

***Cyngor Cymuned CERI / KERRY Community Council***

Serving the Villages of Kerry, Sarn and Dolfor.

**Annual Report for Kerry Community Council 2021-2022**

**ORGANISATION:**

Kerry Community Council (KCC) encompasses the villages of Kerry, Sarn and Dolfor.

The three villages are represented by the following councillors:

**KERRY:** C Seal (Vice Chair), D Lush, V Wildish, N Hayward, L J Powell, P Jenkins,

 S Holloway, M S G Morgan

**SARN:** T D B Jones (Chair), M Roberts (Biodiversity Officer), B Pryce

**DOLFOR**: I J Jones, R Gardner

**CLERK** **/ PROPER OFFICER** – L Evans (07960 930247) clerk@kerrycommunitycouncil.gov.uk

Contact details for councillors can be found on the Kerry Community Council website or upon request from the clerk.

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:**

**Planning Sub-Committees:**

**Kerry** – Cllrs. M Morgan, L Powell, V Wildish

**Sarn** – Cllrs. D Jones, B Pryce, M Roberts

**Dolfor** - Cllrs. I Jones, R Gardner

**Kerry Eisteddfod Committee: Biodiversity Committee:**

**Kerry** - Cllr. M Morgan Cllr. M. Roberts (Sarn)

**Sarn**  -Cllr. D Jones

**Dolfor**  - Cllr. I Jones

**Amenities Committee:**

Cllr. N. Hayward - Chair (Kerry), Cllr. V Wildish – Clerk (Kerry), Cllr. S Seal (Kerry),

Cllr. S. Holloway (Kerry), Cllr. B Pryce (Sarn)

**COUNCIL REPRESENTATION ON OTHER ORGANISATIONS’ COMMITTEES:**

**One Voice Wales, Montgomeryshire Area Committee:**

Cllr. C Seal (Kerry), Cllr. V Wildish (Kerry)

**The Vale of Montgomery Rural Cluster:**

Cllr. C Seal (Kerry), Cllr. V Wildish (Kerry)

**Village Hall Committees: Black Hall Trust: School Governors:**

**Kerry** - Cllr. N Hayward Cllr. M. Morgan (Kerry) Cllr. D Lush (Kerry)

**Sarn**  - Cllr. M Roberts

**Dolfor** - Cllr. I Jones

**Garreg Llwyd Hill Wind Farm Committee:**

Cllr. D Jones (Sarn), Cllr. I Jones (Dolfor)

**Garn Fach Wind Farm Committee:**

Cllr. R Gardner (Dolfor)

**Powys County Council & Town and Community Council Meetings:**

Cllr. V Wildish

KCC’s long-standing clerk retired in December 2020 and after due process, a new clerk, Sarah, was appointed from January 2021. Unfortunately, Sarah resigned when she left the area in November. The vacancy was advertised, interviews took place and our current clerk, Louise, was appointed to the post. We are pleased to report that Louise is undergoing training to acquire the appropriate qualification for clerks.

In June 2021 councillors undertook a visual inspection of Kerry Village. This resulted in a number of actions including the removal of fallen trees from the River Miwl in Dolforgan Park.

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.

**MEMBERSHIPS:**

Powys Association of Voluntary Organisations (PAVO)

One Voice Wales (OVW)

**FINANCE:**

**INCOME:**

Precept 2021/2022 - £28,684

Section 106 (New housing estate) - £15,500

Burials - £4,220

Powys County Council Covid Toilets Recovery Fund - £1,886

**Total Income: £50,290**

Grants were received to the BMM account for the Toilet Extension and Refurbishment from The National Lottery - £20,000

**EXPENDITURE:**

Cemetery maintenance and grass cutting in Kerry - £4,080

Kerry Public Conveniences – caretaker, maintenance and running costs - £6510.95

Grants awarded to community groups - £1050

Clerk’s salary and administration costs - £6806.99

Membership fees, insurance and miscellaneous charges - £2522.32

PAYE - £821.34

**Total Expenditure: £21,791.60**

Balance as of 31/03/2022 – Community Current Account: £32,104.64

 Money Manager Account: £50,477.85

**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 2021/2022:**

***Kerry toilets renovation and extension project***

Drawings and costings were obtained from a local firm of Architects and planning consent granted by Powys County Council. Builders were invited to quote for the contract and KCC selected a preferred builder to do the work with a starting date in spring 2022. The Amenities Committee submitted applications to a large number of charitable organisations to fund this substantial investment and were successful in securing grants from the National Lottery Awards for All Scheme and the Garreg Llwyd Hill Wind Farm Benefit Fund.

***Biodiversity***

Cllr. M Roberts together with KCC’s grass cutting contractor, established a butterfly garden in an unused area of Kerry Cemetery.



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

Due to Covid restrictions during 2020/2021 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 and Kerry Football Club in identifying an area suitable for the planting of a community orchard on Dolforgan Park in Kerry.
* Councillors Lush and Holloway met with representatives from Brynllywarch Hall School, Kerry, to consider a joint venture to supply the village with planters made by the students. Council is currently liaising with Powys County Council regarding suitable roadside sites.
* Council contacted PCC Highways to request paving the overgrown grass verge beside the A489 from the new housing estate to Gilfach Lane. KCC considers this to be a road safety issue as it is the link to a number of popular local walks. This is ongoing.
* Cllr. Roberts liaised with PCC Planning Department regarding the new housing estate due to be built in Sarn. She expressed Councils’ concerns over the removal of the previously proposed Section 106 monies for education purposes and lack of consultation with KCC.
* Councillors had on-site visits with representatives from Powys County Council: –
1. Contracts Department to discuss safety concerns due to the reduction in cutting highways verges.
2. Countryside and Recreation Services to advise regarding the play area at Dolforgan Park.

**HIGH POINTS OF 2020/2021:**

* Being successful in grant applications
	+ Seeing a large number of houses being built on the new development and hopefully retaining young people in the area.
	+ Community Projects - Kerry Community Orchard, Kerry Cemetery Butterfly Garden, agreeing funding for community projects including the forthcoming Platinum Jubilee celebrations.

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

* The Kerry toilets project is a major undertaking for the Community Council. Phase 1 – the extension to accommodate a facility for the disabled and baby changing space was due to commence in March 2022. With Phase 2 – the refurbishment of the existing men’s and ladies’ units due to follow. Due to unforeseen circumstances, Phase 1 will now commence in September 2022, followed immediately by Phase 2. KCC is confident that the completed project will be appreciated by both residents and visitors to the village.
* The lack of progress regarding the proposed planters for Kerry is disappointing, as is the situation concerning the A489 overgrown verge to Gilfach Lane.

**FUTURE OBJECTIVES:**

* To extend the existing Kerry Cemetery.
* To replace the play equipment in Dolforgan Park.  Plans and quotations are currently being obtained for the project to support applications for funding.  A public consultation will be held during 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.
* To encourage local residents to take-up the Welsh Government’s offer of free trees and to expand KCC’s own biodiversity efforts.
* To draw-up and publish a training plan for councillors and the clerk by November 2022 to meet Welsh Government requirements.
* 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.

Signed: ………………………………. Chair