

Blaenllechau Youth Project

Blaenllechau Youth Project

Annual report

2021

Blaenllechau Youth Project

Blaenllechau Youth Project

Blaenllechau Youth Project started from The Welfare Hall in 1993 by a group of parents. Then in later years was under the umbrella of Blaenllechau Community Regeneration (BCR) until May of 2009 when the organisation (BCR) ended along with all of its projects. A few dedicated local people and staff wished to ensure that Blaenllechau Youth Project remained in the village and sought to make this happen. A new group was formed, with a new Board of Directors. With the support of the funders at the time, this was made possible.

The Welfare Hall (or the Mission as it is fondly known locally) was used for most of the youth projects activities up until this time and Blaenllechau Community Regeneration (BCR) were the owners, having taken over responsibility from The Coal Industry Social Welfare Organisation (CISWO) in 2002. It was a condition that if BCR ended within 80 years of this transfer then the building would have to revert back to community use, so it could not be sold along with The BELL Centre (the community centre that BCR operated from). Steps were taken to ensure that this was carried out and we had the full support of CISWO. We are now 9 years into a 25 year lease.

Blaenllechau Youth Project is a charity in its own right and was registered 7th October 2010 with The Charity Commission.

Funding

We have been struggling to gain continuation funding and do not see this changing as we justify our existence in the current climate. We feel our service for the children and young people is most important. We have been the past year fortunate to have secured funding from Communities First Plus in the form of a Service Level Agreements (SLA) for youth sessions, although this was at a reduced level to previous years. Funding we have received this year:

- RCTCBC Families First(holiday playschemes)
- RCTCBC Legacy Fund (Youthwork)
- RCTCBC resources grant
- RCTCBC Childcare grant
- RCTCBC garden project grant
- RCTCBC Youth Engagement & participation Service (YEPS)

Blaenllechau Youth Project

- RCTCBC Summer of Fun
- RCTCBC Winter Of Wellbeing
- The National Lottery Community Fund
- Moondance Foundation
- The Cooperative Community Fund
- Comic Relief
- Arnold Clarke
- The Archbishop of Wales Fund for Children

We also have received donations from:

- Asda
- Spar
- Maerdy Charity shop
- Rhondda Rotary Community Raffle
- Morrisons
- Lidl

As is the nature of our charity, we will continue to actively seek funding for posts and the operating costs for The Mission over the coming weeks and months.

As well as our normal operating we have had extra activities on offer through the Summer of Fun and these included:

- Dance for 3 and 4 year olds
- A family picnic in the park
- Trip to Vertigo trampoline park with Young people
- Messy play for our tiny tots baby group.
- Trip to Aim Sports Academy for young people
- A barbeque for young people

Blaenllechau Youth Project

What's next

As well as our normal table of activities, we have some exciting projects are coming up in the coming weeks and months. We regularly update our risk assessments to reflect the latest Government and Local Authority guidelines and we operate to the highest standards within these.

We have had funding from RCT's Youth Engagement Participation Service (YEPS) to work with the young people and have an exciting art project over 8 weeks starting January 2022. Young people will design and paint murals on the walls inside The Mission, with expert advice from a professional outside artist.

The Winter Of Wellbeing grant, funded from RCTCBC through Welsh Government follows on from the Summer of Fun and is to assist children, young people and their families re-engage with their communities and have fun after the huge effects of Covid-19. We have already held Christmas parties for our baby group and family group and an arts & craft session through this funding.

We will build on these up until March and offer more activities and projects, including:

- Arts & Crafts workshops
- Dance for 3 & 4 year olds

Building renovations

We have also been fortunate to have been successful through RCTCBC for their small capital grant scheme and through this the patio at the front of the building will be removed and replaced in the coming weeks. Another successful grant is from The Welsh Church Act Fund and this is to replace the back end of The Mission roof and also to replace all the lighting tubes in the Mission, making it a better environment and also more energy efficient.

Dance

Dance is a huge part of Blaenllechau Youth Project and has been very successful for many years. Dance is currently funded by The Archbishop of Wales Fund for Children and this will end July 2022. We operate these sessions with reduced number and the children and young people dance whilst socially distanced. We have held our shows as normal but these have been at The Mission and with no audience.

Blaenllechau Youth Project

Sessions have proved very successful with parents and dancers alike and give the dancers the chance to socialise and take part in some exercise for their health and well-being.

As part of Summer of Fun we piloted dance for 3 and 4 year olds for a few weeks and this was very successful so we are now just about to start 12 weeks of dance for this age group up until the end of March 2022 through the Winter Of Wellbeing funding.

Cooperative

We were fortunate enough to receive the cooperative community fund until October 2021 and have once again been chosen to be part of the scheme until October 2022. This funding will be used to directly benefit children and young people who attend our sessions and with who we engage.

Open access play

Our service has been a mix of online support and face to face sessions. We have been operating with reduced numbers and increasing sessions dependant on demand. We have also from September started another weekly open access play sessions and now operate two sessions per day in Blaenllechau instead of one, during school holiday playschemes.

This is our address:

Blaenllechau Youth Project
The Welfare Hall (The Mission)
r/o 17-21 Long Row
Blaenllechau, Ferndale RCT. CF434NP
Tel: 01443 732715

Blaenllechau Youth Project

Support & Partnership working

- Communities First/Communities for Work +/Legacy Fund
- Blaenllechau Community Involvement Group
- Interlink
- The Fern Partnership
- RCTCBC
- The Cooperative
- Lidl

All staff have undertaken training over the past year to enhance their professional development, courses have included:

- Safeguarding Level 3
- Personal Care
- First Aid
- Lego Therapy
- Risky play and loose parts
- Additional learning needs
- Opening your community centre
- What is infant mental health?
- Emotional coaching
- Epilepsy awareness
- CIW play provider event

Blaenllechau Youth Project

Staff continue to develop and some training booked up until March 2022 includes:

- Safeguarding
- First Aid
- Disclosure training
- Food Hygiene
- Firewarden training
- Working with with parents/carers

Blaenllechau Youth Project continues to be the only group registered with The Care Inspectorate for Wales (CIW) in the Upper Rhondda Fach. This ensures quality and good practice. Although we have had our challenges this year Blaenllechau Youth Project has exceeded all expectations. We have adapted our way of working depending on need of our service users and we will continue to do this over the coming months.

Legacy Fund (formally Communities First) and the future

We were funded by this programme for a few years for our family session and youth sessions. Due to reshaping in the local authority from August 2021 the family element has not been available to us and this only now funds the youth sessions.

We saw our family sessions as very important to us as a project, so we applied for further funding and was successful through the Moondance Foundation and The National Lottery Community Fund to continue with these valuable sessions.

Regular weekly sessions

Regular sessions:

- Monday-Tiny Tots 12.30pm-2.00pm
- Mondays - Junior Drop-In 4pm-5.30pm
- Mondays - Senior Drop-In sessions 6pm-8pm
- Tuesdays- Dance sessions for 3-4 years, 5-9 years and 9 and over from 4pm-7pm
- Wednesdays - Family fun session 4pm-5.30pm
- Thursdays- Junior Drop-In 4pm-5.30pm

Blaenllechau Youth Project

- Thursdays- Senior Drop-In sessions 6pm-8pm
- Playscheme during every day (Monday - Friday) during school holidays in Blaenllechau (except Bank Holidays).

Outside garden area

We were fortunate enough to have received a butterfly garden package from Keep Wales Tidy. This was in the form of tools, plants, planters and other equipment to create a butterfly garden. We have been tidying up our garden this year when weather has allowed and made good progress. We also have some funding from RCTCBC to make a garden a more inviting space and were able to purchase some sensory items and plants for us and the community to enjoy. We also purchased new wooden benches which are currently being decorated with wood burning and we are looking forward to February half term 2022 when we can place the new benches outside and complete more work in the garden.

Moving forward

Our main objectives and priorities for the next year:

We are a very small voluntary organisation and our ongoing plan is to seek and gain funding for the continuation of Blaenllechau Youth Project and to enable us to achieve our full potential, we will continue to nurture and develop links with the community and local groups such as BCIG, local schools and likeminded organisations. We feel we have a valuable project within the community and that we have a positive influence in the lives of the children and young people and their families with whom we engage. Since we started.

Blaenllechau Youth Project 28 years ago we have worked with thousands of children and young people and hope this can continue long into the future for their benefit, as well as offering some respite and support for families.

We have 2 part time members of staff and 3 sessional workers who work within the project and facilitate sessions. We feel we have excellent outcomes with such a small project and hope funders will see this and feel able to support us. Children and young people 'vote with their feet' and return time and time again to the project and we use repeat users as a measure of our success.

With the closures of the past few years in Blaenllechau and also the surrounding area we feel it is more important than ever to develop strong links with other community projects, this will help us reach our goals as set out in our constitution as well as people feel they are doing something positive within their community and feel good about it.

Blaenllechau Youth Project

With the closure of schools and limited access to outdoors, children and young people have had an extremely challenging year themselves and we hope to ensure that we will be there for them as restrictions lift, providing good quality play and youth provision for them to engage. A space where they can meet their friends and make new friends in a safe space for them to explore and reflect on their own experiences.

A huge thank you must be expressed to the dedicated staff and The Board of Directors for Blaenllechau Youth Project. Our numbers (although a very effective group) are quite low on our board of Directors, we plan to actively seek new members this coming year to assist us and help us achieve our aims and objectives and keep Blaenllechau Youth Project alive in our village for the benefit of residents of Blaenllechau and surrounding villages. If you are interested, or know anyone who may be, then please email us on bcryouth@hotmail.com.



Registered Charity Number

1138307

BLAENLLECHAU YOUTH PROJECT

STATEMENT OF AFFAIRS

For the period to 31st March 2021

Blaenllechau Youth Project

BLAENLLECHAU YOUTH PROJECT

Period to March 31st 2021

<u>Contents</u>	<u>Page</u>
Organisation Status	3
Balance Sheet	4
Receipts and payments	5
Company Representatives Signed Declaration	6

Blaenllechau Youth Project

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity Name: Blaenllechau Youth Project

Registered Office: The Welfare Hall (The Mission)
R/O 17-21 Long Row
Blaenllechau
Ferndale
Rhondda Cynon Taff
CF434NP

Registered Charity Number: 1138307

Blaenllechau Youth Project

The Directors:

Directors during the period were:-

Mr. Emrys England (Chair)

Mrs. Kimberley Hutchison (secretary)

Mr. David Hutchison

Mrs. Kathryn Razey board member and CIW registered person

Miss Michelle Hetherington (Treasurer)

Blaenllechau Youth Project

BYP Balance Sheet for Year Ending 31st March 2021

	Year Ending 31/03/2021			Year Ending 31/03/2020		
<u>Fixed Assets</u>						
Fixtures and Fittings		2,550			2,600	
Depreciation		(50)	2,500		(50)	2,550
<u>Current Assets</u>						
Bank (Reserve)		2,000			2,000	
Bank (Working Capital)	58,580			34,670		
Cash	274	58,854		224	34,894	
<u>Current Liabilities</u>						
Creditors						
Net Current Assets			60,854			36,894
Total Current Assets			63,354			39,444

Blaenlechau Youth Project

<u>Financed By:</u>						
Accumulated Fund B/Fwd		39,444			39,375	
Fund Balance for 2021		23,910			69	
Accumulated Fund Balance			63,354			39,444

BLAENLLECHAU YOUTH PROJECT

BLAENLLECHAU YOUTH PROJECT RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS YEAR ENDING 31ST MARCH 2021

Income	Amount	Expenditure	Amount
Grants			
BBC CIN	10,500.00	Salaries	31,284.47
CO-OP	282.17	PAYE	2,396.16
GROUNDWORK UK	500.00	Salaries Costs	708.00
LCF	1,117.63	Pension Fund	1,193.04
RCT CBC	52,682.23	Electric	252.86
VOLT ACT MERTHYR	250.00	Gas	266.25
COMM FUND WALES	2,000.00	Water	387.02
		Telephone/Internet	609.17
<i>Sub Total</i>	67,332.03	Room Hire	121.60
		Rent	5.00
		Stationery	41.19
Generated Income		Insurance	883.48

Blaenllechau Youth Project

Youth Income (Banked)	1,053.75	Resources	5,694.09
Youth Contributions (Cash Purchases)		Fees	40.39
		Dance Costs	490.06
<i>Sub Total</i>	1053.75	Comm'ty Social Meeting	128.99
Other		Accts Check Fee	80.00
Rainbow Income	106.00		
<i>Sub Total</i>	106.00		
		<i>Credit Balance at 31st March 2021</i>	23,910.01
<i>Total Income</i>	68491.78		68491.78

Blaenllechau Youth Project

BLAENLLECHAU YOUTH PROJECT

Period to March 31st 2021

Declaration

To the best of my knowledge the information given in the Financial Statements is correct and shows the Company's State of Affairs at the 31st March 2021.

Name: Signature: Position in Company: Date:

David Hutchison Chair since AGM

Kimberley Hutchison.....Secretary

Michelle Hetherington.....Treasurer

Blaenllechau Youth Project

These accounts are an independent examination and were carried out by

Mr Ivor Edwards -Finance Officer (retired)

336 Heol Pendyrus

Penrhys

Ferndale

RCT

CF433RG