

Draethen, Waterloo & Rudry Community Council

Local Government & Elections (Wales) Act 2021 – Section 52

Annual Report 2024/25

1. Introduction

Our annual report sets out the work that has been carried out by the Community Council during the period 01 April 2024 to 31 March 2025. It provides an overview of the Community Council's activities, decisions and community engagement throughout the year.

2. Councillors & Clerk

<i>Rhydygwern Ward</i>	<i>Llanfedw Ward</i>	<i>Rudry Ward</i>
Lee Cecil (Chair) Bethan Rich – until June 2024	Zoe Hewer Chris Morgan	Amanda McConnell Rob Heaton-Jones Kev Ingram Phil Rosser Kevin Stanworth

Clerk to the Council for 2024/25

Myra Osborn
Email: clerk@dwrccouncil.co.uk
Address: Rudry Parish Hall, Rudry, Caerphilly, CF83 3DF

3. Summary of Community Projects

During this period, the Community Council has carried out a wide range of community focused activities.

Key activities undertaken during the year included:

- Flower Planters – maintaining the community flower planters to enhance the appearance of the villages.

- Defibrillator Maintenance – ensuring all defibrillators were regularly checked, and replacement pads and batteries were purchased when necessary.
- New Defibrillator Installation – we added an additional defibrillator to Rudry, improving local access to life saving equipment.
- Poppy Wreath – purchased a wreath to be laid on behalf of the community.
- Donations to local causes – including Wales Air Ambulance, the local school, CCBC Annual Operation Santa Appeal 2024, the local Santa Sleigh.
- Renewable Roadmap Project – along with funding from CCBC, we have been able to help residents to see the energy efficiency of their homes and changes which can improve their rating.
- Repairs to the Noticeboard – ensuring the noticeboard remains safe, usable and accessible for public notices.
- Utility Cabinet Mural – commissioning a mural on the utility cabinet has improved the visual environment while supporting local creativity.

4. Governance & Compliance

The Community Council prepared the Annual Return and Governance Statement and submitted all necessary information to Audit Wales.

The Council continued to meet its statutory responsibilities ensuring that decisions and financial processes were followed and recorded. Agendas, minutes and public notices were published on the Council's website.

5. Local Priorities & Projects for 2025/26

The Community Council have already begun discussions and planning projects for the upcoming year. The priorities identified are:

- Maintaining defibrillators, including the relocation of the defibrillator at Rudry Primary School (following the planned closure).
- Festive lighting for the villages of Rudry & Waterloo.
- Continue working with Gwent Police to tackle speeding and ASB.

6. Financial Overview

Income	Amount
Precept	£21,000
Other Income	£0
Total Income	£21,000

Expenditure	Amount
Administration & Operational Costs	£14,145
Members Fees & Allowances	£1,238
Community Projects	£8,025
Audit & Governance Costs	£1,236
Total Expenditure	£24,644

7. Conclusion

The Community Council remain committed to supporting the community. The projects completed this year reflect the focus on maintaining local facilities and contributing positively to the community. Looking ahead to the upcoming year, the Council have listened to feedback from residents and are currently focussing on providing festive lighting for the villages which we hope to be installed ready for Christmas 2025. The requested precept budget for the year 2025/26 is £21,000.