

# Annex 1

## Invest Local Caerau – Second Driving Change Plan

### Overview

The plan builds on the work undertaken in the first plan which was agreed in September 2017 and is due to end in July 2019.

Because the timeframe since that plan was agreed is quite short, no further major consultation has been undertaken but more localised consultation with specific groups including young parents, older isolated people, carers and teenagers has informed specific actions.

The first Driving Change plan provided the background to people and organisations in Caerau as well as details of the larger scale consultation so they are not repeated here but the consultation and community profile is at Annex 1.

The plan covers most of the activities that Invest Local Caerau wish to carry out in the period autumn 2019 autumn 2021 but there are two areas of work where there may be additions to the plan (probably next year) and they are explained later on.

The vision agreed for Invest Local in Caerau is unchanged from 2017 as we feel it is still relevant and is set out below

- Caerau will become a **stronger community**, offering social opportunities and support for all its residents. It will have a number of sustainable community organisations reaching out to all sections of the community, whose facilities and services are used and valued across Caerau.
- Caerau will be a **more self-confident community** with its initiative and enterprise recognised locally and more widely in the region, banishing the stigma of previous years. Educational attainment will increase with greater links between parents and school, especially at primary level and older children developing greater self-confidence and ambition.
- **People in Caerau will be healthier** and more able to look after themselves. Greater levels of social activities will reduce isolation and improve mental health whilst substance abuse will decline.
- **Caerau's outstanding natural environment will be utilised** to bring real material benefits to local people, drawing in tourists to the woodland development and BMX track and securing jobs from the Afan Parc development. The potential for renewable energy will also be realised providing both security of supply and reduced bills.

In the longer term people will be able to measure success by looking at the following factors

- *Local Organisations' sustainability and number of users*
- *People participating in community activity*
- *Indicators of health*
- *Ratings of cooperation between organisations*
- *Levels of Anti-Social Behaviour and Crime*
- *Educational attainment*

- *Employment levels for young people*

## **What we have learned so far – Reviewing Invest Local to Date**

Before developing this plan a lot of work has been done to review what has been done so far

### **We have looked at how we have done against**

A) The 5 Priorities of the original plans, the programme review held in summer 2018 as well as reports from individual projects.

And

B) The four main strands of Invest Local, namely *Inclusion, organisations working together, influencing organisations outside Caerau* and *Promoting long term thinking*.

Some progress has been made in all four areas with involvement arguably being the weakest and groups in Caerau working together the strongest. There appears to be a feeling that longer term thinking is slowly coming into the programme but this is understandably stronger among people who have been involved for longer.

Most of the work around **inclusion** has been done around projects and activities which have reached out to those taking part in them; this has included the Friends' group at Dyffryn (and more recently similar work at CDT), work with younger people in Noddfa and the development of the Men's Shed. Practical projects have been by far the most successful way of engaging new people within Invest Local linked actions with community events seemingly doing much less to inform people about the programme even if attendance numbers have been quite high (summer events regularly including over 200 people).

In this sense the work of the existing organisations in Caerau is absolutely fundamental to inclusion. It is their work which has drawn people into community activities and through local organisations and the relationships that they have with people attending their activities that new work is identified and developed.

**Organisations have worked together** in terms of strategic planning, organising community events and communication and recognising each other's strengths. However this has been uneven and some groups who have been active as part of ILC have stepped back from being part of the programme. This has had a serious impact on ILC's ability to deliver work relating to young people and to a lesser degree on work to improve the local environment as neither Noddfa nor the Market Garden are active within the programme any longer.

**Influencing others** outside Caerau has been visible through relationships with different parts of the local authority, some links to regional voluntary groups and strong relationships with the MP and AM. There is also a feeling that Caerau has a strong influence on Invest Local both by active involvement in Shared Learning and with the successful hosting of a visits from the Big Lottery and Neath Port Talbot Council and Western Bay Health Board.

There is limited evidence of **Long term thinking** although some projects funded have enhanced the sustainability of the organisations concerned and this is now a major focus of this plan.

Progress on achieving the priorities and investments has been mixed. More details are below.

The priorities themselves are mostly felt to be the right ones although there are changes to them within the new plan.

### **Priority 1 – Improve access to opportunities.**

*This priority is about ensuring that people have the skills, ambition, experience and affordable transport to gain employment.*

Little progress has been made in this area; there has always been a desire to undertake work that is complementary to a large local authority/DWP led employability programme which has only recently started but at the moment, after extensive discussions, ILC can't see what it can do that adds value to this work beyond local organisations providing space for activities so nothing is included in this plan. The local authority sat on the Steering Group for almost two years talking about the upcoming Communities for Work programme but once details emerged and ILC discussed how it could work alongside the programme and add value to it, it became clear that there was no way of doing so and the group decided not to pursue this line of work.

The other aspect of work that has been anticipated under this priority has been preparing local people for the potential job opportunities that were supposed to come as part of the development of the Afan Park "leisure village" just above Caerau. However despite planning permission being obtained no further work has been done in this area and recent press reports suggest it may never go ahead.

### **Priority 2 Improve and sustain local provision and existing facilities.**

*This priority is about supporting and improving existing facilities; new facilities will be developed where there is an identified need. Existing organisations will work through Invest Local Caerau to promote collaboration and partnerships.*

Substantial work has been done on this priority.

At a headline level, facilities in the Church and Chapel have been enhanced for community activity with those taking place in the Chapel having been especially successful. In both cases there are now more people attending social activities in the two buildings. These include

- Regular social meals and a soup lunch in the church
- Tai Chi classes in the church
- A "Friends" group for people suffering from isolation and carers in the Chapel. This group now has some 25-30 attendees meeting twice a week and has secured support from Social Services, BAVO and the local GPs as they all feel it offers a substantial community based service which is of great benefit to local residents. The people running it have been recognised with a Volunteers' award from BAVO.

CDT (the local community centre) has used its revenues success from a much larger kitchen to provide wider services to local people; it now offers more meals and has won a contract to supply food to the local day care centre in Maesteg leading to them employing their first member of staff as a chef. As

the centre is now more well secure it is able to offer a home for a wider range of social activities and services which include debt advice, the Men's Shed, PCSOs, the cookery club, a craft group, the job club and holiday activities for young children as well as parties.

The BMX track has been able to run major cross border events having had parking facilities and the quality of the track improved and three major events drawing in riders from across southern Britain have been held there.

The Boxing Club's new ring has enabled them to keep going (they were at risk of closure). The children's boxing club has remained at similar numbers throughout but a new Boxercise class for women has attracted large number of regular attenders and is now the largest section in the club.

The rugby club now have their indoor training area in use which is likely to come into its own this winter (its first full winter of use) but is already in regular use by the club's own teams, local five a side football teams and the youth club which operates out of Noddfa. ILC will also, via the Credit Union receive a 10% return on money generated from hiring out of the facility which can be ploughed back into community activities in Caerau.

And finally funding has been allocated to allow the establishment of a *Community Furniture Aid* depot in the village which will provide essential support to vulnerable people being rehoused.

### **Priority 3 Support the health and well-being of the community**

*This priority will improve the mental and physical health of people in Caerau by improving access to recreational and educational opportunities*

A lot of work has also been done in this area, much of which has been underpinned by the capital spending funded under Priority 2 with community activities at Dyffryn and CDT especially enhanced.

In addition small scale funding has been provided for community based taster courses and equipment for community social activities and sporting activities for the less physically able. Strong links have also been made with relevant local authority staff and GP surgeries to open up access and awareness of ILC activities; this has allowed people suffering from isolation, physical conditions impacting on mobility and limiting conditions such as diabetes to access local support groups in community settings.

Following specific consultation with local residents, informal courses on cooking and IT skills are also being run with the former being especially successful in reaching younger women and ILC volunteers are holding on-going discussions with them on their future aspirations.

The largest project has been the funding of Children's and Youth clubs' provision in Noddfa and for a detached youth work service. This work has helped young people to develop skills and self-esteem which will help their personal development. The activities are intended to also allow for families of young people to access wider support available from other organisations working in Caerau. However due to poor relations between ILC and the Youth Club we have not been able to get full details from them of the impact of the work.

#### **Priority 4 – strengthen community pride, spirit and communication.**

*This priority will focus on communicating what the programme is about, celebrating successes, promoting cooperation between local organisations and providing community events.*

There has been extensive work to communicate Invest Local across Caerau through social media and periodic newsletters as well as information about specific projects. Nevertheless the steering group are pessimistic about the levels of understanding and knowledge this has generated with estimates that around 25% of the population have heard of Invest Local.

There have been a range of community events funded by the programme, many very well attended (including the restoration of the traditional Caerau Christmas tree) but efforts to promote the programme have often come second to efforts to make the events successful.

The group have also run a small grants scheme which has funded 5 groups but has rarely funded activities which met the original goal of the grant scheme and it is questionable what added value it provided. As a result the small grants scheme will not be part of this next plan, although funding for community events will be.

#### **Priority 5 - Improve the physical environment.**

*This priority is about the outside environment and should be a mix of small scale projects and larger ones which are self-sustaining.*

*Priority areas – stop the decline of parks; reduce fly tipping; rejuvenate neglected spaces*

*Promote sustainable investments which are self-maintaining and can generate income (Afan mountain biking is an example of what can be done)*

Little work has been done in this area so far and a lack of volunteers to move it forward has been a substantial challenge. A sub group was established to run small projects but attendance was consistently low and it was discontinued.

However residents have engaged in an initial feasibility study for the **Skyline** project, examining how publicly owned land around the village could be taken into community management or ownership. A number of ideas, promoting healthier lifestyles, community growing and development of income generating logging initiatives have been discussed and they now need examining in more detail.

In addition CDT have very recently developed a relationship with Keep Wales Tidy who will look to run smaller scale projects out of CDT and this may address some of the shortfalls in the earlier work.

#### **Success and Disappointments of Invest Local Caerau**

The biggest **successes** were grouped into four headings

- The funded projects and the impact they had had on local organisations and people benefiting from them
- The programme's impact on engaging and empowering residents to lead the programme themselves
- The establishment of the groups to run the programme and promoting cooperation between local groups
- Giving a really strong picture to the Lottery of what the Programme could achieve

The **Disappointments** were also identified under 8 main headings

- Breakdown of relationships between the majority of ILC members and two key organisations (Noddfa and Market Garden) which has hindered work with young people and the local environment
- People felt criticised despite putting a lot of work in
- Lack of commitment from groups who just took money and then offered little else while others who received money didn't meet their obligations in terms of reporting etc; this is linked to a breakdown in relationships between some groups involved in ILC.
- There was limited wider public awareness of ILC or willingness to get involved
- There was insufficient support from both BCT and the Fundholder and a lack of a development worker to help groups and guidance/systems were under developed (it has been recognised elsewhere that Caerau has to some extent led Invest local by often being the first place to do many things so hasn't been able to learn from others' experiences)
- The timescale was seen as problematic but in different ways; some people felt we spent too much time "completing flip charts" in year 1 while others felt we moved too fast
- Spending was seen as unbalanced with too much spent on one priority (so far)
- Some people felt that there was too little trust between different organisations in ILC
- The way some discussions had been held discouraged people from getting involved

### Summary

The achievements of ILC were broadly felt to be shared among what has been done and how well people have worked together. Disappointments were more varied and included issues relating to communication and involvement of other residents, a perceived lack of commitment from some groups, inadequacy of support and poor relationships between several people/organisations. There is a genuine disagreement about the timescales that make sense to make effective progress.

Moving forward there was a clear desire to address some of the involvement and communication challenges that had previously been identified and change the way in which meetings ran (to make them more enjoyable and less formal). There was also a wish to look at more long term support for local groups and to reflect strongly before spending lots more money and ensuring that money was spent with a clearer sense of purpose.

## **Development of this plan**

The new plan has been developed by Invest Local Caerau since the autumn of 2018 and has involved the group reassessing priorities, looking at lessons learned from the previous plan and identifying specific initiatives to move forward, based on areas of previous success.

The discussions around this plan have focussed on two aspects.

1 Build on the existing strengths of organisations in Caerau which provide services and activities for hundreds of people in the village and nearby areas. This appeared to be especially pertinent with the opportunity offered to the Football club with asset transfer and the rapid growth of the Men's Shed, now one of Wales' largest as well as the continual evolution of the development trust (CDT). Between them these three organisations alone regularly engage several hundred people on a weekly basis covering people of different backgrounds by age, gender and location across the village. And of course other organisations active in the village reach even further.

The discussions around supporting existing organisations focused very much on how to make them more sustainable and it was decided to develop a grant scheme specifically aimed at supporting sustainability which was largely defined in terms of generating income or cutting costs.

2. The second aspect was the question as to how much priority should be given to engaging people we felt were not as engaged with ILC as wished. In particular thought was given to how to engage with younger people and women with children who may not engage as much as we would like and who may experience more of the social pressures arising from poverty and low incomes in the area.

Our work to engage with younger people would naturally be channelled through Noddfa as the main youth organisation in the village. However that has been undermined by a deteriorating relationship with Noddfa which has not improved despite a range of different approaches to re-engaging with them. Alternatives to youth provision have been attempted but undermined by an outbreak of serious anti-social behaviour in the area which have deterred volunteers from starting new activities.

The work to engage with families has had some success especially with the cookery club which has engaged around a dozen younger women on a regular basis. The other aspect to this was the proposal to employ a community development worker to engage with specific groups that were felt to be excluded. Planning on this went into some detail; priority groups were identified (families on the Brynheulog estate); means of excluding duplication with existing work discussed and potential employer (BAVO) agreed along with a draft job description. However ultimately the Steering Group decided not to proceed with the post [following advice from BCT Trustees] at its meeting in February, preferring instead to concentrate on supporting existing groups as they were at the heart of sustainable community work in Caerau already.

The work of existing groups in engaging across the community is set out below

<b>Community Group</b>	<b>Membership Numbers (if relevant)</b>	<b>Location of members</b>	<b>Demographic</b>
Noddfa	No formal members but 50-70 weekly users	Caerau, mostly upper areas	For youth activities U15; majority female. For fitness 25-45 mostly female. Foodbank mostly U50s
Boxing Club	35-50	Across Caerau	Under 16; women over 25
Credit Union	546	Across Caerau	All ages including 200 children
UDC Dance	80-90	Across Caerau	U18; 95% female
Caerau FC	Around 150	Caerau and beyond (mostly Caerau for juniors)	About 2/3rds under 18; mostly male with women's section starting up
OAPs club	40-50	Caerau and beyond	95% women
Men's Shed	40-50	Caerau and beyond	All male; 90% over 60
CDT	No formal members but around 80-100 weekly users	Across Caerau but concentrated in central Caerau including Tudor estate	Very broad
Nantylfyllon RFC	220	Caerau and Nantylfyllon	Majority male and under 21; small female membership; close links to disability groups
Dyffryn Chapel	25	Caerau and around	Over 60; mostly female
St Cynfelyn's Church	20	Caerau and around	Mixed; mostly female
Dyffryn Friend's Group	30-35	Caerau and around	Older; mixed gender
BMX	Approx. 20-25	Caerau and around	Under 40; mostly male

The plan has been developed over 6-8 months of Steering Group meetings. A sub group has looked at the range of small scale initiatives to develop wellbeing activities and a distinct grant scheme was set up to fund initiatives which make existing groups more sustainable. This grant scheme was set up with specific criteria around sustainability and was then open to all groups in Caerau for a 3 month period. Applications were then assessed by a panel made up of 3 steering group members who were unaffiliated to any local group and two independent members (from the CVC and local authority) who then made recommendations to the Steering Group which were then accepted.

## This Plan

This plan makes a substantial contribution to the vision that Invest Local Caerau agreed two years ago. In particular it contributes to our goal of making “Caerau a strong confident community, offering social opportunities and support for all its residents. It will have a number of sustainable community organisations reaching out to all sections of the community, whose facilities and services are used and valued across Caerau”. In addition having key organisations stronger will boost self-confidence locally and make Caerau a place that people from surrounding areas come into for services and social activities with the value that our community and its organisations provide being recognised more widely. It will also recognise and build upon the enterprise shown by many of these organisations in making themselves stronger.

Doing this recognises that most of the community based work in Caerau is done **through** these existing organisations. This is where the volunteer effort goes, resources lie and skills exist. Sustainable community action depends on these organisations and helping them work more effectively and more collaboratively is at the heart of what Invest Local Caerau is trying to do.

The other key aspect of the work at the moment addresses the aspiration for “**People in Caerau to be healthier** and more able to look after themselves”. Much has been done already to promote wellbeing and mental health, especially among older people but activities for other age groups are being developed and will be continued during this plan.

In addition, as mentioned above ILC will look in more detail at the potential to develop the ideas from the Skyline feasibility study and this also may be added to this plan later.

The new priorities and key immediate actions are set out below. This table shows how the priorities contribute to the vision

<b>ILC Vision Strand</b>	<b>Priority</b>	<b>Key actions</b>
Caerau will become a <b>stronger community</b> , offering social opportunities and support for all its residents.	Improve and sustain local facilities	Strengthening local organisations and ensure their sustainability
Caerau will be a <b>more self-confident community</b> with its initiative and enterprise recognised locally and more widely in the region, banishing the stigma of previous years.	Strengthen community pride; improve and sustain local facilities	Stronger local community groups (including high profile sports clubs) attract people into the area and give it a “feel-good factor”
<b>People in Caerau will be healthier</b> and more able to look after themselves.	Support the Health and wellbeing of the community	Range of wellbeing initiatives run out of CDT; carers’ group; Men’s Shed activities; debt advice
<b>Caerau’s outstanding natural environment will be utilised</b>	Improve the physical environment	Examine potential of skyline; develop local clean up

to bring real material benefits to local people, drawing in tourists to the woodland development and BMX track and securing jobs from the Afan Parc development.		initiatives with CDT/Keep Wales Tidy partnership; local garden projects led by men's Shed (possibly market garden in future)
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## Caerau's Priorities

### Priority 1 Improve and sustain local provision and existing facilities.

Caerau has a lot of active local community organisations which provide a mix of community venues for open use, specific activities, locally provided services and locations for external bodies to come in and provide services. These provide major value for people in a quite isolated area and are the biggest asset on which our programme is built

This priority is about supporting and improving existing facilities and organisations; new facilities may be developed where there is an identified need. We will strongly encourage existing organisations to work through Invest Local Caerau to promote collaboration and partnerships.

In the lifetime of this plan support for local organisations will take three forms

1. A grant funding scheme for initiatives which enhance the sustainability of local organisations. The initiatives to be funded under this scheme are set out in the table below; monitoring arrangements are in Annex 2.

### Sustainability projects for this plan

Name of Organisation	Outline of project	Cost	Sustainability benefits arising from project	Links to Consultation
Caerau Development Trust	Funding for installation of solar panels and cheaper internal lighting	20,250	Intended to significantly reduce electricity costs of the centre	Supports existing facility which provides range of services for people on low incomes and venue for social activities, especially for older people
Nantyyffyllon RFC	Laying new pitch outside clubhouse	40,000 (contribution)	Playing matches at the club's proper home will bring in substantial bar income on match days and reduce costs of hiring council pitches (which will go up significantly next year)	Providing sports facilities in the area (including for women and people with disabilities)
Caerau FC	Planning Fees for new ground and then part funding building of new stand and installation of fence	58150	Establishing a permanent base for the football club will both provide a high quality venue for football in the village and allow the club to generate income from pitch hire and make significant savings from renting out other pitches	Providing sports facilities in the area (including for women and people with disabilities)
Caerau Men's Shed	Purchase and fitting out of Men's Shed premises including workshops and storage space	27600	The Men's Shed is increasingly able to generate income from commissioned carpentry and other DIY work which is also enjoyed by its members. However it lacks both work and storage space and the	Activities for older people, especially men; activities which improve mental health

			provision of that space will allow it to take on more work, meeting the needs of a greater number of organisations and increasing its income.	
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2. Support for community organisations in Caerau to network and learn from each other and others; this will come through ILC itself, through BCT's shared learning programme and through work with county wide networks that we can access via collaboration with BAVO
3. Support in fundraising for individual organisations in Caerau so that they develop the skills and confidence to raise external funds beyond what Invest Local can provide. This will be provided via an officer employed in BAVO and has already been funded via a Bridge Funding application to get the officer in post close to the time that the rest of the plan starts

**Priority 2 Support the health and well-being of the community**

This priority will improve the mental and physical health of people in Caerau by improving access to recreational, educational and peer support opportunities.

ILC has already has success in providing social activities which have brought people together, allowed them to make new friendships and connections and learn and share skills. This work has included two Friends' groups which have helped people suffering from loneliness and isolation and with long term medical conditions; a cookery club which has mostly included younger women and some informal learning activities. These activities will continue and are likely to develop with an informal youth club for older teenagers and a diabetic's support group likely to be added to the existing activities. We will also explore the feasibility of establishing a community cinema with films aimed at a range of different age groups and interests.

These activities are all held in existing community venues and run by volunteers with a small amount of support from statutory services in some cases. This keeps costs down so long as the venues themselves are suitable.

There is also a desire to support local people who are struggling with debt. Specific support for the local community credit union is intended to both encourage (and make accessible) savings, especially for children and to provide a specific debt advice and management service on a one to one basis for those facing financial crisis.

The Credit Union will receive one year's funding for staffing and running costs to keep both the office in Caerau & savings club in Caerau Primary school running, as well as running drop in clinics in local community organisations and detailed 1:1 debt management advice. The funding itself is a short term investment but does however continue work to develop a savings culture among young people in Caerau, provide accessible financial services to the village and offers debt management support for people facing serious debt problems. It addresses the priority identified in the consultation of *Providing support to families in managing money*

Caerau also benefits from the presence of a substantial Youth project – Noddfa – but their work has not as yet informed the thinking in this plan. ILC wants to work with them over the coming months to develop more young people focused work and this may be added to the plan when ready.

**Priority 3 – strengthen community pride, spirit and communication.**

This priority will focus on communicating what the programme is about, celebrating successes, promoting cooperation between local organisations and providing community events. This will include sharing information about ILC to raise awareness and understanding of the programmer; work targeted at reaching particular groups and events and entertainment within the community. The group will also look to provide for a greater understanding of its successes beyond Caerau through work with the local press where possible.

**Priority 4 - Improve the physical environment.**

This priority is about maximising the sustainable use of Caerau’s outstanding physical environment for the benefit of residents. Little progress was made during the first plan but the Skyline feasibility study gives this work a focus which has not been there before which will be discussed and built upon in the coming months. If further feasibility work identifies a clear way forward additions may be made to the plan during the next year.

Smaller scale environmental work is taking place through CDT which has recently established a partnership with Keep Wales tidy to support local volunteers undertaking clean-up activities. Additionally the Men’s Shed is working on local community flower beds and growing areas and there is the intention of re-engaging with Caerau Market Garden in the near future.

### Funded actions' contributions to meeting the priorities

Name of Organisation	Outline of project	Priority Met	Other Priorities Contributed to
Caerau Development Trust	Funding for installation of solar panels and cheaper internal lighting	Improve and sustain local provision and existing facilities.	<p>Support the health and well-being of the community; many wellbeing activities are run from and by CDT.</p> <p>Strengthen community pride, spirit and communication; CDT is a hub for community activities and people both attend social activities and access information from there</p> <p>Improve the physical environment; the links to the Men's Shed and Keep Wales Tidy enable local environmental work.</p>
Credit Union	Funding for staffing & running costs to keep office savings club in Caerau Primary school running as well as drop in clinics in local community organisations & 1:1 debt advice.	Support the health and well-being of the community	strengthen community pride, spirit and communication; Credit Union are an effective sharer of information around the community and hold most of the information relating to ILC
Nantyffyllon RFC	Laying new pitch outside clubhouse	Improve and sustain local provision and existing facilities.	Support the health and well-being of the community; this is both by the range of sports activities held at the club (including the indoor training area) and their work in promoting sports to women and girls and social activities for people with disabilities
Caerau FC	Planning Fees for new ground & part funding building of new stand & installation of fence	Improve and sustain local provision and existing facilities.	Support the health and well-being of the community by providing footballing opportunities for people from a wide range of backgrounds including women and girls and children
Caerau Men's Shed	Purchase & fitting out of Men's Shed premises including	Improve and sustain local provision and existing facilities.	Support the health and well-being of the community but helping older men address issues of isolation;

	workshops & storage space		strengthen community pride, spirit and communication in offering a highly popular and well regarded club which disseminates information very effectively  Improve the physical environment with some of the gardening and growing work they do.
Wellbeing Actions	Support groups and activities for people facing loneliness and isolation and wanting to develop specific skills	Support the health and well-being of the community	
Fundraising Post	Develop fundraising capacity among local groups	Improve and sustain local provision and existing facilities.	strengthen community pride, spirit and communication in promoting networking and information sharing across organisations in Caerau

## **Budget**

### Priority 1 – Strengthening Local Organisations

Sustainability Grant funding £ 146,000 (details above)

Fundraiser costs £45,066

**Total £191,066**

### Priority 2 Wellbeing Activities

Wellbeing courses/activities £13,400 (incl community cinema trial)

Credit Union Project £28,374

**Total £41,774**

### Priority 3 Strengthen Community Pride and Communications

£16,000

### Programme Management and support

ILC Administrator £6,600

Room hire for meetings £4,500 (This is set at £15 per meeting)

**Total £11,100**

Fundholder costs: £ 12 997 (5% of final budget excluding own projects; tbc)

**Total costs £ 272 937 (Sept 2019-Sept 2021)**

## Annex 1 – Original ILC Community Profile and Consultation Findings

### Community Profile

Caerau is a former mining village, originally established around 1900, at the head of the Llynfi Valley with a population of around 4,000 which is in general younger than the average for Bridgend County Borough.

The area has 1,850 houses, the large majority of which are privately owned; there are two quite small social housing estates – Tudor and Bryn Heulog and other pockets of social housing – which are now owned by Valleys to Coast housing association.

The village consists of two defined areas, normally called Lower Caerau and Blaencaerau, with Lower Caerau largely being the flat area at the bottom of the valley and Blaencaerau occupying the sides of the hill at the end of the Valley. These are widely – but not universally - felt to be distinct areas and certainly the hills of Blaencaerau (including the Caerau Park estate) can be difficult for people with mobility problems.

Caerau has a number of community groups and voluntary organisations which have been in existence over a number of years, indicating the successful history of engagement by the residents of the area. These groups are well supported by residents from all age groups and include a number of skilled volunteers who are well able to enhance the development of ILC in the community.

### Community buildings and facilities

There are a large number of community facilities in the village which include:

- Several pubs and social clubs, notably the Riverboat
- A large amateur football club (as well as three other sports fields with changing rooms)
- Two active community projects – CDT and Noddfa which both host learning activities, social groups and emergency food provision (Noddfa a food bank and CDT free surplus food distribution)
- An award-winning community garden in Blaencaerau and allotments in lower Caerau
- A local office for the Llynfi Valley credit union
- A bowls club
- GPs Surgery at Woodland’s Terrace
- A community building owned by Caerau Old Age
- A BMX track designed to national competition standards
- A number of small shops, a post office, chemist and take away

Caerau borders on another village, Nantyffyllon which has a large Miners Institute and the closest rugby club and is only two miles from Maesteg, the nearest town. To the north is the village of Croeserw and beyond that the villages populating the Afan Valley.

### Community groups

Operating from these buildings (and elsewhere) are a large range of social and community groups, which include:

- An OAP group running social activities mostly at the Duffryn Chapel
- Youth and children's clubs at Noddfa
- Caerau Market Garden
- A boxing club
- An award-winning dance club, UDC
- A range of social activities and informal classes at CDT
- BMX club
- Bowling Club
- Friends of Brynheulog tenants group
- Two football clubs (Caerau Athletic and Caerau All Whites)

There are also a range of community based services in the area including Flying Start groups in the school and at the Old Age centre, Families First and two job clubs (at CDT and Noddfa).

Caerau is perceived as suffering from poverty and social deprivation to a greater extent than many other communities in the county borough and statistics in a number of areas underline this and these are reinforced by local peoples' perceptions of the area. <sup>i</sup>

In particular

**Transport** is seen as a problem: 40% of people have no access to a car (almost twice the Welsh average)

**Child Poverty** is very high and 48% of children live in poverty (more than twice the Welsh average)

**Crime rates** are higher than the Welsh average with violent crime and criminal damage about one quarter higher than the Welsh average.

The **Health** of younger people is much worse than in Wales as whole with around 30% of people under 65 suffering from a long term illness (twice Welsh average); 7% of babies in Caerau are born underweight – across Wales the figure is 5%

**Education results** are poor: Half of people under 65 have no qualifications – twice the number for Wales as a whole. Pupil attainment in Caerau at Primary School age is 10% below the Welsh average; by secondary school age it is 17% below average. About 11% of young people in Caerau attend High Education; across Wales the figure is 33%

**Employment:** Around half of all working age people are not in work or looking for work (the Welsh average is about a third); these are divided roughly equally between people who are very unwell and people who are looking after very unwell people; it is estimated that there are around 350 registered carers in Caerau (almost certainly meaning the real number is quite a lot higher).

Many people working in Caerau are in relatively low paid jobs in shops and social care; a reasonable number also work in manufacturing (which may pay better)

On the positive side the quality of the local environment is rated good with much lower air pollution and lower flood risk than the Welsh average and local people frequently rate the local environment as being a real plus about living here.

## Community Consultation – What do People in Caerau think?

Between July and November 2017 a range of consultation exercises were carried out with people in Caerau. Around 600 people (15% of the total population) have given their views;

### People in Caerau value:

- The community spirit and friendliness of the area
- The quality of the local environment
- The range of social activities in the village, including sport and the BMX track
- The value provided by organisations such as Noddfa (mentioned most), CDT, Dyffryn Chapel, the Market Garden and the school

### What people would like to improve?

- Providing more activities for young people, including sports facilities and play opportunities
- Tackling the area's drug problems
- Providing better advice for families including on managing money
- More activities for older people, including some targeted at men
- Helping people improve skills including IT skills
- Making the community safer

most respondents were women or girls with the majority either under 25 or over 55 (see table below). People talked about what they value about the community, what's important

### What's important to people in Caerau:

- Living close to Friends and Family
- Living in a safe area
- The availability of activities for younger people (including sports, dance and social activities)
- Social activities for older people
- Staying healthy
- Having access to good education
- The availability of better paying jobs

to them, and what they'd like to see improved.

However discussions around Caerau have also revealed two other factors

- Although people value the number of community organisations in Caerau and all the work they do, there is a feeling that they could work better together. Some progress has been made in this direction and has been visible during the consultation work but there is more to do.
- There is an acknowledgement that Caerau “has a bad name” from some people living outside the area and that this can lead to people from Caerau facing stigmatisation from others, including from some service providers.

In reviewing the consultation Steering Group members were aware that it had certain limitations; clearly some groups had been reached more than others (men and the middle aged were less represented) and that the nature of the discussions (often held in public, in groups) would reduce the likelihood of more personally challenging issues being expressed. In deed the small number of consultations with individuals by trusted workers did bring out rather different priorities. Nevertheless the consultation did engage substantial numbers of local people and it provides a good basis for starting the programme, however some of those issues will be addressed as the programme develops.

## Annex 2 – Monitoring and Evaluation Arrangements for Principal strands of activity

Name of Organisation	Outline of project	Proof of success	Measurements
Caerau Development Trust	Funding for installation of solar panels and cheaper internal lighting	Reduced electricity costs  Growing surplus	Fuel Bills  Financial Reports
Credit Union	Funding for staffing & running costs to keep office savings club in Caerau Primary school running as well as drop in clinics in local community organisations & 1:1 debt advice.	Numbers of savers  Volume of savings  People adopting debt management plans  the amount of loans taken out by Caerau CU members  The number of volunteering opportunities provided by CU	Credit union membership records  Turnover figures  Data recorded on people in debt  CU records  CU records
Nantyllyllon RFC	Laying new pitch outside clubhouse	Increased income/Bar takings on Saturdays  Increased numbers of matches played at home  Reduced outgoings (on pitch hire)  Social events held at the club	Accounts – information on income and expenditure
Caerau FC	Planning Fees for new ground & part funding building of new stand & installation of fence	More football played in Caerau  Income generated through pitch hire; savings in reduced external costs	Club records on games played and membership  Accounts – information on income and expenditure
Caerau Men's Shed	Purchase & fitting out of Men's Shed premises including workshops & storage space	Production of more materials for sale  Rising membership  Increased skills and sense of well-being of members	Increased income  Records of work completed  Membership records; self-reported wellbeing of Men's Shed members
Wellbeing Actions	Support groups and activities for people facing	Reported personal wellbeing	[look at routes to do this]  Club/course records.

	loneliness and isolation and wanting to develop specific skills	Numbers of people engaging in social activities supported by ILC	Personal stories
Fundraising Post	Develop fundraising capacity among local groups	Funding secured from other funders Collaboration between groups (local and otherwise)	Groups' records Feedback from supported groups

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<sup>i</sup> All data in this plan is taken from Community Insights <https://www.communityinsight.org/> and is correct as of 2016