

## **Appendix M.**

### **Background or 'Project Specifics' – Application MF042/T2**

To establish the 'Ein Cynefin/Our Habitat' project in Cefn Saeson School, by equipping a gardening project with raised planters and hand tools.

This bid has been developed to 'assist the school and Voluntary Sector providers'.

The funding will be used to establish a natural, organic space for pupils to grow vegetables, herbs and flowering plants in five 1500 x 1000 x 150mm planters (made from re- purposed plastic). Hand tools, seeds and bulbs are to be purchased as part of the project proposal.

The need for this initiative has come to the attention of the two local Ward Members. The school has identified the need for practical, hands on experiences as a means of augmenting the curriculum and applying classroom learnt knowledge. The project will be of particular value to the SEN Unit and the pastoral department which has been designed to support learners with emotional needs and additional needs.

The benefits of Ein Cynefin/Our Habitat for the school will include the engagement of those that might otherwise disconnect from school life. Creative strategies and support systems can be developed to allow active participation and pupils will gain a better appreciation of sustainability and biodiversity. The community use element of this project will involve collaborative partnership working with the 14<sup>th</sup> (Neath) Cimla Scout Group and the Hollins Care Centre. Community Groups can visit the school in the evenings and on weekends to share their knowledge with the pupils. Feeder Primary schools are also part of this venture which will be used to enrich transition activities. Produce grown in the space will be used in food technology lessons and any surplus donated to local Food Banks.

The scheme has no further financial implications for NPTCBC as the overheads associated with replenishing stock will be sought from donations or from the modest hire charge levied against community use of the school buildings.

## **Recommendations**

The project is valued at £6,132.36, which is the full cost of the planters hand tools and sundries. The Applicants, Councillor John Warman and Councillor Adam Mc Grath would wish to fund this project equally (£3,066.18) from their Members Fund allocation.

The project proposal is recommended for approval and financial support under the Members Community Fund.