



## **NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

### **CABINET**

**11 DECEMBER 2024**

### **REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE – HUW JONES**

#### **Matter for Decision**

#### **Wards Affected –Resolven and Tonna**

#### **Report Title – Community Councils Minor Projects Scheme – Application from Clyne and Melincourt Community Council**

#### **Purpose of Report**

1. To seek Members' approval to provide a grant to Clyne and Melincourt Community Council under the Council's Community Councils Minor Projects Scheme.

#### **Background**

2. Neath Port Talbot Council has approved a Community Council Minor Projects Grants Scheme in order to assist Community Councils in undertaking minor capital projects. Approved grants are required to be claimed within two years of approval.
3. The Council has received an application for grant aid under the above mentioned scheme from Clyne and Melincourt Community Council.

This application is for grant assistance towards the cost of works in the amount of £45,000 VAT being recoverable.

The grant would be used to better the provision currently on offer at Bryn Golwg Play Area in the village of Clyne.

The play area has not received major investment in many years, and is in desperate need of modernisation. The equipment is dated, underused and no longer suits the needs of the local community.

Play equipment to be installed includes a Junior multi-play unit, a roundabout, see-saw, sensory play panels and a multi-sports goal end.

Our vision is to create an outdoor hub which offers the most generous arrangements for public enjoyment, regardless of age.

This proposal will keep children entertained in a safe, secure play environment in the centre of Clyne. The facility will be well used and enjoyed by both current and future generations.

### **How will the balance of the project costs be financed?**

The £14,000 from the Community Minor Projects Grant would be used as match funding towards the £5,000 we have already secured from the Ffynnon Oer Community Benefit Fund. The remaining £26,000 will be applied for from the Pen y Cymoedd 'Vision' Fund.

### **What are the revenue implications?**

Annual inspection of the play equipment will be carried out by an Independent Service Engineer from RoSPA. The Community Council have committed to the cost of insuring, maintaining and inspecting the Park for the foreseeable future - this will guarantee future sustainability and ensure that this asset remains viable for many years to come.

The new equipment will conform to the relevant safety standards. There are extended warranties on the equipment and safety surfacing, integrity of the installations, etc. As such, we expect very little in the way of maintenance in the immediate subsequent years.

## **Has your organization approached other funding bodies e.g. National Lottery?**

Yes

The £5,000 from the Ffynnon Oer Community Benefit Fund is already secured and has been transferred to the Community Council.

The remaining £26,000 will be applied for from the Pen y Cymoedd 'Vision Fund 1.' This is a one-step application process, and we intend to submit our bid by the due deadline date of 12.12.24; we will receive an outcome from their Board of Directors in January 2025. A positive outcome from the Community Minor Projects Grant at the Cabinet Meeting scheduled for 04.12.24 would put us in a strong position to receive a grant from Pen y Cymoedd, as we would already have 42% of the funding package secured.

### **4. How will this project contribute to the Council's four well-being objectives as set out in the 2022-2027 Corporate Plan?**

The project aligns closely to two of the four NPTCBC Corporate Plan 2022-2027 outcomes:-

#### **1. To ensure our local environment, culture and heritage can be enjoyed by future generations:**

There are currently very few intergenerational, doorstep activities for the rural community of Clyne. As a Community Council we feel it is our duty to provide facilities that are not just enjoyable for current residents to use, but that guarantee longevity for future generations. The equipment to be installed and the play end wall will be of robust construction, it will serve the community for many years to come.

#### **2. To ensure all our communities are thriving and sustainable:**

The community has lost much in recent years including the local Primary School. The improved facility would provide opportunities for our residents to thrive; enjoying a better quality of life, making the most of the outdoors, and making the area more attractive and vibrant.

## **Proposal and Financial Impact**

5. The application from Clyne and Melincourt Community Council complies with the conditions of grant and is entitled to grant support at 70% up to a maximum of £14,000 in accordance with the Minor Projects Grants Scheme and payment be made on receipt of paid invoices together with a copy bank statement.

## **Integrated Impact Assessment**

6. There are no impacts in respect of the obligations to the Council under the Equality Act 2010, the Welsh Language Standards (No 1) Regulations 2015, the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 and support via this grant is a positive impact in respect of the Wellbeing and Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.

## **Valleys Communities Impacts**

7. Applications for grant are available to Community Councils across the county borough.

## **Workforce Impacts**

8. There are no workforce impacts.

## **Legal Impacts**

9. Grants are provided in line with the approved scheme criteria.

## **Risk Management Impacts**

10. All grant applications are considered on their own merit and in line with the approved scheme criteria.

## **Consultation**

11. There is no requirement under the Constitution for external consultation on this item.

## **Recommendation**

12. It is recommended that Members approve a grant of 70% of actual costs up to a maximum of £14,000 to Clyne and Melincourt Community Council.

## **Reason for Proposed Decision**

13. The decision is in compliance with the approved policy and to enable community improvements.

## **Implementation of Decision**

14. The decision is proposed for implementation after the 3 day call-in period.

## **List of Background Papers**

15. Application from Clyne and Melincourt Community Council.

## **Officer Contact**

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