

# Results from the Public Consultation on the Greenfield Valley Strategy 2021



Greenfield Valley  
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In the period August to early October 2021 the Greenfield Valley Trust, supported by the staff of Flintshire County Council, carried out a consultation exercise asking visitors and local residents about their views on the future of the Greenfield Valley.

The consultation was promoted online via the website and social media, via the press, through leaflets and posters and through business cards handed out in the visitor centre and distributed in the Valley by members of the Trust Board.

A specially produced video played in the visitor centre and on the Valley's website.

All promotional material was bilingual.

Responses could be made online or written on paper versions of the questionnaires available at the visitor centre.

The consultation was structured to allow respondents to quickly answer some questions about the overall future plans and then choose whether to go beyond this into more detailed responses in respect of ideas and themes suggested by the Trust.

Respondents could answer as many of the questions as they wished. They were also invited to add their own comments.

This report summarises the findings and gives access to the detailed comments received.

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## RESULTS SUMMARY

THE RESPONDENTS	
<b>How many responded?</b>	127 people responded to the overall questions with some of these choosing to go on and respond to the more detailed questions
<b>Where were they from?</b>	The respondents were generally from the local area with 58% coming from Greenfield or Holywell and a further 26% coming from elsewhere in Flintshire. The remaining 16% were from - NE Wales outside Flintshire (7 %) the UK outside Wales (7%) and Wales outside NE Wales (2%).
<b>What features of the Valley are important to them?</b>	
<b>What places and things in the Valley are important to you? (Where do you go? What do you do?)</b>	<b>% of all Responses referring to this</b>
Walks, walking, paths trails	34%
Abbey	26%
Play area, playground, play park	23%
Café, hatch, bakehouse	21%
Farm, animals	19%
Nature, plants, trees, natural environment	17%
History, ruins	17%
Museum, exhibits, Heritage Centre, rail and steam museum	15%
Lakes, water, pools	15%
Place for dog walking	11%
Fitness, health, mental health, peace, tranquillity	9%
Maze	7%
All of it	6%
Social aspects – meeting friends and family	6%
Events	4%
Gardens	3%
Bandstand	1%
Feel of Valley which has been lost/destroyed	1%
More detail and comments and suggestions from respondents about what is important to them in the Valley are available. <a href="#">Details of these responses here</a>	

<b>RESPONSE TO OUR VISION</b>	
Did respondents agree with our vision that 'In a decade, the Greenfield Valley will be the preferred destination in Northeast Wales offering an engaging mix of cultural, environmental, heritage and leisure experiences.'	86% agreed (21 responses)
We asked: Would you change or add to this statement?	<a href="#">The responses can be accessed here</a>
<b>RESPONSE TO OUR FIVE THEMES</b>	
<b>Did the respondents support the five main themes we suggested?</b> 'Treasure our Heritage'. 'Cherish Our Natural Environment' 'Strengthen Our Communities' 'Delight Our Tourists' 'Direct Our Organisation'	96% of the respondents agreed that these were the most important things for us to look at.  Some respondents went on to answer the more detailed questions on each of these themes.....
'Treasure Our Heritage'	
Did respondents agree with our objective to: 'Collect, preserve and explain the diverse history of the Greenfield Valley through the monuments, buildings and collections in our care'	100% of respondents agreed with this objective (36 responses in total).
We asked: Are there any comments you wish to make about it or how we should manage and celebrate our heritage?	<a href="#">The responses can be accessed here</a>
'Cherish Our Natural Environment'	
Did respondents agree with our objective to: 'Protect, maintain, manage and enhance the Valley's natural environment.'	97% of respondents agreed (33 responses in total)
We asked: Are there any comments you wish to make about it or the Valley's natural environment?	<a href="#">The responses can be accessed here</a>
'Strengthen Our Communities'	
Did respondents agree with our objective to: 'Use the natural environment, monuments, buildings and collections of the Valley to provide quality social,	97% of respondents agreed (29 responses in total)

leisure, health & wellbeing and learning experiences tailored to the needs of local communities.'	
We asked: Are there any comments you wish to make about the Trust's thoughts described on this page?	<a href="#">The responses can be accessed here</a>
'Inspire Our Tourists'	
Did respondents think it would be good to have more tourists visiting and supporting the Valley?	100% said yes (23 responses in total)
Did respondents agree with our objective to: 'Attract and welcome tourists to the Valley giving them an experience that exceeds their expectations.'	100% of respondents agreed (23 responses in total).
We asked: Are there any comments you wish to make about this objective or the Trust's thoughts described on this page?	<a href="#">The responses can be accessed here</a>
'Direct Our Organisation'	
<i>Welsh and English Languages</i>	
Did respondents think that we should treat the Welsh and English languages equally?	100% of respondents said that we should (22 responses)
We asked if there were any comments on this matter.	<a href="#">The responses can be accessed here</a>
<i>Environmental sustainability</i>	
Did respondents think that we should treat national environmental objectives of carbon neutrality, biodiversity and environmental sustainability as equal to, or more important than, other potential investments?	90% of respondents said that we should treat them as equal to or more important (20 responses in total).
We asked if there were any comments on this matter.	<a href="#">The responses can be accessed here</a>

<b>IDENTIFYING ZONES IN THE VALLEY</b>	
Did respondents think it was a good idea to identify different Zones in the Valley?	97% of respondents said it was a good idea (74 responses in total)
We asked: Do you have any comments on the Zones suggested?	<a href="#">The responses can be accessed here</a>

## FINANCING THE VALLEY

### Ideas for Raising Money

What ideas, used by other places, did respondents consider we should use to raise money to invest in our site?:

Ideas to raise money used elsewhere	% Response to each suggestion		
	Yes	No	Don't Know
Attracting more people to pay entrance fees, buy food etc:	76	24	0
Increasing Entrance Fees	9	79	12
Charging more for food and drinks	12	78	10
Charging for car parking	23	74	3
Charging visitors at a higher rate than local people	36	51	13
Charging more for events	38	44	18
Arranging more events	91	5	4
Renting out spaces for events and private hire	93	4	3
Creating new things to do – activities, eating out, exhibitions	96	2	2

We asked: Can you suggest other ideas to make money to support the Valley?

[The responses can be accessed here](#)

### Applying for and using Grants

Did respondents want us to apply for grants to make big changes and improvements, as long as we protect the Valley's history. Did they want to see new things, or no changes?

In general respondents supported the use of grants to maintain and improve the site. There was also support for new things to do and see. There was caution about the amount of change respondents wished to see in the Valley.

[All the responses can be accessed here.](#)

## RESPONSES IN DETAIL

We asked:

What places and things in the Valley are important to you?

(Where do you go? What do you do?)

119 people wrote something in response to this question.

We have looked at all the responses and analysed what features were referred to in the comments. Most comments referred to more than one feature with 279 referred to in total.

All but one comment referred to the features in a positive or neutral way but comments and suggestions for desirable improvements were also made in this section. These comments on improvements have been included in the section on 'other things you think are important' as this was where most of the respondent's suggestions for improvements were made.

*Note that:*

- *This analysis is based on the words that people chose to use it is therefore indicative of the features that people particularly like, and chose to refer to, rather than a scientific analysis of what is most important.*
- *The numbers below indicate the number of times particular features were mentioned. It does not mean that features mentioned less, or not at all, are not considered important by those responding.*

What places and things in the Valley are important to you? (Where do you go? What do you do?)	No of mentions	% of all responses referring to this	Some quotes reflecting what respondents find important to them:
Walks, walking, paths trails	41	34%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 'Walking from Holywell town down to the Abbey on a well-cared for path.'</li> <li>• 'The walk up the hill is lovely, a really gentle climb up to Holywell.'</li> </ul>
Abbey	31	26%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 'The Abbey is a favourite.'</li> <li>• 'The architecture of Basingwerk Abbey.'</li> <li>• 'Picnic at the Abbey ruins.'</li> </ul>
Play area, playground, play park	27	23%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 'I like the play park for my daughter.'</li> <li>• 'I became a member so that I can take my 3 year-old granddaughter there whenever we want to go. She likes to look at the animals and to play in the play area so that's what we do....'</li> </ul>
Café, hatch, bakehouse	24	21%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 'We stop off at the little café in the wall for a coffee and a light bite...We deserve that after walking.'</li> <li>• 'Love the addition of the Bakehouse and Hatch.'</li> <li>• 'The fact that the Hatch and Bakehouse are open is fantastic.'</li> </ul>

Farm, animals	23	19%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 'We love the farmyard, it's a cosy special place full of nostalgia.'</li> <li>• 'My daughter loves the animals.'</li> </ul>
Nature, plants, trees, natural environment	20	17%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 'We love the unspoilt and peaceful atmosphere and exploring nature is great for the kids.'</li> <li>• 'Seeing the valley at different times of the year with the changing flora and fauna is always interesting.'</li> </ul>
History, ruins	20	17%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 'The history is really important to me. I like to wander and read the 'history boards'.'</li> <li>• 'The historical aspects. It's very important to me that our children understand how lucky they are to be alive now. Life was hard back when the mills were running...'</li> </ul>
Museum, exhibits, Heritage Centre, rail and steam museum	18	15%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 'The heritage centre is a brilliant, safe environment for my 3-year old and 10-month old.'</li> <li>• 'The old buildings.'</li> <li>• 'Rail and Steam museum.'</li> </ul>
Lakes, water, pools	18	15%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 'The lakes are hugely important to our family.'</li> <li>• 'The lakes are important; they bring a calm and quiet to my life.'</li> </ul>
Place for dog walking	13	11%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 'It's a lovely place to visit, dogs are welcome, there is something for all ages.'</li> <li>• 'Greenfield Valley is my favourite place in the area to walk my dog and meet up with family...'</li> </ul>
Fitness, health, mental health, peace, tranquillity	11	9%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 'I walk the Valley to clear my head and enjoy the beautiful scenery.'</li> <li>• 'We walk through the valley looking at the history and keeping fit.'</li> <li>• 'I use the Valley for running and walking.'</li> </ul>
Maze	8	7%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 'We visit regularly with our children – they love the maze...'</li> <li>• 'My two children love the maze...'</li> </ul>
All of it	7	6%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 'Enjoy walking through the entire valley to enjoy its heritage.'</li> <li>• 'All areas are important to me. We are so fortunate to have this beautiful place on our doorstep.'</li> <li>• 'All of it as different areas visited on different occasions'</li> </ul>
Social aspects – meeting friends and family	7	6%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 'Meeting fellow walkers and stopping for a chat.'</li> <li>• 'I've met a lot of people walking in the Valley. It is lovely.'</li> <li>• 'My friends and I now regularly meet in the Bakehouse for a catch up over some lovely food and a few drinks.'</li> </ul>
Events	5	4%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 'Exciting, interesting and Welsh language events.'</li> <li>• 'We...enjoy taking the grandchildren in to see the farm animals... Great that you have events for them too.'</li> </ul>
Gardens	4	3%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 'Helping with the gardening.'</li> <li>• 'The gardens and the walks.'</li> </ul>
Bandstand	1	1%	
Feel of Valley which has been lost/destroyed	1	1%	

Comments and Suggestions from respondents are on the following pages.

Comments and Suggestions about what is important to respondents about the Valley and what other things could be done

More events. A treasure hunt around the park.
Accessibility for all.
I would like there to be a little kiosk or shack selling food further up the valley. Currently it's only by the farm, so you have to go the whole length. It would be a nice option further up, possibly by the flowey.
Sorting the fairy walk out for the children.
Bringing the community together
Maybe a bigger selection of animals
Making disabled access a priority on a number of occasions the big gate by the old visitor centre has been locked.
Parking can be a problem when events are on
Needs to be dementia friendly / age friendly (both in terms of understanding/ training for staff as well as accessibility. E.g. Darker coloured mats at entrance to visitor centre could be a barrier for someone with dementia. Plenty of benches and resting areas. Would be great to have an indoor meeting area or resource centre, somewhere for local groups to use and perhaps an accessible picnic area.
Educational tours for schools showing how life has changed since the formation of the valley, e.g.: schools, agriculture, industry etc.
Making it "pandemic proof", as in carrying on finding ways to ensure the valley stays financially viable during any future restrictions. Either through outdoor activities, awareness campaigns, basically more of what you have been doing over the last year which has been fantastic!
Maintaining the peace in the valley walks e.g. Discouraging the use of electric scooters and skateboards racing on the paths.
Making sure there is no litter around.
The lakes are not looking very healthy, as they are clogged up with weed and Lilys. Especially the largest (flourwey). The top lake is drained but looked amazing earlier this year when the heavy rain filled it temporarily. Maybe they need a waterway expert to take a look ?
Petting area in farm. More animals rabbits and guinea pigs etc.
Lack of benches prohibits those less able to walk / walk for lengthy periods from visiting. More benches would also allow people to sit and relax whilst looking at the views, nature etc.
If you are concerned about the Valley's history - then stop making sites and buildings out of bounds or closed off such the Battery Works and Lower Cotton Mill. Please refill the Battery Works pool with water, it looks so sad empty and I loved seeing the circular waterfall. Why have you filled all the windows in the Battery works with modern bricks, Why did you remove the wooden roof beams in the Abbey. You blame things on Vandals - when you are the very vandals for removing or altering the original appearance.

<p>If you are concerned about the natural environment - then stop putting fences up everywhere, cutting down trees and putting tarmac everywhere</p>
<p>PLEASE MAKE IT COMPULSORY THAT DOGS ARE KEPT ON LEADS AT ALL TIMES IN ALL AREAS OF THE VALLEY. FOR THE SAFETY OF OTHER PEOPLE AND DOGS. I know many close relatives and friends who have been attacked or had their dog attacked because people are so dumb. I keep my dogs on leads at all times but will no longer visit the valley with my dogs as I consider it too dangerous for them</p>
<p>There could potentially be more animals to make it more like a farm park, to bring more people to the valley. Maybe provide a food festival or market there occasionally.</p>
<p>Pond often has floating debris Take carrier bag every morning to pick up litter from the abbey. Sometimes find remnants of fires</p>
<p>The feel of the valley which has been lost/destroyed. See above. What there is now is a false representation of the valley as it used to be.</p>
<p>It needs to be financially viable to support the valley also.</p>
<p>Providing a space for educational, learning, activities from children and lifelong learners.</p>
<p>I think the quite recent addition of The Hatch snack bar is excellent as is the cafe. I am also asked frequently about public toilets in the valley and do think there is a need for some to be installed.</p>
<p>Regular clean ups of algae, overgrown weeds and trolleys, junk and lifesaving rings thrown in.</p>
<p>Encouraging nationwide schools, colleges and universities to visit and learn for history projects.</p>
<p>Things for the youth in the area to do</p>
<p>A variation in what is offered at the valley. Unfortunately, through no fault of their own, museums have become obsolete in a world of tech. I think museums in general need to catch up with the times and make things more interactive. Children are addicted to screens.</p>
<p>I think it important that local people, particularly young people, are involved in order that they develop a sense of ownership and pride in the valley.</p>
<p>Providing activities that all ages can access. Toddler friendly activities would be great</p>
<p>What's good for area and the community. Hence we see the greenfield valley needs more marketing and entertainment for a locals not only the tourists.</p>
<p>A great place to meet for coffee and food</p>
<p>Listening to the locals about what is going on in the valley and woods especially the walk ways i.e. the kids on motorbikes</p>
<p>The cost for the museum is very expensive for a day trip with a family.</p>
<p>Informative sessions and volunteering opportunities</p>
<p>Litter and how to deal with it or prevent it.</p>
<p>Keeping control of the growth in the woods.</p>

<p>More animals- my children love feeding lambs, goats etc  Horses- maybe horse rides, even at a small extra cost like at other farm parks  More activities for children, such as craft making etc  Special weeks- such as science week, animal week etc where people are brought in with exotic animals etc  Small rewards for completing the passport- even something like a badge, children love that! Hosting children's parties?</p>
<p>Yes they need to utilise the whole area  A little train running up and-down the woods, more eateries and coffee shops,  Also Halloween wood land activities and at Xmas lots of lights and stalls and magical times in the woodland - it would generate plenty of income for the upkeep</p>
<p>A visible valley warden would be an amazing asset to ensure all dogs are on leads and also would be someone that any damages, broken glass etc could be reported to.</p>
<p>More information outside the paid boundary area on wildlife. Maybe a wildlife census</p>
<p>The cleanliness of the paths (full of dog poo) more poo bins needed and more toilets it's no good having one toilet facility that is far away and shuts early (4pm on a Sunday)</p>
<p>More family things.  Maybe open air cinema, bring your own chair and popcorn.</p>
<p>Whilst it might be unrealistic in the current climate it would be good to aim for development of the sites industrial heritage. Not a clone of the Boat Museum but perhaps heading in a parallel direction &amp; 'developing' sites along the valley.  Use of QR codes to provide a narrative?</p>
<p>Increase number of animals in the farm &amp; keep visitor centre/toilets open year round.</p>
<p>Providing more permanent physical and hands on activities for children.</p>
<p>Job opportunities for young people and education</p>
<p>Clean up the pools</p>
<p>Allowing locals to fish again in the pond</p>
<p>Keep the grounds in and around the valley tidy. Most times it looks abandoned. Cut all the nettles and trees back at the bottom by the speed camera. It's a very dangerous road as it is without having to walk in the road going to school because of the nettles and overgrown trees. It also doesn't look very nice from the outside so to speak</p>
<p>More things for younger children to enjoy</p>
<p>Ensuring safety and cleanliness. There are lovely walks but the amount of litter and poo bags is disgusting. Letting young children play hide and seek in the abbey can be quite dangerous due to the amounts of glass, litter and on occasions drugs paraphernalia.</p>
<p>More things for toddlers e.g. more animals, duck found to buy, events and activities</p>
<p>To keep it family friendly i would recommend more picnic benches around the mill pond for picnics.</p>
<p>Can I point out at this point that it's really good that the cafes serve everything in recyclable tubs etc, but there are no recycling bins anywhere in the valley - this is important!</p>

The protection of the natural environment is vitality important. I would like to see an educational program.
Put a railway back up the valley
Value for money, right now for an individual ticket you are very overpriced
I think keeping it tidy is a big factor for visitors - it has always been tidy when I have visited and I hope that it kept up
Running events which attract both local people and tourists
Yes! The bakehouse could do with being more reliable, although I do appreciate they may get understaffed at times with covid, it's no good for people who need a rest... A place for food and drink on the grounds would be a real money maker! And I think it's a must. Should be open all year around.
You've got them covered.
More dog poo bins up the woods please
Two things: To keep the valley clean and safe to explore. I can't let my two young boys explore as I would like to as the is always litter such as broken glass and cans in the wooded areas, and so much dog muck alongside the paths. Secondly in the farm museum I think it would benefit from being much more interactive for young, preschool age children as that is when I came the most with mine. The exhibits were all aimed at older children, the little ones can't reach anything. We like the developments with the walk up behind the pigs and the mud kitchen. Thank you
Live music events
After years of walking to the Valley via the main path from Tesco we decided to explore all the little paths that shoot off on either side. There's so much more to see! These alternative paths should be advertised more as i think very few families actually notice them.
Love the Bakehouse. Keep it open in winter
I suggest that within the Farm you could purchase some additional toy tractors. It's a nice area, secure with the soft tarmac flooring and a few more vehicles would enhance this.
Love walking up the valley, bring the train back for the summer
The lakes but much of it is overgrown and water covered in weeds and algae not very appealing to visitors or wildlife.
I do not use the valley as much as I could do due to local stories of anti-social behaviour.
The abbey is a favourite but had quite a lot of broken glass when we recently visited. The ponds are a hit but could do with chicken wire or the like to bridge the spaces between the railings.
It's also a shame that fishing has been stopped at the pool.
We walk the path up to Tesco from the bottom car park, and back down - my kids would benefit being able to find stuff bit like a hunt or signs!
It's a shame you cannot turn one of the pools into an outdoor paddling pool. It would be ace for families.

The Victorian Christmas 🥰 would love to see some stalls with Victorian theme.  
 My Children love the park. More animals would be nice.  
 Years ago I worked at the cafe and there was a summer Fair every year.  
 More re-enactments for children to see what life was like there.

The farm bit, needs more animals in it to see

The lakes are wonderful. The pond on the right as you walk up the hill has tadpoles in the spring but at the moment it is very overgrown with pond plants. We were on the path one day when a lady with a young child had not realised it was a pond and the child had stepped on to the plants and ended up waist deep in the pond. It should be cleared as it is a hazard to young children.

The walks, feeding the ducks I feel this could/should be made safer and cleaner (cleaner as in the muddy bogs surrounding the flowey)

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### Responses to our Vision

**We asked if people agreed with our vision that  
 'In a decade, the Greenfield Valley will be the preferred destination in Northeast Wales offering an engaging mix of cultural, environmental, heritage and leisure experiences.'**

**86% agreed (21 responses)**

**We asked: Would you change or add to this statement? The responses are below:**

1. Make more of plant and tree knowledge - label some of the trees.
  2. Edible plants - small foraging tours, teaching knowledge of edible, poisonous and herbal plants.
  3. Bird Life
  4. History - get volunteers on weekends at the various sites to impart the history.
- Note:- beware of getting on the climate change bandwagon - not a political valley but come for enjoyment.

Ensuring to retain its original integrity without sterilising the natural beauty. Placing Welsh culture and it's language at the forefront of its cultural experience.

'..for all to enjoy and learn from' perhaps

I think we'll be lucky to be here in 10 years the way last year and this have gone. Climate change is real. As is Covid.

We don't want or need an ever increasing level of tourism. Our public space is precious. There should be a limit on how much it is commodified. Greenfield woods is precious because it is/ was peaceful and unspoilt. The more it is changed the more will be lost.

No

need to utilise in VC more working displays. More agricultural displays outside.

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## Treasure Our Heritage Responses

**Strategic Objective:**

**We asked if people agreed with our objective to: 'Collect, preserve and explain the diverse history of the Greenfield Valley through the monuments, buildings and collections in our care'**  
**100% agreed** (36 responses in total).

**We asked: Are there any comments you wish to make about it or how we should manage and celebrate our heritage? The responses are below:**

The Abbey was founded in the 11th century I believe it was then dissolved by Henry VIII. Why not then have a medieval banquet on St David's day therefore celebrating the remains of the abbey the history it has seen and the patron saint of Wales day.

There were books in the library about the area. All out of print, one was written by the lady who grew up in that house(ruins) by the copper heating and smelting. Try to get a copy somewhere. That's REAL history. People need to be able to pick up pamphlets on the various ruins. How about making some money selling them. Unfortunately, some of your information signs are vandalised now. If you had a website with the history of each and a number at each site, people could read about it there

Invite me to meet and discuss my answers, I know my comments maybe harsh, but I am sincere, I have time and willingness to do this. Contact me on \*\*\*\*\*

Interesting for many but not too good for younger people. Basically it's a museum with all the negative connotations that go with them. People now look for physical and mental challenges within an appropriate setting.

Explore the idea of having staff/volunteers in costumes in the various buildings to create a timeline and educate schools, colleges and universities and the industrial past of the greenfield valley and pass the knowledge on to younger generations

There needs to be far more interactivity. For example, at The black country living museum in Dudley, there are individuals who know the history inside out, ready and willing to explain to, talk to and act the part for their "zone"

Local people (young) need to be shown how important the GV is to them. There is a danger that we just look to the past and don't relate it to our future.

Entertain as well as educate maybe?

Preserve and explain I agree . Please do not collect anymore. We don't need any more relocated buildings or huge pieces of scrappy metal that once made up machines in Courtaulds left to rust in grass verges.

Conservation, presentation and interpretation are vital

Keep doing what you're doing!

A website with lesson plans/resources which can allow teachers/home educators to use the valley as part of their teaching resources. There is a lack of free resources for home educators, particularly connected with their local area.

All monuments - good or bad

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## Cherish Our Natural Environment Responses

### Strategic Objective

**We asked if people agreed with our objective to: 'Protect, maintain, manage and enhance the Valley's natural environment.' 97% of respondents agreed (33 responses in total)**

**We asked: Are there any comments you wish to make about it or the Valley's natural environment? The responses are below:**

I think more should be done to protect the wildlife in the ponds; the swans, birds, fish etc.

I think the "forest walk " we call it with kitchen etc could have a zip wire? Or something we could do with rubbish? Like figure and visitors fill it with plastic. Learn about birds etc on way round?

Plant more daffodils and spring flowers. Clean the weed from the ponds to allow wildlife to thrive.

What do you mean about enhance? Keep it as wild and natural as possible. Not so keen on PARKS as opposed to Natural Beauty i.e. Did you notice on the upper path at the second bridge the trees form a natural cathedral arch over the path? One lady told me it's her church, she comes there to pray every day.

I'm concerned that the natural environment within the valley has become sterilised by over concern with H&S with the introduction fencing and tarmac

It's a beautiful area , don't let overuse destroy it

I believe litter and fly tipping is a problem in the valley and I suggest you work with the relevant authority's to extinguish the problem and create a local litter pick every week

I am very passionate about bees, wildflower meadows and the environment in general. There are always ways to improve. Creating bug hotels, installing wildflower meadows to attract pollinators. Planting trees and obviously completing surveys to check that the existing trees are healthy and not spreading disease.
Although not broadly popular trees within the site are much in need of maintenance/management.
Set up regular volunteer days to litter pick around the woodland areas especially those off the main path I.e. the bluebell woods
Whilst we agree the environment require care and protection our house backs onto the top of flower mill pond which is currently over grown with weeds.
Yes, recently someone mentioned doing water sports or boat rides. Please do not do this. The water should be for the animals alone. Humans have enough.
Protect and maintain I agree with. Enhancing nature and the natural environment is not necessary nor desirable. It would be a struggle to find agreement on what enhancing the natural environment means. The recent introduction of more and more tarmac, signs and yellow road paint do not in my view enhance the natural environment. We didn't need another road between Greenfield and Holywell. We didn't need the return of noisy trial motorcycles.
More woodland management for biodiversity. A concentrated period of intensive management once every two to five years with information posted about what's on the plan and what it's aimed at achieving. Continuing the use of wildflower, and additional fruit, plantings. With interpretation boards for what species will benefit.
Nature trails
Happy

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## Strengthen Our Communities Responses

### Strategic Objective

**We asked if people agreed with our objective to: 'Use the natural environment, monuments, buildings and collections of the Valley to provide quality social, leisure, health & wellbeing and learning experiences tailored to the needs of local communities.' 97% of respondents agreed (29 responses in total)**

<b>We asked: Are there any comments you wish to make about the Trust's thoughts described on this page? The responses are below:</b>
Could do certain events like yoga in the wilderness. Physical exercise for children and families like a gala tug a wore what they did in the generation. Stalls hook a duck. A real spring and summer event
Sounds good but in practice?? There are huge mixture of poor, retired and working class and they all think of the forest as theirs. However, I do think that gardens behind The Bakehouse should be used for the Community. Vegetables, fruit trees, herbs etc. Get the Community involved to turn it into a food source.
Utilise this setting to create revenue and publicity by introducing a small permanent small local food produce stall and repair/upcycling shop for old authentic tools/furniture and bric-a-brac. Involve local talent and skills. The Hatch is a good example of this success
I mean, gardening. Who doesn't love gardening? I don't know if one exists, but a "Friends of the greenfield valley" group would do wonders. Local people of all ages, abilities and backgrounds, could come and help plant flowers, trees, clear rubbish etc.
Needs emphasising since it addresses an earlier comment.
Just how positive it is being able to visit a local area which has a secure and engaging area for small children. With a very active 3yr old and a 10 month old, I really appreciate being able to come to an area I know my children can be safe within. The park is brilliant and my son always has so much fun. The cost of membership is great for us. We would pay to do toddler friendly events. I feel unable to attend the theatre shows due to the ages of my children.
Only that as nice as it is you keep prices low you should ensure this means more than breaking even. You have to be making a profit. Though I do think locals should have some form of membership or discount vs proper tourists
Greenfield woods and the Abbey have been a wonderful natural resource for the local community long before the establishment of Greenfield valley Trust. I'd like the Trust to consider how their aims can be met with least intrusion on the natural environment that so many have enjoyed in relative peace for so long. Perhaps impact assessments should be considered before each project or significant decision. The assumption a Greenfield Valley Trust and continuous development is required to promote the wellbeing of local people is in my view erroneous. The opportunity to be spontaneous and escape into unspoilt, undisturbed nature on our doorstep provides an opportunity to promote wellbeing far beyond any man-made initiatives or interventions . The noticeable absence of toads migrating to breeding ponds is only one visible example of how human interventions have reduced wildlife in Greenfield woods. The lack of children playing in streams and scrambling up and down muddy banks and exploring nature for themselves; something local children have done for many generations is an example of how the actions of the Valley Trust has alienated local children.
Absolutely. I know my family and many others have always found the valley to be a place to escape everything. We've needed this more than ever during covid and it's been a true lifeline for many. One of my most favourite places on earth and I'm extremely proud to call it home.
Leisure and mental wellbeing

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## Inspire Our Tourists Responses

<p><b>Strategic Objective:</b> <b>We asked if people agreed with our objective to: ‘Attract and welcome tourists to the Valley giving them an experience that exceeds their expectations.’ 100% said Yes (23 responses in total).</b></p> <p><b>We asked people if they thought would be good to have more tourists visiting and supporting the Valley – 100% said yes (23 responses)</b></p>
<p><b>We asked: Are there any comments you wish to make about this objective or the Trust’s thoughts described on this page? The responses are below:</b></p>
<p>Get the biggest employers - Airbus involved. I post pictures on Facebook from here and friends in Broughton don't even know the place exists.</p>
<p>Maybe create a music festival in the grounds of Basingwerk abbey to attract tourists and locals and give local musicians/artists a space to promote their work</p>
<p>There just isn't very much for visitors to do. Again it comes back to interactivity and offering "the purple cow" (search Seth Godin) do something different, think innovation, excitement and engagement.</p>
<p>The entire valley needs tying up so that tourists can have an experience, a unique experience at that.</p>
<p>I live overlooking the valley and have all my life, my avenue has steps into the valley so it was our 'playground' as children and when I look back how lucky was I? I'm 54 now and still live on Bryn y Coed which I personally think should have some of the bigger trees thinned out at the top so the view can be appreciated, it's an entrance down into the valley which years ago had no trees it was a bank full of ferns and the bluebells. The path on the school side is wonderful I have dogs so regularly walk there and the increase in the number of people is refreshing to see I do worry that it could become a 'rat run' for some undesirables I believe that people were dealing drugs by the parks of late but the police are aware of this so hopefully on top of it, it certainly hasn't been as obvious of late.</p>
<p>I don't think I would like the valley to be something like Alton towers but do think it would be lovely more like Greenwood Park in Gwynedd.</p>
<p>There is a huge scope that if properly done could be something for everyone and generate income and employment into the area. I don't think people living close to the valley should have to pay to enter it especially if it's part of your back garden!</p>
<p>I remember all the pools being full and the water wheels (obviously they weren't there when I was young but you could see where they'd been on each of them) could they be restored and use the water power to run a little train up and down the valley? Devon's Lynton &amp; Lynmouth cliff railway is multi award winning people travel not only from all over this country but all over the world to see it. I wish you luck with whatever it is you do at least you have the decency to ask people's opinions.</p>
<p>Respray the distance lines to show where people are meant to queue for the Hatch because all through covid I had to walk through a line of people to get to work when the lines were obvious to me that they should queue against the wall instead they'd block up the path.</p>

Need to make museum park more like farm parks Manorafon and Park Hall farm to encourage more families to come
While I do enjoy the Valley when it isn't too packed... more tourists means more money, and more money means more investments into Greenfield and its surrounding areas. I personally think a train stop back at Greenfield would be a fantastic benefit in helping with this.
Displays with movement. Car parking.
We don't want or need an ever increasing level of tourism. Our public space is precious. There should be a limit on how much it is commodified. Greenfield woods is precious because it is/ was peaceful and unspoilt. The more it is changed the more will be lost. <i>(Comment from Direct Our Organisation Page.)</i>

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## Direct Our Organisation Responses

### Welsh and English languages

<b>We asked: Should we treat the Welsh and English languages equally?</b> <b>100% of respondents said that we should</b> (22 responses)
<b>We asked if there were any comments on this matter. The responses are below:</b>
Visitors love seeing Welsh
Silly question, both should be treated equally for signage and communication. However, the Welsh language should be promoted as part of the heritage and as a priority for its preservation .
I don't speak Welsh but of course there shouldn't be discrimination of any kind.
Of course. It is a requirement for local authorities in Wales. I'm not sure why this question is asked?

Why wouldn't you if you are in Wales
Absolutely!
lawn da

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## Environmental sustainability

<p><b>We asked: Should we treat national environmental objectives of carbon neutrality, biodiversity and environmental sustainability as equal to, or more important than, other potential investments?</b>  <b>90% of respondents said that we should treat them as equal to or more important (20 responses in total).</b></p>
<p><b>We asked if there were any comments on this matter. The responses are below:</b></p>
<p>We have to adhere to gov.</p>
<p>I believe this is a passion we see already when we visit</p>
<p>Keep this lot OUT of the valley. We get enough lectures and propaganda day &amp; night on radio, TV, press and Government. Don't add to the fear campaign. Relaxation and Heritage. A place to go to connect with nature</p>
<p>A sensible balance should be struck without destroying or threatening existing historical buildings and environment</p>
<p>Equal to</p>
<p>Plants &amp; animals first and foremost. Go green</p>
<p>As above the precious natural, unspoilt nature of the area is what makes it beautiful. If we do not comply with national objectives of carbon neutrality, biodiversity and sustainability there will be no naturally beautiful woodland left for anyone to enjoy. Using resources prudently and ensuring we plan sustainability into all projects is no longer optional.</p>

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## Zones Idea Responses

<p><b>Identifying Zones in the Valley</b></p> <p><b>We suggested that we could identify different Zones in the Valley and we asked people if they thought that this was a good idea. 97% of respondents said it was a good idea (74 responses in total).</b></p>
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<b>We asked: Do you have any comments on the Zones suggested? The responses are below:</b>
The wildlife in some areas might benefit from having less human disturbance, so bear that in mind.
As an annual ticket holder, I think the zones are very well thought out.
Doing open days in the factories to show the way things work
A great idea and visiting different zones could take several visits
I think it's a great idea.
Within the zones specific needs can be identified and visitors can be encouraged to visit them to see what is happening across the whole of the valley
They seem to be a good starting point and can be altered quite easily to adapt to usage
Maps and routes?
Don't like zoning ever. Always seems exclusive
Zone 7 - the Battery Works needs to be renovated - not necessarily rebuilt but all the new brick work that has been used to fill in windows needs to be removed and repaired. The pool and circular waterfall need to be repaired and refilled it looks very sad in its current state.
People should be able to pick up a guide book to find their way around what they would like to see.
Could colour code in visitor guide to enable different groups to navigate site- family visits, younger children, walkers, 1/2 day visit, spending the full day.
I think that the zones are a great idea. Many people think of the visitor and play area as a separate entity from the rest of the valley which is a free for all and accessible from many areas. Having zones to highlight aspects and direct visitors is a far better way forward as long as those zones are maintained and monitored as stated in my earlier comments, from those who wish to destroy, deface and leave their mess.
I believe zones 4 to 9 need more attention and perhaps enquire with a local steam railways appreciation society about how they can help regenerate and bring back to life the old Holywell to greenfield railway line.
A trail could be built, where children (and adults) can collect stamps (like the passports) and if they manage to get all of them, they win a prize at the end.
Looks good so long as they are well connected.
Open three mills again and make it safe
Using grant money to provide some much needed maintenance to the old mill buildings and the gardens closest to the hatch. They're overgrown with lots of rubbish. Not the safest areas for small children.
You need better gateway opening at Tesco end. Open it out to make it more welcoming.
Whatever floats your boat I guess. Oh if possible please get a small boat because that dead Swan a couple years back was awful & I just kept being told the rangers didn't have a boat.
Sounds like a good idea but I can't see the map on my phone

Identifying zones is a neutral activity. What matters is whether the zones become fenced off and 'claimed' by FCC or trustees. Resulting in local people being denied free access to the local natural environment. I am concerned the drive to attract tourists is an exercise in seeing pound signs and missing the true value many generations have gained from free access to peaceful unspoilt nature, open space and tranquillity.

The road up the hill is really dangerous and some of the other areas are very tired looking. Some work needs to be done to make it really user friendly and safe. A cafe and toilets at the far end might be good. More revenue and more jobs? Make sure it's got an environmental focus.

There should be a trail to encourage people to enter each zone. Maybe some sort of sculpture or wooden carving to find.

Helpful not only to visitors but for emergency services

Make sure there is good cell phone coverage and seating/rest areas. Perhaps networked picnic benches would work (i.e. benches connected by cat6 cable to a broadband hub). This would allow people to bring a laptop and work in the valley - work anywhere is the new post covid mantra - and open up the opportunity to have coffee units within the valley zones, which in turn helps local business owners and brings in additional revenues from the zones.

Introduce a fishing club - fishermen / women are great at managing a body of water and would self-police themselves if formed correctly. This would open up the valley to more and help manage the water quality.

Good idea for all locals as well

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## Ideas for Making Money to Support the Valley

**We asked: Can you suggest other ideas to make money to support the Valley?  
The responses are below:**

Regular events

focal free entry on registering address expensive for what's there

Donations....fundraising...possibly? Look at something you wish to do by a certain date and ask people to support this event by donating. Gift aid?

Renting out the gazebo area and using it to host seasonal events (summer fete, jazz concerts, afternoon tea parties etc etc).

Food and drink kiosks further up the valley instead of all located at the bottom, it's maybe too far for some people to walk.

Woodland trails - you could do walks looking for animals with a tour guide, Halloween spooky walks etc with an admission fee.

Hire stalls, homemade foods stuffs. Jams, chutneys, cheese etc
Abbey grounds -  - Hold an open air movie night 4 times a year maybe  - Dog competition once a year for the community (working alongside local vets to arrange / sponsor)
Donations box like the spiral bin for children.  Have annual pass and non-merit rates for foods. I feel you should advertise cafe across path. Overheard tourists ask where they can get food without the ice cream section. You could turn it historical and what they did in the generation for food. I feel if you charge for car park it may put people coming.
More animals and maybe animal experiences
Photograph completion. The valley is favourite in Autumn and winter and so different to spring and summer
children's parties; conference facilities; offer workshops and make certain costs are covered; Host historical walk and talks;
In the past the valley hosted classic car shows. The Holywell town one is poor but Prestatyn hold a successful one annually and combine with the local church selling plants, cakes and crafts, along with face painting etc for the children. It brings in people of all ages but especially the older generation who often have disposable cash. Food for thought?
ENGAGE IN CHARITY ACTIVITY TO RAISE FUNDS I.E. BIKE RIDE, SELLING PLANTS
Sleepovers, a camping field, adventure/Bush skills birthday parties
Promenade plays, music events, dementia friendly events, age friendly events, child friendly events, guided walks
You need to offer more to charge more. Making farm more attractive for tourists and visitors - more interaction with animals. There used to be horse and cart rides. Petting zoo, feeding animals. Events - fireworks/lights show at the abbey would be amazing, winter wonderland
If not already in existence, establish a Friends of the Valley type organisation with paying or voluntary subscriptions. Publish newsletters of events, we only found by accident that the steam engine powered bottle plant was working and open to visitors once a month (we visit quite regularly from Prestatyn)
!!!!LET CHILDREN IN ON THEIR OWN TO THE FARM!!!! Yes i understand that this may be hard, due to unsupervised children. But there are many children that i know would be regular visitors at greenfield valley farm, and sometimes their parents cannot go with them. The farm should be a place for children, somewhere they can go on their own. Please take notice of this.
A YOUTUBE CHANNEL - Not professionally done as that can put people off. One person with a smart phone filming the warden with conversation, 5 min daily and no editing. Upload and the post on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram sites. The more followers and likes the more money the channel makes and the more visitors will come. Badgers set, ponds, the animals on the farm, the Bakehouse. People would love it.

<p>Reduced charges for locals, as they can regularly visit and contribute. Make it clear that the valley is run by volunteers and have charity boxes.</p>
<p>Family days, treasure hunts. Dog shows. Activity days.</p>
<p>You could promote the annual pass via FCC (e.g. they have sent emails throughout Covid) so you'd reach a wider audience across the whole county. The annual pass is good value; we purchased one. Feedback from some friends who purchased day tickets with toddlers is it is relatively expensive for time spent. So I'd suggest promoting the annual pass to increase uptake which would increase revenue.</p>
<p>An electric motorised train from the Farm to Holywell and back for tourists, could even be used by locals as public transport. More established Arts and Performance based exhibitions and Festivals.</p>
<p>Perhaps animal adoption or sponsor a building or area of the valley?</p>
<p>Local social events: local clubs etc to hold meetings.100 club: prize draws: Sponsored events ,donations, exhibitions.</p>
<p>Maybe arrange walks through the valley pointing out historical and places of interest</p>
<p>Develop the farm ( more animals) Children love to see farm animals close up..... An area for children to meet and pet rabbits guinea pigs etc Have an area that's planted with flowers....have plants for sale at a reasonable price..... It's better to make a small profit and get people to visit..... Advertise friends of Greenfield valley more and encourage volunteers to work alongside the rangers.....</p>
<p>Some areas are a bit run down and there aren't many animals as I thought there would have been. I think the biggest issue was there isn't much to do so unless you go for a walk you can be done with 1.5hr. Also the site is very difficult for those with mobility issues. The gift shop needs improving a lot of general items not specific to the site history.</p> <p>My biggest disappointment was the children's stamp collection. The kids were so excited and when we finished the sign said to take it to reception for the lady behind the reception to say oh well done you don't get anything. Would it have been difficult to present a token prize even a sticker would have been great. (My previous location had a similar quiz and gave the kids a lollypop or sticker when they were done and they loved it)</p> <p>I think maybe look at Norton priory or the black country museum that have a similar site background and see how they gain extra funds.</p>
<p>Increase local government Funding. Outdoor Civil Weddings. Commemorative tree planting/benches. Fundraising collection on/off site. Sponsor an animal/Day experiences. Under 16 years Children's Parties. Overnight/after dark educational activities. Ghost Walk tour.</p>

The bandstand and the water wheel near the hatch have not been used for many years, the grounds themselves could be opened for visitors and events.
To have staff/volunteers running history tours/talks at all the buildings and make it an interactive and fun learning experience.
If there was a few more free things to do when visiting greenfield it may bring in more people who will want to then also explore the heritage farm. Tourists get frustrated when their kids can't play on the play area and local people don't want to come down with young children as there's nowhere free for them to play.
Afternoon teas in the abbey that can be picked up from the centre, made by the bakehouse. More outside eating areas, a dog friendly attraction.
Better advertising as a family trip out. Presence on tv and social media
More entertaining events such a classical music a concerts events, movie night for children and family. Absolutely
Farm shop Fruit picking Pumpkin picking More advertising Better signage in/around Holywell town Outdoor cinema events
Fundraising day
Do tombola and bingo nights that will bring quite a few in think if you decided to put prices up it becomes too expensive for single parent or large families to come along and enjoy what is here
Consult with people who organise events such as Flint festival. Have special days, music etc.
Offer sessions to learn skills
Charity dos? A festival at or around the Abbey would be epic. Have a band play with the ruins behind them & sit /stand the crowd on the grass.
Have a U-Tube Channel. Get people to donate to the trust. Twitter account as well. A daily U-Tube walk getting to know the animals etc, foraging. You'll get massive following. Imagination required.
Use the farm and woodland paths more effectively at seasonal times. Horrible history days !

<p>A valley lottery?  Will Legacy?  Sponsorship from local companies and advertise them?</p>
<p>We arranged a jazz evening in the wire mill area a few years ago. It was so successful but had very little interest or help from the valley. That area would be perfect for outdoor cinema like the Roman gardens in Chester</p>
<p>Maybe contact organisations that organise funds for every tree planted etc</p>
<p>You don't want to out price, so families can't use it. Put more things on.  Picnics with characters. Charge people to come in. You employ people dressed up as current things that kids are into.  Birthday parties.  Local bands playing.  Pony rides</p>
<p>Sponsorship works for Chester Zoo. Talk to them??</p>
<p>Raffle  More events e.g. winter lights  Apply for funding to support running costs  Sell duck/animal food</p>
<p>More updated children's areas such as bouncing pillows, a physical trail through the woods with simple slides, swings, barrels, bridges etc. Find the fairies or trolls on the trail (wooden statues). Places like the Crocky trail, Brimstage, and what used to be Abergele adventure trail have some great ideas but very simple and affordable.</p>
<p>Reopen the fishing pond and charge a yearly fee for members and day tickets</p>
<p>Encouraging more membership and incentivising it. Private rental is a great idea. Accommodation e.g. self-catering or glamping pods.</p>
<p>Cheap prices as they are as this attracts visitors, also encourages spending as not paid lot's to get in. Introduce a summer camp/sessions with black smith or with the animals grooming/feeding etc these can be charged at a rate run sessions of up to 4 children per session say 2 hours and run 3 workshops per day, twice a week. Introduce a logo competition for different sectors of the farm, £10 entrance fee winner has logo in area for a whole year and wins an annual pass, this could run for the next 10 years.</p>
<p>Miniature railway  Model village</p>
<p>More farm animals in the farm park, animal petting in the farm, themed events, more things in the farm park for older children. Once a month car boot sale on the grounds of bottom car park to raise money for the valley</p>
<p>Market stalls</p>
<p>Digwyddiadau rheolaidd (Regular events)</p>

Historical tours/ birthday parties/ petting zoo/ making use of the bandstand area
I think the entrance fee to the valley is quite expensive as it is considering what you get for your money. As stated earlier I have a 3-year-old grand-daughter and she gets fed-up pretty quickly, meaning that I could potentially pay the £6.70 entrance fee and have her play for half an hour and then want to go somewhere else. That's why I bought a year's membership.
Fundra8sing events based on the outdoors that kids would enjoy. Treasure hunts, den building, nature trails, wildlife walks and talks, outdoor theatre in the valley,, valley festival with use of the different areas. There have been so many visitors during lockdown any of these socially distanced events could have raised lots of money. Educational and interactive visits for schools could be offered also.  You need to attract more people and then give them the option of things to do. A range of events has been missing from the valley when basics could have been implemented very easily and which was particularly noted during lockdown when people creating own hunts during other woods but was noticeably lacking in the valley where probably needed the most.
At Halloween and Christmas something could be put on for these events, it has the space and would be magical
Classes and workshops during the weeks for all ages
I'm not sure if there is something already in place but perhaps a foraging masterclass or survival skills, den making, fire starting, campfires somewhere it would be safe to do so etc.. Archery classes, guided tours of the history of the Valley. More fun days with bouncy castles, mini fair rides etc. Maybe bring some petting animals in, they usually attract crowds with small children which would then bring the custom to the valley shop and the neighbouring cafe.
Room hire More top class activities that people would be willing to pay for - some of the events at the valley have been absolutely fabulous Make sure the children's activities are all working, up to scratch and more activities if possible - we met a massive group today who had come all the way from Warrington to visit the valley Find some way of promoting to tourists staying on Haven, Lyons sites etc - they often post on social media looking for ideas for things to do if it is a rainy weekend locally I have reservations about the valley shop, when I took my daughter in there today it seemed to be selling lots of plastic tat which I felt was against the ethos of the environment service
More kids events
A wishing well will generate money
Seasonal events, fireworks, Father Christmas, bring back the farm for children to interact with animals, proper restaurant at reasonable price (if you charge high prices, people will pay once and never return, if you charge reasonable them. People will return) improve the park, add a slide to the tree top platform etc

Making the entrance fee cheaper. Personally i would take my children more often if it was less to go in. I think more people would go if it was less for families
Invest more in the museum, add more animals, feed the animals. Like Manorafon Farm Park
There are more structures on site that need to be made accessible. Vegetation to be cut back and more accessible paths. Interpretation boards and signage to promote the site. Could the site be linked to the Well. Shared parking better signage, discounted tickets for visitors to both sites
I suggest doing guided tours of the valley's historical sites for a small fee.
Provide more events for families to enjoy.
Soft play area
Reintroduce the fishing pegs to the pond and charge for an annual/daily permit like it previously was.
2 or 3 day course in green wood working.
A nice cafe to sit inside would be nice to have.
A farmers / craft market every month could allow you to rent out stalls and also attract local people and tourists. This will bring in revenues without permanent infrastructure. You can also rent out space in an online website for stall holders which can be marketed on social media. Both of these activities will help local businesses whilst increasing revenues and raising awareness of the valley without a lot of outlay or infrastructure changes. It also means you will not need to increase prices in other areas which is important following the years of austerity and covid lockdowns.
Is there an effective donation scheme? Do you add 10 pence options for example on purchases? are there donation boxes that are 'fun' like a wishing well or automaton type thing that would encourage coins at least to be dropped (or in this day and age a contactless card payment) and something 'happens'?
Maybe £1 charge for parking all day like other parks have like ty Mawr in Wrexham and Alyn waters already do.
As i said, a place to eat and drink would be very beneficial.
Have a room where families can rent a space for birthday parties. advertising to schools more. More crafting sessions, we loved them.
We are glad that the valley doesn't charge more for parking, food and entrance as this is the reason we continue to be members, it is a nice local day out that we can keep coming to as it doesn't cost an arm and a leg each visit. If prices were to rise I would find this very off putting and probably not renew membership. We would welcome more events in the farm park and around the valley and would come and therefore spend a little each time.
Update the bandstand area with a view to offering weddings there, with the option of a marquee in the Abbey grounds or equivalent for the reception.

Fun days, Xmas fairs, summer fairs, things where people can get involved and have fun.

Expand the gift shop.

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## Applying for and using Grants - Responses

### **We asked:**

**We sometimes get the chance to apply for grants to make big changes and improvements, as long as we protect the Valley's history. Should we do this when grants are available? Would you like to see new things, or no changes?**

### **The responses are below.**

**Overall the responses favoured applying for grants.**

More working demos - farm machinery etc

If there are new areas which need development and funding then yes why not!

Keep the history I would like more information about the various things that are left in the valley.  
Do school trips come I think the government pay to take them

Not huge changes, but just improving what's already there - opening up the old mill and making it safe again etc?

The maze could do with a revamp and the soft play area.

when available yes

Grounds

Learn about wildlife how to protect and encourage to the area

Schools and residents foraging classes

Local schools monthly come litter-pick and clear stuff in general

The School building

Soup Kitchen Christmas and New Year

Deaf persons in local area to have a regular meet-up

Hold a repair shop once a month

Hold an Alzheimer's meeting

Children paint and repair stuff generally around learning life skills

General areas

signs in BSL (*British Sign Language*)

parking for disabled people have something closer than car parks already provided

specific bikes for people to take family members around the area .

Community

Teenagers to have input to a game of the site

Representation from all local community and hobby groups in Holywell and surrounding areas

have something to do video as well inform people what's around

Games of the 50s and 60s era

Build something small but attractive people buy a brick have a name on it – chargeable

Open-air church – free

Names of people/volunteers who can help with different things that people can't do by themselves e.g. mow their home garden

Different

Get in the Guinness book of records for something unique if you want to be the best Make contact with twin town
Yes of course do it
New additional things
The addition of toilet facilities half way between Holywell and farm. Would be beneficial. As would more dog bins.
i feel a purpose built cafe facility that would be inviting to visitors with views over the lake (demolish environment centre)
Make the paths suitable for all weather in the museum grounds
the activities for children in the coach house? needs to be reassessed and the entrance be made smaller -and upgrading
Yes, but don't destroy the natural environment, it is a very special place.
USE AVAILABLE GARDEN SPACE FOR BOUNCY CASTLE AND STALLS
As above - an indoor space for local groups to use - this will raise profile and put Greenfield Valley on the map - help local groups discover amenities and let word of mouth spread
More money for the general upkeep of the heritage site.
As well as entry fees to access the farm, I would willingly put £1 in a secure voluntary donation/honesty box whenever I go for a walk there (usually once or twice a week). I'm sure others would too if it was clear what the plans were on a sign. I would be less inclined to visit at all, however, if the donation/fee was compulsory to access the walks. The donation boxes could be in each car park and by the visitor centre.
Yes it would be great to see some of the old buildings open up in some capacity. If grants can support this then brilliant.
Yes - continue to improve the playgrounds, soft play area - parents want places where their children can enjoy themselves. Its attracts families when the play facilities are good, working and accessible for everyone.
Use the grants to maintain and improve what is already there for locals and visitors/tourists to enjoy.
Take advantage of grants to enhance the working museums and include more hands on educational activities for children.
yes, probably, if it's for the better
Whenever you get grants you become beholden. Watch out for political inference.
Regarding new things - first make this lot work before creating any Greenfield follies. The coastal path needs connecting. A bridge over the railway line. Get volunteers trained up on history to make use of what we already have
General upkeep and maintenance.
Definitely. My children have all grown up visiting the abbey and now my grandchildren. Called to farm 6/9/21 with youngest grandson disappointed with lack of animals and how over grown with stinging nettles on path way by the pigs. View of the animals that are there was very poor. Soft play area was coded. Will still continue to visit as the area is gorgeous and we are lucky to have it on our doorstep.

Yes if money is available apply. Animal petting area e.g. rabbits, guinea pigs
New things
PLEASE STOP ERECTING FENCES EVERYWHERE AND MAKING PLACES OUT OF BOUNDS. I have never known a natural place of beauty to be spoiled by heavily fenced off areas and along paths in view of H&S ( <i>Health and Safety</i> ) concerns. I spend a lot of time in the Clwydian Range where many families of all ages also visit - there is no fenced pathways for H&S reasons there. It is the responsibility of parents to keep their children safe. I have never heard of any incidents during my 49 years of living in Holywell and Greenfield.
New things
More animals and potentially stalls
No changes
Yes, as long as it protects the history then some appropriate new things could be good
Actively seek grants on every possible occasion. Improve current facilities, control the vegetation in public areas, roadways, pathways. Seek more volunteers to assist in regular maintenance. Add new visitor attractions, interactive where possible, to raise foot-fall and income.
Would like to see what is left of the abbey preserved and rangers seen in the valley.
I don't think you should do anything to change the history as its important to the site. But what about school lectures, event evenings according to the sites history.
Yes if the staff/volunteer resources are available to support the project. funding for specific projects is important. It allows the organisation to make long term incremental improvements that enhance and protect the offering for the future.
I think we need public toilets.
Yes, maybe a tour guide in set occasions giving the history of the valley and the buildings.
Apply for grants to bring the education into the 21st century
I would like to see adventure wood climbing for kids. The locals suffer for things to do, kids can only run in the grass for so long.
Yes. Open the sites with live demonstrations more often. My daughter thoroughly enjoyed watching the forge operating. Perhaps greenfield could run a steam rally of sorts where locals and others from afar can bring their projects to show off to visitors like they used to do. Take a leaf out of the books of Beamish and Blists Hill.
In many ways the more people using the site places pressure on the site but also reduces the possibility for vandalism? New things - good if it is the right kind of thing. Do staff have enough time to invest in new?
Development is always key to attract more visitors
New things
New things
Yes

I like it as it is although anything that will increase biodiversity would be welcomed. Also, the lower reservoir needs some TLC.
Absolutely without hindering the Valley asserts which nature, animals and humans well-beings.
Something to prevent motor cycles on pathways. More picnic benches/seating on the journey through the Valley. Make use of band stand area - events, small play area, picnic area or seating?
Yes apply for grants and protect the valleys history it's very important. I love it as it is.
Notices or boards with what wild life lives in the area and what types of birds can be seen
Yes, yes, yes! I would love to see the buildings on the walk down upgraded so you can go inside.
Yes
A train of some kind going up & down would be amazing but run by green energy. I know with covid this is a tough one but you could charge too for people to go from the bottom to the top. I had cancer couple years back. My energy level isn't amazing. A ride up some days would be fab. Or if you can ensure they wouldn't be stolen, renting out electric scooters that you 'dock' at the top/bottom or a midway point would be useful. There are a few remaining walkways into the valley that haven't had tarmac or any kind of decent resurfacing done. So it's still swampy in parts when it rains & days later. Other than that more bins please.
Don't spoil the woods.
Yes
Continue free parking , A bigger visitor centre with lots of information/ shop/ cafe/ toilets / baby change facilities/lockers/ pram hire/ swan food etc A lovely nature trail for children to follow More animals at the farm More picnic benches please!!
Yes apply for grants. I think a warden is required especially to ensure dogs are on leads and dog mess is picked up and also youths are not causing trouble using motorbikes etc.
Yes
Absolutely
Yes of course
Yes. Yes new things
Would be nice to see new things. An outdoor pool would be lovely. Charge people to come in. Hire chairs etc.
You should apply for grants If you want to attract new visitors you need to introduce new 'features' over a period of time.
Yes. Expand the farm. More animals and facilities would attract more visitors and increase income. Update the children's park.

Lots of changes including more hands on activities and animals within the pay boundary.
I'd love to see new things in the valley
Well Considered change is important, but it needs to be purposeful and productive
More animals. Introduce a bell tent at back of cafe for people to camp. Mystical fairy trail that leads to garden of wild flowers.
Yes. Sculptures etc
Yes
Mwy o ddigwyddiadau. Helen drysor o amgylch y parc.
I would like to see more picnic benches throughout the valley
More farm animals, activities for younger children
Yes. New things. Forest school classes for children. Museum dedicated to the monks or working days where staff dress up as monks/ workers/farmers to answer questions around the site.
I don't think that laying a tarmac path to the town has enhanced the Greenfield Valley Trail - after all if you want to go for a walk in the woods you would expect a natural surface underfoot. I also think the trees have been over-managed - you expect to find trees in a wood; no? I used to walk down the valley from Holywell regularly but since the woods were raped I don't enjoy it anymore.
Of course without a doubt.
New things
New things
Yes absolutely
Always exciting to see new things
Yes
Yes
New things
This question makes no sense....why wouldn't you apply for grants when they are available?
New things
Yes, maybe some more farm animals, tractor rides, free entrance to the adventure playground
Yes
Significant funding available in coming years from UK Gov in Levelling Up Funding and then Shared Prosperity. Developing plans, proposals, strategies will help Flintshire CC to facilitate funding bids. WG ( <i>Welsh Government</i> ) funding also available. Community Funding grants from Windfarm Grants, section 106 funding etc some of which is revenue funding - could this be used to develop feasibility studies plans etc
I would definitely like to see more paths and woodland created within the valley, where possible.

Yes definitely. a larger park for children and perhaps some dog agility. Or even an outdoor gym area.
New things, sensory areas
Yes
Of course you should do this. New things might bring in more visitors and therefore revenue.
Renting out space for film/tv work.
Yes definitely do that Maybe some rides? New things
I agree you should be applying for any grants available. I see new things as progress, nothing should stand still! I am always in favour of change and new things.
Yes. It is always good to have something new to avoid things going stagnant. But consider activities which people would pay for such as an Alice in Wonderland Tea Party or a teddy bear picnic. Also consider niche activities for people who are autistic or have special needs and set aside time for them, have quiet spaces for them to go, special days/times for their activities and keep it regular. This will attract funding which you may not have considered.
Yes absolutely. Green initiatives, better signage, play area that is not only pay-for through the site.
Yes apply for all grants
Yes!
Yes apply for grants to get artists involved with the children, apply for grants for events, re-enactments would be brilliant, opportunities to immerse. Forest schools on sight during the holidays would be great. How about some pods where a selected number of people could stay on site?
Yes I don't see why not, if there's buildings that need restoration or updating without losing the history. I've seen the benches up the woods they're nice, more things like that, places to sit, information stands similar to the ones by the abbey or the one describing the walk, maybe new/clearer/more informative signs up the woods showing the different walks?
Yes new things would be lovely.
Yes, apply for all grants which would enable progress in keeping with the ethos of the Valley. Do nothing and nothing changes, it will soon become obsolete.
Yes please
Yes, more animals, rabbits, guinea pigs, goats, small petting area, charge maybe for people to go in and feed the animals and hold them, help look after them. The maze could do with painting. Also the activity trails, there used to be one with butterfly letters, more of those please, children love exploring and finding things. Open the mud kitchen back up with bits up there for the children to play with.
I would love to see new things put in place.

