



# COITY HIGHER COMMUNITY COUNCIL

## SUMMER NEWSLETTER 2019

## CHAIR'S WELCOME

Dear Residents of Litchard, Pendre and Coity, it's a pleasure to introduce our summer newsletter which outlines the hard work and successes the Community Council has achieved over the last 6 months.

Since we last wrote to you the council has been recognised with two awards within the Welsh Town and Community Council sector.

But it's not about receiving awards, my fellow councillors, our staff and I are committed to providing the best service possible for Coity, Litchard and Pendre while keeping our council tax precept affordable.

So far in 2019 we have been successful in attracting £30,000 in match funding that will allow us to refurbish two play areas in Pendre and Coity and a staggering £218,000 from Welsh Government for the Safer Routes to School project.

In addition to this, we will shortly be transferring the Great Western Avenue play area into our control and have expressed formal interest in transferring the entire playing field along with all play areas in Pendre, Coity and Litchard to enable us to preserve these essential assets for the benefit of the community.

We will be funding the summer holiday activities in Parc Derwen again this year and although it seems a long way off, have agreed to improve the Christmas lighting in Litchard and Pendre.

At the same time we have continued to provide all our existing services such as footpath maintenance, allotments and floral displays.

We are doing more than ever before and at the same time Pendre, Litchard and Coity have the joint lowest council tax in the Bridgend County Borough (BCBC).

I hope you enjoy this newsletter and find it informative. Coity Higher Community Council is here to serve you, if you have and queries, suggestions or ideas of how we can do that better please get in touch.

**Councillor Martin Williams (Chair)**

## FUNDING SUCCESS

The Community Council has been successful in attracting significant funding to improve essential assets within our community.



Following a survey of all play areas within the Coity Higher community it was established that the facilities at Great Western Avenue and Coity had deteriorated and needed to be replaced.

We successfully applied to Bridgend County Borough Council's Community Fund for match funding to enable the parks to be completely renewed. In March we were informed that BCBC would contribute £30,000 towards completing £60,000 worth of play area refurbishment projects.

In addition to this the Community Council has been working closely with BCBC since 2016 to develop a Community Access Plan focussed on targeted highway and footpath improvements to encourage people to make

more journeys on foot or by bicycle. We have recently been informed that as a direct result of this a funding application to the Welsh Government has successfully attracted £218,000 for community access projects in Coity Higher.

To put this success into context our annual budget is approximately £100,000, yet this year alone we have attracted an additional £248,000 to deliver key projects within your community.

## AWARDS SUCCESS

Coity Higher Community Council were represented at the One Voice Wales Innovative Practice Conference in



March. The conference is an opportunity to network with other Town and Community Councils in Wales to share best practice and gain new ideas.

The conference also included the Annual Innovative Practice Awards and we are delighted to announce that the council was recognised in two categories. The Community Council's Community Access Plan was Commended in the "Community Engagement" category and Highly Commended in the "Caerwyn Roberts - Local Council Service" category.

The Community Council is working hard to deliver better services through innovation for Coity Higher. There's a long way to go, but it's great to be recognised against national competition for the achievement we have made to date.

## IMPROVING HEALTH AND WELLBEING



### ACTIVE FOR LIFE SUMMER SCHEME

We're pleased to let you know that for the second year we've been able to fund the Active For Life summer scheme. This scheme is being held in Coety Primary School again this year from 29 July to 23 August from 10.00am to 2.00pm each day and is open to children aged 8 to 12 from Litchard, Pendre and Coity. We are looking into moving the scheme using alternate wards from next year to make the scheme more accessible to the children of all 3 wards.

For further information on the full scheme visit  
[www.bridgend.gov.uk/schoolsout](http://www.bridgend.gov.uk/schoolsout)

### PLAY AREA REFURBISHMENTS

Following the success of our refurbished play area at Heol y Groes in Litchard, we have just signed a 35 year lease to asset transfer the Great Western Avenue play area at Pendre Fields and have carried out a full refurbishment.



The new equipment, which has been well received, includes an accessible roundabout and swing.

We are also delighted to announce that plans are underway for the refurbishment of the Coity Castle play area. This will also include specially designed accessible equipment to make the park inclusive to all. We are hoping to take over control of the park from BCBC, along with all other play areas in the wards as the council feels we are better placed to carry out the maintenance and upkeep of these areas.



### SUPPORTING ORGANISATIONS AND CHARITIES



In the last financial year we've supported many groups and organisations, providing financial support for a range of events and activities totalling almost £2,000.

These include donations to Litchard Primary School, Wildmill Table Tennis Club, Choirs in the Castle, Jam in the Castle as well as donations to Bridgend Carers,

Bridgend Samaritans, Marie Curie, Children's Air Ambulance and many more.

### CAE'R EGLWYS – CENTENARY FIELD

Since putting the playing field at Coity into the Centenary Fields in Trust to protect it as a green site, it is good to see that the field has been used quite a lot in the last few months for various events.



Forces Fitness held a military challenge event in May and used Centenary Trust items donated by the Community Council such as t-shirts, medals etc. on the day. A fitting tribute as the field was put into trust to commemorate the centenary of WW1. In return we received a donation of £200 from the event to be put back into the community.



If you'd like a copy of this newsletter in a different format, please get in touch with the Clerk



## IMPROVING COMMUNITY ACCESS

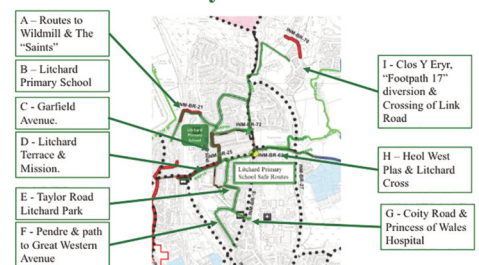
### SAFER ROUTES TO SCHOOLS

In our Autumn Newsletter we mentioned that we had worked in partnership with BCBC to identify two strategic pedestrian routes through the 3 wards which link residents with facilities such as schools, hospitals, shops and community centres.

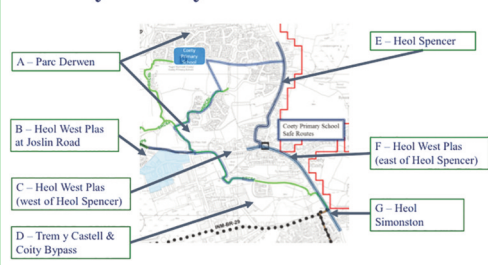
These routes were incorporated into a bid and submitted to the Welsh Government for funding through their Active Travel Scheme and we unsuccessful but put onto a reserve list to be resubmitted this year.

The bid was resubmitted in January 2019 with a greater focus on Safe Routes to Schools and the pictures below show our vision as submitted to BCBC. These routes will ensure safe access to school for children from both primary schools from most areas within our wards.

#### Litchard Primary School Routes Detail



#### Coity Primary School Routes Detail



### Schedule of Interventions

Route	Location	Intervention	Number	Comments
Coity Primary	Heol Simonston	Uncontrolled crossing point	1	
Coity Primary	Heol Simonston	Pavement	1	60m
Coity Primary	Heol Simonston	Speed actuated signs	2	
Coity Primary	Heol West Plas (west of Heol Spencer)	Speed actuated signs	2	
Coity Primary	Heol West Plas (west of Heol Spencer)	Chicane Crossing point	2	
Coity Primary	Heol West Plas (east of Heol Spencer)	Chicane Crossing point	2	
Coity Primary	Heol West Plas/Heol Spencer Junction	Uncontrolled crossing point	1	
Coity Primary	Heol Spencer	Uncontrolled crossing point	2	
Coity Primary	Heol Spencer	Pavement	1	950m
Coity Primary	Heol Spencer	Chicane Crossing point	2	
Coity Primary	Heol Spencer	Speed actuated signs	2	
Coity Primary	Heol West Plas - Joslin Road	Pedestrian Refuge	1	
Litchard Primary	Litchard Terrace	Pavement widening	1	440m
Litchard Primary	O/S Litchard School	Uncontrolled crossing point	1	
Litchard Primary	Path and railway footbridge	Enhanced lighting	1	Lighting design TBC
Litchard Primary	Path and railway footbridge	Anti slip surfacing to footbridge	1	
Litchard Primary	Garfield Avenue & unnamed road	Uncontrolled crossing point	2	
Litchard Primary	Litchard Terrace junction with unnamed road	Uncontrolled crossing point	1	
Litchard Primary	O/S Litchard Mission	Pavement remedials	1	Remedials to pavement in vicinity of large tree
Litchard Primary	Taylor Road junction with Litchard Park	Uncontrolled crossing point	1	
Litchard Primary	Pendre Junction with Litchard Park	Uncontrolled crossing point	4	
Litchard Primary	Path linking Pendre to Great Western Avenue	Enhanced lighting	1	Lighting design TBC
Litchard Primary	Path linking Pendre to Great Western Avenue	Resurface path	1	60m
Litchard Primary	Clos Y Eryr	New footpath	1	200m
Litchard Primary	Link Road A4061	Controlled crossing point	1	
Litchard Primary	Heol Y Groes	Uncontrolled crossing point	1	
Litchard Primary	Bryn Lidiard/Penylan junction	Uncontrolled crossing point	1	
Litchard Primary	Heol West Plas - Litchard Cross	Extension of footpath through field	1	80m
Litchard Primary	Heol West Plas - Litchard Cross	Controlled crossing points on each arm of junction	4	

We've recently received the great news that BCBC were successful in obtaining £218k towards this scheme and we're now working with them to prioritise the works.

Above is the Schedule of Interventions we submitted with our bid.

### NEW MAINTENANCE SCHEDULE FOR PUBLIC FOOTPATHS

The Coity Higher Community Council wards have a large network of footpaths, many of which are very rural and we rely on the public to report the footpaths that need maintenance to us, so if you know of a footpath that needs attention, please let our Clerk know.

Some of our routes however are popular urbanised pedestrian routes which are used daily and so to ensure that these are kept accessible and any steps and pathways are safe for our residents to use, we've put in place a regular maintenance schedule for some of the paths in the 3 wards.



COITY HIGHER COMMUNITY COUNCIL

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## IMPROVING OUR ENVIRONMENT

### COMMUNITY AWARD WINNERS

This year the winner of the award, which is presented each year for outstanding contribution to the community, was Mr Bill Daniel who set up Pride in Coity a group which, amongst other things, has spent hours clearing up rubbish.



For the first time this year we also set up a junior (under 18) award. The winner was Megan Casson who was nominated in recognition of her fund raising work within the community.



### SCHOOL COMMUNITY AWARD

Each year, at the end of the summer term, the Community Council provides both Litchard and Coety Primary Schools with a trophy plus £50 worth of vouchers each. The trophy and prize is then awarded to recognise the contribution made by a child or group of children to the community. The 2019 winners were Anwen Thompson for Litchard Primary School and Megan Casson for Coety Primary School. Congratulations and well done to both!

### CHRISTMAS LIGHTING

Once again we will be arranging for Christmas lighting displays along the main thoroughfares in Coity, Litchard and Pendre wards. Each year we add new motifs. This year Litchard and possibly Joslin Terrace in Pendre will benefit from vibrant new Christmas lights for our community to enjoy during the festive season.

### NEW BENCHES

We have installed new benches in The Dell and in Great Western Avenue so residents can take a rest when walking their dogs, maybe just to sit a while or relax and chat with friends.



### NEW BINS

Responding to requests from residents we have installed yet more waste bins, this time we've put one in Litchard Field and there will be new ones in the two refurbished play areas. We hope this will help with our aim to keep our community clean.

### DOG WASTE

Following on from the success of the doggie bag dispenser and bin we installed in Litchard Field, we are now delighted to announce 2 new dispensers in Great Western Avenue playing fields and in Coity opposite the play area.



### FLOWER DISPLAYS

Coity Higher Community Council residents can currently enjoy the lovely flower displays and hanging baskets we have placed around the Litchard, Coity and Pendre wards. In addition to this annual summer display, we have an ongoing programme of spring daffodil and have provided poppy seeds to our primary schools so that the children can carry out some poppy planting.



### MAINTENANCE

To help keep our community a pleasant place to live we undertake small maintenance projects such as additional weed spraying and clearing on our spine roads and on parcels of land such as on Litchard Hill and next to the lights in Coity.

### WEBSITE

...and finally, if you have enjoyed reading this newsletter and are interested in knowing more about what we do for your community then visit our new improved mobile compatible website [coityhighercommunitycouncil.co.uk](http://coityhighercommunitycouncil.co.uk)

### YOUR COMMUNITY COUNCILLORS

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