



AHF PVG Report

Completion Date: 31st July 2023

Engedi 2.0 - A Regenerative Catalyst

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Executive Summary:

Engedi 2.0 is a not-for-profit organisation with a mission to foster a vibrant, resilient, and regenerative community in the town of Caernarfon, North Wales. The project adopts a humanist perspective, promoting locally grounded solutions to global challenges. Engedi 2.0 is dedicated to nurturing the potential of Caernarfon's residents and those of the surrounding region, equipping them with the skills and resilience necessary to thrive amidst the uncertainties of the future.

At the heart of Engedi 2.0 is the transformation of the historic Engedi chapel into a dynamic community centre. The project will breathe new life into this significant cultural landmark, turning it from a symbol of decline into a beacon of regeneration and hope.

The Regenerative Catalyst takes a holistic approach to community development, focusing on three major interconnected themes: digital technology skills, creative work and expression, and personal wellbeing. By fostering a culture of lifelong learning and skill sharing, creativity, and mental health awareness, Engedi 2.0 aims to build a community capable of facing future challenges, including mitigating and adapting to climate change, and the raft of other emergent global challenges sometimes called the 'meta-crisis'.

In addition to serving the local community, Engedi 2.0 seeks to promote and celebrate Welsh language and local culture on the global stage. The project will address the region's socio-economic disparities and investigate how this bilingual region finds its own unique voice and can play a role in shaping the nation's response to major challenges facing our world.

Engedi 2.0 is more than a physical renovation project; as a Regenerative Catalyst, it is seeking to stimulate change that extends beyond the boundaries of the chapel, invigorating the wider community, and contributing to global conversations. The organisation represents a forward-thinking vision for community development, one that intertwines heritage, culture, education, and wellbeing, creating a compelling model for community resilience and regeneration.

Project Description

Engedi 2.0 is an innovative, community-centred initiative aiming to revitalise the historic Engedi chapel located in Caernarfon, North Wales, and transform it into a beacon of cultural and educational enrichment. This project will rehabilitate a significant local landmark, converting it into a thriving community centre that reflects its rich historical and cultural significance, taking it into the 21st century and beyond.

The Engedi Chapel and curtilage, once a beacon of Welsh heritage is available to the organisation initially under a 30-year lease, with the longer term plan is for the property to be owned by the community. The site will serve as the central hub for the organisation's operations.

A key feature of the Regenerative Catalyst is the careful interconnection and fusion between the different thematic spaces. Each space needs space to develop its theme and independent community, however the boundaries of the spaces will have carefully controlled porosity to allow for rich cross pollination between the themes without a loss of identity. The spaces serve to nurture the development of a membership based community of advanced practitioners and enthusiasts in each of the areas, as well as host occasional events open to the casually curious.

A Hackspace for engineers and technology skill development will sit alongside an arts community space, a wellbeing workshop area dojo, and a coworking café which encourages cross-pollination. The arts space will nurture creativity and artistic expression, while the wellbeing area will cater to community needs for healing, therapy, and personal growth and development. There will also be connecting space, and multi-use easily reconfigurable spaces for agile use.

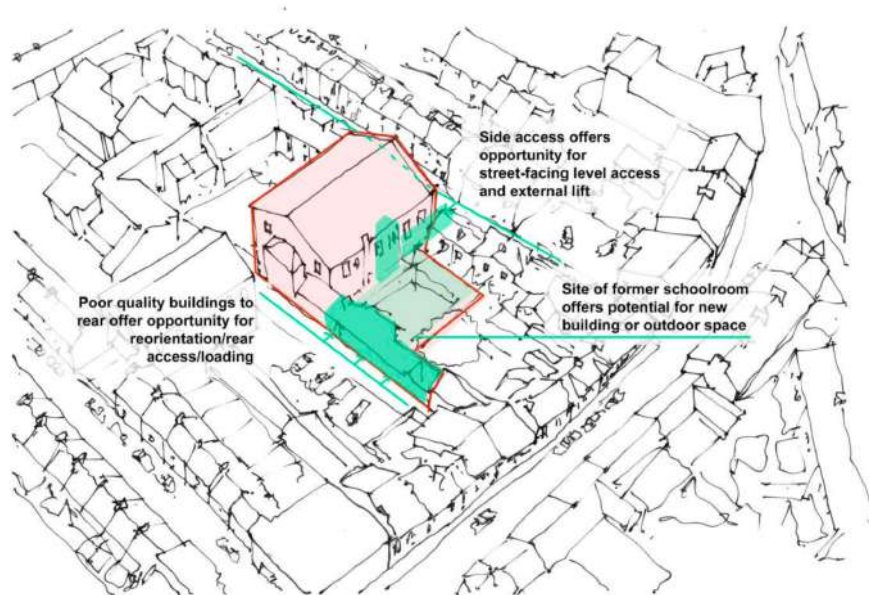
Engedi 2.0 has a strong commitment to celebrate and preserve the Welsh language and culture and to aid in the local economy's revitalization and in building long-term resilience. As such, all our initiatives are designed to be inclusive, collaborative, and beneficial to the community's well being and ability to thrive. The project will celebrate bilingualism throughout and create a fun and vibrant atmosphere for the chapel users to both learn and share Welsh language and culture.

The organisation is currently in its business planning stage, exploring various funding options, including grants, donations, and possible income from onsite and external projects.

The Engedi Chapel: A Heritage Asset

The grade II Engedi Chapel stands as a testament to the rich cultural and architectural heritage of Caernarfon. This historic building, with its unique architectural features and storied past, represents a significant asset to the community and a symbol of its enduring spirit.

The chapel's heritage value extends beyond its physical structure. It has served as a vibrant community centre, a place of worship, and a beacon of Welsh identity. Its walls have witnessed countless community gatherings, educational workshops, and cultural events. Its history is intertwined with the history of the community it has served.



Further details of the chapel's history, early architectural work exploring potential remodelling, and a comprehensive condition survey of the site are available in the RIBA Stage 2 report by Donald Insall Associates. This report provides an in-depth look at the chapel's architectural significance and its potential for transformation.

The building owners have expressed their desire to support the Engedi 2.0 project and are committed to offering a 30-year lease of the building at no cost to the company. Beyond the 30-year period the owners are exploring different options for how the asset can be used to back the development of other community focussed regenerative projects.

The Cwmni Engedi 2.0 is currently working diligently to bring the building to an insurable stage, a crucial step towards securing the lease and moving forward with the project. We are optimistic about achieving this goal in the near future, paving the way for the next exciting chapter in the life of the Engedi Chapel.

Thematic Focus Areas

1. Digital Technology Skills:

In a world increasingly defined by technological advancement, digital literacy and technology skills are key factors in individual and community success. They empower individuals to participate in the digital economy, enable access to information, and foster a sense of connectedness. As part of the Engedi 2.0 project, our focus on digital technology skills as a regenerative catalyst aims to strengthen the knowledge base of the Caernarfon community, bridging the digital divide and fostering resilience in the face of future challenges.

The project will include the development of a hackerspace—a collaborative workspace equipped with tools and resources to explore and learn about technology. This space will be a hub for workshops, seminars, and informal learning exchanges, helping community members to develop vital skills in hardware, software and technology entrepreneurship.

2. Creative Development:

At the heart of a thriving community lies a vibrant pulse of creativity. It fuels innovative thinking, fosters social cohesion, and provides a platform for personal expression and social dialogue. In the context of Engedi 2.0, the nurturing of artistic creativity is seen as a regenerative force that can inspire and uplift the community.

To facilitate this creative exploration, the project will establish a dedicated arts space. This space will serve as a haven for professional artists and a venue for a wide range of creative activities, including painting, sculpture, photography, music, dance, and theatre. It will also host community art exhibits, performances, and workshops that are open to the wider public, fostering a dynamic and inclusive artistic community.

In addition to its focus on the arts, Engedi 2.0 recognises the creative potential of entrepreneurship, particularly in the realm of regenerative enterprises. While the project will not provide dedicated spaces for entrepreneurs, it will offer a range of services and support to help them develop and grow their ventures. This includes access to co-working spaces, where they can benefit from the rich knowledge exchange within the community, as well as specific programs and resources tailored to the needs of regenerative entrepreneurs.

By integrating artistic creativity and entrepreneurial support in this way, Engedi 2.0 aims to foster a culture of innovation and resilience that can inspire new ideas, new businesses, and new ways of strengthening the community.

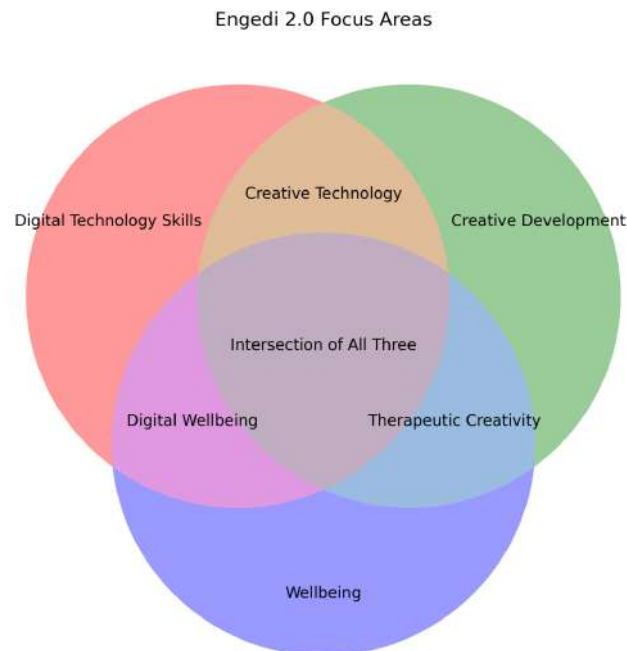
3. Wellbeing:

Individual and communal well being are fundamental elements of a sustainable and regenerative community. They encompass mental, physical, and social health, all of which are deeply interconnected. By focusing on wellbeing, the Engedi 2.0 project aims to help heal past traumas, alleviate poverty-related stressors, work with depression and substance abuse and foster a healthier, more resilient community.

The project will include a wellbeing workshop space— a peaceful, supportive environment where community members can participate in activities designed to promote holistic health. This might include meditation or yoga classes, mental health workshops, or supportive group meetings. By creating a dedicated space for such activities, Engedi 2.0 will underscore the importance of wellbeing in creating a robust and regenerative community.

4. The Overlaps

Within these 3 areas are the overlapping intersections shown below. Each of the overlaps are also thematic areas where Engedi 2.0 will carry out activities, and where the interdisciplinary collaboration and community development can happen.



i. Intersection of Digital Technology Skills and Creative Development:

This intersection can be understood as "Creative Technology". Here, people use their tech skills in creative ways, such as digital art, video game design and experiences, VR/AR with motion capture and dance and digital music production. This area could also encompass creative problem-solving using technology, like designing apps or creating innovative digital solutions.

ii. Creative Development and Wellbeing:

This intersection can be termed "Therapeutic Creativity". Art and creative activities have long been used in therapy and personal development. This could include art therapy, music therapy, or writing for personal growth and self-expression. Creative activities can provide a sense of achievement, relieve stress, and help individuals to express and understand their emotions, thus promoting mental wellbeing.

iii. Wellbeing and Digital Technology Skills:

This intersection might be "Digital Wellbeing". It involves the conscious use of technology to support mental and physical health. This could include using health tracking apps, online therapy or meditation apps, learning about the importance of digital detox, or even understanding how to use technology in a way that promotes rather than hinders wellbeing.

iv. Intersection of All Three (Digital Technology Skills, Creative Development, and Wellbeing):

This central intersection is the central theme of Engedi 2.0. Here, individuals are using their tech skills creatively to promote wellbeing. For example, they might be coding a mobile app that supports mental health in Welsh Language communities, creating digital art for a social cause, or using social media creatively to raise awareness about wellbeing issues. This synthesis is the essence of the regenerative catalyst.

Workshops, Activities and Projects to deliver the themes.

Engedi 2.0 will facilitate a range of workshops and programmes that are primarily within the thematic areas and their respective overlaps.

In addition to on-site activities, Engedi 2.0 is committed to initiating off-site projects aimed at broadening the project's reach and impact within the community. These external projects will provide further opportunities for learning, community engagement, and impact. As an example, one of the initiatives that has been proposed involves a citizen science project at the local park: participants will be taught to build electronic devices to monitor oxygen levels in the pond and this can be connected to a web platform as part of collectivising the mission to create a healthier environment. Learning outcomes are diverse and people with different interests will be able to focus on different areas but they would include basic electronics, IoT devices, ecosystems and nutrient cycles, botany, web technologies.

Simultaneously, Engedi 2.0 intends to celebrate and preserve the unique Welsh language and culture of the region. Through various cultural initiatives and activities, the project aims to shine a spotlight on the Welsh language, explore its historic cultural dynamics, and demonstrate its potential as a source of cultural creativity.

By holistically nurturing economically valuable skills and the psychological wellbeing that supports their development, the project helps build a more resilient community that is better prepared to face future challenges. In this way, the project serves as a regenerative catalyst, stimulating positive change within the community and contributing to a global narrative of transition and hope.

Example workshops

The examples below represent the type of workshop Engedi 2.0 would like to carry out.

There are many more potential options and these will be designed in response to the needs of the community as the project progresses.

Workshop Title	Thematic Area	Target Beneficiaries	Beneficial Outcomes	Duration	Location	Cost Range	Potential Funders
Intro to Coding Bootcamp	Digital Technology Skills	Youth, adults seeking to reskill/upskill	Tech literacy, employability skills, confidence	8 weeks, 2 sessions/week	On-site (hackerspace)	£1500 - £2500 including staff time	Tech Companies, Education Grants, Community Development Funds
Digital Fabrication 101	Digital Technology Skills	Youth, adults	Skills in 3D printing, laser cutting; creativity	6 weeks, 1 session/week	On-site (hackerspace)	£1200 - £2000 including staff time	Tech Companies, Makerspace Grants, Education Grants
Community Mural Project	Art and Creativity	All community members	Community bonding, creativity, sense of pride	1 weekend	In community	£800 - £1500 including staff time	Arts Council, Community Development Funds
Photography Workshop	Art and Creativity	Youth, adults	Creative skills, self-expression, confidence	4 weeks, 1 session/week	On-site (arts space)	£800 - £1300 including staff time	Arts Council, Local Business Sponsorships
Yoga and Mindfulness	Wellbeing	All community members	Physical health, mental wellbeing, stress reduction	Ongoing, 1 session/week	On-site (wellbeing space)	£200 - £250/month including staff time	Health Grants, Local Business Sponsorships
Substance Recovery Support Group	Wellbeing	Individuals recovering from substance abuse	Peer support, reduced relapse rates, improved mental health	Ongoing, 1 session/week	On-site (wellbeing space)	£300/month including staff time	Health Grants, Local Government Funding
Tech for Seniors	Digital Technology Skills	Senior community members	Tech literacy, social connectedness, empowerment	6 weeks, 1 session/week	On-site (hackerspace)	£1200 - £2000 including staff time	Tech Companies, Senior Citizens Funds, Community Development Funds
Drama and Storytelling Workshop	Art and Creativity	Youth, adults	Confidence, creativity, community bonding	8 weeks, 1 session/week	On-site (arts space)	£1500 - £2500 including staff time	Arts Council, Local Business Sponsorships
Mindful Art Therapy	Wellbeing	Individuals dealing with stress, trauma	Stress relief, self-expression, mental wellbeing	6 weeks, 1 session/week	On-site (wellbeing space)	£1200 - £2000 including staff time	Health Grants, Arts Council, Local Government Funding

The Key Spaces

The major physical spaces of the Regenerative Catalyst are the spaces that hold the activities for each of the major themes, their overlaps and the communities that inhabit them. The spaces and flows within the future building complex will need to allow these communities to develop in their own domains while maintaining the overlaps and cross disciplinary work.

The Regenerative Hackspace

A hackspace, also known as a hacklab, hackerspace and similar to a makerspace, is a community-oriented workspace where people with shared interests, particularly in computing, technology, science, digital art, and electronic art, can gather to work on projects while sharing ideas, equipment, and knowledge. The ethos of a hackspace is centred around a DIY, hands-on approach to technology, innovation, and creative expression and community based approach to learning and sharing knowledge.

In the context of Engedi 2.0, the hackspace would function as an innovative playground and learning hub, fostering digital literacy and promoting a culture of creativity and problem-solving. Members will be able to access tools and technology that may otherwise be unavailable or inaccessible, ranging from basic hardware to advanced machinery like 3D printers and CNC machines.

For safety and community cohesion much of the hackspace will only generally be accessible to signed up members (although membership will be open to anyone) there will be adjoining accessible learning spaces and here the project will often host workshops, presentations, and other educational events.

In a community like Caernarfon, a hackspace could act as a crucial stepping stone for individuals looking to gain and improve digital technology skills, enhancing their employability and potential to innovate within the community and beyond. By fostering a culture of exploration and collaborative learning, the hackspace contributes to Engedi 2.0's broader mission of nurturing a resilient, creative, and digitally empowered community.

The Creative Arts space

The arts space at Engedi 2.0 is a hub of creative exploration. The vision is to provide essential larger residencies to artists on a rotating basis while ongoing space for local arts community to inhabit on an ongoing basis. The space brings the intangible cultural and artistic energy to the rest of the project, helping nurture creativity in the wider community, and serves as an incubator for budding and established artists in the community.

At the heart of the arts space is the Members-only Creation Studio, a dedicated area where physical artworks are brought to life. This studio features an array of artistic tools and materials that artists can use to create their works, ranging from easels for painters, sculpting tools for sculptors, to advanced equipment for mixed-media artists. This space encourages exploration and supports the creation of various forms of physical art such as painting, sculpture, printmaking, ceramics, and more.

Adjacent to the Creation Studio is the General Art Workshop Area. This open and versatile space hosts a range of art workshops, presentations, and community events. The workshops cater to different levels of skills, offering beginner-friendly classes as well as advanced sessions for seasoned artists. Whether it's an intensive course on advanced painting techniques, a relaxed session on beginner's pottery, or an enlightening art appreciation talk, the General Art Workshop Area is designed to stimulate artistic expression in its many forms.

Overall, the arts space is a key component of Engedi 2.0's mission to foster creativity in the community, offering a welcoming environment where individuals can express themselves, learn new skills, and connect with fellow artists and art enthusiasts.

Wellbeing Dojo

The Wellbeing Dojo at Engedi 2.0 is an oasis of tranquillity designed to cultivate mindfulness, facilitate personal growth, and promote holistic health and wellness. This serene, inviting space embodies Engedi 2.0's commitment to fostering community wellbeing and serves as a sanctuary where individuals can explore and nurture their inner selves.

At its core, the Wellbeing Dojo is an adaptable space that can cater to a range of holistic practices. It might host yoga or Tai Chi classes, with moving in flow to soft, calming music. At other times, the space could be used for meditation workshops or mindfulness sessions, where individuals are guided to find inner peace and balance. The space can also potentially be used for contemporary dance practice.

In addition to physical practices, the Dojo is also a space for mental and emotional healing. It hosts therapeutic group sessions, personal growth workshops, and other activities designed to support mental health and emotional resilience. The space might be used for activities like support group meetings, stress management workshops, or sessions on improving mental health.

The design of the Dojo is focused on creating a serene and calming environment. Natural light floods the space during the day, while soft, warm lighting takes over in the evening. A subtle aroma of essential oils permeates the air, contributing to a sense of peace and relaxation. Cushions, mats, and comfortable seating options invite participants to make themselves comfortable and find a position that suits their practice.

In essence, the Wellbeing Dojo is more than just a room - it is a carefully curated environment aimed at fostering self-discovery, healing, and personal growth. It embodies Engedi 2.0's belief in the importance of holistic wellbeing and offers a place for the community to engage with practices that nurture mind, body, and spirit.

The Projects 4 Integral Pillars

Alongside the 3 major thematic areas Engedi 2.0 has 4 Integral themes, one for each of the impressive pillars at the front of the building. While the thematic areas have spaces and communities that embody them, the Integral Pillars are cross-cutting themes that are woven throughout the project and support the overall project from the ground up.

1. Community Empowerment:

- This pillar emphasises the importance of community engagement and participation. It ensures that the local community is at the heart of decision-making processes, allowing them to shape the direction and activities of Engedi 2.0.
- Community empowerment is fostered through initiatives such as digital democracy tools, open forums for discussions, and collaborative planning sessions. The project seeks to create a sense of ownership, agency, and active involvement among community members.

2. Sustainability, Resilience and Connection with nature:

- This pillar recognizes the need to build a sustainable and resilient community. It incorporates environmentally conscious practices, energy efficiency, waste management, and sustainable resource utilisation into the project's operations and activities.
- Engedi 2.0 aims to promote resilience in the face of climate change, economic challenges, and social issues. It fosters initiatives that enhance the community's ability to adapt and thrive in the long run.

3. Cultural Preservation and Expression:

- This pillar acknowledges the significance of local culture, heritage, and language. It seeks to preserve and celebrate the unique cultural identity of the community.
- Engedi 2.0 provides opportunities for cultural expression, artistic development, and the promotion of local traditions and language. It aims to nurture cultural pride and appreciation among community members and visitors alike. The restoration of the Chapel both in its physical form and its role as a social hub and community centre for the betterment of society is an alignment with this pillar.

4. Innovation and Adaptability:

- This pillar highlights the importance of embracing innovation and adaptability in addressing community needs and aspirations. Engedi 2.0 aims to be forward-thinking, open to new ideas, and responsive to emerging challenges and opportunities.
- The project encourages technological advancements, creative problem-solving, and the exploration of innovative approaches. It ensures that Engedi 2.0 remains adaptable and responsive to the evolving needs of the community.

The integral pillars work in harmony to create a comprehensive framework for Engedi 2.0. Together, they guide the project's activities, shape its relationships with the community, and ensure a holistic approach that fosters community empowerment, sustainability, cultural richness, and innovation.

The wider heritage value of Capel Engedi as regenerative catalyst

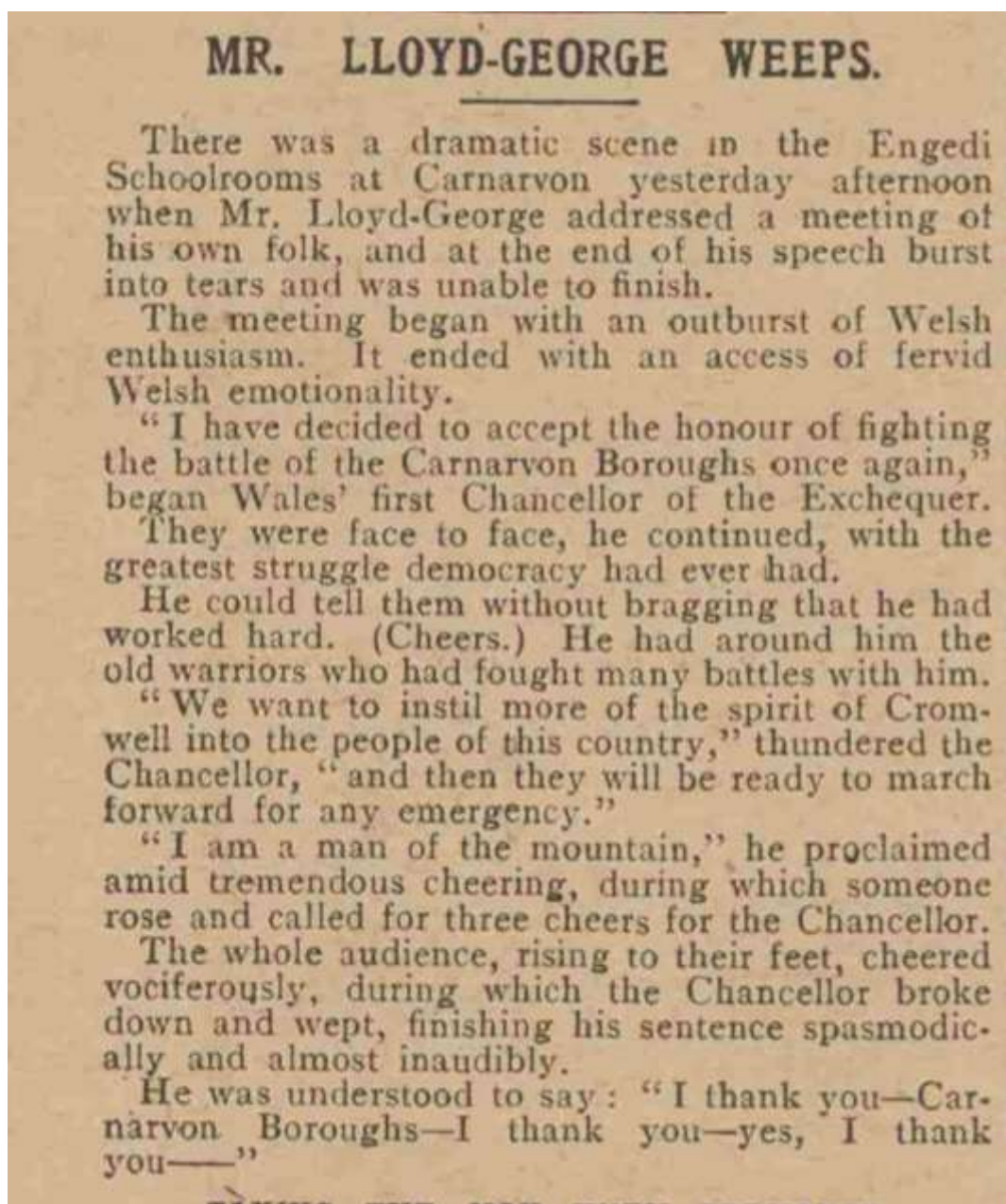
The attached RIBA stage 2 report by Architects Donald Insall discusses the history of the chapel along with its current condition. Its history is also noted in the attached community engagement report by Pixie Maps. Here we discuss how the Engedi 2.0 is in many ways aiming to reinstate Capel Engedi to a very similar role it played in Caernarfon in the past but in a contemporary and secular context.

Historically, chapels in Wales have played a significant role in the education and career development of individuals. They were not just places of worship, but also served as community centres that facilitated social interaction, mutual support, and lifelong learning. Here are a few examples:

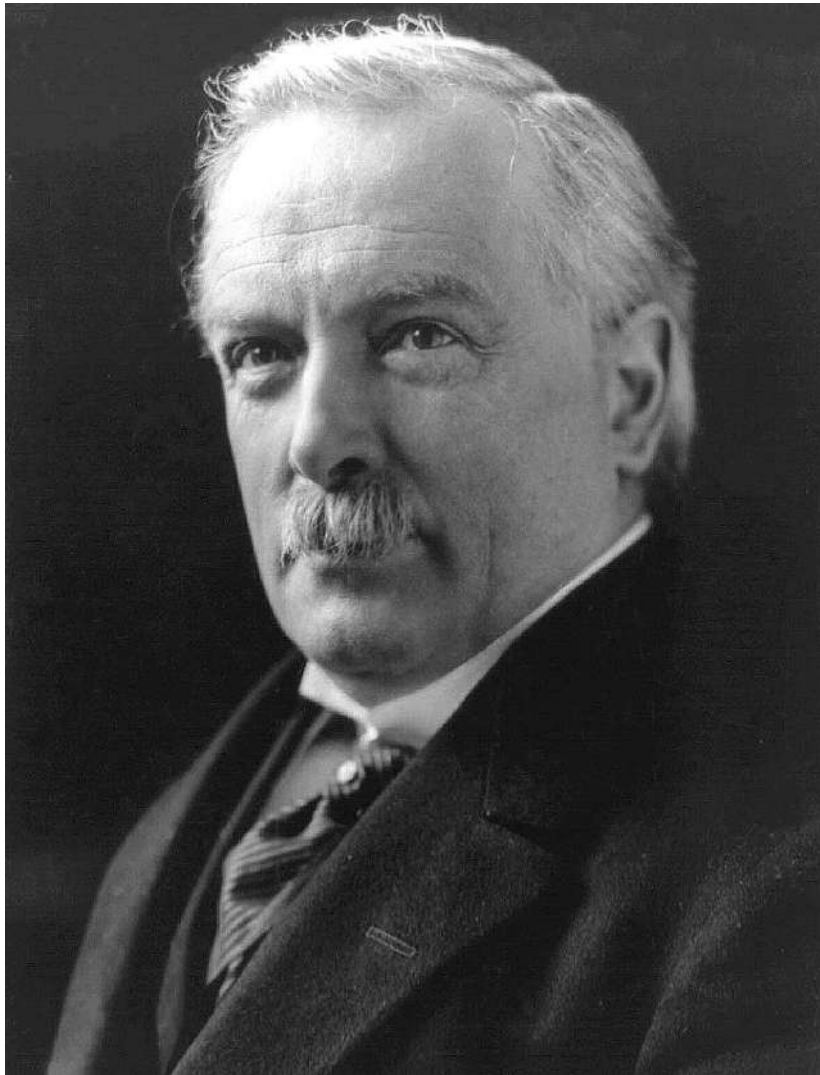
1. **Sunday Schools:** Many chapels in Wales ran Sunday schools, which were initially established to provide basic education to children who worked during the week. Over time, these Sunday schools evolved to provide religious education, but they also continued to teach reading, writing, and arithmetic. They played a crucial role in improving literacy rates in Wales.
2. **Eisteddfodau:** Chapels often hosted eisteddfodau, traditional Welsh festivals of literature, music, and performance. These events provided opportunities for individuals to develop their creative skills and gain recognition for their talents.
3. **Lectures and Debates:** Chapels were often the venues for lectures and debates on a wide range of topics, from theology and philosophy to social issues and politics. These events provided opportunities for individuals to broaden their knowledge, develop their critical thinking skills, and engage with important societal issues.
4. **Choirs and Musical Training:** Many chapels had their own choirs, which provided opportunities for individuals to develop their musical talents. Some of these choirs achieved national and even international recognition.
5. **Community Projects and Volunteering:** Chapels often organized community projects and volunteering opportunities, which provided individuals with valuable experience and skills that could be beneficial for their careers.

Prominent Welsh figures such as poet R. S. Thomas, Prime Minister David Lloyd George, hymn writer William Williams Pantycelyn, and poet Daniel James (Gwilym Iwan Jones) were all profoundly influenced by their experiences and involvement with chapel culture, shaping their respective contributions to literature, politics, and cultural heritage.

David Lloyd George is of particular interest to the project since he had a deep attachment to the Chapel. Born into a working-class Welsh-speaking family and raised in a religious household, his early experiences at the chapel will have a profound impact on his political philosophy and commitment to social reform. Notably, throughout his political career, Lloyd George visited Capel Engedi and addressed audiences there many times. Indeed he baptised his son Gwylim at the Chapel.



Lloyd George would go on to become not only the only Welsh Prime Minister of the UK, but one who championed many progressive reforms that laid the foundations of the modern welfare state. His unique background and remarkable career trajectory make him a compelling figure in the context of the Engedi 2.0 project and we intend to find ways to honour his achievements as part of the project.



– Lloyd George in 1909 ©United States Library of Congress

During the industrial age that majorly shaped the landscape of Caernarfon, Chapels like Engedi were vibrant community centres that facilitated social interaction, mutual support, and lifelong learning. They hosted a variety of activities, from educational workshops to arts and culture events, fostering a strong sense of community and shared identity. The Engedi chapel was a prime example of this tradition hosting for example the Literary Society of Caernarfon.

However, societal shifts and the move towards secularism have led to a decline in chapel attendance, and with it, the erosion of the community spirit that these institutions fostered. This has left a void in many communities, highlighting the need for new approaches to community development that resonate with the changing societal context.

Engedi 2.0 seeks to address this need by recontextualizing the chapel's traditional social functions for the 21st century. The project aims to transform the chapel into a dynamic community centre that fosters learning of advanced digital technology skills, creative development, alongside personal wellbeing and trauma healing. This involves a range of activities, from digital literacy workshops to arts and culture events, all designed to foster community resilience and social cohesion.

The project also places a strong emphasis on celebrating and preserving the Welsh language and culture, reflecting another key function of the traditional chapel. This includes bilingual activities and initiatives to promote local culture, ensuring that the chapel continues to serve as a beacon of Welsh identity in the 21st century.

In this way, though humble grass-roots work in Caernarfon, Engedi 2.0 hopes to make a significant contribution not only to the future of Wales but also to helping solve wider global challenges facing our planet today.

Market Analysis

This section considers the community that Engedi 2.0 serves, the broader societal landscape, and other organisations offering similar services. It aims to give a very broad answer to whether the Engedi 2.0 project as conceived in this report is viable.

Engaging the community

An accompanying Community Engagement report by Pixie Maps, conducted from March to June 2023, involved diverse methods such as an online survey, street conversations, creative interventions, and a public engagement session. Key stakeholders in Caernarfon were also consulted.

The study revealed a community deeply connected to the Engedi Chapel, supportive of its restoration and repurposing. The community suggested potential uses including art clubs, Welsh classes, a women's refuge, and youth activities. Identified needs encompassed youth spaces and activities, community spaces to counter loneliness, and places for skill learning and job creation.

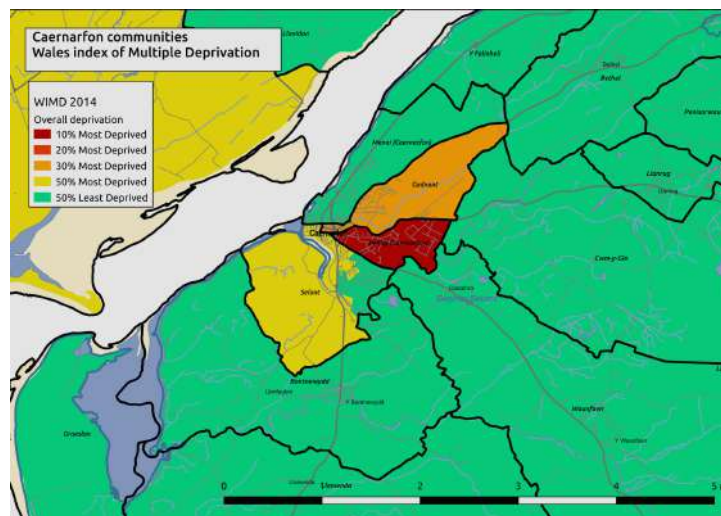
The report concludes by discussing project challenges including the significant chapel restoration work, the need for alignment with local organisations, and the establishment of suitable governance structures. It recommends a governance review and a transition to an incorporated status suiting Engedi's vision.

The study provides insightful community perspectives for the Engedi 2.0 project's future development. Key extracts from the report are used as a basis for this section.

Understanding Caernarfon

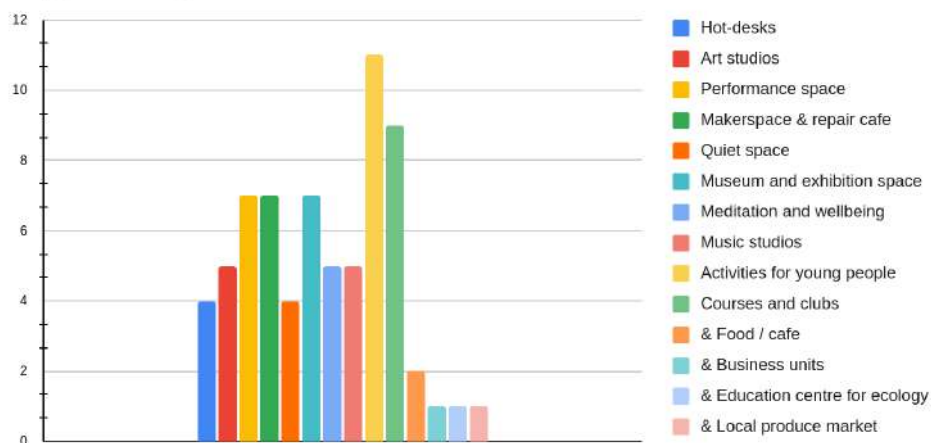
Caernarfon, a historic town located on the coast of Gwynedd, at the mouth of the rivers Seiont and Cadnant, and at the edge of the Menai strait, has been a significant settlement since the Roman occupation. Dominated by a 12th-century castle and town walls, it houses many small independent businesses and popular venues. Despite its evolution over time, it has managed to retain its strong Welsh character, boasting one of the highest proportions of Welsh speakers nationally.

The town's industrial past is evident in its docks and the railway that once transported slate to ships. This period of activity led to the construction of many of the town's recognisable structures, including Capel Engedi and the surrounding residential streets of 'Tre'r Gof'.



In the 20th century, Caernarfon expanded to include two large council estates along the rivers, housing nearly half of the town's population of nearly 10,000. These areas, however, are now among the highest-ranking in the country for almost all measures of deprivation (WIMD 2014).

Beth hoffwch chi weld yn digwydd yn Engedi? What would you like to see happen at Engedi?



—Data collected as part of our community engagement survey. See report

Caernarfon serves a wider rural population of surrounding villages, which, while better off in terms of income, housing, health, and community safety, lack access to services, culture, and have poor public transport. These villages share a similar past of dependence on the slate industry, exploitation, and subsequent decline.

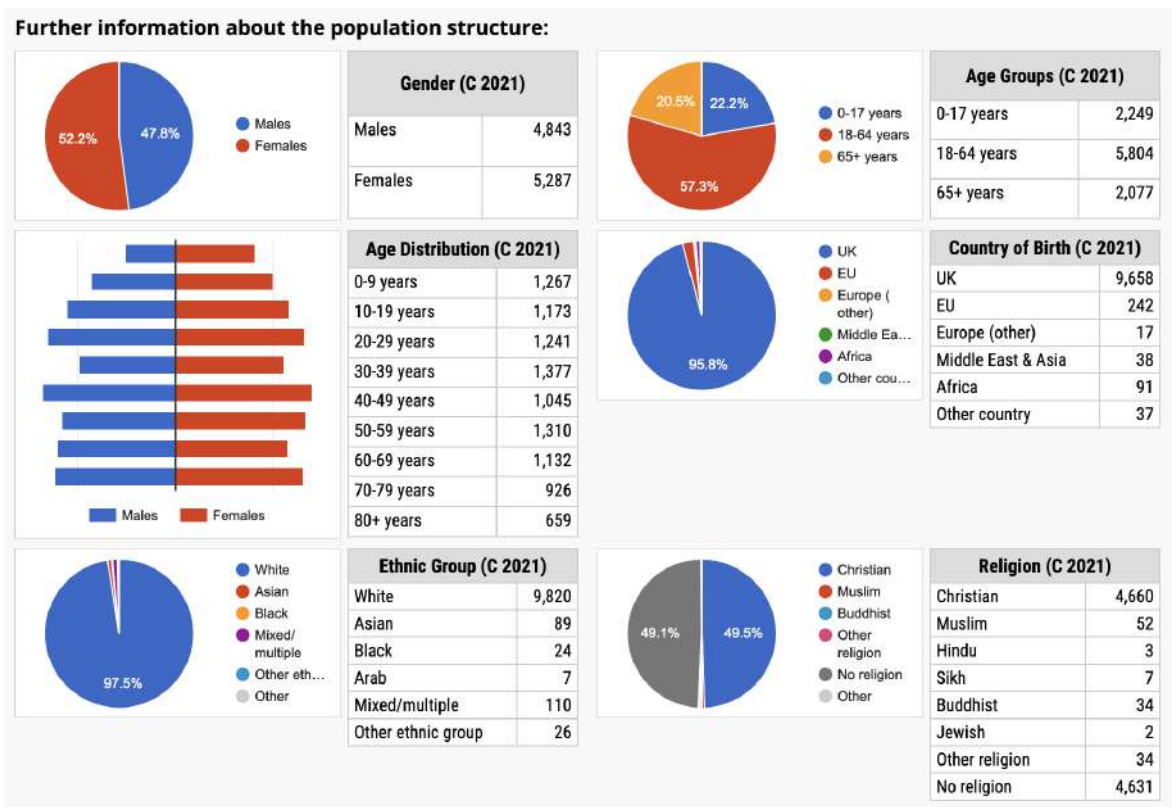
Despite these challenges, Caernarfon is seen as an 'up and coming' place, thanks to the efforts of committed local 'community regenerators'. Notable among them is Cwmni Galeri, which has established a successful arts centre & cinema in the town and developed Cei Llechi from a disused industrial docks into a vibrant space for cafes, art spaces, and hospitality businesses. Small venues and independent businesses have enriched the town, although they have faced periods of struggle.

Community centres serving deprived areas have been active in providing for their communities' immediate needs, addressing issues like hunger, poverty, and isolation. However, there is a recognition that there is a lack of opportunities to thrive which are accessible for all.

The aim of the Engedi 2.0 project is to meet the needs of communities in Caernarfon and catalyse the regenerative development of the town by offering opportunities at Engedi 2.0 for holistic personal and societal development. The project seeks to develop synergies with other groups and organisations working towards the same goals. This report will explore these opportunities and potential collaborations in detail.

Demographics

Engedi 2.0 serves the local community of Caernarfon and the surrounding villages. A community with unique socio-economic and cultural characteristics. The municipal area is relatively youthful for a rural town with >22% of the population aged 0-17 years (comparable to greater London at around 21%).



Caernarfon has amongst the highest concentrations of Welsh speakers. The number of Welsh speakers in areas across Gwynedd varies greatly, with the greatest percentage of Welsh speakers in the nearby village of Llanrug (87.8%) and Caernarfon's Peblig ward (87.4%), this can be contrasted with the nearby Bangor city area (36.4% Welsh speakers).

Market Trends

There is a growing recognition of the value of community-focused development and the role of technology and digital skills in societal progress. Furthermore, the importance of mental wellbeing and creative outlets in community development are gaining attention. By synthesising wellbeing with creative development and technical learning Engedi 2.0 aligns very well with these trends

Stakeholder Engagement: Building a Vision for Engedi

In our pursuit of a vibrant and resilient future for Caernarfon, we have engaged in meaningful dialogues with key stakeholders in and around the town. These conversations, coupled with comprehensive research, have provided a snapshot of current activities and illuminated the potential role of Engedi in the community's future.

Our ongoing discussions are not merely informative; they are the foundation of relationship-building. We are exploring shared goals, identifying synergies, and fostering a robust, interconnected network of organisations, all committed to enhancing the life and spirit of Caernarfon.

Our engaged stakeholders include:

- Galeri
- GISDA
- CARN
- Cimera Circus
- Caernarfon Library
- Castle Square Presbyterian Church (on the Maes)
- Capel Caersalem
- Canolfan Ebeneser
- Caernarfon Town Council
- Engedi's own directors

This engagement process has been a transformative journey. It has allowed us to update partners on recent developments, including the challenges we've faced and the lessons we've learned. This open dialogue has been instrumental in restoring the image of the chapel, which is as crucial as its physical rejuvenation.

The response from our stakeholders has been overwhelmingly positive. There is a palpable sense of goodwill towards the development of Capel Engedi, a project seen as a catalyst for enhancing the vibrancy and wellbeing of Caernarfon.

Our conversations have revealed key themes for the potential use of Engedi's space. These include technology, art, music, media, environment, wellbeing, and offerings for young people. Each theme represents a thread in the rich tapestry of our vision for Engedi, a vision that is ambitious, inclusive, and deeply rooted in the needs and aspirations of our community.

Competitive Analysis

Many of the stakeholders we have engaged with carry out similar work or engage with a similar audience to Engedi 2.0. As a Regenerative Catalyst and embodying regenerative principles the Engedi 2.0 project seeks to work with what is already present in the Caernarfon area and help it to be alive and energised. This applies to individuals but also to local organisations, so that rather than compete with organisations we're looking to provide additional spaces and create additional opportunities for cross pollination and fill gaps.

As an example the Caernarfon Arts Regeneration Network (CARN) are a network of local artists. They currently have a temporary space in Caernarfon. When ready Engedi 2.0 seeks to offer a permanent home to the network allowing them to embody the creative arts theme of the regenerative catalyst. CARN are enthusiastic about this possibility and have expressed support for the project vision.

Engedi 2.0 distinguishes itself by having a regeneratively designed approach which is integrated and holistic. The combination of a hackspace, a creative arts centre, and a wellbeing centre within a facility that also serves as a hub for community interaction is unique.

Rather than see these other projects around as competition the project intends to invite them to co-create Engedi 2.0 for the good of our shared community.

Market Strategy

Given the market dynamics, Engedi 2.0's strategy is to position itself as a comprehensive community resource hub that caters to multiple aspects of personal and community development. By communicating the benefits of its integrated service approach and focusing on community engagement, Engedi 2.0 aims to attract and retain a strong user base from the community.

A key strategy for Engedi 2.0 will be to build strong relationships with other 3rd sector organisations in the local area and demonstrate how Engedi 2.0 can add value to the work being carried out already. Through the community engagement work carried out as part of this study, we have already identified and developed relationships with a number of stakeholders in the local area (see Community Engagement report).

The Organisation

Vision Statement

Engedi 2.0 envisions a vibrant, resilient and culturally rich community in Caernarfon, grounded in its unique Welsh heritage, and empowered with the skills, creativity, and well-being to thrive in a rapidly changing world.

Mission Statement

Engedi 2.0 exists to regenerate and strengthen the community of Caernarfon, Wales, through nurturing creativity, fostering skill development, promoting wellbeing, and preserving our rich Welsh heritage. Our mission is to provide an accessible, inclusive, and sustainable platform that cultivates learning, innovation, and collaboration and enriches our local community at every level and for all participants.

We believe in empowering our community to shape their future, acknowledging our roots, connecting with nature, and embracing the life affirming challenge of living lives which are sustainable for our people and planet. Through our efforts, we strive to ignite a positive, transformative change that echoes across generations.

Organisational Structure

Currently Cwmni Engedi 2.0 that is commissioning this report is a company limited by guarantee. The project has given assurances to the funders of the report (The Architectural Heritage Fund) that we will adopt a not-for-profit constitution. To do so it will need to amend its articles to include an asset lock clause such as:

Asset Lock Clause

1. The income and property of the Company shall be applied solely towards the promotion of its objects as set forth in these Articles of Association. No portion thereof shall be paid or transferred, directly or indirectly, by way of dividend, bonus or otherwise by way of profit, to members of the Company.
2. If upon the winding up or dissolution of the Company there remains, after the satisfaction of all its debts and liabilities, any property whatsoever, the same shall not be paid to or distributed among the members of the Company. Instead, such property shall be given or transferred to some other institution or institutions

having objects similar to the objects of the Company, and which shall prohibit the distribution of its or their income and property among its or their members to an extent at least as great as is imposed on the Company under or by virtue of this clause. Such institution or institutions to be determined by the members of the Company at or before the time of dissolution.

The clause may also want to specify a local charity that would receive assets in the event of dissolution for which GISDA Cyf would seem a sensible choice given the aims of the project. The Cwmni Engedi 2.0 attends to amend its articles by special resolution in the period immediately following the publication of this report.

Current Directors and Future Trustees

The current directors of the company are Liam Kurmos, Dr. Dylan Evans, and Elen Haf Ifan. At present, the organisation operates as a company limited by guarantee, but it intends to register as a charity. This transition, while potentially time-consuming, will necessitate a change in governance. The current directors will step down, and a Board of Trustees will be appointed to oversee the strategic direction of the organisation, ensuring alignment with its charitable objectives of enhancing the local community through technology, creativity, and wellbeing.

The Board of Trustees will comprise individuals from diverse backgrounds, bringing together expertise in technology, arts, wellbeing, community development, and business management. The project aims to comprise a board of global thought leaders who see the value and innovative nature of the Regenerative Catalyst, alongside established local individuals with strong reputations for caring about the local community.

The completion of this report is also expected to be catalytic to the search for well known and high-profile trustees that are interested to hold roles as guardians of the project ensuring it achieves its vision.

So far, Engedi 2.0 has already secured commitments from two high-profile individuals to serve as trustees: [Mitch Altman](#) and [Iwan Brioc](#). Mitch Altman, a co-founder of the first hackerspace in San Francisco and a board member of numerous conferences and publications, is a highly respected figure in the hacker and maker communities. His involvement will lend credibility to the project within these communities and bring an international perspective to the Board of Trustees.

Iwan Brioc, a renowned avant-garde theatre director originally from Gwynedd and currently residing in Cardiff, will also join the board. His presence will ensure representation for the project in Cardiff.

With Altman and Brioc on board, we anticipate being able to quickly recruit a larger pool of trustees, primarily from the local area. These trustees will meet regularly, both online and in person when possible, to oversee the project and ensure that the executive team is fulfilling its mandate. The availability of this report will greatly enhance the project's ability to on board potential trustees and explain the project.

Conversion process to CIO from Company limited by guarantee

The charity's trustees must pass a resolution agreeing to convert the charitable company into a CIO. The process will look like this:

1. **New Constitution:** The charity will adopt a new constitution that complies with the requirements for CIOs.
2. **Application to the Charity Commission:** The charity must apply to the Charity Commission to convert to a CIO. This involves completing an application form and providing a copy of the charity's new constitution.
3. **Dissolution of the Company:** Once the Charity Commission has approved the conversion, the charitable company must be dissolved. This involves applying to Companies House to have the company removed from the register of companies.
4. **Transfer of Assets and Liabilities:** All of the charitable company's assets and liabilities must be transferred to the new CIO. This should be done in accordance with the charity's governing document and any legal requirements.

Charitable aims

The following are recommended Charitable aims for the charity and will serve as the stated aim of the company in the interim.

1. **Advancing Digital Literacy and Technology Skills:** To provide access to digital technology education, training, and resources, empowering individuals to develop essential digital skills, increase their technological literacy, and navigate the digital world effectively.
2. **Promoting Creative Expression and Artistic Development:** To foster artistic expression, creativity, and cultural appreciation by offering workshops, programs, and resources that support the development of artistic skills and facilitate the exploration of various art forms.
3. **Enhancing Personal Wellbeing and Mental Health:** To promote mental health and overall wellbeing by offering workshops, support groups, and activities focused on mindfulness, stress management, self-care, and emotional resilience.
4. **Celebrating and Preserving Welsh Language and Culture:** To actively support and promote the Welsh language and culture, recognizing their historical and cultural significance in the region. This includes initiatives to strengthen the use of the Welsh language, preserve cultural traditions, and celebrate Welsh heritage.
5. **Addressing Socioeconomic Disparities and Poverty:** To contribute to the alleviation of poverty and socioeconomic disparities in the community by providing opportunities for skill development, economic empowerment, and financial literacy through targeted programs and resources.
6. **Promoting Environmental Sustainability and Resilience:** To encourage environmental stewardship and sustainable practices within the community, fostering awareness and engagement in initiatives that mitigate the impact of climate change, promote biodiversity, and ensure the long-term environmental health of the region.
7. **Facilitating Community Engagement and Participation:** To actively engage and involve the community in decision-making processes, encouraging participation, collaboration, and the development of digital democracy tools that enable community members to have a voice in shaping the project and its activities.

Management Team

We provide a suggested organisational structure that should enable Engedi 2.0 to get moving. This will be a management team lead by an Executive Director, who oversees the day-to-day operations of Engedi 2.0, ensuring the successful implementation of our strategic plans and initiatives. The Executive Director is supported by three key managers:

1. Technology Manager: Responsible for the development and running of the hackspace, as well as overseeing technology-related programs and workshops.
2. Creative Arts Manager: In charge of managing the arts space and organising creative activities, exhibitions, and workshops.
3. Wellbeing Manager: Oversee the wellbeing aspect of the project, coordinating relevant programs and workshops, and working closely with local health and social care providers.

Volunteers and Staff

Under these managers, will be a team of staff and volunteers execute the day-to-day operations, facilitate workshops, and engage with the community. The volunteer program will be designed to encourage community members to contribute their time and skills, helping to foster a sense of ownership and participation in Engedi 2.0. Initially the project will recruit volunteers to help with communications, translation, social, fundraising etc.

External Consultants and Partners

In addition to the internal structure, Engedi 2.0 will need to work closely with external consultants and partners who provide specialised support, such as grant writing, construction and renovation, legal services, and marketing.

Through this structure, we ensure a balance of governance, operational management, and community involvement. This enables us to effectively meet our mission of nurturing and resourcing local people to meet the challenges of an uncertain global future.

Governance and Community Involvement

At the heart of Engedi 2.0 lies a commitment to grassroots community involvement and self-governance. As a regenerative catalyst, the project aims to be led and developed by the local community, fostering a culture of active participation and ownership.

The executive team, while holding legal authority, envisions their role as facilitators rather than directors in the traditional sense. They aim to instil a culture of self-governance throughout the project, encouraging individuals from the local community to step forward, take ownership, and actively participate in shaping the project's direction. The use of executive powers is seen as a measure of last resort, to be employed only in extreme situations.

This approach to governance is designed to ensure that the project remains safe, inclusive, and beneficial for all members of the community while effectively working towards its goals. The directors' role is to provide oversight, ensuring that the project aligns with its charitable objectives of enhancing the local community through technology, creativity, and wellbeing.

To further empower the local community, Engedi 2.0 plans to develop tools that give community members a strong voice in the project's governance. By offering membership, the project aims to provide community members with a democratic vote in key decisions, fostering a sense of ownership and commitment.

In disseminating this report the project intends to also disseminate invitations to join an regular online townhall meeting to engage our existing community and facilitate the project's wider growth.

In summary, the governance structure of Engedi 2.0 is designed to be as inclusive and democratic as possible, reflecting the project's core values of community involvement, self-governance, and grassroots development. This approach not only aligns with the project's objectives but also contributes to building a resilient, engaged, and vibrant community.

SWOT Analysis

To support the development of the Engedi 2.0 strategic analysis we have developed a project SWOT Analysis and constructed a TOWS matrix for the project.

Strengths:

1. Clear mission and vision to nurture and empower the local community in Caernarfon. Aligned many of the historic functions of the Chapel
2. Strong support from prominent personalities such as Mitch Altman, enhancing credibility.
3. A focus on three key areas that are highly relevant and needed in today's world: digital technology skills, creativity and wellbeing with clear overlaps.
4. Incorporation of a hackspace to boost technological skills and digital inclusivity in the community.
5. Site location in a historic chapel adds cultural significance and community relevance.
6. Planned involvement of the community in decision-making and governance.
7. Bilingual nature of the project which contributes to the preservation of the Welsh language. Aligned with local and national government language strategy.

Weaknesses:

1. Dependency on external funding and grants.
2. Lack of established reputation, as it's a new project.
3. Potential operational challenges due to the condition of the historic chapel.
4. Emerging organisational structure.

Opportunities:

1. Growing demand for tech skills and digital literacy makes the project timely and relevant.
2. Potential for collaboration with local schools, colleges, and businesses.
3. The chapel's restoration could attract additional tourism and interest in local history and culture.
4. Potential to access funding for heritage conservation and community development.
5. Digital democracy tools could set a precedent for other community initiatives.

Threats:

1. Challenges in securing adequate funding.
2. Delays or cost overruns in construction and restoration.
3. Regulatory risks, especially given the status of the chapel as a Grade II listed building.
4. Competition from other local organisations providing similar services.

TOWS Matrix Strategies:

Maxi-Maxi (Strengths-Opportunities) Strategies:

- Leverage the support from prominent personalities like Mitch Altman to secure more funding and grants (Strength 2 + Opportunity 4).
- Use the focus on digital technology skills, creativity and wellbeing to collaborate with local schools, colleges, and businesses (Strength 3 + Opportunity 2).
- Utilise the historic significance of the chapel and the planned community involvement in governance to attract more interest and funding for heritage conservation (Strength 5 + Strength 6 + Opportunity 4).

Maxi-Mini (Strengths-Threats) Strategies:

- Use the project's clear mission and vision to navigate regulatory challenges related to restoring a Grade II listed building (Strength 1 + Threat 3).
- Use the cultural significance of the chapel and support from influential figures to compete with other local organisations providing similar services (Strength 5 + Strength 2 + Threat 4).

Mini-Maxi (Weaknesses-Opportunities) Strategies:

- Aim to secure more funding and grants to address dependency issues and to help build the organisational structure (Weakness 1 + Weakness 4 + Opportunity 4).
- Build the project's reputation through collaborations with local schools, colleges, and businesses (Weakness 2 + Opportunity 2).

Mini-Mini (Weaknesses-Threats) Strategies:

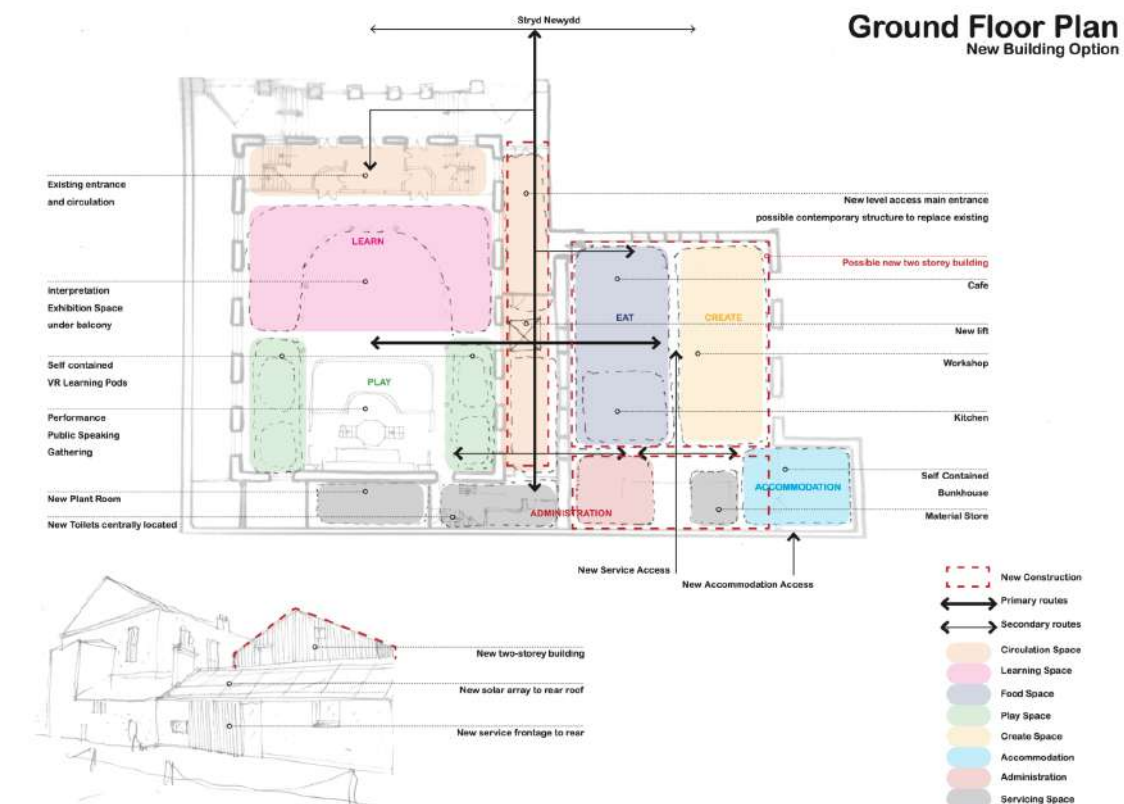
- Develop a comprehensive plan to address potential operational challenges related to the chapel's renovation (Weakness 3 + Threat 2).
- Carefully manage the growth of the organisational structure to avoid internal confusion and inefficiency (Weakness 4 + Threat 1).

Options Appraisal

This option appraisal aims to evaluate two potential approaches for the Engedi 2.0 project:

Option 1: Securing and Stabilising the Chapel and Developing a New Building

Securing and stabilising the chapel and constructing a new building on the site at a guideline cost from our quantity surveyor of £700,000. This option would allow the project to use some of the spaces in the Chapel (though it would generally not be accessible by the public) and once the project has demonstrated its impact would allow further funding to be sought later to fully restore the Chapel.



– image taken from the report by Donald Insall Associates

Pros:

- Lower overall cost, potentially making it easier to secure funding and donations.
- Faster implementation timeline, allowing the organisation to start providing services and resources to the community more quickly.
- Construction of a new building allows for modern design and facilities tailored to Engedi 2.0's specific needs.
- Less risk of encountering unexpected issues during construction, as a new building can be designed to meet current building codes and regulations.

Cons:

- Partial restoration of the chapel may not fully preserve the historical value of the site.
- The new building may not blend seamlessly with the existing structure, potentially affecting the site's aesthetic appeal.
- Limited renovation of the chapel could require additional work in the future, incurring more costs.

Option 2: Complete Renovation of the Main Chapel

This option is to carry out a complete renovation of the entire complex at a cost of £4.3 million. A single construction phase would create all physical spaces and renovation in one major set of works.

Pros:

- Full preservation of the historical value of the Engedi Chapel, making it a focal point for the community and enhancing the project's cultural impact.
- Potential to attract more visitors, grants, and donations due to the restored heritage site.
- Renovated chapel could offer unique, character-filled spaces for workshops, events, and other activities.

Cons:

- Significantly higher overall cost, which may make it more challenging to secure the necessary funding and could limit the organisation's ability to invest in other projects or initiatives.
- Longer implementation timeline due to the extensive renovation work required, delaying the project's ability to provide resources and support to the community.
- Greater risk of encountering unforeseen issues during the restoration process, such as structural problems or hidden damages, which could increase costs and extend the timeline.

Conclusion

While both options have their advantages and drawbacks, the decision ultimately depends on the organisation's priorities, funding capabilities, and long-term goals. If preserving the historical value of the Engedi Chapel and maximising its cultural impact are the primary objectives, Option 2 may be the best choice, provided that sufficient funding can be secured. However, if the organisation aims to quickly establish a community hub with modern facilities while minimising costs, Option 1 may be more suitable.

After considering the pros and cons of each option and assessing the availability of funding, potential risks, and community preferences **option 1** is the recommended option for Engedi 2.0.

Financial Analysis

The financial analysis for Engedi 2.0 provides an estimation of the costs and potential revenue streams related to the operation of the project. The aim of the analysis is to determine the project's broad financial viability and sustainability over time. It is not intended to be a highly detailed business plan for which further work will be required.

1. Start-up Costs:

The initial cost outlay for the project includes the renovation of the chapel and the construction of the new building. It's estimated to cost around £700,000 for securing and stabilising the chapel and creating a new building, as opposed to a £3 million complete renovation.

Item	Cost (£)
Building design, renovation and construction	700,000
Initial equipment for hackspace and arts space	75,000
Initial marketing and publicity	10,000
Legal and administrative costs	15,000
Total Start-up Costs	800,000

2. Operating Costs:

Operating costs will include staffing, utilities, maintenance, and programming costs. A rough estimate for the first year could be as follows:

Category	Amount
Staff salaries	£120,000
Utilities and Maintenance	£30,000
Programming (workshops, events)	£20,000
Marketing and Outreach	£10,000
Total Operating Costs (Year 1)	£180,000

3. Revenue Streams:

Engedi 2.0 plans to generate income from multiple streams. The first year break down may look as follows:

Category	Amount
Grants and donations	£150,000
Membership fees for the hackspace and makecation retreats	£50,000
Revenue from workshops and events	£50,000
Cafe sales	£40,000
Total Revenue (Year 1)	£290,000

4. Financial Projection:

From Year 2 onwards, we expect to see an increase in revenue as membership, participation in paid workshops, and cafe sales increase. We also aim to secure additional grants and create new income streams, such as renting out space for events.

Projected Revenue (Year 2): £320,000

Projected Operating Costs (Year 2): £280,000

The project's financial sustainability will rely on carefully managing costs and growing revenue streams over time. Through diversifying income sources and incrementally growing our membership and programming, we aim to ensure Engedi 2.0's financial viability and capacity to serve the community in the long term.

(Note: The above figures are illustrative based on quite general projections and will be refined based on detailed budgeting and financial planning.)

5. Funding the Project- Possible sources of capital and revenue funding

Engedi 2.0 plans to secure funding through grants and donations. The organisation will focus on building trust and confidence in its management by demonstrating a strong commitment to the community and the project's mission. Additional revenue may be generated by renting out workshop spaces, hosting events, and operating a cafe on-site.

By showcasing the positive impact of its initiatives, Engedi 2.0 aims to attract support from potential donors and partners. This will help ensure the financial sustainability of the organisation and the successful implementation of its projects and programs.

Engedi 2.0, as a not-for-profit organisation, can explore various revenue streams to sustain its operations and support its initiatives.

Engedi 2.0: Hacker Retreats and Makecations

Engedi 2.0 proposes a unique business model: hacker retreats and 'makecations' located in Caernarfon, a serene and cost-effective alternative to high-priced city locations. The model leverages the lower cost of space in Caernarfon to offer competitively priced retreats, providing access to a state-of-the-art makerspace equipped with the latest technology and tools.

The retreats are designed to cater to a wide range of individuals and teams, from tech professionals to hobbyist makers. The tranquil setting offers a conducive environment for focused work, innovation, and collaboration especially for hackers and makers used to busy city life.

Regions like Caernarfon have historically suffered from brain-drain, with many skilled and educated individuals leaving for opportunities in larger cities. Engedi 2.0's hacker retreats and makecations offer a unique solution to this challenge.

By attracting tech-savvy individuals and teams to the area, Engedi 2.0 brings new skills and knowledge to the region. These retreat attendees, coming from diverse backgrounds and possessing a wide range of skills, will interact with local members of the hackspace, fostering an environment of learning and knowledge exchange. This organic dissemination of skills and knowledge can help to build local capacity, stimulate innovation, and contribute to the development of a vibrant tech and maker community in the region. Thus the project is aim to harness its rural setting which lead to brain-drain as way to implement a reverse brain-drain, or a brain-source, and attract high skilled individuals to bring and share their knowledge in the area.

Entrepreneurship Acceleration and Support Services

As Engedi 2.0 matures and expands its range of services, it will be well-positioned to foster and accelerate entrepreneurial projects. By leveraging its unique resources, including its makerspace, community network, and educational programs, Engedi 2.0 can provide comprehensive support for entrepreneurs, helping them transform their innovative ideas into viable businesses.

This support could take various forms, from providing access to the makerspace and technical resources, to offering mentorship and networking opportunities, to facilitating workshops and training programs on entrepreneurship. By fostering a vibrant entrepreneurial ecosystem, Engedi 2.0 can contribute to local economic development and job creation, while also generating revenue for the project.

The revenue generation mechanism for this stream could be a tiered membership or subscription model, where entrepreneurs pay a monthly or annual fee for access to the resources and support services. Different tiers could offer different levels of access and benefits, allowing entrepreneurs to choose the option that best fits their needs and budget.

Additionally, Engedi 2.0 could consider taking a small equity stake in the startups it supports, providing a potential source of future revenue if these startups succeed. This model, often used by business incubators and accelerators, aligns the interests of Engedi 2.0 with those of the entrepreneurs it supports, and provides a long-term revenue generation strategy.

In summary, by fostering entrepreneurship, Engedi 2.0 can not only contribute to local economic development and job creation, but also generate sustainable revenue to support its operations and initiatives.

Other Potential revenue streams

There are numerous potential revenue streams for the future project. Here are some we have explored:

Facility rentals

Rent out workshop, event, or meeting spaces within the new building or the restored Engedi Chapel to businesses, community groups, or individuals for meetings, events, or private functions

Sponsorships and partnerships

Establish partnerships with local businesses or organisations that can sponsor specific projects or programs in exchange for promotional opportunities or other benefits.

Grants and donations

Continue seeking grants from various sources, including government agencies, foundations, and corporations, as well as donations from individuals.

Fundraising events

Host fundraising events, such as charity auctions, benefit concerts, or community dinners, to raise funds for Engedi 2.0's projects and programs.

Merchandise sales

Design and sell Engedi 2.0-branded merchandise, such as t-shirts, tote bags, or artwork created by local artists. This can not only generate revenue but also help raise awareness of the organisation.

Crowdfunding

Launch crowdfunding campaigns for specific projects or initiatives, allowing the community and supporters to contribute directly to their implementation.

Grant Possibilities

National Lottery Heritage Fund - This fund provides grants to support the heritage of the UK, including buildings and landscapes. Engedi Chapel's historic significance and potential as a community hub may make it a strong candidate.

The Architectural Heritage Fund - The source of funding for this report. This organisation offers low-interest loans and grants to support the renovation of historic buildings for community use. Engedi Chapel's potential as a community space may make it a good fit for this fund.

The Garfield Weston Foundation - This foundation provides grants for a variety of charitable purposes, including community and heritage projects. Engedi Chapel's potential to bring benefits to the local community may make it a strong candidate.

Arts Council Wales - This organisation provides grants to support the arts and cultural activities in Wales. Engedi Chapel's potential as a space for music, media, and other creative activities may make it a good fit for this fund.

The Welsh Government Community Facilities Programme - This programme offers grants to support the development of community facilities in Wales. Engedi Chapel's potential as a community space may make it a strong candidate.

Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Mitigation Strategy
1. Delays in securing necessary funding	Medium	High	Diversify funding sources, actively pursue grants, donations, and partnerships, and develop sustainable revenue streams such as hacker retreats and makecations.
2. Difficulty in attracting and retaining community involvement	Low	Medium	Develop a strong community outreach strategy, offer membership and voting rights, and create opportunities for community members to actively participate in the project.
3. Regulatory or compliance issues	Low	High	Ensure thorough understanding of all relevant regulations and compliance requirements, seek legal advice as necessary, and maintain open communication with regulatory bodies.
4. Further deterioration of the Engedi Chapel	High	High	Prioritise restoration work in the project plan, and secure necessary funding and resources as quickly as possible.
5. Lower than expected demand for services (e.g., hacker retreats, makecations, facility rentals)	Medium	Medium	Conduct market research to validate demand, develop a strong marketing and promotion strategy, and regularly review and adjust offerings based on feedback and market trends.
6. Challenges in transitioning from a CLG to a CIO	Low	Medium	Seek legal and professional advice to ensure a smooth transition, and communicate clearly with all stakeholders about the process and implications.
7. Operational challenges (e.g., staffing, maintenance)	Medium	Medium	Develop a robust operational plan, including staffing and maintenance strategies, and ensure sufficient resources are allocated to operational needs.

Regulatory and Legal Considerations

Engedi 2.0, in carrying out its operations, will need to adhere to a range of regulatory and legal requirements. The following are some potential considerations:

1. Charity Registration:

As a not-for-profit business aiming to register as a charity, Engedi 2.0 will need to comply with the regulatory requirements set out by the Charity Commission for England and Wales. This includes ensuring that the organisation's purpose is exclusively charitable and that it provides a public benefit.

2. Planning and Building Regulations:

The renovation of the chapel and the construction of a new building on the site will need to comply with local planning and building regulations. This will likely involve obtaining necessary permissions or consents before commencing any building work.

3. Health and Safety Regulations:

Engedi 2.0 will need to ensure that all its activities and premises comply with health and safety regulations. This includes carrying out regular risk assessments, providing safe and healthy working conditions, and taking appropriate steps to prevent accidents or injuries.

4. Data Protection and Privacy Laws:

If Engedi 2.0 collects, stores, or processes personal data, it will need to comply with data protection legislation, including the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). This includes ensuring that personal data is processed lawfully, transparently, and for a specific purpose.

5. Employment Law:

If Engedi 2.0 employs staff, it will need to comply with employment law regulations, including minimum wage requirements, holiday and sick pay entitlements, and anti-discrimination laws.

6. Licensing:

Certain activities, such as selling food or drink, may require specific licences. Engedi 2.0 will need to ensure that it obtains any necessary licences before commencing these activities.

7. Insurance:

Engedi 2.0 should have appropriate insurance cover, including public liability insurance and insurance for its premises and equipment.

8. Heritage and Listed Building Regulations:

Given that the chapel is a Grade II listed building, any renovation or alteration work will need to meet specific standards and guidelines to protect its historic and architectural significance. This includes obtaining listed building consent for any works that would affect its character as a building of special architectural or historic interest.

Proposals for changes to a listed building might involve careful detailing to avoid harm to historic fabric and would typically require the input of an architect or surveyor with specialist knowledge in historic buildings. In some cases, alterations might be acceptable if they enable the building to be used effectively for its new purpose.

Conclusion

Engedi 2.0: Regenerative Catalyst presents a compelling vision for the future of community development in Caernarfon and beyond. This ambitious project, grounded in the principles of community involvement, creativity, and wellbeing, has the potential to transform the historic Engedi Chapel into a vibrant hub of innovation, learning, and social cohesion.

The project's unique blend of traditional community values and contemporary technological capabilities positions it as a pioneering force in the realm of community regeneration. By recontextualizing the chapel's historic role as a community centre and integrating innovative elements such as hacker retreats, makecations, and a supportive entrepreneurial ecosystem, Engedi 2.0 promises to create a dynamic, inclusive, and sustainable community resource.

While the project will undoubtedly face challenges, these are to be expected in any endeavour of this scale and ambition. The potential benefits of Engedi 2.0, both for the local community and potentially for the wider world, far outweigh these challenges. The project's innovative business model, which combines diverse revenue streams with a strong commitment to community involvement and self-governance, provides a solid foundation for its financial sustainability and long-term success.

The current state of the Engedi Chapel adds a sense of urgency to this endeavour. Every effort should be made to expedite the project's development and implementation, to prevent further deterioration of this historic asset and to start realising its potential as a catalyst for community regeneration.

In conclusion, this feasibility study finds that Engedi 2.0: Regenerative Catalyst is not only viable but also holds great promise for the future. With its visionary approach to community development, its potential for positive social impact, and its commitment to preserving and revitalising a significant historical asset, Engedi 2.0 represents a unique opportunity to shape a brighter, more resilient future for Caernarfon and potentially for communities around the world.

Acknowledgements

We would like to express our deepest gratitude to all those who have contributed their time, expertise, and support to the Engedi 2.0 project. This ambitious endeavour would not have been possible without the collective efforts of a remarkable group of individuals and organisations.

First and foremost, we extend our heartfelt thanks to The Architectural Heritage Fund, our primary funder, whose generous support has been instrumental in bringing this project to life. We are particularly grateful to Adam Hitchings, whose guidance and assistance have been invaluable at many stages of the project.

We are indebted to Angharad Owen for her tireless work and infectious enthusiasm, and to Shikhar Agarwal for his deep listening, creative ideas, and incredible brain power. Their contributions have truly shaped the direction and spirit of Engedi 2.0.

Our sincere appreciation goes to Donald-Insall for their professional service, inspirational ideas, and willingness to go the extra mile to support the project, and to Samaki Cyf for their guidance and advice at many levels. We are deeply grateful to Jenny Anderson, whose regenerative design insights have been a source of inspiration, and to the many people in the local area who have shared their ideas and support.

Our thanks also go to Menna Thomas from CARN, Sian Williams from GISDA, Gwyn Roberts from Galeri, Lowri Hedd, Dewi Williams, whose advice, support, and commitment have been invaluable and staunch support in safeguarding the building when it was most needed. Thanks also to Geraint Peters, David Pérez and Eli Norton for volunteering beyond the call of duty and helping safeguard the building.

We are grateful to Mitch Altman and Iwan Brioc for their help, support, and willingness to commit to being trustees at this early stage of the project.

Finally, we would like to acknowledge the contributions of Algaé Bindi, Franklin Scrase, the wonderful farmers at Tyddyn Teg cyf and all the other individuals too numerous to name who have offered support, shared ideas for local regeneration, and helped us navigate through challenging times. Your collective efforts have brought us closer to realising the vision of Engedi 2.0, and for that, we are profoundly grateful.

The Directors, Cwmni Engedi 2.0 Cyf