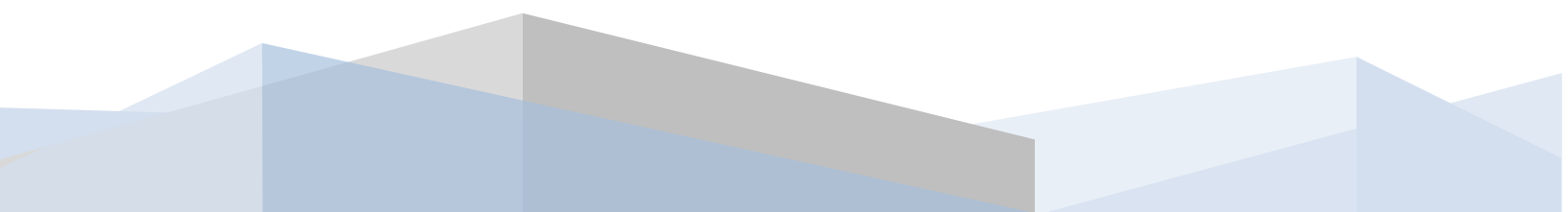


Blaenllechau Youth Project

Blaenllechau Youth Project

Annual report

2023



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 12 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 and term time provision)
- RCTCBC Legacy Fund (Youthwork)
- RCTCBC Summer of Fun and Winter of Wellbeing
- The Cooperative Community Fund
- Arnold Clarke
- Pen Y Cymoedd
- Spar (Easter eggs & selection boxes)
- Rhondda Rotary Community Raffle

Blaenllechau Youth Project

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, these were additional activities and provided to families free of charge at the point of delivery, this assists with community members engaging with their communities, having fun and learning new skills.

Tiny Tots group

This group is for children aged from birth to school age with their parents/carers. We offer many exciting activities through these sessions such as messy play and celebrate local and national events such as St. David's Day, Chinese New Year, Pancake Day, National storytelling day and World book day to name a few.

Our group helps teach parents/carers learn about the importance of play as well as providing a wide range of activities to enhance the development of babies and toddlers before they attend school.

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 were fortunate to have received funding from Welsh Governments Summer of Fun and this 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 had a trip to Folly Farm as well as other exciting fun activities for children, young people and their families.

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 we recently held our winter show in The Morlais Hall Ferndale which was a huge success. We were also able to perform at Darran Park in the summer at their fete and will be looking to expand our performances within the community.

Open access play

Our numbers are back up to pre pandemic levels in Open Access Play and we have held school holiday playschemes throughout the holidays as well as term time provision twice weekly. These sessions are free to all who attend at the point of delivery to reduce barriers and ensure that provision is available to all.

Blaenllechau Youth Project

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

Support & Partnership working

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

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.

Regular weekly sessions

Regular sessions:

- Monday-Tiny Tots 12.30pm-2.00pm
- Mondays - Junior Drop-In 4pm-5.30pm
- Mondays - Senior Drop-In sessions 5.30pm-7.30pm
- 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
- Thursdays- Senior Drop-In sessions 5.30pm-7.30pm
- Playscheme during every day (Monday - Friday) during school holidays in Blaenllechau (except Bank Holidays).

Blaenllechau Youth Project

Moving forward

Our main objectives and priorities for the next year:

We are a 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 Blaenllechau Youth Project started almost 30 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. A space where children, young people and their families 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.

BLAENLLECHAU YOUTH PROJECT

STATEMENT OF AFFAIRS

For the period to 31st March 2023

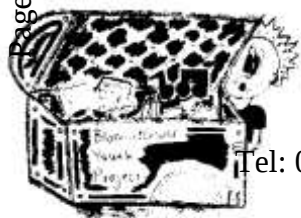


Blaenllechau Youth Project

BLAENLLECHAU YOUTH PROJECT

Period to March 31st 2023

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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

The Directors:

Directors during the period were:-

Mr. David Hutchison (Chair)

Mrs. Kimberley Hutchison (secretary)

Miss Michelle Hetherington (Treasurer & CIW registered person)

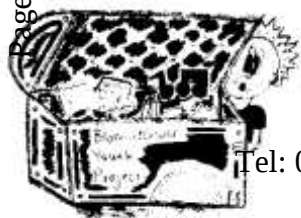
Mrs. Kathryn Razey board member



Blaenllechau Youth Project

Income	Amount		Expenditure	Amount
Grants				
Interlink	£1000.00		Salaries	33781.11
RCTCBC	£51493.73		PAYE	2226.96
Arnold Clark	£1000.00		Payroll Costs	696.00
Cooperative	£1070.81		NEST pension	1122.37
Pen Y Cymoedd	£3435.00		Insurance	902.56
			Repairs	33.00
Donations			Utilities and servicing water/telephone/internet /gas/electricity	2580.48
Amazon donations	£12.28		Electrical contractor	£1852.39
Ferndale & Blaenllechau group donation	£50.00			
Sub Total	£58061.82		Sub-Total	£43194.87
Bank transfer payments income for services			Project costs from grant income	9051.40
Sub total	£360.92			
Generated Income Youth Contributions (Banked)				
Sub Total	£2034.00			
				£
			Accumulated Fund 2022- 2023(Credit)	£8210.47
TOTAL	£60456.74		TOTAL	£60456.74

Income Amount £60,456.74
Expenditure Amount £60,456.74



Blaenllechau Youth Project

BLAENLLECHAU YOUTH PROJECT

Period to March 31st 2023

Declaration

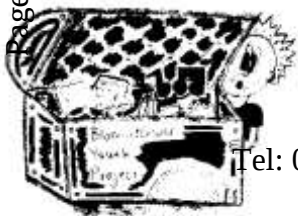
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Name: Signature: Position in Company: Date:

David Hutchison Chair

Kimberley Hutchison Secretary

Michelle Hetherington Treasurer



BLAENLLECHAU YOUTH PROJECT

STATEMENT OF AFFAIRS

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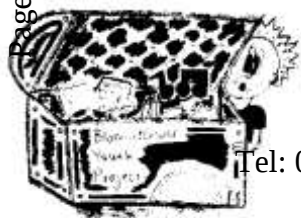


Blaenllechau Youth Project

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Period to March 31st 2023

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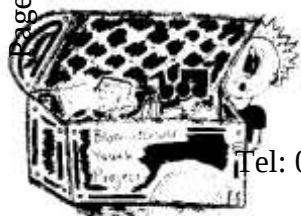
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Blaenllechau Youth Project

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