

Beechley Drive Shops

Beechley Drive shops in Fairwater have been prioritised for investment through the Local Centres Strategy. The shops on Beechley Drive are separated into two parades known as 'upper shops' and 'lower shops'. The 'lower' shops generally were in better condition and the high occupancy of businesses made a strong case for the improvement of these shops. The 'upper shops' suffered from lower business occupancy and the parade was generally in a worse state of repair requiring a different approach.

Lower Shops

The lower shops have undergone environmental improvements with shop fronts being realigned to address issues of anti-social behaviour and give businesses more floor space. Works include new shop fronts and shutters, repaving the forecourt and a new parking bay.



Upper Shops

The project at upper shops required in-depth consultation to determine the best steps to regenerate the parade and residential flats above. Options ranging from improvement works to full-scale redevelopment were presented to the community.

The feedback from this process was to demolish the existing shopping centre and flats and bring forward a redevelopment scheme which addresses the basic design and layout deficiencies associated with the existing parade. Planning permission for the redevelopment of upper shops has been approved subject to a Section 106 agreement. The proposal comprises four commercial units and 13 residential units.



Upper Shops Community Art Project
Children at Coed Y Gof, Holy Family RC and Pentrebane Primary schools and youngsters from Waterhall Youth Centre worked with local artist Louise Shenstone as part of a community art project to brighten up the empty shops.

The art project invited the children and youngsters to choose an everyday item such as a piece of fruit, hammer or toy car and recreate it through a drawing and the use of computer software. Using ink, paints and stamps the children were able to create a series of images that have been put together by the artist to create bright colourful shop fronts.