**Report to : Council**

**Date : 18th May 2022**

**Subject : Annual Report 2021-22**

**Report by : Clerk**

**Background**

1. The Welsh Government have introduced a new requirement for Town & Community Councils to produce an annual report
2. The reports are to be produced as soon as reasonably practical after the year end
3. The format of this report follows the guidance given by Welsh Government .

**Governance**

1. Taff’s Well and Nantgarw ( TWNCC ) is made up of 10 Councillors who attend meetings of the Council on a monthly basis.
2. Throughout the month the Clerk is in contact with both the Chair & Vice-Chair but decision making is the responsibility of the Council .

**Community Engagement**

1. Since the start of the pandemic meetings of the Council have been held remotely . However , every effort is made to accommodate residents wishing to attend meetings , either remotely or in person.
2. The Council recognise the importance of seeking the views of the community on proposed projects . In advance of taking a decision to plant trees to celebrate the Platinum Jubilee residents were asked to identify potential locations .

**Finances**

1. In 2021-22 the financial performance of the Council was as follows :

Budget Actuals

£000 £000

Reserves at Start of Year 64 64

Income for Year 36 43

100 107

Less Expenditure 44 29

Reserves at End of Year 56 78

The lower expenditure was largely due to the relocation of the Community Hub ( £8k cost reduction achieved ) & a reduced number of grants awarded ( £4k ) .

1. In April 2021 the Council took the decision to not increase Council Tax in recognition of the financial difficulties faced by residents as a result of Covid .

Instead , the Reserves held by CLCC were used to meet the budget deficit .

1. Audit Wales carry out external scrutiny of the accounts & TWNCC is awaiting the completion of the audit for 2020-21.

**Objectives & Achievements**

1. A key objective was to relocate the Community Hub from its former base in Cardiff Road . In May 2021 the Community Hub moved to the community block of Ffynon Taf Primary and the relocation has been a significant success with the previous space & privacy constraints now removed.
2. The new building provides the Community Hub with an opportunity to extend and improve its services & the plan is to develop :

* A base for Helping Agencies
* Community Fridge
* Digital inclusion
* Local History Group
* Offer Space for community use
* Tourist information
* Residents information
* Recycling
* Art Exhibition

1. Alongside the Taff’s Well Allotments there was land that was very overgrown and unused . Working with a resident a Veg Box scheme is being developed to grow food for 12 months of the year . It is hoped that a number of residents will choose to participate in this innovative scheme **.**
2. Other achievements in 21/22 include :

* Funding of a defibrillator for Rhyd yr Heleg
* Funding of Xmas trees located throughout Taff’s Well & Nantgarw
* Financial support to local organisations in order for them to continue to provide a broad range of activities enjoyed by the community
* Financial contribution to a community event at Tawelfryn

The Council continues to provide funding to the Community Hwb , a local charity , to pay for the running costs of the building .

**Priorities for 2022-23**

**14 .** In the coming year it is planned to :

* Support the local primary school with their Platinum Jubilee celebrations
* Continue to engage with residents to understand the projects they would like to see undertaken by TWNCC

The sum of £5000 has been included in the budget to fund new projects .

15 . Whilst the Council’s spending plans exceed its income TWNCC has again taken the decision not to increase council tax given the financial pressures being placed on households through inflationary price rises , escalating energy charges & increased National Insurance .

16.This report is for Members information and will be made available to residents