

Betws GG/Melin y Wig Community Council

Annual Report 1st April 2025 to 31st March 2026

In line with the Local Government and Democracy Act 2021 (Wales), Community Councils are required to publish an annual report on the Council's activities for the previous financial year. The councillors' aim is to protect and improve the local area and to work towards building a strong community.

Here is a summary of Betws GG Community Council's activities, but full details of the activities can be found in the council meeting records available on the Website.

Councillors

There are 7 seats on Betws GG Community Council. Hefin Lloyd-Davies

Gwyn Edwards

Geraint Jones

Shaun Turner

Dafydd Evans

Connor Edwards

Emyr Roberts

Shaun Turner

Hefin Lloyd Davies was the Chair for the year with Shaun Turner as Vice-Chair.

Helen Hitchmough is the Clerk of the Community Council.

Training Plan

The council has a training register and all councillors are encouraged to attend training in their turn – this is to expand their knowledge based on their responsibilities as Community Councillors.

Payments

Recommendations from the Annual Report of the Independent Panel for Wales regarding payments and allowances for Community Councillors were received. Following this, each Councillor decided to opt out of receiving the allowance for 2025-2026.

Meetings

During the year, 5 meetings were held, one every other month on the first Tuesday evening. The January 2026 meeting was not held due to the severe weather conditions. Meetings are held at the Melin Y Wig Hall. Each meeting is public, and members of the community are welcome to attend or make presentations (presentation guidelines are available by contacting the Clerk). The Council pays for hiring the Hall and contributes £300. The Hall certificates, is up to date according to electrical and fire inspections.

Financial Position and Accounts

Precept – the amount requested by Denbighshire County Council to run the Community Council's budget, which in turn is funded by taxpayers through Council Tax.

Financial Position:

Bank balances at the end of March 2026:

Current Account - £6416.20

Savings Account - £68.20

To see a detailed schedule of the Council's income and expenditure, contact the Clerk or check the Council's website.

Accounts

Section 12 of the Public Audit (Wales) Act 2024, Regulation 14 of the Accounts and Audit (Wales) Regulations 2014 requires local government bodies in Wales to prepare their accounts every year by 31 March; this includes Town and Community Councils.

An Internal Auditor is required to examine the accounts and relevant documents before the Community Council approves them. An Internal Audit was carried out by Rhys Jones before being handed over to the External Auditor, Audit Wales.

The Betws GG Councilors work closely with Denbighshire County Council to make sure effective services are provided for local residents. The Centre has current certificates from electrical and fire inspections.

Donations

A contribution was presented to the Royal British Legion and to friends of Betws Gwerful Goch School in support of their visit to Patagonia.

Public Areas

Financial support was given to keep the chapel yards tidy.

Biodiversity Plan

The Councillors consider the impact on Biodiversity when reviewing all planning applications. Four flower containers were purchased for the area, and an afternoon of planting wild seeds and collecting litter for September/October 2026 was discussed.

Defibrillators

There is a defibrillator on the back wall of Melin y Wig Hall and on the front wall of Betws GG School. The Community Council takes care of maintaining the defibrillators and making sure they are up to date.

Planning Applications

The Councillors discuss local planning applications. Applications are received through Denbighshire County Council, which asks the Community Council for its opinion on the applications. It should be noted that it is County Councils, not Community Councils, that make decisions on planning applications.

Contact:

For any further information, please contact the Clerk: Mrs Helen Hitchmough

Council Email: betwsggclerc@gmail.com

Website: betwsgwerfylgoch.cymru