

**Executive Board Member Decisions Meeting for the Leader
Mynydd y Betws Community Benefit Fund
2021-2022**

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Budget Available - £86,627.29

Full Report Value: £66,592.30

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Application reference: MYB-21-01

Project Title	Wonderful Willow
Applicant	The Hangout
Ward	GARNANT
Project Description/ Community Benefit	<p>The Hangout is a registered charity, with an aim to help adults and children who live in and around Ammanford, who suffer from anxiety, loneliness & behavioural problems, they may be disengaged and talking therapy isn't working. They offer equine programmes for individuals by referral, family groups and their support network and they also have campfire group sessions to make charcoal, whittle wood, weave wool and willow, plus more.</p> <p>They have held several successful willow weaving sessions for all ages and would like to grow their own willow to make this activity more cost effective and to give the sessions another dimension by allowing participants to be involved in the growing and coppicing of the willow, which is easy to grow in Wales and can be used for basket making, fuel, living structures and land moisture control etc.</p> <p>Currently they are having to buy in willow from commercial providers which increases the cost of each session and limits the variety of willow they use, how they use it and the education around willow, its uses and care. Participants have reported back the therapeutic benefits of working from willow, such as mindfulness, relaxation, increased manual dexterity, a sense of achievement and purposeful occupation.</p> <p>The grant requested will be used to prepare an area of ground, purchase weed suppressant matting and willow sticks, along with engaging willow working experts to further educate the staff and volunteers in the skills that they can then pass on at a much-reduced service cost in the future, also allowing them to hold regular sessions to develop skills for those interested in furthering them without the need for payment as many are often not able to do so without causing additional financial hardship.</p>

	<p>The funds would also enable them to purchase enough willow to make hurdles that are required for safety reasons as their composting toilet is situated at the edge of the car park, and they would like to create a natural movable barrier that reminds children to slow down as they use the gate to the toilet, so they do not rush through into the car park area. The making of the hurdles would be done by participants, so they remain involved in as many aspects of the charity's development as possible and as an additional skill.</p> <p>They regularly work with vulnerable children and adults and would like to install CCTV to safeguard participants, staff & volunteers alike. All participants would be informed of the CCTV and its role in safeguarding all against accusations of any description and within the communities that they work with it is not uncommon for accusations to be made, which they have not had any to date. They would also add WIFI extension, so it is available for carers, professionals and participants if needed.</p> <p>The willow weaving sessions bring communities together to share in a common activity, some of the communities already benefitting are foster and adoption families, youth groups as well as those suffering from mental health issues, providing a safe and understanding environment for those within these communities due to their experience in working within them and their links to Social Services.</p> <p>The value of shared experiences and side by side learning should not be underestimated, it creates a bond based on something common and shared, dialogue and questioning is created during the activity as well as teamwork to achieve success. As much as possible they hold the activity outside in a sheltered woodland area which also creates an atmosphere of relaxation and tranquillity surrounded by nature which we all know has great mental health benefits.</p> <p>Skill acquisition for those learning to make hurdles and baskets, could lead to self-employment locally.</p>
<p>Total Project Cost</p> <p>Eligible Capital</p> <p>Eligible Revenue</p> <p>Ineligible Costs</p> <p>Amount and % of grant requested</p>	<p>£4,985.00 - Gross</p> <p>£1,020.00 £500.00 – CCTV & WIFI £400.00 – Basketry Planting Willow £120.00 – Hurdle Willow</p> <p>£3,965.00 £2,880.00 – Instructor led basketry courses £560.00 – Family weaving sessions £525.00 – Staff costs to prepare & plant</p> <p>Nil</p> <p>£4,485.00 @ 89.9%</p>

<p>Match funding</p>	<p>£500.00 Own funds secured</p>
<p>Evidence of Need / Community Engagement</p>	<p>The owners are foster carers, so understand the need of these children and families first-hand, they have links to social workers, foster associations, adoption agencies and local youth groups, all of which understand the value of outdoor nature-based activities that are purposeful and encourage shared experiences.</p> <p>Parents of children with additional needs and behaviour that might be difficult in other environments are catered for and understood and this is a great support to adults bringing such children along. It is also a great and valued opportunity for those from similar communities to chat and share their experiences and gain support and additional community links from meeting others.</p> <p>They are based in a poor area with limited opportunities for acquiring new skills or employment opportunities and to offer someone a skill that could enable them to earn for themselves is truly powerful and current participants and volunteers could be the future instructors of the courses they run in the future.</p> <p>Facebook page shows the evidence of need for this project delivery supporting the need and community engagement.</p>
<p>Contributing to the themes of the Fund</p>	<p>Recreation, Education, Health, Environment, Energy Efficiency/Sustainability, Culture</p> <p>Weaving with willow is hugely enjoyable and relaxing and is a great way to spend leisure time with others and produce something worthwhile and usable, a productive pastime, as it focuses participants on the task in hand, reduces anxiety and other mental health issues while being highly sociable and increases self-esteem with the production of something to be proud of.</p> <p>They also educate participants on the historical and cultural aspects of the use of willow, its care, uses (old & modern) along with its sustainability and environmental benefits in stabilising and managing wet land etc.</p>
<p>Ownership/ Lease</p>	<p>Ownership</p>
<p>Cross Cutting Themes Welsh Language ICT Equal Opportunities</p> <p>Environmental Sustainability</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental Policy • Equality, Diversity & Inclusion Policy • Safeguarding Policy • Welsh Language Policy <p>This project is highly sustainable for the environment as the willow once planted will grow year on year providing resources much needed for creative well-being sessions as well as to make products that can be sold locally.</p>

	<p>The willow can also be coppiced, new shoots can be replanted to grow yet more if required and any waste from the sessions can be fed to the animals and used in their campfire sessions as fuel and when setup this project will require very little sustainability and produce zero waste, also reducing on road miles.</p>
<p>Roles and responsibilities within organisation</p>	<p>They have one self-employed member of staff whose responsibility will be to prepare the ground for planting, organise volunteers and participants to assist with the planting and coppicing in a years' time. They are also responsible for organising, publicising, and hosting the sessions and are keen to develop their own willow skills from an experienced instructor with the view of taking over the delivery of the sessions in the future.</p> <p>To keep costs to a minimum they are paid for the hours they work rather than a salary.</p>
<p>Mapping of service/facility within the area</p>	<p>The charity since being set up is thriving and providing essential workshops, supporting much needed services for those individuals which attend the facility.</p> <p>There is no duplication of services within the area and fully supported by other external funders, due to the nature of the provision they provide, essential due to the COVID pandemic, providing services for those suffering with anxiety and loneliness, a place to meet safely and learn.</p>
<p>Future Sustainability</p>	<p>Staff and volunteers will continue to improve their skills and knowledge in working with willow so they will be able to lead weaving sessions without the need of a specialist instructor – this will reduce the cost of the delivery of each session as will the fact that they will have their own supply of 'home-grown' willow in a year's time so less will have to be sourced commercially.</p> <p>Many of the participants are happy to make voluntary contributions for each session they attend which helps towards covering costs. They also host other groups on the site who are charged for this service which again covers costs and contributes to their ongoing fund raising.</p> <p>They also have the desire to make saleable willow items within the sessions which will again help raise funds when sold locally.</p>
<p>Outputs to be achieved</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New volunteers – 4 • New services – 1 • New community assets - 1
<p>Monitoring and Evaluation of outputs</p>	<p>With all their sessions, feedback is gathered from the participants as much as they can to continue to deliver what is wanted and needed, hence the desire to develop the work with willow as it has been so keenly embraced and requested.</p> <p>They record the number of attendees to the sessions and the age range covered to enable them to target their audience and are</p>

	planning to gather evidence from participants of these workshops regarding the impact on their quality of life and mental health.
Business Plan/Officer Comments	<p>Applied for funding in 2019 for groundworks and fencing, rejected by panel due to being a newly set up charity, with no track record or information on referrals being made.</p> <p>Their Facebook page evidences the need for this project delivery also the community engagement and use of the facility.</p> <p>The Postcode lottery and Awards for All have supported funds of £20k towards their project delivery of activities, there would be no duplication of funds if MYB awarded.</p> <p>The member of staff is paid at a set hourly rate as agreed by the trustees to cover sessions that engage the public. It is understood and agreed that the setup and breakdown of each session, sourcing necessary materials and the maintenance and preparation of the site for the sessions are included in this fee, the member of staff will invoice the trustees on a self-employed basis.</p> <p>The instructor led classes bring in outside expertise to teach these skill-based sessions that have been much requested, the instructor will invoice the trustees for payment on a self-employed basis.</p>
Economic Benefit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of individuals into training/education • Number of individuals into volunteering - 4 • Number of individuals into employment • No of community groups/organisations assisted - 1 • Number of social enterprises created • Number of social enterprises supported • Number of full-time jobs created • Number of jobs safeguarded • Public and private leverage funding - £500.00
Recommendation	Award - £4,485.00

Application reference: MYB-21-02

Project Title	Maesquarre Park Regeneration
Applicant	Betws Community Council
Ward	BETWS
Project Description/ Community Benefit	<p>Betws Community Council took over the asset of Maesquarre Playground in 2019. The current equipment is at end of life and there is now an opportunity to improve the area to ensure it is a free facility suitable for all to use and enjoy.</p> <p>As part of the first round of COVID-19 lockdown measures, the UK government stipulated a maximum of one hour's exercise per person per day, images of sunny parks across national press made it clear where people in the UK wanted to spend that hour. Green space is important to us all, and yet millions of people lack good quality green space close to home, especially in poorer areas.</p> <p>Access to nature and better-quality open space is good for us. According to government: "access to natural green spaces for fresh air, exercise and quiet contemplation has benefits for both physical and mental health. Research provides good evidence of reductions in levels of heart disease, obesity and depression where people live close to green spaces."</p> <p>As such, the COVID-19 pandemic provides a new way of looking at the value that residents place on greenspaces. The coronavirus pandemic has therefore resulted in a reshaping of the values that people have for greenspaces, and thereby increase pressure, through social and political actions, for enhancing these environments. Furthermore, given the well-documented health benefits of exposure to natural environments, we emphasise that urban greenspaces are not only useful for providing people with a means for stress release during times of societal disruption, such as a pandemic, but can also help people to prepare for such times physically and mentally. By providing residents areas to exercise and socialise regularly, greenspaces promote physical and psychological well-being, which in turn improves resistance to, as well as the ability to cope with, new pathogens.</p> <p>The project seeks to secure funding for much needed play equipment for children of all ages and accessibility for disabled children, also seating areas for parents and grandparents to meet and supervise the children in the park.</p> <p>During and since the pandemic the need for outdoor recreation and open green space is essential for the community, the funding would provide much needed play equipment for the children, also providing picnic tables and benches for outdoor recreation facilities.</p> <p>The play park and seating area would enable people to meet outside safely to socialize and share experiences of parenting and caring and discuss anxieties.</p>

	<p>The 'Play Sufficiency assessment' identified that playing outside as the most popular setting for children and those parents want a safe environment for children to play. Their main worry and concern were the increase in road traffic.</p> <p>Lots of families travel to other areas to use their facilities which have a more varied function than what is currently available on the site/within the village. A better range of facilities would ensure less travel and help with the village's carbon footprint reduction, improve, and help to maintain the close-knit village feel/culture.</p>
<p>Total Project Cost</p> <p>Eligible Capital</p> <p>Eligible Revenue</p> <p>Ineligible Costs</p> <p>Amount and % of grant requested</p> <p>Match funding</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">£22,820.00 – NET</p> <p style="text-align: center;">£22,820.00</p> <p style="text-align: center;">£18,920.00 – Play equipment & Installation £750.00 – Picnic table with wheelchair access £1,500.00 - Adult seat bench £1,650.00 – Removal & replacement of foundations,</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Nil</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Nil</p> <p style="text-align: center;">£15,000.00 @ 65.8%</p> <p style="text-align: center;">£7,820.00</p> <p style="text-align: center;">£6,869.00 – Section 106 – secured £951.00 – Own funds</p>
<p>Evidence of Need / Community Engagement</p>	<p>Questionnaire A questionnaire was distributed to all dwellings within Betws Ward during Summer 2020. The purpose of this exercise was to gain understanding of what the residents of Betws wanted to happen to all 3 parks / play areas within the ward and to provide all with an opportunity to have their say regarding the area.</p> <p>Seating Area / Picnic Tables A respondent stated, 'Benches put back for parents to sit while kids playing would be good', while another wrote 'maybe seating for the oldies or one or two picnic tables?'. This is a common theme within the responses with 21% of the respondents stating that benches and/or picnic tables would be ideal improvements to Maesquarre Playground.</p> <p>Toddler Area 22% of the respondents said that the park does not currently have adequate play equipment for toddlers, with one respondent stating, 'there is nothing for small children', whilst another stated 'area for 1–3-year-olds please'.</p> <p>Further evidence of needs has been provided by the community, via emails, telephone calls and social media, also written letters of support have been provided.</p>

	<p>Summary The Community Council have consulted with all within Betws Ward via the questionnaire and been contacted by several local individuals regarding Maesquarre Playground.</p> <p>From the questionnaire results and speaking to locals who use the playground, the Community Council were able to understand the needs of the Community and priorities the above 3 points. Also, a meeting with the maintenance company was arranged to find out which current equipment needed to be replaced / taken out first.</p>
<p>Contributing to the themes of the Fund</p>	<p>Health and Recreation As outlined in CCC's Well Being Objectives child obesity is on the increase in Carmarthenshire and is above the Welsh average, it is important therefore that children have every opportunity to be active and play outside. Play is an important part of a child's development, and the improvement of the play facilities will promote the health and well-being of the residents of the village of Betws and adjacent areas.</p> <p>Environment The project will improve the physical environment of the area as the current facilities have become tired and not fit for purpose, providing a more attractive and welcoming park will encourage increased participation and will help foster a sense of ownership and pride amongst residents. The materials specified for the works will where possible be from sustainable sources and local contractors will be used to reduce the carbon footprint. The equipment will be capable of being recycled at the end of its life.</p> <p>Education It is proven that children learn through play, it helps to improve their gross and fine motor skills, develop social skills by sharing and taking turns. Playing together will encourage children from different schools to integrate and form friendships, and therefore welcoming new children into the community. Playgrounds provide crucial and vital opportunities for children to develop cognitive and physical skills through play. Playgrounds that promote different types of play are vital for a child's cognitive, emotional, physical, and social development.</p> <p>Energy Efficiency/Sustainability The provision of the additional equipment will ensure the sustainability of the play area as a main playground provision in the community. The Council regularly checks the equipment and ensures repairs are swiftly completed to ensure the longevity of play equipment</p> <p>Culture This new facility can be utilised by several local organisations such as Betws Primary School, Betws Family Centre, Betws in Need, Betws Cylch Meithrin</p>
<p>Ownership/ Lease</p>	<p>CCC - Community Asset Lease Agreement</p>

<p>Cross Cutting Themes Welsh Language ICT Equal Opportunities</p> <p>Environmental Sustainability</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welsh Language Policy • Equal Opportunities Policy • Environmental Policy <p>The Community Council has an active Environmental Policy which is strictly adhered to and will update Section 6 of the Environmental (Wales) Act 2016 – The biodiversity and Resilience of Ecosystems Duty which is reviewed when changes are made or every 3 years from 2019 and every effort will be made to use materials from a sustainable source and will be capable of being recycled at the end of its use.</p>
<p>Roles and responsibilities within organisation</p>	<p>Project Management will be overseen by Betws Community Council Recreation Ground Committee, the Clerk and Chairperson.</p> <p>Jose Picouto- Chair of Council Angela Brown- Project Manager Mike Jones-Chair of Recreation Committee</p> <p>The Council already employ an experienced person to inspect the park regularly to ensure that the equipment is in good working order and any problems identified will be repaired.</p> <p>The preparation work and installation of the equipment will be contracted to the best tender and where possible local businesses will be used to ensure support to the local economy.</p>
<p>Mapping of service/facility within the area</p>	<p>There is a large housing estate behind the park and many smaller ones close to the park as well as Maesquarre Road.</p> <p>The nearest park is at the other side of the village and children would not be able to attend this park independently due to having to walk along a busy road that does not have a pavement and they would have to cross three different main roads.</p>
<p>Future Sustainability</p>	<p>Betws Community Council are already responsible for all the maintenance and upkeep of the area since taking on the asset from CCC in 2019 and this will continue, the costs will be budgeted from within the Precept, and they will also plan a sinking fund to ensure that future repairs and replacement can be achieved.</p> <p>The two contractors who maintain the land and equipment entered new three-year contracts which began in March 2021 and the equipment is assessed annually by an RPI approved inspector via CCC</p> <p>This area along with the Heol y Felin Playground and Green, also Betws Park are insured under a policy which is held with Zurich Municipal Insurance.</p> <p>The Community Council will take full responsibility for the management and maintenance of the park and will budget annually for the upkeep of the park i.e., grass cutting and checking of the</p>

	<p>equipment. Any repairs needed will be paid for by the Community Council.</p> <p>Currently, there are many volunteers who regularly walk around the park and communicate any concerns to the clerk.</p>
<p>Outputs to be achieved</p> <p>Monitoring and Evaluation of outputs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New volunteers – 6 • New services – 1 • Physical improvements – 1 • Environmental improvement schemes – 1 • New Community assets -3 <p>The project outputs were initially identified from the questionnaire responses and became the main priorities for the project.</p> <p>The Community Council are currently paying for regular maintenance and fixing of equipment to extend their life span and when new equipment is installed, a way to evaluate and evidence its success would be to see if there is a decrease in maintenance cost.</p> <p>Another option would be to conduct short customer satisfaction surveys within the park and ask the adults specific questions regarding the new equipment. However, to ensure the whole community is reached, a newsletter could be distributed to all within Betws Ward with information regarding the new equipment and attaching a brief review questionnaire to ascertain their views on the completed project. This will ensure all who received the questionnaire would receive an update and are given an opportunity to have their say.</p>
<p>Business Plan/Officer Comments</p>	<p>This project has been under consideration for a few years and ongoing consultation has been undertaken to establish the community needs.</p> <p>This funding request is to deliver what the community require within the park as essential, which is phase 1 delivery of many more improvements required, to benefit the whole community.</p> <p>Due to the COVID pandemic, it is essential to provide local communities with outdoor green space, providing essential amenities for all ages to benefit.</p>
<p>Economic Benefit</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of individuals into training/education • Number of individuals into volunteering - 6 • Number of individuals into employment • No of community groups/organisations assisted - 1 • Number of social enterprises created • Number of social enterprises supported • Number of full-time jobs created • Number of jobs safeguarded • Public and private leverage funding - £6,869.00
<p>Recommendation</p>	<p>Award - £15,000.00</p>

Application reference: MYB-21-04

Project Title	Solar Panels
Applicant	Penygroes Memorial Hall & Institute
Ward	PENYGROES
Project Description/ Community Benefit	<p>The charity originated in 1928 when over 6 acres of land was leased to the scheme for 999 years, to build a hall and institute building. The original building was demolished in the late 1990s and a modern hall constructed as a community venue, which opened in 1999, making it one of the most modern miner's welfare halls in Wales, as a flat single storey building with adequate car parking.</p> <p>The facilities within the community hall currently include a large hall, with a rear extension for storage, stage, games room, crèche and fully fitted kitchen. The hall is utilised by a wide cross section of the community, young and old, for which constant heat is important for those users, especially the OAP'S, children in the Cylch group and blood service provision.</p> <p>The objects of the Institute are to promote the education, culture, health, and wellbeing for the residents of Penygroes and surrounding district, regardless of age, ethnic origin, ability, and gender, religious or other belief or political affiliation.</p> <p>This project is to make the hall building completely energy efficient by installing solar panels, part of the committee's energy conservation plan, having already changed the lighting to LED, replaced all windows, their future proposal was to generate their own electricity with solar panels, reducing energy costs making the organisation more sustainable.</p> <p>The reduction in heat loss, reduced energy usage, lead to reduced costs and these reductions are fed back to the community groups through minimum hire charges, thus making the hall affordable to all.</p>
Total Project Cost	£10,363.50 – Gross
Eligible Capital	£10,363.50 Installation of solar panels
Eligible Revenue	Nil
Ineligible Costs	Nil
Amount and % of grant requested	£8,290.80 @ 80%
Match funding	£2,072.70 Own funds secured

<p>Evidence of Need / Community Engagement</p>	<p>The need to become energy efficient has been consulted with stakeholders and users of the facility, with an outcome of this project, especially due to the winter months.</p> <p>Consultation was undertaken with several bodies including organisations, current users of the facility and the community, Individual letters of support have been received in support of this project from.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ysgol Meithrin • Penygroes OAP Association • Sisterhood/Women’s Institute • History Society • NHS • Women’s Guild • Penygroes Indoor Bowls Club members
<p>Contributing to the themes of the Fund</p>	<p>Energy Efficiency/Sustainability The project targets the causes of energy & heat loss from the hall and identifies measures that will result in the building being far more energy efficient, greatly improving the long-term sustainability of the organisation.</p> <p>Recreation/Education/Health/Culture – Creating a comfortable and modern serviceable environment for the recreational use of members and the community users.</p> <p>The objects of the Institute are to promote the education, culture, health, and wellbeing for the residents of Penygroes and surrounding district, regardless of age, ethnic origin, ability, and gender, religious or other belief or political affiliation.</p>
<p>Ownership/ Lease</p>	<p>Ownership</p>
<p>Cross Cutting Themes Welsh Language ICT Equal Opportunities</p> <p>Environmental Sustainability</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health & Safety Policy • Equal Opportunities Policy • Welsh Language Policy • Environmental Policy <p>The project in its nature of energy efficiency and conservation promotes Environmental Sustainability and as an organisation we promote environmental issues, recycling is encouraged, and our energy conservation plan is an indication of their commitment.</p>
<p>Roles and responsibilities within organisation</p>	<p>The hall trustees and committee members will be responsible for deciding on a contractor to carry out the work and will monitor and check on the quality and standard of works.</p>
<p>Mapping of service/ facility within the area</p>	<p>This project is for the benefit of the community and wider district and is not duplicating any other service.</p>
<p>Future Sustainability</p>	<p>The energy efficient project will reduce costs and help make the organisation financially sustainable in the future.</p>

	The organisations energy conservation plan will be ongoing and trustees along with committee members will monitor energy usage and costs.
Outputs to be achieved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Physical Improvements – 1 • Environmental Improvements schemes – 1
Monitoring and Evaluation of outputs	Feedback will be sought from the different organisations using the hall, regarding the improvements made, also monitoring number of users within the facility.
Business Plan/Officer Comments	<p>The following information is copied from the MYB criteria.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Solar Panels <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Solar panels are not ineligible, but they can only be included as part of a larger project. For applications which include solar panels, the running costs of the project with and without the panels will need to be provided. <p>The organisation is only applying for solar panels within this request, previously they have been successful with MYB funding for replacement windows and LED Lighting as part of their energy conservation plan for which the solar panels are the final element.</p> <p>Energy costs for 2019/2020 - £1,115.00, generating their own renewable energy would save them this annual cost and more due to the anticipated rising costs.</p>
Economic Benefit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of individuals into training/education • Number of individuals into volunteering • Number of individuals into employment • No of community groups/organisations assisted - 1 • Number of social enterprises created • Number of social enterprises supported • Number of full-time jobs created • Number of jobs safeguarded • Public and private leverage funding - £2,072.70
Recommendation	Award - £8,290.80

Application reference: MYB-21-05

Project Title	Centre Development Officer
Applicant	Menter Cwm Gwendraeth Elli
Ward	PENYGROES
Project Description/ Community Benefit	<p>The organisation of Menter Cwm Gwendraeth, which has been in existence for 30 years, was set up to support Welsh community activities and promote projects that regenerate the rural community, working with existing organisations where possible.</p> <p>Menter have taken on the asset of the Pavilion and are now responsible for the Community Centre at Penygroes, which has huge potential to increase community activity on a day-to-day basis, which has been undertaken due to community needs and following consultation on social media linked to the area, as so many organisations contacted them stating that they are desperate to use the facility.</p> <p>The grant funding applied for will be used to employ a Centre development officer who will manage and prepare a suitable timetable, open to all the community, with the aim to facilitate the Penygroes and nearby wards, by expanding their activities into the area, with the following aims, requested by the community.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide a service at the café, which exists in the building, investigate delivering a Meals on Wheels service to the elderly of the community, as this service has proven a very successful project within Pontyberem twice a week, expanding on employment and volunteer opportunities. • Develop a community garden, which will open additional funding opportunities. • Intend on investigating into re-opening a public library at the venue. • Offer a community fridge to tackle food poverty in the area. <p>Menter have worked with young offenders to assure that the building is painted and looking attractive, as this asset will be so important to the young people of the area, as they intend to establish a youth club to provide services for the future of the community.</p> <p>The project will directly address identified issues, needs and opportunities in a particular community or group of communities, and will demonstrate added value to the local communities through clear objectives and outcomes.</p> <p>They have a good working relationship with members of the public, local Councillor, local school etc, and the aim is to establish a forum to assure they meet all community needs.</p> <p>All activities will meet the needs of other communities in the wider region, contributing to the sustainability of these communities, and</p>

	will recognise and respond to the diversity and uniqueness of the community.
Total Project Cost	£28,000.00
Eligible Capital	Nil
Eligible Revenue	£28,000.00 £20,000.00 – Staff & associated costs £5,000.00 – IT Equipment £3,000.00 – Marketing
Ineligible Costs	Nil
Amount and % of grant requested	£15,000.00 @ 53.6%
Match funding	£13,000.00 WCVA – Applied Williams Brown Hill – Applied
Evidence of Need / Community Engagement	<p>A consultation was carried out on social media, and a huge number of individuals and groups stated the need for the Pavilion to be open, offering a variety of activities and this project will improve so many different aspects, of day-to-day life, such as isolation, mental health, healthy way of living.</p> <p>It was obvious, that a huge service is needed for young people of the area, and with the facilities that exist at the venue, so many experiences can be offered to the youth of the community, which will develop them into community champions e.e tennis courts, rugby field, outdoor gym equipment, volunteer experiences.</p> <p>They have consulted with the community and have had very positive feedback, along with full support off the local County Councillors, Community Cllr's, and local organisations.</p> <p>Previous comment sheets and verbal consultation sessions identified the need for the cafe facility, also regular activities and events for all age groups, the local community welcomed a "Community Hub" which was currently lacking and have expressed great concern that the facility has closed.</p>
Contributing to the themes of the Fund	<p>Education – a variety of clubs and activities will be offered to children, young people. Welsh learners, local sports teams. The school is also near the venue, which means we can investigate new, innovative educational projects.</p> <p>Health – We will encourage all local sport and health activities to use the facilities. Excellent facilities need to be used, such as the rugby field, tennis courts, indoor hall.</p>

	Culture - Our aim as an organisation is to promote the use of the Welsh Language and to normalise the use of the language, and we would be hosting cultural events.
Ownership/ Lease	Community Asset Transfer – Lease Agreement
Cross Cutting Themes Welsh Language ICT Equal Opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welsh Language Policy • Equal Opportunities Policy • Environmental Policy • Digital Inclusion Policy • Overall, 18 various polices included
Environmental Sustainability	<p>They work very closely with a sustainability expert from Business Wales which will ensure they use the Pavilion to its full capacity.</p> <p>Adhering to Environmental Policy.</p>
Roles and responsibilities within organisation	<p>The Centre officer will work in close partnership with all staff of Menter Cwm Gwendraeth Elli and with partners of the community to maximise the projects reach, avoid duplication, and share resources.</p> <p>The officer will be responsible for the delivery of the project and will be monitored by the MCGE Chief Executive officer in monthly meetings to track delivery and progress of the project which will be fed back to the board of directors.</p> <p>The financial management of the project will be the responsibility of Menter Cwm Gwendraeth Elli and will be monitored by the Chief Executive and Board of Directors.</p>
Mapping of service/ facility within the area	<p>Due to the closure of the centre, they will reinstate the services that were provided and essential to the community, also expanding on service delivery and will institute existing and new activities to benefit the wider community.</p> <p>Activities and services will complement and augment those already available, and will not conflict, with the only other facility in the location being the Penygroes Welfare Hall.</p>
Future Sustainability	The aim is to assure that the Pavilion is sustainable, by fund raising events and charging a fee to use the assets and they will work very closely with a sustainability expert from Business Wales to ensure they use the Pavilion to its full capacity.
Outputs to be achieved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New volunteers – 5 • Jobs created – 1 • New services - 10
Monitoring and Evaluation of outputs	The project officer will develop feedback questionnairees on each of the project outcomes and will request feedback from project beneficiaries on a quarterly basis.

	<p>Additional information will be provided with case studies and other points of interest highlighted and feedback to the project steering committee/Reports and will be shared with the project steering committee and other stakeholders.</p> <p>Monitoring reports will track progress and identify whether the project is going well by assessing quantitative and qualitative data, they will work closely with stakeholders to ensure they are targeting the neediest people and these people are supported and that the project develops in line with the stated aims and outcomes by building on the feedback received from all stakeholders.</p>
Business Plan/Officer Comments	<p>The organisation was approached by the community and Cllr of the ward, to take on the asset following the closure of the centre by previous organisation, due to bad management.</p> <p>This project delivery will provide Economic regeneration, Welsh culture and language, social support, replacing lost services, in cost effective ways, also supporting the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 by improving community resilience and cohesiveness.</p> <p>Providing opportunity to use the premises as a rural community hub, community café and Welsh Language, Cultural centre, to provide community services and activities for the local community of all ages</p> <p>Expanding outreach services currently provided by the organisation in Community Development, Social activity for the elderly, helping to keep people engaged in the community.</p> <p>As an established organisation they are fully aware of the need for economic revitalisation and cultural facilitation, achieved through multiple operational strands with cross-subsidisation where appropriate.</p>
Economic Benefit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of individuals into training/education • Number of individuals into volunteering - 5 • Number of individuals into employment • No of community groups/organisations assisted - 1 • Number of social enterprises created • Number of social enterprises supported • Number of full-time jobs created - 1 • Number of jobs safeguarded • Public and private leverage funding - £13,000.00
Recommendation	<p style="text-align: center;">Award - £15,000.00</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Subject to new job created, job description and contract of employment provided</p>

Application reference: MYB-21-07

Project Title	Golwg Yr Aman Park Improvements
Applicant	Cwmaman Town Council
Ward	GARNANT
Project Description/ Community Benefit	<p>The Council seeks to make improvements by installing a double aerial cableway to attract older children, also to install 6 lighting columns in order that the area is accessible throughout the year as sections of the park do not have any lighting.</p> <p>The Park is in the heart of the community and is currently used extensively by walkers, children playing and the skateboarding area, young people socialising as well as people watching sporting activities on the Multi use games area and the football/rugby fields.</p> <p>The facility has received much criticism from the local community over recent years due to there being inadequate provision for older children and the council recognises that it has a duty to provide play equipment for all ages to be inclusive.</p> <p>It is envisaged that the cableway will be placed near the skateboard section of the park where older children currently congregate. This is situated some distance to the traditional play equipment which allows older children greater autonomy without fear of disrupting younger children at play.</p> <p>To encourage older children to the play area the double Cableway will be the ultimate dare devil attraction, the feeling of weightlessness and travelling through the air at speed trains spatial awareness as well as the child's understanding of gravity, space, and speed. Children gain social skills as they return the seat to the next user in line and the running and pulling involved in using the cableway increase children's cardiovascular system.</p> <p>Additionally, improving the lighting at the park by erecting 6 solar lighting columns, which as well as being more environmentally sustainable it would make the area safer, more appealing, and accessible. This is especially important during autumn/winter evenings when it gets dark early; this would encourage people to use the park more extensively contributing to a healthier and happier lifestyle.</p> <p>Furthermore, the council is currently refurbishing the bowls pavilion to provide a café and bike hire facilities within this area. This will increase community engagement and tourism and therefore It is therefore important that the park has equipment to suit children of all ages.</p> <p>The Play area is within a very populated area and is used by children of all ages. However, due to insufficient play equipment for older children they tend to loiter and use the play equipment designed for</p>

	younger children, so they feel it is therefore crucially important to have good play facilities provided to serve the needs of older children.
Total Project Cost Eligible Capital Eligible Revenue Ineligible Costs Amount and % of grant requested Match funding	<p style="text-align: center;">£28,860.25 – Net</p> <p style="text-align: center;">£28,860.25 £21,224.25 – Double cableway aerial runway £6,636.00 – 6 Solar lighting columns £1,000.00 – Installation of columns</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Nil</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Nil</p> <p style="text-align: center;">£15,000.00 @ 52%</p> <p style="text-align: center;">£13,860.25 Own funds secured</p>
Evidence of Need / Community Engagement	<p>During consultation of a Community Asset Feasibility Study, funded by LEADER the following conclusion was drawn as to an appropriate provision needed to support older children:</p> <p>Adventure and “Alternative Sports” Provision This proposal encompasses a change of approach regarding the “play” provision available within the community. It suggests that a move towards a service which better represents the natural environment around Cwmaman, encourages physical activity and supports access to the natural spaces. Moreover, it seeks to provide a play, or physical activity, provision which includes elements not available elsewhere in areas surrounding Cwmaman.</p> <p>The consultation process highlighted a particular interest in alternative sports provision (BMX tracks, skate parks, climbing walls) and adventure play including assault courses, high ropes, kayaking; to name but a few of the ideas put forward.</p>
Contributing to the themes of the Fund	<p><u>Health & Recreation</u> The Covid-19 Pandemic has seen a resurgence of people accessing outdoor exercise activities as scientific research documents that outdoor exercise is safer than indoor exercise, playing a pivotal role in the development and maintenance of social capital and cohesion, which can influence mental health for children and adults. The opportunity of meeting others in a social context has a wider health benefit in that it helps reduce loneliness and isolation. Social isolation has become spotlighted in recent months following the impact of the Covid-19 virus, the health service has seen a dramatic increase with people suffering with anxiety and depression.</p>

	<p><u>Environment</u> Golwg yr Aman was constructed in the 1980's and benefits from the presence of a full range of natural assets that can be expected from an inland rural community in Wales. These include easily accessible mountain heathland, varied river system, ancient and modern woodlands, large grasslands within this park. It is an ideal green space for outdoor exercise opportunities and is located a distance from roads ensuring good air quality.</p> <p><u>Energy & Efficiency</u> As the cost of electricity continues to climb it is advantageous to implement a greener solution by installing solar lighting which will reduce the use of fossil fuels and is more sustainable.</p> <p><u>Education</u> Enabling children to play together helps in forming stable social groups and to integrate new children in a community which assists in the educative process. Playgrounds provide crucial and vital opportunities for children to play.</p>
Ownership/ Lease	Cwmaman Town Council - asset transfer
Cross Cutting Themes Welsh Language ICT Equal Opportunities Environmental Sustainability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Equal Opportunity Policy • Environmental Policy • Welsh Language Policy • Digital Inclusion Policy <p>Environmental sustainability is very important to Cwmaman Town Council. They will ensure improvements to the local area by working closely with conservation groups and organisations.</p>
Roles and responsibilities within organisation	<p>Cwmaman Town Council will implement and oversee the development of the play equipment and solar lighting. The redevelopment works will be supervised by the Council's surveyor David Davies who is a professionally qualified Chartered Surveyor, who will oversee the overall project delivery and management until completion.</p> <p>There will be a commitment for the Council to inspect the Play Area at regular intervals and to ensure that the equipment and surrounding area is in good order including paying for maintenance to the park.</p>
Mapping of service/ facility within the area	The Park is in the heart of the community, within the park is the bowls Pavilion. There are currently no provisions available to serve the needs of the community using this area.
Future Sustainability	The Community Council will assume full responsibility for the management and maintenance of the park. The financial sustainability of the park will be achieved through the Council budgeting annually for the day- to-day maintenance together with a sinking fund for future replacement.

	The Park will be regularly inspected with any faults being repaired immediately.
<p>Outputs to be achieved</p> <p>Monitoring and Evaluation of outputs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New services – 2 • Physical Improvements – 2 • Environmental Improvement Schemes – 2 • New community assets – 2 <p>The Community Council intend to monitor the project, regarding the outcomes above, in the following ways:</p> <p>Number of physical improvements – Evidenced by photographic and documentary evidence of the improvements made as a direct result of the project, both in relation to the primary base for the facility and the community spaces improved because of the actions undertaken.</p> <p>Number of environmental improvement schemes – Evidenced by photographic and documentary evidence of the 2 distinct schemes; play equipment and solar lighting.</p> <p>Number of new community assets – Evidenced by imagery and artefacts of the newly developed play equipment.</p>
Business Plan/Officer Comments	<p>The following information is copied from the MYB criteria.</p> <p>Can you make more than one Application? You can only make one application per project. In some circumstances it may be possible to phase projects whereby you will be able to make further applications once a phase has been completed. A grant for one phase of a project does not guarantee that you will be awarded a grant for further phases.</p> <p>MYB supported phase 1 last funding round - the council is currently refurbishing the bowls pavilion to provide a café and bike hire facilities within this area.</p> <p>As outlined in the criteria this phase needs to be completed before further funding can be approved.</p>
Economic Benefit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of individuals into training/education • Number of individuals into volunteering • Number of individuals into employment • No of community groups/organisations assisted - 1 • Number of social enterprises created • Number of social enterprises supported • Number of full-time jobs created • Number of jobs safeguarded • Public and private leverage funding - £13,860.25
Recommendation	<p style="text-align: center;">Award – £15,000.00</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Subject to providing map location and confirmation of previous funding award park details</p>

Application reference: MYB-21-09

Project Title	Creating an outdoor learning space
Applicant	Parent Teacher Association (PTA), Ysgol Gymraeg Rhydaman
Ward	AMMANFORD
Project Description/ Community Benefit	<p>Ysgol Gymraeg Rhydaman is a designated Welsh-medium primary school situated in Ammanford, which has 293 pupils, including 30 full-time nursery age pupils.</p> <p>The school has an outside yard space which is currently partly unusable, and the PTA would also like to improve and develop this area, creating a partitioned space for relaxing and create a more restful and reflective area for pupils, which would also double as an outdoor learning area for all classroom pupils, which further supports wellbeing and responds directly to the core aims and purposes of the new Cwricwlwm i Gymru.</p> <p>Play is a way for children to exercise and learn new skills, children need safe play and learning areas where they can challenge themselves and develop physically, mentally, and socially. They also need calmer areas where they can sit, have some quiet and restful time and chat together to nourish their wellbeing and interpersonal skills.</p> <p>The grant would be utilised to purchase and install a partition fence to define this new area on the yard, as well as associated installation material and costs. It would also purchase benches to create a sociable seating area for pupils which would double as a seating area for whole class activities and learning, as well as a covered 'den' as a quiet corner for pupils who need to escape the noise and busyness of a school playground, also a rounded planting area with surrounding seating to bring some nature to the concrete yard and encourage butterflies and insects that the children will enjoy studying.</p> <p>Additionally, the new space would bring nature into the current concrete jungle of a yard and some children are unable to access opportunities to simply be outside and connect with nature – to learn and breathe fresh air without the hustle and bustle of town life.</p> <p>The partitioned area will also be linked with a nearby school gardening plot, which in time will benefit the community, by encouraging further participation and relationship building with parents and the wider community, also the additional learning space would provide a place to extend experiences and skills, as well as a space for the community to come to talk and share knowledge and experience with the pupils in a safe, outdoor environment.</p>

	<p>The past two years have had a significant impact on many of the pupils and their families, being able to offer a safe and nurturing environment to rebuild close relationships, gain confidences, have space to breathe, reflect and relax, would contribute greatly towards the children.</p> <p>The funding requested is for the benefit of the children who attend the school, which is now part of the statutory provision.</p>
<p>Total Project Cost</p> <p>Eligible Capital</p> <p>Eligible Revenue</p> <p>Ineligible Costs</p> <p>Amount and % of grant requested</p> <p>Match funding</p>	<p>£11,020.63 – Gross</p> <p>£11,020.63</p> <p>£3,000.00 – Installation & preparation works £4,104.00 – Wooden fence £2,692.70 – 8 Benches £959.99 – Timber tepee £263.94 – Wooden hexagonal planter</p> <p>Nil</p> <p>Nil</p> <p>£8,816.50 @ 80%</p> <p>£2,204.13 PTA Fundraising secured</p>
<p>Evidence of Need / Community Engagement</p>	<p>The area of the school yard requiring improvement is currently in a poor state of repair.</p> <p>The school yard is a large area and can be daunting for younger or quieter pupils, the planned new development will create a quieter space within the yard which would benefit those pupils during play time, as well as all pupils during whole class outdoor learning activities.</p> <p>Due to the COVID pandemic, there has been a huge importance on being outdoors for learning and general wellbeing and although there is a large yard area, the school doesn't have a designated quiet or learning area for pupils.</p>
<p>Contributing to the themes of the Fund</p>	<p>Education/Health/Recreation/Environment</p> <p>The school is committed to creating an ethos of enjoyment and respect of the natural environment and the limited outdoor area is used in creative ways as an additional learning space, reinforcing the ethos of transforming experiences into skills and promoting a sense of wellbeing to all pupils.</p> <p>An outdoor partitioned area would create an engaging and hands-on experience across all areas of learning, with the aim of providing increased learning opportunities for the pupils, whilst also benefiting their wellbeing, social and inter-personal skills, also acting as a</p>

	haven for pupils during play times, offering a quieter space to nourish wellbeing, inter-personal and social skills.
Ownership/ Lease	Ownership
Cross Cutting Themes Welsh Language ICT Equal Opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volunteering Policy • Child Protection Policy • Welsh Language Policy • Environmental Policy • Data Protection Policy • Equal Opportunities Policy
Environmental Sustainability	<p>Adopt and aim to apply the principles of “Sustainable Development” that meets the needs of the present without compromising the abilities of future generations to meet their own needs.</p> <p>Seek to improve environmental performance continuously and aim to minimise the use of all materials, supplies and energy, also strive to adopt the highest environmental standards in all aspects of their operation.</p>
Roles and responsibilities within organisation	<p>The PTA Chairperson, Kara Lewis will be responsible for overseeing project funding and administration. Cerys Gruffydd (headteacher) will project manage and be responsible for completion of the project and ensuring the area is maintained.</p> <p>Also, it is always and especially so in the current COVID climate strongly advised that any proposed building works are undertaken through the Authority’s Property Services and not for school/PTA to procure/manage the works as if they do then the school/PTA will be ultimately and personally responsible for all Construction (Design and Management) (CDM) Regulations 2015.</p> <p>CCC Property will be undertaking the works.</p>
Mapping of service/ facility within the area	<p>Ysgol Gymraeg Rhydaman covers a wide and varied catchment area including several areas of social deprivation.</p> <p>The school has an outside yard space which is currently only partly accessible, health and safety concerns have required part of the yard to be closed to the pupils.</p> <p>The aim as a school is to provide equal opportunities to all the children and provide experiences and skills which may not necessarily be available to some children otherwise.</p>
Future Sustainability	The school will be responsible for maintenance, along with assistance from the PTA when required.
Outputs to be achieved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of physical improvements - 1 • Number of environmental improvements schemes 1
Monitoring and Evaluation of outputs	Qualitative data by assessing pupil engagement in the partitioned area, analysing a log of hours the area is utilised.

	Annual assessments, analysing how outdoor learning and quiet/natural space has benefited pupils directly.
Business Plan/Officer Comments	<p>In respect of Community Schools the Governing Body has control over the use of school premises and site, in general terms that responsibility is comparable to that of a tenant with the County Council as the owner fulfilling the role of landlord and therefore schools need authorisation from the LA before any change of the school premises whether it be building works or any change of use of the school premises e.g. an external nursery provider utilising a school classroom, toilets etc.</p> <p>There is a process that schools need to follow regarding any proposed building works or any change of use of school premises, firstly the school need to seek LA approval and the school can do this by completing an "Application for approval for proposal to undertake building works or any change of use of school premises".</p> <p>All the above have been adhered too, and full consent has been granted by the LA for the project and CCC property will be undertaking the works, ensuring compliance with Health & Safety and procurement.</p>
Economic Benefit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of individuals into training/education • Number of individuals into volunteering - 1 • Number of individuals into employment • No of community groups/organisations assisted - 1 • Number of social enterprises created • Number of social enterprises supported • Number of full-time jobs created • Number of jobs safeguarded • Public and private leverage funding - £2,204.13
Recommendation	<p style="text-align: center;">Award - £8,816.50</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Subject to replacing wood with sustainable fabric such as compost material – Plastic Biodegradable</p>