

GLYNNEATH TOWN COUNCIL



COMMUNITY PLAN – to 2022

Vision:

To improve the environment and the quality of experience for the people who live, work and visit our Community.

Our Approach:

In order to apply for Funding for any schemes, grant providers will require the organisation that applying to have a Community Plan.

This Plan will form the vision of the Town Council and be used to direct the Town Council with regards to its future decisions relating to the community that it serves.

The plan will allow for a structured approach to the way in which local funds are applied for and utilised by the Town.

There are various groups, organisations and societies who can apply for the funding that is available but any schemes which involve the Town Council either directly or indirectly using any of its assets, should be included within the Plan. The details of each scheme can be considered on its own merit and possibly forward to application stage.

There are several documents that have been used to complete this Community Plan and are identified below:

Initial Feasibility Study – Commissioned in 2017 and completed in early 2018

Mind Map – Produced in March 2019

Supporting Documents:

This section sets out to explain the documents listed above and what they have attempted to capture.

The Glynneath Community Survey was commissioned by Glynneath Town Council, working in partnership with Glynneath Training Centre. The primary aim of the survey as outlined in the brief was to identify what the residents of Glynneath wanted and needed with respect to local community facilities and services, and using the information gathered from respondents to provide a 'road map' for the way forward.

The funding for the survey was secured with a grant from the Pen y Cymoedd Community Benefit Fund and Gareth Kiddie, Director of GKA, a specialist firm of Community Regeneration consultants, was recruited to oversee the work. This is the consultant's report.

The completed and final document was produced and presented to residents of Glynneath in early 2018 – a copy of this document is attached under Appendix A.

Having identified the main themes highlighted by the community, the consultant drew up a prioritised list of the issues and opportunities.

The prioritised **'Top Ten'** list is as follows:

1. Improvements to Welfare Park.
2. Improvements to town entrances and along the High Street.
3. Improvements in the coordination between and dissemination of information about local facilities, clubs & societies.
4. More activities catering for the specific needs of young people.
5. More community events.
6. An improved local shopping experience.
7. Improvements to existing local walks.
8. Development of local tourism opportunities.
9. More activities catering for the specific needs of parents with young children.
10. Better local transport services.

These items have been taken through to the Community Plan as the items that need to be addressed first using the funds that are available to Glynneath Town Council, including local Grant Providers, its Precept, Reserves and Loans available through Welsh Government and NPTCBC.

The Mind Map was produced by the Mayor of Glynneath in conjunction with the then Clerk to the Council – Mr Stuart Hemmsley-Rice.

The Map seeks to set out items of concern, issue or development required within Glynneath.

It includes assets and items that have been discussed in Full Council meetings and within the Project Action Group Meetings held to date – see Appendix 2.

Available Funding:

There are many local Funds that are available to Glynneath Town Council and these are listed below, this is not an exhaustive list as there are other Wales and UK wide Grant Providers in existence that in theory could be utilised such as the LTA, Sport Wales, WRU, FAW, RDP Leader, Welsh Government and Community Facilities Programmes.

- Maesgwyn Wind Farm – Contributes approx. £96,500 per annum, due to close in 16 years' time, to date it is thought that this Fund has approx. £230,000 in the account.
- Selar Opencast Fund – Is not currently active and is not being topped up, to date it is thought that this fund has approx. £50,000 in the account
- Pen Y Cymoedd Wind Farm – Contributes £1.8M per annum to the Upper Neath, Upper Afan, Lower RCT and Lower Cynon Valleys of South Wales of which Glynneath is contained within, this scheme is due to run for the next 20 years.
- Aberpergwm Fund – This scheme has recently recommenced and contributes approx. 10pence for each tonne of coal that is extracted and taken across the weighbridge, it is estimated that approx. £10,000 will be available per annum for Glynneath.
- Maes Gwyn Solar Farm Grant – This scheme contributes approx. £3,000 per annum to Glynneath.

Through its own Precept, it has been identified that Glynneath Town Council should have an “Earmarked Reserve” or Specific Contingency available each year to use on various schemes or used to Match Fund wherever possible.

This only commenced formally in the budget discussions of 2019.

The Precept of Glynneath Town Council should be used wisely and effectively not only to provide services that are under its direct control such as the up keep of the Welfare Park and Cemetery but also for various schemes that are identified such as those within the Feasibility Study mentioned earlier.

Next Steps:

To achieve Glynneath Town Council's vision, the Town Council will endeavour to deliver on the activities and items outlined within the Community Plan attached and report on its progress regularly.

All of the activities have been taken from public consultation wherever possible.

This administration of Glynneath Town Council runs until May 2022 and wherever possible, the Town Council will try to implement and complete as many of these schemes timely and in line with the Community Plan.