

Regenerate NPT (LAG)

Meeting: 10am, 22nd September 2016

Venue: Dove Workshops

PRESENT:

Rhysian Pingilly – Glynneath Training Centre
Julie Bibby – Dove Workshop
Catrin Evans - NPTCBC
Jonathan Cosson – Warm Wales
Neil Thomas - NPTCBC
Tony Potts – NPTCVS (Vice Chair)
Jonathan Morris – NPT Homes
Peter Hunter – Blaenhonddan Community Council
Natasha Lewis – NPTCBC
Ben Riseborough – LAG Manager NPTCBC
Suzette Phillips – NPTCBC
Len Preece – Canolfan Maerdy
Daron Herbert – Natural Resources Wales
Alison Owen – DANSA
John Davies - BayTrans
Joanne Baitup - Age Connects
John Davies - Welsh Government
Bethan Blackmore - NPTCBC
Cathy Lewis - Tourism Swansea Bay

APOLOGIES:

Ian Ross -Whitehead-Ross Education and Consulting Ltd
Clive Ball – Neath Port Talbot College
Cllr Antony Taylor (Chair) – NPTCBC
Cllr Lynda Williams – GCG Community Council
Cllr Marian Lewis – Federation of small businesses
Cllr David Lewis – Cilybebyll Community Council

Item No.	Subject	Action
1.	Welcome and Apologies: Tony welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were recorded.	
2.	Minutes of previous meeting Minutes were approved.	
3.	Matters arising not on agenda There were no matters arising.	
4.	General RDP Update Ben explained to the group that the LEADER programme for 2014-2020 was agreed before the autumn statement; therefore all LEADER programmes will be running until the end of 2020. There is a guarantee of another 3 windows opening for RCDF funding, but all projects will need to be completed by 2018.	

5.	<p>Budget Options – (Feasibility Studies/Procurement) Ben went through each theme of the budget sheets. Sub-groups will be set up for each of the themes. The sub-groups can include LAG members and external people, also experts from outside the LAG can be brought in. Ben asked for comments from the group with regards to setting up sub-groups.</p> <p>Rhysian – budgets for the feasibility studies are small, £25,000 isn't very much.</p> <p>John Davies – If a project is found from a feasibility study, where is the money going to come from to take the idea forward?</p> <p>Ben – If an idea is found from a feasibility study then there are a number of funds available.</p> <p>Rhysian – would be against a consultant being brought in but likes the idea of the sub groups.</p> <p>John Davies (WG) – most feasibility studies lead to capital projects, and I would encourage feasibility studies to be carried out.</p>	
6.	<p>Project ideas under Renewable Energy Theme Jonathan gave a presentation to the group.</p> <p>Tony – how would you fit this into the school's curriculum?</p> <p>Jonathan – schools can turn things around in 2-3 weeks.</p> <p>Neil – suggested meeting with the primary school association.</p> <p>Ben informed the group that Jonathan's idea has already been checked by WG and this type of project is eligible for LEADER funding.</p> <p>Peter – the idea seems very useful.</p> <p>Jonathan Morris – in terms of opening this up to the community, have you thought about working with housing associations?</p> <p>Jonathan – yes this is a possibility, we are hoping that what the children learn in school will be used when they are at home.</p> <p>Daron – this is an ideal opportunity for climate change.</p>	
7.	<p>Sub Group discussion Ben explained the process of the sub groups. Each sub group would feed into the wider LAG. There will be both LAG and external representation. Ben will send an email out to LAG members asking them for any external recommendations.</p>	Ben
8.	<p>Project Update – Go For IT Age Connects presented to the group.</p> <p>Alison – happy to promote courses on the DANSA buses.</p> <p>Len – the enthusiasm of Jo is very good. This project is</p>	

	money very well spent.	
9.	LEADER Co-operation Update Bethan updated the group on co-operation projects.	
10.	Stage 2 applications update & results of project appraisals Funky Junk Neil Thomas left the room 2 year project Split between 2 themes Project cost £72,000 Average score 33/55 Priority – medium Catrin – likes the idea of website, not clear on working with digital inclusion in community, more information needed on this. Rhysian – the concept of this project is very good. Application is confusing. Maybe there would be competition with charity shops. Daron – Not sure on the business plan. How sustainable would this project be? Rhysian – Where is this project going to be based? Where would everything be stored? Ben – What research has been done for this project? Refer back to them and ask them to re-submit another stage 2 application. Nail came back into the room. Jonathan Morris left the room.	
11.	Stage 3 Project Presentations + Question & Answering + Final Decisions Creative Communities No Conflict of interest Creative Communities presented to the group. Tony – What is the age range? 16+, 16-24, all will gain a qualification Rhysian – How will you promote/recruit? A lot of time will be spent in recruitment. Youth Cymru will use their networks. NPT Youth Service have said they can use their contacts. Recruitment will be an open call. Neil – Year 11 will be a very busy year for pupils. The age range is 16-24 so most of the young people will have finished school. Schools will be used as hubs and ex pupils can attend. Peter – Have you contacted the digital college?	

	<p>Will get in touch with these.</p> <p>Len – Can young people get in touch with you? We welcome anyone to get in touch with us.</p> <p>Daron – What will young people have at the end of this project? Qualifications and all resources used will be given to the young people.</p> <p>Creative Communities left the room.</p> <p>Average Score 50/70 Priority – high</p> <p>Ben – this project fits under theme 3, although there are a lot of other projects that could be funded under this theme.</p> <p>Cathy – very good idea but think it is very expensive for what is offered.</p> <p>Rhysian – the new application that has been submitted is very enhanced.</p> <p>John Davies – good idea if it will gain confidence in young people, the confidence would be good for employment opportunities.</p> <p>Len – brilliant project.</p> <p>Cathy - £27,000 used for films, could tourism use these films?</p> <p>Ben – state aid issues may arise if the films are used elsewhere.</p> <p>Neil – not convinced on the recruitment plan, year 11 pupils will be hard to recruit due to demands on their time.</p> <p>Peter – not very good value for money.</p> <p>Decision was taken to a vote, Yes 8 No 3 Approved but delay until next year to give them more time to prepare the project. Meet with Youth Service, start recruitment after GCSEs have taken place.</p> <p>John Davies (WG) – key is value for money. Could they put more match funding in to reduce the RDP amount?</p>	
12.	<p>AOB</p> <p>Tony – NPTCVS have an event on 19th October, everyone welcome, please contact Tony or Ben.</p>	