

PROJECT: PURCHASING TWO WOODEN BENCHES, PLANTERS, AND FRUIT TREES / INSTALLATION OF A GAZEBO AND HEDGEROW

APPLICANT: BRYNEGLWYS IN BLOOM / BRYNEGLWYS
PLAYING FIELDS



STAKEHOLDERS ENGAGED
28



LOCATION
BRYNEGLWYS, DENBIGHSHIRE



TOTAL PROJECT VALUE
£3,363.19 / £19,878.24

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.

This project has received a contribution from the Sustainable Development Fund (SDF) which provides aid for innovative, sustainable, environmental projects, that involve local communities in the Clwydian Range and Dee Valley Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB).



PROJECT SUMMARY

Village community councillor Gill Tustain and Sian Thomas, chair of the playing fields committee, Yr Ifanc yn Ial, led separate applications that have helped make substantial improvements.

A grant helped Sian and her team erect a wooden gazebo, install new hedgerow, and purchase flower pots.

The community space Gill leads on, benefited from two wooden benches for the information hub, while seven planters and 10 apple and cherry trees were secured for a 40-metre verge.

OBJECTIVES

The developments were aimed at making Bryneglwys a community hub, which both children and adults of all ages could enjoy.

Sian said: "One of the goals was to improve the playing fields and this is another milestone hit thanks to the funding we've received – it's made such a big difference."



ACTIVITY

Gill and Sian were two of 14 volunteers who planted the bulbs one Sunday morning late last year, the former saying: "It was wonderful to see the community come together."

"There's a thriving gardening club in the village, so some of the members helped out with coffee and mince pies creating a festive feel."

"There were another six volunteers who planted the trees – mainly the ones who were physically capable of digging the holes!"

"I've had some emails from people saying how good the blooms looked when they were passing by, and that feedback is great and makes the hard work worth it."

"It's also important that we are improving, rather than damaging, the local environment, and, where possible we've used second life products."

Gill, meanwhile, has a special thanks for the Green Communities team.

She said: "I fractured my ankle in three places after slipping on black ice in January 2023 and had pins and plates inserted in both sides."

"I was working on this project from a hospital bed, so it has been fantastic to see the enhancements that have been made as a result of the funding."



"AT ONE POINT, IT WAS JUST A PLAYING FIELD, WHICH WAS CONDEMNED AND EMPTY. THIS IS THE THIRD DIFFERENT GRANT TO MAKE IMPROVEMENTS AND WE ARE THOROUGHLY PLEASED WITH THE WORK THAT HAS BEEN DONE."

-SIAN THOMAS

OUTCOMES

Sian, Gill, and the community of Bryneglwys are lining up further improvements.

Gill said: "We are now looking to press on with our work converting the old school into a community hub."

"There aren't many amenities in Bryneglwys, so to have a space for people to grab a coffee, but still watch their children playing will be invaluable."

Sian added: "The next thing to add to the playing fields is a small all-weather football pitch and goalposts with basketball hoops."

This project has received funding through the Welsh Government Rural Communities - Rural Development Programme 2014-2020, which is funded by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development and the Welsh Government.