CONNAH'S QUAY TOWN COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT

2025 – 2026

(including Environment (Wales) Act 2016 – Section 6 Biodiversity Report)

(including Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 – Section 40 Report)

Reviewed and Approved by

Connah's Quay Town Council

3 SEPTEMBER 2025

Introduction

From April 2022 community and town councils have a duty to prepare and publish a report about the Council's priorities, activities and their achievements.

Councils have a duty to maintain and enhance biodiversity – Environment (Wales) Act 2016 and to meet requirements of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.

The Environment Wales Act 2016 – Section 6

This Act places a duty on all public authorities, when carrying out their functions in relation to Wales to "seek to maintain and enhance biodiversity" wherever possible within the proper exercise of their functions. In doing so, public authorities must also seek to "promote the resilience of ecosystems". Section 6 also requires public authorities to consider the effect of decisions taken, or activities carried out within Wales, but also in relation to biodiversity outside of Wales.

Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015

This Act is a legislation promoted by the Welsh Government which aims to improve further social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales now and for the longer term.

In order to meet the requirements of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 Flintshire Public Service Board (PSB) was established to prepare and publish a Well-being Plan for Flintshire. The membership of the board includes a number of public services and bodies.

There is also representation from the Community and Town Council sector in Flintshire, as the Act stipulates that all Community and Town Councils with a turn-over of £200,000 or more must provide an annual report on how it is contributing to the objectives of the County's Well-being Plan.

Whilst the Flintshire PSB realises that there is much that could be done to add value to public service and to the communities of Flintshire it has identified and agreed a number of priorities that support the seven goals of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act. These are:

- Community Safety – Domestic Abuse, Modern Slavery, Organised Crime Gangs, Child Criminal Exploitation;
- Economy and Skills – Promotion of careers in the Public Sector, Championing skills across all sectors. Support own workforces at risk of poverty, collective work on workforce policies, identification of PSB partner land for housing, education or well-being;

- Environment – Build a map of land and sea assets across the County, Community based approach to delivering a coastal green infrastructure plan, develop a plan for some pilots to trial doing things differently. Using the environment in local communities to support resilience;

- Healthy and Independent Living – Development of extended Care Home and Discharge to Assess facility. Opening of the Health and Well-being Care Centre in Flint, develop a shared understanding of social prescribing, co-located health and social care workforce, Early Help Hub;

- Resilient Communities – Pilot area-based work. Getting Flintshire moving to increase activity. Evaluation of new ways of working and delivery of community benefits, agreeing community benefit strategies across all partners. Explore benefits of Community Shares, Development of Social Prescribing, a new leadership programme for those who work with communities:

These priorities have been chosen as the themes where the PSB can add most value and make a positive and lasting difference.

This report describes how Connah's Quay Town Council has contributed to the priorities of the Flintshire Well-being Plan for the community of Connah's Quay. The report also details the Town Council's response to the Environment Act 2016 and how it has met its duties under the Act.

Connah's Quay Town Council

The Town Council has 20 Councillors representing 4 Wards in the town: Central, Golftyn, South and Wepre. The contact details for the Councillors are included in Appendix A.

Elections for the Town Council are held every five years. The last election was held in May 2022, and the next one will take place in 2027.

Full council meetings are held every month and are attended by all 20 councillors. They agree decisions from the other council committees and authorise the Council's expenditure.

The meeting schedule for 2025- 2026 is included as Appendix B.

Chair

The Chair of the Town Council is elected by full council at the annual meeting in May and has the role for one year.

The Chair is politically impartial. They chair meetings of the full council and carry out a range of community and ceremonial duties.

The elected Chair of the Council for 2025-26 is Councillor A. Manship, the Vice-Chair Councillor V. Roberts.

Town Clerk

Suzanne Wilson is the Town Clerk. She has responsibility for the overall management of the council. She is responsible for making sure that all the council's policies are put into action. She represents the council through contact with the media and provides a link between the council and other organisations.

Council Committees

The Town Council has several Standing Committees. **All** Councillors are a member of each Standing Committee.

The Chair and Vice-Chair of each committee is agreed at the Council's Annual Meeting which is held in May.

The Chair and Vice-Chair of the respective Standing Committees for the year 2025-2026 are:

Planning Committee

Chair: Councillor A. S. Wren

Vice-Chair: Councillor D. Richardson

Finance & General Purposes Committee

Chair: Councillor V. Roberts

Vice-Chair: Councillor L. Attridge

Recreation and Entertainments Committee

Chair: Councillor A. Manship

Vice-Chair: Councillor D. Addaway

Town Regeneration Committee – Disbanded

Appointments of Bodies

School Governing Bodies (period of 2 years due to local elections)

Bryn Deva School	-	Councillor E. Loughnane (term of office until May 2027)
Golftyn School	-	Councillor D. Richardson (term of office until May 2027)
Ysgol Caer Nant	-	Councillor A. Wren (term of office until May 2027)
Wepre School	-	Councillor A. Manship (term of office until May 2027)

Other Bodies

Connah's Quay Old Peoples Association

Councillors V. Roberts and R. Fenwick

North & Mid Wales Association of Local Councils

Councillors A. Manship, Councillor D. Owen and Councillor E. Loughnane

Wrexham-Bidston Rail Users

Councillor E. Loughnane

Parc Adfer Community Liaison Group

Councillor D. Owen

Connah's Quay and Shotton Interservices Committee

Councillor V. Roberts

Wepre Park Stakeholder Group

Councillor R. Fenwick

How the Council is funded

The Town Council does not receive any funding from the UK or Welsh Government or Flintshire County Council.

Precept

This is the main source of our funding. Residents of the Town pay a precept which is collected with their Council Tax bill. Council meets annually to set the precept for the following financial year.

Other funding sources

We also receive income from fees charged for certain council goods and services, for example hire of the Civic Hall, Community Centre, Quay Building, Quay Café and the Allotments.

What the Council Does

The Town Council is responsible for the management of the Civic Hall; Community Centre; Allotments; Quay Building; and Quay Café.

Civic Hall



Our Civic Hall is located on Wepre Drive, Connah's Quay.

It can be hired for a wide range of events and fund-raising activities as well as business and family functions.

The main room can hold up to 300 people (depending on the type of event) with a stage, large dance floor, cafeteria and fully licensed bar.

There is a smaller meeting room upstairs (Len Williams Room) which can seat approx. 30.

We can offer catering for any occasion and budget, ranging from buffets to three course meals.

Community Centre

The Community Centre is located on Cable Street, Connah's Quay.

It consists of a hall that is suitable for groups / events for up to 50 people.

There is a fully equipped kitchen with serving hatch and a fenced outdoor area.



Allotments



The Town Council is responsible for the Mill Lane Allotment site in the town.

Allotments are important green open spaces, often providing a haven for wildlife in the heart of towns and cities.

There are currently 36 individual plots on the site.

Quay Building

The Town Council Offices are situated on Fron Road with ample free parking for visitors. We have two rooms available to hire.
Our large room is suitable for up to 40 people (depending on set up). The room is equipped with wifi and sound system.
We also have a smaller meeting room which can accommodate approx. 6/8 people.



Quay Café



Quay Café closed during the covid outbreak; the Council re-opened it for a short while after the restrictions had been lifted. It eventually closed in 2022.
In March 2023 the Town Council received an 'expression of interest' for the Veterans and Communities Hub (V.C. Hub) to take running of the Café. This was agreed by Council. The Council look forward to continuing a successful working relationship between the Town Council and the V C Hub.

During 2024-2025 financial year the Town Council upgraded the bar supplies at the Civic Hall this was done by changing suppliers, which provides the Civic Hall in offering better choice of refreshments as well as keeping any increase costs to a minimum for hirers of the venue.

The Town Council in 2025-2026 financial year are looking to improve the external and internal area of the Community Centre. This will be achieved by decorative improvements which will enhance the appearance and make the venue more appealing for users.

Improvements are planned for the Allotment Site with developments to the entrance and common areas.

The Quay Building is planned to have decorative improvements during this financial year.

In addition to managing venues, the Council also provide other services for the local community, including:

Summer Playscheme: *Quayplay*

The Town Council financially contributes to the Connah's Quay summer play scheme – '*Quayplay*' – each year. Flintshire County Council operates the scheme on behalf of the Town Council.

The scheme is free for children under the age of 11 to attend and is open to children with a range of needs, offering a 'buddy scheme' to those who require it.

It runs during the school summer holiday period and takes place at '*Central Park*' – using our Community Centre and the 1st Connah's Quay Scout Headquarters to host indoor activities. The large, grassed area outside is used for outdoor activities including football, a waterslide, arts and crafts and much more. Quayplay is a major asset to the area. It encourages children's wellbeing throughout the summer school holidays by socialising with friends throughout play during the six-week period.

The Town Council contributes financially to fit, fed and read. This is run by Gwella. It offers the children in the community sport and physical activities, reading challenges and crafts whilst providing food, snacks and drinks. This takes place in Central Park, Connah's Quay every Tuesday afternoon during the summer school holidays.

Annual Festival

Every summer the Town Council hosts an Annual Festival. In recent years this has been held at Wepre Park and for 2026 this will continue.

The event for 2025 was a successful one-day event, with excellent feedback from attendees.





It is a free event and provides a range of activities throughout the day for all of the family – including a fun fair, dog show, stalls, music performances, local dance school performances, wrestling shows and much more. It is a great event for the community.

Christmas Fayre



The third or fourth Thursday in November sees our Christmas Fayre held at the Civic Hall.

We have a Santa's Grotto for the younger children with them receiving a small Christmas 'goody bag' as a memento.

There is a good mix of local community and charitable organisations hosting stalls, and local small 'businesses' selling seasonal products.

We have charity raffle and there are performances on stage from local schools and/or organisations.

The event includes the switch on of the lights on our Christmas tree at Wepre Drive / High Street.

CCTV Cameras

The Town Council contributes towards the running costs of the CCTV cameras across the town.

Festive Lighting

The Town Council funds the installation of the festive lighting on some of the street lighting columns in the town. We also provide a Christmas tree that is located on the junction of High Street /Wepre Drive.

School Milk

We are proud to be able to fund free school milk to all the children who want it at each of the 4 primary schools in the town.

The Environment Wales Act 2016 – Section 6

The Welsh Government's Environment Act 2016 places a duty on Town and Community Councils to seek to enhance and maintain diversity.

How is Connah's Quay Town Council meeting the requirements of the above statement?

Connah's Quay Town Council recognises the importance to maintain and enhance biodiversity.

The Town Council continues to be responsible for the Mill Lane Allotment Site. This site is an area that is in abundance of wildlife. The allotment plots are rented by residents of Connah's Quay, giving them the opportunity to grow, nurture and plant flowers, fruit and vegetables. The VC Hub (Veterans & Communities) are a local CIC group who the Town Council offers an allotment plot free of charge. The Town Council supports such a worthwhile group within the community. The VC Hub is a community group which supports Veterans from the armed forces. This allows the VC Hub to offer the chance of Veterans socialising, which will reduce isolation and give them the chance to learn new skills which will contribute to their health and well-being. The Town Council welcomes all ages and disabilities to the Allotment site and has full allotment plots, smaller plots and raised beds.

The Town Council hires the Community Centre to a local school. The Community Centre has a small fenced in area which allows the children to play and learn about the outdoors whilst in a safe environment. The children have a small area for growing vegetables and flowers. This allows the children to develop at an early age the importance of nature and the surrounding environment.

How Connah's Quay Town Council has met the requirements of The Well-being of Future Generations Act (Wales) 2015 and how it will continue to in the future

Flintshire Public Service Board Well-being Priority: Economy and Skills

The Town Council encourages a close relationship with all schools based in Connah's Quay. The primary school's involvement in designing the Chair's Christmas cards, this encourages the younger children to get involved. Both primary and secondary schools take part in the Christmas Fayre to showcase their singing talents. Local dance schools are encouraged to actively take part at the Summer Annual Festival.

Local talent is showcased at the Summer Annual Festival.

Looking ahead to 2025-26

- Continuing to deliver the activities mentioned above and make them more accessible to the community.
- More active involvement with local businesses where they will be able to share ideas and concerns for the future.
- Encourage local school councils to get involved with the Town Council.
- More active and encourage and support youth engagement activities and funding in the local area.

Flintshire Public Service Board Well-being Priority: Environment

Connah's Quay has excellent green space areas, such as Wepre Park. The Town Council will continue to support and encourage residents and visitors to attend Wepre Park. The Council have a close working relationship with staff, rangers and volunteers at the park.

Connah's Quay has play areas for children in each ward.

The Allotments are used for the planting, growing of vegetables and fruit and is a haven to wildlife.

Looking ahead to 2025-26

- The Town Council have agreed to match fund Gwella up to £10k in improving of the Play Areas in each ward. It was agreed that this would be available for the next 5 years. The following play areas have been improved:
  - 2022/2023 – Broad Oak Play Area
  - 2023/2024 – York Road Play Area
  - 2024/2025 – Festival Gardens Play Area
  - 2025/2026 - Fron Road Play Area
  - 2026/2027 - to be decided
- To continue in encouraging allotment plot holders in using the site. Improve areas within the allotment site.
- To support and advertise Wepre Park events through our social media and/or website.

Flintshire Public Service Board Well-being Priority: Health and Independent Living

The Town Council supports a local non-profit enterprise to have an allotment plot for people who have specific needs and issues. The well-being of these people involved helps them get out and about and interacting with people with the same interests, whilst helping the environment and learning new skills.

The Town Council offers discounted rates for Flintshire County Council in hiring the venues for workshops/seminars/meetings/courses which are related to well-being issues.

The Town Council are accredited in the 'White Ribbon' campaign which supports with engaging men and boys in ending violence against women and girls.

Looking ahead to 2025-26

- To continue supporting local enterprises and business in promoting the importance of well-being in the Town and County
- The Council to continue supporting local charities and community groups in offering hall waivers to carry out any training or functions, this will enable the charities extra funds for the charity.
- To promote any organisations in the town that offers warm-hubs, food banks etc
- To actively promote and raise the awareness of the 'White Ribbon' campaign as well as other campaigns in ending violence against men and women.

Flintshire Public Service Board Well-being Priority: Resilient Communities

The Town Council funds Quay Play during the summer school holidays. This is very popular with the children of Connah's Quay. The scheme is run and managed by Flintshire County Council with the Town Council funding the scheme at a cost of in the region of £26k per year.

Quay Play takes place over 6 weeks in the summer holidays and is catered for primary school children up to the age of 11. The scheme is very well attended and the feedback received from parents/guardians and children excels every year.

The Town Council contributes financial support to Gwella for the Fit, Fed and Read scheme during the summer school holidays. This offers children of all ages the opportunity to take part in sport and physical activity as well as reading challenges and crafts, providing children with food, snacks and drinks whilst taking part.

The Town Council every November has a Christmas Fayre in the Civic Hall, this is well attended by residents of Connah's Quay. The Town Council organise stalls from local charities or organisations, local business with entertainment from the local schools. The Town Council provide free goodie bags for children visiting Santa. Local schools can showcase the student's talent by providing the entertainment during the event.

The Christmas Fayre during 2020 did not take place due to Covid. The Civic Hall was used for a Covid Testing Site by the NHS. During 2021 the government regulations allowed the Town Council to have an outside event, which took place.

Every summer (except 2020 & 2021) the Town Council organise a Summer Festival at Wepre Park. This is a well-attended event with local organisations, charities and schools taking part. The Town Council work closely with Wepre Park in making the event a success.

Looking ahead to 2025-26

- That the Town Council continue to fund the summer playscheme Quay Play at a cost in the region of £26k per year
- To continue providing financial support to Gwella for the Fit, Fed and Read scheme.
- To continue with events for the residents to enjoy and participate each year
- To improve Town Council venues which will benefit the usage of residents

Actions for 2025-2026 and beyond

- To continue to deliver activities mentioned throughout this report and making them more accessible to the community
- Promote what we do through various channels
- Engage the community more in community-focused events
- Work more closely with the local schools and businesses

Contact Information

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Enquiries:

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Community Engagement Officer: Sarah Phillips

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Appendix A – Town Councillors

Appendix B – Town Council Meeting Schedule

APPENDIX A

TOWN COUNCILLORS 2025/2026

Central Ward

Councillor J B Attridge

Councillor W Catterall

Councillor V Roberts – Vice-Chair of the Council

Councillor D Owen

Councillor D Addaway

Golftyn Ward

Councillor A Dunbobbin

Councillor E S Faulkner

Councillor G A Faulkner

Councillor A Hughes

Councillor D Richardson

Councillor P Shotton

South Ward

Councillor L Attridge

Councillor A I Dunbar

Councillor R Fenwick

Councillor A Owen

Councillor I R Smith

Councillor A S Wren

Wepre Ward

Councillor R Mansell

Councillor A Manship – Chair of the Council

Councillor E Loughnane

APPENDIX B

Members of the public are welcome to attend all meetings of the council, committees and sub-committees. Only meetings, or parts of meetings where confidential or other restricted information is being discussed are not open to the public or press. Meetings are accessible in person or hybrid.

Council meetings are normally held in the evening and take place in the Council Chamber at Quay Building, Fron Road.

Public notice is given in advance of all council meetings including whether they are open to the public.
For more information on council meetings please contact the Town Clerk on 01244 819420.

Year 2025/26	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr
Annual Meeting	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Council	7	4	2	-	3	1	12	3	7	4	4	1
Planning	7	4	2	-	3	1	12	3	7	4	4	1
Finance & General	7	4	2	-	3	1	12	3	7	4	4	1
Recreation & Entertainment	7	4	2	-	3	1	12	3	7	4	4	1

Annual Meeting – Held each year in the month of May

Committee Meetings of Planning(1), Finance & General, Recreation & Entertainment– Held on the 1st Wednesday of each month from 6.30pm