

Bank Balances and Accounts for Payment -**December 2023**

Bank Balances	Current	£8,094.05
	Deposit	£174,378.83
	Play Area	£8,889.70

Payments Received

19/11/2023 Mrs Grimshaw	Defib Donation	£100.00
30/11/2023 FCC	Match Funding	£10,000.00
04/12/2023 HSBC	Interest	£858.76

Bank Transfers**Unpresented Cheques/Payments**

Payment Method	Payee	Details	Amount
Bacs	Flintshire County Council	Streetlighting Maintenance (pym rd)	£474.00
Bacs	Cherry Orchard Farm Ltd	2 x 10ft Christmas Trees - (Hawarden estate)	£240.00
Bacs	Mega Electrical NW Ltd	Install & deorate PYF & PYM Xmas Lights (inc clock)	£2,778.00
Bacs	Mega Electrical NW Ltd	Install & decorate - Dobshill Xmas Lights	£477.00
Bacs	Mega Electrial	Installation of Defib Kiosk & Bowling Club	£780.00
Bacs	Flintshire County Council	Streetlighting Maintenance (park lane)	£237.00
Bacs	WoodsWork CIC	Nature Area Management	£340.00
Bacs	Mr C Jones	Mileage and Expenses	£18.45
Bacs	Mrs S Hughes	Mileage and Expenses	£17.10
Bacs	Staffing Cost	01/11/2023 (inc back pay to april 2023)	£6,195.29
	HSBC	Monthly Charge	£5.00
	Manually Add approved Grant - Trinity Chapel?		
			£11,561.84
PLAY AREA ACCOUNT			
Payment Method	Payee	Details	Amount
	HSBC	Monthly Charge	£5.00
			£5.00

Note:

Mammoth workwear - £150.14 approved in Oct 2023, only part order has been processed/delivered and therefore the payment was only £109.27. Accounts amended accordingly

Chairman of Council:

Vice Chairman of Council:

Clerk & RFO:

Date:

Payments Authorised by two Bank Signatories

Bank Signatory:

Bank Signatory:

From: Darren Morris <Darren.Morris@flintshire.gov.uk>
Sent: 13 November 2023 16:59
Subject: Flintshire 2024 Summer Playscheme and Community Provisions Costs

I hope this email finds you all well.

I would like to present to you the plans and costs for the 2024 Summer Playschemes:

During a recent Scrutiny Committee several recommendations were supported by the elected councillors, the relevant recommendations for your attention as town and community councils are outlined below:

1. *The Committee support the Play Development Team in liaising with Town and Community Councils around a three-year cycle in principle funding cycle for play provisions.*
2. *That the Committee endorse the Play Development team to liaise with Town and Community Councils to opt for either a three or six-week sites only, to allow ease of recruitment, planning, business continuity and efficient use of resources.*

Point 1 – Three Year Funding Cycle

Flintshire Play Development experiences a significant annual staff turnover, posing challenges in delivering top-quality services. It is difficult to train and retain staff to provide the highest quality of provision to children in Flintshire due to the short term commitment of funding and lack of long-term funding availability. The staff turnover and lack of job security present substantial issues, resulting in the regular departure of highly skilled team workers. To retain and attract experienced staff and to provide the highest quality service within our Communities, it is imperative that we have the capacity to plan for the long-term.

We'd like to liaise with you as Town and Community Councils to explore the possibility of aligning with our 3-year cycle. This would enable me, as the Lead Officer, to engage in more long-term planning and better support our goal of building a sustainable service. We understand that not everyone may want to adopt the 3-year cycle, and we respect those who prefer to maintain the 12-month agreement. However, by choosing to opt in, we can initiate our processes well in advance and plan aspects like marketing with greater foresight. It must be stressed that the ask is for an agreement in principle subject to an annual review and that there is a mutual understanding that funding settlements in this current climate are difficult to predict.

Flintshire Play Development is planning an innovative and sustainable future to our delivery and commitment to children in Flintshire. Using the successful summer holiday provision as a blueprint, the aim is to provide holiday provisions during all school holidays. There is universal agreement of the benefits that the summer programme has on children's wellbeing, and this would be beneficial for children during all seasons. Community provision during term time will allow children the opportunity to engage with our service and their peers in a safe and supervised activity.

Future Sustainability: In order to establish a sustainable service for the foreseeable future, it is imperative that the Lead Officer can devise a long-term strategy. To achieve this, we seek a commitment from our partners and other stakeholders for a three-year agreement. This commitment will have several significant benefits:

1. **Enhanced Provisions:** It will enable the Play Development Team to expand its operations, providing a more extensive range of provisions throughout the year.
2. **Skill Development:** This will facilitate the delivery of comprehensive training programs, ensuring that our team is highly qualified and capable. And will allow us to have pride in our quality as well as our quantity.
3. **Stability for Staff:** Additionally, a multi-year commitment will provide medium-long term job security for our staff, fostering their confidence and commitment to the team.

This collaborative approach will pave the way for a sustainable and thriving service moving forward. As part of our future commitment, we will be measuring our success on both quantitative and qualitative data.

For a sustainable Playful future here in Flintshire we need to have a sustainable team.

Point 2 – Three or Six-week schemes

Historically as Town and Community Councils you have been able to choose the length of your local Playscheme. This has been a choice of 3, 4, 5, or 6 weeks. This is becoming increasingly difficult with the need to

recruit a high number of staff over a short period. We will now be offering 3 or 6-week sites only which will mean that staff can be offered 6-week contracts rather than the current format which proves problematic for staff retention and recruitment. During the Summer of 2023 we had 20 x three-week, 17 x four-week, 3 x five week, and 12 x six-week sites. 3 or 6-week sites would make the managing of schemes and sites much easier and would also offer a longer provision in some areas i.e., a Town or Community Council funding two or more 3-week schemes would have one three-week scheme running for the first three weeks and the other for the last which means 6-week scheme for that community area. We hope that this will attract more people to apply for these positions as the work period would be longer.

Costings

Please see attached a costing structure for a one-year commitment and that of a three year. The first year for both the 1-year and 3-year commitment will be the same, but by opting in for the 3-year cycle you will be able to budget much further in advance and we as a team can plan much further in advance to ensure that we offer the children of your community the best service. As noted on the 3-year costings sheet, we will honour the costs set out for the 3-year period unless there is a significant increase in the cost of living to which we would contact you direct to discuss the best options

In order to proactively manage our budget for the year and maintain fiscal responsibility, our plan is to invoice all Town and Community Councils ahead of the commencement of Summer Playschemes. This approach enables me, as the Lead Officer, to effectively monitor and adhere to the allocated budget for the summer. Ensuring that funding is secured in advance guarantees its availability for all necessary expenses during the summer period

Marketing / Promotion

Flintshire Play Development, in collaboration with the FCC Communications Department, is actively engaged in a marketing and promotional campaign to publicise the Summer Playschemes for 2024. Due to budget constraints, we are prioritising an online promotion strategy, utilising our social media platforms, website, as well as the platforms of Town and Community Councils, schools, and community groups. However, if there is a specific need for resources such as flyers or posters, please inform us of the desired quantity, and we can request a quote accordingly.

Conclusion

I would appreciate it if you could agree in principle on the preferred plan and complete sections 1, 2, and 3 of the attached form (**T&CC EOI for Summer 2024**) by no later than **December 22, 2023**. Kindly return the completed form via email. A firm commitment is requested by **February 16, 2024**. This timeline is crucial for initiating the recruitment process, which demands a considerable amount of time and effort. For your awareness, this year's summer recruitment process consumed 1384 hours, incurring a cost of nearly £26,000 to the local authority, covered by the employment services and Integrated Youth Provision budgets. Your timely cooperation is invaluable in facilitating a smooth and efficient process.

As referenced in the reports you recently received regarding this year's summer activities, I am more than willing to attend your meeting for further discussions. Alternatively, please feel free to reach out to me via phone for a more immediate and personalised conversation.

Cofion cynnes,



Darren Morris

Swyddog Arweiniol Datblygu Chwarae | Lead Officer for Play Development
Adran Ieuenctid Sir y Fflint | Flintshire Youth Services
Addysg ac Ieuenctid | Education and Youth
Cyngor Sir Y Fflint | Flintshire County Council



Ffôn | Tel:

English/Saesneg : 01352 704154 - Symudol/Mobile: 07826548215

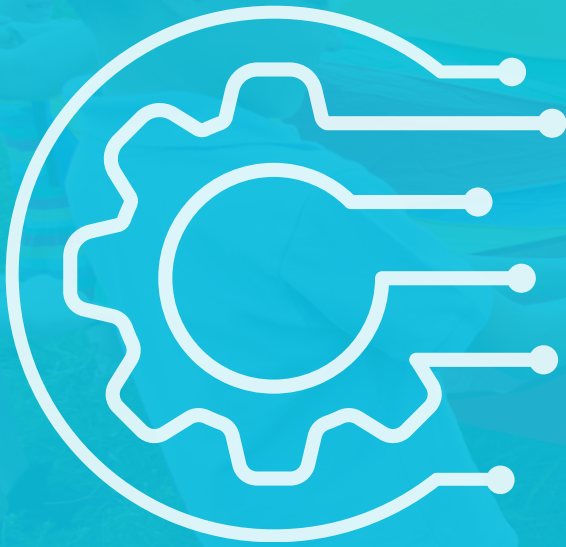
Cymraeg/Welsh : 01352 704154

Ebost | Email: Darren.Morris@siryfflint.gov.uk / Darren.Morris@flintshire.gov.uk

Fy niwrnodau gwaith yw Dydd Llun i Ddydd Iau / My working days are Monday - Thursday

FLINTSHIRE SUMMER PLAYScheme 1-YEAR COSTS

The following costings outline the commitment expected from your Town or Community Council for the year 2024. Opting for a yearly rolling agreement means that our service will strive to maintain affordability and competitiveness in the future. However, we cannot guarantee that the costs will remain the same as those outlined in the 3-year cycle, as we are committing to those prices. These annual costs will be determined based on the prevailing economic conditions during the budgeting period.



2024

3-week scheme
£1,915.80
6-week scheme
£3,831.60

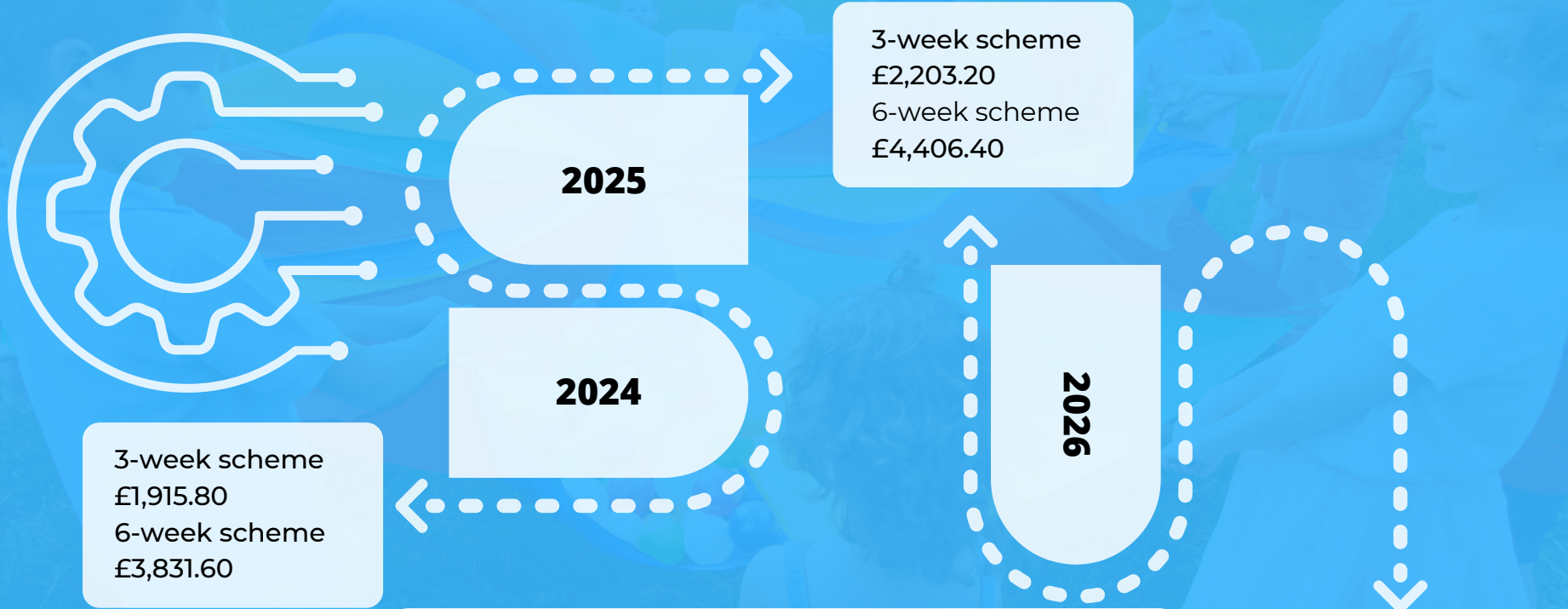
All prices include the following:

- 1 Site location (costs are per site location)
 - 5 sessions per week
 - 2 hours of supervised play
 - 2 members of staff*
 - Contributions towards; Equipment, van hire, supervisor roles, and training
- *Staff ratio is 1:13 and therefore additional staff may be required at bigger sites at an additional cost of £159.70 per week, per member.



FLINTSHIRE SUMMER PLAYScheme 3-YEAR COSTS

The following costings represent the commitment expected from your Town or Community Council for a 3-year period. Our service is dedicated to honoring these costs unless substantial increases occur. In the event of significant changes, we will promptly engage in discussions with you to explore alternative options and reach a mutually agreeable agreement.



All prices include the following:

- 1 Site location (costs are per site location)
- 5 sessions per week
- 2 hours of supervised play
- 2 members of staff*
- Contributions towards; Equipment, van hire, supervisor roles, and training
- *Staff ratio is 1:13 and therefore additional staff may be required at bigger sites at an additional cost of £159.70 per week, per member.

FLINTSHIRE PLAY DEVELOPMENT

COMMUNITY PLAY PROVISIONS COSTS

Flintshire Play Development recognises the crucial role play plays in children's development, emphasising that it extends beyond the traditional six-week summer holidays. We aspire to provide children with opportunities for play within their communities throughout the school term, evenings and holidays, including Easter, May, and October. However, to make this initiative a reality, we seek the support of our Town and Community Councils, as well as collaboration with other partners.



Community Provision



£127.80*
per session

School Holiday Provisions**



£638.60***
per week

Have an idea?



If you have an idea of a particular provision you would like to see in your community why not get in touch with me to discuss this further.

Prices with a symbol explained below:

*2 members of staff, 2 hours, plus supervisor support

**Excluding Summer Playschemes

*** 2 members of staff, 2 hours, plus supervisor support



Flintshire Play Development Summer Playscheme 2024



Section 1

Contact Details

Town / Community Council Name:	
Main Contact:	
Email:	
Contact Number:	

Section 2

Agreement in principle: (No later than 22nd December 2023)

Site Locations:	Number of weeks per site:	Notes:

Agreed on:	
Signed by:	

Section 3

Length of Agreement: (This doesn't form an official agreement, but just for information at this point)

1-Year Commitment	
3-Year Commitment	
Would like to discuss Community Play Provisions throughout the year further	

Section 4:

Agreement Commitment: (No later than 16th February 2024)

Site Locations:	Number of weeks per site:	Notes:

Agreed on:	
Signed by:	



Proforma for Councillors to add items to the Agenda.

Name of Councillor	David Walker
Title of Proposal	D-Day 80
Purpose and details of the Proposal	<p>The date would be Sunday the 9th of June 2024 this date being the nearest to the 6th of June.</p> <p>Meet at the British Legion 10-30am and a Parade to St Johns church Penymynydd</p> <p>The branch standard bearer has confirmed his availability and the minister was meeting with the Church Warden today but did not think there would be a problem regarding the Church in fact she was very much in favor of this.</p> <p>We need to sort out the availability of a Band because, without a band to lead the Parade, this is a non-starter.</p> <p>After the Church Service parade goes back to the Legion as a Parade and a Hog Roast Barbecue finishing approx 2-30 with the band playing from 13-00 to 14-00</p>
Background to this request	June 6, 2024 will mark the 80th anniversary of the D-Day landings along the Normandy coast during World War II.
Financial Implications	<p><i>If there are financial implications – please provide as accurate as possible how much this will be and which budget heading it would be allocated to</i></p> <p>COST OF PRINTING ORDER OF SERVICE COST OF HOG ROAST AS PER ATTACHED MENU</p>
Environmental Implications	NONE
Equality Implications	
Advantages of this proposal	WE FEEL THAT THIS WAS ONE OF THE BEST MISSIONS OF WORLD WAR 2 CHURCHILL STATED THAT HE EXPECTED 30,000
Disadvantages of this proposal	<p>TO BE RESCUED THE AMOUNT RESCUED WAS 300,000</p> <p>NONE</p>



Proforma for Councillors to add items to the Agenda.

Name of Councillor	David Williams
Title of Proposal	Review of Christmas decoration in the ward
Purpose of Proposal	To discuss the quality of this years decorations and potential improvements for next year.
Background to this request	Consider if any changes are needed for 2014 and if so, consider the possibility of making any purchases during end of year sales.
Financial Implications	To be established
Environmental Implications	Potential improvements
Equality Implications	Potential improvements
Advantages of this proposal	Potential to improve the display for 2014
Disadvantages of this proposal	None envisaged
Date submitted	04-12-23.

Penyffordd Community Council
DRAFT Budget for 2024/25 - v1 - 04.12.2023

Details of Expenditure	Budgeted Expenditure for 2020/21	Budgeted Expenditure for 2021/22	Budgeted Expenditure for 2022/23	Budgeted Expenditure for 2023/24	Expected Budget for 2023/24	Proposed Budget for 2024/25	Variance
Parks & Open Spaces							
1.1 Gardening/Grounds Maintenance	£1,000	£1,000	£500	£1,500	£0	£1,500	£0
1.2 Play Leadership	£2,200	£2,200	£2,200	£2,200	£2,127	£2,200	£0
1.3 Dobshill Rent	£5	£5	£5	£5	£5	£5	£0
1.4 Bus Shelter Repairs	£250	£250	£100	£100	£0	£100	£0
1.5 Playing Fields	£5,000	£5,000	£0	£0	£0	£10,000	£10,000
1.6 Bulbs/Shrubs	£400	£400	£500	£1,100	£735	£1,200	£100
1.6a RESERVED - Sponsor a Tree				£564	£677	£0	£-564
1.7 Seat/ Memorial Garden(clock)	£100	£21,500	£27,000	£27,000	£0	£27,000	£0
1.8 Equipment - ground staff	£150	£150	£1,150	£1,150	£1,233	£1,500	£350
1.9 Millstone Play Area	£5,000	£5,000	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0
1.11 CCTV	£300	£500	£550	£1,000	£1,050	£1,500	£500
1.12 Enviromental Improvements	£4,000	£4,000	£1,000	£1,000	£100	£1,000	£0
1.13 Pump Track/Skate Ramps		£25,000	£0	£35,000	£0	£40,000	£5,000
1.14 Old School Site/West View Wildlife Garden		£2,500	£8,100	£8,100	£5,074	£6,560	£-1,540
1.15 Tree Maintenance				£2,000	£0	£2,000	£0
1.16 NEW - Dobshill Play Area Improve				£20,000	£0	£20,000	£0
1.17 NEW - Additional CCTV for Millstone				£3,000	£3,474	£0	£-3,000
1.18 NEW - Nature Area pathway				£500	£51	£0	£-500
1.19 NEW - Old School Site						£3,000	£3,000
Staff, Office Costs & Admin							
Staffing Costs							
2.1 Wages, (inc Employee Pension) HMRC & NI	£22,500	£23,928	£34,637	£37,828	£40,274	£43,132	£5,304
2.2 Payroll	£350	£350	£330	£330	£407	£420	£90
2.3 Employer Pension	£4,500	£4,500	£5,600	£7,100	£7,579	£8,105	£1,005
2.4 Clerks Expenses - Home Allow & Travel	£1,700	£1,750	£1,780	£2,352	£2,336	£2,500	£148
Office Costs							
2.5 Postage	£50	£70	£80	£120	£120	£120	£0
2.6 Stationery	£300	£300	£300	£300	£280	£300	£0
2.7 Office Machinery	£200	£150	£200	£200	£80	£700	£500
2.8 IT Services & DPO Services	£660	£690	£1,080	£1,120	£1,081	£1,150	£30
General Administration							
2.9 Insurance	£1,800	£1,800	£1,900	£1,724	£1,968	£2,200	£476
2.11 Civic Service	£250	£250	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0
2.12 Audit Fee	£600	£600	£700	£825	£1,054	£570	£-255
2.13 Chairmans Name Board	£150	£150	£150	£50	£0	£50	£0
2.14 Elections	£500	£4,000	£5,000	£500	£0	£500	£0
2.15 Clock Tower	£500	£500	£900	£500	£360	£500	£0
2.16 Annual Subscriptions	£550	£880	£900	£992	£1,056	£1,060	£68
2.17 Training	£1,500	£1,500	£2,500	£2,500	£1,100	£2,500	£0
2.18 Website	£3,200	£500	£300	£250	£225	£250	£0
2.19 Members Allowance	£5,000	£5,000	£3,450	£3,450	£3,450	£3,450	£0
2.21 Newsletter/Annual Reports	£500	£500	£500	£1,000	£0	£1,000	£0
2.22 Community Awards	£400	£400	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0
2.23 Council Email Accounts	£1,000	£1,100	£1,100	£1,200	£1,356	£1,400	£200
2.24 Bank Charges			£120	£125	£125	£125	£0
2.25 Place Plan			£3,000	£2,500	£1,500	£500	£-2,000
Street Lighting & Defibs							
3.1 Electrical Supply	£600	£450	£250	£5,400	£530	£4,300	£-1,100
3.2 Electrical Testing/Inspections	£1,500	£500	£250	£250	£0	£250	£0
3.3 Repairs & Maintenance	£10,000	£10,000	£12,750	£12,750	£12,750	£12,750	£0
3.4 Christmas Tree/ Lighting	£8,000	£8,000	£8,000	£8,000	£7,000	£15,000	£7,000
Reserves - Street light upgrades				£11,170	£11,170	£0	£-11,170
NEW - Defibs						£1,000	£1,000
Highways and Footpaths							
4.1 Salt Bins	£200	£200	£200	£200	£0	£200	£0
4.2 Noticeboards	£250	£250	£0	£0	£0	£1,000	£1,000
4.3 Footpaths	£2,000	£2,000	£2,000	£2,000	£450	£2,000	£0
Community							
Grants/Donations							
5.0 Grants	£4,000	£5,515	£6,000	£4,000	£4,000	£6,000	£2,000
5.1 CAB	£300	£300	£300	£300	£300	£300	£0
5.2 Investing in Youth	£5,000	£5,000	£3,000	£3,000	£0	£3,000	£0
5.3 Kings Coronation				£1,000	£1,000	£0	£-1,000
NEW - D-Day 80						£2,000	£2,000
Community Buildings							
6.0 Community Centre -Youth Club (Inc £7000 S106)	£6,350	£15,000	£15,000	£15,000	£0	£15,000	£0
6.1 Pyf War Memorial Institute	£12,650	£4,000	£4,000	£4,000	£4,000	£4,000	£0
6.2 Community Changing Rooms		£5,000	£4,000	£4,000	£1,800	£4,000	£0

7.0	Community Improvements/Support	£7,500	£5,000	£1,000	£10,000	£9,010	£2,000	£-8,000
8.0	Provision of balance	£5,000	£5,000	£2,500	£2,385	£0	£2,385	£0
Total Expenditure		£127,965	£182,638	£164,882	£252,640	£130,886	£263,282	£10,642

Balance as at 1 April 2023 **£158,023**

Reserved - Millstone Play Area Improvements	-£8,930
Reserved - Sponsor a Tree payments	-£564
Reserved - Millstone Skate Ramps	-£40,000
Reserved - Street lighting	-£11,012
	£97,518

Income 2023/2024	£	Expenditure 2023/2024	£
Balance 1 April 2023	£158,023	Probable expenditure 2023/2024	£130,886
Precept 2023/2024	£119,521		
Estimated interest 2023/2024	£2,712		
Refund of VAT	£11,842		
Sponsor a Tree	£385		
Other (defib, noticeboard, vat)	£1,702		
Skate Ramp Match Funding	£10,000		
Total income	£304,185	Total expenditure	£130,886

Estimated Balance as at 1 April 2024	£173,299
Reserved - Millstone Play Area	-£8,869
Reserved - Sponsor A Tree	-£385
Reserved - Noticeboard	-£250
	£163,795

Recommended precept requirement for 2024/2025 (Based on estimates submitted)

	£
Estimated expenditure for 2024/25	£263,282
Working balance for 2024/25	£30,000
Total revenue resource requirement	£293,282
Less estimated available balance as at 1 April 2024	£163,795
Less estimated VAT claim for 2023/24	£6,000
Amount recommended to be met from precept 2024/25	£123,487
Precept for 2023/2024	£119,521

The Tax Base for 2024/25 financial year of equivalent Band D Properties is: 2293.99 (higher than 2023/24 which was 2220.75)

Note: The annual charge for Band 'D' properties for 2024/25 would be as follows:

Examples of how the precept affects Band D properties

Based on the above figures

£123487 -:- 2293.99 (Council tax base for 2023/24) = £53.83 (£53.82 - 2023/24) **(+£0.1p/+0.02% increase)**

Based on a precept requirement of £101835 (if reduced Memorial garden project to £10k and Dobshill to £15k)

£101487 -:- 2293.99 (Council tax base for 2024/25) = £44.24 (£53.82 - 2023/24) **(-£9.58/-17.8% decrease)**

Based on a 0% amount to Band D Properties

£123463 -:- 2293.99 (Council tax base for 2023/24) = £53.82 (£53.82 - 2023/24) **(£0.00/0.00%)**



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

Sarah Hughes
 Clerk
 Penyffordd Community Council
 3 Old Chester Road
 Ewloe
 Flintshire
 CH5 3RU

Our Ref: MT38243

8 November 2023

Dear Mrs Hughes

Re: Bus Service

Thank you for your letter regarding the bus service in Penyffordd.

I have long had concerns regarding the level of provision of public transport in Penyffordd, Penymynydd and Dobshell, and have written to bus companies and Flintshire County Council regarding this matter.

I am glad that following a period without any direct connection to Chester, the Community Council area now has had bus service restored thanks to the Traws Cymru route from Transport for Wales. These long distance, direct services offer competitive journey times compared with cars, and indeed the T8 service offers direct connections further into Wales than Penyffordd and Penymynydd has previously had, while also restoring a connection similar to the former X55 service to Chester. However, with more direct, long distance services, ensuring connectivity to stops from the wider area is vital and I am aware of concerns regarding this service stopping in Penymynydd and not Penyffordd.

Public transport in Wales is currently in a state of significant change, and I believe a long term view is needed to ensure the best possible outcome for Penyffordd, Penymynydd and Dobshell at the end of this process. At present, a number of commercial services are at risk of withdrawal when additional Welsh Government subsidy to support services to rebuild ridership after the pandemic ends. There is also s63(5) of the Transport Act 1985 which would mean that the T8 service would likely need to be withdrawn from Broughton and Penyffordd communities, which may result in the loss of the service altogether, if a commercial service was to be extended from Broughton to Penyffordd. I am keen that we don't lose the T8, only to then subsequently lose the commercial service which forced its cancellation soon afterwards.

Instead, I believe that calling for a diversion of the T8 service, such that it serves the centre of Penyffordd, as an interim measure, is the most sensible option. Over the medium term, the focus should be on ensuring the community council's case for strategic transport links is as strong as possible when this power is taken over by the CJC. Penyffordd's place plan is one of the most impressive in North Wales, and a similarly well presented approach to transport planning will be vital at this next stage of strategic transport planning.

However, most important of all is ensuring that the basis of any case, however well presented, is sound. I firmly support the proposals to upgrade Penyffordd railway station into a

multimodal transport hub, which would advantage not only Penyffordd but all of Southern Flintshire. At present, the area between Wrexham and Mold lacks a strategic hub and interchange. Fixing this would dramatically increase the number of bus routes through Penyffordd, as well as improving bus connections between other communities and the railway network.

Cllr Alasdair Ibbotson has pressed for this to be included in the council's integrated transport strategy, which I fully support, and I would encourage Penyffordd Community Council to add the council's weight to this request as well. I have enclosed a copy of his letter. I have consistently supported this proposal, including in multiple rounds of leveling up bids, and I believe that this is key to unlocking sustainable, long term public transport improvements.

The experience of communities like Penyffordd during the last 13 years of austerity has shown how risky relying on commercial services is, with their sudden withdrawal leaving people isolated. Instead I firmly support the development of a joined up network, operated for people, not profit, in place of sticking plaster solutions. I will continue to press for this in Penyffordd, Penymynydd and Dobshell, and I would welcome the Community Council's support in this.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark Tami', written in a cursive style.

Mark Tami MP

Clr Alasdair Ibbotson

Penyffordd, Penymynydd & Dobshell



Katie Wilby
Chief Officer, Streetscene & Transportation
Flintshire County Council
Via email only

 07907 879764

 /ClrAlasdairIbbotson

 contact@alasdairibbotson.wales

22nd October 2023

Dear Mrs Wilby,

Re: Integrated Transport Strategy & Penyffordd Station

I am writing following the integrated transport strategy meeting, and further to the presentation. Firstly, I would like to note my appreciation of the work that has already gone in to the review of the strategy, and my firm support for an ambitious expansion of Flintshire's public transport network.

As you are aware, development of Penyffordd station as a transport hub has long been backed as a priority scheme to both enhance transport links within Penyffordd, creating a strategic bus hub, connect rural communities such as Leeswood, Higher Kinnerton and Pontblyddyn into the rail network via bus, and create a park and ride rail service for outlying communities, especially with the planned Deeside Parkway station.

I welcome the bids which have been submitted to the levelling up fund to carry out this improvement, and I know you share my disappointment that the UK Government has chosen not to invest in Flintshire. I am keen to see this project taken forwards, and so I am concerned that the project was not listed as being amongst the "Station Aspirations & Improvements" in the initial stages of the strategy.

I would be grateful if you would reaffirm Flintshire's commitment to working with partners to deliver the upgrades at Penyffordd, which, in my view, offer a potential for greater return on investment than others listed. At present the South of the county is without any integrated transport hub, which is a significant barrier to increasing ridership on public transport both in my community and further afield. Connecting the bus services presently operating in Southern Flintshire together, and with rail services, will lead to a virtuous cycle of better connectivity leading to greater usage, and greater usage allowing expansion of services, with more and better services again driving increased uptake.

I look forward to receiving your reassurance on this point.

Yours Sincerely,

Alasdair
Clr Alasdair Ibbotson

Standing up for our village on Flintshire Council



Penyffordd Labour
Llafur Penyffordd



The Office of Jack Sargeant

Aelod o'r Senedd dros Alun a Glannau Dyfrdwy
Member of the Senedd for Alyn and Deeside

Senedd Cymru

Bae Caerdydd, Caerdydd, CF99 1SN
jack.sargeant@senedd.cymru
senedd.cymru/JackSargeant

Welsh Parliament

Cardiff Bay, Cardiff, CF99 1SN
jack.sargeant@senedd.wales
senedd.wales/JackSargeant

Mrs Sarah A Hughes
3 Old Chester Road
Ewloe
Flintshire
CH5 3RU

01244 823547 

@jacksargeantms 

@jacksargeantam 

JackSargeantMS 

14th November 2023

Dear Sarah

Support for better bus services to Penyffordd/ Casework reference JS3593

Thank you for your recent email on behalf of the Penyffordd Community Council in its efforts to bring about a resumption of a direct bus service for the residents.

Your case for a direct service is one I am keen to support. I have written to Lee Waters in his role as Deputy Minister for Climate Change asking him to support your case going forward. A copy of that letter is included in this correspondence.

I will be back in touch as soon as I hear back from the Deputy Minister.

BEST WISHES,
JACK SARGEANT.

Jack Sargeant MS/AS

Member of the Senedd for Alyn & Deeside
Aelod o'r Senedd dros Alun a Glannau Dyfrdwy

The Office of Jack Sargeant

Aelod o'r Senedd dros Alun a Glannau Dyfrdwy
Member of the Senedd for Alyn and Deeside

Senedd Cymru

Bae Caerdydd, Caerdydd, CF99 1SN
jack.sargeant@senedd.cymru
senedd.cymru/JackSargeant


Welsh Parliament

Cardiff Bay, Cardiff, CF99 1SN
jack.sargeant@senedd.wales
senedd.wales/JackSargeant

Lee Waters MS
Deputy Minister for Climate Change
5th Floor
Ty Hywel
Cardiff Bay
CF99 1NA

01244 823547 

@jacksargeantms 

@jacksargeantam 

JackSargeantMS 

14th November 2023

Dear Deputy Minister

Resumption of Bus Service to Penyffordd village in Alyn & Deeside / Casework ref JS3593

I am writing to you on behalf of Penyffordd Community Council and its residents in after being recently contacted by the Clerk to the Council. The members of the Council are trying to re-establish a permanent bus route through the village to go direct to the nearby border city of Chester.

The Service was taken off by Arriva in 2019 despite compelling evidence provided by the council to Arriva to reintroduce this much missed service.

Deputy Minister can you please advise what help the Welsh Government can provide to the Community Council in Penyffordd to help its residents in their quest to get a vital and much needed service back to a village of over 5000 people.

Please see the attached information provided by the Council which outlines why the service should be reintroduced as soon as is possible.

I look forward to your reply on the matters raised above.

BEST WISHES,
JACK SARGEANT.

Jack Sargeant MS/AS

Member of the Senedd for Alyn & Deeside
Aelod o'r Senedd dros Alun a Glannau Dyfrdwy

From: Paul.Andrews@gov.wales <Paul.Andrews@gov.wales> **On Behalf Of**
DeputyMCC.GovernmentBusinessUnit@gov.wales
Sent: 30 November 2023 13:21
To: Clerk <clerk@penyfforddcouncil.org>
Cc: Correspondence.Lee.Waters@gov.wales
Subject: Welsh Government ref TO-LW-02903-23

Yr Adran Newid Hinsawdd
Department for Climate
Change



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Dear Sarah A Hughes

Thank you for your correspondence of 06 November to the Deputy Minister for Climate Change, Lee Waters MS, regarding bus services in Flintshire. I have been asked to respond on the Deputy Ministers behalf.

Currently in Wales, we have a privatised bus system meaning that companies make decisions on their routes and timetables based on commercial grounds. Since the pandemic, fewer people are travelling by bus and very few bus routes are profitable. As a result, we have provided over £200m in additional funding to local authorities and operators to help maintain key services for communities.

Looking ahead, we are proposing a new model for bus services in Wales which will allow us to work with local authorities to design the bus networks our communities need and put contracts in place to deliver them. Transport for Wales is currently working with local authorities across Wales to develop new regional bus plans. We have asked them to consider your suggestion as part of this work.

Whilst legislation takes time, and this doesn't give us an immediate answer to the challenges we're facing, the current situation only goes to highlight the scale of reliance on public support for a network over which we have very little control and the scale of our reliance on a deregulated service. Ours is the most far-reaching plan across the UK and a vital step to reverse the damage of deregulation. The Welsh Government wants to make sure people have a bus service they can rely on, which is easy to use, and puts people before profit.

Yours sincerely

Public Transport & Integrated Transport Division



Proforma for Councillors to add items to the Agenda.

Name of Councillor	David Williams
Title of Proposal	Review of public transport provision in the Ward.
Purpose of Proposal	<p>To discuss concerns of residents over the current bus provision and proposals under consideration.</p> <p>To establish situation over Pen-y-ffordd station as a hub for the South of the County.</p>
Background to this request	<p>Letters have been sent by the Council to various individuals and bodies to seek support for a resumption of a direct service from the ward to Chester. This agenda item is intended to establish progress to date.</p> <p>It has come to light that Pen-y-ffordd station is not on the list of Counties aspirations for improvements. This item will provide the opportunity to enlighten members and resident on what is actually proposed and the role we could and should be playing in this initiative.</p>
Financial Implications	To be established
Environmental Implications	Potential improvements
Equality Implications	Potential improvements
Advantages of this proposal	Potential to be involved in improving public transport in the ward.
Disadvantages of this proposal	None envisaged
Date submitted	04-12-23.

Penyffordd, Penymynydd & Dobshill

VILLAGE NEWSLETTER (Dec 2023)



A Message from the Chairman – Cllr Pat Ransome

It is six months since our last community update and so half way through our year fitting that we take the opportunity to share community news and updates.

As your community council we are here to represent the areas of Penyffordd, Penymynydd and Dobshill and to be a voice for our ever-increasing community. We have seen continued growth in the village with a population now nearing 5000 but our sense of community remains as strong and as focussed. Every individual is a valued and important member of our community and we want to hear from you, to hear your views about both the positives and negatives. We are here to listen. Please remember you can contact any councillor or join us at our meetings on the second Wednesday of the month, 6.30pm at the War Memorial Institute.

The past months have been a busy time as we continue to build on several projects in the community as highlighted below. In the coming months we will be seeking the views of the community as we make improvements to the memorial garden, work with Flintshire re the development of the old school site and consider the next steps for the Penyffordd Place Plan. We are aware too of the challenges faced and the

effects of the current economic climate. Councillors continue to strive to bring back our regular bus service and tackle the issue of flooding in the village, both of which are ongoing concerns. The response of the volunteers sandbagging buildings and supporting one another during the recent heavy rainfall was heartening and thanks are due to all who turned out to help. Recently too we listened and responded to the views expressed by the community re the memorial garden/clock project costs. We will be resubmitting plans with reduced costing for consultation.

One of the many qualities of our community are the many invaluable volunteers who give of their time to support both young and old in various groups whether this is our football team coaches, our youth leaders, our church groups, choir leaders, the memory cafe the list is extensive and impossible to name all. We share our thanks for all their often unsung and tireless work throughout the year to make this the special place in which we live.

We also acknowledge the contribution of our two County Councillors Roy Wakelam and Alasdair Ibbotson who provide our link with Flintshire County Council and beyond and thank both for their work in keeping us informed and helping move many community projects forward.

We are looking forward to welcoming our new councillor who will start in January and means that there remains only the second youth representative vacancy to fill on council. If you know of anyone please let our Clerk Sarah Hughes know.

We welcome and need your input – one community, one council so if you wish to be involved please let us know.

So as we approach Christmas and the start of a new year 2024 our best wishes for Christmas and for a peaceful and happy 2024.

Your Community Council

There are 13 members on Penyffordd Community Council. Councillors are office holders who sign a Declaration of Acceptance of Office upon their election or appointment - they are therefore part of the local government structure of Wales. At the head of the Council is the Chairman, who is elected annually from amongst its serving Councillors. The Chairman for this year is Councillor Pat Ransome and the Vice-Chair is Councillor Andy Sloan.

The council has the opportunity to appoint two Youth Representatives. We currently have one active member, Natasha Boleyn who was appointed in September 2022 and also one vacancy. This role represents the youth sector and is a 'voice' on the Community Council for local issues affecting young people.

The council is supported by three members of staff. The Clerk - Sarah Hughes, Street Operative - Glyn Davies and Village Groundsman – Chris Jones.

Your Community Councillors are:

Pat Ransome - Chair	Andy Sloan - Vice Chair	Roy Wakelam - Cty Cllr	Alasdair Ibbotson - Cty Cllr
David Walker	Mark Rothero	Jeff Priddin	Paul Blackman
David Williams	Lisa Overington	Oliver Thompson	Susie Williams

VACANCY??????

Councillor Vacancy

The council had a vacancy which arose due to the resignation of Julie Jones in May 2023, unfortunately it took a number of advertisements until the council received interest. We are pleased to say that we did receive 4x applications which were all of very high standard and each would have been an asset to the council. The council voted and co-opted ????????? in December 2023.

Activities during the Year to date

Old School Site

We are continuing to work with FCC on the plans for this site. The contractor Total Controlled Demolition Ltd will be taking delivery of site cabins and security fencing with the intension completing the site setup for the contract. The asbestos removal and internal strip out of the building will start from Monday, 11th December and will be completed after Christmas with the main demolition works starting towards the end of January with the completion date in March 24.

A portion of the site will be transferred to the Community Council for community use, but the exact amount and configuration of the land which will be transferred will be determined in due course.

Place Plan

The council have undertaken a review of the Place Plan, however, it is yet to be determined whether this will be a full review of the existing plan in order to work towards having it adopted as supplementary planning guidance by Flintshire County Council or to produce an update to the existing place plan which shall be appended to the current plan and available as a standalone document.

Wildlife Garden

Report from Woodwork - We started working with Penyffordd Community Council in January 2022 to manage West View Nature Area at the end of Alyn Drive. The area was overgrown and largely inaccessible and has taken a lot of work to create what is now beginning to be a pleasant green space that can not only be enjoyed by the local community but that allows a diverse range of wildlife to thrive.

Securing grant funding from the Heritage Lottery. Fund through Transport for Wales has enabled us to create pathways and to plant over 400 trees, including a number of native fruit trees as well as installing signage. We are currently working on creating a bog area that will be a valuable addition to the biodiversity of the nature area.

We have a fantastic group of volunteers that help us at the regular volunteer sessions that we hold. School children from both St John the Baptist Primary in Penymydd and Ysgol Penyffordd helped us with planting and we hope they will enjoy seeing how much the trees have grown in future visits. Managers from local Spar shops and Penyffordd Scout group have been a great help in assisting us creating pathways around the nature area.

Sadly, on a few occasions we have found that trees have been deliberately damaged, which is disappointing for all of us that have been involved in creating the nature area. Fortunately, with the help of our volunteers we have repaired damage and we all remain vigilant in the hope of avoiding any further problems.

If you would like to come along and join our volunteer sessions at the nature area please do get in touch. Our contact details are: info@woodsworkcic.co.uk , www.woodsworkcic.co.uk or find us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter@/helpingnatureandcommunitiestothrive

Memorial Garden Project

The area in front of the clock is known as the Memorial Garden and is one of the central focal points of the village. The council secured planning permission from Flintshire County Council for a design, however this was a number of years ago and since the cost of living crisis, the plans are now being reviewed to potentially offer a scaled down improvement project. Once plans of the scaled down project have been determined, this will then go to public consultation.

Play Area Improvements

Millstone – we are working towards submitting a planning application for the installation of a pump track.

Dobshill – a budget was approved for 2023/24 to allow for improvement works to the play area by installation of a pathway around the site (*intended to allow younger children to learn and ride a bike in a safe environment*), however, again due to costs, the council are now looking at a reviewing the design to a smaller scale.

Tree Planting

A big thank you again to the many residents who have supported the ‘sponsor a tree’ initiative again. This started three years ago and is hopefully going to be a rolling programme that will be a real feature of the village.

Kings Coronation

The council awarded a total of £1000 for grants to community groups to assist with funding their events.

Street Lighting

The Council own a selection of street lights throughout the villages, however, all street lights are maintained and repaired by FCC. Any issues or faults should be reported to Flintshire County Council, Streetscene on 01352 701234 or streetscene@flintshire.gov.uk. Alternatively, you can report by downloading the [Flintshire App](#)

Annual Grant Applications

The council sets a budget annually to be able to offer financial assistance to local groups and organizations. This year we are pleased to report that we helped 17 local groups/organisations to the sum of £4000 and a further £4000 to the Penyffordd War Memorial.

Defibrillators

The council has purchased and installed 3x new defibrillators and 2x cabinets. Located 1x outside St Johns School, 1x inside the telephone kiosk on Alyn Drive/Vounog and an upgraded defib installed at the current site of the Bowling Club. The defib at St Johns was kindly funded by the family of the late Rachel Jones.

As a community we are fortunate to have a number of defibs in our local area which are available to the public 24/7. Obviously should you ever need to use one, please always phone 999 and they will direct you to your nearest one and provide the necessary access code.

Telephone Kiosk Alyn Drive
Penyffordd Railway Station
Dobshill Service Station
Buckley Railway Station

War Memorial Institute
St John The Baptist V A School
Penyffordd Royal British Legion

Penyffordd Bowling Club
Tents & Events
Oaklea Grange

In order to help as many residents as possible feel confident in using a defib, the council arranged and funded a Defibrillator & CPR Training session In October inviting local businesses. A further session is also due to be held in January which will be open to our local clubs, groups and organisations.

Telephone Kiosk

The telephone kiosk located on the corner of Alyn Drive has recently been refurbishment and has been utilised as an internal noticeboard and seasonal book exchange. This has now been converted to house a defibrillator and the council will be looking to install a new noticeboard next to the kiosk in 2024/25.

Summer Playscheme

In conjunction with Flintshire County Council and Welsh Government, the council financial supports the provision of a 4 week summer playscheme held at The Millstone Play Area.

Penyffordd Carnival

This year was our first year in having a stall at the carnival. This was a wonderful way to engage, meet and speak with our residents.

CCTV

The council purchased and installed a further CCTV camera at The Millstone Play Area.

Transport

Work continues as we lobby for support for the resumption of the direct Penyffordd to Chester bus service.

Police

The current PCSOs for our area are:

- PCSO Rachel Duddle - RACHAEL.DUDDLE@northwales.police.uk - 07974 243077
- PCSO Lucy Davies - Lucy.Davies@northwales.police.uk - 07814 075619

Unfortunately, there have been a couple of incidents of vandalism to council property where many people have put time, effort and money into creating a nice environment for people to live, visit, reflect and spend time. Anyone caught vandalising any areas within the villages will be reported to the police and prosecuted.

Budget/Precept

During December and January, the council will be having lengthy discussions to determine the required budget for the coming year which also sets the amount of precept received via FCC. The precept amount is a sum of money incorporated within your council tax bill from FCC.

For more information about the council, council business and to see regular updates please view our website: www.penyfforddcouncil.org and follow us on facebook: Penyffordd Community Council.

Mrs S A Hughes, Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer, 3 Old Chester Road, Ewloe, Deeside, Flintshire, CH5 3RU.
Tel: 01244 537032 Email: clerk@penyfforddcouncil.org

*From council members and staff,
we would like to take this
opportunity of wishing all of
our residents a very Merry
Christmas and a Happy New
Year*





Proforma for Councillors to add items to the Agenda.

Name of Councillor	Andy Sloan
Title of Proposal	<i>Proposal for Members payments to be made direct and not via payroll</i>
Purpose and details of the Proposal	<p>The proposal is for council members to receive payments directly and not through payroll to avoid taxation issues for PAYE individuals in their main jobs.</p> <p>It would be the responsibility of members who receive payment to inform HMRC of any income received in lieu of council activities thus avoiding tax coding errors and inconvenience caused. There will also be a small savings not processing through payroll.</p>
Background to this request	<p>To help with the background section of the form:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. March 2023 – Min 205, the council resolved that Payments will be processed via payroll where appropriate tax and ni will be deducted and payments will then be made via cheque or bacs. 2. Nov 2023 – Min 120, It was reported The Panel has received guidance from HMRC, regarding the treatment of tax on councillor allowances. The exemption to the £156 payment made under the Determination of the Independent Remuneration Panel and the flat rate consumables payment of £52. 3. Nov 2023 – Min 120, I had made the suggestion that payments should not be paid via payroll and it should be members responsibility to inform HMRC
Financial Implications	There will be a small saving on not processing via payroll (approx. £30-40) No budget implications
Environmental Implications	N/A
Equality Implications	N/A
Advantages of this proposal	Fair treatment of taxation regardless of employment status
Disadvantages of this proposal	Councillors would need to declare income via self assessment
Date submitted	22/11/23

****Please note that this proposal will be included with the Supporting Papers and will be made available to the Public****

Community Changing Rooms – Renovation Works

Following a site meeting with Chris Jones, Cllr David Williams and Clerk, Chris has prepared the following report detailing the priority internal & external works that he will be carrying out in the coming weeks.

There is obviously additional internal works and external works to be completed, further reports will be provided.

Repairs to water pipes.

- Reroute pipe work in showers and lag pipe work.
- Fit new stopcock, fit new pipe work in referees changing room.
- Insulation 22mm pipe £80
- 22mm 90 bends x4 £ 19.20
- 15mm 90 bends x4 £ 15.45
- Insulation 15mm pipe £43.50
- 15mm pipe 6 meters £30.00
- 100 x 22mm pipe clips £16.00
- Cable ties 2 bags, £11.96
- Stopcock x1 £ 11.10

Parts £227.21

Holes in the floor.

Repairs to holes around waste pipe work.

- Bond + fill expanding foam x 3 tins from Amazon £14.95
- 1 sheet of 6mm plywood £14.94
- Box of assorted screws £ 15.00

Parts £44.89

Missing rail in floor when door was fitted.

- Dig under container and fit concrete base.
- Fit breeze block to secure up floor.
- Breeze blocks x4 £5.04
- 1 bag of cement £8.54
- 4 bags of gravel £8.55
- 3 bags of washed sand £7.95

Parts £30.08

Rear of Changing rooms.

Fill in hole around inspection chamber and cement in cove frame. Fit new rodding eye to pipe sticking out of ground. Fit covers over earth points. Reconnect waste pipes from

showers. Fit new vent pipes and strap up. Remove some soil and Level off ground, put down membrane and lay lime stone down.

- 100mm 90 bends x4 £34.36
- Black waste pipe x2 £64.20
- Black clips x6 £20.70
- 1ton bags of lime stone 20mm x4 £224.00
- 2 rolls of 2x10 meters membrane £26.00
- 2 rolls of 1x12 meter membrane £17.86
- 1 bag of cement £8.54
- 4 bags of gravel £11.40
- 3 bags of washed sand £7.95
- 1 rodding eye £45.00

Parts £460.01

Total of all above works: £762.19

Dated: 04.12.2023