



COFNOD O BENDERFYNIAD WEDI'I DDIRPRWYO GAN SWYDDOG
RECORD OF DELEGATED OFFICER DECISION

Penderfyniad Allweddol / Key Decision ✓

PWNC / SUBJECT: RCT Together – Community Asset Transfer of parcel of land behind Corbett Street, Treherbert in the Upper Rhondda Valley to WTOW Ltd also known as Welcome To Our Woods (Company Ltd by Guarantee - Registered Number. 09301501)

DIBEN YR ADRODDIAD / PURPOSE OF REPORT:

To approve the grant of a 25 year lease of a parcel of land behind Corbett Street, Treherbert in the Upper Rhondda Valley in accordance with the provisions of the Community Asset Transfer Scheme to WTOW Ltd (Welcome To Our Woods).

In accordance with the Council's Scheme of Delegation, this report has been prepared to accompany the Officer decision of the Director of Corporate Estates and the Director of Public Health, Protection and Community Services.

PENDERFYNIAD WEDI'I DDIRPRWYO | DELEGATED DECISION: (21/10/22)

To approve the grant of a 25 year lease of a parcel of land behind Corbett Street, Treherbert to **WTOW Ltd (Company Ltd By Guarantee Registered Number. 09301501)** as set out in paragraph 3 of the accompanying officer report.

Llofnod y Prif Swyddog
Chief Officer Signature

Louise Davies

Enw (priflythrennau)
Print Name

Dyddiad

Date: 30.11.22

Llofnod y Prif Swyddog
Chief Officer Signature

David Powell

Enw (priflythrennau)
Print Name

Dyddiad

Date: 30.11.22

Mae'r penderfyniad yn cael ei wneud yn unol ag Adran 15 o Ddeddf Llywodraeth Leol 2000 (Swyddogaethau'r Corff Gweithredol) ac yn y cylch gorchwyl sy wedi'i nodi yn Adran 5 o Ran 3 o Gyfansoddiad y Cyngor.

The decision is taken in accordance with Section 15 of the Local Government Act, 2000 (Executive Functions) and in the terms set out in Section 5 of Part 3 of the Council's Constitution.

YMGYNGHORI / CONSULTATION



30.11.22

**LLOFNOD YR AELOD YMGYNGHOROL O'R CABINET
CONSULTEE CABINET MEMBER SIGNATURE**

DYDDIAD / DATE



30.11.22

**LLOFNOD SWYDDOG YMGYNGHOROL
CONSULTEE OFFICER SIGNATURE (if required)**

DYDDIAD / DATE

WILL THIS DECISION HAVE AN IMPACT ON THE WARD?

A FYDD Y PENDERFYNIAD YMA'N CAEL EFFAITH AR Y WARD?

BYDD | YES ✓

NA FYDD | NO

Any further comments/Need for Local Member to be informed: ✓

Unrhyw sylwadau pellach/Oes angen rhoi gwybod i'r Aelod Lleol?: ✓

RHEOLAU'R WEITHDREFN GALW-I-MEWN / CALL IN PROCEDURE RULES.

A YW'R PENDERFYNIAD YN UN BRYD A HEB FOD YN DESTUN PROSES GALW-I-MEWN GAN Y PWYLLGOR TROSOLWG A CHRAFFU?;

IS THE DECISION DEEMED URGENT AND NOT SUBJECT TO CALL-IN BY THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE:

NAC YDY / NO ✓

Rheswm dros fod yn fater brys / Reason for urgency:

Os yw'n cael ei ystyried yn fater brys - Ilofnod y Llywydd, y Dirprwy Llywydd neu Bennaeth y Gwasanaeth Cyflogedig yn cadarnhau cytundeb fod y penderfyniad arfaethedig yn rhesymol yn yr holl amgylchiadau iddo gael ei drin fel mater brys, yn unol â rheol gweithdrefn trosolwg a chraffu 17.2:

If deemed urgent - signature of Presiding Officer or Deputy Presiding Officer or Head of Paid Service confirming agreement that the proposed decision is reasonable in all the circumstances for it being treated as a matter of urgency, in accordance with the overview and scrutiny procedure rule 17.2:

.....
(Llywydd / Presiding Officer)

.....
(Dyddiad / Dated)

DS – Os yw hwn yn benderfyniad sy'n cael ei ail-ystyried yna does dim modd galw'r penderfyniad I m a bydd y penderfyniad yn dod i rym o'r dyddiad mae'r penderfyniad wedi'i lofnodi.

NB - If this is a reconsidered decision then the decision Cannot be Called In and the decision will take effect from the date the decision is signed.



AT DDEFNYDD Y SWYDDFA YN UNIG / FOR CABINET OFFICE USE ONLY

DYDDIADAU CHHOEDDI A GWEITHREDU / PUBLICATION & IMPLEMENTATION DATES

CYHOEDDI / PUBLICATION

Cyhoeddi ar Wefan y Cyngor / Publication on the Council's Website:- __01.12.22__

DYDDIAD / DATE

GWEITHREDU'R PENDERFYNIAD / IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECISION

Nodwch: Fydd y penderfyniad hwn ddim yn dod i rym nac yn cael ei weithred'n llawn nes cyn pen 3 diwrnod Gwaith ar o lei gyhoeddi. Nod hyn yw ei alluogi i gael ei "Alw I Mewn" yn unol a Rheol 17.1, Rheolau Gweithdrefn Trosolwg a Chraffu.

Note: This decision will not come into force and may not be implemented until the expiry of 3 clear working days after its publication to enable it to be the subject to the Call-In Procedure in Rule 17.1 of the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules.

Yn amodol ar y drefn "Galw i Mewn", caiff y penderfyniad ei roi ar wait har /

Subject to Call In the implementation date will be

DYDDIAD DATE 07.12.22

WEDI'I GYMERADWYO I'W GYHOEDDI: / APPROVED FOR PUBLICATION: ✓



Rhagor o wybodaeth / Further Information

Cyfadran / Directorate:	Public Health, Protection & Community Services
Enw'r Person Cyswllt / Contact Name:	Stephen Smith
Swydd / Designation:	RCT Together – Community Development Officer
Rhif Ffon / Telephone Number:	01443 425368



RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

DELEGATED OFFICER DECISION

29th NOVEMBER 2022

**RCT TOGETHER – COMMUNITY ASSET TRANSFER OF A LAND PARCEL
BEHIND CORBETT STREET, TREHERBERT IN THE UPPER RHONDDA
VALLEY TO WTOW LTD
(COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE REGISTERED NUMBER
09301501)**

**REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE ESTATES AND THE
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH, PROTECTION AND COMMUNITY
SERVICES**

AUTHOR(s): Stephen Smith, Community Development Officer, RCT Together Team.

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 To approve the grant of a 25 year lease of a parcel of land behind Corbett Street, Treherbert to WTOW Ltd for the purposes of piloting a Community Orchard and Agroforestry Programme, on terms to be agreed to the satisfaction of the Council. The land is shown edged red at Appendix 1.
- 1.2 In accordance with the Council's Scheme of Delegation, this report has been prepared to accompany the intended Officer decision of the Director of Corporate Estates and the Director of Public Health, Protection and Community Services.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended:

- 2.1 To approve the grant of a 25 year lease on a parcel of land behind Corbett Street, Treherbert, in accordance with the provisions of the Community Asset Transfer Scheme to WTOW Ltd (Company Ltd By Guarantee - Registered Number 09301501) on terms to be agreed to the satisfaction of the Council and subject to the following conditions being met:
 - An Open Space Notice is undertaken and any objections received given proper consideration. This completed on 30th September 2022 and no objections were received;

- Planning Permission and relevant consents are obtained (if applicable) for any future developments on the site;
- All project development funding is secured. Three year project funding (capital and revenue) has now been secured “in principle” by Welcome To Our Woods for its Crop Cycle, Agroforestry & Growing Spaces Project. Drawing down this funding will be conditional on the completion of the lease. This funding also covers two other privately owned sites in the North Rhondda

3. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 A costed business plan was submitted by the Group to support the proposed leasehold to enable WTOW Ltd to transform the identified parcel of land behind Corbett Street into an innovative Community Orchard and Agroforestry Pilot Site for the piloting of hyper local food production, planting of fruit trees, biodiversity improvements and carbon sequestration through agroforestry activities.
- 3.2 At the strategic Community Asset Transfer Panel Meeting on 5th May 2022, it was recommended to approve the lease transfer to Welcome to Our Woods (WTOW) Ltd based on the following reasons:
- The pilot is expected to be a community outreach and research development project, first and foremost and will provide evidence and lessons learned on the potential sustainability of using agroforestry techniques to create more diverse, productive, healthy and sustainable land use systems. This being regarded as a nature and climate positive solution;
 - It will help inform the RCT Sustainable Food Strategy on community food resilience solutions and contribute to aims set out in the Council’s Climate Change strategy on supporting opportunities for people of all ages to gain the skills they need to work in the developing green economy and to live more sustainably;
 - The site would generate and support a diverse and varied range of products available locally;
 - Demonstrate a variety of sustainable landscape principles and practices including livestock, foraging, timber, shrubs, fruit, berries and vegetables;
 - Establish a local provenance for saleable goods like honey, Christmas trees, eggs, bulbs and herbs which will also generate an income for the project which will be re-invested back into providing further community benefits and programmes;
 - The development of plans for this site have been the result of over 10 years of community engagement and discussions including partners such as RHA Wales, Natural Resources Wales, Valleys Kids and Down to Earth Project.

- 3.3 The learning and outcomes from this pilot venture will inform and shape the longer-term vision for agroforestry within the WTOW local future plan for the Upper Rhondda Valley, aiming to achieve the following objectives:
- Develop a range of agroforest practices appropriate for the Upper Rhondda Valley that can have a lasting and positive legacy for future generations;
 - Explore the creation of educational and training programmes with the local community;
 - Explore the creation of full and part-time employment opportunities;
 - Develop with partners a holistic and innovative approach to land use for conservation, growing products while keeping the natural beauty of the area;
 - Improve the land for wildlife values and improve regional knowledge base of agroforestry practices.
- 3.4 The group have now secured “in-principle” capital and revenue funding for the next three years to undertake a Community Orchard and Agroforestry Pilot Project but require the completion of the lease to draw down the funding.

4. BACKGROUND

- 4.1 The Council’s RCT Together Approach for progressing Community Asset Transfers was agreed by Cabinet at its meeting 30th October 2014. This approach will see the Council working with communities and partner agencies to sustain delivery of services that the Council may no longer be able to deliver on its own.
- 4.2 Applications are considered from “not for personal profit making” voluntary and community groups, social enterprises and Town and Community Council for activities, services and facilities which benefit residents within Rhondda Cynon Taf.
- 4.3 At the Council meeting on 19th May 2016, it was agreed that applications for asset transfer could now be dealt with under the Council’s Delegated Decisions framework. High level asset transfers will need to be reported to Cabinet, if officers and the appropriate Cabinet Member feel this is appropriate.
- 4.4 A review of RCT Together has recently been undertaken and approved by Cabinet at its meeting on 21st November 2018 to ensure any future Community Asset Transfers that are progressed, align with the Council’s Community Hub development programme and can deliver the Council’s strategic service requirements. Each Hub will support a neighbourhood network of preventative community services and activities that will support people living in our communities to improve their independence, resilience, health and well-being.

Overview of WTOW Ltd

- 4.5 WTOW Ltd was incorporated in November 2014 as a registered “not for personal” profit company limited by guarantee, with volunteer directors mainly from the Upper Rhondda Valley as well as individuals involved in the wider WTOW partnership work.
- 4.6 The purpose of the organisation is to connect people with their woodlands and the outdoor areas where they live. They do this by managing the local natural resources in partnership with local people, focusing on health, well-being and creating sustainable social enterprise opportunities aimed at providing a natural future for the Upper Rhondda Valley.
- 4.7 WTOW Ltd have experience of managing large environmental projects in partnership with statutory and voluntary organisations to benefit the local community and directly employ 12 staff, managing volunteer-led projects in and around Upper Rhondda Valley. This funded project will enable 3 key project staff members to be employed along with engagement of community volunteers to support the crop cycle, agroforestry and community growing spaces development across a number of sites in the North Rhondda.
- 4.8 WTOW Ltd own property at The Old Library, Treherbert as well as newly acquired development freehold at the former Rhondda Brewery site. Through partnership, WTOW Ltd also manage the lease of the former Tappers garage site in Treherbert.

The Proposal

- 4.9 The proposed Community Orchard & Agroforestry Pilot led by WTOW Ltd and supported by The Green Valleys, Valleys Kids, RHA Wales and Social Farms and Gardens aims to generate diversity in sustainable landscaping with a range of producers and product interests including livestock, foragers, timbers, shrubs, fruit, berries and vegetables.
- 4.10 The site has a south-east facing aspect with sporadically, mostly self-seeded scrub plants and planted dogwood plants along the perimeter pathway. The site does not currently offer a significant amount of vegetation or biodiversity beyond these various grasses and self-seeded shrubbery. The Agroforestry Pilot project aims to show, by working with community members, how these southerly, facing valley sides can be better utilised towards sustainable food production through offering a mosaic of different suitable plant species under the principles of “right tree, right place” and permaculture.

- 4.11 The Agroforestry venture intends to capitalise on the existing tree cover in the upper Rhondda wooded areas; these existing wooded locations would benefit ecologically from low impact forest farming.
- 4.12 The Agroforestry's integrated approach combining trees and shrubs with crops/livestock will create a more diverse, productive, profitable, healthy and sustainable land system and is regarded as a nature and climate positive solution.
- 4.13 The proposed Agroforestry pilot will maintain open access for the community to utilise and access the environment beyond the proposed Agroforestry pilot site. It is the intention of WTOW Ltd to support and encourage the involvement of community members in helping to manage local natural resources - focussing on the health, well-being and creating sustainable social enterprises to achieve a natural future for the Upper Rhondda Fawr.
- 4.14 The potential outcomes from this pilot agroforestry project would support them to generate diversity in products available locally and demonstrate a range of sustainable landscape principals.
- 4.15 The group have now secured, in principle, funding (revenue and capital) for the next three years subject to the completion of the lease for the land for a contribution towards the costs for the Agroforestry pilot and will be responsible for all costs associated with its long-term maintenance.

Review of WTOW Ltd Business Plan

- 4.16 WTOW LTD is a registered "not for personal" profit company limited by guarantee, with volunteer directors drawn from the local community and individuals involved in the wider Welcome to Our Woods Partnership work.
- 4.17 Company membership is open and free to anybody living or working in the Upper Rhondda area, people who reside outside the geographical area can apply for free membership at the discretion of the Board of Directors.
- 4.18 The Company registered in 2014 and has traded continuously since, with a planned and steady increase in turnover, managing grant funding in excess of £1.3 million since 2017.
- 4.19 **Clear delivery plans in place** - WTOW Ltd have submitted a three year plan outlining the pilot activities they wish to test at the site which includes:
- Groundwork preparation;

- Identified species of fruit trees and trial shrub bushes to be planted;
 - Tree planting trials for hazel and Christmas trees;
 - Trial seed packs;
 - In 2025/26 explore the introduction of animals to the agroforestry system eg. bees, chickens or ducks (subject to ongoing discussions with the community and Council);
 - Each year the group will aim to develop, test, improve and ensure community learning outcomes and benefits are captured;
 - Each year the group will aim to harvest fruits, nuts, herbs and develop appropriate local markets.
- 4.20 WTOW have already identified 5 potential appropriate agroforestry systems available to use in the Upper Rhondda Valley these being:
- Alley Cropping
 - Riparian Forest Buffers
 - Silvopasture
 - Windbreaks and Shelter breaks
 - Forest Farming
- 4.21 **Arrangements and capacity to manage the premises** - One full time agroforestry officer staff member will be employed to establish the venture for the first 36 months of start-up, with support from the wider Climate Action funded staff and volunteer teams. By the end of year two of the programme, they aim to have formed a strong group of local volunteers that will be able to assist in the peak periods of harvest and production.
- 4.22 When the agroforestry gardens are fully established, research indicates that 8-10 hours staff time per week on average would be required to monitor, maintain, oversee any replanting and harvest regimes and to support a group of agroforestry volunteers on the two sites.
- 4.23 Exploration of potential economic models to provide sustainable income from sales of produce derived from the agroforestry gardens will be explored and reported on by the end of year 3.
- 4.24 **Market Appraisal** - There are no other similar projects within the Upper Rhondda or across RCT. The pilot is focused on community engagement and education. As a not for personal profit organisation, WTOW will aim to make the site self-sufficient. All WTOW proposals are developed from community conversations and suggestions; alongside this there are immediate stakeholders with partner organisations who have neighbouring sites to offer support. The project will be a hyper local outreach and engagement project for the Penyreglyn and Treherbert communities. It will be a small-scale site in terms of horticultural production and profit motives are not a driving factor. The programme

instead serves to test out new approaches to forestry management, improved biodiversity and hyper-local food production.

- 4.25 **Financial Appraisal** - WTOW Agroforestry Pilot will initially be funded as part of the National Lottery Climate Action Fund Bid subject to the completion of the lease on the land. This is a 3-year funded programme. The proposed outcomes from the pilot are intended to see a small number of social enterprise ambitions for the site to generate a small self-sustaining income including sale of Christmas trees, forest farming and education and training programmes. Should the venture not be viable in the long term, the community asset would be returned to the Council in an improved condition so the risk to the Council is considered to be low.
- 4.26 **Risk Assessment and Management** - The panel felt the potential benefits to this innovative proposal outweighed any risks as long as the right land management agreements were in place to maintain the site correctly. A land management agreement will be put in place to agree and regularly review the provenance and suitability of any trees, shrubs or herbs planted to ensure the right species are planted in the right places. The proposals for the site are not designed to be extensive in terms of ongoing capital or overheads costs. No major capital securities are required from the site as investments will be limited to fencing, access and temporary structures.

5. **EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 An Equality Impact Assessment screening form has been prepared for the purpose of this report. It has been found that a full report is not required at this time. The screening form can be accessed by contacting the author of the report or the Cabinet Business officer.

6. **WELSH LANGUAGE IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 WTOW is a bilingual organisation with a number of key staff being fluent in the Welsh Language. Every effort will be made to ensure that signage and instruction will be available through the medium of Welsh.

7. **CONSULTATION**

- 7.1 An Open Space Notice was completed on 30th September 2022. No objections were received.
- 7.2 WTOW Ltd proposals for the Sustainable Agroforestry Demonstration site has been the result of direct community feedback and community conversations stemming back almost a decade.

- 7.3 More recently WTOW Ltd have undertaken full and thorough community consultation, including formal co-design talks with Natural Resources Wales and a co-produced piece of work, the first in Wales, with key community members, stakeholders and the local community. This involved 10 face-to-face open community sessions as well as an “Open Day” event with films, maps and pictures to share and explain the Agroforestry plan to an audience of over 150 residents. Food, trails and planting have been identified as key priorities by the community.
- 7.4 WTOW Ltd approach to land management consultation placed the community at the heart of the decision-making process and demonstrated their aim of galvanizing the community for a more sustainable and resilient future for the local community. This approach will now continue with the specific layout of the community orchard and agroforestry site being discussed with community members and experts including relevant Council officers e.g. Tree Officer, Sustainable Food Co-ordinator and Biodiversity Officer.

8. FINANCIAL IMPLICATION(S)

- 8.1 There will be no ongoing cost implications to the Council associated with the leasehold transfer of the identified parcel of land behind Corbett Street, Treherbert.
- 8.2 All costs associated with the ground works, installation, planting, additional mitigation actions required and ongoing maintenance and regular inspections for the site will be the responsibility of WTOW Ltd.
- 8.3 WTOW Ltd has received confirmation the project will be initially funded for 3 years through the UK National Lottery Climate Action Fund.
- 8.4 The leasehold transfer will enable WTOW Ltd to lever in further capital and revenue funding.

9. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS OR LEGISLATION CONSIDERED

- 9.1 The Council’s property lawyers have examined the Council’s title deeds of the land shown edged red at Appendix 1 - Land at Corbett St (“the Property”).
- 9.2 The examination of the title deeds revealed that Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council is the registered owner of the Property and there are no apparent legal restrictions preventing the proposed disposal as outlined in this report.
- 9.3 The Property comprises Open Space and under Section 123 (2A) of the Local Government Act 1972, the intended disposal of the Property must be advertised for two consecutive weeks and any objections received in

response to the Notice must be given careful and proper consideration before proceeding with the proposed disposal. The Open Space Notice period has now completed. There were no objections received.

- 9.4 Under Section 123 of the Local Government Act 1972, Councils can dispose of land and buildings provided that best consideration is achieved. The tenant will pay an Open Market Rent for the lease of the Property.
- 9.5 The proposal will contribute towards priorities identified within the Social Services and Wellbeing Act (Wales) 2014 and enable the Council to satisfy its duty to “promote social enterprises and co-operatives which involve people who need care and support”

10. LINKS TO THE COUNCILS CORPORATE PLAN / OTHER CORPORATE PRIORITIES/ SIP.

- 10.1 Through their strategy of afforestation and community tree planting programme for carbon sequestration, the proposed leasehold transfer to WTOW Ltd aims to make a positive contribution to RCTCBC’s target of becoming carbon neutral by 2030.
- 10.2 In line with RCTCBC Climate Change Strategy “**Think Climate RCT**” and the Welsh Government “Supporting the Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015, WTOW Ltd Sustainable Agroforestry Demonstration site can help contribute towards the following climate actions:
- Supporting new green jobs in a low carbon economy with locally procured goods and services – **3 new jobs will be created and local community volunteers will support this project. Progressing schemes that will benefit communities now and in the future by providing community food resilience solutions. The majority of staff and volunteers are from neighbouring communities, therefore reducing the need for travel to work;**
 - Working with local businesses to help them source more sustainable products locally and sell to local markets – **the produce and yield from the agroforestry site will be directly used by the Local Food Network for the benefit of the local community;**
 - Using public sector land for...community growing – **the community orchard and agroforestry site will trial planting a variety of trees and herbs;**
 - Enabling residents to be more active in their communities in community projects and community use of green space – **this site and the corresponding Natural Resources Wales woodland has been historically used by community members and partners for a range of community events and health and wellbeing activities. Local volunteers will be involved in maintaining and**

developing the site. This will be a “living landscape” where local community members can be more active in their green spaces.

- Working with partners to develop a Food Prosperity Network for creating an RCT Sustainable Food Facility – ***WTOW are founding members of the RCT Sustainable Food Network and sit on the Steering group and are helping to trial, test and review innovative ways of growing local food sources including Crop Cycle, Controlled Environment Agriculture trials. They will be evaluating this project as well as sharing best practice and this work will inform the RCT Sustainable Food Places Strategy;***
- Working with communities and residents to encourage people to eat climate friendly meals.

10.3 Along with 44 public bodies across Wales, the Council is subject to the statutory requirements of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015, which sets a common vision for the long-term well-being of people and communities through seven national well-being goals and provides a framework for public services to work differently through five sustainable development principles. The principles include: thinking about the **long-term** impact of our actions; seeking to **prevent** issues from occurring in the first place or from worsening; **involving people** and communities in decisions made that affect them; working together **collaboratively** with other organisations and **integrating** our work to understand the ‘knock-on’ effects of what we do. WTOW Ltd aim to contribute towards these well-being goals and sustainable principles by:

- Piloting a local solution to the many challenges that have been brought by the globalisation of food and farming industry eg long supply chains, carbon and chemical intensity. The group want to maximise use of local assets by testing locally grown, low carbon food production. They believe residents will recognise the sustainable benefits of growing and purchasing hyper local food and reducing food miles.
- The growing business will be community controlled. It will provide local employment and volunteering opportunities and produce for the local market contributing to the Councils Think Prosperity, Think People, Think Place priorities within its Corporate Plan and Climate Change Strategy.

10.4 The Council is approaching this principle in different ways and has launched RCT Together as a means of encouraging and involving residents in how services are best sustained in communities:

“The Council’s vision is to develop a new relationship with residents that enable them to be independent and resilient and to take on greater responsibility for their local communities. This is not about the Council shifting its responsibility – it is about recognising that residents want to be more involved in what happens in their community”

- 10.5 The RCT Together approach is a key initiative of the Council and supports the principle set out in the Corporate Plan 2020 – 2024 by supporting communities to do more for themselves and give them more control over what they can do to support local people in their communities to strengthen their resilience and wellbeing.

11. CONCLUSION

- 11.1 The benefits of transferring an asset to a Community Group on a long term leasehold transfer are substantial and varied, unlocking community enterprise, encouraging volunteer commitment, helping utilise local intelligence and allowing the organisation to attract the necessary capital investment to create and sustain a thriving community asset.
- 11.2 Providing approval for a 25 year lease to WTOW Ltd, Community Orchard and Agroforestry Pilot will support the organisation to meet the identified needs of the community by working to connect people with the area they live in, by managing the natural resources that the Upper Rhondda Fach have to offer. Focusing on health, well-being and creating sustainable social enterprises to achieve a natural future for the area.
- 11.3 A lease will increase the sense of ownership, enabling local people to develop a valuable asset, empowering the community to design and deliver services to meet local need.
- 11.4 The recommendation is therefore to approve the grant of a 25 year lease to WTOW Ltd to develop a parcel of land at Corbett Street, Treherbert to meet local identified needs as a Community Orchard and Agroforestry pilot site.



LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972
AS AMENDED BY
THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985
RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL
DELEGATED OFFICER DECISION
29th NOVEMBER 2022

REPORT TO ACCOMPANY A DECISION OF THE DIRECTOR OF
CORPORATE ESTATES AND THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH,
PROTECTION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

RCT TOGETHER – COMMUNITY ASSET TRANSFER OF A LAND PARCEL
BEHIND CORBETT STREET, TREHERBERT IN THE UPPR RHONDDA
VALLEY TO WTOW LTD (COMPANY LTD BY GUARANTEE –
REGISTERED NO 09301501

Background Papers:

- Cabinet – 30th October 2014;
- Cabinet - 19th May 2016;
- RCT Together – Review of the Community Asset Transfer Process; Cabinet 21st November 2018.

Officer to contact:

Stephen Smith, RCT Together Community Development Team – 01443 425368

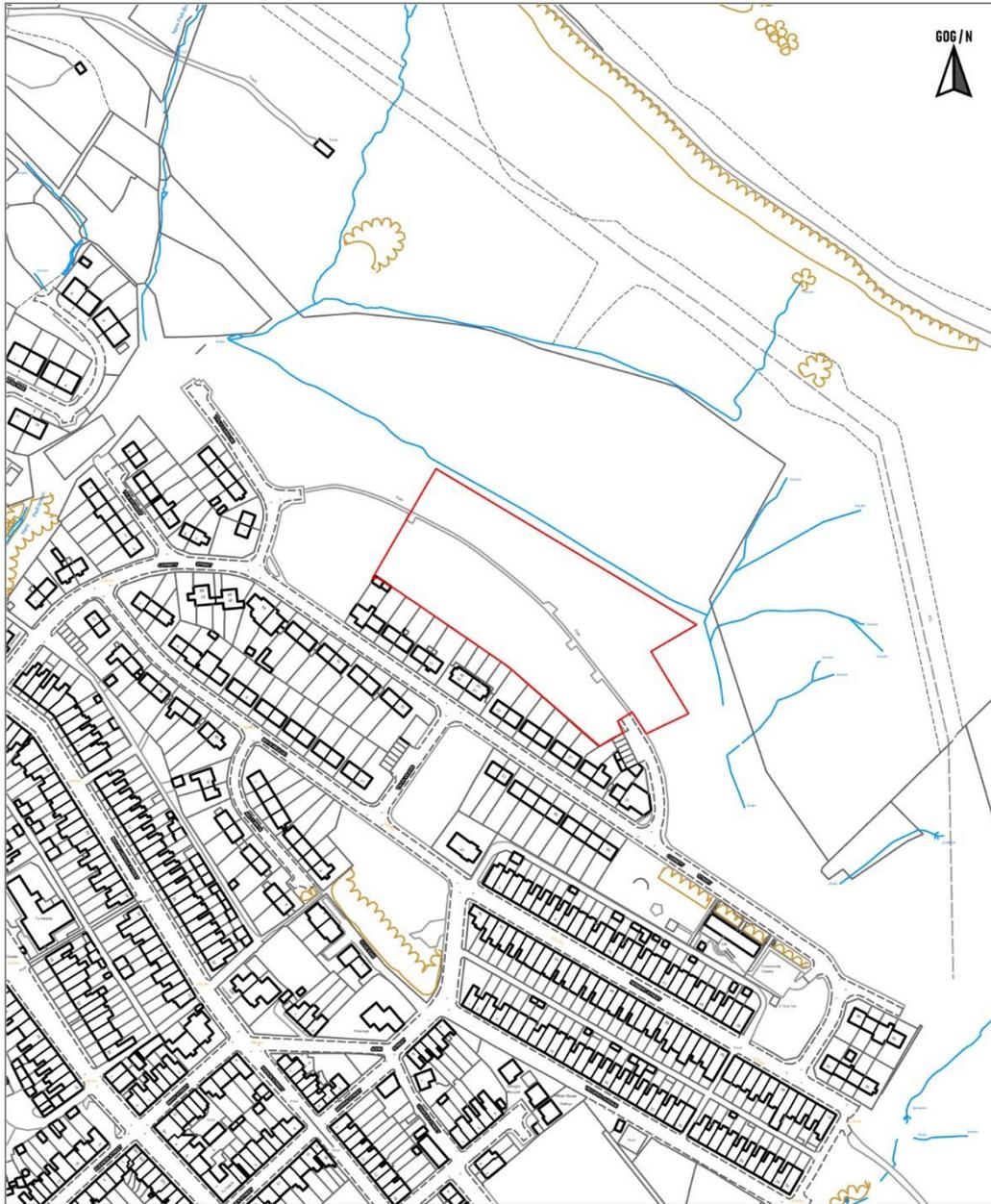
Relevant Scrutiny Committee

Community Services Scrutiny Committee

Appendix 1



EIDDO'R CYNGOR / CORPORATE ESTATES
Ty Trevithick, Abercynon CF45 4UQ



Teitl/Title: Corbett Street, Treherbert - Land at

<<>>

Graddfa ar A4/ 1:2,500
Scale at A4:
Lleoliad/ 294,506E
Location:
Dyddiad/ 198,278N
Date:
09/12/2021