

ONE VOICE WALES
LARGER COUNCIL'S COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 16 OCTOBER 2019 at 10.30am in the
MEDIA RESOURCE CENTRE, LLANDRINDOD WELLS.

PRESENT

Councillor Nick Tatam – Abergavenny Town Council (Chair)
Jane Lee – Abergavenny Town Council (Clerk)
Emily Forbes – Barry Town Council (Chief Officer)
Mark Sims – Barry Town Council (Deputy Chief Officer)
Councillor Ken Lloyd – Carmarthen Town Council
Councillor Malcolm Curtice – Gorseinon Town Council
John Millard – Gorseinon Town Council (Town Clerk)
Councillor Pam Morgan – Gorseinon Town Council
David Davies – Llanedi Community Council (Clerk)
Councillor Stephen Powell – Llantrisant Community Council
Councillor David Nicholas – Llantrisant Community Council
Councillor Carrie Townsend-Jones – Mumbles Community Council
Councillor David Selby – Newtown and Llanllwchaearn Town Council
Sorelle White - Newtown and Llanllwchaearn Town Council
Ed Humphreys - Newtown and Llanllwchaearn Town Council (Clerk)
Councillor Mike Theodoulou – Pembrey and Burry Port Town Council
Councillor David Owens – Pembrey and Burry Port Town Council
Councillor Mike Cuddy – Penarth Town Council
Councillor Stuart Thomas – Pentyrch Community Council
Councillor Stella Matthews – Rhosllannerchrugog Community Council

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

Lyn Cadwallader – Chief Executive
Paul Egan – Deputy Chief Executive

APOLOGIES

Councillor Jack Hawkins – Barry Town Council
Councillor Shirley Hodges – Barry Town Council
Councillor Bronwen Brooks – Barry Town Council
Councillor Jim Higginson – Caldicot Town Council
Alun Harries – Carmarthen Town Council (Town Clerk)
Councillor Martin Williams – Coity Higher Community Council
Councillor Keith Plow – Magor and Undy Community Council
Councillor Bryan Grew – Mold Town Council
Councillor Glyn Morvan – Nantyglo and Blaina Town Council
Councillor Alan Carter – Neath Town Council
Councillor Sandra Miller – Neath Town Council
Helena Fox – Pentyrch Community Council (Clerk)
Councillor Paul Griffiths – Pontyclun Community Council
Julius Roszkowski – Pontyclun Community Council (Clerk)
Tony Graham – Pontypridd Town Council (Chief Executive)
Councillor Martin Williams – St Brides Minor Community Council

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

The following declarations were made: -

- a) Councillor Mike Theodoulou – Member of the WCVA Funding Panel.
- d) Ed Humphreys – Member of the Former Independent Local Council Review Panel.

2. ASSET TRANSFERS AND DEVOLUTION OF SERVICES

The Chair welcomed Gareth Kiddie, OVW Consultant to the meeting. In his presentation he made references as follows:

- The current context for community asset transfers
- Highlighted 3 case studies where he had directly been involved
- Outlined the key steps to successful management of asset transfers
- Identified key risks involved
- Pointed out that over 300 asset transfers had been processed in Wales over the past 10 years and that the trend was continuing – he highlighted a few examples such as the public toilets in Llandaff and the Excel Bowl in Carmarthen
- Described his personal involvement as an OVW consultant in relation to the Newport Visitor Centre identifying key challenges faced such as lack of experience/local conflicts/time issues and burn out/fitting new systems into Council structures/management of volunteers/Need to have leader to manage the organising team
- He cited Llanelli Town Council's experience of asset transfers involving public parks and playing fields based on a 99-year lease and the need to have inspection and maintenance schedules in place, managing community expectations and the need to increase the precept. Some of the key success factors for the Council were the fact that they had experience of asset transfers and skills to manage the designated assets; they developed a partnership with a neighbouring council to maintain the assets; they arranged sub-leases to sports clubs; had benefitted from S106 funding; and they had a Community Engagement Officer in post
- He referred to an example of a Community Centre in Cardiff that had been transferred to a new community organisation based on a 25-year lease
- In summary he considered that the key steps to success included having clear aims and objectives, recognition of the need to build capability and capacity, proven feasibility, detailed business planning, advanced preparation prior to implementation of the transfer and being clear about how the asset will be managed and developed. Also, the need to be able to prove the community benefits that would be achieved.
- In terms of risks, these included an assessment of liabilities, avoidance of having too restrictive a lease, ability to manage any early failures, avoidance of burn out, managing serious incidents, not meeting financial targets and strain on the Council's resources

- It was noted that he had almost completed a new training programme on the practicalities of asset transfers and devolution of services which had been commissioned by OVW for roll out throughout Wales
- He referred to a toolkit called 'Stepping Up' which he had written for Cardiff Council.

In the discussion that followed, several matters were raised: -

- ✓ The pros and cons of assets transferred to charitable bodies e.g. such trusts could obtain rate relief and were in a better position to access grants
- ✓ Strain on volunteers was a critical issue
- ✓ The process for asset transfers was very different in the case of Councils as opposed to voluntary or charitable bodies
- ✓ There was a need to ensure that the content of leases met local needs
- ✓ The length of leases granted to voluntary bodies was more important in terms of their financial stability and eligibility for grant funding sources
- ✓ Feasibility studies should start from scratch and a financial plan covering the first 10 years should be developed.

3. PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING AND ENGAGEMENT

The Chair welcomed Councillor Susan Rodaway to the meeting who with Councillor Mike Cuddy gave a joint presentation to the meeting on how people can be more involved in decisions that affect them. The focus of the presentation was on 'Deliberative Democracy.' The following matters were covered:

- The relevant aspects of the conclusions of the Independent Review of the Community and Town Council sector
- The high level of uncontested seats at local elections
- The need to engage people in local decisions and allow time for discussion and deliberation
- The purpose and benefits of participatory budgeting
- The process of participatory budgeting was described
- The benefits of this approach were articulated
- An example of the approach taken by Pennard Community Council
- Use of VocalEyes website and supporting software
- Using the software to develop priorities for communities and allocating funding to address them

It was noted that several Councils in Swansea had used this approach supported by the free VocalEyes software and it was considered that its availability should be more widely communicated throughout the sector. It was recognised that it was not just about participatory budgeting but also as a means of generating interest in local democracy.

RESOLVED that:

- a) A copy of the presentation slides be circulated to members of the Committee.
- b) A summary of the benefits of using the VocalEyes free software be included in the next e-bulletin.

4. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 17 APRIL 2019

RESOLVED that: The minutes be approved as a correct record.

5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There were none.

6. FEEDBACK FROM ANNUAL CONFERENCE AND AGM

The Chief Executive gave the following feedback: -

- The number of delegates had dropped to 130
- The cost of using The Bont was much less than the RWSG but attendance levels were significantly lower despite more new member councils joining in the current year

He was not keen on using this venue again and would prefer to use the RWSG. A review of the arrangements for marketing of the event would be undertaken.

In terms of the content of presentations, it was considered that there was nothing new for the sector from the presentation made by the Deputy Minister but the presentations on Understanding Welsh Places and that made in relation to the Cardigan Town and Teifi Partnership scheme were particularly well received.

The exhibitors were content with the venue as they had additional exposure to attendees compared with the RWSG venue.

In the discussion that took place, it was suggested than an e-mail poll should be arranged to find out why so many member councils do not attend the Conference and AGM. It was further suggested that there might be benefit in refreshing the format and content and that a small task and finish group should be established with the aim of developing recommendations for consideration by the NEC.

Some practical points made were: -

- This year's event clashed with the Rugby World Cup
- The Bont was very inaccessible and this was likely to have impacted on number attending
- The morning session could include Workshop sessions
- Need to enhance marketing materials
- Possible change in date to July or early September when the weather was likely to be much better
- Have the event on a weekday

RESOLVED that: The Chief Executive to arrange to form a task and finish group to review the arrangements for the event and make recommendations to the NEC for consideration.

7. TRAINING AND CONSULTANCY UPDATE

The Committee was informed that support for training remained strong. A new module on the practical aspects of asset transfers and devolution of services would soon be available and several new training associates would be appointed in the near future.

8. FINANCE UPDATE

The new version of the Practitioner's Guide to Governance and Accountability had recently been published and it was noted that the thematic part of the external audit for 2019/20 would be around payment arrangements.

9. POLICY UPDATE

The Chief Executive reported that the following motions approved at the AGM would now be taken forward: -

Carmarthen Town Council & Llanfihangel Ystrad Community Council

That there should be a national uniformity for road and public signs in Wales and where planning consent is required for a public sign involving the use of language, the sign should be bi-lingual (i.e. Welsh first and then English), and that this is a condition of planning consent'

Chepstow Town Council, Nevern Community Council & Presteigne & Norton Town Council

That this AGM of One Voice Wales urges the Welsh Government not to levy business rates on Community and Town Councils for library buildings and public toilets thereby removing the additional financial burden on local councils who take over these essential services; and, given the additional funding coming to Wales over 3 years as a result of the UK Government's Autumn Budget announcements to provide additional business rate relief to retail and hospitality businesses across Wales.

Coity Higher Community Council

This motion calls for the National Executive Committee of One Voice Wales to develop a five year strategic plan which will ensure that the organisation is appropriately structured to provide high quality support to the Community & Town Council sector going forward

Pennard Community Council

To provide a toolkit and guidance to Community Councils wishing to declare a Climate Emergency and work towards a carbon zero future.

One Voice Wales Motion

That membership fees are uplifted by up to 5% for the financial year 2020-2021.

The Chief Executive had been invited to sit on the Litter Advisory Board that would be examining the matter of plastic waste. He had been lobbying for some time on the need to encourage local energy developments and how Councils could play an active part in this area.

There had been little progress on the Welsh Champions initiative on the part of the Welsh Government with it being suggested that Councils should encourage, and support Welsh language training being provided in their own premises.

OVW was a member of the Diversity in Democracy Group and would be feeding in the views of the sector. It was noted that the Group was supportive of 16/17-year olds being mandated to vote in local elections.

OVW was working in collaboration with the WCVA in relation to approaches to community planning and funding was being sought from the WG to support research in this area.

10. COMMUNICATIONS UPDATE

The Chief Executive updated the Committee as follows: -

- a) The Understanding Welsh Places website was now available to access on a free of charge basis.
- b) OVW would be organising the 4th Annual Awards event for March 2019 and invitations to enter would be circulated in the near future
- c) The community asset transfer guide approved by Ystradau Cymru would be circulated to member councils in the near future.

11. REVIEW OF THE LOCAL COUNCIL SECTOR – UPDATE

The Chief Executive briefly outlined the background leading to the response of the WG to set down areas for action some of which required collaboration with the WLGA. Since the Panel's publication of its report, he and the Chair had met with the Minister on one occasion when it was clear that she was not fully satisfied with the evidence used to support some of the key recommendations. As a result, some of the more important recommendations supported by OVW were not being pursued. It had become very clear that the Minister was not supportive of the creation of new local councils to ensure all parts of Wales were represented at the grass roots level. A brief resume of the collaborative work being undertaken with the WLGA was outlined it being noted that some of the areas of action could not be pursued without agreement by both parties. The Chief Executive was not enthused by the pace and scale being adopted by the WG or its apparent lack of ambition for the sector.

In the discussion that followed, a comment was made that there was little merit in trying to change the approach of the WG to the sector and it was considered that OVW should endeavour to become self-funded through increasing membership fees which would only involve a small increase in precepts on the part of member councils. This would require OVW to be brave and give a greater focus on the future of the sector. It was suggested that greater support for OVW's work would be forthcoming if it took such steps to become self-funding

and that member councils should be canvassed to seek their support to such an approach. This view was not necessarily shared by all members of the Committee but there was consensus that a close working relationship should be maintained with the WLGA.

RESOLVED that: A letter from the Larger Council's Committee be sent to the Minister asking for a full statement as to her position relating to the final report of the Independent Review Panel especially in relation to those matters designated as requiring further consideration.

12. ENVIRONMENT (WALES) ACT 2016 – SECTION 6 DUTY

The Committee was informed that initially there was an oversight on the part of the responsible WG department as to the role of the sector in delivering on the Section 6 duty and the need for OVW to be consulted in the development of statutory guidance. The Chief Executive had however engaged with the lead civil servant in this matter and she had made a presentation on the duty at the Innovative Practice Conference in July. Since that time, some general guidance had been circulated to member councils but the final guidance for Councils would shortly be available for circulation. The Chief Executive had been invited to join the WG's Implementation Group, but he acknowledged that there was now little time for Councils to adequately prepare for local implementation of their action plans and annual reports. An example of the plan prepared by Carmarthen Town Council had been circulated with the agenda to assist Councils prepare.

13. GENERAL POWER OF COMPETENCE

A new Local Government (Wales) Bill would be published by the end of the year and WG had confirmed that this new power with proposed conditions governing use would be subject to wide consultation.

14. GOOD PRACTICE SESSION

- a) Councillor Ken Lloyd referred to a Workshop he had recently attended in relation to Managing Green Spaces. He agreed to provide his report on the Workshop to Paul Egan for circulation to all member councils.
- b) Native plants were being planted at designated areas of the Gower Peninsular and Pennard CC had been donated hay bales for the purpose of creating wildflower displays in their community.
- c) It was noted that Councils were able to join the Woodland Trust.
- d) One Council was endeavouring to move away from traditional floral displays and avoid the use of insecticides containing glyphosate.
- e) Gorseinon TC – The BMX Track was attracting interest from BMX racers throughout the world it being noted that the Nitro Games would be held in Cardiff in 2020.

It was suggested that OVW should look at developing its website to include case studies provided by member councils. It might be worthwhile to see whether a link could be provided to the VocalEyes website.

15. GUEST PRESENTERS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

- a) Future Generations Commissioner
- b) Minister for Housing and Local Government (copy to be sent to First Minister)

16. MATTERS FOR REFERRAL TO THE NEC

- a) Review of Annual Conference and AGM.
- b) Level of Progress on the part of the WG in relation to the Independent Panel's recommendations.

17. CORRESPONDENCE

No matters raised.

18. ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR OF THE COMMITTEE

To be considered at the next meeting.

19. DATES OF 2020 MEETINGS.

The following dates were approved: -

5 February 2020

15 April 2020

14 October 2020

Innovative Practice Conference – 15 July 2020.

Signed.....
Chair

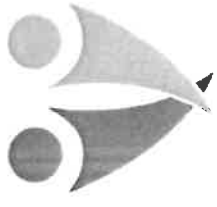
5 February 2020



Successful Community Asset Transfers (CATs)

Gareth Kiddie - OVW Consultant

Hen no. 8a Cij)



Successful Community Asset Transfers (CATs)

- **Current context for CATs**
- **Three CAT case studies**
- **Steps to success**
- **Some potential risks**
- **OVW Training**

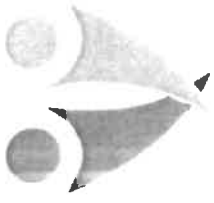


What is a CAT?

- **Community Asset Transfer(CAT) is the process by which public bodies transfer management control of their land, buildings or services to a community organisation.**
- **The terms of the transfer are negotiated – leasehold / freehold**
- **Sometimes at less than market value i.e. with a ‘favourable’ level of rent**

Background and context

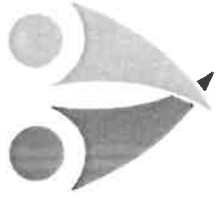
- **Public sector spending squeeze**
- **Service devolution – finding new ways to deliver public services**
- **No definitive data but estimates of 300+ CATs in Wales over the last decade**
- **Trend set to continue**
- **Patchy support but new WG guidance recently issued**
- **Lots of innovation going on (Llandaff Loos, Excel Bowl)**



CAT Case Studies

*(Some challenges faced and
key success factors!)*





Case Study 1: Newport Town Council



Newport Visitor Centre

Case Study 1: Newport Town Council

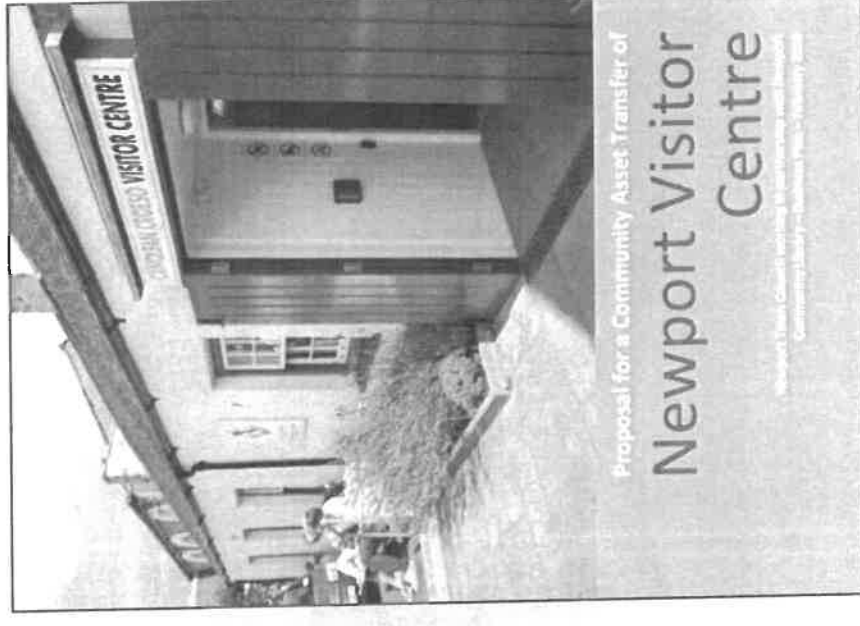
- **Newport Visitor Centre from Pembrokeshire Coast National Park**
- **Park unable to support costs of running visitor ctr.**
- **30 year lease**
- **Undertaking in partnership with Newport Community Library**



Case Study 1: Newport Town Council

Some challenges:

- Lack of experience
- Dealing with local 'conflict'
- Time taken / burn out!
- Fitting new systems and operations with existing council structures
- Managing volunteers



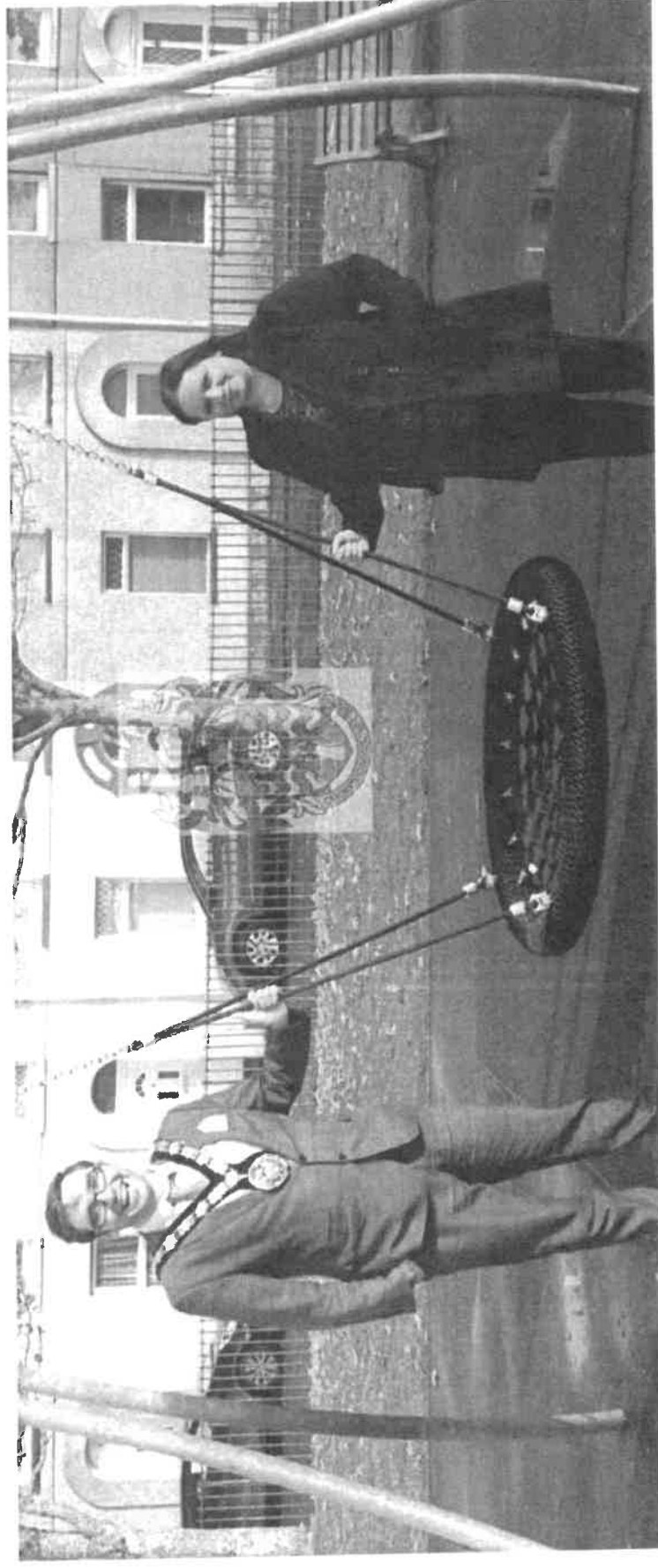
Case Study 1: Newport Town Council

Key success factors:

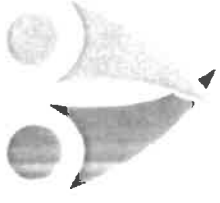
- Committed team well led
- Strong support from the local community
- The partnership with the community library
- Willing local volunteers
- 'Second Homes' capital grant



Case Study 2: Llanelli Town Council

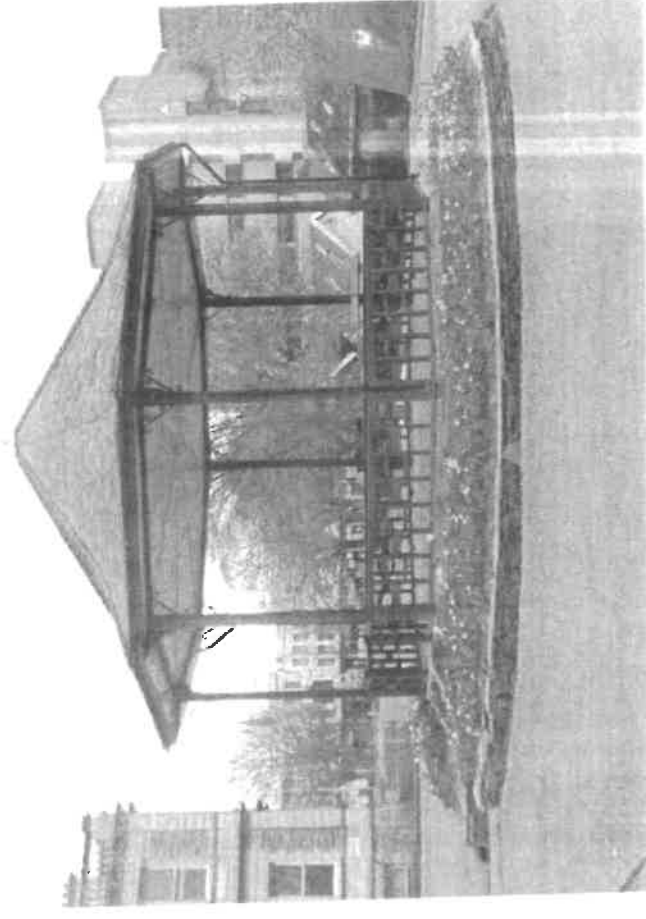


Parks and playing fields



Case Study 2: Llanelli Town Council

- Seven public parks and playing fields from Carmarthenshire County Council (CCC)
- CCC unable to continue maintenance
- No formal tender process
- 99 year lease granted on all assets

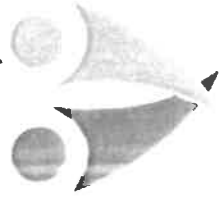


Case Study 2: Llanelli Town Council

Some challenges:

- Condition of the assets being transferred – lots of surveys required
- Ensuring the Council was not putting itself 'at risk'
- Managing community expectations
- Increasing the precept

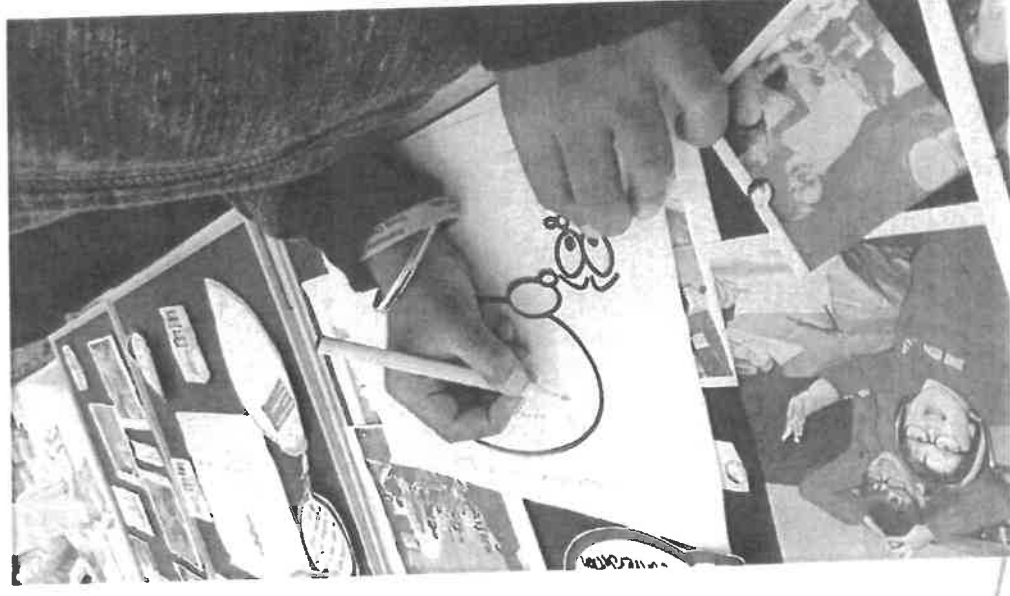




Case Study 2: Llanelli Town Council

Key success factors:

- Experience & skill-set
- Partnership with Llanelli Rural Council
- Sub-leases with sports clubs
- New monies drawn in e.g. Section 106
- Community engagement



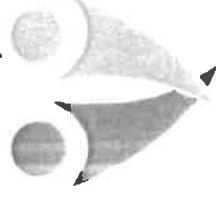
Case Study 3: Jubilee Community Trust



Maes-y-Coed Community Centre, Cardiff

Case Study 3: Jubilee Community Trust

Un Llais Cymru



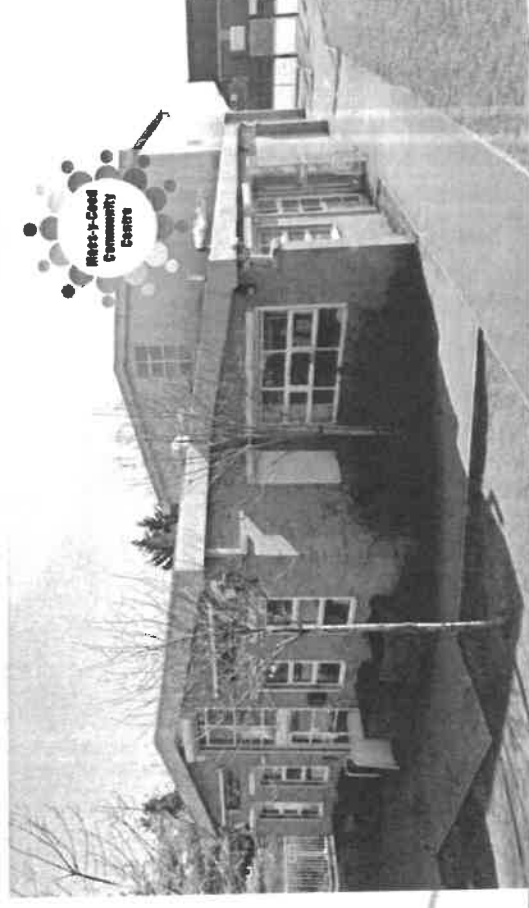
- **Maes-y-Coed Community Centre from City of Cardiff Council**
- **Part of City Council's disposal of smaller community / leisure ctrs.**
- **25 year lease**
- **Taken on by new community organisation**

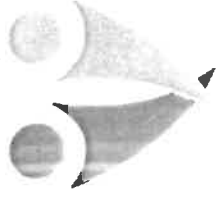


Case Study 3: Jubilee Community Trust

Some challenges:

- Inexperience – totally new
- Not having shared goals around the table (trustees)
- Not enough volunteers initially
- Personal issues causing conflict
- Getting the council to follow through on promises





Case Study 3: Jubilee Community Trust

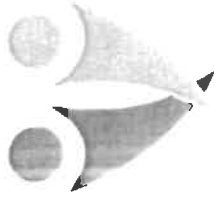
Key success factors:

- Taking a punt!
- Delivering what the community wants
- Fresh ideas & new ways of working
- Anchor tenant / partner
- Employing a Centre Manager



Steps to Success...

(Seven of course!)



Seven steps to success

Step 1: Establish clear and agreed aims & objectives

Step 2: Build your capacity

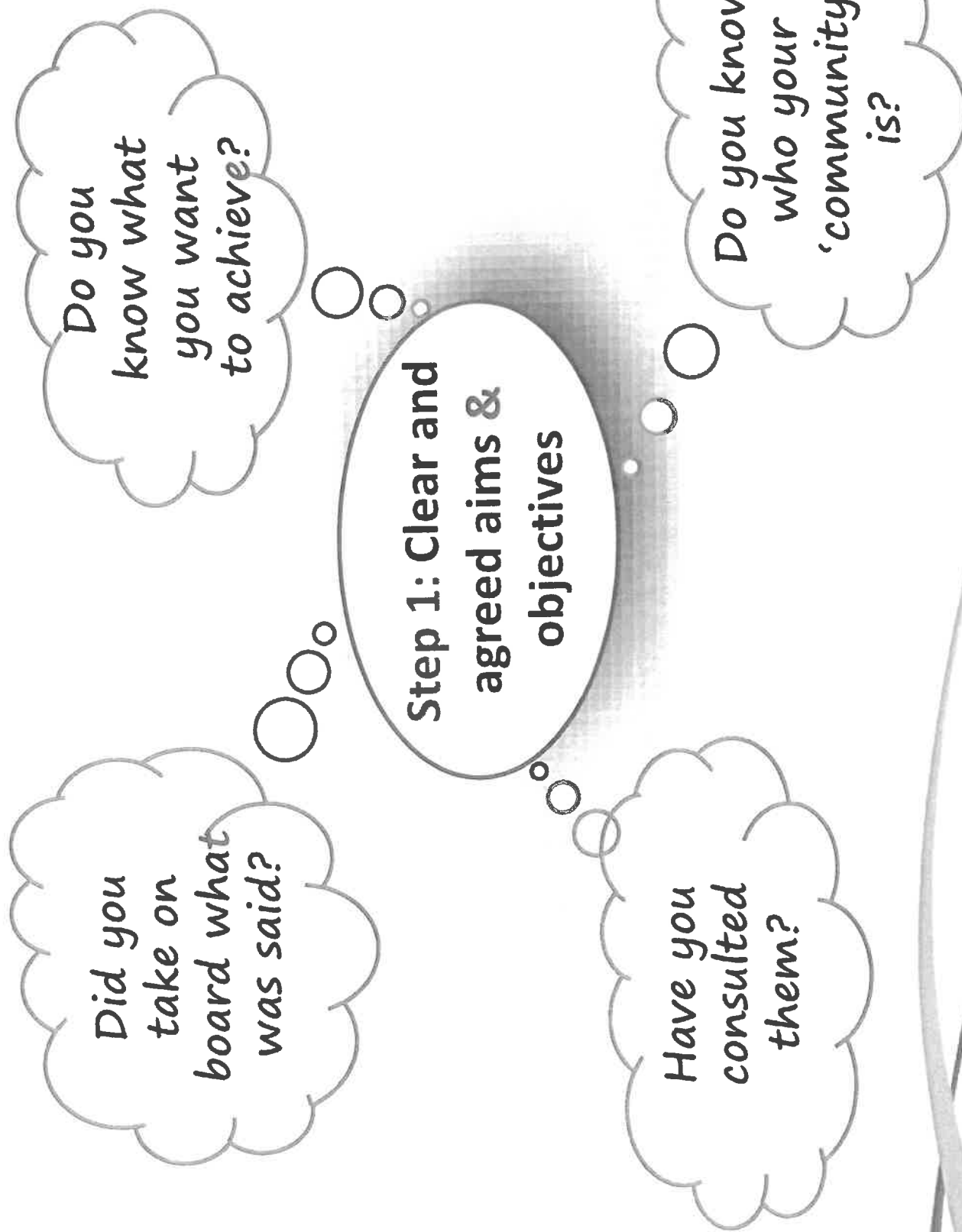
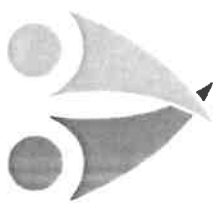
Step 3: Prove the feasibility of your CAT proposal

Step 4: Conduct detailed business planning

Step 5: Prepare to take on the asset

Step 6: Meet your obligations as an asset manager

Step 7: Monitor and evaluate your community benefit



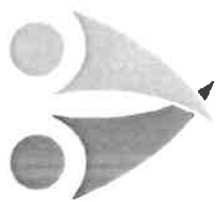


Have you
looked to
work in
partnership?

Have you got a
team and a
team leader?

**Step 2: Building
your capacity**

Does your
team have the
right skill-set?



Are you
continuing a
service or doing
something
new?

Step 3: Proving feasibility

If you've got a
study have
you looked at
the results?

Do you need
to commission
a feasibility
study?



What is

your

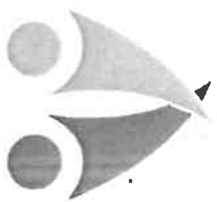
'funding
mix' looking
like?

Have you pulled
together your
business case?

**Step 4: Conduct
detailed business
planning**

Do you know
how you will
fund start up?

Have you
looked at the
income and
expenditure?



Has the
transferring body
met all of its
commitments?

Step 5: Getting
ready to take the
asset on

Have you
undertaken
due diligence
checks?

Have you
negotiated to get
the lease terms
you require?



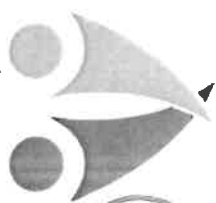
Do you have a
strong set of policies
in place?

Have you
got all the
relevant
licences?

**Step 6i:
Managing and
developing the
asset**

Have you got a
robust hiring
agreement?

Are you ready
to be an
employer?



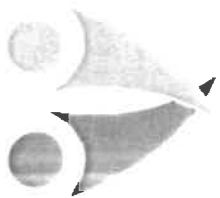
Have you looked at
equality of access?

**Step 6ii:
Managing and
developing the
asset**

Have you
looked at how
you might
develop your
asset?

Have you got a
building
maintenance
plan?

Have you got
the right
insurance
cover?



How are you
going to
measure the
community
benefit?

**Step 7: Proving
community
benefit**

Will you
report your
'Social
Impact'?

Have you
thought about
how you will
act on the
results?

Seven steps to success

Step 1: Establish clear and agreed aims & objectives

Step 2: Build your capacity

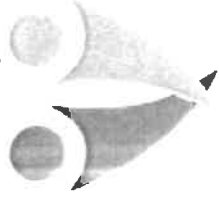
Step 3: Prove the feasibility of your CAT proposal

Step 4: Conduct detailed business planning

Step 5: Get ready to take on the asset

Step 6: Manage and develop the asset

Step 7: Monitor and evaluate your community benefit



Some potential risks

- It's a liability not an asset! – do your homework!!
- Restrictive lease – get professional advice / negotiate
- Early failure – contingency funding to cover start-up
- Burn out! – watch out for the signs / look after each other!
- Serious incident – ensure your policies are in place & active
- Not meeting financial targets – review activities and reset
- Strain on council resources – ensure asset is managed as a 'cost centre' in its own right



One Voice Wales Training

*Successfully undertaking a
community asset transfer*

A step-by-step guide





Comisiynydd Pobl Hŷn Cymru
Older People's Commissioner for Wales

Commissioner's
NEWSLETTER
Special Bulletin

**Commissioner launches campaign
to tackle everyday ageism**

The Commissioner has launched a new campaign to highlight and challenge the everyday ageism faced by older people.

The campaign aims to raise awareness of the ways that ageism impacts upon older people and society, and change attitudes so that the ageism that older people face everyday is no longer seen as being acceptable.

The Commissioner wants older people and the public to share examples of the ageism they have seen or encountered, so she can challenge and hold to account those who use ageist language, perpetuate ageist stereotypes, or discriminate against older people.

Discussing the campaign, the Commissioner said: "Despite a growing understanding of other forms of prejudice and discrimination, and the impact these have on individuals and society, ageism is widespread and is often seen as being acceptable.

"Every day, we are bombarded with ageist language and imagery that reinforces stereotypes about older people that are often focused on ill-health, decline and frailty, and growing older is often presented as something that should be feared rather than celebrated.

"This leads to a society in which we see age discrimination in the workplace, within health, social care, and other key public services, as well as across the media and advertising.

"A growing body of research demonstrates the many ways that ageism negatively impacts upon older people, affecting their physical and mental health, recovery from illness, levels of social exclusion and even life expectancy.



"Tackling ageism is therefore essential, which is why I have launched my Everyday Ageism campaign – to highlight just how prevalent ageism is across society and the significant impact it has, alongside robustly challenging examples of ageism that I have identified, and those that are shared with me as part of the campaign.

"Ending ageism must be a priority across society and I am looking forward to working with older people, public bodies, third sector organisations, business and the wider public to highlight and challenge everyday ageism. By working together we have an opportunity to change attitudes and tackle the ageism that underpins many of the issues faced by older people today.

There's been a great response to the campaign so far, with older people and stakeholders throughout Wales sharing our campaign messages and making pledges stating the ways in which they will play their part in challenging and tackling #EverydayAgeism.

Read on to find out more about the ways you can support the Commissioner's #EverydayAgeism campaign.

#EverydayAgeism Campaign: How you can get involved

You can support the Commissioner's #EverydayAgeism campaign in lots of different ways.

Share examples of #EverydayAgeism

A key part of our campaign is highlighting and challenging the ageism that older people face every day.

To do this, we want you to share examples of ageism you have seen with us. It could be a newspaper article, advert, a post on social media or an image that reinforces negative stereotypes or assumptions about older people.

You can share any examples you find with us via Twitter or Facebook, by emailing richard.jones@olderpeoplewales.com or by calling 03442 640670. Please share the source of the example with us, so we can challenge and hold to account those who use ageist language, perpetuate ageist stereotypes, or discriminate against older people.

Share #EverydayAgeism campaign messages and images via social media

Ageism is often overlooked or ignored, or seen as being harmless, but has a negative impact on older people, affecting their physical and mental health, recovery from illness, levels of social exclusion, access to services, employment opportunities and even life expectancy.

By sharing the #EverydayAgeism campaign messages, you can help people to understand the impact that ageism has, not only on older people, but also on society, and why it's so important we end ageism and age discrimination.

We've included some suggested social media posts in our supporter's pack, which you can download here: <http://www.olderpeoplewales.com/en/everydayageism/support.aspx>

Make your #EverydayAgeism campaign pledge

We can all play a part in helping to tackle #EverydayAgeism, so why not make an #EverydayAgeism campaign pledge and let the Commissioner know the action you will take, however big or small, to challenge ageism and age discrimination.

You can make your pledge via our website – www.olderpeoplewales.com/everydayageism – or you can send us your pledge by post. We'll then share your pledge via our Twitter and Facebook pages.

Alternatively, you can download the #EverydayAgeism Campaign pledge card and share a photo of yourself with your pledge via our Twitter page (@talkolderpeople) or our Facebook page (<https://bit.ly/35MkeEE>). We can also send you a paper copy of the pledge card if you'd prefer and you can send us your photo with your pledge by post.

Tackling Ageism Workshops for Older People

Many older people have told us that they find it difficult to recognise ageism and are not sure about the ways they can challenge ageism when they see or experience it.

The Commissioner is therefore planning a series of workshops for older people, which will be delivered throughout Wales, to empower older people, and ensure they understand their rights and the ways in which they can challenge ageism and age discrimination.

The workshop covers older people's rights and the laws that are designed to protect older people from age discrimination, as well as highlighting how to recognise and challenge ageism across a range of areas, including in the workplace, health and care services, consumer services and the media.

If you'd be interested in taking part in one of the upcoming workshops (dates / venues TBC), please email elizabeth.carr@olderpeoplewales.com or call 03442 640 670.

Contact Us

Older People's Commissioner for Wales
Cambrian Buildings
Mount Stuart Square
Cardiff
CF10 5FL

Phone: 03442 640 670
Email: ask@olderpeoplewales.com

Twitter: @talkolderpeople

www.olderpeoplewales.com



Bwrdd Cyngorau Iechyd Cymuned Cymru
33-35 Heol y Gadeirlan
Caerdydd
CF11 9HB

Board of Community Health Councils in Wales
33-35 Cathedral Road
Cardiff
CF11 9HB

31 October 2019

REPRESENTING THE INTERESTS OF PEOPLE IN THE NHS IN WALES: OUR PLANS AND PRIORITIES IN 2020-2021

Community Health Councils (CHCs) are independent statutory watchdogs of NHS services in Wales. CHCs encourage and support people to have a voice in the design, development and delivery of healthcare services for people and communities in Wales.

The Board of Community Health Councils represents the collective voice of CHCs, sets standards and guidance to underpin their activities and monitors and manages their performance.

CHCs are currently engaging with people in their local communities to find out what matters to them about their NHS services, and what their local priorities should be.

At a national level, we want to hear from you what you think we should focus on across Wales in the year ahead and why.

This may be about:

- How NHS services are currently working across Wales

Cadeirydd / Chair: John Pearce **Prif Weithredwr / Chief Executives:** Alyson Thomas
E-bost / E-mail: enquiries@waleschc.org.uk
Website: www.communityhealthcouncils.org.uk

- Planning, developing, varying or changing NHS services regionally or nationally
- Working collaboratively to strengthen the voice of patients and the public in their NHS
- Developing how the Board and CHCs work together in the interests of people living in Wales.

Given the nature of our respective roles we think there are likely to be areas where we have a joint interest in NHS matters. We would value the opportunity to discuss this further and to agree areas where we may share information and work together for the benefit of patients and the public in Wales.

If you would find this useful please do let us know and our office will make the necessary arrangements. You can also let us know what you think our priorities should be and why by completing our planning questionnaire (attached). You can return this by email or post.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

J A Thomas

Alyson Thomas
Chief Executive

Graphic: © Community Health Councils, 2010



Ysgnfenwch ataf yn Gymraeg neu Saesneg
Please write to me in Welsh or English

If you write to us in Welsh, we will answer in Welsh. This will not lead to a delay in responding to your correspondence.

Cadeirydd / Chair: John Pearce **Prif Weithredwr / Chief Executives:** Alyson Thomas
E-bost / E-mail: enquiries@waleschc.org.uk
Website: www.communityhealthcouncils.org.uk

Planning Questionnaire 2020-2021

To help us develop our plans and priorities for 2020 – 2021, please provide a response to the following questions:

What do you consider will be the key priorities for people living in Wales in relation to their NHS services in 2020 – 2021?

What, if any, activities do you think the Board of CHCs and CHCs should be involved in regionally or nationally in the year ahead¹

¹ (Please include any key NHS policy developments or service change proposals)

Cadeirydd / Chair: John Pearce **Prif Weithredwr / Chief Executives:** Alyson Thomas
E-bost / E-mail: enquiries@waleschc.org.uk
Website: www.communityhealthcouncils.org.uk

What, if anything, do you think the Board of CHCs and CHCs should do differently at a national level?

What opportunities might there be to work together (or share information) in the year ahead?

We would like to keep in touch with you about our activities during the year. If you would like to receive updates, please provide your contact details below:

Name/Organisation: _____

Email address: _____

Other contact details: _____

Cadeirydd / Chair: John Pearce **Prif Weithredwr / Chief Executives:** Alyson Thomas
E-bost / E-mail: enquiries@waleschc.org.uk
Website: www.communityhealthcouncils.org.uk



Press release

24 September 2019

We want your view on maternity services in Wales!

Are you someone who has had recent experience of maternity services in Wales?

If so, we want you hear from you.

In support of our national review of maternity services, Healthcare Inspectorate Wales (HIW), working in collaboration with Community Health Councils (CHCs), wants people to share your views and experiences by completing a short survey.

We want as many people as possible to share their opinions and insight to help shape our review. We're seeking the views of anyone who has had any contact with maternity services, not just individuals who are pregnant or have already given birth but also their partners and families.

Dr Kate Chamberlain, Healthcare Inspectorate Wales's Chief Executive said:

"Our review of maternity services is a nationally important piece of work. We need the views of as many people in Wales who have experience of maternity services to help inform the review.

"We're pleased to be working together with the Community Health Councils in the production of this survey to help ensure the views of people across Wales can be heard."

Alyson Thomas, Chief Executive of the Board of Community Health Councils said:

"Maternity services must be provided in a way that respond to the needs of women and their families as they go through such a big, life-changing experience.

"So we want people to have their say so their voices may be heard by those who plan and provide maternity services for people living in Wales.

"CHCs across Wales will do everything we can to encourage and support people to shape HIW's national review by sharing their views and experiences."

The digital version of the survey is accessible from the Healthcare Inspectorate Wales website at: <https://hiw.org.uk/national-review-maternity-services>

ENDS

More information about the national review of maternity series can be found here: <https://hiw.org.uk/national-review-maternity-services>

The survey can be directly accessed [by following this link](#)

EXPLORE YOUR ARCHIVE 2019

**Come and 'Explore your Archive' at Gwent Archives
this autumn. See the FREE events listed below:**

Monday, 25 November Starting Your Family History Research	10.30 – 11.30
Tuesday, 26 November Paper Making Demonstration and Workshop	10.00 – 12.00 2.00 – 4.00
Wednesday, 27 November Discover the History of Your House	10.30 – 12.00
Thursday, 28 November History of Paper talk	10.30 – 11.30
Friday, 29 November Paper Making Demonstration and Workshop	10.00 – 12.00 2.00 – 4.00
Saturday, 30 November Gwent Archives Open Day	10.00 – 4.00

**For further details and to book your place
please contact:**



Gwent Archives
Steelworks Road
Ebbw Vale
NP23 6AA

Tel: 01495 353363

Email: enquiries@gwentarchives.gov.uk



NANTYGLO & BLAINA TOWN COUNCIL CYNGOR TREF NANT-Y-GLO A BLAENAU

Council Offices, Blaina Institute, High Street, Blaina. NP13 3BN

TEL: 01495 292817 e-mail: clerk@nantygloandblainatc.co.uk

Mrs T Hughes, AAT C.H. Ed. - Town Clerk/RFO

NANTYGLO and BLAINA
TOWN COUNCIL

11 NOV 2019

Community Grant Application Form

Section 1: Contact Information

Applicant Name/Group Name:

BLAINA BOWLS / NANTYGLO FOOTBALL

Contact Name:

COLIN WALK / V CHAIR BOWLS

DEAN MICHAEL - DIRECTOR FOOTBALL

Contact Address:

15 ALEXANDRA ST / 58 SOUTH LANES
BLAINA BLAINA
NP13-3ME / FOOTBALL

Contact Email Address:

Daytime Telephone Number:

01495-290969 / 07948089238 F/BALL

Your position in the group:

BOWLS = V CHAIR / FOOTBALL DIRECTOR

Section 2: Tell us about your group

What category does your project fall into (please tick all relevant boxes):

Children/Education

☐

Arts & Culture

☐

Health & Wellbeing

☐

Elderly

☐

Environment

☐

Active Lifestyles

☐

Other

☒

Please provide a brief description of the activities you/your group undertake:

Bowling for all ages - males & female
Youngest age of players is 8yrs up to 70+ years.
Football for under 18 years.

In what year was the group founded?

BOWLS OVER 160 YRS / FOOTBALL 11 YEARS

Are you a registered charity?

Yes



No



FOOTBALL

NANTYGLU FC COMMUNITY INITIATIVE COMPANY

If yes, please provide the registered number:

If your application relates to sport

Is the team a member of /or affiliated to a recognised sporting body?

Yes



No



If yes, which one?

WELSH BOWLS ASS

If your application relates to a children's group

Have all the relevant DBS checks been completed?

Yes



No



All FOOTBALL DIRECTORS & COACHES

BOWLS COPY OF CERTIFICATE SUPPLIED.

Section 3: Tell us about the community activity you wish to support

Are you applying for, or receiving funding from another source?

Yes

☐

No

☒

If so, where from and how much?

Please explain what the community grant support will be used for?

As Per Letter

How will your project benefit Nantyglo and Blaina?

As Per Letter

Section 4: Independent Reference Details

Please give the name of someone who can provide an independent reference on behalf of you/your group:

Mr. Garth Collier

Job title/occupation of referee:

Blair's Ward Councillor

Referee contact address:

C/O Blair's Post Office
High Street
Blair's

Email address:

Daytime phone number:

Relationship to the group
(if any):

None

Section 5: To be completed for all applications

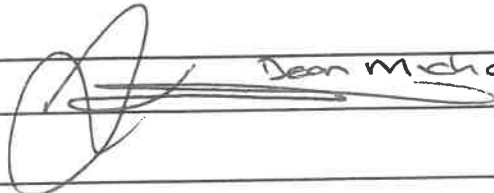
Please tick here to confirm that you have read and accepted the grant selection criteria:



Signed on behalf of (if you are applying on behalf of a group)

BHAIRAW BOWNS CLUB / NANTYGGLO FOOTBALL CLUB.

Signature:

Culmwall Bowns /  Dean Michael.

Date:

11/11/2019 .



Torri's Cylch
Breaking the Cycle

Certificate of Training

This Is To Certify That

John Powell

Has attended awareness training in relation to

Child Sexual Exploitation and Missing Children

Delivered by

The Gwent Missing People, Trafficking & CSE Team

Date **16/3/2017**



21 OCT 2019

BLAINA BOWLS CLUB

TO THE TOWN CLERK
NANTYGLO & BLAINA
TOWN COUNCIL
~~~~~

DYFFRYN PARK  
BLAINA  
NP13 3DY  
Tel: (01495) 291833

Colin Wall  
15 ALEXANDRA S  
BLAINA  
NP13 - 3 HE  
290959

ON BEHALF OF BOTH CLUBS I AM WRITING TO YOU  
REGARDING THE DYFFRYN PARK

AS YOU ARE AWARE THE BOWLS CLUB AND  
NANTYGLO FOOTBALL HAVE TAKEN OVER THEIR PRAYING  
AND BUILDINGS, SINCE THE FOOTBALL HAS TAKEN OVER  
THEY HAVE DONE A TREMENDOUS JOB FOR YOUNG BOYS  
AND GIRLS, PLAYING FOOTBALL & FITNESS TRAINING.

BEFORE THE FOOTBALL WAS UP & RUNNING THEIR  
CHANGING ROOMS WAS BROKE INTO AT 5:00 AM, THE BOWL  
HAD THE CAR ON CAMERA BUT IT WAS NOT CLEAR WHAT  
THE NUMBER PLATE WAS.

WITH THE AMOUNT OF CHILDREN DOWN AT  
THEIR CLUB THERE NEEDS TO BE PLENTY OF COVER TO  
KEEP CHILDREN SAFE.

WE AT THE BOWLS CLUB ARE LOOKING TO EXTEND  
OUR CAMERAS TO COVER THE CAR PARK AND THE PLAY  
AREA ALSO THE FOOTBALL PAVILION THE CAR PARK NEED  
COVERING BECAUSE OF DRUGS TAKEN PLACE IN CARS

AT PRESENT WE HAVE A 8 WAY CHANNEL  
SYSTEM THIS IS NOT BIG ENOUGH, SO WE ARE LOOKING  
FOR FINANCIAL HELP, SO PLEASE CAN YOU HELP  
BOTH CLUBS WITH SOME FINANCE

Colin Wall  


BOWLS V/CHAIRPERSON  
Nantyglo FC Director

# BLAINA BOWLS CLUB

DYFFRYN PARK  
BLAINA  
NP13 3DY  
Tel: (01495) 291833

Cohin Walk  
15 ALEXANDRA St  
BLAINA  
290959

|                   |                   |          |
|-------------------|-------------------|----------|
| MATERIALS         | £ 1020 - 00       |          |
| LABOUR            | 600 - 00          |          |
| TOTAL             | <u>1620 - 00</u>  |          |
| LESS ITEM ONE     | 70 - 00           |          |
|                   | <u>1550 - 00</u>  |          |
| 2 ADDRESS CAMERAS | 156 - 00          | £18 EACH |
| 16 WAY BUR        | 120 - 00          |          |
|                   | <u>£1826 - 00</u> |          |
| TOTAL             | £ 1826 - 00       |          |

Hem no 10a

# Nantyglo and Blaina Town Council

## Cyngor Tref Nant-y-glo a Blaenau

Swyddfa r Cyngor, Sefydliad Blaenau, Y Stryd Fawr, Blaenau, NP13 3BN

Mrs T Hughes, Town Clerk / Responsible Finance Officer

Town Council Offices, Blaina Institute,

High Street, Blaina, NP13 3BN

Tel: 01495 292817 e-mail: clerk@nantygloandblainatc.co.uk

## **DECLARATION OF VACANCY – Blaina Ward**

### **LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 Section 87(2)**

**Notice is hereby given, 19<sup>th</sup> November 2019, that in accord with the Local Government Act 1972 s.85, there currently exists one vacancy for a Town Councillor to represent the Electoral Ward of Blaina.**

### **Request for an Election**

A request for an election to fill the above vacancy can be made upon submission, *within 14 days (excluding Saturdays and Sundays) of the publication of this notice*, of a request signed by Ten Electors (including names & addresses) for the Blaina Electoral Ward and thereupon submitted to:-

Ms M Morris, Returning Officer.

County Borough of Blaenau Gwent,

The General Offices, Steelworks Road,

Ebbw Vale, NP23 6DN.

The fourteen day period ends on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2019.

**In the event of no such request being submitted, the vacancy will be filled by co-option to the Town Council in accordance with the provisions of the Local Election (Parish & Community Council) Rules 1986.**

**Tracy Hughes**

**Town Clerk / Responsible Finance Officer**

**The Proper Officer for this purpose**

\* In calculating the notice period, day one is the day following the date of this notice: a Saturday, Sunday, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, Good Friday or a Bank Holiday or day appointed for public thanksgiving or mourning shall be disregarded and the period closes at midnight on the fourteenth day after the date of this notice.

# Nantyglo and Blaina Town Council

Cyngor Tref Nant-y-glo a Blaenau

Swyddfa'r Cyngor, Y Stryd Fawr, Blaenau, NP13 3BN

Mrs T Hughes, Town Clerk / RFO, Town Council Offices, Blaina Institute, High Street, Blaina, NP13 3BN

Tel: 01495 292817 e-mail: [clerk@nantygloandblainatc.co.uk](mailto:clerk@nantygloandblainatc.co.uk)

**Nantyglo & Blaina Town Council currently has 1 vacancy for a Councillor for the Nantyglo Ward, which may be filled through the process of co-option (please see the vacancy details below). Co-opted councillors have the same rights and responsibilities as those councillors who obtain office through election. The position of Town Councillor follows guidelines issued by the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales. Councillors are expected to attend monthly meetings of the Council and to serve on committees. The role is varied and enables local people to use their skills and experience to represent people in their local communities and enhance the work undertaken by the Council for the benefit of the community.**

**The Council wishes to invite interested and eligible people to submit their application (see website or collect from Town Council Office) & accompanying letter for the role of Councillor by way of outlining the following:**

- **The contribution you believe you could make to the work of the Council and to the communities the Council serves;**
- **The personal qualities and relevant experience that you would bring to the role;**
- **Your availability to attend meetings**

**You must also clearly state in your letter that you are qualified to stand as a Councillor and that you are not disqualified from standing as a Councillor. You will need to check your eligibility to become a Councillor on the following website: <http://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/i-am-a/candidate-or-agent/parish-and-community-council-elections-in-england-and-wales>**

**You must include your home address, telephone number and e-mail address in your letter. Please specify if there is a specific Ward you wish to be considered for. The vacancy is in:**

**Nantyglo – 1 seat**

**Please send your application to the Town Clerk, Council Offices, Blaina Institute, High Street, Blaina, NP13 3BN or e-mail to**

**[clerk@nantygloandblainatc.co.uk](mailto:clerk@nantygloandblainatc.co.uk)**

**Mrs T Hughes – Town Clerk / RFO, Nantyglo & Blaina Town Council**

**November 2019**