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Community Shares Wales Resilience Project

Case Study: Menter Ty'n Llan Cyfyngedig

Menter Ty'n Llan Cyfyngedig is a Community Benefit Society set up in March 2021. It's aim was to bring their long time closed local pub into community ownership through a community share offer, with the aim of reopening it as a pub as well as being a space that the whole community could use.

We first met the group in February 2021 and were asked if we could support the development of their share offer document and work with them to achieve the Community Shares Unit Standard Mark. The group were keen to move quickly and aimed to launch the share offer in April 2021. They had moved fast and within a week they had secured short-term loan pledges of more than the £325,000 which was needed to warrant taking the pub off the market!

Whilst going through the Standard Mark process, we were able to offer additional support with their business planning through the New Start Project. A few drafts of the standard mark later, the group were successfully awarded the Community Shares Unit Standard Mark in April 2021, just in time for their launch! They set their minimum fundraising target as £400,00 and their maximum as £850,000 which would allow them to remodel and renovate the building for the multiple uses which are needed if they are to be sustainable in the long term.



The share offer was open for 7 weeks and closed on 11th June raising £464,800 from 1012 investors. 257 investors live in the village (the population of the village is 460) and 458 have a local postcode, but they have also had investors from Germany, Canada, Sweden, Cyprus, France and New Zealand!

They had a varied and fantastic campaign and even had promotion and endorsements through social media from famous faces such as Rhys Ifans and Shane Williams. Further fundraising efforts included selling Save Ty'n Llan t-shirts and chocolate bars.

They successfully exchanged contracts and received the keys at the end of June. A few days of lawn-mowing and tree-pruning meant they were able to open the garden area for two celebratory days over the summer.

In August 2021 the group were encouraged by the Community Shares Team to apply for the UK Government's Community Ownership Fund. As they had ran a successful share offer, this meant they had money to use as match – funding. In October 2021 they were told that they were 1 of only 3 groups successful from Wales!

Through the hard work of volunteers painting, decorating and tidying up they are planning to open the bar on a temporary basis in time for Christmas and have taken on their first employees in order to do so.

They have also secured grant and mortgage funding from the WCVA's Community Asset Development Fund and have applications in the pipeline for grants from other sources as well. These are all necessary if they are to realise the plans for the building which are now out for consultation with the community. They hope to have everything in place for a tendering process in the New Year and to deliver the fully renovated community hub and pub as soon as possible.



About us

Community Shares Wales Resilience Project is funded by the National Lottery Community Fund and delivered by Cwmpas. We help communities raise investment to protect and strengthen the things that matter to them.

Our team is enthusiastic about community shares and enjoy working with people across Wales to raise the capital they need to achieve a shared vision. If you need support, or would like to know more, please get in touch or visit our website.

