

Ennerdale & Kinniside Parish Council



Ennerdale Bridge Community Hub Feasibility Study

Project Plan – January 2011

In Partnership with

wildwaterforestmountains
ennerdale



Ennerdale Bridge Community Hub Feasibility Study

Background

Following the retirement and moving away of the incumbent Post Mistress and Village Shop owner in February 2009, without suitable premises in the village, the Post Office has been unable to appoint a successor/replacement to carry on the service. Since then, the Parish Council has been working with the partners of the Wild Ennerdale Project, a consortium of the major land-owning employers in the Parish, namely, the Forestry Commission, United Utilities, Natural England and the the National Trust, amongst whose Stewardship Plan objectives are, support for local transport, tourism and sustainable businesses within the Ennerdale Valley.

Two information gathering events have been held and one public questionnaire survey has been undertaken. The outcomes have been analysed. These confirm overwhelming public support for the need to restore the Village Store and Post Office, plus a need to cater for the lack of facilities for upwards of 10,000 Coast to Coast walkers per year and the hundreds of daily and week-end visitors attracted to Wild Ennerdale.

Aims

This Project is to select and appoint a professional, suitably qualified, independent consultant to carry out a Feasibility Study into the establishment of a Community Hub, containing, shop/post office/tourist information/toilets/refreshments etc. The Feasibility Study will inform and provide strategic information to the Parish Council on the most appropriate sustainable location and business model for the proposed Community Hub and detail the essential criteria to be observed for the creation of a viable Business Plan.

Objectives

- Commission a report which looks at detail into the facilities considered necessary within the village both for the community and to create a sustainable future by August 2011.
- Commission a report which looks in detail to the siting, staffing and environmental impact of such a facility by August 2011.
- Commission a report which considers the funding opportunities and appropriate governance for a constitution to take the project forward by August 2011.

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Risk

Risk	Severity	Likelihood	Risk Rating	Mitigation
Inadequate Outcome to the Feasibility Study	High	Low	Medium	The steering group will monitor the progress throughout the study.
Failure to engage community	High	Low	Medium	The community have been consulted on widely and will be kept informed of the progress and outcomes of the report.
Onward Funding not identified	High	Medium	Medium	This is part of the feasibility study to consider funding options and provide a business case.

Project Management?

The Feasibility Study Project will be managed, on a daily basis by the Chairman of the Parish Council. Monthly Progress Reports will be submitted, by the chosen contractor, to the Parish Council. The Feasibility Study contractor will present bi-monthly progress reports at Project Steering Group Meetings, before full meetings of the Parish Council held following public notice and with full public attendance and scrutiny.

Milestones and work packages

- January 2011 – Tender released for the Feasibility Study.
- February 2011 – Consultant selected by Steering Group and study begun.
- April 2011 - First report submitted from Consultant to the Steering Group.
- June 2011 - Second report submitted from Consultant to the Steering Group.
- August 2011 – Final Report and Study submitted to Steering Group.
- October 2011 – Findings circulated to the local community and governance confirmed for new constituted body.

Project Budget

Feasibility study budget is £9,000. All staff and management time is given in kind.

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Monitoring and Evaluation

The project will be monitored through the Steering Group. There will be a follow up community survey once the findings have been concluded.

Outputs

Number of Supported Actions	February 2011	Report commissioned
Studies Completed leading to actions	August 2011	Completed report submitted to Parish Council

Outcomes

Population from Rural Area benefiting from improved services	August 2011	410 (households in Ennerdale parish ref. 2001 census)
New constituted body to take project forward	December 2011	Governance agreed upon and constitution in place.

Sustainability

This Project will end on delivery of its report.

A key objective of the report will be information on future funding of a community hub and facilities that will bring in sustainable income for the future to ensure that it does not become grant dependent.