

FACILITIES

About the club:

- RTB Ebbw Vale Junior Football Club
- Located Ebbw Vale, Blaenau Gwent
- FAW Gold Accredited Club
- 19 teams from U5s through to Seniors for both males and females



What did the club do?

The club have been on a 5-year community asset transfer journey with the local authority (LA). The first conversations began in 2016 and since that time the club have been aligned to two different facility projects before finally being solely aligned to Cwm Welfare Ground.

The location of the new site has enabled the club to connect with a community that they normally wouldn't have interacted with. This has helped not only grow the club but form connections with schools and different community groups.

Expansion of three new teams and 10 volunteers/coaches including new volunteers and coaches within their Huddle programme.

Worked in partnership with the LA sports development team to organise primary school cross country events at the venue. Through this connection the club have provided coaches to support after school events and holiday activities run by the LA.

A place the club can now call home. Which has and will continue to provide an opportunity to grow funds, build upon on football community but support the local area.

How did the club do this?

The club recognised that their participation numbers were growing and that a hub was needed to help continue to grow and appropriately support the players.

They had a vision to bring all of the teams and the local community in together, with the facility being at the centre of the togetherness.

The facility was partially being used by a local boxing club so it was important that the two clubs worked together. A Community Interest Company (CIC) was formed so that both clubs could collectively run the facility.

Kept the wider community informed through the village social media pages, about the work going on at the grounds as well as some of the improvement made to the facilities that would benefit everyone.

Had conversations with experts in this field which gave the club insight and an impartial view of the grounds, facility and overall project. This helped them develop a strategy which proved invaluable throughout the journey.

Our facilities journey has been extremely long but we are already seeing the benefits that it has brought in the coming together of two communities who historically have not connected before. As well as allowing us to expand our range of football opportunities, but to also begin to bring our teams and the local community in together, with the facility being the centre of our togetherness.

– Johnathan Caswell, Chairperson