

## Dunblane Development Trust

### Dunblane Community Facilities Forum

Note of Meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> November 2011  
in the Braeport Centre

**Present:** Angela Seaton (Dunblane Library), Lesley Shaw (Dunblane Centre), Steve Mason (DDT), Ian Gill (Braeport), Barbara Allan (Stirling Council), Allan Pogson (Braeport)

**Apologies:** Bill Stewart (DDT), Walter Abbott and Chris Sawyer (St Mary's Church Hall)

#### **The Development of a Settlement Review in Dunblane**

Barbara Allan explained to the group what the Settlement Review was, how it would be conducted and the likely timing. The Review would examine all the properties the Council and its public and voluntary sector partners have, how they are currently used and identify which are best suited to deliver local services now and in the future. The Review would involve the community as a whole, it would involve all community facilities and explore opportunities to share those facilities to maximise their use. It might be found that some could be opened longer or over weekends or indeed not be used in evenings or at weekends as the use of other facilities might be more efficient, particularly in terms of staffing, heating and lighting. Opportunities would be sought to use private sector or partner assets to deliver certain services if more appropriate.

The Council will put together a dedicated team to conduct the review and will comprise Barbara Allan and Lesley Malkin and others drawn from all relevant local partners including those with knowledge and expertise in building survey and condition, finance, local service delivery and planning. This team will be responsible for coordinating the review and will undertake any specific work that is needed such as information gathering and analysis.

Key partners for the Dunblane Review will include the Community Council, the DDT, Victoria Halls Management Committee, NHS Forth Valley, Dunblane Library, primary schools, the High School and a number of others. It was thought very appropriate that the Community Facilities Forum could be an excellent consultation body for the Review.

It is expected that the Review in Dunblane will not start until the end of January at the earliest as both Callander and Bridge of Allan are being undertaken first. The results of the Facilities Audit undertaken in 2010 would provide a very useful starting point.

#### **Dunblane Website**

Steve reported that there had been a useful meeting with Terence O'Byrne of the Community Council to discuss the development of a new Dunblane website and that a working group had now been set up consisting Steve, Gerard Gourley (The Hub), Fiona Jones (The Wire) and Bernie Beattie (Sports Club and web designer). This group will identify the needs of the website and draft a brief for consultation with the Community Council, DDT and members of the Community Facilities Forum. The group will identify ways to make the site self-funding from for example advertising space.

Lesley Shaw advised that the Dunblane Centre was also updating their website.

#### **Community Facilities Website**

Ian reported that £1200 had been awarded by Community Pride and that work would soon start on the planned community facilities website. The first meeting of the working group would meet on 30<sup>th</sup> November after which we expected the consultant, Lesley Campbell, to contact the various

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groups for their input. It was explained that in time this new facilities website would be linked to the updated Dunblane website.

### **Scottish Churches House**

Steve reported that as no-one had taken over the Scottish Churches House lease. It was closed on 15<sup>th</sup> July and was now up for sale.

### **Winter Arrangements**

Lesley advised that the Dunblane Centre had drawn up a plan for dealing with prolonged bad weather (as last year) and it was agreed that all should, at the very least, share contact details in the event that any of the facilities had to close due to burst pipes, lack of electricity or indeed to coordinate any requests for help for the elderly, for transport or access. Steve agreed to circulate the list

**Date of Next Meeting:** The next meeting of the Forum will be held on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> January at 7.30 in the Braeport Centre.