

MAESYCWMMER COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Annual Report 2025–2026

1. Introduction from the Chair, Pat Cory

It is my pleasure to present the Maesycwmmmer Community Council Annual Report for 2025–2026. This year has been one of positive change and continued community spirit.

Following the departure of our previous Chair, Cllr. Jo Rao, I was honored to be elected as the new Chair of Maesycwmmmer Community Council. On behalf of the Council.

Throughout the year, the Council has focused on supporting residents, improving local facilities, and delivering events that bring our community together. From the Lantern Parade and Christmas lights to new picnic benches and summer skateboarding lessons, this has been a year of meaningful activity and strong community engagement.

2. Introducing Your Councillors and Clerk

Maesycwmmmer Community Council is made up of committed local residents who volunteer their time to represent the community, support local initiatives, and help shape the future of the village. Councillors attend regular meetings, respond to local concerns, and work together to deliver projects and events throughout the year.

Your Councillors (2025–2026)

- Cllr. Pat Cory (Chair)
- Cllr. Tony Joynes (Vice Chair)
- Cllr. Maureen Harries
- Cllr. Anne Jones
- Cllr. Carrie Stockwood-Smith
- Cllr. Richard Jones

The Clerk & RFO

The Clerk is the Council's primary point of contact and is responsible for day-to-day administration, financial management, and ensuring the Council meets all legal and governance requirements. The Clerk supports councillors, manages correspondence, prepares agendas and minutes, and oversees the delivery of Council decisions.

Contact Details:

- Clerk: Rebecca Hares
- Email: Maesycwmmmercc@yahoo.co.uk

The Council extends its thanks to the Clerk for her continued professionalism.

3. Key Achievements & Events 2025–2026

This year saw a number of successful community events, improvements to local facilities, and strong engagement with residents on issues affecting the village:

✓ **Lantern Parade:** The annual Lantern Parade once again brought families, schools, and community groups together, creating a warm and festive atmosphere throughout the village.

✓ **Christmas Lights Display:** The Council funded and coordinated the installation of the Christmas lights, ensuring the village looked bright and welcoming.

✓ **Remembrance Sunday Service:** The Council facilitated the organisation of the Remembrance Sunday service, enabling residents to come together to honor those who served.

✓ **New Picnic Benches:** To enhance outdoor spaces, the Council installed new picnic benches in the village playground. These have already become popular with families, walkers, and visitors.

✓ **Summer Skateboarding Lessons:** The Council funded free skateboarding lessons during the summer holidays for the children of the village. These sessions were extremely popular and promoted safe, active use of the skatepark.

✓ **Village Defibrillators:** The Council ensures the three defibrillators situated in the village are maintained and ready for use.

Community Action Notice:

Proposed McDonald's Development

The Council engaged extensively with residents regarding the proposed McDonald's development in the village. After listening to community concerns, the Council supported residents in opposing the plans. We were pleased to see that the application was subsequently withdrawn, reflecting the strong and united voice of the community.

4. Priorities & Projects in the Pipeline for 2026–2027

The Council has an active and ambitious programme of improvements and community initiatives planned for the upcoming fiscal year:

- **Village Planters:** Installation of new floral planters in the village to enhance the appearance of key areas and actively support local biodiversity.
- **Summer Play Sessions:** A series of free, structured play sessions for children during the summer holidays to encourage play in a safe environment.
- **New Park Equipment:** Working closely in partnership with Caerphilly County Borough Council (CCBC) to deliver and install updated play equipment in the village park.
- **Skatepark Artwork Project:** Commissioning vibrant new artwork for the local skatepark, involving local artists in a community-led design.

5. Financial Summary 2025–2026

A summary of the Council's financial activity for the year is outlined below. A full Statement of Accounts and Annual Governance Statement is available on the Council's website.

Income Category	Amount
Precept	£18,300
Other Income	£1,023
Total Income	£19,323
Expenditure Category	Amount
Running Costs	£11,143
Members Costs	£1,448
Community Activities	£10,385
Audit & Governance	£1,008
Section 137	£200
Total Expenditure	£24,184
Balances Moving Forward	£19,934

6. Governance & Compliance

The Council completed its Annual Governance and Accounting Statement and submitted all required compliance documentation to Audit Wales. Internal controls, risk assessments, and financial procedures were reviewed and updated to ensure compliance with statutory requirements.

Leadership Transition: During the year, the Council navigated a change in leadership as Cllr. Jo Rao stepped down as Chair. The Council formally welcomed Cllr. Pat Cory as the new Chair. This transition was executed smoothly, allowing the Council to continue its strategic work without interruption.

A BIG THANKYOU!

We couldn't have done it without you. A heartfelt thank you to every volunteer, supporter, and resident who makes our community shine. Your energy and dedication are what drive our success.

With gratitude,

MAESYCWMMER COMMUNITY COUNCIL

GET INVOLVED WITH YOUR COMMUNITY

Residents are warmly encouraged to attend meetings, share ideas, and take part in shaping our village.

Reach out via our website: www.maesycwmmmercommunitycouncil.org.uk

or email: maesycwmmmercc@yahoo.co.uk

Your feedback and participation shape our path forward.