



Item 22

Council - 11 September 2025

Budget Monitoring 2025-2026

1. Introduction

- 1.1 In accordance with the Local Government Finance Act 1992, the Community Council must agree a budget and set the precept for the following financial year. The Community Council must agree both at its meeting scheduled for January.
- 1.2 In preparation of that process, it is good governance to ensure regular Budget Monitoring. A Draft Budget will also be considered in November / December.

2. Bank Balance

- 2.1 As of 31 August, the Council holds the following Bank balances:

Account	Balance 31 Aug 2024	Balance 31 Aug 2025
Current Account	£2,084.64	£11,802.21
Reserve Account	£39,183.47	£24,578.04
Total	£41,268.11	£36,380.25

3. Budget Monitoring

- 3.1 **Appendix 22A** provides the Financial Budget Comparison (At 31 August 2025).

4. Reserves

- 4.1 The Governance & Accountability for Local Councils in Wales - A Practitioners Guide states:

- "i) Local Councils hold reserves and balances for a variety of reasons. These include financing unforeseen expenditure and 'saving' for future projects. These reserves are represented by the closing figure for the balances of the council after all of its transactions have been accounted for and is shown in Cell 7 in the accounting statements.*
- ii) Local Councils have no statutory powers to hold revenue reserves other than for reasonable working capital needs or for specifically earmarked purposes. Councils should therefore maintain records of its general and earmarked reserves.*
- iii) Earmarked reserves may be established to hold funds for specified purposes. Councils should maintain separate records of each earmarked reserve. Examples of such reserves include:*

- *Funds set aside to fund specific future projects;*
 - *Monies drawn down from loans that has yet to be spent on the related project; and*
 - *Capital receipts.*
- iv) *Where funds are held for non-specified purposes, councils should maintain separate records of each reserve to demonstrate where the money comes from and how it has been applied.”*
- 4.2 The Community Council has actively worked to reduce its reserves and ensure that the monies are being used to improve the wellbeing of the Community.
- 4.3 The reserves of the Community Council remain high; however, the Council has published its ambitious Council Action Plan 2025-2026. The Action Plan sets out its targets. Two of those targets include placing Pea Lighting on 2x Cherry Trees on the Village Green and placing a Permanent Remembrance Memorial on the Village Green. These will significantly reduce the Councils reserves.
- 4.4 The Council Action Plan 2025-2026 may be viewed at <https://www.llangyfelachcommunitycouncil.org.uk/wp/wp-content/uploads/2025/08/Amended-Council-Action-Plan-2025-2026-Council-10.04.2025.pdf>
- 5. Recommendation(s).** It is recommended that:
- 5.1 The Bank Balances as of 31 August 2025 be noted.
- 5.2 The Financial Budget Comparison 2025-2026 be noted.

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Clerk to Llangyfelach Community Council