

Outgoing chair letter.

Good evening everyone,

It has been a privilege to serve as your chair these past 12 months.

When I first joined this council, I was the youngest, and one of the most outspoken. I vowed to bring in change, and by god things how things have changed!

With the support of my fellow councillors we've rolled up our sleeves, dug our heels in, and powered through bringing this council into the 21st century. This also couldn't have been achieved without you as councillors and the hard work of our clerks.

Right now we are at a pinnacle in Welsh history. We have a brand new government in the Senedd and are witnessing the rise of the far right and Reform throughout our valleys and our nation. This time next year, this chamber could look very different.

I know there will be several members here, who will not be standing again in the next elections. And I want to thank each and every one of them for their contributions over the years.

We are going to need strong, passionate, community minded councillors, and I know many of you hold these attributes close to your hearts already.

So with that in mind I implore you all to continue to dig deep, and scout out potential candidates both for ALCC and the borough, as I dread to think what would happen if Reform got in. We are closer now, more than we ever have been to being able to attain our power of competence. And for that to happen we will need two thirds of us to be elected onto this council next year. I think it'll be the first time in a long time, that community and town council seats will actually be contested.

Hopefully now, it will continue to be a relatively smooth but productive year for us. Although we never truly know what the future holds.

I hope that we continue to hit our goals and deliver across our projects, and most importantly delivering for our constituents and communities. It's been great to see the impact we've made already, especially in our harder to reach areas such as Swffrydd and Brynithel.

I would be more than happy to stand again this year, but I think Lucy will do a great job as the new chair. She has jumped in with both feet and shown herself to be kind, passionate, understanding and stern when she needs to be. With that being said, I'm also happy to be the devil on her shoulder as vice chair for the next year too, as we'll need strong leadership next year with the anticipation of many new faces.

With that being said let us continue to drive Abertillery & Llanhilleth community council forwards!

cyngor cymuned abertyleri a llanhilledd ymlaen!.

A heartfelt thank you to you all

Diolch o galon,

