**Rossett Community Council Precept Statement 2022/23**

The precept is the Community Council's share of the council tax. The precept demand goes to the billing authority, Wrexham County Borough Council, which collects the tax for the Community Council. The 'Precept' is converted into an amount per Council Tax Band that is added onto the Council Tax bill. Income and expenditure for the next financial year are calculated in the form of estimates. The net amount (the precept) is added to council tax, collected by the County Council and paid to community councils in three four-monthly instalments. Community Councils do not receive funds direct from the Welsh Government, as the County Council does. The precept is used to fund the running of the Community Council and the services it provides for Rossett and Burton.

The forecast expenditure of the Community Council for 2021/22 is approximately £65,000 this covers staff costs, the maintenance of the recreation ground and grass cutting, street cleaning, costs of street lighting (some street lighting is the responsibility of Wrexham County Borough Council) and donations to Community Organisations such as the Scouts, the Village Hall and Gresford Community Library. The total expenditure is slightly reduced again this year due to the on-going project to consider the redevelopment of the toilet block. Until the full impact of this development is identified, the Community Council have limited investment in additional/replacement equipment at the Chester Road playground. The Covid 19 pandemic has again impacted on the Community Council’s spending as there have been very few activities throughout the year. We have provided additional financial support to some of our community groups who have been required to purchase additional equipment to meet changing resource provision or meet standing costs whilst attracting no income and little or no opportunities for fundraising events.

The precept level to be levied for 2022/23 is £68,000. Following a three-year period where the precept has been unchanged and a current inflation rate standing at approximately 5%, it is necessary to increase the precept by 4.13%. The Community Council has used some of its reserves to retain the previous level of precept for a sustained period however, it is now of a level that an increase is deemed necessary in order to meet ever increasing costs. Particularly over the last twelve-month period there has been an increase in costs for both services and items. As the Councillor allowance has been unclaimed for the current financial year, this amount (£2,100) will be held in reserves to ensure this can be offered in the next financial year. The Community Council will be supporting the progression of Hwb Yr Orsedd with the planning/development stage and this will be funded via the Community Development Fund allocated from Council reserves. The Community Council will continue to endeavor it achieves ‘best value’ for the services and equipment purchased and by achieving savings this will allow flexibility within the budget to hopefully re-establish Community events e.g. Big Lunch, Village Awards, Christmas Tree Event and the running of the Community Café.

**Category 2021/22 2021/22 2022/23**

 **Precept Est. Expenditure Precept**

Admin £17,700 £20,000 £21,000

Recreation Ground £24,820 £21,000 £24,000

Toilets £1,030 £600 £1,000

Public Lighting £10,900 £7,500 £10,000

Donations £5,150 £8,000 £5,500

Street Cleaning £5,700 £8,000 £6,500

**Totals £65,300 £65,100 £68,000**