

Appendix BB.

Background or 'Project Specifics' – Application MF083/T2

To provide continuation funding to a successful 'Community Ranger' initiative set up in the Ward of Onllwyn.

This bid has been developed to build upon an investment made in Tranche 1 of the Members Fund, working in close partnership with the DOVE Workshops (performing the duties of payroll) and the Onllwyn Community Council (as project owner).

The funding will be used to extend the hours of employment and the length of the contract to ensure maximum impact over the next two years. The intention is to make the project a full time post with the help of precept and externally sourced grant aid.

In its inaugural two years the Community Ranger project has worked with many partners including Maesmarchog Primary School, Ty Maesmarchog Sheltered accommodation, the Gardening Society, the Angling Club, Banwen RFC, Pantyffordd Hall and many more. The public realm and the street scene have benefited from rubbish amnesties, to landscaping, drystone walling, bulb naturalising, and maintenance of unadopted lanes, Rights of Way, bridleways and forest trails and woodland walks. The Community Ranger works closely with the Community Council to maintain 32 acres of land in its ownership, the skate park, community pond, St. Patrick's memorial and many other facilities. The Community Ranger project is seen as an instrument of rapid response addressing issues before they become unsightly. With continuation funding the momentum can be retained and accelerated and the good practice can be further cemented.

The long term community benefits of the project will include regeneration, transformation, the development of community assets and making Onllwyn a better, more vibrant place to live, work and enjoy.

The scheme has no further financial implications for NPTCBC as once the Members funding has extended the post (to 31.12.23) a review will be undertaken of the perceived community benefit and a decision will

then be taken upon its continuation by precept and genuine partnership working.

Recommendations

The project is valued at £36,026.00. The Onllwyn Ward Member Councillor Dean Cawsey would wish to invest the whole of his Members Fund allocation of £10,000 to extend this initiative. The shortfall had been previously made available from the Maes Gwyn Wind Farm Community Benefit Fund.

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