



Annual Report

2023-2024

Hello and Welcome to all our residents.

Welcome to Rogiet Community Council's Annual Report. This annual report sets out to inform the residents of Rogiet the activities undertaken by the Community Council during the period April 2023 to March 2024. The report contains a brief outline of the structure of the Council, an overview of the Council's activities and a financial summary. The report also includes details of all the Community Councillors and how to contact the Council. There are 7 members at Rogiet Community Council. Councillors are office holders who sign a declaration of acceptance of office upon their election or appointment - they are therefore a part of the local government structure of Wales. Although they carry out many community activities on a voluntary basis, they are not volunteers.

At the head of the Council is the Chair who is elected annually from amongst its serving Councillors. The Chair for 2023-24 was Councillor Philip Ellwood and the Vice Chair was Cllr Anna Wilson.

We meet formally on the 2nd Wednesday evening of the month at 6.30pm at Rogiet Pavilion. There is also a hybrid provision for members and public to join remotely. These are very structured meetings with very full agendas. Anyone is welcome to observe and there is an opportunity at the start for

public questions, but it is a working meeting rather than a public presentation. There are no meetings in August due to recess. Depending on what projects are being dealt with and to be more proactive, members may meet in between monthly meetings as 'Working Groups' to deal with specific areas/projects - to then bring back to full council.

Vision Statement

To maintain Rogiet, through stewardship, as a sustainable and ecologically friendly community, preserving it and its history for future generations'

Your Community Councillors for the Year 2023-24 were:

Cllr Philip Ellwood (Chair)

Cllr Anna Wilson (Vice Chair)

Cllr Beverly Cawley

Cllr Paul Cromwell

Cllr Jers Dyderski (to Jul 2023)

Cllr Janet Fowler

Cllr Janet Trow (from Nov 2023)

Cllr Marjorie Winskill

To view details of your local Councillors and Clerk please visit our website:
www.rogietcommunitycouncil.co.uk

Budget/Precept

The council sets an annual budget and strategic direction of the Council.

Overall budget expenditure includes the day-to-day running of the Community Council covering such items as staff salary and statutory payments, audit, insurance, stationery. It also includes amounts earmarked for specific purposes, such as to mitigate specific risks or to build up funds for projects or known or anticipated future expenditure.

The Council obtains most of its income from its Precept - an additional amount which is added to Council Tax bills based upon estimated expenditure. Some additional income comes from other sources, such as the hiring of our pavilion building and sports facilities, and from the Rogiet

Playing Fields Car Park charges (under a net profit share arrangement with Monmouthshire County Council).

The difference between (total) income and the overall budget expenditure can sometimes be met from general reserves and/or earmarked funds from previous years.

For the year 2023-24 the Community Council set a Budget Expenditure of £65,967.00 and a Precept of £60,300.

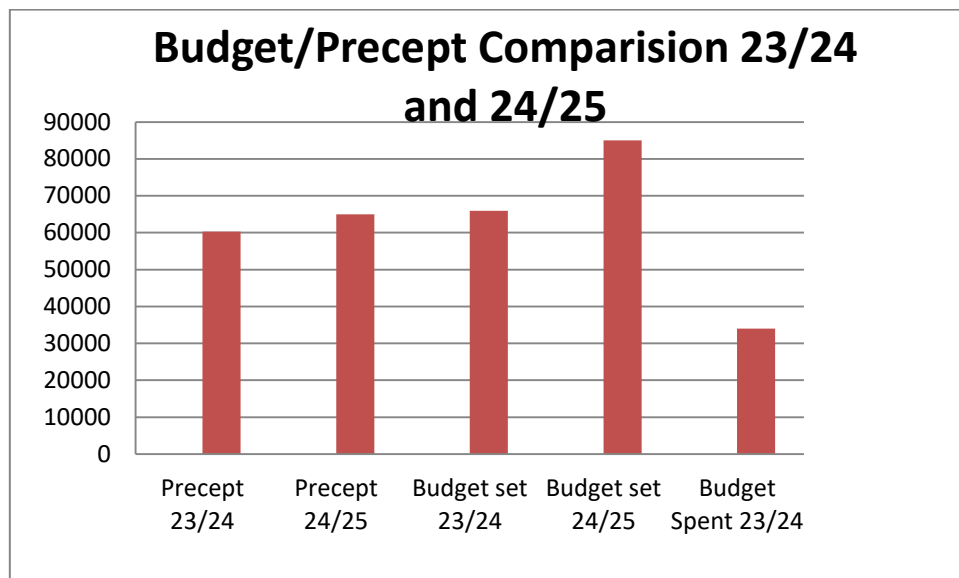
At the end of the financial year 2023-24

The Community Council's actual income with Precept was £76,749.00 – an increase of £10,125.00 – and the Budget was underspent by £32,000 due to the original Rogiet Hub project being put on hold. These funds will now go into earmarked reserves for the next financial year.

The Future for Rogiet Community Council in 2024-25

For the Financial Year 2024-25 the Council has set a Budget Expenditure of £85,043.00 and a Precept of £65,000.00.

The Precept, together with our other incomes and reserves, will cover the day-to-day running of the Community Council plus specific projects e.g. our Pavilion Reconfiguration project, and known or anticipated expenditures.



Accountability

The Community Council has an adopted Code of Conduct for its members. Also, a Register of Interests is kept. Each councillor has to declare any interest they have in items to be discussed at the start of each meeting and these are noted in the minutes.

Each year an Internal and External Audit are undertaken.

The Internal Audit was completed by IAC Audit and Consultancy Ltd and the External Audit undertaken by Audit Wales.

Internal Audit

The Internal Audit was completed 6th May 2024 - for the year ending 31 March 2024 (see website for details).

The External Audit is currently being done by Audit Wales and the outcome will be published on our website in due course. Once every three years Audit Wales will undertake a 'full' (in-depth) audit on all councils. Rogiet Community Council last underwent a 'Full Audit' for the year 2022-23.

What we have been doing

As your local council we have continued to maintain and improve valuable services to the community, including play park equipment, grass-cutting / hedge clearing (we pay MCC to do this), emptying of our 10 dog waste bins, responding as a consultee to planning applications, and helping residents to access services from MCC. We have also continued to maintain the Rogiet Hub (Pavilion) building, which provides home facilities for several local organisations: Little Tigers Daycare, MonLife Youth Club, and Severn Tunnel Football Club.



Other examples of things we have done in and around the village in the last year: reinstatement of one dog waste bin following a review of the provision; support to various community groups, including Rogiet Community Junction and Rogiet Wildlife Friendly Village; maintenance of defibrillators; provision of Christmas trees and lighting.



Another tangible improvement has been the repair and upgrade to the lighting in the Multi Use Games Area (MUGA). We have replaced the old and mostly broken lamps with brand new state-of-the-art LED equivalents. Over the coming months we will be looking at ways to promote the MUGA to sports organisations and residents, to make best use of our investment.



On a related note, last summer saw our purchase of new tennis nets and the provision of free tennis racquets and balls in a box, for residents to just ‘pick up and play’. This proved to very popular with families so we will be doing the same this year!

In October we decided to scale back our plans for a brand-new Rogiet Hub community building, and instead focus on refurbishing and improving our current building. We have re-engaged our architect to create feasibility designs to lead us to the pre-planning stage. We will share the proposals with residents in our summer edition of the Windmill Post, and on our web site and social media. We thank residents for their participation in last year’s Rogiet Hub survey, the results of which were most helpful to us.

As well as all the above, we have managed the routine activities of running the council as a corporate body: controlling the finances (budget, precept, payment of staff, payment of invoices for services, day-to-day banking, etc); managing policies, staff, council meetings, social media, and so on.

For this coming summer of 2024, we have planned some councillor surgeries, and some free ‘Stay and Play’ sessions for the children, on four consecutive weeks in the school holidays. These play sessions will be funded by RCC and provided by the Monlife play team.

Also, for the summer season, we are clearing and re-planting four of the village's planters to improve their appearance - in response to residents' comments.

Planning

As a statutory consultee the Community Council reviewed and responded to 8 planning applications during 2023-24.

CCTV

A significant project that was delivered by your Community Council in 2023-24 was the provision of CCTV around the Pavilion, play park and football pitch areas, with the aim of deterring vandalism and anti-social behaviours. We deployed the system in July 2023 and then made some minor technical improvements in November. More recently, we have added a new external camera, to protect the playing fields car park and its boundary with the allotments. Overall, we have been very pleased to see that there has been little vandalism in the protected areas since we commissioned the system and put up the signage.



For more information about the council, council business and to see regular updates please view our website: www.rogietcommunitycouncil.co.uk and follow us on Facebook: [Rogiet Community Council](https://www.facebook.com/RogietCommunityCouncil).

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