

Rosemarket Community Council
Annual Report 2021-2022

Rosemarket Community Council incorporates the areas surrounding the villages of Rosemarket and Sardis. Meetings are held on the first Monday of each month (except August).

Rosemarket Community Council has six councillors. During the 2021/22 year, these were :

David Hancock (Chairman)
Jill Gibson (Vice Chairman and Church representative)
Steve Davies (Village Hall representative)
Caroline Haley
Tamsin Turner
John O'Boyle

Peter Horton is Clerk to Rosemarket Community Council and the initial point of contact.
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Rosemarket Community Council controls, either solely or jointly, the following areas of publicly-accessible land:

- *The Beacon*; an area of approximately 1.1Ha of public access land designated as a Village Green, situated on the northern edge of Rosemarket. It has two distinct areas – the Upper Beacon, a grassed recreational area with a children's play area, and the Lower Beacon, a largely undeveloped area of land.
- *Westaway Park*; an area of 0.25Ha of levelled, grassed recreational land, situated within a built-up area of Rosemarket, and used by the public as general amenity land.

Financial Information

Income

The Community Council's income is from precept collected via local Council tax. This is £9450 for the 2021/22 financial year.

Expenditure

The Community Council's budget for the 2021/22 financial year was £13804. The following report on anticipated expenditure for the year, and projected expenditure for the 2022/23 financial year, was presented to the January 2022 monthly meeting :

Rosemarket Community Council - Notes for determining 2022/23 precept

	2021/22		2022/23
	Precepted amount	Actual / projected	Projected expenditure
Clerk salary / expenses	£ 4209	£ 4316	£ 4383(1)
Insurance	£ 425	£ 395	£ 425
Village Hall grant	£ 750	£ -	£ 750
Grass cutting (Upper Beacon)	£ 800	£ 800	£ 800
Hedge & grass cutting / Lower Beacon	£ 150	£ 240	£ 500(2)
Village / bus shelter maintenance	£ 1000	£ -	£ 1000
Donations	£ 500	£ 550	£ 500

Administration / I.T.	£ 500	£ 183	£ 500
Westaway Park	£ 15	£ 15	£ 15
Work to Village Amenity	£ 500	£ -	£ 500
Election potential cost	£ 600	£ -	£ 600(3)
Members' allowances	£ 900	£ -	£ 900(4)
External audit fee	£ 275	£ 275	£ 275
Internal audit fee	£ 65	£ 60	£ 65
Play equipment purchase	£ -	£ -	£ 5000
Playground inspections	£ 615	£ 615	£ 750
Playground maintenance/improvements	£ 1500	£ 1500	£ 1500
Memorial bench installation	£ -	£ -	£ 1500
Tree-planting schemes	£ 1000	£ 1000	£ 1000(5)
Contribution towards C.W. grant	£ -	£ 1000	£ 1000(6)
Training	£ -	£ -	£ 500(7)
Total	£13804	£10949	£22463
Balance brought forward in bank to April 2021			: £14614
Add income received during year (precept)			: £ 9450
Add further income received (VAT refund)			: £ 840
Deduct actual / projected expenditure for year			: (£10949)
Actual projected cash balance on hand in bank on 31/03/2022			: £13955
Deduct ring-fenced sums / outstanding payments from previous years			
- Elections (20% of potential cost each for 18/19, 19/20, 20/21, 21/22)			: £ 2400
- Grass-cutting (2018 season)			: £ 800
Total ring-fenced / set aside sums for outstanding matters			: £ 3200
Therefore, projected available funds on hand at 31/03/2022			: £10755

NOTES

- 1) Based on assumed increase of 3% in N.J.C. pay scale (actual figures yet to be released), and £200 estimate for incidental expenses
- 2) Assuming 2 cuts of grass and hedges @ £250/cut.
- 3) Based on 20% of estimated election cost. Election due in May 2022.
- 4) Based on £150/Member for six Members.
- 5) Provisional sum in case further planting schemes should go ahead.
- 6) Assuming further follow-up application for second speed-activated sign.
- 7) Assuming £50/member + £200 for Clerk training.

Relationship with the principal council

The Community Council has no ongoing formal charters with Pembrokeshire County Council (the Principal Authority). However, the Community Council does hold a lease from Pembrokeshire County Council for the land at Westaway Park. It is anticipated that this lease will be surrendered in favour of the Rosemarket Village Hall Committee sometime in 2022/23 (please see 'Priorities for coming year' below).

Audit

Audit of 2020/21 accounts. These accounts represent the most recently externally audited accounts, and were given unqualified approval by the Wales Audit Office auditors.

Achievements during the past year

- **Tree-planting scheme:** Phase 1, the planting of a range of trees on The Beacon (community land), completed in February 2022.
- **Road safety and maintenance:** Successful grant application for funding towards the purchase and installation of driver-activated feedback signage in the village; Community Works Fund run by Pembrokeshire County Council.
- **Playground safety and maintenance:** Safety gate installed, along with anti-dog fouling and no smoking signage in the vicinity of the children's playground on The Beacon.
- **Environmental biodiversity:** Decisions relating to grass-cutting of publicly-accessible land, along with the selection and location of trees for the tree-planting scheme have been taken with consideration given to meeting our biodiversity duty.
- **Community Newsletter:** Following on from the Community Newsletter and Questionnaire undertaken in 2020, *Rosemarket Community News & Information* was published in July 2021 and featured information and updates on a range of topics and activities. Designed, written and printed by members (at no cost to community council funds), a copy was hand-delivered to every household.
- **COVID support:** Since the start of the pandemic, members of Rosemarket Community Council have helped to ensure that the community in general, and vulnerable residents in particular, have access to the support they need. This included the writing, printing and delivery of a flyer to all residents with information and contact details, with a follow-up reminder of support in the Community Newsletter.

Priorities for the coming year

- **Tree-planting scheme:** Phase 2, planting of additional trees on The Beacon, as well as other community areas. This will include the purchase and planting of seven Cherry trees in commemoration of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.
- **Memorial bench:** The purchase and installation of an additional bench adjacent to the children's playground on The Beacon. This will be dedicated to the memory of Barbara Summons MBE, long-serving member of Rosemarket Community Council.
- **Playground safety and maintenance:** The purchase and installation of replacement multi-play slide equipment, which is aged and in need of updating. This follows the purchase and installation of new swings.

- **Road safety and maintenance:** The purchase and installation of driver-activated feedback signage in the village, with contributory funding from the Community Works grant.
- **Bus shelter and bench maintenance:** Repairs and re-painting of the two bus shelters, along with the benches in the village.
- **Recycling area:** Clearing of overgrown bushes and painting of the fence.
- **Community Newsletter:** Following positive feedback received, from residents, another newsletter is planned this year.
- **Training Plan:** *The Community Council will be preparing a training plan to meet the emerging needs of both Members and Clerk, this to be implemented by November 2022.*
- **Lease of land at Westaway Park:** *The Community Councils is hoping that arrangements will be finalised in 2022/23 to transfer their lease for the land at Westaway Park to the Rosemarket Village Hall Committee, to facilitate the construction of a new Village Hall.*
- **Dog fouling and littering:** *The Community Council intends to continue its support of local voluntary litter-picking initiatives, and also efforts to reduce dog-fouling in the community.*

PETER HORTON
CLERK TO ROSEMARKET COMMUNITY COUNCIL