

Cyngor Tref Llanfair Caereinion
Llanfair Caereinion Town Council

ANNUAL REPORT

Year ending 31st March 2026



Robert A Robinson MBE FRICS FSLCC
Town Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer
18th May 2026

Cyngor Tref Llanfair Caereinion

Llanfair Caereinion Town Council

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Cyngor Tref Llanfair Caereinion

Llanfair Caereinion Town Council

1. Llanfair Caereinion Town Council - Overview

Llanfair Caereinion Town Council was established in 1974 under the Local Government Act 1972. It serves the town and surrounding areas, including Heniarth, parts of Cyfronydd and Llanerfyl, Rhiwhiriaeth, and Melin Y Ddol.

Role & Structure

- It is a medium-sized community (town) council providing local, grassroots services.
- Elected councillors set the strategic direction.
- A Town Clerk manages day-to-day operations.
- The council represents the community and acts as a statutory consultee on planning matters.

Meetings & Transparency

- Full council meetings are held monthly (except August).
- Agendas, minutes, and governance documents are publicly available online.
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Finances

- Main income comes from a precept of £53,900.
- Additional funding is occasionally secured through grants.

Services & Responsibilities

The council manages a range of local facilities and services, including:

- Parks and green spaces (e.g., Mount Field, Deri Woods, Goat Field)
- Public toilets
- Playground, tennis court, and bowling green
- Youth club services
- Chapel of rest, Erw Ddwr cemetery and St Mary's churchyard
- Council office, signage, and street furniture
- Plans to take a more active role in street cleaning.
- Website, facebook page and newsletter.

Development & Governance

- Working towards becoming a "competent council" (requires elected councillors, clean accounts, and a qualified clerk).
- Has key planning documents such as a Place Making Plan and updated policies for youth, tourism and planning.
- Maintains both a compliant council website and a tourism website.

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The websites addresses are:

Llanfair Caereinion Town Council
www.llanfairtowncouncil.gov.uk

Llanfair Caereinion Tourism
www.llanfaircaereinion.org.uk

2. Information about Llanfair Caereinion

Location & Character

- Located in Montgomeryshire.
- A predominantly rural area with a small central town situated on the River Banwy.

Town Features

- Central large church with churchyard, plus two chapels.
- Well-served with everyday amenities despite its rural setting.

Local Shops & Services

The town offers a variety of essential businesses and services, including:

- Convenience stores (Londis, Spar)
- Post office
- Local butcher
- Veterinary practice
- Agricultural supplier (Wynnstay)
- Newsagent and general store
- Fish & chip shop, Chinese take-away and a café (at the railway station)
- Barber and hairdressers including Nail Connections
- Three public houses serving food daily
- Petrol station with garage repair facilities

Community Facilities

- NHS dentist
- Medical centre
- Fire station

Tourism & Local Economy

- The main attraction is the Welshpool and Llanfair Light Railway
 - Supported by 280+ volunteers
 - Attracts over 25,000 visitors annually
- A number of visitors explore the town centre and nearby Deri Woods

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Outdoor & Recreational Opportunities

- Town trail and extensive network of public footpaths
- Deri Woods riverside walk
- New playground
- Recreation ground
- Leisure Centre

Accommodation & Businesses

- Several caravan parks and bed & breakfast establishments, supporting tourism.

3. Councillors and Town Clerk

Council Composition

- The council has one ward represented by 12 councillors.
- At the end of the financial year (31 March 2026), there was one vacancy.
- All but one councillor are elected, indicating strong democratic representation.
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Councillor Information

- Contact details and further information about councillors are available on the council's official website.
- **No allowances** were paid to councillors during the year ending 31 March 2026.
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Town Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer

- The Town Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer for the year was:
Robert A Robinson MBE FRICS FSLCC

4. Trusts

The council acts as a **corporate trustee** for two local charities and manages their activities:

- **Recreation and Playing Field Charity (No. 525514 – Mount Field)**
 - Managed and funded by the council during the financial year ending 31 March 2025.
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- **Deri Woods Recreation Ground Charity (No. 524413)**
 - Also managed and funded by the council in the same period.

These trusts relate to important community green spaces and recreational facilities.

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5. External Membership

The council maintains active involvement in a range of local and regional organisations:

- Llanfair Caereinion Partnership – Town Clerk & councillors
- Llanfair Caereinion Library – Cllr Stephen Purser
- Powys County Council Community Council Forum – Town Clerk
- Llanfair Caereinion Youth Council – Cllr Melvin Jones
- Friends of Deri Woods (Montgomeryshire Wildlife Trust) – Cllr Rob Astley, Cllr Melvin Jones and Cllr Sam Webster
- The Institute Committee – Cllr Hazel Davies & Cllr Melvin Jones
- North & Mid Wales Association of Local Councils – Town Clerk
- Cambrian Railway Liaison Committee – Town Clerk
- One Voice Wales – Cllr Paul Wixey and the Town Clerk.

6. Power of Well-being

- The council has approved and published a Well-being Statement and Assessment during the 2025–2026 financial year.
- This document is kept up to date and regularly monitored, ensuring the council supports the overall well-being of the community.

7. Climate Change Plan

- A Climate Change Plan was adopted in February 2022.
- An associated action plan is actively being implemented.
- This work is ongoing and linked with the council's environmental responsibilities.

8. Bio-diversity Plan

- The council has adopted a Bio-diversity Plan and Assessment during 2025–2026.
- Progress is being made year by year, showing a long-term environmental commitment.
- A Section 6 report has been completed and published on the council website.
- The plan has been reviewed, with an updated version expected to be adopted early in the next financial year.

9. Training Plan

- A Training Plan has been adopted and published.
- This ensures councillors and staff maintain the skills and knowledge needed to carry out their roles effectively.

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10. Achievements

A number of specific achievements were delivered during the year ending 31 March 2026. These include:

- Adoption of the Place Making Plan.
- The return of the cross to the Lychgate.
- New sign to St Mary's Well.
- Improvements to the CCTV system.
- Adoption of new bylaws.
- Installation of new signage at Mount Field and Deri Woods.
- Establishment of a Media Centre at the Institute.
- Securing grant funding to support major works planned for 2026–2027.
- New refuse collection bin at Erw Ddwr cemetery.
- New sign at Erw Ddwr cemetery.

11. Other Events Happening Around the Town

Several notable community and infrastructure activities took place during the year:

1. **Carnival**
The Llanfair Carnival was held in June on Mount Field with financial support from the Town Council.
2. **Remembrance Event**
The annual remembrance service was held in November in partnership with the Royal British Legion.
3. **Road Improvements**
Key roads through the town were resurfaced by Powys County Council.
4. **Youth Football Festival**
A youth football festival was organised by Llanfair United Football Club, supporting local sport and youth engagement.
5. **Railway Events Expansion**
The Welshpool and Llanfair Light Railway expanded its programme of events, boosting tourism and community activity.
6. **Churchyard Footpath Upgrade**
The footpath through St Mary's Churchyard was resurfaced, improving accessibility.
7. **Council Health Check Completed**
The council completed a health check, likely assessing governance, performance, and compliance.

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12. Reserves

At the end of the financial year, the council held total reserves of £99,750, allocated as follows:

- **General Reserves: £50,000**
 - Used for day-to-day financial stability and unexpected costs
- **Place Making Plan: £20,000**
 - Set aside to support future town development and planning initiatives
- **Town Guide: £1,250**
 - Allocated for producing or updating local information materials
- **Media Centre: £800**
 - Likely for communications or digital/community media resources
- **Available for Projects: £28,200**
 - Flexible funding for new or upcoming council projects
 -

Total Funds: £99,750

13. Annual Return and Financial Statement

- The council's Annual Return and Financial Statement are publicly available on its website.
- A copy is also included as Appendix A in the report.
- This supports financial transparency and accountability.

14. Annual Monitoring Review

- The council produces a monitoring report each year, reviewing progress against its plans.
- This report is presented at the Annual Meeting.
- It is also published online for public access.

15. Chronicle (Newsletter)

- The council produces a newsletter (chronicle) in both:
 - Online format
 - Printed (hard copy) available in shops and outlets in the town.
- This helps keep residents informed about **local developments, events, and council activities**.

16. Independent Review Panel for Wales

- The council has adopted policies in line with the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales.
- A **schedule of councillor expenses** is available on the council website, ensuring transparency.

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17. Plans for 2026-2027

During the next financial year, the following projects and maintenance are planned to be completed:

- i) Completion of the memorial garden in St Mary's Churchyard.
- ii) Restoration of the riverside path in Deri Woods.
- iii) Installation of a new drainage scheme in Deri Woods.
- iv) Restoration of the washed-out path in Deri Woods.
- v) Improvement to the entrance to Goat Field.
- vi) Installation of a MUGA facility at Mount Field.
- vii) Reprint of the Town Guide.
- viii) Progress projects in the Place Making Plan.
- ix) Take over street scene services from PCC.
- x) Provide a bike track.

Robert Robinson
MBE FRICS FSLCC
Town Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer

Approved 18th May 2026

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Llanfair Caereinion Town Council

Annual Return for the Year Ended 31 March 2026

Accounting statement 2025-26 for:

Name of body:

LLANFAIR CAEREINION TOWN COUNCIL

	Year ending		Notes and guidance
	31 March 2025 (£)	31 March 2026 (£)	Please round all figures to nearest £. Do not leave any boxes blank and report £0 or nil balances. All figures must agree to the underlying financial records for the relevant year.
Statement of income and expenditure/receipts and payments			
1. Balances brought forward	93058	95430	Total balances and reserves at the beginning of the year as recorded in the financial records. Must agree to line 7 of the previous year.
2. (+) Income from local taxation/levy	48825	53900	Total amount of income received/receivable in the year from local taxation (precept) or levy/contribution from principal bodies.
3. (+) Total other receipts	14048	18,078	Total income or receipts recorded in the cashbook minus amounts included in line 2. Includes support, discretionary and revenue grants.
4. (-) Staff costs	11802	15,380	Total expenditure or payments made to and on behalf of all employees. Include salaries and wages, taxable allowances, PAYE and NI (employees and employers), pension contributions and termination costs. Exclude reimbursement of out-of-pocket expenses.
5. (-) Loan interest/capital repayments	0	0	Total expenditure or payments of capital and interest made during the year on external borrowing (if any).
6. (-) Total other payments	48699	52,278	Total expenditure or payments as recorded in the cashbook minus staff costs (line 4) and loan interest/capital repayments (line 5).
7. (=) Balances carried forward	95430	99,750	Total balances and reserves at the end of the year. Must equal (1+2+3) – (4+5+6).
Statement of balances0			
8. (+) Debtors	5900	1062	Income and expenditure accounts only: Enter the value of debts owed to the body at the year-end.
9. (+) Total cash and investments	89530	98688	All accounts: The sum of all current and deposit bank accounts, cash holdings and investments held at 31 March. This must agree with the reconciled cashbook balance as per the bank reconciliation.
10. (-) Creditors	0	0	Income and expenditure accounts only: Enter the value of monies owed by the body (except borrowing) at the year-end.
11. (=) Balances carried forward	95430	99750	Total balances should equal line 7 above: Enter the total of (8+9-10).
12. Total fixed assets and long-term assets	212000	227000	The asset and investment register value of all fixed assets and any other long-term assets held as at 31 March.
13. Total borrowing	0	0	The outstanding capital balance as at 31 March of all loans from third parties (including PWLB).