

**PROJECT: CREATION OF A POND VIEWING PLATFORM,  
LOG BURNERS FITTED, COMPOSTING TOILETS  
ERECTED, AND ACCESS TRACK ESTABLISHED**  
**APPLICANT: OUTSIDE LIVES**



**STAKEHOLDERS ENGAGED**  
**40**



**LOCATION**  
**GWERNYMYNYDD, DENBIGHSHIRE**



**TOTAL PROJECT VALUE**  
**£58,635**

## GREEN COMMUNITIES FUND OVERVIEW

The Green Communities fund, delivered by rural development agency Cadwyn Clwyd, aims to support improvements to outdoor community activities and infrastructure.

Supported through the Enabling Natural Resources and Wellbeing grant, 30 local areas in Denbighshire, Conwy, Flintshire, and Wrexham have been given support to transform their outdoor community spaces for wildlife to thrive and to create desirable places to live, work and play.

Some groups opted for funding for renewable energy systems, such as solar installations, to reduce carbon emissions and help reduce their fuel bills.



## PROJECT SUMMARY

Caring for the earth, people, and the future are the three core values at the heart of Outside Lives.

And thanks to the support received, the social enterprise will be able to connect even more people through shared interests, while providing activities and events that support wellbeing and growth.

A grant of almost £60,000 helped to substantially upgrade facilities at its four-acre plot in Gwernymynydd.

## OBJECTIVES

Lucy Powell, managing director and founder of Outside Lives, was focused on improving the Denbighshire-based organisation's facilities.

The company utilises a strength-based approach looking at people as people rather than focusing on what issues they may have as everyone has something to offer.

The goal was to create an even more inviting space for the public to come and enjoy amenities on offer.



## ACTIVITY

A pond with wildlife and viewing platform, including wheelchair access, has been installed, and log burners have been fitted in both the cabin and nook.

Two composting toilets have been erected, with an access track created to improve entry to the woods, while preserving the environment.

Lucy said: "The work has quite simply given us an infrastructure to invite more people to utilise the space, and the look on people's faces when they see the improvements made in such a short space of time is priceless.

"We try a community-based approach, focusing on what people are interested in, rather than their perceived challenge, and it is wonderful to see the impact the changes have had on those who come to the hub."

The funding has not only provided a boost for the now, but its impact will be felt in the future.

Lucy added: "The money and infrastructure has acted as a springboard to access other grants.

"We're looking into support for purchasing a minibus and have been able to showcase what this funding has achieved and proven that each and every penny has been spent wisely."



**"IT'S PROVIDED A WHOLE RANGE OF VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES FOR INDIVIDUALS WHO COME TO OUR SITE, AND THAT HAS JUST BEEN AMAZING.**

**"THE PEOPLE THAT VISIT ARE FROM ALL WALKS OF LIFE AND SPAN IN AGE FROM SIX TO 80 YEARS OLD."**

**- LUCY POWELL**

## OUTCOMES

Lucy is thrilled that her organisation can continue to positively impact the lives of others.

She said: "It's going to make such a huge difference to what we do, and it will certainly reduce my workload massively in terms of cleaning and carrying a gas heater from building to building, and we now have facilities that are completely safe.

"In addition, using the wood we have onsite to fuel the burners brings costs down and reduces gas usage, which in turn helps protect the planet."

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