Report on the Draethen, Waterloo and Rudry (DWR) Community Consultation

1. Introduction

Research consultancy was commissioned from Dr Liz Jones by Draethen, Waterloo and Rudry (DWR) Community Council in February 2017. The purpose of the commission was to draft a monitoring and evaluation model for the DWR People and Places project to facilitate data capture from the Draethen, Waterloo and Rudry (DWR) communities regarding future community development, activities and services in relation to planning delivery that is aligned to the seven goals of the Wellbeing and Future Generations Act 2015.

The vision for the work was to facilitate collection, analysis and interpretation of robust and meaningful data in order to inform a future Big Lottery Bid.

The deliverables for this commissioned work were:

→ Design of a bespoke model to monitor and evaluate the DWR project;
→ Design of bespoke mixed method data collection instruments;
→ Facilitation of events to enable meaningful, data capture to enable grant beneficiaries to showcase the work of their individual projects;
→ Delivery and facilitation of focus groups;
→ Delivery and facilitation of a community consultation
→ One to one interviews with vulnerable members of the community (on request)
→ Canvassing of self-completion questionnaires at Rudry Rural Market; DWR Litter Pick; DWR Showcase Event and door to door in Rudry and Waterloo.

The deadline for all data collection was 31st March 2017.

2. The Consultation Model

The timeframe for collecting the required information was very short (6 weeks) so a multi method consultation model was designed specifically for the purpose, so that all potential consultation opportunities could be effectively utilised in the time available. The consultation work began on 23rd February and was completed on 29th March 2017.

The model was designed to engage with and capture the views of the maximum number of respondents in a short period through a variety of methods:

- Self-completion questionnaires distributed at the Parent & Toddler; Luncheon Club; Women's Institute (WI); Litter Pick and Rudry Rural Market exploring current usage of the Rudry Village Hall and assessing future needs and concerns with regard to services, access, volunteering and provision.

- One to one interviews with some vulnerable members of the community (on request).
- Focus group interviews with attendees of the Parent & Toddler; Luncheon Club and Women's Institute (WI)
- Showcase Event for projects and groups who had received funding support from the DWR Community Voice Project – these provided an opportunity for funded local projects to evidence how they had benefited from funding from the DWR Community Voice Project and raise awareness of their project work to the general public. A video diary was recorded on the day to provide supporting evidence (if required in future) for a People and Places Bid to Big Lottery Wales.
- Curry Consultation for community members from Draethen, Waterloo and Rudry to: identify how they feel DWR communities should respond to the seven goals of the Wellbeing and Future Generations (Wales) Act (2015); provide ideas and views on specific project ideas for the DWR community, e.g., Bee Project and Forest School; choose their five key priorities for the DWR locality from the list of thirty six outlined in the Caerphilly Wellbeing Assessment.

The consultation model and delivery agreed with DWR Community Council is detailed in the table in Appendix 1.

3. Data Analysis and Interpretation

The data generated by this consultation required quantitative and qualitative data analysis and professional interpretation. The work took 6 days and forms Stage 2 of the commission.

A full breakdown and Project Initiation Documents (PID) will be available for this commission on request by the client DWR Council.

The consultation generated an enormous amount of information from the DWR communities. The information was analysed and the synthesised data has been made available to the DWR Community Council so it can be used as evidence should they decide at a future date to bid for further funding for a community project.

4. Reporting

The success of the project is to be communicated to DWR Council; stakeholders and community members through a variety of sources. These are: Community Council meetings; reports to GAVO; Consultation feedback in DWR Newsletter to community members; DWR Community Clerk email. The community will be kept informed of the results of the consultation by DWR Community Council and how their suggestions, contribution and feedback will feed into shaping and informing a new bid with Big Lottery Wales.

5. Findings

The key findings from the consultation have been analysed and are summarised below:

Caerphilly County Borough Council (CCBC) were asked to assess and identify what its key priorities would be in relation to the goals for the Wellbeing and Future Generations (Wales) Act (2015). A total of thirty six priorities were identified (but are not in any rank order). These were:

Final List of Issues From Caerphilly Well-being Assessment
1. Maximising the benefits of the Cardiff Capital Region City Deal for Caerphilly County Borough.
2. Developing a modern, integrated and sustainable transport system, including maximising the benefits of the Metro.
3. Linking public transport to the provision of active travel opportunities.
4. Providing training, apprenticeships, employment and volunteering opportunities that are appropriate for all sectors of the community.
5. Ensuring young people have the right support and opportunities to enable them to pursue a path into work (either vocational or academic) including, careers advice, mentoring and work experience.
6. Protecting and enhancing local habitats for biodiversity.
7. Improving the provision of, access to and promotion of community outdoor spaces, and the wider countryside.
8. Fostering a greater sense of "community spirit".
9. Reducing the risks of flooding, including protecting vulnerable homes, communities and infrastructure.
10. Managing the use of natural resources sustainably, and helping communities to understand the need to reduce our ecological footprint.
11. Ensuring that we maintain safe, secure supplies of clean water.
12. Reducing low level environmental issues (e.g. dog fouling, litter and fly-tipping) by fostering respect, responsibility and ownership of local areas.
13. Balancing the need for development with protecting the environment.
14. Reducing the life expectancy and healthy life expectancy inequality gap between the most and least deprived populations in the county borough.
15. Facilitating a shift from treatment of ill health to a society that enables people to adopt healthy behaviours.
16. Improve the proportion of adults and children within the county borough who are a healthy weight.
17. Further reduce smoking rates and the uptake of smoking.
18. Identifying and breaking the cycle of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs).
19. Improving access to GP and hospital appointments.
20. Providing improved broadband and IT infrastructure, to enable greater digital inclusion.
21. Providing better and more easily accessible information and services to empower people to improve their own well-being.
22. Supporting opportunities in the community for lifetime education, hobbies and interests.
23. Tackling loneliness and isolation for all age groups.

24.	Ensuring people feel safe in their community, by reducing crime and anti-social behaviour and the fear of crime.
25.	Developing suitable housing to meet the variety of people's needs, including affordable housing.
26.	26. Supporting people with dementia to live well in their communities.
27.	Reducing the victimisation of vulnerable sections of the community, including domestic abuse, hate crime and bullying.
28.	Reducing the effects of substance misuse on individuals and communities.
29.	Making provision for the arts and supporting opportunities for the direct participation of local people.
30.	Maximising the use of public sector land, buildings and other assets for community use.
31.	Developing an appealing and coherent tourism and leisure experience for residents and visitors to the county borough.
32.	Working in partnership to conserve and protect our natural heritage and the built environment.
33.	Promoting use of Welsh in workplaces and public facing institutions and businesses to make it easier to converse in Welsh and to use the language in everyday life.
34.	Ensuring homes and public buildings are sustainable and energy efficient, to reduce our carbon footprint.
35.	Making communities more resilient to global pressures by supporting opportunities for renewable energy and community food growing.
36.	Maintaining and enhancing sustainable and attractive communities and town centres.

As part of the consultation it was felt that it was important identify what are the top priorities from this list for DWR residents. The top five priorities selected in order of importance for the residents of DWR are:

DWR Priority in rank order (1-5)	**Priority Description**	**Caerphilly identifier number (not ranked in priority order)**
1	Protecting and enhancing local habitats for biodiversity.	6
2	Fostering a greater sense of "community spirit".	8
3	Balancing the need for development with protecting the environment.	13
4	Managing the use of natural resources sustainably, and helping communities to understand the need to reduce our ecological footprint.	10
5	Ensuring young people have the right support and opportunities to enable them to pursue a path into work (either vocational or academic) including, careers advice, mentoring and work experience.	5

At present the 36 Local Authority priorities are being revised, there has been some amendment and merging of priorities and Caerphilly County Borough Council (CCBC) are examining six key areas (see below) to present to the Public Services Board (PSB early June).

Caerphilly County Borough Council Six Key Areas for Presentation to Public Services Board
• Providing training, support, apprenticeships, employment and volunteering opportunities that are appropriate for all ages and sectors of the community
• Identifying and breaking the cycle of Adverse Childhood Experiences
• Ensuring people feel safe in their community, by reducing crime and anti-social behaviour and the fear of crime
• Developing suitable, sustainable housing to meet the variety of people's needs, including afford housing
• Facilitating a shift from treatment of mental and physical ill health to a society that enables people to adopt healthy behaviours, to reduce the inequality gap in life expectancy and healthy life expectancy between the most and least deprived populations in the county borough
• Reducing low level environmental issues by fostering respect, responsibility and ownership of local areas. Improving the provision of, access to and promotion of community outdoor spaces, green spaces and the wider countryside

Various reports will be considered by them at their meeting in early June, and they aim to sign off their objectives for the well-being plan.

Demographic Information, current use of Rudry Village Hall and suggestions for future use

Demographic information, exploration of how the hall is currently used and requests for suggestions for future use were gathered using a self-completion questionnaire. This questionnaire was completed by 128 people across a range of eight groups. Details of numbers of responses received from each groups were:

Consulted Groups	Number of completed questionnaire responses
Ruperra Castle Event	1
Curry Consultation	18
Showcase Event	22
Luncheon Club	25
Parent & Toddler	7
Women's' Institute (WI)	12
Rudry Rural Market	24
DWR Litter Pick	19
Total	**128**

Demographic Data
Awaiting information from CCBC. In the 2011 census the community of Draethen Waterloo and Rudry the population was 1053.

Usage of Rudry Village Hall
Awaiting information from Rudry Parish Hall

Community Consultation/ Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act (2015)

The focus groups and curry consultations were aimed at gathering information to plan for future across the communities of DWR, particularly considering responsibilities of communities and community councils under the seven goals of the Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act (2015) –

- A prosperous Wales
- A resilient Wales
- A healthier Wales
- A more equal Wales
- A Wales of cohesive communities
- A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh Language

1. **A Prosperous Wales –**
a. **How could Rudry Village Hall be used to help make people living in the areas Draethen, Waterloo and Rudry do well?**

Several suggestions were made for how Rudry Village Hall could be used to help make people living in the areas Draethen, Waterloo and Rudry do well? These were:

- Provide Job Fairs and training opportunities
- Provide classes and courses during the day and evening
- Provide advice and information on a range of topics
- Provide volunteering opportunities
- Set up a Youth Club
- Establish a coffee shop/ shop/ meeting place
- Provide a GP surgery at the hall

b. **Could you suggest possible activities that could contribute to this goal?**

Activities to contribute to the goal of helping people living in DWR do well could be themed under nine themes and included the following:

Themes	Suggestions
Classes	- Dance classes - Gardening class
Clubs	- Youth Club - Bridge club
Sports Activities	- Walking groups - Cycling - Pilates - Football - Rugby - Netball - Tennis
Talks	- Global issues in our hall, involved talks about issues - Careers advice – talks
Training	- Training to promote area - Interview skills - CSCS cards - £75 independents, e.g. £43 - Careers Wales, role models, could do job fair to real people - Promoting self-employment - Explore the unemployment in area

Volunteering	• Volunteering opportunities to help get people into work – help people build skills and to feel better about themselves.
Building links across the community	• Links to school and other groups • Intergenerational links
Health and wellbeing	• Women's shed • Men's shed – action place and talks • Healthy diets – fitness courses • What toothpaste to use
Other	• Unique area with facilities • Raise awareness for parcel drops

2. A Resilient Wales –

a. How can we ensure we protect healthy, natural ecosystems in Draethen, Waterloo and Rudry?

Suggestions for how to ensure the protection of healthy, natural ecosystems in DWR could be groups under five key themes. These were:

- Conservation
- Education
- Community involvement
- Information
- Activities

b. How can we make our community and environment able to cope with changes?

Suggestions for machining the community and environment with DWR more able to cope with changes were:

Themes	Suggestions
Outdoor Activities	• Outdoor activities in our area - Naturewise
Skill Sharing	• Ladies who know and want to share what they know
Clubs	• Nature club
Volunteering	• Litter picking
Local Competition	• Introduce a competition, between DWR villages
Protecting the Local Environment	• Himalayan Balsam invasive species. • Healthy – green areas. To develop more areas • Make better use for the surroundings – maintain public footpaths / rights of way through the countryside paths

| | • Maintain environment |
| | • Limit planning of housing and traffic |

3. A Healthier Wales –

What can we do to help improve and maintain the physical and mental health of ourselves and those living in our community?

Suggestions for how to help improve and maintain the physical and mental health of people living in DWR could be grouped under the six main themes of:

- Wellbeing
- Mental health
- Exercise
- Classes
- Activities
- Clubs

Suggested activities under each theme were:

Themes	Suggestions
Wellbeing	• Opportunity to buy fresh vegetables in the village • Use of footpaths, create new or improve footpaths (if possible) • Well-being classes for older people • Keep fit classes, e.g. yoga and similar
Mental health	• Healthier mental health - creative therapy, creative writing, art and gardening, walking, day workshop outdoors • Mindfulness classes • Depression and mental health issues – need someone trained and experienced to facilitate a group therapy/ support in the community so people don't feel isolated. Could bring in someone to do a course from NHS. • Breakdown the stigma on depression/ mental health • Mature farmers club to encourage network and support for mental health • Can do suicide awareness sessions/ first aid for mental health
Exercise	• Organise group walks in the countryside • Walking on a regular basis
Classes	• Cookery classes for healthy eating • Creative writing in the hall / community group/ workshops
Activities	• Gardening – helping to talk about issues through writing • Volley ball

	• Music practice • Dancing – street dancing/ ballroom • Acting/ stage school/ drama • Amateur dramatics association – performance arts
Clubs	• Local conservation groups working with children • Youth club – Primary Age/ Secondary Age split • Chess club • Cinema club • Scouts/ Brownies/ Rainbows, etc.

4. A More Equal Wales –

How can we ensure that there is equal opportunity to take part in activities or benefit from services for people living in Draethen, Waterloo and Rudry?

Responses to how to ensure that there is equal opportunity to take part in activities or benefit from services for people living in DWR could be grouped under six key themes. These were:

- Building community involvement
- Transport
- More affordable/ accessible events
- Community involvement
- Village improvement
- Infrastructure

Suggestions under each theme included:

Themes	Suggestions
Building community involvement	• Community members helping farmers with tasks like harvest time and lambing as they did in the past
Transport	• Car sharing – bus service
More affordable / accessible events	• Need cheaper events, e.g. £2 on the door or free, to allow everyone to attend. At the moment the village isn't inclusive/ equal to all as there are those who can't afford it. Need a range of events, from free to £10+, could get revenue through optional extras e.g., raffle • Need events that are easy to attend for singles • More mixed interest intergenerational events like the one for Ruperra Castle on April 1st • Need to attract people to events, need a buddy system so disabled people could have a buddy to help them attend events • Special clubs for people with disabilities

	• Inclusive sports people with disabilities can compete • Need to keep it simple so non computer literate people are not excluded • Not much for younger people to do in the community • Require support for sixth former age – academic skills share, e.g. can a local English teacher help a local student? • More things going on in the hall – more variety of events in the hall
Community involvement	• People outside area not caring not valuing what we have • Make opportunities to make us resilient • Older generation think it too late Some people won't come or take part so it up to us to press on • Need paid central person to connect people to the community together – to link people together
Village improvement	• *"Villages brighten up the village"* • Looking after what we have and maintain what we have. • Build links and maintain passion
Infrastructure	• Rudry lanes were built for horse and carts – not suitable for 250 cars an hour Who use them? Horses, people, walkers • a network to get footpaths and connections for better ways to get around safely

5. A Wales of Cohesive Communities –

How could the people living in Draethen, Waterloo and Rudry help make a more well-connected community?

Six key themes were identified with suggestions for how people living in Draethen, Waterloo and Rudry help make a more well-connected community. These were:

Themes	Suggestions
Hub	• Rudry Hub – dance, once a month
Clubs and activities	• Darts team
Transport links	• Connecting bus service
Building community involvement/ meeting place	• Good neighbour scheme • Connect the people, community coffee shop/ meeting place for people • Portacabin – shop • Drop-in for people walking/ shop/ coffee shop/ pizza and glass of wine

	- Some people connect - Vulnerable need to connect - Connect school to people in village - Teachers help, families help - A good community is made from: - Communication - Treat each other as equals - Share skills
Local shopping and currency	- Need a forum for addressing local foods, e.g., how do we buy local vegetables or local meat? - Could be good to have a local currency/ credit union
Develop intergenerational project opportunities	- Sewing/ knitting/ craft - Bingo - Games night - Art classes - Gardening - Yoga - Social media – younger people teaching older people - Dance classes - Language classes – Welsh – younger people teaching older people - History classes - Parenting classes - Sharing experiences

6. A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language –

Should we provide more opportunities within Draethen, Waterloo and Rudry community for promoting the culture, heritage and language of Wales?

Four key themes were identified to help provide more opportunities within DWR for promoting the culture, heritage and language of Wales. These were:

Themes	Suggestions
Welsh Themed Activities	- Mabinogion Day – Welsh folk stories - Welsh Treasure Hunt around Rudry, Draethen and Waterloo using local spots - Activities need to be every day not just on Sundays - Eisteddfod
Welsh Language	82% people do not speak Welsh - More opportunities for Welsh language and culture from school and Adult Education

	• Network of mentoring for younger kids who speak Welsh but their parents don't. Some parents may need support as they don't speak Welsh!! Kids need help with Welsh homework.
	• Needs more in the community to promote Welsh culture and language
	• Various tasks we use English for we should use Welsh
	• Encourage people to watch S4C
	• Welsh language films in a cinema
	• Welsh reading classes
	• Welsh days for Amateur Dramatics
	• Welsh history classes
Culture & History	• The arts part of the culture can be used more to celebrate Wales/ Welsh language
	• Rural history walks
	• Historic tours, encourage people to connect with what is around them. Heritage centre – gather history of the area, guided walks.
	• Agricultural community – more agriculture shift going on
	• Walk/ path around farms around Rudry
	• Local genealogy group
	• Welsh museum would be good – improve knowledge at local area
	• Culture and heritage of Wales:
	• Get Rudry walks –data input on phones and apps, GPS system
	• Barn dance at hall
Information	• Information plaques – around the country – Rudry waxcaps
	• Benches around
	• People to provide them and put their names on them all to come to one place
	• Make better use of technology available to inform and communicate with the community
	• Hub / Platform on website – message board
	• Local signage/ information signs

7. A globally responsible Wales –

How can we raise awareness within the Draethen, Waterloo and Rudry of how we can look after our Environment and consider the global impact of our systems?

This question generated a very healthy discussion and resulted in many methods and suggestions put forward for how to raise awareness within DWR of ways to look after the environment and consider the global impact of our systems. These were:

Themes	Suggestions
Litter / Fly tipping	• Green healthy and litter free • Vehicle registration stamp on take away packaging – then if thrown away can identify • Litter / reduce waste – print vehicle registration number on fast food cartons so litter can be tracked • Need to control fly tipping – there is rubbish everywhere! It spoils the area, need it to be controlled. • Need to know where we can report these issues • Dog poo biodigester
Environmental awareness raising on a local level	• Need more educational events, e.g. film nights on global environmental issues followed by discussions on potential steps we can take ourselves to make a difference • Require sustainability in the local environment , there is so much potential, however the land isn't looked after • People want to see a healthy biodiverse environment, however they don't own the land so can't do anything • Crucially there is a requirement to reduce our global CO2 emissions by 80% to prevent >1.5 degree C global temperature rise. If we don't do this we will be faced with catastrophic environmental and economic consequences. However we don't see the local governments taking any action, we need direction on what action we can take to tackle this critical issue and meet the 1.5 degree C target.
Conservation	• Need to control invasive species(Japanese Knotweed and Himalayan Balsam)
Renewable energy and environmental resource management	• Waterloo site, solar farms and brownfield sites not suitable for housing • Eco gym
Better management of environment and local resources	• Better local management of natural resources required e.g., hydro opportunities, local renewable electricity sources • Need better management of surface water – take it out of the sewer, out it into gardens • Rain water on roofs to take water out of sewer. • Lots of eco behaviours cost a lot more that doing the standard, e.g. putting in rainwater harvesting system is better for the environment, reduces local surface water flooding, however it's the householder that pays. Same with solar panels.

Improve road safety and local public transport	- Control the traffic, infrastructure help developers to shape their developments, leave certain parcels of ground for bees and wild land - Tackle traffic issues – back to planning - Need weight limits on rural roads - Sat Nav issues - No one uses public transport – it is bad therefore everyone uses a car - Need to control motorised motorbikes on common land - More public transport required!! - Promote cycling, make roads safer for cyclists – people are too intimidated by cars, traffic, etc. - Walking on the roads is dangerous – more signs needed to get people to slow down. The traffic discourages sustainable forms of travel - Fast cars on back lanes, people too scared to walk on roads.
Educate people about environmental issues and how they can make a difference	Issues: - Pollution - Climate change - Litter - Oil - Exhaust fumes emissions - How do we tell people? - Homework club - Newsletter - Information on recycling and freecycling things - Using compost bins - More recycling bins and compost bins around the schools and only rubbish bins - Telling people to use electricity wisely - Need to raise awareness and level of knowledge of CO2 emissions - Need training on how to look after our environment, e.g., courses in wildlife, gardening and woodland management

Specific Projects

Forest Schools

Yes, I would go for it, it sounds good
Yes, I would love it
Definitely follows from the nature club that ran many years ago
I would be interested in being trained as a forest school leader

I would like to know more about bees and become a beekeeper
I would definitely help with gardening
It would be nice to get the school involved in bees and honey
I am interested in forest schools for all ages
I would love to have a go at looking after bees
Community Bee keeping
There are lots of perfect places to have forest schools around this area
It teaches children how to take risks in a controlled environment
love the idea of forest schools for my kids they don't get outside enough
My kids are scared of ants! Forest schools will help them 'man up'
Outdoor skills are a great idea

Local Shop

I would like a community shop
local produce
local service
local craft
Competitive prices
Local interaction and focal point
Online facilities
Very local trades directory
Community shop with facility to sell local produce
A community shop with a drop in cafe
A shop with a parcel drop facility, if only the village hall were more for community
The shop and post office is much missed
Community shop combined with volunteering also selling local produce
A shop would be a great idea I would love to see it
A shop would be great

Youth Club

I would 100% go
I would be very interested as its easier than going to Caerphilly and Cardiff all the time
Great idea and would be a safe place for our kids to hand out within the village
Would save having to 'taxi' drive the kids to Caerphilly all the time and better for the environment.

Deliverable	Description	Date delivered
Project Initiation Document (PID)	Agreed Project Initiation Document (PID) setting out tasks, roles, responsibilities and deliverables in relation to the bespoke consultancy services commissioned by DWR Council	23/2/17
Evaluation model design	To design a bespoke monitoring and evaluation model to enable DWR project to be able to monitor and report on outputs from grant recipients and to collect robust data to inform a future Big Lottery Bid.	25/2/17
Organising and booking a table of events for consultations	Organising and booking table of events for consultations including lists of requirements, materials and plans for each event	25/2/17
Design of self-completion, focus group and café consultation questionnaires	Design of mixed method, qualitative and quantitative data collection instruments to be used one to one with DWR residents and at group consultation events	26/2/17
Parent and Toddler Group Consultation	Facilitation of a focus group and canvassing of self-completion questionnaires and write up of focus group	2/3/17
Rudry Rural Market	Canvassing self-completion questionnaires and promoting showcase and curry consultation events	4/3/17
DWR Litter Pick	Canvassing self-completion questionnaires and promoting Showcase and Curry Consultation events	5/3/17
Planning and preparation for DWR Showcase Event	Planning and preparation for DWR Showcase Event	8/3/17
Canvassing self-completion questionnaires and event promotion	Canvassing self-completion questionnaire in Waterloo and Rudry and promoting Showcase and Curry Consultation Events	9/3/17
Showcase DWR Project	Canvassing attendees at Showcase event and event facilitation	11/3/17

Focus Group Luncheon Club	Facilitation of a focus group and canvassing of self-completion questionnaires and write up of focus group	13/3/17
Focus Group Rudry WI	Facilitation of a focus group and canvassing of self-completion questionnaires and promoting Curry consultation.	14/3/17
Curry Consultation	Planning and preparation of all materials and venue for the Curry Community Consultation. Recruitment and preparation of facilitators and scribes and facilitation of event	16 & 17/ 3 17
Canvassing self-completion questionnaires Rudry Village	Canvassing self-completion questionnaires Rudry Village and delivery of requested one to one follow up consultation interviews with community members identified through canvassing, consultation and focus group events	28 & 29/3 17