


Appendix 1

Caerffili - Cwm a Mynydd Partnership Projects approved for March 2011 – 2014

<p>Budding Business</p> <p>A grant scheme to assist local producers and micro enterprises to enable the sustainable development of Caerphilly's rural micro-enterprises and meet the aims of the Caerphilly Rural Development Plan. To date over £170k of grants have been awarded to 15 local enterprises in rural areas, covering food producers, hospitality providers, craft businesses and bespoke manufacturing.</p>	<p>CCBC – Countryside</p> <p>Alexandra Hunter DipWCF, farrier. Awarded a grant of £3,940 for specialist equipment and marketing. Now employs additional people.</p>	<p>£245,023.79</p> 
<p>Rural Green Doctors</p> <p>Rural Green Doctor are providing energy and carbon reduction advice to the rural communities of Caerphilly. By offering this free specialised advice service to community venues, Green Doctors cannot only help improve the environmental performance of community venues but also promote longer-term behaviour change among the rural communities of Caerphilly. Community venues will also benefit financially from energy saving measures, supporting the long-term sustainability of such venues. The programme is staffed by 1 full time project officer and 1 part time project officer. This programme engages with groups and individuals who run community buildings to offer a bespoke service. The advice they offer groups ranges from carbon reduction and fuel bills to renewable energy and government initiatives. Examples include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The RGD team commissioned a lighting specialist company to look replacing the present lighting with more energy efficient units at Markham Community House & Centre as they were experiencing very high electricity bills. The RGD produced report evidenced that changing the lights, at a cost of £9,300, would result in a payback period on investment of 2 years. Thereafter the Centre could look forward to a 54% reduction on their annual electricity bill. CCBC is seriously considering implementing the measure but will have to seek further quotes before proceeding with the proposal. • Deri Community Centre. RGD's work in obtaining quotes and finding grants for the installation of a solar photovoltaic cell system has been a success, as the centre has secured a £5,000 'Awards for All' grant. The Centre Committee members are keen to progress and have Solar cell system installed as soon as possible. 	<p>Groundwork Caerphilly</p>	<p>£237,372</p>

<p>HPAC Project</p> <p>Working to develop and maintain a service to provide advice and support to vulnerable families presenting as homeless due to domestic abuse, to facilitate their access to ongoing support in current or future accommodation and in doing so prevent homelessness.</p> <p>With impending changes to Housing legislation and welfare reform and it's impact on to service providers, the Rural Outreach worker has been able to provide information, advice and guidance to those service users who will be affected by the changes.</p>	<p>LLAMAU</p>	<p>£156,550.96</p>
<p>Basic Services Key Fund</p> <p>The purpose of this project is to enhance or provide additional basic services for the rural economy of Caerphilly county borough, and to improve access to a range of services and develop better links between remote and more densely populated areas of the county borough.</p> <p>To date 12 projects have been supported and a total amount of £151,827.07 capital and £25,829.18 revenue has been awarded. A brief description of how these projects will contribute to the aims and objectives of the LDS is given below:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Graig y Rhacca Resource Centre (£4,064.94 revenue) assist with the operation and management of a very busy community resource centre, and allow the organisation to continue to expand the services it offers 2. Machen Welfare Association (£25,000 capital) additional recreational opportunities in a rural ward 3. Fochriw Primary School Play Area (£11,237.20 capital) new play facilities that can be accessed by the whole community in a deprived rural ward 4. 1st Ystrad Mynach Scouts & Guides (£3,917.52 capital) improvements to a building widely used by the local community 5. New Tredegar Toy Library Service (£21,304.24 revenue) staffing for a toy library service for deprived rural areas where children often do not have access to a wide range of educational toys 6. Lansbury Park Allotments Regeneration Scheme (£16,892.25 capital) improved facilities for users of a local allotment, and ensure the security of the site 7. Cwmfelinfach Allotments Increased Participation (£14,808.48 capital) improved facilities for users of a local allotment, and ensure the security of the site 8. Trethomas Allotments Meeting Room (£24,680 capital) provide improved facilities for users of a local allotment 9. Dafalog Allotments Fencing & New Water System (£6,861.60 capital) improved facilities for users of a local allotment, and ensure the security of the site 10. Markham Primary School Early Years Garden (£25,000 capital) new play facilities that can be accessed by the whole community in a deprived rural ward 11. GAVO Adventure Play Project (£12,912 capital and £460 revenue) enable the Adventure Play Project to be delivered in rural wards across the county borough 12. Llanfach Village Hall (£10,517.92 capital) improved facilities for users of a well used local community facilities 	<p>CCBC – Regeneration</p>	<p>£372,871.64</p>

Healthy Villages

Groundwork Caerphilly

£480,063

The Healthy Village concept aims to develop vibrant villages across the rural wards of Caerphilly, through community participation & engagement in a variety of healthy initiatives. The term healthy will be interpreted to support the needs of each individual community. The overall intention is to engage communities in action which will play a huge part in making community members physically and mentally healthier, along with fostering greater community pride and making the natural and built environment of the community “healthier”. Activities range from healthy walking and activity programmes, natural use of the outdoors, practical environmental enhancement projects, litter and waste campaigns/ programmes, support for local community route-ways; increasing access to green open space, community event support and other ideas the rural communities of Caerphilly feel will contribute to making their community vibrant and healthy. Some of the projects are illustrated below:



An area in **Waterloo** benefitted from the clearance of an overgrown area and the installation of a bench and noticeboard. The community wanted to see the space used as a resting spot for those awaiting a bus and also as a social place for people to gather and chat.

Waterloo had no community space. Historically the local pub had served as a meeting place for the community but this was demolished several years ago and replaced by new houses. The installation of the bench and noticeboard at Waterloo will allow residents to wait for buses or meet in a more aesthetically pleasing environment. Elderly residents will be able to sit and wait for buses



The ‘manger’ raised beds that were designed by an 18 year old volunteer

The team designed and installed raised beds at **Trinant Allotment with Pentwyn Allotment Society**. Pentwyn Allotment Society had been attempting to develop a community plot for several years but had several delays from causes such as lack of funding, failing deadlines and restructuring of staff from various supporting organisations.

The group wanted a more accessible plot to bring more members from the community and also to support existing members who are beginning to struggle with the conventional plots. They hoped that the provision of raised beds would encourage them to keep using the allotment site as they age and also allow them to continue to engage socially.

The Allotment Society themselves carried out the project work with Healthy Villages despite heavy snow and advancing years! The group considered the project a massive success and have written a letter to thank the Healthy Villages for helping to achieve their goal.



The completed project – ground levelled, 8 raised beds made, 1 polytunnel and 1 shed installed

Villages & Communities Key Fund **CCBC – Regeneration**

£298,083.25

The purpose of this project is to improve the physical environment of villages and communities, and to conserve the rural heritage of Caerphilly county borough.

Routes 2 Life**Groundwork Caerphilly****£603,469**

The Routes 2 Life programme was a pilot programme under Business Plan 1- Axis 4, to demonstrate the potential of utilising horticulture to improve people's lives. The programme worked with disengaged clients to participate in activities and supported them with training opportunities. Through Business Plan 2 the programme wishes to build on its delivery and widen its engagement processes. The programme intends to continue with horticultural activities, along with carpentry and craft opportunities.

When the growing season at the horticulture site slows down the carpentry workshop became increasingly busy producing items to sell at various craft markets in the Borough. Lots of the items were well received and, apart from an opportunity to sell produce, it proved to be an excellent marketing opportunity. Some of the beneficiaries joined staff at the markets; this showed them another side of the project and hopefully helped develop their customer service skills and confidence.

**Horticulture Officer and beneficiary selling craft items and plants at Caerphilly Medieval Market Dec 2012**

The Routes 2 Life team are stressing to beneficiaries the importance of personal development. With an ever dwindling pot of money for beneficiary training and reimbursements we have acknowledged the need to signpost clients to other organisations (if relevant), rather than allow them to stay with the programme for an indefinite period and potentially have them 'take the space' of another individual. However, clients will be supported through progression and will have full involvement in outcomes.

Training Support Grant Coalfield Regeneration Trust £250,250

The Training Support Fund helps to meet the priority of supporting other activities within the Local Rural Development Strategy through training. This project had a slow start because WG required that it had to go through a procurement process. However, Coalfield Regeneration Trust came in to deliver it earlier this year and they are making good progress working with other organisations in the area.

**Clybiau Plant Cymru Kids Club Wales Clybiau Plant £71,021
Training Cymru**

The Clybiau Plant Cymru Kids' Clubs – Cwm a Mynydd –Training project will help to stimulate the county's economy by strengthening rural communities through community capacity building and empowerment by providing training opportunities for those working or interested in working in play and childcare settings to participate in play work and related training. The project will provide a training programme for Play workers/Staff working, or interested in working, in out of school childcare clubs and for adults living in the wards specified

**Vibrant Villages & CCBC – Countryside £1,209,000
Healthy Harvests**

Vibrant Villages & Healthy Harvests CCBC – Countryside

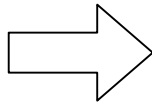
This project is delivering activities with local rural communities and enterprises using a bottom up project development approach called LEADER. This is a broad project aiming to engage as many people as possible in a wide range of activities that support the local economy and quality of life of local people. Activities are being delivered through a number of themes:

- **Farming and farm households (Agri)** – working to help generate alternative sources of income and support farming to address energy and climate change challenges.

- **Adding value to local timber** – ensuring that, when felled, local timber is used to support local projects rather than be wasted or burned. Helped set up a wood workshop run by Groundwork Caerphilly that uses the timber to train volunteers seeking skills for work.

The project started a network of local timber and craft businesses and, as a result of further work, a new co-operative has been formed, trading under the name Valleys T8. The members have learnt a variety of new skills, particularly around marketing and retailing, and held their first 'pop-up' gallery and sale at Blackwood indoor market in June. With the support of the project the group is going from strength to strength.

The project has supplied timber to local business Craft Wales for machining a pair of signs for Parc Cwm Darran main entrance and a smaller version on the south entrance to the park. The timber came from an oak tree felled in Pentwynmawr due to works on the power lines. This has led to further orders for more signs.



Craft – building networks and setting up co-operation initiatives between small, local art and craft businesses to improve skills and increase sales.

**Valleys T8
Pop Up
Gallery,
June 2013**



- **Hospitality** – helping local hospitality providers to improve their offer, increase and improve their marketing and to support the local tourism sector

As a result of consultation with local hospitality businesses the project, with support from Capital Regional Tourism, hosted two social media workshops aimed at providing an introduction to the relatively new marketing tools of Facebook and Twitter for businesses. Local businesses gained valuable knowledge on how to use social media to engage consumers and market themselves effectively.

- **Food** – working with local food producers to promote their businesses and improve local supply networks.

Food Network meeting



Local food demo by staff at the Caerphilly Food Festival



- **Sustainable energy** – providing advice and practical help to farm households and micro enterprises to reduce energy consumption; saving money and reducing CO2 emissions. Also providing project development assistance for renewable energy schemes.

The Maes yr Onn off grid farmhouse project, which was officially opened on 6th June, only got off the ground due to the help received by the project. The aim now is to maximise the future benefits of the project by effective promotion of the achievements and in monitoring the on going results. The project is working with Constructing Excellence Wales on drafting a monitoring strategy and behaviour change project as well as developing a social engagement programme linked specifically to the ecoschools and educational learning.

Maes yr Onn



Energy monitors for farmhouse energy challenge



- **Community projects** - working with local communities to strengthen links between local people, as consumers, and the food supply chain, change commonly held perceptions of the countryside and build closer ties between rural areas and communities.

Through the project the Phillipstown Cheap as Chips group have undertaken a number of workshops with with a local chef, developing a range of recipe and meal ideas for a community ready meal social enterprise. The group have made six trial ready meal ideas, learned the requirements of labelling and packaging and how to standardise their recipes to ensure they are the same, high quality product every time they are cooked. The project is now working with the group on the next stage of trialling the products in the community

Cheap as Chips Workshop

