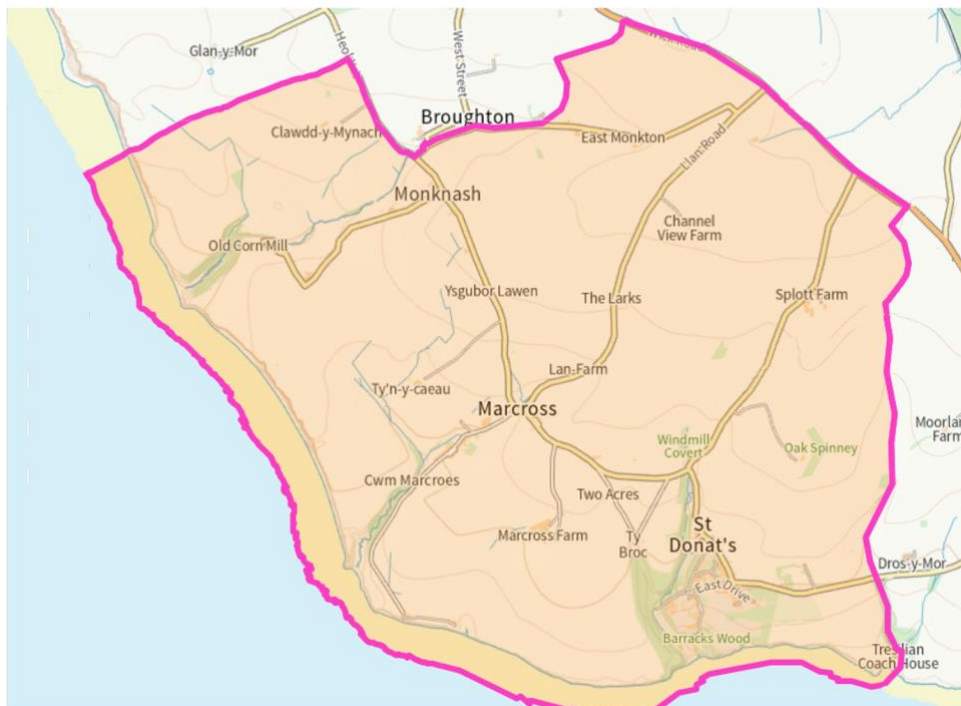




ANNUAL REPORT 2021-2022.

St Donats Community Council serves the three villages of St Donats, Marcross and Monkash in the rural Vale of Glamorgan. Some history of the villages with other Council information can be found on the Community Council's website at: www.stdonats.cymru

St Donats Community Council Area



Town and Community Councils Elections are held every five years with the next Election taking place on Thursday 5th May 2022.

The Community Council meets once a month, usually on the first Wednesday, at Atlantic College, with the kind permission of the Principal of the College.

The Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 requires that Community Councils must make and publish arrangements for its meetings to ensure that their meetings can take place in a manner which enables people who are not in the same place to meet. Under the arrangements, councils need to take reasonable steps to allow meetings to be held from multiple locations. If the arrangements are revised or replaced the new arrangements must also be published. The minimum requirement is that members are able to hear and be heard by others. Examples of this could include:

- All participants are in the same physical location;
- All participants are in the same physical location except one individual who joins from another location e.g. by video or telephone conference;

- Roughly equal number of councils are present in a physical space and joining through remote means;
- Wholly through remote means where no physical arrangements have been made.

Whilst physical meetings in the same location are allowable under the 2021 Act, councils must note that the 2021 Act requires that participants (i.e. council members, members of the public and press) are able to join meetings remotely – even if physical meetings are the preferred mode. Access to join a meeting remotely can be arranged through contacting the Clerk who can provide the information required.

There are eight Councillors with four representing St Donats Ward, three representing Marcross Ward and one representing Monknash Ward.

The administration of the Community Council is carried out by the Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer, the only paid officer of the Council.

The Annual Meeting of the Community Council is held in May when the Chairperson and Vice Chairperson are nominated. For 2021/2022 the Chairperson was Councillor Gareth Halliwell and the Vice Person was Councillor Mary Jeffreys.

The current Clerk, Jackie Griffin, was appointed in May 2021.

Councillor Byron Cole was co-opted to the St Donats Ward in June 2021.

Members	Community Council Ward
Cllr Claire Barwell	St Donats
Cllr Byron Cole	St Donats
Cllr Guy Davis	Marcross
Cllr Tony Evans	Marcross
Cllr Gareth Halliwell	Marcross
Cllr Mary Jeffreys	Monknash
Cllr Tom Partridge	St Donats
Cllr Jayne Thomas	St Donats

The Members of the Community Council are summoned to attend meetings via the agenda which is issued by the Clerk at least three clear days before the day of the meeting. The agenda can be viewed on the Council's notice boards and the Council's website.

Members' Register of Attendance at Meetings of the Community Council.

Members	Apr '21	May '21	June '21	July '21	Sep '21	Oct '21	Nov '21	Dec '21	Jan '22	Feb '22	Mar '22
Cllr C Barwell	√	√	√	√	√	X	√	X	√	√	X
Cllr B Cole	N/A	N/A	N/A	X	√	√	X	√	√	√	√
Cllr G Davis	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
Cllr T Evans	√	√	√	X	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
Cllr G Halliwell	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
Cllr M Jeffreys	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	X	√	√	√
Cllr T Partridge	X	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
Cllr J Thomas	√	√	√	√	√	X	√	√	X	√	√

√ Present:

X Not present:

N/A Not on the Council at that time.

Attendees at Council Meetings.

- A Representative of South Wales Police attends most meetings and gives an update on incidents of crime in the area since the previous meeting. This can be a very useful source of information which can be shared with residents to raise awareness of possible concerns and warnings of current crime being carried out in the local area.
- A Vale of Glamorgan Councillor attends most meetings of the Community Council to advise on the work relating to the Vale of Glamorgan Council. This can be very helpful to the Community Council as a way of sharing information relating to Vale matters. The Community Council Members are extremely grateful to Councillor Mrs Sally Hanks who has attended the Community Council's meetings for many years and been a 'good friend' to the Council.

Council Representatives.

Representatives of the Community Council sit on a number of 'outside bodies'.

- Councillor Gareth Halliwell is the Council's Representative at meetings of the Local Committee of One Voice Wales.
- Councillor Mary Jeffreys represents the Council at Community Liaison Meetings hosted by the Vale of Glamorgan Council.
- Councillor Tony Evans is the representative at meetings of the Local Footpaths Committee.
- Councillor Jayne Thomas is the representative at meetings of Friends of the Glamorgan Heritage Coast.
- Councillor Tom Partridge has recently been appointed the Minor Authority Representative (MAR) Governor for Wick and Marcross Church in Wales Primary School.

United World College Atlantic, St Donats.

UWC Atlantic continues to play a part in the life of St Donats Community Council.

In the wake of Covid-19, the College has been able to support the Community Council again in a meeting space and is presently planning to host a joint Jubilee Celebration in June 2022 between the College, Community Council and the National Coastwatch Institution (based at the College).

Councillors and Community Members have played a key part in helping the students in understanding how local life can be impacted by student life. This has included talks, 'meet and greets' and the plan to relaunch informal social events between local residents and the students and community at the College.

Councillor Partridge, who is also a staff member at UWC Atlantic, is able to keep the Community Council updated in real time of any pressing issues that can impact the community as well as inform them of how the college can support the local residents as well. This has included events such as litter picks, services and through the external events hosted by the college including open days, outdoor cinema and kids camps

Councillor Training.

Section 67 of the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 requires Town and Community Councils to make and publish a plan detailing their training provision for its members and staff. The first training plan must be ready and published by 5th November 2022, six months after the duty comes into force. The Council has started to make 'in-roads' into training requirements and the courses undertaken by Councillors during the past twelve months are:

Councillor	Course Attended
Councillor Byron Cole	Code of Conduct – 24.8.21
Councillor Gareth Halliwell	Local Government Finance -20.10.21
Councillor Gareth Halliwell	Chairing Skills – 26.10.21

Council Business 2021/2022.

- The Community Council was most concerned at the condition of ‘Splott Road’. A meeting was arranged with a number of Officers of the Vale of Glamorgan Council. The Officers agreed to carry out some remedial work to the road and the Community Council will monitor the road condition, ongoing.
- St Donats noticeboard became dislodged off the wall in January and was ‘beyond repair’. A replacement has now been purchased and will be fixed in its new position by the bus stop in the village very soon.
- A resident of St Donats reported the sad state of a bench on Dimlands Road between St Donats and Llantwit Major. The matter was reported to the Vale of Glamorgan Council and the Council has refurbished the bench and generally tidied up the area. The Community Council is very grateful to the Vale of Glamorgan Council for the improvement to the site.

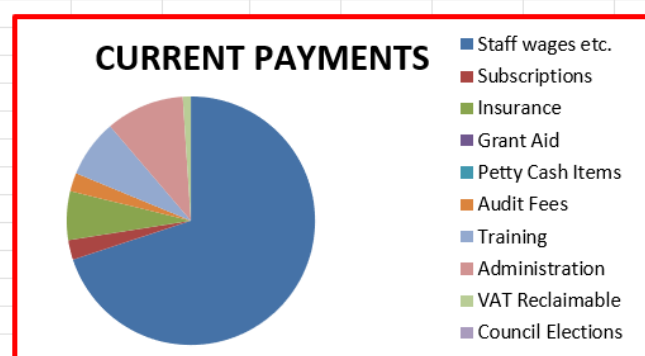
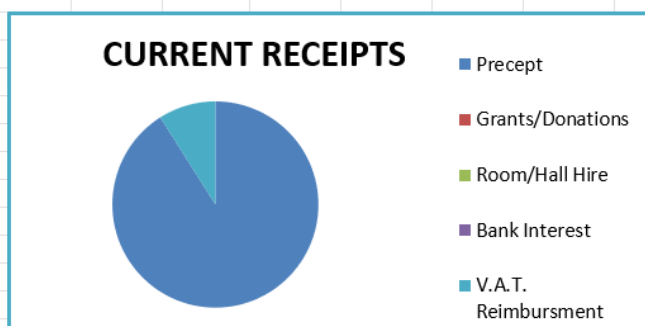


- On 18th January 2022, a meeting was held to discuss concerns regarding the retaining wall damage along the edge of Marcross Brook and the potential for repeated and future flooding of the stream, road and surrounding areas. and to agree and submit a response to the Vale of Glamorgan Council Engineering & Highways team on their recent reply to our written concerns
 The meeting was well attended by a number of Marcross Residents and three Community Councillors. Photographs and videos were viewed showing past flooding conditions on Beach Road. Evidence provided at the meeting, which had been obtained from HM Land Registry, brought ownership of parts of the brook and the retaining walls into question. If this should prove to be the case then those residents should surely have been consulted when the planning application was being considered.
 These points and questions have been put to Officers at the Vale of Glamorgan Council but, to date no response has been received.
 The Community Council will continue to press the Vale of Glamorgan Council for responses to the queries.

Council Finance.

The Community Council's income is provided by a precept which is a part of the Council Tax, paid by each household and collected by the Vale of Glamorgan Council. The precept is paid to the Community Council in three parts during the months of April, August and December. The expenses of the Community Council include the Clerk's salary; insurance, subscription to One Voice Wales and other items. The breakdown of the expenditure is represented by the pie chart below:

ST DONATS COMMUNITY COUNCIL	
Receipts & Payments Account.	
April 2021 to March 2022	
RECEIPTS	
2021/2022	
	£
Precept	3,225.00
Grants/Donations	
Room/Hall Hire	
Bank Interest	
V.A.T. Reimbursement	318.60
TOTAL	3,543.60
PAYMENTS	
Staff wages etc.	2,909.60
Subscriptions	107.00
Insurance	263.89
Grant Aid	0.00
Petty Cash Items	0.00
Audit Fees	100.00
Training	312.00
Administration	425.16
VAT Reclaimable	43.50
Council Elections	0.00
TOTAL	4,161.15
General Fund	
Opening Balance 1 April 2021	4,306.31
Add Total Income	3,543.60
	7,849.91
Deduct Total Expenditure	4,161.15
BALANCE AT 31ST MARCH 2022	3,688.76



Annual Audits.

Town and Community Councils are audited twice a year. The first audit is an Internal Audit carried out by an independent person appointed by the Council. The Internal Auditor does a thorough check of the Council's books and accounting procedures and produces a report. Following the Internal Audit, an external audit is carried out by the Wales Audit Office who select a particular item to specifically inspect as well as other checks on the Council's procedures. The 'Annual Return' containing the Council's accounting figures and 'Annual Governance' statement with the reports from the auditors are available to view on the Council's website.

The Auditor's Reports on the Community Council for the years 2018 and 2019 are available on the Community Council's website or a copy can be obtained by contacting the Clerk.

Planning Applications.

One of the objectives of the Community Council is to make observations on planning applications, details of which are provided by the Planning Department at the Vale of Glamorgan Council. Planning applications which the Community Council has considered in the past twelve months are listed in the following table. **Full comments made by the Community Council can be viewed in the Meeting Minutes:**

Application No.	Location	Community Council Observation	Vale Council Decision
2021/00015/FUL	Y Felin Fach, Monkash	Concerns	Approved
2021/00089/FUL	Ty Broc Parc Farm, St Donats	No objection	Approved
2021/00600/FUL	Vale Cottage, St Donats	No objection	Approved
2021/00475/LBC	St Donats Art Centre, St Donats Castle	No objection	Approved
2021/00764/FUL	Heritage Coast Campsite, Monkash	Objection	Outstanding
2021/00938/FUL	Ty Broc Parc Farm, St Donats	Some concern	Approved
2021/01210/FUL	Ty Bugail, Monkash	Objection	Outstanding
2021/01609/LBC	St Donats Castle, St Donats	No objection	Approved

Annual Report of St Donats Community Council completed 13th April 2022.

Website address: www.stdonats.cymru

Clerk to the Council: Jackie Griffin.

To contact the Clerk email stdonatscommunitycouncil@gmail.com

