# Cymru







## Welcome to Conference Day 2 Croeso i ddiwrnod dau y gynhadledd

Gavin Smart, Chief Executive, Chartered Institute of Housing







#### Presidential Address Anerchiad llywyddol (fideo)

Jill Murray BA FCIH, President, Chartered Institute of Housing







## Keynote: Understanding the Customer Experience

**Araith Gyweirnod: Deall profiad y cwsmer** 

Andrew McMillan, former Head of Customer Service, John Lewis

Chair – Helen White, Chief Executive, Taff Housing Association







## Keynote: Positive Placemaking Araith Gyweirnod: Creu Lleoedd Cadarnhaol

Jen Heal, Deputy Chief Executive, Design Commission for Wales
Rhianydd Jenkins, Director of Development and Regen, RHA Wales
Christine Boston, Director, Sustrans Cymru – TBC
Chair – Debbie Green, Chief Executive, Coastal Housing Group







## Healthier Places & Happier Lives for Everyone

A Guide to Positive Place-making







#### The challenge















#### Llwybr Newydd - A New Path





TARGET - 45% of journeys to be made by public transport, walking and cycling by 2040



**Walking and Cycling** 



**Public Transport** 



Ultra-Low Emissions Vehicles



Other Private Motor Vehicles

### Our definition of a 'liveable city or town for everyone'



1

Has social connection at its heart





Has most of what you need just a short walk away

2

Has roots and celebrates its unique character



Is easy for everyone to move around in healthily

4

Has clean air and green space for all to live and play in





Sustrans is the charity making it easier for people to walk and cycle.

We connect people and places, create liveable neighbourhoods, transform the school run and deliver a happier, healthier commute.

Join us on our journey.

#### www.sustrans.org.uk



# Cymru









DESIGN
COMMISSION
FOR WALES
COMISIWN
DYLUNIO
CYMRU

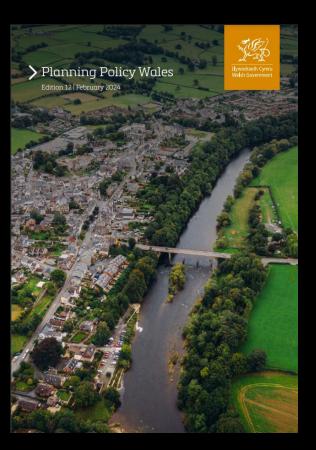
### Positive Placemaking

April 2024

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Better physical places

A way of doing things



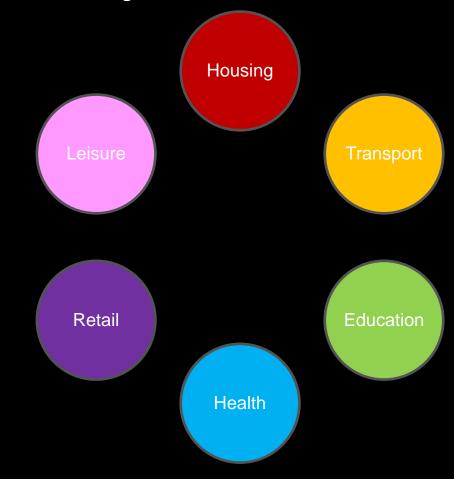
2.1 Everyone engaged with or operating within the planning system in Wales must embrace the concept of placemaking in both plan making and development management decisions in order to achieve the creation of sustainable places and improve the well-being of communities.

#### What is Placemaking?

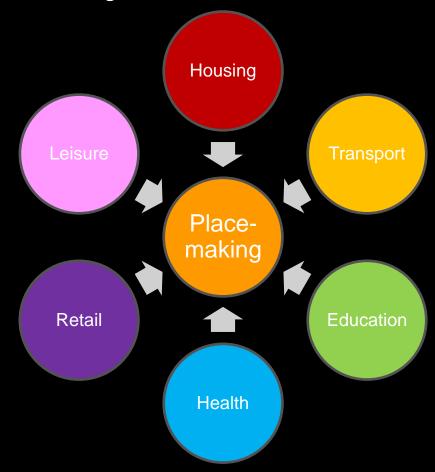
"Placemaking" is a holistic approach to the planning and design of development and spaces, focused on positive outcomes. It draws upon an area's potential to create high quality development and public spaces that promote people's prosperity, health, happiness, and well being in the widest sense.

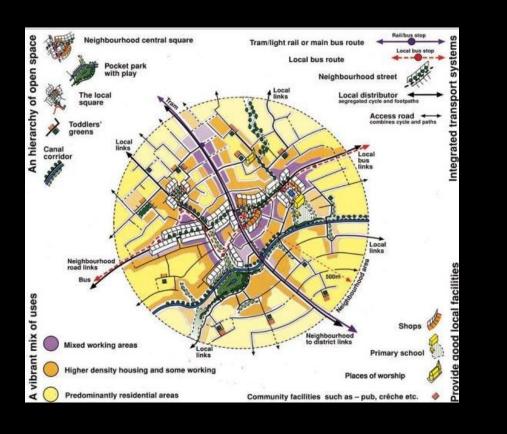
Placemaking considers the context, function and relationships between a development site and its wider surroundings. This will be true for major developments creating new places as well as small developments created within a wider place.

Placemaking should not add additional cost to a development, but will require smart, multi-dimensional and innovative thinking to implement and should be considered at the earliest possible stage. Placemaking adds social, economic, environmental and cultural value to development proposals resulting in benefits which go beyond a physical development boundary and embed wider resilience into planning decisions.









## Placeless...?













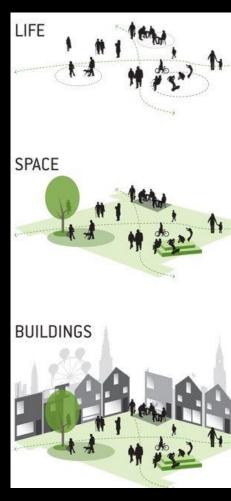




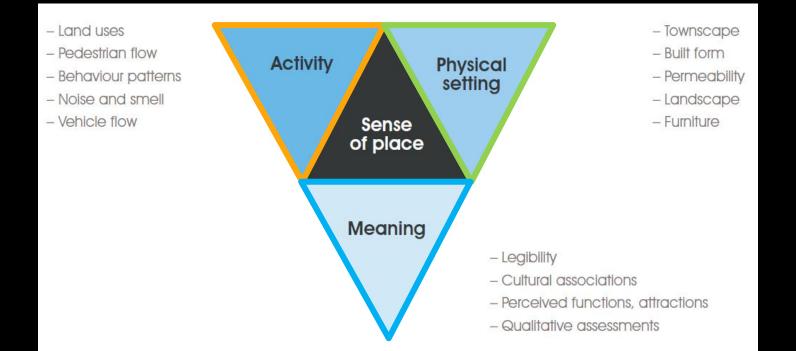








Jan Gehl, Cities for People



#### Placemaking Wales Charter



#### Placemaking Wales Charte

The Placemaking Wales Charter has been developed in collaboration with the Placemaking Wales Partnership which is made up of stokeholders representing a wide range of interests. The Charter reflects the collective and individual commitment of these organisations to support the development of high-quality places across Wales for the benefit of communities.

In signing the Placemaking Wales Charter I/my organisation agree to support placemaking in all relevant areas of my/our work and promote the following principles in the planning, design and management of new and existing places:

#### People and community

the local community are involved in the development of proposals. The needs, applications, health and well-being of all people are considered of the outset. Proposals are shaped to help to meet these needs as well as create, integrate, protect analor enhance a sense of community and promote equality.

#### Location

Places grow and disvelop in a way that uses land efficiently, supports and enhances existing places and its well connected. The location of housing, employment and leisure and other facilities are planned to help reduce the need to travel.

#### Movement

Walking, eyeling and public transport are prioritised to provide a choice of fransport modes and avoid dependence on private vehicles. Well designed and safe active travel routes connect to the wider active travel and public transport network and public transport stations and stops are positively infegrated.

#### Mix of uses

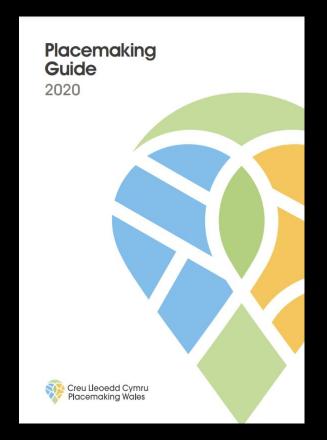
Places have a range of purposes which provide apportunities for community development, local business growth and access jobs, services and facilities via walking, cycling or public fransport. Development density and a mix of uses and terruse helps to support a diverse community and vibrant public medine.

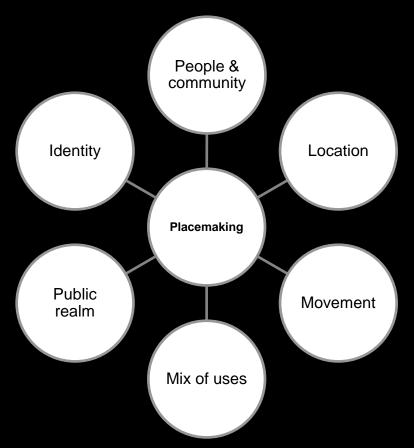
#### Public realm

Shoets and public spaces are well adminut, wiscoming, safe and inclusive with a distinct identity. They are designed to be including and adequates with landscape, goen infrastructure and sustainable dishape well integrated. They are well connected to esting places and promote opportunities for social interaction and a range of activities for all people.

#### Identity

The positive, distinctive qualities of existing places are valued and especial. The unique features and apportunities of a location including heritage, culture, language, built and natural physical attributes are identified and responded to.





#### People and community

The local community are involved in the development of proposals. The needs, aspirations, health and well-being of all people are considered at the outset. Proposals are shaped to help to meet these needs as well as create, integrate, protect and/or enhance a sense of community and promote equality.



#### People and community







#### People and community









Placemaking Wales Charter









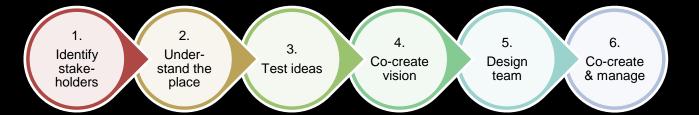
https://www.archdaily.com/971738/par ks-and-squares-20-public-spacedesigns

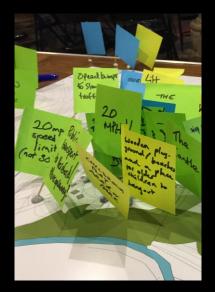


https://www.wakelin.co.uk/rickmansworth-road-watford-public-consultation/



# Design – Announce – Defend



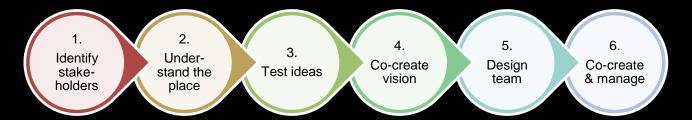


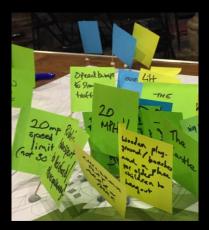




Shape My Town

Pop-up orchard by Amanda Spence Architects









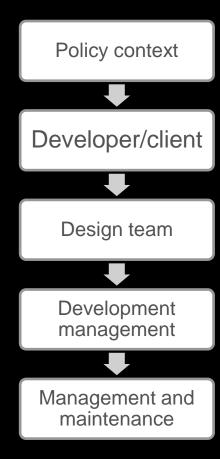
Responds to need and opportunity

Builds nartnershins

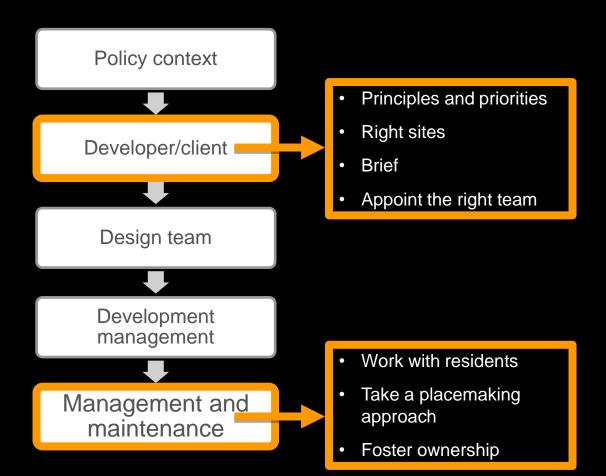
Empowers communities

- Design supports uses
- Flexible solutions
- Engagement & commitment grow

### What can you do?



## What can you do?

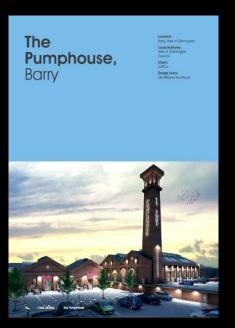


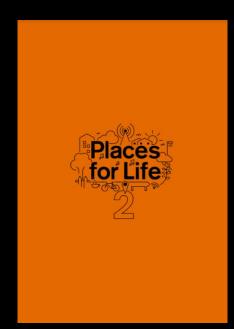
Diolch

Thank you









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The value of walking with people is allowing them to reveal subjective experience.

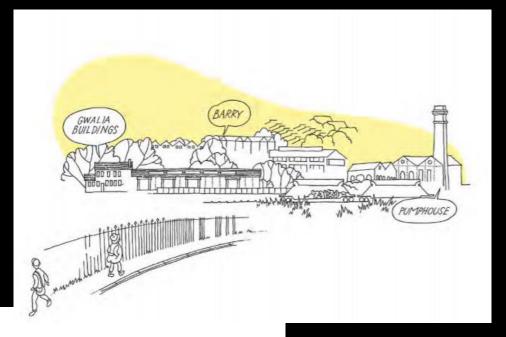
details. From an hour-long walk there were fascinating accounts about topics that I would never have considered asking about – more of which later. However, the downside to the go-along is that details of life, whether it was being a teenager in 1960s or a teenager in the present day, may not make sense to the interviewer.

Figure 1 - Walking tour, November 2019



Places for Life 2 Understanding a Place

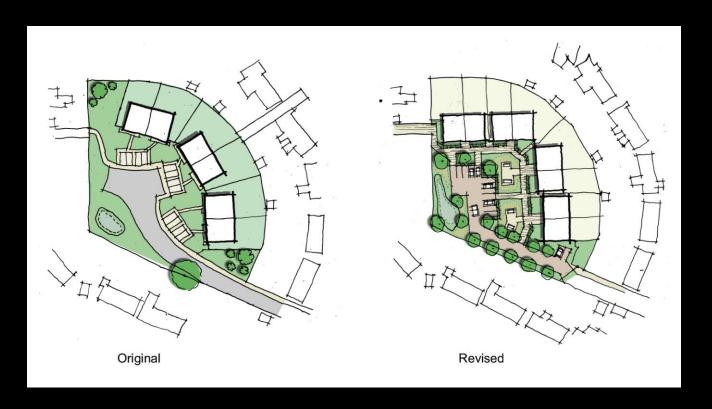
2



As a society, we need to become better at embracing the 'imperfect' and 'incomplete' character, harnessing empty spaces for temporary uses in the absence of longer-term plans to keep buildings from deterioration.

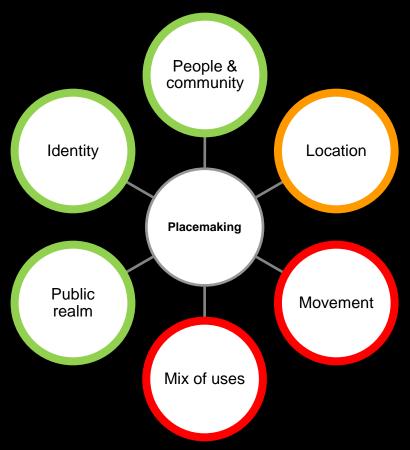
Places for Life 2: Priit Jürimäe

## Examples – Small Residential



## Examples – Medium Residential





Diolch

Thank you



#### So, what's this about Tonypandy?



- Former coal mining town lots of history including 'The Tonypandy Riots' of 1910
- Once a thriving market town
- One of the principal towns in RCT
- 5 miles from major town of Pontypridd
- 19 miles from Cardiff City Centre
- Excellent train, bus and car links
- Stones throw from Country Parks, Theatres, designated Dark Sky areas and tourism offers



#### So, what's this about Tonypandy?





NEWS By Thomas Deacon Senior reporter

Enter your postcode

DOLWEAR Anne'S FASHIONS WE

See news near

# The anger, the frustration and the pain of trying to trade on Wales' worst high street

"If nothing changes they can build a concrete wall across Porth and flood the lot. Because it'll be a ghost town.



report

Some retail centres have performed well since 2019 but most Welsh towns have fallen down the list







A ranking of 1,000 high streets and town centres lays bare the areas where retailers are struggling to stay afloat

Tonypandy fire: Crews battle blaze across four premises

③ 11 June 20



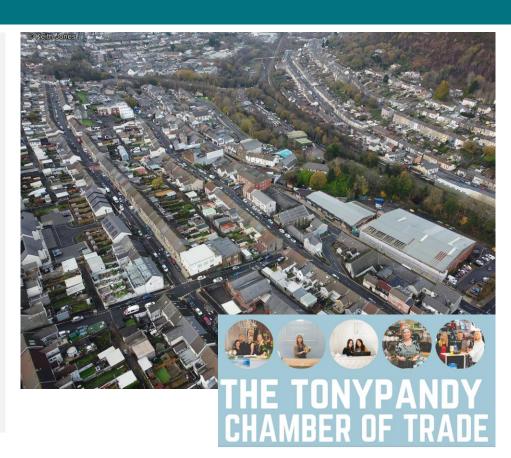


As an anchor organisation we couldn't just sit back and do nothing!

#### So, what was the plan?



- Initial town centre engagement, what are residents & local businesses thinking and feeling about the town.
- Together with existing local businesses set up Chamber of Trade.
- Establish a community hub.
- · Work on master plan for the town with LA
- Take some risk and purchase key sites to improve offer residential and commercial.
- Vision for Greening the Town
- Improve links to nearby tourist hotspots.



#### Five minutes in & let's not forget



No room for ego's here, placemaking for us is about collaboration, sharing and understanding the collective power and change we can have.

## Capital Projects



- Purchased 2 major strategic sites for residential and commercial uses
- Consulted with the community on our plans & DCFW reviews



Remember: Complement what's there don't compete!



- Sites will deliver much needed homes but also create opportunities for new jobs, new commercial offerings
- Highly sustainable builds with huge focus on social value and community benefit
- Approx £20m capital investment in the town all
   due to complete by 2025

# Day 1 Giving Something Back

# RHA

- •Community told us they needed a space to get together
- •We decided to use one of our commercial premises to establish a community hub
- •Worked with Black Sheep& partners to re purpose the space





38 young people had opportunity to train & gain skills on this project!

#### The Little Shed

# RHA

- •Food parcel project Grub Hub, in parentship with supermarkets alleviating pressure on our foodbanks.
- •Community Fridges in partnership with Hubbub and Coop reducing food waste going to landfill.
- Period poverty support in partnership with RCTCBC
- Digital skills sessions with Generation Rhondda
- •Repair Café's
- Youth drop-in's
- Mental health support groups
- Weekly Warm Space/ Craft Sessions
- Yoga classes
- ·Hot Flash Café's
- Training and resource hub for tenants on Carbon Literacy
- •Recycle station for a community interest company who reuse plastics to fund arts activities.
- Free water Refill Station
- Homegrown cooking sessions

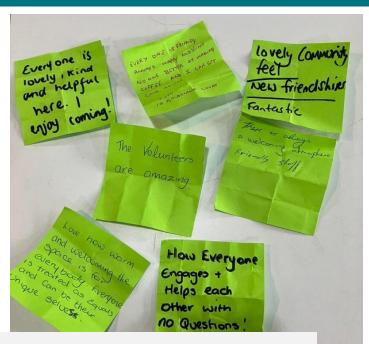


Lots of what we do here is run by community volunteers & RHA tenants

## It's so much more than a building







'Little Shed is more than a 'building', it's a place for people in our communities that's been created with people from our local community, that's the difference with our approach, it's the engagement and involvement that sits above any capital project or works'

# Building Legacy Projects (Build Shed) RAA



# Rhi's Placemaking Takeaways



- 1. Get under the skin of the place
- 2. Take people with you consult, engage, involve over and over again!
- 3. Align community & capital regeneration teams for greater outcomes
- 4. Get comfortable being uncomfortable
- 5. One size doesn't fit all

Got any questions?

Email me: Rhianydd.Jenkins@rhawales.com

# Keynote: A Home of One's Own Araith Gyweirnod: Cartref i Chi'ch Hun

Hashi Mohamed, Barrister, Broadcaster and Author of A Home of One's Own

Chair: Jonathan Morris, Chair, Chartered Institute of Housing Cymru







# Closing Remarks Sylwadau i gloi

Jonathan Morris, Chair, Chartered Institute of Housing





