

# Gorseinon Town Council Well-being Report 2025/26

Using the Well-being of Future Generations approach to support Gorseinon and Penyrheol now and for the long term

Gorseinon Town Council serves the communities of Gorseinon and Penyrheol. This report sets out how the council's work contributes to the Well-being of Future Generations approach in Wales by considering the long-term social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of local people. It focuses not only on services and activities delivered in 2025/26, but also on how today's decisions can help future generations enjoy a healthy, connected, resilient and inclusive community.

## Local profile

Gorseinon is a well-established town approximately 11 kilometres north-west of Swansea city centre. Together with Penyrheol, it forms a busy local community with a district centre, schools, community facilities, shops, green spaces and transport connections serving residents from the surrounding area.

The wider Gorseinon and Penyrheol area includes residential neighbourhoods, local businesses, community venues and areas of historic industrial heritage. The town centre remains an important place for everyday services, with shops, cafés, professional services, Gorseinon Library, nearby bus facilities and free local parking supporting access to the high street.

Local open spaces are central to well-being. Parc Melin Mynach, also known as Monks' Mill, provides walking routes, mature tree cover, a skate park and play facilities, while also preserving features of local industrial and historic interest. Argyll Gardens, public seating, noticeboards, planting schemes and seasonal displays all contribute to the appearance, accessibility and identity of the town.

## Future generations approach

The Well-being of Future Generations approach asks public bodies and communities in Wales to think about the people who will live here in the future as well as those who live here today. For Gorseinon Town Council, this means making decisions that help prevent problems, protect local assets, involve residents, work with partners and balance immediate needs with long-term benefits.

The seven national well-being goals provide a useful framework for local action: a prosperous Wales, a resilient Wales, a healthier Wales, a more equal Wales, a Wales of cohesive communities, a Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language, and a globally responsible Wales. Although the council works at a local level, its decisions on facilities, grants, open spaces, events, communication and governance can make a practical contribution to these wider goals.

The council will use the five ways of working to guide future decisions: long-term thinking, prevention, integration, collaboration and involvement. This means looking beyond short-term fixes, considering how one decision affects several well-being goals, working with residents and partners, and taking early action before local issues become more difficult or costly to address.

## Well-being goals: local actions and future benefits

Well-being goal	Gorseinon Town Council action	Future benefit for Gorseinon and Penyrheol
<b>A prosperous Wales</b>	Supporting the town centre, promoting local shops and services, maintaining community facilities and encouraging local activity.	A stronger local economy, more active high street and better access to everyday services for future residents.
<b>A resilient Wales</b>	Improving green spaces, supporting tree planting, wildflower schemes, bulb planting and care for parks such as Parc Melin Mynach.	Improved biodiversity, climate resilience and access to nature for children, young people and future generations.
<b>A healthier Wales</b>	Maintaining parks, play areas, walking routes, community spaces and opportunities for people to meet and take part locally.	Better physical and mental well-being, reduced isolation and more opportunities for active, connected lives.
<b>A more equal Wales</b>	Providing accessible community facilities, public meetings, grants and support for a wide range of local groups and activities.	More inclusive local participation and fairer access to community opportunities across ages and backgrounds.
<b>A Wales of cohesive communities</b>	Supporting civic events, community engagement, local communications, volunteering and shared public spaces.	Stronger local identity, safer and more welcoming neighbourhoods, and greater pride in Gorseinon and Penyrheol.
<b>A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language</b>	Supporting local heritage, civic traditions, community celebrations and opportunities to recognise the history and identity of the area.	Future generations understand, value and celebrate local culture, heritage and Welsh identity.
<b>A globally responsible Wales</b>	Encouraging careful use of resources, local environmental action, sustainable planting and responsible financial planning.	Local decisions that reduce long-term impacts, protect community assets and support responsible stewardship of the town.

## Contribution to the well-being goals

### A healthier and more equal future

Supporting children, young people and families is an investment in future well-being. By maintaining places where people can meet, learn, play and take part in community life, the council helps create the conditions for confidence, belonging and good mental and physical health. Ty Newydd Community Centre, parks and play areas all provide local opportunities for families to connect close to home.

### Cohesive communities across generations

Future generations benefit when today's residents feel connected, safe and able to participate. The council supports shared facilities, civic events, local services and accessible community spaces that bring people together across ages and backgrounds. Activities such as the Remembrance Service and Christmas Lantern Parade help maintain local identity while encouraging new generations to understand and take pride in their community.

### A resilient and globally responsible place

Environmental improvement is essential for future generations. Tree planting, wildflower schemes, bulb planting, hanging baskets and improvements to parks and green spaces help increase biodiversity, support climate resilience and improve the appearance of the town. Protecting and enhancing local green spaces such as Parc Melin Mynach also gives future residents access to nature, recreation and heritage close to where they live.

### A prosperous and vibrant local community

A strong local economy and a vibrant community life are important parts of long-term well-being. The council supports local pride, town centre activity, community grants and voluntary action, helping residents and organisations contribute to the future of Gorseinon and Penyrheol. By encouraging use of local shops, services, events and community venues, the council helps keep the area active, viable and welcoming for future generations.

## Applying the five ways of working locally

- **Long-term:** considering how decisions on buildings, parks, planting, events and finances will affect residents over future years, not just the current year.
- **Prevention:** supporting early action such as maintaining community assets, improving public spaces, encouraging social connection and protecting local green infrastructure.
- **Integration:** recognising that one local project can support several goals at once, such as improving a park for health, biodiversity, family activity and community pride.

- **Collaboration:** working with residents, schools, voluntary groups, Swansea Council, local businesses and community organisations where shared action can achieve more.
- **Involvement:** encouraging people of different ages, backgrounds and parts of the community to contribute views so that local decisions reflect the needs of both current and future residents.

## Local achievements in 2025/26

- Promoted wider use of Ty Newydd Community Centre for local groups, meetings and activities.
- Improved communication with residents through council meetings, newsletters, online updates and local engagement.
- Supported environmental improvements including tree planting, wildflower schemes, bulb planting and seasonal displays.
- Maintained investment in parks, play areas and public spaces, including support for Parc Melin Mynach.
- Supported the town centre through civic pride, public information, local events and promotion of the “Shop Local” message.
- Organised and supported major civic events including the Remembrance Service and Christmas Lantern Parade.
- Continued the grants programme to support local clubs, organisations and community initiatives.
- Worked with local youth and community groups to strengthen participation and recognise local contributions.

## Finance, governance and accountability

Good governance supports well-being because residents need to trust that decisions are open, fair and responsible. Gorseinon Town Council follows the Members’ Code of Conduct, publishes agendas and minutes, reviews accounts through internal and external audit, and gives residents the opportunity to attend monthly meetings and raise local matters during the public session.

For 2025/26, council income included the local precept, grant funding, interest and income from Ty Newydd Community Centre. Expenditure supported staffing, community facilities, civic duties and events, community grants, defibrillators, environmental work and general administration. The council carried forward a year-end balance into 2026/27, helping it plan for future services, risks and community investment.

## Future priorities for 2026/27 and beyond

- Use the five ways of working when planning projects, budgets and community priorities.
- Protect and improve community facilities so they remain useful, accessible and affordable for future residents.
- Strengthen opportunities for children, young people and families to participate in local life.
- Support environmental projects that improve biodiversity, climate resilience and access to green space.
- Encourage community involvement so residents can help shape decisions that affect the future of Gorseinon and Penyrheol.
- Work with partners to prevent isolation, support local pride and improve the quality of shared spaces.
- Support the town centre and local economy by encouraging people to use local shops, services and community venues.
- Maintain prudent financial planning so future councils and residents inherit sustainable services and manageable commitments.

## Conclusion

Gorseinon Town Council's work in 2025/26 demonstrates how local action can support the well-being of both current and future generations. By investing in community facilities, protecting and improving green spaces, supporting local groups, strengthening civic pride and encouraging resident involvement, the council is helping to create a more connected, resilient and inclusive place for people to live, work and grow up.

Looking ahead, the council will continue to use the Well-being of Future Generations approach to guide its priorities. This means thinking long term, taking preventative action, working with partners, involving residents and recognising that decisions about services, spaces and resources made today will shape the opportunities available to future generations in Gorseinon and Penyrheol.

Through careful planning, open governance and continued investment in local well-being, Gorseinon Town Council can help ensure that future generations inherit a town that is welcoming, sustainable, active and proud of its local identity.