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Tuesday, 27 October 2020

Dear Councillor

CABINET

You are requested to attend a remote **Cabinet** meeting to be held at on **Wednesday, 4th November, 2020, at 2.00 pm.**

AGENDA

1. Apologies for Absence
2. Declarations of Interest
3. To consider the following reports (Copies attached):
 - i. **THE HILL ABERGAVENNY S106 RECREATION FUNDING** 1 - 14
Division/Wards Affected: All Abergavenny Wards

Purpose: To agree the inclusion of capital funding in the 2020/21 Capital Budget;

To agree the two allocations from the funding available.

Author: Mike Moran, Community Infrastructure Coordinator

Contact Details: mikemoran@monmouthshire.gov.uk
 - i. **MAGOR WITH UNDY COMMUNITY HUB** 15 - 30
Division/Wards Affected: Mill and The Elms

Purpose: To seek member approval to grant a lease of the Three Fields Site in Magor to the Magor and Undy Community Hub (MUCH) group, to enable the group to progress the scheme to develop a community hub on that site.

Author: Mike Moran, Community Infrastructure Coordinator

Contact Details: mikemoran@monmouthshire.gov.uk
 - i. **PUBLIC SERVICES OMBUDSMAN FOR WALES (PSOW) ANNUAL LETTER 2019/20** 31 - 42

Divisions/Wards Affected: All

Purpose: The purpose is to fulfil the expectation of the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales that their report is brought to the attention of Cabinet and that is what we are doing.

Author: Annette Evans, Customer Relations Manager

Contact Details: annetteevans@monmouthshire.gov.uk

- i. **OUTDOOR ADVENTURE - HILSTON PARK CLOSURE** 43 - 60
Division/Wards Affected: All

Purpose: To update members with regard to the ongoing situation for the Outdoor Adventure Sites, the impact of covid19 on the service for 2020/21 and the longer term implications.

Author: Ian Saunders – Chief Operating Officer MonLife
Marie Bartlett – Finance and Resources Manager MonLife

Contact Details: iansunders@monmouthshire.gov.uk
mariebartlett@monmouthshire.gov.uk

- i. **CORONAVIRUS STRATEGIC AIMS: EVALUATION OF PROGRESS AND CONTINUED ACTIVITY** 61 - 66
Division/Wards Affected: All

Purpose: To provide an overview of progress against the strategic aims set by Cabinet to guide activity through the Coronavirus pandemic.

Author: Matthew Gatehouse, Head of Policy and Governance

Contact Details: matthewgatehouse@monmouthshire.gov.uk

- i. **WELSH CHURCH FUND WORKING GROUP** 67 - 76
Division/Wards Affected: All

Purpose: The purpose of this report is to make recommendations to Cabinet on the Schedule of Applications for the Welsh Church Fund Working meeting 4 held on the 22nd October 2020.

Author: David Jarrett – Senior Accountant – Central Finance Business Support

Contact Details: davejarrett@monmouthshire.gov.uk

Yours sincerely,

Paul Matthews
Chief Executive

CABINET PORTFOLIOS

County Councillor	Area of Responsibility	Partnership and External Working	Ward
P.A. Fox (Leader)	<p>Whole Authority Strategy & Direction Lead Officer – Chief Executive</p> <p>CCR Joint Cabinet & Regional Development; Organisation overview; Regional working; Government relations; Public Service Board lead; WLGA lead</p>	<p>WLGA Council WLGA Coordinating Board Public Service Board</p>	Portskewett
R.J.W. Greenland (Deputy Leader)	<p>Enterprise and Land Use Planning Lead Officer – Frances O’Brien Support Officers – Mark Hand, Cath Fallon</p> <p>Local Development Plan; Strategic Development Plan; Economic Resilience and Growth; Town Centre Investment and Stewardship; Development Management and Building Control; Housing Delivery</p>	<p>WLGA Council Capital Region Tourism</p>	Devauden
P. Jordan	<p>Governance and Law Lead Officers – Matthew Gatehouse, Matthew Phillips, Ian Saunders</p> <p>Council & Executive decision making; Constitution review and implementation of change; Law, Ethics & Standards; Audit and Regulatory WAO Relations Support for Elected Members Democracy promotion & citizen engagement Whole Authority Performance; Whole Authority Service Planning & Evaluation Community Hubs and Contact Centre Community Learning Tourist Information / Museums / Theatre / Attractions</p>		Cantref
R. John	<p>Children & Young People and MonLife Lead Officers – Will McLean, Ian Saunders Support Officers – Nikki Wellington, Sharon Randall-Smith, Richard Simpkins</p> <p>Early Years Education</p>	<p>Joint Education Group (EAS) WJEC</p>	Mitchel Troy

	<p>All Age Statutory Education Additional Learning Needs; School Inclusion Post 16 entitlement / offer</p> <p>School standards and Improvement; Education Achievement Service Commissioning Coleg Gwent and University liaison. Leisure / Sport Outdoor education / Duke of Edinburgh Active Travel Countryside / Biodiversity</p>		
P. Jones	<p>Social Care, Safeguarding & Health Lead Officer – Julie Boothroyd Support Officers – Eve Parkinson, Jane Rodgers</p> <p>Children’s Services Fostering & Adoption; Youth Offending Service; Adults Services Whole Authority Safeguarding (children & adults); Disabilities; Mental Health; Health liaison.</p>		Raglan
P. Murphy	<p>Whole Authority Resources Lead Officer – Peter Davies, Frances O’Brien Support Officers – Deb Hill-Howells, Sian Hayward, Tracey Harry, Mark Howcroft</p> <p>Finance; Information technology (SRS); Digital Programme Office Human Resources; Health & Safety; Emergency Planning; Procurement; Land & Buildings (inc. Estate, Cemeteries, Allotments, Farms); Vehicle Fleet / Passenger Transport Unit Property maintenance; Facilities Management (inc. Building Cleaning and Catering all ages)</p>	Prosiect Gwrydd	Caerwent
J. Pratt	<p>Infrastructure and Neighbourhood Services Lead Officer – Frances O’Brien Support Officers – Roger Hoggins, Carl Touhig, Nigel Leaworthy, Mark Hand, Paul Keeble</p> <p>County Roads / Pavements South Wales Trunk Road Agency</p>	SEWTA Prosiect Gwrydd	Goytre Fawr

	<p>Highways Maintenance, Transport, Traffic & Network Management, Car Parks / Illegal Parking Enforcement Whole Authority De-carbonisation Plastic Free Monmouthshire Waste / Recycling / Cleansing Grounds Maintenance Parks & Open Spaces/ Public Conveniences Flood Prevention / Management / SUDs</p>		
S. Jones	<p>Social Justice & Community Development Lead Officer – Frances O’Brien Support Officers – Cath Fallon, David Jones, Ian Bakewell, Mark Hand</p> <p>Rural Deprivation / Isolation; Digital Deprivation Poverty / Disadvantage Homelessness; Supporting People Community Safety / Equality / Protected Characteristics Public Relations; / Communications / Marketing Trading Standards / Environmental Health; Licensing; Registrars</p>		Llanover

Aims and Values of Monmouthshire County Council

Our purpose

Building Sustainable and Resilient Communities

Objectives we are working towards

- Giving people the best possible start in life
- A thriving and connected county
- Maximise the Potential of the natural and built environment
- Lifelong well-being
- A future focused council

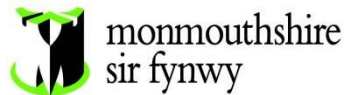
Our Values

Openness. We are open and honest. People have the chance to get involved in decisions that affect them, tell us what matters and do things for themselves/their communities. If we cannot do something to help, we'll say so; if it will take a while to get the answer we'll explain why; if we can't answer immediately we'll try to connect you to the people who can help – building trust and engagement is a key foundation.

Fairness. We provide fair chances, to help people and communities thrive. If something does not seem fair, we will listen and help explain why. We will always try to treat everyone fairly and consistently. We cannot always make everyone happy, but will commit to listening and explaining why we did what we did.

Flexibility. We will continue to change and be flexible to enable delivery of the most effective and efficient services. This means a genuine commitment to working with everyone to embrace new ways of working.

Teamwork. We will work with you and our partners to support and inspire everyone to get involved so we can achieve great things together. We don't see ourselves as the 'fixers' or problem-solvers, but we will make the best of the ideas, assets and resources available to make sure we do the things that most positively impact our people and places.



SUBJECT:	THE HILL ABERGAVENNY S106 RECREATION FUNDING
MEETING:	CABINET
DATE TO BE CONSIDERED:	4th NOVEMBER 2020
WARDS AFFECTED:	ALL ABERGAVENNY WARDS

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 To agree the inclusion of capital funding in the 2020/21 Capital Budget;
- 1.2 To agree the two allocations from the funding available.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS that

2.2 a capital budget of £55,000 is created in 2020/21 to fund the following two projects and that this is funded by a corresponding contribution from the S106 balances held by the County Council from the S106 Agreement in relation to the development of land at The Hill, Abergavenny;

2.3 funding in the sums shown below be allocated to the two projects indicated:

Project	£
1. Linda Vista Gardens	30,000
2. Abergavenny Skatepark	25,000
Total	£55,000

3. KEY ISSUES

- 3.1 The Council received an off-site recreation contribution in the sum of £75,168 from the residential development site at The Hill, Abergavenny (Planning Application Ref: DC/2015/01585).
- 3.2 At its meeting held on 5th December 2018 Cabinet agreed to allocate a sum of £20,000 to Abergavenny Town Football Club (FC) to enable it to meet the Football Association of Wales (FAW) Tier 2 facility requirements. This enabled the club to make a successful application for further funding from the FAW Trust and, as a result of this combined funding the club now meets the required standards. It is worth noting that the Penypound Stadium, where the improvement works have taken place, is also home to Abergavenny Town Ladies FC, which is one of only 10 teams that currently qualify to play in the Welsh Ladies Premier League.
- 3.3 The balance of funding that remains to be allocated from this Section 106 Agreement is £55,168. This funding needs to be spent in full by 29th January

2024 – any funding that remains unspent by this date has to be returned to the developer.

3.4 The proposal is to allocate the remaining balance of funding to two projects:

1. the re-roofing and upgrading of the old machine store building at Linda Vista Gardens;

2. a small extension to the Abergavenny Skatepark in Old Hereford Road to provide improved access to the facilities for younger users.

Further details of these two projects are set out in the following paragraphs.

3.5 **Linda Vista Machine Store** – this building is a listed structure and has fallen into a state of disrepair over a number of years. The main work required is the re-roofing of the building to bring it back into a useable state – plus some minor internal alterations to create a small kitchen and café space in addition to the machine storage area. There is currently a temporary café outlet in Linda Vista Gardens linked to the delivery of well-being sessions for young families and these have proved to be extremely popular, with a consequent increase in footfall within the grounds. This venture is called Ambika, which operates as a not for profit organisation. The project has been developed in close collaboration with the Friends of Linda Vista Gardens and Abergavenny Town Council is also very supportive. When completed, the café area will be operated on a part time basis, linked to the Ambika activities and to the wider community use of Linda Vista Gardens and Castle Meadows. In addition to the kitchen and café outlet it is proposed to turn the middle section of the building into a workshop so that the Friends Group can carry out repairs to benches, clean up and sharpen tools and similar activities to support the use of this important asset to the town. The Green Infrastructure Management Plan for Castle Meadows encourages better connectivity between the two sites, which will be targeted by future funding streams. This community resource will be beneficial for both sites.

3.6 **Abergavenny Skatepark** – the skatepark in Old Hereford Road is an extremely popular recreation facility that is used by children and young people from Abergavenny and the surrounding area. Meetings have been taking place with several local stakeholders over the last two years with a view to developing an additional section of the skatepark aimed specifically at younger users of the facility. The skatepark consists of a sprayed concrete bowl and a number of above-ground street course ramps, all of which were designed in partnership with a group of young skateboard enthusiasts. It is an older cohort of young people that have requested an extension, as the existing skatepark can be a bit too challenging for younger users and starters in the sport. The idea is that a small number of less challenging items of skate ramps will enable younger users to develop their awareness and self-confidence and to improve their skills which they can then transfer onto the more challenging parts of the provision. The contribution of £25,000 will not be sufficient to cover the cost of the new ramps proposed but this will act as a

start-up or match funding contribution when seeking funds from other sources. Other stakeholders in this project are the town council, the police and the youth service, which has a base on the site immediately adjacent to the skatepark. Working with these organisations and with council officers the young people will be encouraged and assisted to apply for additional grants to create a funding package to cover the cost of the proposed extension. The Town Council has expressed support for the project which could result in significant financial support. The young people will also be encouraged to add funding towards this project through organising events and from local sponsorship.

4.0 EQUALITY AND FUTURE GENERATIONS EVALUATION (INCLUDES SOCIAL JUSTICE, SAFEGUARDING AND CORPORATE PARENTING)

The Equality and Future Generations Evaluation can be found at **Appendix A** to this report, but a short narrative summary is as follows:

Linda Vista Gardens – the use of the gardens has increased with new activities that have been introduced in recent years and the toilet facilities have been re-opened to support this use, which is particularly important for families with young children. With greater use of the gardens and better connectivity to Castle Meadows the proposal to introduce a café outlet in the gardens will serve current users and will provide facilities for all generations to enjoy in the future.

A potential negative impact of this proposal would be the effect of a new café outlet taking trade away from other local businesses - but there are no other catering outlets in the immediate vicinity of the site and the main customers for the cafe will be those that visit the gardens for a specific purpose.

Skatepark – since it opened in 2009 the skatepark has been a very well used facility, mainly by young people from Abergavenny and the surrounding area. Also, during that time, skateboarding has become an established Olympic sport. The proposal is to extend the skatepark for the benefit of younger users which will allow more children and young people to develop their skills in the sport. This will also provide a future pathway for young people to progress from the smaller, less demanding sections proposed to the existing more challenging skatepark features.

A potential negative impact of the existing arrangements is the lack of opportunity for young females and children with disabilities but it is hoped to address these in the design of the proposed skatepark extension.

5.0 OPTIONS APPRAISAL

The options are to:

1. take no action and return the money to the developers with no additional or improved community recreation provision;
2. allocate the funding to the projects proposed in this report;

3. allocate the funding on a different basis.

The two projects outlined in paras 3.4 – 3.6 of this report have been developed with local community groups over a period of two years.

6.0 EVALUATION CRITERIA

The intention is that, once the works to both sites have been completed, there will be an annual assessment of increased usage based on year to year comparisons and feedback from users of the two facilities.

7.0 REASONS

7.1 To ensure the funding is available in the Council's capital budget in the 2020/21 financial year;

7.2 To ensure the Section 106 funding received from the developer is used effectively to enhance community recreation provision in the local area.

8.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

The capital funding recommended in this report is available from the S106 payments made by the developers of the residential development at The Hill site in Abergavenny, so in that respect these proposals do not impact any of the other projects in the Council's capital budget.

The council does not release S106 funding until the respective schemes have been contractually committed – but in this case the council will be responsible for implementing the works using the funds set out in this report plus match funding contributions and/or work in kind provided by partner organisations.

9.0 CONSULTEES

Cabinet Members	Local Members
Senior Leadership Team	S106 Working Group
Abergavenny Town Council	Gwent Police
Friends of Linda Vista Gardens	
Local Young People	
Assistant Head of Finance/S151 Officer	

10. BACKGROUND PAPERS

Section 106 Agreement dated 28th September 2016.

11. AUTHOR

Mike Moran, Community Infrastructure Coordinator

12. CONTACT DETAILS

Tel: 07894 573834

Email: mikemoran@monmouthshire.gov.uk

APPENDIX A

Report to Cabinet on 4th November 2020 – The Hill Abergavenny S106 Off-Site Recreation Funding



monmouthshire
sir fynwy

Future Generations Evaluation (includes Equalities and Sustainability Impact Assessments)

Name of the Officer: Mike Moran Phone no: 07894 573834 E-mail: mikemoran@monmouthshire.gov.uk	Decision on inclusion of funding in 2020/21 capital budget Decision on funding allocations in Abergavenny from S106 balances
Name of Service: Enterprise	Date completed: 19 th October 2020


NB. Key strategies and documents that may help you identify your contribution to the wellbeing goals and sustainable development principles include: Single Integrated Plan, Continuance Agreement, Improvement Plan, Local Development Plan, People Strategy, Asset Management Plan, Green Infrastructure SPG, Welsh Language Standards, etc.




- 1. Does your proposal deliver any of the well-being goals below?** Please explain the impact (positive and negative) you expect, together with suggestions of how to mitigate negative impacts or better contribute to the goal.


Well Being Goal	Does the proposal contribute to this goal? Describe the positive and negative impacts.	What actions have been/will be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
<p>A prosperous Wales Efficient use of resources, skilled, educated people, generates wealth, provides jobs</p>	<p>Positive - the projects will be funded from S106 balances provided by developers of residential housing in Abergavenny, so there is no call on the Council's core capital budget.</p>	
<p>A resilient Wales Maintain and enhance biodiversity and ecosystems that support resilience and can adapt to change (e.g. climate change)</p>	<p>Positive – the projects involved are important community and recreation facilities in the local area - the projects will involve improvements and making the most of the local environment.</p>	
<p>A healthier Wales People's physical and mental wellbeing is maximized and health impacts are understood</p>	<p>Positive - the proposals in this report involve improving peoples' physical and emotional wellbeing. In addition to their value as well used recreation sites, the locations are used for events that provide a focal point for a number of family orientated activities.</p>	
<p>A Wales of cohesive communities Communities are attractive, viable, safe and well connected</p>	<p>The proposals will contribute to the safety and cohesiveness of the local community in which they are located.</p>	
<p>A globally responsible Wales Taking account of impact on global well-being when considering local social, economic and environmental wellbeing</p>	<p>The availability of good quality and accessible facilities in the local community means that local people do not have to travel to other areas by car or by public transport, thereby contributing to a reduction in harmful nitrogen dioxide emissions</p>	

Well Being Goal	Does the proposal contribute to this goal? Describe the positive and negative impacts.	What actions have been/will be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
<p>A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language Culture, heritage and Welsh language are promoted and protected. People are encouraged to do sport, art and recreation</p>	<p>There are no specific proposals in this report to promote and protect the Welsh language but the improvements proposed will encourage more participation in outdoor recreational activities.</p>	<p>Encourage the use of the Welsh language in on-site signage – bilingual noticeboards would promote the Welsh language and encourage Welsh language speakers to use the sites.</p>
<p>A more equal Wales People can fulfil their potential no matter what their background or circumstances</p>	<p>The improvements will encourage improved access for and participation by disabled people and people with other support needs – also by all sections of the community regardless of their background or ability.</p>	

2. How has your proposal embedded and prioritised the sustainable governance principles in its development?

Sustainable Development Principle	Does your proposal demonstrate you have met this principle? If yes, describe how. If not explain why.	Are there any additional actions to be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
 <p>Balancing short term need with long term and planning for the future</p>	<p>The sustainability of the sites has been assessed and officers are confident that the investments proposed will be sustainable in the longer term.</p>	<p>Funding is proposed from existing S106 balances to cover the cost of the works proposed.</p>

Sustainable Development Principle	Does your proposal demonstrate you have met this principle? If yes, describe how. If not explain why.	Are there any additional actions to be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
 <p>Collaboration</p> <p>Working together with other partners to deliver objectives</p>	<p>The projects involve working closely with other parties to deliver improved facilities and to ensure better access for children, adults and families.</p>	
 <p>Involvement</p> <p>Involving those with an interest and seeking their views</p>	<p>The views of elected members of the county council and the town council, the local friends group and local users have been sought in the drafting of the report and the recommendations it contains.</p>	
 <p>Prevention</p> <p>Putting resources into preventing problems occurring or getting worse</p>	<p>The projects involve the enhancement of facilities, as per the intention of the S106 Agreements from where the funding has arisen. Problem prevention is not the basis upon which the funding has been given but investing in the improvement of existing facilities will help to prevent problems occurring.</p>	

Sustainable Development Principle	Does your proposal demonstrate you have met this principle? If yes, describe how. If not explain why.	Are there any additional actions to be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
 <p data-bbox="237 587 376 619">Integration</p> <p data-bbox="203 647 539 746">Considering impact on all wellbeing goals together and on other bodies</p>	<p data-bbox="589 344 1272 456">The projects will have a positive impact on the health & wellbeing of people living in the area of benefit stipulated in the Section 106 Agreement.</p>	

- 3. Are your proposals going to affect any people or groups of people with protected characteristics?** Please explain the impact, the evidence you have used and any action you are taking below. For more detailed information on the protected characteristics, the Equality Act 2010 and the Welsh Language Standards that apply to Monmouthshire Council please follow this link: <http://hub/corporatedocs/Equalities/Forms/AllItems.aspx> or contact Alan Burkitt on 01633 644010 or alanburkitt@monmouthshire.gov.uk

Protected Characteristics	Describe any positive impacts your proposal has on the protected characteristic	Describe any negative impacts your proposal has on the protected characteristic	What has been/will be done to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
Age	No employment/training issues identified The recommendations will benefit residents of all ages living in the local area		Continue to consider the needs of people with protected characteristics when formulating proposals.
Disability	The improvements proposed will be designed to be accessible to people with disabilities/mobility issues		
Gender reassignment	Neutral		
Marriage or civil partnership	Neutral		
Pregnancy or maternity	The sites will be designed for ease of access with pushchairs and wheelchairs		
Race	Neutral		
Religion or Belief	Neutral		
Sex	The projects that are the subject of this report are of equal benefit to both males and females		
Sexual Orientation	Neutral		

Protected Characteristics	Describe any positive impacts your proposal has on the protected characteristic	Describe any negative impacts your proposal has on the protected characteristic	What has been/will be done to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
Welsh Language	Neutral	Although the recommendation is considered to be neutral it does nothing specifically to promote the use of the Welsh language	It may be possible in the future to encourage applications that actively promote the Welsh language

4. Council has agreed the need to consider the impact its decisions has on important responsibilities of Corporate Parenting and safeguarding. Are your proposals going to affect either of these responsibilities?

	Describe any positive impacts your proposal has on safeguarding and corporate parenting	Describe any negative impacts your proposal has on safeguarding and corporate parenting	What will you do to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
Safeguarding	Positive: all of the proposals are designed to increase participation by local people, irrespective of their backgrounds		
Corporate Parenting	Neutral		

5. What evidence and data has informed the development of your proposal?

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Year on year comparisons of the number of increased users once the schemes have been completed. • Meetings and feedback from the friends groups and local young people • Evidence obtained from users of the facilities

6. SUMMARY: As a result of completing this form, what are the main positive and negative impacts of your proposal, how have they informed/changed the development of the proposal so far and what will you be doing in future?

Positive Impacts

- The proposals comply with the statutory tests relating to Section 106 funding
- The schemes will have a positive impact upon the health and wellbeing of local residents
- People with protected characteristics will benefit from the improvement projects

Negative Impacts

- It is difficult to demonstrate that the projects will have meaningful benefits for promoting the Welsh language

The above impacts have not materially changed the recommendations contained in the report.

7. ACTIONS: As a result of completing this form are there any further actions you will be undertaking? Please detail them below, if applicable.

What are you going to do	When are you going to do it?	Who is responsible	Progress
Work in partnership with friends groups and users to implement the proposals	Following the decision of Cabinet and over the next 12-18 months	Mike Moran, Community Infrastructure Coordinator	To be reported

8. MONITORING: The impacts of this proposal will need to be monitored and reviewed. Please specify the date at which you will evaluate the impact, and where you will report the results of the review.

<p>The impacts of this proposal will be evaluated: Starting one year after completion for a period of three years</p>	<p>To be reported to the Section 106 Working Group</p>
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9. VERSION CONTROL: The Future Generations Evaluation should be used at the earliest stages of decision making, and then honed and refined throughout the decision making process. It is important to keep a record of this process so that we can demonstrate how we have considered and built in sustainable development wherever possible.

Version No.	Decision making stage	Date considered	Brief description of any amendments made following consideration
1	S106 funding received	29 th January 2019	
3	Formulation of recommendations	Sept 2019 – Oct 2020	
4	Consultation with Cabinet and Senior Leadership	October 2020	
5	Consultation with Monmouth Town Council	October 2020	
6	MCC Cabinet Meeting	4 th November 2020	Decision sought on allocation of funding and on the inclusion of funding in the 2019/20 capital budget

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SUBJECT:	MAGOR WITH UNDY COMMUNITY HUB
MEETING:	CABINET
DATE TO BE CONSIDERED:	4th NOVEMBER 2020
DIVISION/WARDS AFFECTED:	MILL AND THE ELMS

1.0 PURPOSE

To seek member approval to grant a lease of the Three Fields Site in Magor to the Magor and Undy Community Hub (MUCH) group, to enable the group to progress the scheme to develop a community hub on that site.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS that:

- 2.1 a lease of the Three Fields Site be granted to the MUCH Group for the purposes of developing a community hub;
- 2.2 the lease is for a period of 25 years, to support the Group's second stage funding application to the National Lottery People and Places Programme.

3. KEY ISSUES

- 3.1 The provision of improved community facilities in the Magor with Undy area, in particular the provision of a new community centre on the Three Fields Site, has been a corporate priority of the Council since its inception back in 1996.
- 3.2 The Three Fields Site, which is conveniently located in an easily accessible position between the two villages with direct access from the B4245, was purchased in the 1990s using Section 106 off-site recreation funding from housing developments in the local area. There have been previous attempts to develop a community hall on the site, with local voluntary sector groups taking the lead on design and funding issues. Unfortunately, for one reason or another, those attempts have failed to deliver the desired outcome.
- 3.3 The need for improved community facilities is now a much greater priority due to the increasing number of new housing developments, and new residents, in Magor with Undy. By way of example, when the two residential sites in the current Local Development Plan (Rockfield Farm and Vinegar Hill) are completed, this will increase the local population by approximately 12%.
- 3.4 There has been some progress in achieving improved recreation facilities in the area in recent years, with the Council working closely with local organisations. The facilities at Undy Playing Field have been transformed in the last two years with major investment from Undy Athletic Club, the Football Association of Wales and the County Council via S106 funding. The Magor with Undy Community Council has just completed a major upgrade of the multi-use sports facilities at Sycamore Field, using its own funding plus a Section 106 grant from the County Council.

3.5 Over the last three years the County Council has been working with a local organisation, the Three Fields Community Trust (now operating under the name of MUCH - Magor with Undy Community Hub), to progress the scheme for a new community hub at the Three Fields Site. The group is a registered Community Incorporated Organisation. CIOs are a relatively new body, brought into being by the Charities Act 2006 and, as such they are regulated by the Charities Commission. MUCH has received confirmation of its charitable status and, in addition to the Three Fields Site it has taken on management responsibility for the Undy Memorial Hall.

3.6 Significant progress has been made with the community hub proposal. Planning permission has been granted for the scheme, which has an estimated cost of between £1.4 million and £1.6 million. The scheme, when completed, will provide added value as it is located immediately adjacent to the site of the proposed new walkway station, which is one of the main priorities in the Council's Strategic Transport Plan. Attached to this report at **Appendix A** is a copy of the approved site layout plan. The plan also shows the location of the platforms for the new station.

3.6 In terms of the funding required to proceed with the community hub project, a sum of £800,000 has already been secured by way of a S106 contribution from the development of the Rockfield Farm site – but there is a need to raise the remaining balance before the scheme can proceed.

3.7 The MUCH Group was notified recently that its first stage application for a major grant from the People and Places Programme of the National Lottery has been successful and it now needs to develop and submit a second stage application within the next three to four months. A group of council officers and the community development manager of the Gwent Association of Voluntary Organisations are working with MUCH to develop a project plan to support the second stage bid.

3.8 One of the prerequisite requirements for the second stage bid is that MUCH needs to have in place security of tenure on the land which is the subject of the application. It is therefore proposed to grant approval for a lease of the Three Fields Site to MUCH for a period of 25 years, upon completion of the project.

4.0 **EQUALITY AND FUTURE GENERATIONS EVALUATION (INCLUDES SOCIAL JUSTICE, SAFEGUARDING AND CORPORATE PARENTING)**

The Equality and Future Generations Evaluation can be found at **Appendix B** to this report. Here is a short summary of the positive and negative impacts:

Positive – if the stage 2 lottery application succeeds and the new hub building is subsequently constructed it will provide a facility of sufficient size and capacity and with a modern range of facilities to cater for the needs of the Magor with Undy community – with equality of access and opportunity for all sections of the local population.

Negative – due to its rapid population growth in recent years the Magor with Undy community is the fifth largest urban settlement in the county. Should the second stage lottery application for some reason not succeed there will still be

a funding shortfall, which would result in a further delay in realising this corporate priority.

5.0 OPTIONS APPRAISAL

There are three realistic options for progressing this project, as follows:

- the council could take the lead by providing the balance of funding through prudential borrowing or a similar route, with possible repayment from further S106 funding that might become available in the locality;
- the council could provide the balance of funding through S106 balances accrued from future developments in the local area – this is likely to delay the project for a further time period of at least three to five years;
- the council could agree to enter into a lease of the Three Fields site to the MUCH Group to support the second stage lottery bid - to do this the Group will require security of tenure for an unexpired period of 20-25 years. With a formal council decision in place to lease the site to MUCH, the group can proceed with submitting the bid, with support and assistance from the county council, the community council and the Gwent Association of Voluntary Organisations (GAVO).

On balance, it is considered that the best option available at this stage is to agree to grant a lease to the MUCH Group to enable it to proceed with the second stage lottery application. The lease would not be signed until the full funding for the project is in place – the construction of the new community hub will be fronted by the council as this is the most economical way of proceeding in this case.

6.0 EVALUATION CRITERIA

The intention is that, once the construction works have been completed and the new hub building is in operation, the project will be subject to an annual review and report over a five year period to assess usage based on year to year comparisons and feedback from users of the facility.

7.0 REASONS

- 7.1 To enable the MUCH Group to submit its second stage lottery application in an attempt to secure the identified shortfall in funding required to enable the project to proceed.

8.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 The proposal is to grant a lease of land at the Three Fields Site that has been acquired for a specific purpose, i.e. the provision of a new community centre. In that respect, there is no financial implication to the Council – other than the fact that the Council will benefit from the annual lease income plus, in the longer term, income from NNDR (national non-domestic rate) charges, although this income is likely to be minimal given the status of the proposed building and the current NNDR exemptions for buildings of this nature.
- 8.2 When the new community hub is developed it is intended, subject to the satisfactory performance of the lease in the intervening period, to dispose of the site to the MUCH Group by way of a Community Asset Transfer.

9.0 CONSULTTEES

Cabinet Members

Magor with Undy Community Council

Senior Leadership Team

Gwent Association of Voluntary Organisations

Assistant Head of Finance/Deputy S151 Officer

Local Members

Section 106 Working Group

The Big Lottery Fund – Wales

10.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS:

None

11.0 AUTHOR

Mike Moran, Community Infrastructure Coordinator

12.0 CONTACT DETAILS

Tel: 07894 573834 Email: mikemoran@monmouthshire.gov.uk

Revisions

A LANDSCAPING TO HUB ADDED

18 SEPT '18



Date	SEPT '18
Scale	1:1250 @ A3
Drawing No.	3641_SK_100
Rev.	A

Project
MAGOR & LINDY HUB

Client
MONMOUTHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Drawing Title
SITE LOCATION PLAN (WITH PROPOSED PLATFORMS)

NOTES: Do not scale. All dimensions are in millimetres unless stated otherwise

pentan
architects

22 Cathedral Road
Cardiff CF11 9LJ
t: 029 2030 8010
info@pentan.co.uk

— SITE AREA 1.74 (hectares)

NOTE: ALL CONSTRAINTS AND PROPOSED STATION INFORMATION SHOWN ON THIS DRAWING IS INDICATIVE ONLY AND MUST BE READ IN CONNECTION WITH RELEVANT SURVEY / UTILITIES / ENGINEERS INFORMATION FROM ORIGINAL SOURCES.



05641 - 100 Site Location Plan with Proposed Platforms Rev. 18/09/2018 13:21:55

APPENDIX B

Report to Cabinet on 4th November 2020 – Magor with Undy Community Hub



<p>Name of the Officer: Mike Moran Phone no: 07894 573834 E-mail: mikemoran@monmouthshire.gov.uk</p>	<p>Decision on the disposal of Council-owned land by way of a 25 year lease</p>
<p>Name of Service: Enterprise</p>	<p>Date completed: 20th October 2020</p>

NB. Key strategies and documents that may help you identify your contribution to the wellbeing goals and sustainable development principles include: Single Integrated Plan, Continuanace Agreement, Improvement Plan, Local Development Plan, People Strategy, Asset Management Plan, Green Infrastructure SPG, Welsh Language Standards, etc.


1. Does your proposal deliver any of the well-being goals below? Please explain the impact (positive and negative) you expect, together with suggestions of how to mitigate negative impacts or better contribute to the goal.




Well Being Goal	Does the proposal contribute to this goal? Describe the positive and negative impacts.	What actions have been/will be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
<p>A prosperous Wales Efficient use of resources, skilled, educated people, generates wealth, provides jobs</p>	<p>The project will be funded from S106 balances and external funding, so there should be no call on the Council's core capital budget.</p>	<p>Together with the walkway station, the hub will make a positive contribution to the local economy through improved connectivity.</p>


Well Being Goal	Does the proposal contribute to this goal? Describe the positive and negative impacts.	What actions have been/will be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
<p>A resilient Wales Maintain and enhance biodiversity and ecosystems that support resilience and can adapt to change (e.g. climate change)</p>	<p>The new hub has been designed to be an energy efficient building, constructed of sustainable materials and in keeping with the local environment.</p>	
<p>A healthier Wales People's physical and mental wellbeing is maximized and health impacts are understood</p>	<p>The proposal involves improving peoples' physical and mental wellbeing by providing ease of access to good quality facilities in a central location for the whole community.</p>	
<p>A Wales of cohesive communities Communities are attractive, viable, safe and well connected</p>	<p>The community hub will contribute to the safety and cohesiveness of the local community. Its close proximity to the proposed walkway station will provide improved connectivity by train to local communities in Caldicot, Chepstow and Newport and with wider communities in the Cardiff City region.</p>	
<p>A globally responsible Wales Taking account of impact on global well-being when considering local social, economic and environmental wellbeing</p>	<p>The availability of good quality and accessible facilities in the local community means that local people do not have to travel to other areas by car or by public transport, thereby contributing to a reduction in harmful nitrogen dioxide emissions</p>	<p>Where people do have to travel to other places in the south east Wales region, particularly to their place of work, there will be improved opportunities to use public transport as a viable alternative to the motor vehicle.</p>
<p>A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language</p>	<p>There are no specific proposals in this report to promote and protect the Welsh</p>	<p>Encourage the use of the Welsh language in on-site signage – bilingual noticeboards</p>

Well Being Goal	Does the proposal contribute to this goal? Describe the positive and negative impacts.	What actions have been/will be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
Culture, heritage and Welsh language are promoted and protected. People are encouraged to do sport, art and recreation	language but the new hub and its links to sites such as Sycamore Field will encourage more participation in outdoor recreational activities.	would promote the Welsh language and encourage Welsh language speakers to use the site as a place for social and educational activities.
A more equal Wales People can fulfil their potential no matter what their background or circumstances	The improvements will encourage improved access for and participation by disabled people and people with other support needs – also by all sections of the community regardless of their background or ability.	

2. How has your proposal embedded and prioritised the sustainable governance principles in its development?

Sustainable Development Principle	Does your proposal demonstrate you have met this principle? If yes, describe how. If not explain why.	Are there any additional actions to be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
 <p>Balancing short term need with long term and planning for the future.</p> <p>Long Term</p>	The sustainability of the site has been assessed and officers are confident that the investment proposed will be sustainable in the longer term, both in terms of the longevity of the building and the skills and experience of the managing body.	A skills audit of the trustees and volunteers was undertaken two years ago and this is currently being updated as part of the Stage 2 lottery submission.

Sustainable Development Principle	Does your proposal demonstrate you have met this principle? If yes, describe how. If not explain why.	Are there any additional actions to be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
 <p>Working together with other partners to deliver objectives</p> <p>Collaboration</p>	<p>The project involves working closely with other parties to deliver improved facilities and to ensure better access for people with protected characteristics</p>	
 <p>Involving those with an interest and seeking their views</p> <p>Involvement</p>	<p>The views of Cabinet members, the local county council members and the community council have been sought in the drafting of the report and the recommendation.</p>	
 <p>Putting resources into preventing problems occurring or getting worse</p> <p>Prevention</p>	<p>The project involves the investment of capital funding and professional officer support to secure a much needed community facility. If successful this will overcome a long standing identified problem, i.e. the shortage of adequate facilities to serve the needs of the growing local community.</p>	

Sustainable Development Principle	Does your proposal demonstrate you have met this principle? If yes, describe how. If not explain why.	Are there any additional actions to be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
 <p>Integration</p> <p>Considering impact on all wellbeing goals together and on other bodies</p>	<p>The project will have a positive impact on the health & wellbeing of people living in the area and will offer benefits to the health and well-being of groups and individuals living in the local community and the surrounding area.</p>	

3. **Are your proposals going to affect any people or groups of people with protected characteristics? Please explain the impact, the evidence you have used and any action you are taking below. For more detailed information on the protected characteristics, the Equality Act 2010 and the Welsh Language Standards that apply to Monmouthshire Council please follow this link: <http://hub/corporatedocs/Equalities/Forms/AllItems.aspx> or contact Alan Burkitt on 01633 644010 or alanburkitt@monmouthshire.gov.uk**

Protected Characteristics	Describe any positive impacts your proposal has on the protected characteristic	Describe any negative Impacts your proposal has on the protected characteristic	What has been/will be done to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
Age	No employment/training issues identified The recommendation will benefit residents of all ages living in the local area		Continue to consider the needs of people with protected characteristics when formulating proposals.
Disability	The proposed new community hub has been designed to be accessible to people with disabilities/mobility issues		
Gender reassignment	Neutral		
Marriage or civil partnership	Neutral		
Pregnancy or maternity	The hub has been designed for ease of access with pushchairs and wheelchairs		
Race	Neutral		
Religion or Belief	Neutral		
Sex	The project is of equal benefit to both males and females		
Sexual Orientation	Neutral		

Protected Characteristics	Describe any positive impacts your proposal has on the protected characteristic	Describe any negative impacts your proposal has on the protected characteristic	What has been/will be done to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
Welsh Language	Neutral	Although the recommendation is considered to be neutral it does provide opportunities to promote the use of the Welsh language	In addition to bilingual signage, the new hub will offer the possibility of organising activities to promote the use of the Welsh language.

4. Council has agreed the need to consider the impact its decisions has on important responsibilities of Corporate Parenting and safeguarding. Are your proposals going to affect either of these responsibilities?

	Describe any positive impacts your proposal has on safeguarding and corporate parenting	Describe any negative impacts your proposal has on safeguarding and corporate parenting	What will you do to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
Safeguarding	Positive: all of the proposals are designed to increase participation by local people, irrespective of their backgrounds		
Corporate Parenting	Neutral		

5. What evidence and data has informed the development of your proposal?

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local population figures taken from the 2011 Census data, and the updated mid-term Census data of 2018 Evidence obtained from a number of community surveys undertaken locally over the last five years Feedback from Big Lottery Lead in project update meetings

6. SUMMARY: As a result of completing this form, what are the main positive and negative impacts of your proposal, how have they informed/changed the development of the proposal so far and what will you be doing in future?

Positive Impacts

- The new community hub will have a positive impact upon the health and wellbeing of local residents of all ages
- People with protected characteristics will benefit from better access to services
- The development of the walkway station on the same site as the community hub will improve and promote the use of public transport links within the wider South Wales region.

Negative Impacts

- It is difficult to demonstrate that the project will have a long term benefit for promoting the Welsh language, although there are opportunities to promote the language through on-site signage, bilingual publications and activities to promote the use of the Welsh language

The above impacts have not materially changed the recommendation contained in the report as they have already been considered in the design and layout of the proposed community hub.

7. ACTIONS: As a result of completing this form are there any further actions you will be undertaking? Please detail them below, if applicable.

What are you going to do	When are you going to do it?	Who is responsible	Progress
Work with the successful applicants to implement the proposals	Following the decision of Cabinet and over the next 12-18 months	Mike Moran, Community Infrastructure Coordinator	To be reported

8. MONITORING: The impacts of this proposal will need to be monitored and reviewed. Please specify the date at which you will evaluate the impact, and where you will report the results of the review.

The impacts of this proposal will be evaluated: over a five year period following project completion and the opening of the new hub	To be reported to the Section 106 Working Group and in progress reports to the Big Lottery Fund - Wales Office
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9. VERSION CONTROL: The Future Generations Evaluation should be used at the earliest stages of decision making, and then honed and refined throughout the decision making process. It is important to keep a record of this process so that we can demonstrate how we have considered and built in sustainable development wherever possible.

Version No.	Decision making stage	Date considered	Brief description of any amendments made following consideration
1	S106 contribution received, no spend-by date specified	April 2019	
2	Big Lottery Stage 1 approval	September 2020	
3	Formulation of recommendations	October 2020	
4	Consultation with Cabinet and Senior Leadership	October 2020	Minor amendments made at this stage
5	Consultation with Goetre Fawr Community Council	October 2020	No amendments made at this stage
6	MCC Cabinet Meeting	4 th November 2020	Decision sought on approval of 25 year lease subject to final funding approval

SUBJECT:	PUBLIC SERVICES OMBUDSMAN FOR WALES (PSOW) ANNUAL LETTER 2019/20
MEETING:	CABINET
DATE:	4 NOVEMBER 2020
DIVISION/WARDS AFFECTED:	ALL

1. **PURPOSE:**

The purpose is to fulfil the expectation of the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales that their report is brought to the attention of Cabinet and that is what we are doing.

2. **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- 2.1 Cabinet note the content of the PSOW's annual letter (Appendix 1) and inform the PSOW of their considerations and any proposed actions by 30 November 2020.
- 2.2 That we engage with the PSOW complaints standards work, access training for staff and provide the PSOW with complaints data.

3. **KEY ISSUES:**

- 3.1 The PSOW sends every Council an Annual letter which provides a summary of the complaints received and investigated. This compares the number of complaints against the local authority which were received and investigated by the PSOW during 2019/20, with the local authority average during the same period.
- 3.2 The PSOW annual letter provides:
 - a breakdown of the number of complaints about the local authority broken down into subject categories.
 - compares the complaint outcomes for the local authority with the average outcome during the same period.
 - the numbers and percentages of cases received in which an intervention has occurred.
 - a breakdown of all Code of Conduct complaint outcomes against councillors.

- a breakdown of all Code of Conduct complaint outcomes against town or community councils.

3.3 The National Assembly for Wales (now Senedd Cymru Welsh Parliament) passed the PSOW's new Act. This provides them with operational powers to drive systemic improvements of public services through investigations of their "own initiative" and the Complaints Standards role that consider complaints handling processes to ensure complaints data from across Wales is used to improve services.

3.4 The PSOW received 16 complaints about Monmouthshire County Council. One complaint was investigated by them.

Complaints received by subject: (PSOW definition)	Complaints Received
Children Social Services	4
Complaints handling	2
Education	3
Health	1
Planning and Building Control	3
Roads and transport	1
Various other	2

PSOW Comparison of complaint outcomes

Local Authority	Out of Jurisdiction	Premature	Other cases closed after initial consideration	Early resolution/voluntary settlement	Discontinued	Other report – not upheld	Other report – upheld in whole or in part	Public interest reports
Monmouthshire	2	4	7	1	-	-	1	-

- There was two complaints where the PSOW intervened.

Code of Conduct complaints

There were two complaints that were closed after initial consideration.

Town/Community Council Code of Conduct complaints

There were 3 complaints that were closed after initial consideration. One related to Magor with Undy Community Council, one related to Chepstow Town Council and one from Raglan Community Council.

A complaint that related to Magor with Undy Community Council and a complaint that related to Mathern Community Council were discontinued.

3.5 The Standards Committee has seen and discussed the PSOW's Annual letter.

4 EQUALITY AND FUTURE GENERATIONS EVALUATION (INCLUDES SOCIAL JUSTICE, SAFEGUARDING AND CORPORATE PARENTING):

This report provides feedback information from the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales. The report does not seek to divert from the Council's corporate priorities and the continued delivery of the wide range of services provided through the Council to the public. As the report deals solely with feedback information, a Future generations and Equality assessment is not considered appropriate in this instance.

5 OPTIONS APPRAISAL

This section is not relevant as the work of the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales is outside of our control.

6 EVALUATION CRITERIA

We will continue to work with the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales office to resolve as many issues as possible at an early stage and monitor the number of complaints the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales receives and deals with.

7 REASONS:

7.1 The Public Services Ombudsman for Wales (PSOW) role is to consider complaints about public services providers in Wales and to consider complaints that members of local authorities have broken the Code of Conduct. The PSOW has requested that Cabinet considers the complaints that the PSOW has received and that the Public Services Ombudsman (Wales) Act 2019 has now been introduced.

8 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

There are currently no extra resource costs identified.

9 CONSULTEES:

Head of Law and Monitoring Officer
Head of People Services
Head of Policy & Governance

10 BACKGROUND PAPERS:

Appendix 1: The Public Services Ombudsman for Wales Annual letter 2019/20

11 AUTHOR: Annette Evans, Customer Relations Manager


12 CONTACT DETAILS:

Tel: 01633 644647


E-mail: annetteevans@monmouthshire.gov.uk

Our ref: NB

Ask for: Communications

 01656 641150

Date: 7 September 2020

 Communications
@ombudsman-wales.org.uk

Councillor Peter Fox
Council Leader
Monmouthshire County Council

By Email Only
peterfox@monmouthshire.gov.uk

Dear Councillor Fox

Annual Letter 2019/20

I am pleased to provide you with the Annual letter (2019/20) for Monmouthshire County Council.

I write this at an unprecedented time for public services in Wales and those that use them. Most of the data in this correspondence relates to the period before the rapid escalation in Covid-19 spread and before restrictions on economic and social activity had been introduced. However, I am only too aware of the impact the pandemic continues to have on us all.

I am delighted to report that, during the past financial year, we had to intervene in (uphold, settle or resolve early) a smaller proportion of complaints about public bodies: 20% compared to 24% last year.

We also referred a smaller proportion of Code of Conduct complaints to a Standards Committee or the Adjudication Panel for Wales: 2% compared to 3% last year.

With regard to new complaints relating to Local Authorities, the overall number has decreased by 2.4% compared to the previous financial year. I am also glad that we had to intervene in a smaller proportion of the cases closed (13% compared to 15% last year). That said, I am concerned that complaint handling persists as one of the main subjects of our complaints again this year.

Amongst the main highlights of the year, in 2019 the National Assembly for Wales (now Senedd Cymru Welsh Parliament) passed our new Act. We are now the first ombudsman's office in the UK to have full and operational powers to drive systemic improvement of public services through investigations on our 'own initiative' and the Complaints Standards role.

Page 1 of 7

During 2019/20, we have engaged intensively with Local Authorities on this issue, starting to exercise our new Complaints Standards powers.

Local Authorities in Wales submitted data about the complaints they handled to the Complaints Standards Authority (CSA) for the first time in 2019/2020, revealing much more about the complaints landscape in Wales.

The data submitted for 2019/2020 shows:

- Over 13,000 complaints were recorded by Local Authorities – 4.25 for every 1000 residents.
- Nearly half (42%) of those complaints were upheld in full or in part.
- About 80% (79.51%) were investigated within 20 working days.
- About 7% (6.91%) of all complaints ended up being referred to PSOW.

The CSA will work with public bodies to ensure the data submitted is an accurate representation of complaints being submitted by service users.

A summary of the complaints of maladministration/service failure received relating to your Council is attached.

Also attached is a summary of the Code of Conduct complaints relating to members of the Council and the Town & Community Councils in your area.

Action for the Council to take:

- Present my Annual Letter to the Cabinet to assist members in their scrutiny of the Council's performance.
- Engage with my Complaints Standards work, accessing training for your staff and providing complaints data.
- Inform me of the outcome of the Council's considerations and proposed actions on the above matters by 30 November.

This correspondence is copied to the Chief Executive of your Council and to your Contact Officer. Finally, a copy of all Annual Letters will be published on my website.

Yours sincerely



Nick Bennett
Ombudsman

CC: Paul Matthews, Chief Executive
Annette Evans, Contact Officer

Factsheet

A. Complaints Received

Local Authority	Complaints Received	Complaints received per 1000 residents
Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council	17	0.24
Bridgend County Borough Council	34	0.23
Caerphilly County Borough Council	49	0.27
Cardiff Council*	122	0.33
Carmarthenshire County Council	42	0.22
Ceredigion County Council	31	0.42
Conwy County Borough Council	29	0.25
Denbighshire County Council	32	0.34
Flintshire County Council	61	0.39
Gwynedd Council	37	0.30
Isle of Anglesey County Council	26	0.37
Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council	13	0.22
Monmouthshire County Council	16	0.17
Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council	22	0.15
Newport City Council	39	0.25
Pembrokeshire County Council	25	0.20
Powys County Council	72	0.54
Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council	39	0.16
Swansea Council	92	0.37
Torfaen County Borough Council	5	0.05
Vale of Glamorgan Council	30	0.23
Wrexham County Borough Council	33	0.24
Wales	866	0.28

* inc 1 Rent Smart Wales

B. Complaints Received by Subject

Monmouthshire Council	Complaints Received	Complaints Percentage Share
Children’s Social Services	4	25.00%
Complaint Handling	2	12.50%
Education	3	18.75%
Health	1	6.25%
Planning and Building Control	3	18.75%
Roads and Transport	1	6.25%
Various Other	2	12.50%

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C. Complaint Outcomes

(* denotes intervention)

Complaints Closed	Premature/ Out of Time/Right to Appeal	Out of Jurisdiction	Other cases closed after initial consideration	Early Resolution/ voluntary settlement*	Discontinued	Other Reports- Not Upheld	Other Reports Upheld - in whole or in part*	Public Interest Report *	Grand Total
Monmouthshire County Council	4	2	7	1	0	0	1	0	15
Percentage Share	26.67%	13.33%	46.67%	6.67%	0.00%	0.00%	6.67%	0.00%	

D. Number of cases with PSOW intervention

	No. of interventions	No. of closures	% of interventions
Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council	1	17	6%
Bridgend County Borough Council	1	34	3%
Caerphilly County Borough Council	6	50	12%
Cardiff Council	21	120	18%
Cardiff Council - Rent Smart Wales	-	1	0%
Carmarthenshire County Council	6	46	13%
Ceredigion County Council	4	30	13%
Conwy County Borough Council	6	34	18%
Denbighshire County Council	2	32	6%
Flintshire County Council	8	57	14%
Gwynedd Council	4	39	10%
Isle of Anglesey County Council	3	28	11%
Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council	2	15	13%
Monmouthshire County Council	2	15	13%
Neath Port Talbot Council	4	25	16%
Newport City Council	4	38	11%
Pembrokeshire County Council	7	29	24%
Powys County Council	14	71	20%
Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council	5	40	13%
Swansea Council	4	93	4%
Torfaen County Borough Council	1	5	20%
Vale of Glamorgan Council	4	27	15%
Wrexham County Borough Council	4	33	12%
Grand Total	113	879	13%

E. Code of Conduct Complaints Closed

County/County Borough Councils	Closed after initial consideration	Discontinued	No evidence of breach	No action necessary	Refer to Standards Committee	Refer to Adjudication Panel	Withdrawn	Total
Monmouthshire	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	2

F. Town/Community Council Code of Complaints

Town/Community Council	Closed after initial consideration	Discontinued	No evidence of breach	No action necessary	Refer to Standards Committee	Refer to Adjudication Panel	Withdrawn	Total
Chepstow Town Council	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Magor with Undy Community Council	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	2
Mathern Community Council	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Raglan Community Council	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1

Appendix

Explanatory Notes

Section A provides a breakdown of the number of complaints against the Local Authority which were received during 2019/20, and the number of complaints per 1,000 residents (population).

Section B provides a breakdown of the number of complaints about the Local Authority which were received by my office during 2019/20. The figures are broken down into subject categories with the percentage share.

Section C provides the complaint outcomes for the Local Authority during 2019/20, with the percentage share.

Section D provides the numbers and percentages of cases received by the PSOW in which an intervention has occurred. This includes all upheld complaints, early resolutions and voluntary settlements.

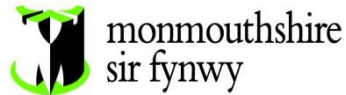
Section E provides a breakdown of all Code of Conduct complaint outcomes against Councillors during 2019/20.

Section F provides a breakdown of all Code of Conduct complaint outcomes against town or community councils.

Feedback

We welcome your feedback on the enclosed information, including suggestions for any information to be enclosed in future annual summaries. Any feedback or queries should be sent via email to communications@ombudsman-wales.org.uk

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SUBJECT:	OUTDOOR ADVENTURE – HILSTON PARK CLOSURE
MEETING:	CABINET
DATE:	4th NOVEMBER 2020
DIVISION/WARDS AFFECTED:	ALL

1. PURPOSE:

- 1.1 To update members with regard to the ongoing situation for the Outdoor Adventure Sites, the impact of covid19 on the service for 2020/21 and the longer term implications.
- 1.2 To declare Hilston Park surplus to service needs and to transfer the asset to Landlord Services to progress a disposal of the site and to approve any associated staff redundancies costs if suitable redeployment for the staff cannot be found.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 To agree the formal closure of the Hilston Park site and transfer the asset to Landlord Services by 31.12.20.
- 2.2 That costs of disposal are met corporately and funded from the Council's fixed asset disposal cost reserve and, if necessary after due process and application of redeployment evaluation and MCC's Protection of Employment Policy, severance costs are met from the Council's redundancy reserve or through flexible use of capital receipts by way of use of Welsh Government's capitalisation direction.
- 2.3 That the capital receipt subsequently generated from the disposal of the Hilston Park site is ring-fenced to the extent that it enables the proposed capital investment to be made for Gilwern Outdoor Adventure Service and if subsequently supported by Cabinet and Council.
- 2.4 That Cabinet subsequently receive proposals for the future of the Outdoor Adventure Service and consolidation of the service in Gilwern.

3. KEY ISSUES:

- 3.1 Members received a report in February 2020 which outlined the history of the Gwent Outdoor Education Service over the last 5 years. The joint service had been previously supported by annual subsidies from four Local Authority partners but core funding was frozen from all partners in 2006 with Newport County Council withdrawing its subsidy in 2013 and by 2018/19 Torfaen County Borough Council and Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council had also withdrawn their subsidy, leaving Monmouthshire to recover all costs through charges to customers.

- 3.2 As a result of this, the Gwent Outdoor Education Service partnership was dissolved at the end of 2018/19 and a reduction made from three to two sites, retaining Hilston Park and Gilwern Outdoor Adventure Centres and returning the Talybont site to Newport County Council.
- 3.3 Members received a further report in July 2020 which showed that the cost of delivering the service in 2019/20 was £247k against a budget subsidy of £131k resulting in an overspend of £116k. Concerns were expressed about the future of the service, given that the long term aim of the service is for it to be sustainable and to break even. Over the past two years, there has been a continuing reduction in residential occupancy and in 2019/20 occupancy levels were an average of just under 45% with Gilwern at 47% and Hilston at 39%.
- 3.4 Members fully support the continuing provision of the Outdoor Adventure Service and see it as valuable and important. The ambition is to ensure that the offer at Gilwern is maximised and the creation of a sustainable service, which serves the children and young people of Monmouthshire. The service allows our children to engage in environmental and adventure activities which are about and connecting to the natural world. It helps to transform knowledge, skills, attitudes and behaviours through direct engagement with the outdoor environment for the personal and social benefit of everyone. Purposeful experiences in the outdoors can be a catalyst for powerful and memorable learning and outdoor learning is more than adventure sports or simply taking what could happen indoors outside.
- 3.5 Outdoor Learning provides a highly effective way of addressing some of our key challenges, including;
- Appreciation of biodiversity and sustainability, and pro-environmental behaviours
 - Developing a sense of place leading to greater engagement with the community and an appreciation of the opportunities available to live, learn and work in the local area;
 - Providing a safe and supportive setting to enhance social skills, appreciate and value difference.
 - Engagement with nature and the environment for health, wellbeing and nature connection, leading to lifelong participation and outdoor competence.
 - Developing character, resilience, positive risk taking.
- 3.6 The service had been reviewing its operating practices following an independent review in December 2019 and working with other MCC departments to extend provision. This was starting to open up some new possibilities for service redesign but further recommendations and actions identified from the review were unable to be implemented due to the continuing circumstances. All bookings for the remainder of the academic year had been cancelled and both sites closed on 20th March 2020 with the majority of staff furloughed.
- 3.7 There is a significant risk that post COVID the market will take a considerable amount of time to recover which means that the service would continue to operate at a significant deficit to the Authority. To reduce this financial risk and given the existing market and the uncertainty about the deliverability, the service should operate from one site only. Previous reports had highlighted the high maintenance costs at Hilston because of its listed status, with significant backlog maintenance issues and the lack of disabled access make it unsuitable for some users. Gilwern can provide a purpose specific venue with the ability to host two separate schools in one visit, due to the layout of its accommodation block and has the bed space to be able to do so.

3.8 The Gilwern site is the preferred option as it the larger of the two sites, it is a level site, offers accessible accommodation and is more cost effective to operate. Service diversifications away from the traditional residential provision for schools has included.

- Work with MCC Children with Disabilities Team
- Residential provision for children with Autism.
- Positive Future Groups (Sports development / Youth Service collaboration)
- Individual referrals from MCC multi agency early intervention and prevention panel. Some examples used through lockdown have included ‘teams 1:1 and home exercise sessions, weekly live class delivered by instructor.
- A base for the Duke of Edinburgh scheme of which Monmouthshire is one of the top performing teams in Wales.

3.9 The Gilwern site will however requires some capital investment to bring it up to a required standard, additional work will also need to be undertaken to be able to separate groups in order to maximise the number of bookings on site.

3.10 A decision to close Hilston Park will raise a potential requirement to place up to eight employees ‘at risk of redundancy’. Consideration will be given to retaining skills within the Outdoor Adventure Service where possible and as appropriate, staff will be considered for opportunities in keeping with the Council’s protection of employment policies. It is not possible at this stage to give an accurate estimation of costs associated with severance of employment given that there are processes to work through. It is not envisaged that this will be a significant cost at this stage.

4. EQUALITY AND FUTURE GENERATIONS EVALUATION (INCLUDES SOCIAL JUSTICE, SAFEGUARDING AND CORPORATE PARENTING):

4.1 Summarised below for Members’ consideration from Future Generations Evaluation located in Appendix B:

‘The service in its current two site format needed review for both financial and practical reasons to ensure it is sustainable and continues to provide a quality service across the remaining two sites. By its very nature the service will continue to provide quality outdoor learning experiences, jobs and new skills albeit at one site – the service will continue to deliver this whilst also ensuring the facilities and activities deliver positive outcomes for all.

5. OPTIONS APPRAISAL

Option	Benefits	Risks
Do nothing	None identified	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the service is no longer sustainable in its current form • service deficit will increase
Close the Hilston Site and delete staffing posts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduces financial risk to the Council. • There is an opportunity to redeploy the staff into the wider Council 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It may not be possible to redeploy the staff and redundancy payments may be incurred

6. EVALUATION CRITERIA

- 6.1 The evaluation assessment has been included in Appendix B for future evaluation of whether the decision has been successfully implemented.

7 REASONS:

- 7.1 The Outdoor Adventure Service is no longer financially sustainable in its current form. Occupancy of both sites is below 50% and therefore it makes sense to continue to provide the service at one site, thereby reducing fixed costs whilst continuing to provide this valuable service.

8 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

- 8.1 As outlined in the report there is an ongoing impact from COVID and a significant risk that post COVID the market will take a considerable amount of time to recover which means that the service would continue to operate at a significant deficit to the Authority and as a result of income shortfalls. Welsh Government funding is currently being claimed to cover income losses at this time and beyond any UK government funding for staff having been furloughed. It remains unclear as to whether Welsh Government funding will continue until the service becomes operational and restores income levels and this therefore remains an ongoing risk along with the fixed costs of the service that will need to be incurred in the interim.
- 8.2 Subsequent to the closure of Hilston Park there may be costs arising from redundancies should no alternative redeployment opportunities within the Council. These are not seen to be significant and to the extent that they cannot be met from the MonLife revenue budget they will be met from the Council's redundancy reserve or through flexible use of capital receipts by way of use of Welsh Government's capitalisation direction.
- 8.3 There will be associated costs with securing the site pending disposal of the asset by Landlord services. An appraisal will need to be undertaken to ascertain potential future uses for the site and beyond costs of surveys and pre-application advice it should be noted that there will be ongoing running costs (rates, utility and security costs) that need to be borne up and until the point of disposal. Such costs will be met corporately and funded from the Council's fixed asset disposal cost reserve. There will be a capital receipt from the sale of the site.
- 8.4 The level of capital investment subsequently required for the Gilwern site will form one aspect of the business case for the future consideration and proposals for the service going forward. This level of anticipated capital investment is not seen as significant. It is proposed that the capital receipt subsequently generated from the disposal of the Hilston Park site is ring-fenced to the extent that it enables the proposed capital investment to be made and if subsequently supported by Cabinet and Council.

9 CONSULTEES:

Select Committee Members
Cabinet Members
SLT
HR
Service area staff
Unions

10 BACKGROUND PAPERS:

Appendix A - Evaluation Criteria
Appendix B - EQIA

11 AUTHOR:

Ian Saunders – Chief Operating Officer MonLife
Marie Bartlett – Finance and Resources Manager MonLife

12 CONTACT DETAILS:

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Appendix A – Evaluation Criteria – Cabinet, Individual Cabinet Member Decisions & Council

Title of Report:	OUTDOOR EDUCATION – SERVICE CHANGE PROPOSALS
Date decision was made:	4th November 2020
Report Author:	Ian Saunders, Marie Bartlett

What will happen as a result of this decision being approved by Cabinet or Council?

The Outdoor Adventure Service will no longer be available at the Hilston Park site. Alternative provision will be available at Gilwern Outdoor Adventure Site. The posts at Hilston will be deleted and the staff either re-deployed or redundancy payments made.

What benchmarks and/or criteria will you use to determine whether the decision has been successfully implemented?

Hilston Park will be returned to Estates for disposal / alternative provision, the service re-provisioned and the staff re-deployed. The existing staffing structure at Gilwern will be reviewed and the service restructured to ensure the service can best respond to the new challenges ahead.

What is the estimate cost of implementing this decision or, if the decision is designed to save money, what is the proposed saving that the decision will achieve?

The cost of the decision will involve possible redundancies. There are no budgeted savings from the closure of Hilston however should the site remain open there is likely to be a substantial deficit.



Appendix B: Equality and Future Generations

Name of the Officer Ian Saunders Phone no: : 07876545793 E-mail: iansaunders@monmouthshire.gov.uk	OUTDOOR ADVENTURES – HILSTON PARK CLOSURE
Name of Service area – MonLife	Date 10 th October 2020

1. Are your proposals going to affect any people or groups of people with protected characteristics? Please explain the impact, the evidence you have used and any action you are taking below.

Protected Characteristics	Describe any positive impacts your proposal has on the protected Characteristic	Describe any negative impacts your proposal has on the protected characteristic	What has been/will be done to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
Age	The service will continue and adapt its delivery to work towards meeting the need of our customers, predominantly school based children and young people.	There are a number of members of staff who will be at risk due to the closure of the site. Those staff will be supported through the MCC at risk policy, and where possible redeployed.	There has been an effort by the outdoor team to ensure suitable and sufficient provision, and preparation to be able to deliver future need, under the current circumstances. The service will deliver their residential offer from Gilwern Outdoor Activities site, and the off-site provision will not be effected by the closure of Hilston Park.

			All members of staff will qualify to be put at risk and redeployment opportunities will be explored, as per MCC policy.
Disability	The service will continue to allow people of all abilities to enjoy the local outdoor environment. Where applicable differentiate programmes and activities. Gilwern outdoor activities centre is more accessible, and we will continue to explore every opportunity we can for investment into adaptable facilities.	Neutral	There has already been investment into adaptations at Gilwern, further work and investment is needed to improve the disability access to services at the Gilwern site. And increase adaptable measures and equipment. Further consultation with those groups who are actively using and would like to access the facilities more will be vital for the future. From an accessibility perspective and an opportunity to create new markets.
Gender reassignment	Neutral	Neutral	
Marriage or civil partnership	Neutral	Neutral	
Pregnancy or maternity	Neutral	Neutral	
Race	Neutral	Neutral	
Religion or Belief	Neutral	Neutral	
Sex	Neutral	Neutral	There is more or less a 50% split of male and female staff who would be effected by the closure.

Sexual Orientation	Neutral	Neutral	
Welsh Language	Neutral	Neutral	
Poverty	Neutral	Neutral	To align the catering offer to Monmouthshire Healthy School programme in a residential setting. The service affords a subsidy to residential and all outdoor activities to MCC FSM pupils.

2. Does your proposal deliver any of the well-being goals below? Please explain the impact (positive and negative) you expect, together with suggestions of how to mitigate negative impacts or better contribute to the goal. There's no need to put something in every box if it is not relevant!

Well Being Goal	Does the proposal contribute to this goal? Describe the positive and negative impacts.	What actions have been/will be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
<p>A prosperous Wales Efficient use of resources, skilled, educated people, generates wealth, provides jobs.</p>	<p>The market for residential outdoor activities has declined drastically, due to COVID-19 and also due to a change in the Gwent model, additional competition in the market and consultations about future service demand where schools are staying less nights. It is therefore imperative, to reduce the impact on the whole service, that we close one residential building and focus on the other residential building, and off-site opportunities and plan for a sustainable service and new markets.</p> <p>There will unfortunately be an immediate reduction in jobs, and any future jobs on the Hilston Park site.</p>	<p>The service has continued to provide quality outdoor learning experiences – they will continue to deliver this and look at ensuring the facilities and activities they run deliver positive outcomes.</p> <p>For those members of staff who are effected, we will undertake a skills and aspirations audit, and look to match them to any redeployment opportunities, or where they are seeking employment outside of MCC, support them with this, through one to one support, or short term funded qualifications.</p>

		<p>The buildings at Gilwern will require further development, and this is where we will seek opportunity to actively engage in schemes such as the Re-Fit programme – utilisation of Local Partnership Energy Framework. A key driver with any new investment and improvements will be to achieve energy efficiency and generation measures, to reduce energy costs and resulting carbon footprint.</p>
<p>A healthier Wales People's physical and mental wellbeing is maximized and health impacts are Understood.</p>	<p>Neutral - By the nature of the service it aims to give people skills and education to embrace the outdoors and participate in activity.</p>	<p>The team have continued to deliver great outcomes and this has been captured through user feedback, through evaluation forms from users groups. Further analysis of the feedback process will be undertaken, including a measure for increasing the number of participants who complete the survey.</p> <p>New markets and opportunities will be explored, especially where we have seen more and more local people make better use of their local area and outdoors.</p>
<p>A resilient Wales Maintain and enhance biodiversity and ecosystems that support resilience and can adapt to change (e.g. climate change).</p>	<p>Neutral</p>	<p>Look at further opportunities to reduce transport, where there are shorter journeys. Actively engage in schemes such as Welsh Government Transport Grants Local Transport Fund and Ultra Low Emission Vehicle Transformation Fund when the criteria meets the potential to upgrade the current vehicles to be more efficient i.e hybrid or electric.</p> <p>The introduction of the health schools menu will instantly reduce any food waste and have</p>





		<p>greater nutritional value to the young person. And more importantly engage children and young people in the benefits of health eating, food swaps and healthier choices.</p> <p>The curriculum we follow in the outdoors, needs to reflect the outcomes of the Curriculum for Wales, and demonstrate children and young people are actively engaging, learning and taking away a valuable experience from their outdoor visits.</p> <p>Young people will continue to learn about the natural environment and the importance of caring for it when provision is made at Gilwern.</p>
<p>A Wales of cohesive communities Communities are attractive, viable, safe and well connected.</p>	<p>Neutral - the service continues to deliver excellent, safe residential sessions and activities to those networks.</p>	<p>The team continue to keep open clear lines of communication with visiting staff and head teachers to organise their bespoke visits. More work is being undertaken to align the delivery of the outdoor experience to the successful futures curriculum and children and young peoples wellbeing. Monlife learning group of colleagues are realigning some of the aspirations to meet the current needs of schools blended learning opportunities.</p> <p>The wider Monlife Team has undertaken a broad look at the Green Infrastructure opportunities on site, and have concluded that a more detailed Green Infrastructure Plan needs to be undertaken to prioritise and</p>

		maximise the benefits of the site for future use and any development opportunities.
<p>A globally responsible Wales Taking account of impact on global wellbeing when considering local social, economic and environmental wellbeing.</p>	<p>Young people will continue to learn about the global impacts of the way we live and will learn about how to make a difference to issues like climate change in the way that we live.</p>	<p>The development of a future whole school outdoor activities programme, ‘targeting more children and young people throughout their school years’, has been proposed, to lock in those commitments and plan for future delivery. Encompassing the new curriculum for wales, and the current opportunities delivered through the Duke of Edinburgh awards scheme, based at the Gilwern site.</p>
<p>A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language Culture, heritage and Welsh language are promoted and protected. People are encouraged to do sport, art and recreation.</p>	<p>Neutral - The service will continue to provide residential’s and outdoor and sporting activities at Gilwern. The recent heritage strategy scoping exercise will enable us to focus on the purpose of Gilwern and surrounding areas.</p>	<p>The service by design maximizes the beautiful rich countryside and natural landscape in Wales. To connect children and communities and provide learning, sport and outdoor experiences are positive across sites and surrounding countryside. Bespoke programmes developed to encourage more children, young people and families, including half/full days and the potential for award schemes.</p> <p>The outdoor adventure team has been part of the recent MonLife Heritage Strategy workshop, making valuable contributions to the knowledge of Monmouthshire outdoors and place of special interest, as well as gaining knowledge on the rich history of the Gilwern site itself. The outcome of the workshops will be presented later in the year, wityh follow up training and support for the teams at Gilwern and outdoor adventures.</p>

<p>A more equal Wales People can fulfil their potential no matter what their background or circumstances.</p>	<p>Neutral - there is still a service in place for all to access.</p>	<p>Actively marketing the service and making the products available attracted to all. More recent examples has included specific targeted groups including social services interventions and bespoke disability sessions.</p> <p>Evidence shows how pupils who have participated in outdoor activities found that it helped to give them focus and control of their emotions, as well as a sense of achievement as they developed the skills and techniques needed to participate in the outdoor disciplines.</p> <p>The discipline needed to maintain good form and safety when on an archery range, as an example gives a good reference point when in discussions with pupils following the activity, allowing them to transfer the learned behaviour or skill to other daily activities.</p>
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3. How has your proposal embedded and prioritised the sustainable governance principles in its development?

Sustainable Development Principle	Does your proposal demonstrate you have met this principle? If yes, describe how. If not explain why.	Are there any additional actions to be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
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 <p>Long Term</p>	<p>Balancing short term need with long term and planning for the future</p>	<p>The service in its format needs review for both financial and delivery reasons. The service needs to be more sustainable and continue providing a quality service across Gilwern.</p>	<p>The service is working to ensure sustainability and opportunities for all.</p>
 <p>Collaboration</p>	<p>Working together with other partners to deliver objectives</p>	<p>It is anticipated that the service continues to deliver excellent, safe residential sessions and activities to those networks.</p>	<p>Seek to maintain further relationships with Head teachers and Schools and other key stakeholders. Additionally, work is underway to actively target, and support social services, ALN and other MCC services.</p>
 <p>Involvement</p>	<p>Involving those with an interest and seeking their views</p>	<p>Schools still send schools into the service but have accepted that the service needs to increase charges to become more sustainable.</p>	<p>A full audit, and appraisal of service delivery will have to be undertaken with all stakeholders, to ensure the service can deliver under the current difficult circumstances. And more importantly demonstrate that outdoor activities adds value, is important and can be delivered safely and sustainably. A recent report undertaken by FMG Consulting recommended areas for improvement and potential growth.</p>
 <p>Prevention</p>	<p>Putting resources into preventing problems occurring or getting worse</p>	<p>The commitment for the service from MonLife is to ensure the recovery plans are robust, supported by a fresh new marketing campaign and to drive new markets and opportunities to ensure the service is sustained and bounces back.</p>	<p>Streamlining the residential offer, gives wider benefits to reducing the longer term pressures associated with maintaining an aging building, a less accessible building, and ultimately safeguarding the service from total closure.</p>



Considering impact on all wellbeing goals together and on other bodies

Service is embedded in MonLife which is targeted on preventative services and health and well-being.

The service is more than an outdoor activities centre and outdoor activities service. User feedback from young people, teachers and visitors to the service describes their positive experiences through a new skills they learnt, or maybe a fear that they have overcome. Anyone who has received the service has a positive story to tell.

4. Council has agreed the need to consider the impact its decisions has on the following important responsibilities: Social Justice, Corporate Parenting and Safeguarding. Are your proposals going to affect any of these responsibilities?

	Describe any positive impacts your proposal has	Describe any negative impacts your proposal has	What will you do/ have you done to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
Social Justice	The service will give opportunities to all, giving people the best start in life and support them throughout their lives to lead a healthy and active lifestyle. It will look to close the gap and improve access to services across Monmouthshire.	n/a	We will continue to work closely with our partners to ensure we better understand the needs and engage closely with our users / non-users.
Safeguarding	We will ensure safeguarding is at the forefront of all plans with the relevant documentation, systems and procedures and levels of training in place for all staff relevant to the role consistently across the board.	n/a	We will continue to prioritise our safeguarding measures, reflect on current practice and continue to train staff to the appropriate levels.

Corporate Parenting	We will continue to work with our partners to assist in any way we can and add value to the current provisions.	n/a	We will continue to have representation for this area at all team meetings and continuously monitor and review all systems and procedures mentioned above to ensure we are providing as safe an environment for all of our customers as possible. We actively encourage all staff to be vigilant and report any instances they feel appropriate and have procedures in place for this.
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5. What evidence and data has informed the development of your proposal?

- Current Service Improvement Plans.
- Review of outdoor education completed in 2019 and further discussion from this review.
- There have been team meetings to discuss income pipelines for future opportunities across the service.
- Several budget meetings have occurred over the period where the service has looked to review its operation with regard to efficiency and income generation. The current situation has resulted in the outdoor service being suspended, and no clear information on returning in its current capacity.

6. SUMMARY: As a result of completing this form, what are the main positive and negative impacts of your proposal, how have they informed/changed the development of the proposal so far and what will you be doing in future.

The service needs review for both financial and practical reasons to ensure it is sustainable and continues to provide a quality outdoor service. By its very nature the service has continued to provide quality outdoor learning experiences, jobs and new skills – the service will continue to deliver this whilst ensuring the facilities and activities deliver positive outcomes for all.

7. ACTIONS: As a result of completing this form are there any further actions you will be undertaking? Please detail them below, if applicable.

Continue working on action plan for bookings and logistics, and recovery plan when WG eases any restrictions.	Monthly	Outdoor Activities and MonLife SLT.
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8. VERSION CONTROL: The Equality and Future Generations Evaluation should be used at the earliest stage, such as informally within your service, and then further developed throughout the decision making process. It is important to keep a record of this process to demonstrate how you have considered and built in equality and future generations considerations wherever possible.

Version No.	Decision making stage	Date considered	Brief description of any amendments made following consideration

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SUBJECT: CORONAVIRUS STRATEGIC AIMS: EVALUATION OF PROGRESS

MEETING: Cabinet

DATE: 4 November 2020

DIVISION/WARDS AFFECTED: ALL

1. PURPOSE:

- 1.1 To provide an overview of progress against the strategic aims set by Cabinet to guide activity through the Coronavirus pandemic.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 That Cabinet evaluate progress against the purpose and strategic aims that have been in place during the pandemic and use this to inform future activity.

3. KEY ISSUES:

- 3.1 The Coronavirus pandemic has posed an unprecedented challenge to our way of life and the way in which we provide services. The need to preserve life and stop the spread of the virus, while continuing to support communities, has meant that we have needed to work in new ways.
- 3.2 The Council has risen to the challenge by establishing new ways of delivering services that support residents and businesses, assisting community activity and supporting staff well-being. The pace of change over the past seven months has been unrelenting, with hundreds of staff re-deployed, new services created almost overnight, and millions of pounds re-directed towards preserving life and helping local businesses remain viable.
- 3.3 Monmouthshire County Council has a long-standing purpose of building sustainable and resilient communities. At the outset of the pandemic, Cabinet introduced a revised purpose of protecting life and supporting our communities, underpinned by eight new strategic aims, to provide clarity and ensure accountability.
- 3.4 As the incidents of infection started to decline during the summer months, the focus shifted to creating the conditions for residents and businesses to take those first steps, while recognising that coronavirus remains an active threat to life and one that will cast a long shadow for many in our communities. For this phase, Cabinet developed a new purpose in July 2020, with a focus on making everyone feel safe in their communities, to continue to support each other and to reach out to those who need help, and agreed an update of the strategic aims in the Coronavirus 'Transition' strategy.
- 3.5 This paper presents an opportunity to evaluate progress against those aims. Alongside our own services, we have continued to support local volunteers and community activity. The efforts of thousands within our communities to pull together and help others has shone through paying testament to the resilience of Monmouthshire's communities and businesses. The purpose, strategic aims and associated actions have been monitored by Cabinet throughout the pandemic. Appendix 1 outlines some of the activity that has been delivered over the last few months. These include:
- Provision of support and payment of more than £24 million of funding to almost 1,900 local businesses to help them survive the impact of the pandemic and protect jobs;
 - All schools in Monmouthshire reopened in September in line with Welsh Government guidance;

- Continued to safely collect waste and recycling from all households;
- Contributed beyond our borders to regional emergency response structures and the staffing of a regional Test Trace Protect contact tracing service;
- Continued to manage, adapt and provide services to vulnerable citizens.

3.6 The number of cases in Monmouthshire remained below the important threshold of 50 cases per 100,000 population and 5% infection rate, and as a result, the county was not subject to the local lockdowns seen in other areas of Wales. Cases have now started to rise across the whole of the UK and on 23rd October, Wales entered a 'firebreak' lockdown for a period of 17 days to help regain control of coronavirus and reduce the R rate.

3.7 Our organisation will transition smoothly into these new arrangements because we have planned for it and rehearsed it. Vital services continue to operate, including:

- Help for vulnerable young people and adults who need our support;
- Advice, assistance and administration of funding for local businesses
- Support for community activity and volunteering to help people with essential tasks. such as collecting prescriptions and getting shopping;
- All our schools will remain open while having consistent, high quality distance learning in place for those pupils who can't attend school;
- Extending the opening hours of our customer services.

3.8 During this period, a number of our services are required to close; these include recycling centres, leisure centres, libraries, museums, community hubs / centres, indoor visitor attractions and youth centres. Services will continue to adapt to provide a level of service through digital means.

3.9 The firebreak will not make the virus disappear. It buys us time to reset for the next phase when a new set of national rules will be introduced, covering how people can meet and how the public sector and businesses operate. When we understand what that looks like, Cabinet will again consider whether its strategy and response needs to be reset.

3.10 We have the structures and mechanisms in place to track progress and ensure we remain focussed on our purpose. The Council's established performance framework continues to facilitate service planning, performance management and risk management to ensure that we are focused on what needs to happen and can demonstrate progress in a robust and transparent way.

4 EQUALITY AND FUTURE GENERATIONS EVALUATION (INCLUDES SOCIAL JUSTICE, SAFEGUARDING AND CORPORATE PARENTING):

4.1 The strategic aims have been informed by the latest available evidence and government guidance. An Equality & Future Generations Evaluation was completed and reported to cabinet when the aims were set. The strategic aims will continue to take account of equality and the components of well-being. The legislation and the council's responsibilities in all these areas will remain an important part in our response as it continues to develop.

5 OPTIONS APPRAISAL

The strategic aims are informed by the latest available evidence and government guidance, to inform the Council's ongoing response to the Coronavirus pandemic. While a number of arrangements have continued to be developed and implemented to support these aims, the Council continues to operate in a dynamic environment and delivery of each aim is not without challenges and risks. The delivery will continue to be monitored and programmes will need to be flexible in timescale and content as circumstances and guidance changes.

6 EVALUATION CRITERIA

6.1 Where available, measures or milestones have been developed to track progress on the actions that underpin the strategic aims. Nonetheless, it needs to be recognised that in a changing

external environment, it is likely that actions, and therefore the corresponding measures of progress, will need to be continuously reviewed.

7 REASONS:

- 7.1 To provide clarity and ensure accountability through the council's response to the pandemic, support the evaluation of progress and use of information to inform the future shape of service delivery as the Council continues to evolve and adapt to changing circumstances.

8 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

- 8.1 Delivery of the strategic aims will continue to have significant resource implications, including increased costs to maintain current service delivery and demands in setting up new or amended services. A number of the Council's income streams have also ceased and savings planned as part of the 2020/21 budget have been delayed.
- 8.2 Prior to the pandemic, the Council was facing significant financial challenges heading into the 2020/21 financial year; the pandemic has accentuated the challenge. The pandemic presents its own financial challenges and uncertainty both in terms of additional cost and significant loss of income across services. Our latest forecasts show through COVID-19, we have lost £4.83m in income and incurred additional costs of £1.36m in our response effort.
- 8.3 The key risk and uncertainty continues to be the amount of compensatory Welsh Government funding that the Council will receive. The other determining factor of course being the length of time that these impacts are felt. Following the announcement of significant further funding for local authorities in August, the Council continues to work with Welsh Government on reimbursing COVID-19 related costs and income losses.
- 8.4 A specific strategic aim has been identified to ensure the Council remains financially sustainable as an organisation. The financial challenges facing the Council and resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic are significant in the current year and over the next 4 years of the Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP). The consequences for the MTFP and the budget process for 2021/22 will be developed in parallel in the coming months to feed into the normal budget cycle and process.

9 CONSULTEES:

Strategic Leadership Team
Cabinet

10 BACKGROUND PAPERS:

Monmouthshire Coronavirus Response Strategic Aims
Monmouthshire Corporate Plan 2017/22

11 AUTHORS:

Matthew Gatehouse, Head of Policy and Governance

12 CONTACT DETAILS:

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Aim: Provide clear, purposeful civic leadership	
What we said we would do	What we have done
<p>Digitising services where possible to make them readily available to citizens</p> <p>Preparing for the re-opening of all leisure/cultural services as soon as guidelines allow</p>	<p>Used digital technology to safely open up access to services. This includes booking appointments at household waste recycling sites which had over 15,000 bookings in three months. More than 3000 library books have been ordered through request and collect using the My Monmouthshire App while free e-book downloads increased by 90%. As well as live streaming of all council meetings.</p> <p>Leisure centres, community hubs and museums were reopened for a number of weeks, although the firebreak lockdown will see closures for a two week period. Our libraries are operating on a request and collect service.</p> <p>Since lockdown, we have dealt with more than 50,000 customer service enquiries digitally or on the telephone.</p>
Aim: Maximise the time children can safely spend in school and have consistent, high quality distance learning in place when they can't be in school	
What we said we would do	What we have done
<p>Maximising the time that learners can safely spend in school from September onwards;</p> <p>Ensuring that consistent, high quality distance learning is in place to support children when they are not in school</p>	<p>All 30 primary and 4 Secondary schools in Monmouthshire re-opened in September in line with Welsh Government guidance. The firebreak lockdown will see years 9 – 13 taught via distance learning for a week after the October half term.</p> <p>Schools have been assessing pupils on return in September to identify the support and intervention needed for pupils to continue to make accelerated progress and close gaps in learning.</p> <p>All schools have been progressing the delivery of a distance learning offer to their learners. To assist this, we have established digital learning technologies and approaches, which are being further developed into a blended learning approach going forward.</p> <p>MonLife have provided 'Summer Hub' provision for children with a total of 4,170 attendances, an average of 166 children attended the Summer Hubs per day.</p>
Aim: Help vulnerable young people and adults who need our support	
What we said we would do	What we have done
<p>Continuing to provide vital social care services, including child protection, care at home and residential care, 7 days a week;</p> <p>Preparing those services that support vulnerable / high risk groups for an increase in demand as 'lockdown' eases;</p>	<p>We have continued to provide vital Adult and Children's social care. We have received an average of 102 contacts per week relating to supporting children and young people in Children's social services, and an average of 13 additional requests per week to provide domiciliary care in Adults social services in the last few months.</p> <p>We have continued to manage, adapt and provide services to vulnerable citizens. Some services are seeing an increase in demand that is putting pressure on services, particularly in adult's social care which continues to be managed.</p> <p>We are supporting 103 households in temporary accommodation. New guidance seeks to extend our homelessness offer to provide suitable long term housing for all those accommodated in temporary housing. Plans are being explored to meet this requirement.</p>

Aim: Assist local businesses to reopen and ensure our towns are safe places for traders and visitors

What we said we would do	What we have done
<p>Remodelling our town centres and encourage people to shop safely and shop locally;</p> <p>Supporting our hospitality and tourism sectors to re-open as soon as possible</p> <p>Preparing to provide services which support individuals and families that lose their job / income</p>	<p>We made changes to support the safe re-opening of town and village centres, widening pavements and changing traffic flows to improve safety and enable socially distanced shopping and dining. Feedback on these arrangements continues to be reviewed. We also promoted the Shop Local, Shop Monmouthshire campaign.</p> <p>We provided financial support and advice to over 2000 businesses during the pandemic with almost 1900 receiving grants of more than £24 million. Other grants administered include Childcare Care, Start Up and Freelancer.</p> <p>Promoted 'Visit Monmouthshire. Safely.' to make it as easy and safe as possible for visitors in Monmouthshire.</p> <p>The firebreak lockdown will see closures of many non-essential businesses for two weeks. The council will continue to provide advice and support to businesses during this time.</p> <p>As many residents saw their employment and financial situations change, services have provided a range of support, for example promoting access to benefits, spreading council tax payments over longer periods, and providing employment and skills support. As part of the Council's continued commitment to Social Justice, evidence is being reviewed and activity related to poverty in Monmouthshire being planned.</p>

Aim: Keep our neighbourhoods clean and tidy whilst managing waste as sustainably as we can

What we said we would do	What we have done
<p>Providing a full waste management service and continue to develop our approaches to enhance the biodiversity and ecology of our open spaces;</p>	<p>Waste and recycling services have continued to take place as normal. It's difficult to predict performance in 2020/21 but the first quarter saw the highest recycling rate ever in the county of 74%, with record numbers of residents using kerbside recycling collections following the closure with Household Waste Recycling Centres.</p> <p>Three household waste and recycling centres; Llanfoist, Five Lanes and Mitchell Troy have re-opened. A booking system has been developed to keep numbers to a manageable level to maintain social distancing. Recycling centres will close for two weeks as per the requirements of the firebreak lockdown.</p> <p>We launched the 'Don't Mess with Monmouthshire' campaign to raise awareness of littering.</p> <p>We are considering the learning from the changes to our grounds maintenance services to inform how we can enhance the biodiversity and ecology of our open spaces.</p>

Aim: Be a trusted partner for other agencies / organisations

What we said we would do	What we have done
<p>Delivering with partner agencies an effective Test Trace and Protect system so we can identify virus outbreaks quickly and contain them;</p>	<p>Alongside our Gwent partners, we are contributing to the delivery of the COVID-19 Test, Trace and Protect system. The service is tracing and contacting residents who have been in contact with the virus to provide advice and request they self-isolate to minimise the spread of the virus. Recently the service has contacted 92% of COVID-19 positive cases within 24 hours</p>

<p>Supporting our community volunteering network to provide long-term benefit to our communities</p>	<p>We are actively working with and providing support to our partners and neighbours following an increase in COVID-19 cases throughout the Gwent area.</p> <p>The Council's partnership team received 236 offers to volunteer and 581 request for support from members of the public. We are developing, with our public sector partners, a model of neighbourhood networks that work with community volunteers to support long-term benefit.</p> <p>Through the firebreak period we are supporting a range of community activity working with those in our communities supporting residents where they need it with essential tasks such as collecting prescriptions and getting shopping.</p>
<p>Aim: Keep a safe, healthy and productive workforce</p>	
<p>What we said we would do</p>	<p>What we have done</p>
<p>Ensuring our staff working in all services are safe</p>	<p>Staff have embraced new ways of working to keep themselves, colleagues and residents safe while delivering the many services our communities rely on.</p> <p>We ensured staff have a range of support on wellbeing, can access the right Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and have access to testing if they display symptoms.</p> <p>We have distributed approximately 1,138,000 items of PPE for the provision of social care in the county.</p> <p>Communication and engagement with staff has continued. The SupportAll portal has been developed, which allows staff to access information on a range of subjects, such as testing, protecting homeworkers and bereavement. The weekly staff Digital 'cwtch' continues and averages more than a hundred viewers each week.</p>
<p>Aim: Ensure we remain financially sustainable as an organisation</p>	
<p>What we said we would do</p>	<p>What we have done</p>
<p>Beginning our financial recovery programme</p>	<p>Council was already facing financial challenges pre-COVID-19; the pandemic has accentuated the challenge. Through COVID-19, we have lost £4.83m in income and incurred additional costs of £1.36m in our response effort (a total of £6.19m), alongside non-COVID-19 pressures in 2020/21 of £1.23m.</p> <p>Following the announcement of significant further funding for local authorities in August, the Council continues to work with Welsh Government on reimbursing COVID-19 related costs and income losses, which it is hoped will cover most of the losses as result of COVID-19.</p> <p>The ongoing pandemic and continued uncertainty presents a continuing financial challenge in the current year and over the next 4 years of the Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP). The consequences for our finances will continued to be developed to inform the budget setting process for 2021/22 and the medium-term financial plan.</p>

SUBJECT:	WELSH CHURCH FUND WORKING GROUP
MEETING:	Cabinet
DATE:	04th November 2020
DIVISIONS/WARD AFFECTED:	All

1. PURPOSE:

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to make recommendations to Cabinet on the Schedule of Applications for the Welsh Church Fund Working meeting 4 held on the 22nd October 2020.

2. RECOMMENDATION:

- 2.1 We resolved that the following grants be awarded as per the schedule of applications.

SCHEDULE OF APPLICATIONS CONSIDERED 2019/20 – MEETING 4.

- 1 **Llanvetherine Parochial Church Council**, requested £6,000 for emergency repairs to the Church Tower crumbling masonry brickwork as it is a potential Health & Safety hazard.

Recommendation: £3,000 awarded to assist in securing and repairing the church tower masonry at this community church.

3. OPTIONS APPRAISAL

Options available to the Committee are assessed on the information supplied by the applicants

4. EVALUATION CRITERIA

No evaluation criteria is applicable to the grant awarded by the trust

5. REASONS

A Meeting took place on Thursday 22nd October of the Welsh Church Fund Committee Working Group to recommend the payment of grants as detailed in the attached schedule (Appendix 1).

County Councillors in attendance at meeting 4:

County Councillor A. Webb (Chair)
County Councillor D. Evans (Vice Chair)
County Councillor B. Strong
County Councillor S. Woodhouse

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:

D Jarrett Central Finance
N Perry Committee Administration

5.1 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

5.2 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE at meeting 4

None

5.3 CONFIRMATION OF REPORT OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The minutes of the meetings held on the 10th September were confirmed as a true record.

.RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

Total funding of £3,000.00 has been allocated at Meeting 4 of the Welsh Church Fund Committee. The remaining balance of £11,238 is available for distribution within the 2020-21 financial year.

6. WELLBEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS IMPLICATIONS (INCORPORATING EQUALITIES, SUSTAINABILITY, SAFEGUARDING AND CORPORATE PARENTING):

There are no Future Generations, equality, safeguarding, corporate parenting or sustainable development implications directly arising from this report. The assessment is contained in the attached appendix.

6.1.1 CONSULTEES:

Senior Leadership Team
All Cabinet Members
Head of Legal Services
Assistant Head of Finance
Central Finance Management Accountant

7. BACKGROUND PAPERS:

Welsh Church Fund Schedule of Applications 2020/21– Meeting 4 (Appendix 1)

8. AUTHOR:

David Jarrett – Senior Accountant – Central Finance Business Support

9. CONTACT DETAILS

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WELSH CHURCH FUND - APPLICATIONS 2020/21
MEETING 4: 22nd October 2020

APPENDIX 1

<u>ORGANISATION</u>	<u>ELECTORAL DIVISION</u>	<u>Signed by Councillor</u>	<u>REQUEST</u>	<u>DECISION</u>	<u>NATURE OF PROJECT REQUEST</u>	<u>PROJECT TOTAL COST</u>	<u>DATE Application Received</u>	<u>D of I*</u>	<u>Additional Information</u>
<u>NEW APPLICATIONS AWAITING DECISION</u>			£	£		£			
Llanvetherine Parochial Church Council	Crucorney	David H Jones	£6,000	£3,000	funding assistance required for emergency repairs to the church tower crumbling masonry brickwork as it is a potential Health & Safety hazard	£8,556	17/09/20	No	The small PCC community are working to keep the church in a safe working condition and are actively working towards making the building a more community focussed facility for use by all local residents
Late Applications									
			£0.00	£0		£0.00			
Deferred Applications									
SUB TOTAL Meeting 4			£6,000	£0					
					OTHER INFORMATION :				
MEETING	DATE	CABINET		AWARD					
1	30 June 2020	July 29th 2020		9,334					
2	July 28th 2020	Sept 02nd 2020		8,090					
3	Sept 10th 2020	Oct 07th 2020		1,293					
4	Oct 22nd 2020	Nov 04th 2020		3,000					
5	Dec 03rd 2020	Dec 16th 2020		0					
6	Jan 14th 2021	Feb 03rd 2021		0					
7	Mar 04th 2021	Apr 14th 2021		0					
TOTAL AWARDED FOR 2020/21 TO DATE				21,717					
BUDGET 2020/21				32,955					
BALANCE B/F TO 2020/21				£0					
Monmouthshire's Allocation for 2020/21				£32,955					
REMAINING BALANCE			£11,238						

*D of I = Declaration of Interest

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<p>Name of the Officer D Jarrett Phone no: 4657 E-mail: davejarrett@monmouthshire.gov.uk</p>	<p>Please give a brief description of the aims of the proposal To assess the Grant Allocation Processes of the Welsh Church Fund for the meeting of the Welsh Church Fund Working Group on the 22nd October 2020</p>
<p>Name of Service Finance</p>	<p>Date Future Generations Evaluation 22 October 2020</p>


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1 Does your proposal deliver any of the well-being goals below? Please explain the impact (positive and negative) you expect, together with suggestions of how to mitigate negative impacts or better contribute to the goal.

Well Being Goal	How does the proposal contribute to this goal? (positive and negative)	What actions have been / will be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
<p>A prosperous Wales Efficient use of resources, skilled, educated people, generates wealth, provides jobs</p>	<p>Positive in relation to developing the skills and proficiencies of applicants</p>	
<p>A resilient Wales Maintain and enhance biodiversity and ecosystems that support resilience and can adapt to change (e.g. climate change)</p>	<p>Positive in the teaching of biodiversity and ecological issues through the provision of educational resources</p>	
<p>A healthier Wales People's physical and mental wellbeing is maximized and health impacts are understood</p>	<p>Positive in that people's mental health and physical health is enhanced by a collective activity / process.</p>	

Well Being Goal	How does the proposal contribute to this goal? (positive and negative)	What actions have been / will be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
A Wales of cohesive communities Communities are attractive, viable, safe and well connected	Positive in relation to connecting the community and its constituents	
A globally responsible Wales Taking account of impact on global well-being when considering local social, economic and environmental wellbeing	Positive in relation to social well-being. Also, helping the environmental well-being of the community through preservation of history.	
A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language Culture, heritage and Welsh language are promoted and protected. People are encouraged to do sport, art and recreation	Positive in relation to the promotion of culture in the community	
A more equal Wales People can fulfil their potential no matter what their background or circumstances	Positive in respect of helping people to achieve their potential irrespective of individual circumstances	

2. How has your proposal embedded and prioritised the sustainable governance principles in its development?

Sustainable Development Principle	How does your proposal demonstrate you have met this principle?	What has been done to better to meet this principle?
 Balancing short term need with long term and planning for the future	Not applicable to Welsh Church Fund Trust	

Sustainable Development Principle	How does your proposal demonstrate you have met this principle?	What has been done to better to meet this principle?
 <p>Collaboration Working together with other partners to deliver objectives</p>	Not applicable to Welsh Church Fund Trust	
 <p>Involvement Involving those with an interest and seeking their views</p>	Not applicable to Welsh Church Fund Trust	
 <p>Prevention Putting resources into preventing problems occurring or getting worse</p>	Not applicable to Welsh Church Fund Trust	
 <p>Integration Positively impacting on people, economy and environment and trying to benefit all three</p>	Not applicable to Welsh Church Fund Trust	

3. **Are your proposals going to affect any people or groups of people with protected characteristics?** Please explain the impact, the evidence you have used and any action you are taking below.

Protected Characteristics	Describe any positive impacts your proposal has on the protected characteristic	Describe any negative impacts your proposal has on the protected characteristic	What has been/will be done to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
Age	Encouraging the socializing of differing age groups through social provision	None	
Disability	Proposal to assist in the provision of disabled facilities.	None	
Gender reassignment	No impact	No impact	
Marriage or civil partnership	No impact	No Impact	
Race	No impact	No Impact	
Religion or Belief	Encouraging religion through education at the point of delivery through the provision of enhanced facilities	None	
Sex	No impact	No impact	
Sexual Orientation	No impact	No Impact	
Welsh Language	No impact on Welsh Language	No impact on Welsh Language	

4. Council has agreed the need to consider the impact its decisions has on important responsibilities of Corporate Parenting and safeguarding. Are your proposals going to affect either of these responsibilities? For more information please see the guidance note <http://hub/corporatedocs/Democratic%20Services/Equality%20impact%20assessment%20and%20safeguarding.docx> and for more on Monmouthshire's Corporate Parenting Strategy see <http://hub/corporatedocs/SitePages/Corporate%20Parenting%20Strategy.aspx>

	Describe any positive impacts your proposal has on safeguarding and corporate parenting	Describe any negative impacts your proposal has on safeguarding and corporate parenting	What will you do/ have you done to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
Safeguarding	Not applicable		
Corporate Parenting	Not applicable		

5. What evidence and data has informed the development of your proposal?

The evidence and data used for the assessment of each applicant to the Welsh Church Fund is supplied by the applicant upon submission of their application. The data and information supplied or subsequently requested is used to form the basis of the Committees' decision on whether to award a qualifying grant.

6. SUMMARY: As a result of completing this form, what are the main positive and negative impacts of your proposal, how have they informed/changed the development of the proposal so far and what will you be doing in future?

The grant aid supports and highlights the positive effect that decisions the Welsh Church Fund Working Group have on the applicants funding requests from Voluntary Organisations, Local Community Groups, Individuals and Religious Establishments. All awards are made in the belief that the funding is utilised for sustainable projects and cultural activities that benefit individuals, organisations, communities and their associated assets. All grants are awarded within the Charitable Guidelines of the Trust

7. Actions. As a result of completing this form are there any further actions you will be undertaking? Please detail them below, if applicable.

What are you going to do	When are you going to do it?	Who is responsible	Progress
Award grants	November 2020	Welsh Church Fund	On target

8. Monitoring: The impacts of this proposal will need to be monitored and reviewed. Please specify the date at which you will evaluate the impact, and where you will report the results of the review.

The impacts of this proposal will be evaluated on:

The Payment of grants awarded to the successful applicants