

Future of the Llanfair DC former school and its grounds

Explanatory Note for the optioneering analysis.

The Llanfair DC Community Council has been considering the future use of the former school for some time and has been in liaison with Denbighshire County Council. Since February 2020 when the school was vacated and Denbighshire County Council advised that it had no further use for the site the Community Council has been considering options and has been liaising with residents from the villages to seek their views. A number of exciting ideas have been put forward and the Community Council is seeking to identify the best way that the site can be used for the future. A guiding principle is that future use should provide maximum benefit to the whole community.

The attached paper is a matrix that takes all the ideas proposed for future use of the former school, the playground and playing field and considers each. The Community Council has a Neighbourhood Plan which sets out a vision for the villages for the future and this identifies a number of needs. In addition, there are county and national policy and strategy documents which set out the background for needs for the future.

The matrix lists all the ideas proposed and tests them against a series of policy and strategy documents to gauge how each idea meets the set objectives. The exercise has been carried out rapidly and the matrix is presented as a "straw man" to form the basis for discussion of the ideas and to help make decisions about the best outcome. The development of the matrix has been undertaken with a degree of cross checking as objectively as we can but there will remain issues that need further discussion and clarification. The Community Council would welcome further input from all interested residents to help develop the strategy for the school and its site. From here we will be prioritising ideas and shortlisting those that present the best benefit to the community.

The matrix has two sheets on the Excel spreadsheet. The top sheet is an at-a-glance view of the options for the school building and for the playing field. The second sheet provides detailed commentary considering the ideas and how they fit with policy and strategy of the various documents.