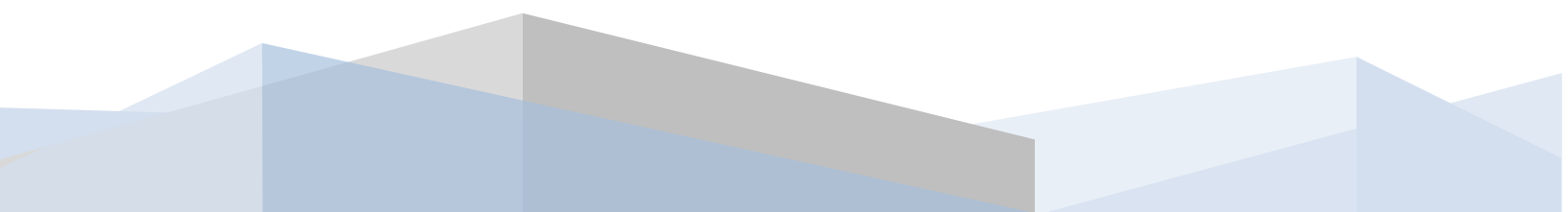


Blaenllechau Youth Project

Blaenllechau Youth Project

Annual report

2025



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 15 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. Funding we have received this year came from:

- YEPS (Youthwork) Legacy Fund
- RCTCBC
- Spar
- Lidl
- Rhondda Rotary Community Raffle
- Shared Prosperity Fund through RCTCTC
- The Neighbourhood Network Fund RCTCBC

As well as our normal operating we have had extra activities on offer through the Shared Prosperity Fund and these included:

- Litter picks
- Art and craft workshops with outside providers, supporting local businesses.
- International Playday resources
- Trips



- Character visits and much more...

Dance

Dance is a huge part of Blaenllechau Youth Project and has been very successful for many years. Dance is currently funded by RCTCBC's Shared Prosperity Fund and we work towards our shows in the summer and also at Christmas. The dance project is an amazing tool for showcasing local talent and can develop confidence, increase well-being and provide physical exercise for the children and young people who take part. We take all children and young people and there is no audition process, it is a community based dance project and we aim to make the sessions fun for the children and young people whilst building their developing skills. We currently have 3 classes per week:

- 3 & 4 years
- 5-9 years
- And 10 years and over

If you know anyone who would like to join our classes then please message Blaenllechau Youth Project on Facebook and we will get back you as soon as we can.

Open access play

Playschemes and term time provision are continuing to grow and our sessions are at capacity most of the time. We love to play games, make messy play and lots more. Open access play is a staffed play program for children that offers a safe, supportive environment for them to play with their peers. The goal of open access play is to help children choose what and who they play with, and to support their development of skills build on self-esteem. We have managed to keep holiday provision 5 days a week during holidays this year by gaining funding from another source.

Youthwork sessions

Our youthwork sessions are run by level 2 qualified youthworkers who have many years' experience in this field. We don't have huge numbers in our sessions and this is the main draw for the young people who do come along. They say they do not go to another local statutory service as it is too busy and they do not like that. We take part in discussion groups, issue based workshops as well as cooking or arts & crafts. The young people decide with staff what they would like to do at the next session.

Family Fun sessions

Our family fun sessions run on a Wednesday evening and the aim is to provide a space and ideas for children and their parents to work tighter and spend quality time together. There could be arts & crafts, games or cooking on offer and this is decided by the users of the group.

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

- RCTCBC
- Blaenllechau Community Involvement Group
- Interlink
- The Fern Partnership
- Lidl
- Spar

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

- Safeguarding
- Food Hygiene
- First Aid

All board members have undertaken safeguarding at level 1. They have no contact with children and young people but this is so that they understand their responsibilities should there be disclosures. 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.

Our latest CIW report is available to read online on the Care Inspectorate website.

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.

Blaenllechau Youth Project

Regular weekly sessions during the year

Regular sessions included were:

- Monday-Tiny Tots 12.30pm-2.00pm
- Mondays - Junior Drop-In 4pm-5.30pm
- Mondays - Senior Drop-In sessions 6pm-8pm
- Tuesdays- Dance sessions
- Wednesdays- Family fun session 4pm-5.30pm
- Thursdays- Junior Drop-In 4pm-5.30pm
- Thursdays- Senior Drop-In sessions 6pm-8pm
- Playscheme during every day (Monday - Friday) during school holidays in Blaenllechau (except Bank Holidays).

Moving forward

Our main objectives and priorities for the next year:

We are a small voluntary organisation and our on-going 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 33 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 2 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. We will continue to provide good quality play and youth provision for children, young people and their families to engage. A space where people can meet, socialise and make new friends in a safe space for them to explore and reflect on their own experiences.

Blaenllechau Youth Project

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 2025

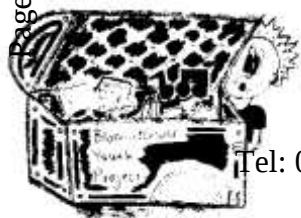


Blaenllechau Youth Project

BLAENLLECHAU YOUTH PROJECT

Period to March 31st 2025

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



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:

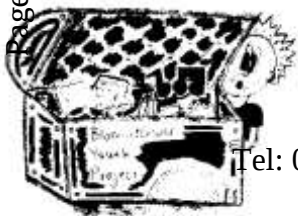
Directors during the period were:-

Mr. David Hutchison (Chair)

Mrs. Kimberley Hutchison (secretary)

Miss Michelle Hetherington (Treasurer & CIW registered person)

Mrs Deborah Price

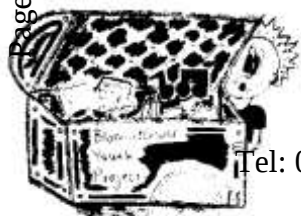


Blaenllechau Youth Project

BLAENLLECHAU YOUTH PROJECT RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS YEAR ENDING 31st MARCH 2025

Income	Amount		Expenditure	Amount
Grant income				
RCTCBC	35566.58		<i>Salaries</i>	30915.19
Rotary Club	200.00		<i>PAYE</i>	1673.82
Lidl Neighbourly	280.00		<i>Payroll Costs</i>	688.00
			<i>Pension Scheme (Nest)</i>	1117.75
			<i>Insurance</i>	875.20
			<i>DBS</i>	107.20
			<i>Utilities and servicing water/telephone/internet /gas/electricity</i>	2637.08
Sub Total	£36046.58		Sub-Total	£38014.24
Bank transfer payments, income for services and youth contributions	£2704.26		Project costs	£14174.99
Sub total	£2704.26			
TOTAL	£38750.84		TOTAL	£52189.23

Bank starting balance 1st April
2024 £62032.75
Bank end balance 31st March
2025 £50580.83



Blaenllechau Youth Project

BLAENLLECHAU YOUTH PROJECT

Period to March 31st 2025

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 2025.

Name: Signature: Position in Company: Date:

David Hutchison Chair

Kimberley Hutchison Secretary

Michelle Hetherington Treasurer

These accounts are an independent examination and were carried out by:

Ian Jones (Former HMRC employee)

89 Brynhyfryd Terrace
Ferndale
RCT
CF43 4HT

