

Project Title:	The Hearth Workshop	
<p>The development of the Hearth Workshop has been funded as an extension of the MakerSpace project under many of the same social aims. This “hub” of the MakerSpace will focus on woodworking and metal working through the provision of equipment and workshops which make use of both traditional and modern techniques. The workshop, which is owned outright by Cwmaman Town Council, is situated centrally within the community and benefits from being next-door to the Cwmaman Youth Council Youth Resource Centre. This facility has a 28-bed bunkhouse and is the main venue for youth activity within the community. This will allow the workshop, and its associated activities, to engage with the younger members of our community whilst also allowing us to run residential courses and workshops for other communities in the future.</p> <p>The items funded under the grant allowed us to create a near fully equipped workshop space for use by residents and visitors of all ages; to allow them to come together around a shared interest in “making”, to share their skills and to develop new ones. We see the MakerSpace project as a whole as being important to our community as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recent consultation evidenced that the community feel the workshop space and provision should be developed. • There is a shortage of relevant skills locally for employers to secure staff, from the local community, for the jobs they have available. • There is a strong sense of apathy and lack of self-confident locally which is compounded by the lack of opportunity people have to access, to be exposed to, new and interesting opportunities. • It will allow us to support people to gain skills, develop friendships and help to alleviate some of the social issues we face locally; 20%+ of people with “no qualifications”, youth disenfranchisement, older person loneliness, lack of ownership for their community etc. • The Workshop will further enhance our “Community Product” future sustainability focus. We use the term “Community Product” to refer to items of craft, artwork or products, made by community and/or MakerSpace members, which are then sold. All of the profits from this income then go to support the sustainability of the project and to support other community development activities within our area. • We are heavily focussed on environmental sustainability, along with financial and social, within our current projects. The development of the workshop space will allow us to make use of untapped, and wasted, local sources of material; our local woodlands, broken but repairable items and commercial waste. In particular we are concerned with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Making use of timber (trees) which are felled for safety reasons, are damaged by winds or are coming to the end of their natural, healthy lives. o Reusing “waste” from commercial entities within our area which is currently going to landfill or being burnt. This includes offcuts of timber, pallet and crate wood, building site shuttering and similar. To the businesses disposing of this material it is waste... to a group of local veterans, young people or disability group it is the materials needed to learn woodworking. o We intend to base a Community Repair Café at the workshop on a monthly basis which will allow local residents to repair items, learn the skills themselves and reduce the volume of waste generated. 		
Progress & Current Status	<p>The Hearth Workshop has already generated sufficient income in less than 6 months to cover the overhead costs for that period (based upon figures provided). This has been achieved through the development of funded projects by partner organisations who make use of the space. These projects have also allowed us to meet specific environmental and social outcomes which would have otherwise required direct delivery by ourselves.</p> <p>The space still requires some work in order to be “complete”. This is mostly related to the storage room and kitchen/toilet area. There is also the need for some dedicated time to develop a programme of initial engagement projects to market the space to local residents. It is hoped that these will be achieved within other, existing, CDO work and will ensure multiple community needs are met through the single project or projects.</p> <p>A group currently meet on a weekly basis to use the main room for woodturning and there is growing interest in making use of the other equipment. As such a number of inductions are being planned to ensure they are able to do so. See Appendix 1 of this report for the sample documents that have been issued to users to gather interest in this. Two options have been offered – basic, traditional inductions and inductions through projects/builds. The latter will address the needs of other community projects and hopefully generate Community Product to support sustainability. The first of these will be delivered before the end of August.</p> <p>The equipment and facility have already been used to produce seating for the Community Garden project which would have cost around £2,600 based on similar prices available online. This has been achieved for less than £200 in materials.</p>	
Next Steps:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Plan and deliver a series of machinery inductions to ensure user access. 2. Plan and deliver a series of community build activities and engagement events to promote ownership. 3. Complete works required to kitchen area, toilet and storage room. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. End of August 2. End of August 3. End of August
Budget Requirements:	In order to complete the works to the fabric of the building, and provide storage racks, an allowance of around £780 is required. This will cover timber for racking, flooring and consumables.	

Project Title:	The Community Garden	
<p>Project Overview</p> <p>Cwmaman Community Centre has recently been taken into the ownership of Cwmaman Town Council who are currently working to establish the centre as the hub of the community.</p> <p>A project is underway to establish a community café, community information hub, arts and makerspace and a digital technologies hub at the centre. During our ongoing consultation local residents have expressed a desire to have an outdoor space at the centre, better facilities for performances and celebrations and for the centre to hold more events throughout the year.</p> <p>In order for us to achieve these needs within the community we must now develop a garden on a section of land to the rear of the centre, install stage curtains and equip the hall with a suitable sound system.</p> <p>In order to provide a garden space at the centre we have asset transferred for a section of land situated on Gelli Werdd (directly to the rear of the centre) in order for us to take over ownership of this land from Carmarthenshire County Council. Now that the transfer is complete the aims are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Provide a safe and enjoyable space for children visiting the centre to use with their parents. - Provide a space for local residents to enjoy when visiting the centre for classes, events or when using the café. - Utilise the garden for the delivery of gardening and nature workshops with children and adults with additional learning needs (in partnership with Amman Care situated next-door to the centre). - To work with volunteers from our current groups to manage and maintain the space. This would include the Cwmaman Gardening Club, Shadows Mental Health Support group and Plant y Cwm parent and toddler group. <p>Within a recent feasibility study conducted to assess the future developments in Cwmaman, we identified the potential for developing a greater provision of services associated with nature, woodlands and our natural spaces. The Community Centre, with its close proximity to Gelli Werdd, will play a pivotal role in us achieving these goals. This will be helped significantly if we are able to provide the garden space as it will represent both a physical and operational move towards engaging our local residents and other users with the natural space around us. Moreover, the garden space will provide an excellent staging point for activities within Gelli Werdd and allow us to become far more visual within the community than at present.</p>		
Progress & Current Status	<p>The project hit significant delays due to staff workloads being shifted to higher priority issues; for both the CDO and caretaker staff. However, the Garden has already been used as the siting location for a piece of Art Work produced by Zoe Ross with a group of local Secondary School pupils and for the delivery of 7 volunteer days in both the creation of the space and the planting of flowerbeds in recent weeks.</p> <p>The Hearth Workshop project has also been used to produce a series of steel and wood seating which are going to be professionally galvanised to ensure they last for years to come.</p>	
Next Steps:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Completion of planting and soft landscaping with volunteer support. 2. Completion of seating and tables for space. 3. Production of decoration and furniture pieces through community engagement and workshop projects. 4. Plan and deliver children’s workshop to produce small animal habitats to be placed in the Community Garden and elsewhere within our parks and outdoor spaces. 5. Plan, develop and deliver Young Person focussed bike reclamation project. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. End of August 2. TBC 3. Start in August. 4. Autumn 2019. 5. End of Summer Term 2020.
Budget Requirements:	<p>In order to ensure that watering facilities are available and that the space is secure, an allowance of £600 is required to obtain hosepipes, install an external tap and produce gates and a lockable storage cabinet. Issues with the construction of the current fence and gates mean that rectification work is now required. The CDO is to oversee this and, if possible, complete with volunteer support.</p>	

Project Title:	The MakerSpace Project	
<p>The MakerSpace project has been funded under the RCDF project and then received subsequent funding through GrantScape (Cwmaman Town Council) and the National Lottery (Mess Up the Mess, INCC).</p> <p>The project developed a strong group of volunteers which allowed for the delivery a numerous and oversubscribed events and workshops which both recovered their costs and provided paid employment for those delivering the sessions as community members. However, these volunteers have now, unfortunately, left the project. That said, the development of new volunteers and modifications to the project to ensure it meets the needs of the community are underway and there are a number of users currently making use of the Community Centre spaces of the project.</p> <p>The project has received a high level of press coverage and we have received recognition from numerous external organisations for the forward thinking and effective way in which we have developed the provision within a community otherwise devoid of such assets. This has included the schools within the Amman Valley, many of which we have directly supported, Swansea University who hope to work with us going forward, One Voice Wales who have requested we submit an entry for their Innovation Awards, the Arts Council of Wales who have offered to support us going forward and once we are more established and Welsh Government Assembly Members, Members of Parliament and the Welsh Government departments for Education, Innovation and Arts & Culture.</p> <p>Key members and users of the MakerSpace project will form part of the wider Community Association and Action Group with a particular focus on those issues relating to arts, culture, science, technology and engineering skills and needs.</p>		
Progress & Current Status	<p>There is a series of workshops currently being delivered within the Centre specific spaces and in the Hearth Workshop. Summer Mini-Maker sessions are being planned and are currently being marketed throughout the Amman Valley.</p> <p>Some work is still required to make best use of the main MakerSpace room at the Centre and this will involve the construction of a storage workbench along the glazed internal wall which will also house certain machinery.</p> <p>As with the Hearth Workshop, a series of inductions have already been delivered in the key machinery and more will be delivered as soon as minimum numbers are reached.</p> <p>We have recently received a request to support a local charity in the production of laser cut keyrings and other items. A local resident who currently purchases 3D printed components from America, and was told that the Ammanford Library provision wasn't able to help, is also visiting the centre soon to discuss possible membership and use of the facility.</p> <p>I am currently developing the graphics and content required for the banners and promotional flyers to accompany a pop-up gazebo. This will then be taken to a number of events and regular markets across Carmarthenshire to promote the provision and secure project specific consultation/engagement to inform further development of our services.</p> <p>See Appendices 2 for images of the MakerSpace project.</p>	
Next Steps:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Plan and deliver inductions as needed by users. 2. Complete design and production of marketing related materials. 3. Organise and deliver a series of marketing events and pop-ups to promote the provision. 4. Plan, develop and delivery Science and Engineering Fair across local schools to be held at the Community Centre. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. As needed. 2. End of August. 3. End of 2019. 4. End of Summer Term 2020.
Budget Requirements:	No further budget requirements at this time. Funded projects, both direct and through partners, are planned and these will provide all funding needed; matched against existing CDO budget as needed.	

Community Development Projects Update – July 2019

Project Title:	The Green Infrastructure Project
<p>This project is a collaboration between Cwmaman Town Council and Carmarthenshire County Council, Neath Port Talbot Council, Swansea Council and Small Woods. The total project value is £1.6million and we will see an income to the community of around £80,000 over 3 years.</p> <p>The majority of this will be used to employ a 0.6 Green Infrastructure Volunteering Coordinator who will work with the Community Development Officer to ensure we address community needs through the use of our natural and outdoor spaces. Moreover, the funding also includes money to cover overheads, usage of the MakerSpace and Hearth Workshop spaces and the development of education, tourism and events based improvements within Cwmaman.</p> <p>The project will run for 3 years and will be delivered through a partnership of the organisations named above. One of the key outcomes from this project will be the development of Green Infrastructure Action Group which will be made up of people and organisations that sign-up to the Amman Valley GI Pledge. This group will then form one part of the wider Community Association and Action Group with a particular focus on environmental and sustainability issues.</p> <p>This project will also have a significant impact on the “Community Planting” project as it will have this as a key output within the workload of the GI Volunteer Coordinator.</p>	

Progress & Current Status	<p>I have been supporting other members of the project with the submission of the grant documents to Welsh Government and this process continues as of the date of writing this report.</p> <p>I am working with advisors to compile the Job Description and Person Specification for the GI Volunteer Coordinator.</p> <p>I am beginning to develop the foundations of environmental focussed projects through existing projects such as the MakerSpace, Hearth Workshop and Community Planting. I have also secured 2 volunteer placement/work placements to support the delivery of this projects outputs as quickly as possible once the grant is finalised with the partners and Welsh Government.</p>
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Next Steps:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Continue to respond to Welsh Government queries in relation to the Cwmaman aspects of the project. 2. Finalise the Job Description and Person Specification in readiness for ratification by the Personnel Sub-Committee. 3. Commence work through volunteers to establish the foundations of the GI project. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. As needed. 2. End of August. 3. End of July.
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Budget Requirements:	No further budget requirements at this time.
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Project Title:	Community Planting
<p>This project is focussed on the volunteer planting of edible, pollinator friendly and aesthetic plants throughout the community. It is a complimentary project to the GI Project and will be supported by the acquisition of a poly tunnel by INCC following a successful Lottery Funding Application.</p>	

Progress & Current Status	<p>A number of locations have now been planted within the community which has included the Community Garden and the planting of fruit trees at the Bowls Pavilion.</p> <p>The most recent requests from the volunteers involved have been to produce brackets for hanging baskets, planters and large-scale vegetable trugs. This will be undertaken through the Hearth Workshop project and be used as means of attracting new users to both projects and inducting existing users in the use of machinery (see Appendices 2).</p>
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Next Steps:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Continue to provide as needed support to the current volunteer coordinators. 2. Produce requested equipment through the Hearth Workshop project. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. As needed. 2. End of August.
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Budget Requirements:	An additional materials budget of £450 is required for materials to produce the required equipment. This will be constructed to last and should be considered a long-term investment which will also provide positive engagement in existing projects for community members.
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Community Development Projects Update – July 2019

Project Title:	Precious Plastic Amman Valley
<p>This project will see the creation of micro-scale plastic recycling/production space using 2 x 20foot shipping containers. These will be located adjacent to the recycling point in the bowls pavilion carpark in Garnant once completed. This will provide a means of accessing existing recycling from community members, provide suitable space for the facility, close proximity to the school for use as an external classroom and good location for community clean-up events.</p> <p>The primary outcomes from this project are intended to be both environmental and social; less litter, stronger relationships, education on environmental issues, a means of producing community product for sale to raise funds and an opportunity to create an attraction project to draw people into the community to learn more about the project and make use the MakerSpace and Hearth Workshop space to create their own facility.</p> <p>The project has received the support of national environment organisations, Welsh Government Assembly Member Joyce Watson, Jonathan Edwards MP and recognised by One Voice Wales as an exemplar project for submission for an Innovation and Environment Award for Cwmaman Town Council.</p>	

Progress & Current Status	<p>Due to the project being de-prioritised we encountered an issue in losing Trinity Saint Davids as a partner. I am currently establishing relationships with Swansea University Engineering departments to replace this. We have a very short window within which to return the next stage of the funding application and as such I highly recommend that time be protected at this time to finalise this without further delay.</p> <p>Once this stage is completed the actual construction of the space and the machinery is relatively straightforward and will provide an excellent opportunity to engage with the community and promote our existing provisions within the Hearth Workshop and MakerSpace. Moreover, the project will allow use to add additional value to the Green Infrastructure and Community Product projects.</p>
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Next Steps:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Continue to develop relationships with Swansea University. 2. Finalise costing profile and project revisions for funder. 3. Begin Education Engagement with local schools. 4. Commence Machinery Builds and Container Conversion at Hearth Workshop and the Yard. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. End of September. 2. End of July. 3. Early September. 4. End of September.
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Budget Requirements:	No further budget requirements at this time.
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Project Title:	Community Transport
<p>Although there has been some interest locally in the development of a community transport project, there has been very little commitment from community members; an essential aspect of any such scheme as they are required as drivers and volunteer helpers.</p> <p>It is hoped that through environment focussed project such as the GI Project, Precious Plastic and the associated Hearth Workshop activities, we will be able to identify those people with a deeper concern for the local environment and wider sustainability issues. These people will then be supported to develop their confidence and engaged regularly to harness their views and commitment to the project.</p>	

Progress & Current Status	<p>I have had a recent conference call with a number of Third Sector community transport organisations who are looking to collaborate in the delivery of Wales-wide projects. As an early partner in this discussion we are in a situation to present the case for Cwmaman and wider Amman Valley area for the delivery of schemes under their projects.</p> <p>Given the commencement of the GI project in the near future, which will include a period of community consultation, we will be able to gather specific advocacy data to support this project which we have been unable to secure to-date.</p> <p>A collaborative project between Cwmaman, Llannon and Llanedi Councils is being considered between the Community Development Officers which will focus on the development of cycling provision and e-bikes. However, this is as the very early stages but will be progressed over the coming months and when a source of funding is identified.</p>
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Next Steps:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Maintain discussions with Community Transport organisations and pass on available advocacy data from our community when available. 2. Secure meaningful commitment and advocacy from community members through delivery of environment focussed projects. 3. Develop CDO collaboration project for presentation to Council. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ongoing. 2. Start end of July. 3. Ongoing – as funding becomes available.
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Budget Requirements:	No further budget requirements at this time.
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Appendices 1: Induction Request Documents Issued to Current Hearth Workshop Users.

Single Machine Induction Request Form – displayed in workshop and monitored regularly. Inductions delivered when minimum numbers are reached.



Machinery Induction Requests:

To request an induction on any given machine, tool or process please complete the table below. Weekend inductions are available. Most inductions will only be delivered when there is a minimum of 5 people. Exceptions to this are: welding, plasma cutting, CNC Router which require a 2 day induction of 4 people.


Name	Machine/Tool/Process	Preferred Days AM	Preferred Days PM

Build/Project Based Inductions – projects designed to use the new equipment and resources to meet community needs, develop engagement and to ensure volunteer helpers are able to be fully inducted in the use of the relevant equipment.



Build/Project Based Machinery Inductions

Certain projects and community builds are available which will allow users to be involved and receive inductions as part of the process. Each of these can be seen below. If interested please contact the relevant person and complete the interest cells below:

Project/Build	Machinery Covered:	Processes Covered	Start Date:	Days:	Lead Maker / Notes
<p>Drift Trikes – youth focussed project to build drift trikes from reclaimed bikes and steel.</p> 	<p>Welder, Plasma Cutter, Metal Cutting Chop Saw, Metal Cutting Bandsaw, Drills, Basic Hand tools.</p>	<p>Welding, Plasma Cutting, Design, Steel Fabrication, Fibre Glassing, Resins, Engineering</p>	<p>ASAP</p>	<p>Wednesday PM Thursday PM Saturday AM-PM Sunday AM-PM</p>	<p>Rob Venus robvenus@cwmmamantc.org 07401 424842</p>
<p>Community Planters – design and construction of planters for sale and use within the community as part of the "Growing the Amman Valley" project.</p> 	<p>Welder, Metal Cutting Bandsaw, Wood Bandsaw, Mitre Saw, Router, Pillar Drill, Belt Sander, Random Orbital Sander.</p>	<p>Woodwork, Design, Welding.</p>	<p>ASAP</p>	<p>Wednesday PM Thursday PM Saturday AM-PM Sunday AM-PM</p>	<p>Rob Venus robvenus@cwmmamantc.org 07401 424842 TimeCredits may be available for volunteer helpers.</p>

Appendices 2 – MakerSpace Project Images



Community Development Projects Update – July 2019





Council's aim to help aspiring youngsters

AN aspiring product designer and Ysgol Dyffryn Aman pupil has designed a revolutionary kettle that he believes could become the norm in ten years' time.

By Josh Searle
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Benjamin Digby has designed a kettle that boils water by spinning rather than through a coil.

To help with his work he visited the Amman Valley Makerspace, where he was able to 3D print his model to construct.

The Makerspace, based at Cwmaman Community Centre, is the most rural of its kind and the only base of its kind that offers such facilities in the country.

Speaking about his design, Benjamin said: "The brief was to design a product that a company would produce in ten years' time."

"Nothing has really changed with the kettle for a while, it is an area that was lacking innovation.

"After doing some research I found that it was possible to boil water by spinning it, rather than through a coil.

"I designed it on some software and then came here to

put it together."

As well as the unique method of boiling the water, Benjamin's kettle includes a spout which can rotate to be 90 degrees from the handle in order to make pouring a cup of tea easier.

The Makerspace, which was launched in 2015, aims to give people like Benjamin the opportunity to hone their skills, as well as providing somewhere for people to socialise.

Rob Venus, Community Development Officer at Cwmaman Town Council, explained: "We feel that young people and adults that have got an interest in science, in tech, in engineering, arts and maths should have the same level of support and access to equipment as people who play football and rugby.

"If you want to play sport you can grab a ball and go to



Benjamin Digby, with Rob Venus, Community Development Officer at Cwmaman Town Council, and Zoe Ross from Amman Valley Makerspace

a playing field, you can play at school or you can join a club. Yet there are no areas, outside of us, for people with these interests to have a go at it.

"It has social benefits as well as the opportunity to further develop important skills that could be used in their careers further down the line."

To find out more about what the Amman Valley Makerspace has to offer, visit their Facebook page: [facebook.com/AMMAN-VMS](https://www.facebook.com/AMMAN-VMS).





Canolfan Amanwy
Ysgol  **Dyffryn Aman**
Part of the Amman Valley MakerSpace Family