



Bio Diversity Report

2022

Llangeodmor Community Council is responsible for 4 areas of grounds within the village of Llechryd.

It acts a sole trustee to the Llechryd Playing Fields Association charity which owns:

1. Children's Play Area, Llechryd (rear of Coracle Hall)

2. Playing Field Llechryd (rear of Coracle Hall)

Both areas are maintained for the amenity of village resident and visitors with grass being kept at an optimum length to encourage use for exercise and play.

A mixed, mainly native hedge runs to two side of the play area. This is cut back and trimed with due regard to any current legislation.



3. Saint Davids Holy Cross Church, Llechryd



Llangeodmor Community Council leases the property from the Church in Wales and maintains the buildings and churchyard area.

Grass is cut every three weeks commencing second week in April until end of October.

The area around the ruined Church is tidied in spring and autumn to include pruning shrubs, removing/cutting back brambles and saplings growing in or immediately around the walls, pruning creepers and dealing with any weeds growing in or on the walls with due regard for current legislation.



Given the sloping nature of the area it is generally strimmed. There are a number of small shrubs and a large holly tree on the site. A yew hedge stands adjacent the entrance and a traditional stone wall forms the other boundaries of the site.

Given the nature of the site, whilst it is maintained in a safe manner, it also lends itself as a wildlife corridor and habitat for small species of mammal and birds.

4. Millennium Shelter near Llechryd Bridge

Llangeodmor Community Council owns a small site which is kept tidy from April until end of October. The grass is cut every three weeks commencing second week in April until end of October



Paths for Wellbeing

In 2021-22 Llangoedmor Community Council became a partner in the Rambler's Paths for Wellbeing programme. The programme aimed to improve footpaths in the area with various biodiversity projects detailed in the excerpt from the North Ceredigion Regional Plan below.

- Overview of routes - many of the routes overlap or intertwine. It is the intention of the group to link Llechryd and Llangoedmor villages with a network of paths that are easily navigable and can be interchanged to extend or reduce the length of time walking.
- Route 1 – Around Llechryd. A circular route of approx. 5.3 miles that starts and finishes at Llechryd's Millennium building Grid reference SN 217 436. Total ascent 746.86ft and taking approx. 2 and half hours to walk. The route climbs to the north of Llechryd with some steeper slopes. Key attractions – Millennium Building with information boards about Llechryd. The river Teifi with Llechryd Bridge
- Route 2 – St Cynllo Loop. A circular family route of approx. 2 miles that starts and finishes at St Cynllo Church Grid reference SN 200 458. Total ascent 183.5 ft and takes approx. 45 mins to walk. Key attractions. A pretty walk that encompasses – St Cynllo Church, woodland and a house that is locally known as Dylwyn's House. Here you will find carved totems depicting the route and creatures who live in the woodlands.
- Route 3 – Llechryd Penrallteifed Loop, a circular route of 5 miles that starts and finishes at Coracle Hall, Llechryd. Grid reference SN 215 439. Total ascent 640ft and takes approx. 2 and half hours to walk. Key attractions – The route passes the river Teifi along the north before ascending to reveal sweeping views to the south. On this route you pass the house of the last coracle maker in Llechryd
- Route 4 – Llechryd Penllwyn Duu loop. A circular route of approx. 7.7 miles that starts and finishes in Adam Street, Llechryd . Grid Reference SN 221 437. Total ascent 1372ft and takes approx. 4 hours to walk. Key attractions – As you walk through the woodlands that flank the stream at Alt-Pant-gwyn a spring creates a spectacular waterfall.
- Route 5 – Llechryd Maidie B Goddard Loop. A circular family route of 1.3 miles starting from and finishing at Coracle Hall Llechryd. Grid reference SN 215 439. Total ascent 177.64 ft and taking approx. 45mins to walk. Key attraction is 35.8 acres of Coed Maidie Nature Reserve. Many species of butterflies use the meadow and woodland edges, badgers and red deer have been recorded along with many aquatic species who live in the two ponds during the warmer months.
- Practical outcomes cont.
- Route 6 – Llechryd Circular Short – A circular route for family potential of approx 1mile that starts and finishes at Coracle Hall Llechryd. Grid reference SN 215 439. Total ascent 134ft taking approx half hour to walk. The route currently opens onto a main road. Key attractions are the small streams that run through the landscape with bridges for playing pooh sticks and pond dipping.
- Route 7- Llechryd Llangoedmor North Loop. A circular family route that is a little more adventurous. It starts and finishes at St Cynllo Church, Llangoedmor. Grid reference SN 200 458. Total ascent 219ft, taking approx. 1 hour to walk. Key attractions are St Cynllo Church and views that reach across Llangoedmor.

- Route 8 – Llechryd Hall East. A circular route of approx 4.3 miles that starts and finishes at Coracle Hall, Llechryd. Grid reference SN 215 439. Total ascent 492 ft taking approx. 2 hours to walk
- Route 9 – Llechryd figure 8 (almost) loop. A circular route of approx. 4.5 miles that starts and finishes at Coracle Hall Llechryd. Grid reference SN 215 439. Total ascent 838 ft taking approx 2hours 15 mins to walk.
- Gates are to replace stiles to make the routes more accessible for walkers and dogs on routes 1, 3, 4, 6, 8 and 9. Though some of the gates will serve more than one route where the path is shared. There is only one dog friendly stile currently
- The main themes of the routes are nature and history, celebrating the landscapes, biodiversity and heritage of the area. In particular the community would like to celebrate Coracle builder Bernard Thomas
- Bench 1 is to be located on route 4, opposite at Alt-Pant-gwyn. Bench 2 is to be located in the vicinity of St Cynllo Church. Thought has been put into locating the benches with one in each community.
- Potential way markers should reflect history and heritage, one thought is around a design that depicts a coracle. This would be in keeping with the name of the Community Hall and proposed ideas for a sculpture.
- Information board location has been sited at the Millennium building by Llechryd Bridge as felt likely to be seen by more people if used to complement the villages existing information boards.
- There are many leaflet distribution opportunities which include the Community Hall, the garage, the school, the public house and local holiday accommodations.
- The Community have two ideas for a sculptural installation. The first being connected to tree planting with a willow structure at the playing fields. The second would be a coracle to be located within the bounds of the Millennium building
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Biodiversity Outcomes:

- Overview of biodiversity in area- The Community Council is responsible for 4 amenity areas within the village and acts as sole trustee to the Llechryd playing Fields Association charity which owns land known as :-
 - Children’s Play Area (rear of community hall)
 - Playing Field Llechryd (rear of coracle hall)

The Community proposes to plant a willow sculpture in the play area and are taking advice on form.

- A native edible hedge is proposed for citing along the current fence that divides the playing field from agricultural land. Edible hedges offer huge value to wildlife. A wider mix attracts a wider range of wildlife and the hedge assets offer not only shelter but flowers for pollinator, leaves for caterpillars along with windfall fruit and nuts for birds and small mammals. The following have been chosen because they are fast growing, provide colour through blossom, foliage and/or fruit.
 - *Prunus spinosa* Blackthorn- sloes
 - *Corylus avellana* Hazel- nuts (also provides stems that are not poisonous so perfect for sticks for roasting marshmallows.)
 - *Prunus insitia* Damson- plumbs and a robust wind break,
 - *Rosa canina* Dog Rose- Rosehips,

- *Sambucus nigra* Elder
 - *Malus sylvestris* Crab Apple
 - *Cydonia oblonga* Quince
- The wildflower seed has been embraced by the community and seen as an opportunity to create visually attractive habitats that can act as attraction to children to begin to explore nature. Therefore, the proposal is that the wildflower should be planted on the banks behind the play area which are currently grass.
 - Habitat boxes – The Community proposal sees 2 hives for solitary bees to be located near to the wildflower seed planting. 6 bird boxes relevant to local species, 3 to be located on walk 1 through the woodland along Pant Arberth (also shared with route 8) 2 to be located in woodland on route 2 and one on route 7.
 - Invasive species removal.- water courses in the area are prone to Himalayan Balsam and need regular clearing at Llechryd Bridge

Training and citizen science days:

- The three Ceredigion trained volunteers are keen to help disseminate further training with the Ramblers Regional Officer. The anticipation is that newly engaged volunteers would require path maintenance training, walk leader training and training for installation of gates, way markers, wildlife boxes and further furniture such as information board and benches.
- There is need for training around biodiversity and the ongoing care for wildlife boxes. Clearance of invasive species,
- Citizen science days ideas
 - Biodiversity Survey – no longer live but a good project to accompany hedge planting and see how the biodiversity changes over the length of the project and in response stages of hedge growth.

Big Butterfly count during July and August 2022, particularly relevant to Maidie B Goddard Nature Reserve

Saviour Bees – www.saviourbees.co.uk take part in the Saviour bee hotel citizen science project, reporting back on the community solitary beehives.