

ANNUAL REPORT

2021-2022

Councillors

Brynau, Fay, Gay, Mrs

Brynau, Norma, Graham, Mrs

Lansbury, VICE Barbara, Jones, Mrs

Lansbury, John, Leek, Mrs

Lansbury, Anne, Broughton- Pettit, Mrs

Lansbury, Pam, Nelder, Mrs

Porset, Sheila, Jones, Mrs

Porset, Sheila, Newbury, Mrs

Porset, CHAIR Tony, Graham, Mr

Porset, Rhys, Evans, Mr

INCOME

Precept £27,350. A slight increase in income, a little more than expected when the budget was agreed. The difference is a result of:

1. VAT was forecast at £400, the amount claimed £1052, much higher due to Xmas lights installed.

EXPENDITURE

Due to some Covid restrictions being lifted, many events and projects were able to proceed in 2021-2022. As a result, the final expenditure was a little more this year.

1. Staff costs. This was slightly lower due to the new clerk being employed at the entry level scale point
2. Stationery was substantially more due to the purchase of a photocopier/ink and paper
3. Postage was kept to a minimum, although this meant a slight increase in mileage costs
4. There was only one hall hire cost incurred, meetings were delivered remotely
5. Councillor Remuneration. One Councillor chose to opt out, one new councillor and one councillor who was not entitled last year, resulted in a slight increase.
6. Some planned projects and events were able to proceed, including the successful introduction of tennis lessons, the publication of an annual newsletter and the installation of Christmas lights on Lansbury stretch.
7. Many organisations did not seek grants to support their work, due to ongoing COVID concerns

SUMMARY

2021-22 Budget for expenditure was approx. £55k

The actual spend was approx. £30k

AUDIT 2021-2022

The accounts and annual return have been to the internal auditor, Mr M fisher April 2022

Once signed by the chair, the annual return can be submitted for audit by the Auditor General for Wales

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Council needs to consider using its restricted reserve £7096 CIL
2. Bank charges, 40pence per cheque and the little interest received, council to consider switching bank accounts to avoid any further charges in the future.
3. To consider using less paper/hardcopies on council agenda, papers to reduce cost and its environmental impact.

NEW DUTIES

Training Plan.

This is a new duty for councils under the 2021 Local Government and Democracy (Wales) Act. The first training plan must be ready and published by 5th November 2022, to include

1. Basic induction for councillors
2. The Code of Conduct for members of local authorities in Wales
3. Financial management and governance

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

1. The restrictive covenant on Lansbury Park Surgery. This is in the hands of a solicitor, at OVW. A consultation has begun with residents. The majority want a community hub to be used for well-being and a meeting place for information and leisure.
2. DEFIB on Lansbury Stretch. The location and provider are yet to be finalised, (free funding is now being offered by the Welsh Gov)
3. Land at the end of Van Terrace. The residents have been approached, in May 2021 and January 2022. The overall response was that most of the residents wanted wildflowers planted. OVW has been contacted for information, advice and if there is new funding available.
VanCC missed out on the Local Places for Nature application, due to a combination of CBCC and Van Community Centre obstacles. (This funding is now open for 2022)
4. A successful litter picking session with Keep Wales Tidy in May 2021
5. 22 children (including one wheelchair user) from St James Primary School, in partnership the Lawn Tennis Association had 6, 2hour tennis lessons over three weeks in August. It has been strongly suggested to go forward with this project again.
6. VanCC participated in a community event organised by Connect Life Church (Elim Church) and the Caerphilly Group of churches over the August Bank Holiday
7. Councillors participated in a walk-about with the Leader of CCBC, the Deputy Leader and Cabinet member for Waste Collection in Lansbury, speaking to residents concerning the fly-tipping and waste left in the neighbourhood.
8. In December funding was provided for a small gift for pupils from St James and St Helen's School.
9. Plans were made for revamping in the raised beds in the garden of the Van Community Centre, and volunteers have been sourced to care for this.
10. Six Christmas lamppost motifs were installed on Lansbury stretch

Michelle Moore

Clerk/RFO

19th April 2022