

RHOSDDU COMMUNITY COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT FY 2025 – 2026

Chair: Cllr S Gittins

Vice-chair: Cllr J Billington

Cllrs: L Lewis, J Ryan, M Lynch, W O’Grady, C Smith, B Chowdhury, B Murray

County Councillors: D Bithell, M Jones, A Williams

Clerk: Mrs S Roberts and Mrs M Williams

Community Agent: Mrs M Woodfine-Jones



After the successes in 2024 – 2025, we put time, effort and resources into making Rhosddu a better place to live.

Community.

The Community Council continued to provide funding for essential services. The Council funded the three school crossing patrols – there is still a vacancy on New Road, although steps are being taken to actively promote the vacancy. The four playgrounds were inspected, and minor defects were made safe.

The skatepark in Prices Lane reached the end of its life this year. Rotten boards, corrosion and sharp edges were evident. The Community Council consulted with local youngsters about the need for a replacement facility. The youngsters were shown a variety of designs and chose the one that they wanted. The Community Council budgeted to pay for the construction of this new facility and work will commence on the skatepark in 2026.

The Community Council provided core funding for both the 2025 Rhosddu FunDay and the Garden Village Fete. A new community event was held on Ashfield in the Autumn and featured drumming, music and art workshops. The weather was good for the FunDay and the Fete, but the Ashfield event suffered from heavy rain all day. Live music, children’s entertainments were provided and refreshments were available. The takings from the FunDay provided a donation of £1500 for Dynamic. Takings from the Fete once again went to a range of local causes and institutions.

We generated a good Christmas spirit again this year. We had hoped to expand the festive lights along New Road, Rhosddu Road and Chester Road but we were unable to get the necessary surveys completed by WCBC in time. A Christmas tree was once again put up in Garden Village. A festive lunch for Rhosddu pensioners was provided at the Lager Club. Over 90 lunches were served to our pensioners and some top rate entertainment was laid on. A Carol Concert and Service in conjunction with the Salvation Army was organised by our Community Agent. The Salvation Army band and Rhosddu School provided the music. Father

Christmas was too busy to pay us a visit this year, but some other Christmas characters turned up instead!

The Rhosddu in Bloom competition was held again. With the weather back to normal, the winning entries were of a remarkably high standard this year. We were pleased to see Springfield participating yet again. We also nominated Community Champions to reward people trying to make a positive change to Rhosddu. This year's recipients were the Garden Village WI and the Wrexham Litterpickers.

The Citizens Advice Bureau continued their outreach sessions in Rhosddu to signpost and help residents with particular needs. These continued in the Salvation Army Citadel and funding for this was provided throughout the year to the sum of £4410. The Salvation Army benefitted from our paying for the hire of the premises. The quarterly reports from the CAB have been very encouraging and show the benefits of this service being available in Rhosddu. We will continue with funding for the coming financial year.

The Community Council again made donations to local organisations. Our standard donation is £150. Larger donations will be considered on their own merit. Organisations and charities based in Rhosddu are invited to apply for donations throughout the year.

Environment

Once again, we funded the supply of dog poo bags in Stansty Ward.

More swift boxes were put up in East Avenue and Colliery Road. The regular sitings of swift around Rhosddu show that the boxes have been successful in attracting swifts back into Rhosddu!

We had difficulty deciding how to spend the remaining tranche of funding from the Low Carbon Communities grant. It was decided to use the funding to pay for environmental workshops at our local schools.

Community Agent

Our Community Agent, Mandy Woodfine-Jones, continued with her outstanding work among the over-50s in Rhosddu. This was Mandy's report for the month of October 2025

Acton Park pub lunch club.

Cae Glo Buffet and Bingo.

Railway In Drop In – Coffee afternoon.

Maes Y Dderwen – Lunch event, Tai Chi, Boccia and BSL taster sessions.

St Margarets Church – Warm Space Coffee Morning and Craft Group.

Salvation Army – Knit and Natter.

Parkinsons UK Support Group (St Margarets Church).

Deafblind UK Support Group (Capel Y Groes).

Stand at Wellbeing Roadshow (Home Instead) at Wrexham Wellbeing Hub.

This is just a typical month! Well done, Mandy.

Community Centre

Progress was finally made towards handing the building back to WCBC. The building was formally handed over and the necessary documents were signed off. WCBC have announced that the building will be demolished and replaced with a new build for Wrexham Scouts and Guides. This is excellent news and puts another community focussed facility into Rhosddu. The final death throes of the ongoing insurance claim for the old building have now been settled.

Council

Our Clerk, Sandy Roberts, announced her resignation from the position. In the short time that she was in post, Sandy sorted out our financial reporting, our policies and procedures, our website and took no nonsense from Council Chair! We wish her well in her retirement.

Mrs Michelle Williams has now taken Sandy's position. Michelle comes to us from her position as Assistant Clerk to Acton Community Council. She has already shown us that our proceedings need to be tightened up to make us an efficient Community Council.

Audit Wales found no major discrepancies in our annual audit. The Community Council is financially sound with sufficient funds to fulfil our statutory duties.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'SGittins', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Steve Gittins

Chair

Rhosddu Community Council 2025 - 2026