish Cllr. G. Evans Cllr. D. Lush Sarn - Cllr. B. Pryce Cllr. D. Jones Dolfor- Cllr. I. Jones Cllr. R. Gardner

Kerry Eisteddfod Committee	Cllr. D. Jones Cllr. I. Jones Cllr. V. Wildish
Biodiversity Sub Committee/ Officer	G. Gough
Village Hall Committees	Kerry - Cllr. N. Hayward Sarn - Cllr. B. Pryce Dolfor - Cllr. I. Jones
School Governors- Kerry	Cllr. D. Lush
Black Hall Trust	Cllr. V. Wildish
One Voice Wales, Montgomeryshire Area Committee (2 representatives)	Cllr. V. Wildish Cllr. C. Seal
The Vale of Montgomery Rural Cluster (2 representatives)	Cllr. V. Wildish Cllr. C. Seal
Amenities Sub-Committee	Cllr. N. Hayward Cllr. S. Holloway Cllr. B. Pryce Cllr. V. Wildish Cllr C. Seal
Garreglwyd Wind Farm	Cllr. I. Jones Cllr. D. Jones
Garn Fach Wind Farm	Cllr. R. Gardner
Community Grants Sub-Committee	Cllr. D. Lush Cllr. D. Jones Cllr. I. Jones
Finance & Governance Sub-Committee	Cllr. C. Seal Cllr. D. Lush Cllr. G. Evans
Powys County Council & Town and Community Council Meetings	Cllr. V. Wildish

Throughout the year councillors also participated in on-line meetings and discussions with other organisations including PCC Planning; PAVO; Montgomeryshire Wildlife Trust; and groups concerned with environmental issues including PACE and Pethau Bechain.

### **KERRY COMMUNITY COUNCIL EMPLOYEES**

The council employees two part time staff, as follows;

#### **Clerk/RFO**

Ria Roberts was appointed Clerk/RFO in October 2022 and has obtained the FILCA & ILCA qualifications. It is anticipated that the CILCA qualification will be undertaken in 2023/2024.

#### **Playground Caretaker**

K. Cornell was appointed Playground Caretaker in March 2023 following the relocation of the previous caretaker.

## **KERRY VILLAGE INSPECTION**

In July 2022 Kerry councillors undertook a visual inspection of Kerry Village. Issues arising were discussed by the Council and actioned, as appropriate.

## **KERRY CEMETERY SURVEY**

The annual year end Cemetery Survey was conducted by Cllr. C. Seal and The Clerk. The survey did not identify any major issues and it was noted that the cemetery grounds/ butterfly garden are being maintained satisfactorily by the Council's appointed contractor.

## **ROSPA REPORTS**

Annual Safety Inspection RoSpa reports were completed for the play equipment at Kerry Recreation ground and Dolforgan Park. Remedial actions and recommendations have been actioned, as appropriate.

## **MEMBERSHIPS:**

Powys Association of Voluntary Organisations (PAVO)  
One Voice Wales (OVW)  
The Society of Local Council Clerks (SLCC)

## **FINANCE:**

See attached Statement of Accounts (Appendix A)

### **Bank Balances as of 31/03/2023**

Community Current Account: £48,406.32  
Money Manager Account: £7,267.96

## **ASSETS AND SERVICES MANAGED:**

- Kerry Public Conveniences
- Dolforgan Park including the Grade II listed bridge and children's play area
- Children's play area at St Michael's School, Kerry
- An area for play at Herbert Court, Kerry
- Kerry Cemetery

## **KEY OBJECTIVES FOR 2022/23 – Achieved or in progress:**

### **Kerry Toilets Renovation and Extension Project**

The main focus of the Council for the year 2022/23 has been the renovation of the Kerry Toilets and the Amenities Sub-Committee, together with the Building Contractor, has worked hard to deliver the project on time and budget.

Essentially, the project was split into two phases and building works for Phase 1 commenced in September 2022. Phase 1 was completed in December 2022 and Phase 2 commenced in January 23.

Additional information - the project was completed in April 23 and the toilets officially opened on 6<sup>th</sup> May – Coronation Day.

The Council has ensured that the much-needed facilities have been maintained in Kerry Village for the use of both local residents and tourists.

### **Commence Public engagement for the new playground – Dolforgan Park**

A public consultation commenced December 2022 to allow residents (including children aged 4-8 years) to express their views on the type of equipment they would like to have in their play area. Grant funding applications were submitted in year 22-23 in order to complete the project during the year 23-24. The Council were successful in their grant application to Garreglwyd Wind Farm Benefit Fund for £7,800.00 and were notified by the National Lottery, in April 23, that the Council has also been approved for grant funding of £40,000.00.

### **Training Plan**

Completed and published a training plan for councillors /clerk in November 2022 to meet Welsh Government requirements.

### **Biodiversity**

Biodiversity Officer – G Gough agreed to act as the Council's officer and completed the Environment (Wales) Act 2016, Part 1 Section 6 - Second Reporting Round (Dec 2022). Available on the Council's website.

The butterfly garden in the cemetery has been refreshed with new plants, including those particularly attractive to pollinators, expected to flower in June/July.

A selection of flowers, shrubs and saplings (some donated by village residents) are being nursed in pots whilst planting sites are located.

A resident has been contacted and offered to build bird & bat boxes for the community (although too late for the 2023 nesting season, the aim is to have a number of boxes built and placed ready for the 2024 nesting season).

### **Engagement with the Community and other organisations**

- Engagement was mainly via social media, including websites, face-book, notice boards and reports in the Kerry News
- KCC engaged with members of the community with a resident survey for the new playground scheduled for construction/installation 23/24
- KCC liaise regularly with a number of local and national organisations to ensure that the local residents receive a high level of service from the Community Council.

### **HIGH POINTS OF 2022/2023**

- Being successful in grant applications
- Renovation of the Kerry Public Toilets
- Completion of the new housing development and hopefully retaining young people in the area.
- Community Projects – S137 funding for community projects, including the Platinum Jubilee celebrations, and agreeing funding for the forthcoming Coronation
- Improving the Finance & Governance function by utilising a cloud-based accounting software designed for community/town councils and setting up a Finance & Governance Sub Committee.

### **REFLECTIONS ON WHAT WORKED WELL AND NOT SO WELL:**

#### **Positive Reflections**

- The Council are pleased with the outcome of the toilet renovation
- Following the re-election of Councillors and additional Co-options, all the councillors have been actively engaged in the community either directly or via sub-committees/ external organisation committees.

### **Negative Reflections**

- The Council's S137 disbursements, to local organisations in the villages of Kerry, Dolfor and Sarn, agreed in November 2022 are significantly lower than 2021, therefore the Council need to consider how they attract Grant Applications from local organisations.

### **FUTURE OBJECTIVES:**

- Dolfor Park Playground - The main objective for 2023/24 is the complete renovation of the Dolfor Park Playground.
- Kerry Cemetery - to extend the existing Kerry Cemetery and increase fees to ensure that, as a minimum, costs are covered.
- Website - to update Kerry Community Council website to comply with current standards i.e., accessibility.
- Biodiversity - The primary focus for the biodiversity officer on 2023/2024 is to better utilise the strip of land in the village centre, opposite the shop. Although host to many flowers during spring (most of which were planted by the local WI), the bank becomes very unkept in the summer months, being full of long grass and weeds (one particularly invasive weed has recently taken root). It is also noted that a few trees have been removed over recent years. The plan is to facilitate the application to PCC for KCC to be licenced to maintain the bank and other parcels of land in the area (some smaller patches of grass around the carpark and along the road). This will enable the planting of flowers, shrubs and one or two small fruit trees, whilst controlling invasive weeds. The aim is to not only increase diversity of flora but to also increase diversity of fauna by attracting pollinators and birds. The additional benefit will be the aesthetic improvement of the village centre. It is expected that the work will be undertaken by professional landscapers (at the time of writing, a quote is expected from a local landscaper, who will share the work with another local landscaper).
- To pursue with PCC Highways the matter of improving the grass verge on the A489 between the new housing estate and Gilfach Lane in order to make this a safer route for walkers, and for children.
- To address residents' concerns regarding speeding traffic in Kerry, Sarn and Dolfor by training Community Speed Watch volunteers to monitor the speed of passing vehicles using a hand-held speed detection device.

Signed: ...David Jones..... Chair (signed copy on file)  
31/05/2023

Statement of Accounts – signed – Ria Roberts Clerk/ RFO (signed copy on file)  
31/05/2023

**Kerry Community Council**  
**STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS (App A)**

	RECEIPTS	PAYMENTS
Balance at Bank	82,582.49	
Precept	32,257.68	
Grant Funding	7,800.00	
Bank Interest	82.56	
Donations & Sundry Income	10.00	
Clerk Wages		7,475.49
HMRC PAYE		476.68
PAVO Payroll Administration		130.00
Stationery		186.45
Website Costs		217.38
IT Services & Equipment		32.96
Audit Fees/ Accounting Software		1,195.00
Sundry Expenses		276.94
Kerry Grants S137		3,347.00
Dolfor Grants S137		3,500.00
Sarn Grants S137	250.00	1,000.00
Clerk Training		270.00
CIlr/ Council Officer Training		192.69
Rec/Play Areas Maintenance/		134.25
Project - Phase 1 Toilet Renovation		27,983.88
Project - Phase 2 Toilet Renovation		9,992.67
Project - Dolforgan Park		50.06
One Voice Wales Membership		373.00
ICO Data Protection		35.00
SLCC Membership		283.00
VMRC		250.00
HSBC Bank Charges Current Account		68.00
Cemetery Maintenance		3,681.51
Cemetery Contingencies		187.00
Annual Insurance PL/EL/ Assets		1,423.34
CIlr Expenses		58.85
Election Expenses PCC		1,034.65
Sundry Maintenance		19.96
Kerry Toilet Caretaker Contract	548.00	3,836.00
Kerry Toilet Electricity Charges		665.93
Kerry Toilet Water Charges		428.69
Kerry Toilet Janitorial Supplies		414.93
Kerry Toilet Maintenance/ Repairs		98.91
Grass Cutting D. Park/ Herbert Court		1,200.00
Cemetery Fees	3,300.00	
Donations		50.00
VAT	3,586.36	4,172.59

**Kerry Community Council  
STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS**

	RECEIPTS	PAYMENTS
	47,834.60	74,742.81
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<b>Closing Balances:</b>		
Balances in Bank Account		55,674.28
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>130,417.09</b>	<b>130,417.09</b>
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The above statement represents fairly the financial position of the council as at 31 Mar 2023

Signed

Responsible Financial Officer

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Date

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