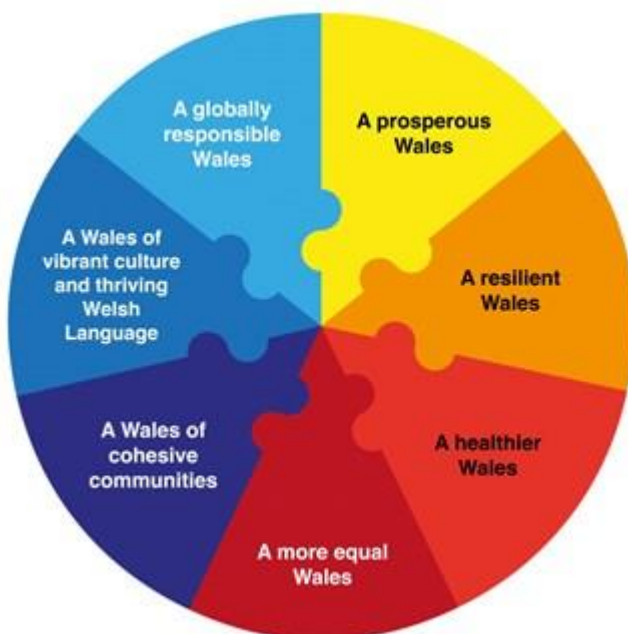


CAIA PARK COMMUNITY COUNCIL



Annual report on the Well-Being of Future Generations Act (Wales) 2015 for 2021-22



About this report

Wales faces a number of challenges now and in the future, such as climate change, poverty, health inequalities and jobs and growth. To tackle these, we need to work together. To give current and future generations a good quality of life we need to think about the long-term impact of the decisions we make.

The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 gives a legally binding common purpose – the seven well-being goals – for national government, local government, local health boards and other specified public bodies. It details the ways in which specified public bodies must work and work together to improve the well-being of Wales.

This report describes how Caia Park Community Council has contributed to the seven well-being goals for the community.

2021-22 has been a very challenging year due to the continuing Covid 19 pandemic with no interaction between the Public Service Board or Community Council. The PSB reveals that it has not produced an annual report for the year (in accordance with statutory procedures) because of the work being done to produce the next well-being plan. The PSB has been working closely with Flintshire PSB on a recovery strategy to support community resilience and an assessment of well-being has been carried out. This assessment can be viewed on the PSB website.

Community Council services have been affected but not as significantly as in 2020-21 in the light of Covid restrictions.

Wrexham Public Service Board (PSB) (www.wrexhampsb.org)

The Community Council, because it is a larger community council with a precept in excess of £200k, is also required to ensure that it complies with and contributes to the objectives of the Local Well-Being Plan 2018-2023 as produced by the Wrexham Public Services Board. The Public Service Board (PSB) published its first annual report in June 2019 detailing progress on its determined objectives. The PSB have agreed 15 objectives but for 2018-19 focussed on 2 main objectives:

- All people have opportunities to learn and develop throughout their lives
- Children and young people are given a healthy start in life

They also agreed to focus on two or three additional objectives each year over the five- year plan period, covering all 15 by 2023. In Year 1 these were:

- People have positive mental health
- People can live healthily, happily and independently in their old age
- People are able to make healthy choices.

The challenge for the Community Council is to demonstrate how it can make a positive contribution given that these objectives are strategically determined and of more relevance to the staffed larger statutory bodies who can more effectively influence their progress. All community councils have their own local priorities which are important to their communities as well as having to manage within an agreed budget. Budgetary pressures, which are exacerbated by the cost of devolved functions previously funded by the principal authority, can create tensions and limit what a community council can be realistically expected to provide. Additionally, to date, there has been no clear communication with the community council sector from the PSB or advice on how the sector can meaningfully contribute to the objectives.

The Community Council has therefore focussed on contributing to some of the 15 objectives in the PSB plan whilst “mapping” its activities within the seven well-being goals. The other 10 objectives within the five-year plan are:

- The town is vibrant and welcoming
- There are good employment opportunities in Wrexham
- There is a range of things for people to do in their spare time
- The economy in rural areas is well supported and can thrive
- All people have access to good quality, appropriate homes throughout their lives
- People can travel easily around the county and beyond
- The Welsh language is thriving
- Tourism supports the local economy
- The county borough is a safe place to live
- Our communities are prepared for the future.

The seven well-being goals for Wales

The well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 outlines seven well-being goals which need to be considered when drawing up local objectives. A description of each well-being goal and the issues identified within that theme is provided below. All of the issues identified in this needs analysis are cross cutting and impact on more than one of these spheres of well-being.

Prosperous (1)	An innovative, productive and low carbon society which recognises the limits of the global environment and therefore uses resources efficiently and proportionately (including acting on climate change); and which develops a skilled and well educated population in an economy which generates wealth and provides employment opportunities, allowing people to take advantage of the wealth generated through securing decent work.
Resilient (2)	A nation which maintains and enhances a biodiverse natural environment with health functioning eco systems that support social, economic and ecological resilience and the capacity to adapt to change (for example climate change)
Healthier (3)	A society in which people’s physical and mental well-being is maximised and in which choices and behaviours that benefit future health are understood
More equal (4)	A society that enables people to fulfil their potential no matter what their background or circumstances (including their socio-economic background and circumstances)
Cohesive communities (5)	Attractive, viable safe and well-connected communities
Vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language (6)	A society that promotes and protects culture, heritage and the Welsh language, and which encourages people to participate in the arts and sports and recreation.
Globally responsive (7)	A nation which, when doing anything to improve the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales, takes account of whether doing such a thing may make a positive contribution to global well-being

Matrix showing cross-cutting themes

Some of the activities of Caia Park Community Council towards the well-being goals are cross cutting and impact on more than one of these spheres of well-being. The grids below give an interpretation of how each contribution might fit within the list of well-being goals. Activities this year have been hampered by the pandemic and as such some have not taken place.

Prosperous (1)	Resilient (2)	Healthier (3)	More equal (4)	Cohesive (5)	Culture (6)	Globally responsive (7)
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1	2	3	4	5	6	7
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1.	The Community Advice Service						
2.	Play Provision						
3.	School crossing patrols						
4.	Maintenance and repair of public play facilities						
5.	Youth work						
6.	Climate change / biodiversity/Environment						
7.	Financial assistance						
8.	Pentre Gwyn Community Centre						
9.	Crime prevention and reduction						
10.	Community Agent						
11.	Mental Health Project (Commenced April 2021)						
12.	Competent Council						

1. Community Advice Service

The Community Council invests in providing a free advice service for all residents of Caia Park. This service has been reshaped because of Covid 19 and now relies on pre-booked appointments and telephone consultations rather than a drop in and wait service. Staff have been operational from the community council offices rather than working from home.

Advice offered can cover any benefit related or debt issue as well as more generalist advice on any number or range of topics. It is also authorised to issue food bank vouchers to eligible residents and complete debt relief orders.

The costs of the service are met entirely by the Community Council (approx. 38% of the total Council precept income) The Advice Workers do provide two sessions per week for a neighbouring council on a cost recovery basis. Clearly, to provide an efficient service there is a requirement for appropriate administrative and I.T. support with specially commissioned computer software packages. The service has been delivered this year by 1 full time and two part time staff. (2.19 full time equivalent)

The Community Council is mindful of the pressures placed on families within the community with Queensway and Wynnstay Wards being in the top 10% most deprived areas for children in Wales and ranking 1st and 2nd in the highest areas of multiple deprivation. By providing this service, the Community Council is make a positive contribution to assist.

In the reporting year 2021-22 the Advice Service still faced very unusual time due to the Covid pandemic; the Advice Service has had to change and adapt to provide advice and support to community of Caia Park as well as supporting the staff to provide the advice service.

The total number of clients contacted and taken on as a case for the last 12 months was 2444, this is an increase of 17.5% over the previous year. We also assisted 40 out of area clients which is a similar figure to the previous year.

Clients by Ward:

Cartrefle	599
Queensway	804
Smithfield	254
Whitegate	271
Wynnstay	516
Total	2444

From the assistance offered, financial gains to clients amounted to over £987,000 in 2021/22. The total level of debt presented to the service was £636,386 for 366 clients and the Advice Service was able to help 20 clients out of debt by writing off £162,459.

The Advice Service helped 122 clients regarding their homes where eviction was averted, or homelessness prevented. This included 54 clients with outstanding rent arrears totalling over £80k.

2. Play Provision

In 2021-22 the Community Council made financial provision to fund play sessions located at Gwenfro Valley (Whitegate Ward) and The Venture (Wynnstay Ward) as these are both established play settings. The sessions amount to two per week at each location with some additional ones over the summer holiday period at Gwenfro Valley. The service at Gwenfro Valley is provided by Wrexham County Borough Council Play Development Team.

Both the Play Development Team and The Venture reconfigured their services to respond to the pressures of the pandemic. The cost of these two service level agreements amounts to £32,112 although the Wrexham Play Development Team costs were reduced by £8663 due to a successful external funding bid.

3. School crossing patrols

In 2013, Wrexham County Borough Council decided to withdraw funding for the school crossing patrols based in the community as the volume of traffic and perceived risk did not meet their criteria. Accordingly, they invited the Community Council to fund the provision. The Community Council undertook a community survey and the school crossing patrols featured most highly as a valued service and so the Council decided to fund them.

At the time, there were three manned school crossings – Holt Road (Alexandra School) Deva Way (Hafod y Wern School) and Queensway (Gwenfro School). As the Holt Road crossing also had a pedestrian controlled traffic light crossing, it was decided to relocate that member of staff to Prince Charles Road to cover St Anne’s R.C. Primary school.

Given that there is a number of children of primary school age who make their journey to and from school unaccompanied, the Community Council have always felt that this service is important for health and safety reasons.

The service continued throughout the year as and when schools were allowed to open. Unfortunately, a vacancy at Gwenfro school is still unfilled. The cost of this service (without the vacancy) is £ 9700.

4. Maintenance and Repair of public play facilities

In 2013, Wrexham County Borough Council decided to withdraw funding for the future maintenance, inspection and repair of equipped playgrounds within the community and offered these via a service level agreement to the Community Council or the facilities would close and any equipment removed.

There are six equipped play areas:

Bala Road	Pont Wen	Prince Charles Road
Pentre Gwyn	Abenbury Fields	Rear of Benjamin Road

Two multi use games areas:

Prince Chares Road Queensway (Whitegate)

And one skate park and chat shelter adjacent to the Queensway Sports Centre.

The inspection/maintenance costs this year was £14,264 and in addition, the Community Council has spent £10,600 on repairs to equipment and surfaces due to increased vandalism and aging equipment.

5. Youth Work

The Community Council traditionally funded the provision of three outreach sessions per week. The service is provided by Caia Park Partnership (CPP). This year the service was reconfigured to provide premises-based youth club provision when it would not normally take place (i.e school holidays).

- 6. The Gardening competition and Community Litter pick** were not held in year due to the Covid restrictions although the Community Council have supported volunteer litter picks by resourcing equipment and litter bags to support the Wrexham Litter Pickers Group. These are volunteers who make a missive impact in helping to keep the community litter free.

Climate change/ biodiversity/Environment

The Council is conscious of the need to act responsibly and to try and influence the wider community. The Community Council in 2019, formally declared a climate change emergency and endeavour to use this to influence its ways of working. The Council is not responsible (as owners) for any open space or premises within the community other than its own offices and so is confined to trying to influence others.

Member representatives take part in the Green Infrastructure Project (led by Wrexham CBC and funded via Welsh Government). As part of this, some of the ground within the curtilage of the community council offices was planted with for wildflowers in 2021 supplemented with the planting of fruit trees. The Community Council actively supported the Green Infrastructure Project and purchase some tree guards to protect newly planted trees in year.

7. Financial Assistance

The Council support organisations which help people with particular needs or provide a service to Caia Park. Through the Financial Assistance Grant Scheme, the Council awarded grants to voluntary or charitable groups primarily based or working in the community. In 2021/22 such groups included:

Advance Brighter Futures	284.80
Caia Park Environment Group	200.00
Hafod y Wern C.P.	500.00
Hope House Hospice	200.00
Family Friends	100.00
Llangollen Musical Eisteddfod	100.00
Marie Curie	50.00
Mencap Cymru	50.00
Offa C.C. Xmas event	200.00
Offa C.C. RWF Memorial Garden	500.00
Nightingale House Hospice	1000.00
N. W. Police (crime prevention items)	493.10
Pentre Gwyn Older People's Group (Christmas)	1000.00
Urdd Denbighshire Eisteddfod 2022	50.00
Wales Air Ambulance	200.00
Wrexham Allotment Gardeners	100.00

The grant given to Pentre Gwyn Older People's Group was to support a community event to mitigate the social isolation as a result of Covid 19. The event was also financially supported by Wrexham County Borough Council.

8. Pentre Gwyn Community Centre

The Community Council continues to support the Trustees of the Pentre Gwyn, Tan y Coed and Coed y Bryn Residents Association who now manage their landholding and have a long lease from Wrexham County Borough Council on the community centre building.

The Trustees are now in a position where the centre is largely self-sufficient. They have attracted support from businesses to enhance the fabric of the building and took advantage of the Covid Grants on offer and have a small, dedicated volunteer base to undertake day to day functions.

9. Crime prevention and reduction

With two of the five community wards being recognised within the Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation (WIMD) statistics as areas of high deprivation the Council is mindful of the challenges that face the community and the need to support and work with the local Police.

There is a dedicated monthly agenda item to consider crime statistics and discuss with members and representatives of the Police any issues or trends. Coupled with this, the Council have and will continue to financially support initiatives subject to finance being available.

The Queensway Ward was fortunate in being identified for Home Office funding under the Safer Streets initiative in 2020. A sum of £500,000 was awarded for administration by the N. Wales Police and Wrexham County Borough Council with some projects being delivered

locally by organisations within the community. Comprehensive enhanced CCTV provision, selected demolition and alley gating have taken place.

The Community Council have funded an interactive speed sign to be located on Hightown Road which is now in place.

10. Community Agent Scheme

The Community Council employ a part-time Community Agent (16 hrs per week) funded by Wrexham County Borough Council via a grant they receive from Welsh Government. The role of the agent is to primarily work with the over 50 age range and identify, often by referral from other agencies such as GP practices and adult social care, those in the community who may need support or are particularly vulnerable. They are responsible for signposting residents who are seeking help to the relevant agency. They also get involved with voluntary groups such as luncheon clubs to try and minimise social isolation. This year, the method of working has continued to rely on remote working and telephone interaction with the client base.

11. Mental Health Project Worker

This year, the Mental Health Project based at Caia Park Partnership commenced in April 2021. This is funded by the Community Council in partnership with Betsi Cadwalladr University Health Board and Caia Park Partnership (Local Conversation Programme funded). The service is delivered by MIND.

12. Well-being:

The Community Council funded a publicly accessible defibrillator and jointly funded a second one in partnership with Abenbury Community Council. These are located at the Housing estate Office at Churchill Drive and Pentre Gwyn Community Centre. During the year, the County Borough Council with grant funding, installed a footpath linking Kings Mill with Hightown Road to promote active travel and this has since been supplemented with lighting.

12. Competent Council

Finally, these are challenging times for community councils. The Council faces many new challenges and opportunities, and it is important to be ready to be fit for the future. A number of competency tests and reporting requirements are emerging.

In May 2022 the Council elections were held with some boundary changes affecting Whitegate, Smithfield and Wynnstay Wards as well as returning an extra community councillor (now 15)

As at 2021-22 (pre-election) the position was:

- All councillors (14) have been declared elected with no co-options. 9 of the councillors were elected following a ballot and 4 were elected unopposed.
- The current Clerk has appropriate professional qualifications (although not CILCA) and is a County Councillor.
- The Council's budget is in excess of £200k

The Council has received an unqualified (no matters to raise) external audit report again in 2020/21 and this has been consistent since 2001. Agendas, minutes, accounts, and contact details can be found at www.caiapark.gov.uk. The community can email the Clerk at clerk@caiapark.gov.uk

Rate Estimates BUDGET 2021/2022

INCOME

Precept	230,040
Interest on Investments	30
Rent & letting fees: Prince Charles Rd	1,000
Sundry Income	15
Community Advice Service	6,429
Community Agent	10,833

TOTAL INCOME	248,347

EXPENDITURE

s.137 Donations	5,000
General Administration	36,637
Community Advice service	95,167
Prince Charles Road	16,158
Amenities & Environment	4,000
Children's Services:	
Play areas	14,441
Repairs play areas	1,030
School crossing	13,918
CPP outreach SLA	8,240
Wrexham Play Development Team	16,430
Venture SLA	16,140
Footway Lighting	0
Traffic Calming	0
External Grants Comm Agent	10,833
Mental Health Project	8,226
Misc.	-----
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	246,190
SURPLUS	2,157

	248,347

Based on Tax Base 2021/2022: 3834

COUNCIL MEMBERS: (as at May 2022)**CARTREFLE WARD (3 MEMBERS)****CARTREFLE (3)**

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Appendix 3

Some of our partners and associated groups

- Caia Park Partnership Ltd
- Deva House Day Centre
- The Venture
- Wrexham Play Development Team
- Wrexham County Borough Council
- Wrexham Mission Area / St Marks Church
- Local businesses including Tesco, Mecca, Sainsbury, Wrexham Motoring Supplies, Caia Barbers Shop, Co-op, Happy Hedgehog Café.
- Gwenfro, Hafod y Wern and St Anne's Primary schools
- Keep Wales Tidy
- Wrexham Litter pickers
- Pentre Gwyn Community Centre (Trustees)
- Caia Park Environmental Group
- William & John Jones Trust
- Pentre Gwyn Pensioners Club
- Nightingale House
- Urdd Eisteddfod
- North Wales Police & PCSO's