



LALESTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

“WORKING WITH THE COMMUNITY”

ANNUAL REPORT 2023 - 2024

[Laleston Community Council – Who are we?](#)

[How are we funded – and what for?](#)

[Our Aims and Objectives](#)





[A selection of our achievements during 2023-2024](#)

[How to contact us](#)

Laleston Community Council – Who are we?

Community Councils are the level of local government closest to the needs of local people. Laleston Community Council is dedicated to maintaining and improving the wellbeing of the community by providing a range of services and amenities that benefit the area. The Community Council comprises three electoral wards, Cefn Glas Ward 1, Cefn Glas Ward 2 and Laleston/Bryntirion Ward (incorporating Broadlands). There are currently 13 councillors representing the three ward areas.

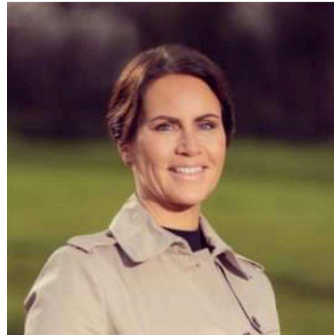
Cefn Glas Ward 1

			
Cllr Jon-Paul Blundell Labour Jonpaul4cefnglas@gmail.com	Cllr Joanne Cook Labour j0c00k@hotmail.co.uk	Cllr Clair Webster Independent clair-w@hotmail.co.uk	Cllr Steven Richmond Independent steve@steverichmond.co.uk

Cefn Glas Ward 2

			
Cllr Sarah Philpin Independent Sarah_philpin@hotmail.co.uk	Cllr David Harrison Independent Cllr.David.Harrison@bridgend.gov.uk	Cllr Zoe Blundell Labour zcmb@aol.com	Cllr Charles Smith Labour & Cooperative cllr.charlessmith@bridgend.gov.uk

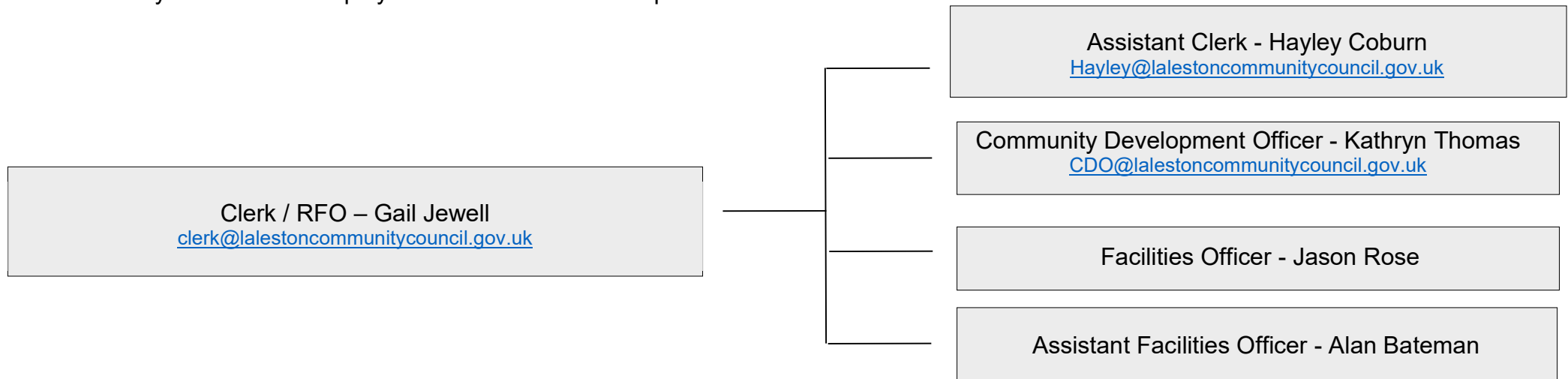
Laleston/Bryntirion Ward (incorporating Broadlands)



<p>Cllr Anthony Berrow Independent</p> <p>tony.berrow@btinternet.com</p>	<p>Cllr Colin Davies Labour</p> <p>colindavies62@icloud.com</p>	<p>Cllr Paula King Independent</p> <p>paulakinglcc@outlook.com</p>	<p>Cllr Vivienne James Independent</p> <p>vivienneannejames@hotmail.co.uk</p>	<p>Cllr Ian Spiller Independent</p> <p>Cllr.Ian.Spiller@bridgend.gov.uk</p>
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At the head of the Council is the Chair, who is elected annually from amongst its serving Councillors. The Chair for 2023-2024 was Councillor Ian Spiller and the vice chairman was Councillor Paula King.

The Community Council also employ 5 members of staff on a part-time basis.



How are we funded – and what for?

Laleston Community Council is funded by an annual precept, which is paid by Bridgend County Borough Council through the Council Tax. The funds are used to pay for administrative costs, support and development of assets, and environmental and community projects.

Currently our assets include:

Bryntirion & Laleston Community centre, Blandy Hall, Laleston Allotments, Broadlands Teenage Park, Wordsworth Teenage Park, Bryntirion Field Play Park and two multi use games areas sited in Llangewydd Junior School and Trelales Primary School.

In 2023-2024 the Community Council had an expenditure budget of £298,739.56 and the Council's precept was set at £262,000 with further money generated via income raised for the provision of a range of services including allotments, Bryntirion & Laleston Community Centre and Blandy Hall. The Council also hold money in ear marked reserves for special projects such as additions to play parks that Laleston Community Council maintain.

A summary of the main areas of income and expenditure for 2023-2024 are shown below:

Income

Administration	£6651.17
Biodiversity & Allotments	£618.50
Blandy Hall Rent	£72.50
Bryntirion Community Centre Rent	£23348.20
Community Pantry	£4969.85
Events refund	£4968.56
Parks/Play area	£5265.00
	£45893.78

Expenditure

Administration	£111,062.03
Benches and bins	£39,107.86
Biodiversity & Allotments	£7,312.18
Blandy Hall	£6,348.90
Broadlands Steps	£44.16
Bryntirion Community Centre	£29,004.73

Communication Budget	£2,025.30
Community Pantry	£5,147.13
Events	£38,680.20
Floral/Christmas Lighting	£12,475.40
Grants and Donations	£5,400.00
Laleston Website	£563.44
Laleston Well	£1,902.00
Members Expenses	£6,666.00
Parks/Play Areas and Outdoor Spaces	£30,592.30
Pound	£1,705.00
Warm hub	£702.83
	£298,739.56

Every Community Council in Wales is required to prepare year end accounts and have them audited by both an internal auditor and the Auditor General for Wales. Audit is important as it provides assurance on the effective management and safeguarding of public money. In 2023-2024 Laleston Community Council received an 'satisfactory' report from the internal auditor and are yet to receive a report from the external auditor.

Our aims and Objectives

Aims and objectives	Action	Completion date
<p>To improve communications within the whole community and encourage wellbeing, equality, diversity, and inclusion</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure all events are advertised as widely as possible • Encourage the public to attend council meetings • Review the council's Communication Strategy • Update LCC webpage and create pages and links to Bryntirion Community Centre, Blandy Hall and allotments • Continue to interact with public by means of social media, website and notice boards • Increase engagement with residents and service users so that our community feel included and able to participate. • Continue to provide services and advice with an open-door policy. • Seek to work with organisations involved locally in inclusion and equality of minority groups to eliminate all forms of discrimination and provide an understanding of diverse communities. • To use social prescribing and connect with local services. 	<p>Ongoing Ongoing 2024 2023</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p>
<p>To ensure value for money</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review insurance policies for both Laleston Community Council and Bryntirion Community Centre and renew accordingly. • Review utilities contracts for both Blandy Hall and Bryntirion Community Centre and renew accordingly. • Ensure all rules and procedures as outlined in the council's Financial Regulations are adhered to. 	<p>Ongoing - annually</p> <p>Ongoing – every 2 years</p> <p>Ongoing</p>
<p>To make the ward areas of Laleston Community Council greener</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement Laleston Community Council's Biodiversity Plan. • Obtain advice on ecological issues and biodiversity planning. • To form a Biodiversity & Allotment Committee with and set out its aims. • Source grants for biodiversity improvements and green projects. 	<p>Monitor annually and submit a plan every 3 years.</p>
<p>To make the ward areas of Laleston Community Council safer</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Liaise with local Police and Community Groups 	<p>Ongoing</p>

<p>To make the ward areas of Laleston Community Council attractive</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review current stock of Christmas lights and utilise budget for additional lights throughout the ward areas. • Review current stock of hanging baskets and utilise budget for additional hanging baskets throughout the ward areas. • Review street furniture and look to install benches, bins and planters. 	<p>Ongoing - annually</p> <p>Ongoing – annually</p> <p>Ongoing - annually</p>
<p>To support community life</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide grants and donations to local groups, organisations and charities. • Hold an annual firework display. • Support Broadlands Funday 	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing – annually</p> <p>Ongoing</p>
<p>To comply with health and safety legislation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review all relevant risk assessments i.e. legionella, fire, COVID-19 for both Blandy Hall and Bryntirion Community Centre. • Undertake maintenance checks of both Blandy Hall and Bryntirion Community Centre – PAT testing and fire equipment. 	<p>Ongoing – annually</p> <p>Ongoing - annually</p>
<p>To comply with local government legislation to ensure openness and transparency</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hold an annual meeting of council during May • Prepare monthly financial reports for council • Prepare quarterly budget reports for council • Compile and submit VAT claim to HMRC • Compile Members allowances and publish on website and submit to IRP for Wales • Complete Annual Governance Report for submission to external auditor • Agree a budget and submit precept demand to BCBC • Produce an Annual Report • Renew ICO Membership 	<p>Ongoing - annually</p> <p>Ongoing - annually</p> <p>Ongoing – quarterly</p> <p>Ongoing – quarterly</p> <p>Ongoing – annually</p> <p>Ongoing – annually</p> <p>Ongoing – annually</p> <p>Ongoing – annually</p> <p>Ongoing - annually</p>
<p>To promote and preserve local Heritage, Culture and Tourism</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To build on the Laleston Website. To increase and improve local access to comprehensive information about the local historical environment. • To identify potential historic buildings or places of interest that may need repair or improvement initiatives that promote site or inform of significance. • To organise local events to encourage interest in local area and inspire local people and groups to participate. • To encourage local business to become part of the promotion of the area. 	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p>
<p>To increase Sustainability</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council to ‘save energy’ by making council buildings as energy efficient as possible. 	<p>Ongoing</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To offset any carbon usage with tree planting that links in with biodiversity plan. • To work in conjunction with green transport initiatives and promote sustainable travel and 'shop local' enterprises and fair trade. • Promote re-use/ recycling with repair cafés or swapping schemes. 	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p>
<p>To identify and Improve Accessibility</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve council resources by making available accessible formats of communication council matters on request. • Identify mobility restrictions in area. • Create gold star awards for local services that are accessible and provide positive reviews. • Review statutory obligation and work with Disability Wales for advice and review of present status. • Sign up for Dementia Friendly Community status. 	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p>

A selection of our achievements during 2023-2024

During 2023-2024 LCC made a conscious effort to increase the visual impact within the community by installing:



A rainbow bench and picnic table were installed near Laleston Play Park

A Queens Platinum Jubilee seat placed at Wordsworth Avenue, Llangewydd Road and Gentle Way

A Kings' Coronation bench placed at Barnes Avenue, Gentle Way, Laleston and Shakespeare Avenue

A football bench placed in Bryntirion to recognise Pen-y-bont Football Club Europe entry



A silent soldier and a Lest we Forget commemorative bench installed in Laleston

Tiered planters placed at Gentle Way, Llangewydd Road and Near Laleston Church

Bins placed throughout the ward areas.

How to contact us

Laleston Community Council are always looking for ways to improve and welcome any comments and or suggestions from members of our community.

Our website: www.lalestoncommunitycouncil.gov.uk

Our email: clerk@lalestoncommunitycouncil.gov.uk

Facebook: [LalestonCC](#)