

CLEAN BILL OF HEALTH FOR PROJECTS

Following on from the Training and Employment Research Unit (TERU) report on local community projects, the Partnership held a workshop in early November to begin to set priorities for future work. The report gave local projects a clean bill of health but argued that the Partnership itself needs to update the strategic guidance it gives to projects.

Participants, including board members and representatives from key agencies, agreed to three broad headings for the future direction of funding over the next three years - Community Support, Lifelong Learning and Economic Advancement.

Within each broad theme there will be an emphasis on

mainstreaming (trying to get more work taken on by the 'big players' such as the Council), developing new approaches and more co-operative working.

The next stage is for all partners to consider a range of headings presented under each theme (for example, under Community Support the suggestions were Children and Young People; the Elderly and Disabled; and Involvement, Engagement and Empowerment). These will be agreed at the next Partnership meeting and projects will then be invited to apply for funding for the next three years. Their applications will need to show how they will work towards the new priorities.

NEED SOME SPACE?

We'd like to remind all our readers that we have a range of rooms available for hire, at low cost, within the Niddrie Mains Community Centre. Rooms are available for all sorts of purposes, both business and social, and can accommodate anything up to 80 people. All rooms are fully equipped and hire rates start at only £5 per hour for voluntary groups (see below).

In addition to providing rooms we can also assist you with any catering or other requirements you might need to ensure your event is a success. So, next time you or your organisation need an inexpensive gathering space, for whatever purpose, give us a call and find out for yourself exactly what's on offer.

	Private Sector	Public Sector	Voluntary Sector
MAIN HALL (seats up to 80)	£30	£20	£10
SEMINAR ROOM (seats up to 40)	£15	£10	£7
SMALL MEETING ROOM (seats up to 15)*	£10	£7	£5

*Please note that the small meeting room is not fully disabled accessible - sorry!

FREE Benefits

If you haven't become a member of the CBP yet, why not do it now and start 2003 with increased access to, and preferential prices for, CBP resources including the minibus, rooms and training services.

Being a member of the CBP will also give you the opportunity to help develop the services we offer and influence the project so it better meets the needs of the Craigmillar Community.

With so many changes in Craigmillar, your input is especially important.

Call today for a FREE membership form.

FOUNDATIONS

The Newsletter of The Capacity Building Project

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VOICE FOR CHOICES

A group of local young people are currently undertaking a research project to find out about young people's views on living in Craigmillar. They'll be asking what's good about living here, what's not so good and what can be done about it. Once they've carried out the research, the group plan to make a video on the issues they've researched.

The group, supported by the Capacity Building Project, Instep and the Venchie, started meeting recently at Castlebrae Community High School on Thursday afternoons after school. The first three sessions focused on learning a variety of techniques to involve young people in discussion and role plays on approaching young people.

The idea for the project came from the Youth Service Providers Group in response to a request from the Community



Council to encourage youth representation. Rather than simply invite two young people to take part in the Community Council, the Providers Group agreed that a project which found out about young people's views and was carried out by young people themselves would be more useful.

The young people will be approaching a range of local youth agencies, groups and clubs over the next few months to find out about their views. As well as visiting clubs, the young people hope to consult those who don't take part in any provision.

They aim to talk to at least 200 local young people and, as a result, they should be in a good position to represent a youth perspective on living in Craigmillar, what young people like about it and what they'd like to see changed.

On Forum

Over the past few months, a group of local older people and agencies have been working together to help create an Older People's Forum. The work has involved consulting groups of older people locally - in lunch clubs, at pensioners groups and in residential homes - to gauge the level of interest and to find out what they consider to be the main issues facing them. The findings will be presented to a conference of local older people at the Jack Kane Centre on Friday 6 December.

The work has been supported by the Capacity Building Project, Caring in Craigmillar, Craigmillar Partnership, Help the Aged and Community Education, working alongside local older people. Consultation visits have been carried out by Karen Gillon, a student from Moray House on placement with the Capacity Building Project, and Eileen McMillan, a local older person and well-kent community activist.

It seems that there is considerable interest in the idea amongst local older people. Hopefully the Forum will play a key role in making sure that older people's voices are heard loud and clear in the area in the near future. To find out more about the Forum, please contact the CBP on 661 0200.

Community Archive

If you are interested in increasing your knowledge, researching a specific topic, or finding out more about community and regeneration work both at a local and national level then this community archive is for you!

The archive will be located in the Library on the middle floor of 63 Niddrie Mains Terrace and will be a valuable resource for members of the community and local workers.

If you have any ideas, information or materials you would like to see in the archive contact Karen or David on 661 0200.

Bye Society

The final arrangements for the winding up of the Craigmillar Festival Society are almost complete. The Auditor is currently preparing the accounts and paving the way for the Society to hold an Extraordinary General Meeting sometime in late January.

Three weeks notice of the EGM will need to be given and, with this in mind, a date and resolution will be circulated in early January. Sadly, this will mark the end of the Craigmillar Festival Society and almost forty years of inspirational community development. However, this is a necessary procedure if we are to adhere to the City Council's mandate and enable each of the former CFS projects to complete the process of becoming independent.

Be AWARE!

Craigmillar Ability Network and the Capacity Building Project are offering two free training sessions in the new year to help you meet the requirements of the Disability Discrimination Act. Both will be held at the Craigmillar Community Centre, 63 Niddrie Mains Terrace. Here's the details:

- Disability Equality Awareness
Wednesday 29th January
10 a.m. - 1 p.m.
- Disability Discrimination Act
Wednesday 5th February
10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

CONTACT John or Terry at the Craigmillar Ability Network on 6614748.

W.W.WEBSITE

We are currently in the process of designing a website for the Capacity Building Project. When the site is completed there will be lots of useful information about the work of the project and about broader community issues.

Those visiting the site will be able to check out the project's latest newsletter, find out what courses and events are planned or get up to date on issues concerning the Craigmillar Partnership or the newly-formed Craigmillar Joint Venture Company. The site will also provide links to other useful sites including Craigmillar Credit Union, Craigmillar European Programme and a Community Council website, which we hope to develop over the next few months.



Want to do a Community Lunch?

The CBP will help you promote and advertise the event - it's a great way to tell people about what you do, or ask their opinions about things. Lunches are held on the last Wednesday in each month. Call 661 0200 for more information.

FOUNDATIONS

TURNING JAPANESE

Fourteen delegates from Kobe university, including academics from different fields, visited Craigmillar last month. They were interested in seeing how Craigmillar social enterprises work for the benefit of the community.

After listening to a history of the area and an introduction to the Capacity Building Project, the 14 visitors were given a bus tour of the area which included visits at Cre8te and Craigmillar Childcare Services. The visit ended back at the community centre with a presentation from Craigmillar Credit Union.



ALL ABOARD!

Remember - CBP members are eligible to hire out the project minibus (subject to availability and standard terms and conditions) to help them carry out their work or voluntary activities within the community. The bus carries up to fifteen passengers, including the driver who must hold a current MIDAS (Minibus Driver Awareness Scheme) certificate, or the City of Edinburgh Council equivalent. Give us a call on 661 0200 if you'd like more information about hiring the bus, MIDAS certification or further details about CBP membership.

PATH-ology

Have you ever wished there was more light on that footpath you always use? Do you wish there was a better path from your house to work? Want to see the litter cleared up? Well, you aren't alone.

The Capacity Building Project has been working with the Land Use Commission and Small Town and Rural Development on a pilot research project to find out what the problems are with paths in the area - paths for walking, cycling, or even horseriding. Local researchers have helped over 150 people complete questionnaires, and 50 people attended a consultation event.

If you want to have your say too, call Claire on 661 0200.

That's Life

Capacity Building recently assisted Newcraighall Heritage Society in hosting a Biodiversity seminar. The area in question is between Newcraighall and Brunstane all the way down to Eastfield. The Heritage Society and others in the area in question hope to protect the land and sustain it under its natural habitat.

Speakers attended from the Edinburgh Greenbelt Trust, the National Trust for Scotland, the Council's Biodiversity Partnership and Scottish Natural Heritage. Between them they offered information about support available for people trying to create biodiversity areas, knowledge of the laws surrounding the protection of public spaces and information about what biodiversity means.

We learnt that Biodiversity is all about encouraging a wider range of living things to exist together, and the group is looking at ways to work with the National Trust and other organisations to make this a place people can visit and enjoy the natural heritage that exists so close to home. The Heritage Society is encouraging a new group to form to protect this small piece of nature left in the area. If you are interested in getting involved contact us and we can tell you more!



Cafe K

Six part time staff are now in position for a new youth work initiative. The first night kicked off on November 15th at the Jack Kane community wing with a youth cafe called Cafe K. Initially opening on Friday evenings, it is hoped that in the new year it will extend to other nights.

The Capacity Building Project has been pleased to support this very important initiative, and look forward to playing an active part in its future development.

More than 60 young people have been along to Cafe K for activities such as a 'Dance Mat' competition, sport and cafe and relaxation therapy. Future events will include a Karaoke night, Quiz night, Scary night, Christmas disco. Sports will also be available every Friday night.

A Block in the Park?

The development company charged with the responsibility for bringing about large scale improvements in the local area was recently established. The Craigmillar Joint Venture Company (JVC) is a collaborative initiative between EDI and the City of Edinburgh Council and will work over the next 10-15 years to co-ordinate the future physical regeneration of Craigmillar.

One of the company's early developments will be new houses at the former Wauchope Square site, followed by a more controversial proposal to develop a new office block on Cairntows Football Park.

The proposals for Cairntows Park are still at an early stage but are sure to meet a great deal of opposition from the local community.

If you have a view on this proposal or are interested in getting more information about the JVC give us a call on 661 0200.

Take Notice!

The CBP now have 4 community notice boards for use by community groups or agencies to publicise local events and activities or items of interest to the community.

This is part of our drive for better community information. With so much about to happen in the area over the next few years, we hope these boards will help keep local people informed.

Anyone interested in advertising on the boards, or in learning how to paint adverts on to them, should call the CBP on 661 0200.

FORWARD PLANNING

CBP is in the process of preparing a new 3 year development plan to steer its future work priorities. In October, staff and Board members took part in a planning seminar to identify the key areas of work which the eventual plan should concentrate on.

This follows on from the comprehensive Social Audit which the project produced last year. The audit highlighted the good work the project had been doing over the period, and also informed the project about areas of work that might need to be improved on. These pieces of work which are ongoing will be incorporated into the new plans, which should be finalised by early next year.



VOLUNTEER UPDATE

In October the Volunteer Centre Edinburgh came to Craigmillar to host a community lunch.

They talked with local folk about what support and training they needed for their volunteering. They also reminded us that they have changed their database - so if you haven't filled out a volunteer request with them recently you will no longer be listed on their files.

Capacity Building is still building the local database of volunteering opportunities. If your new year's resolution is to do something good for the community you live in, then get in touch with us on 661 0200 or drop by to 63 Niddrie Mains Terrace and see what opportunities there are locally. Remember - if you or your organisation would like some volunteer help, call us up so we can get your information on the database - or advertise it here!

NEW OPPORTUNITIES:

Craigmillar Adventure Project CAPRO
Needs Volunteer Directors to help guide the project
Call 652 1557



GERMAN CONNECTIONS

Craigmillar community councillor and CBP board member - Michael McNulty shakes hands with Karin Schmalriede who co-ordinates a community investment initiative in Hanover.

Karin was one of many people staff from Craigmillar made contact with at a conference held in Bad Honnef on European Community Welfare Economies.

The conference had some interesting speakers, but most importantly allowed us to make contact with people involved in community development from all over Europe. Craigmillar European Programme hosted three workshops in total which led to possibilities for future joint working and new ideas for community building initiatives. With new contacts in Northern Ireland, Germany and Eastern Europe, we hope we will continue to keep ahead of new ideas.

NEW COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL

You will have seen this new school going up on Craigmillar Castle Avenue but have you had your say about the new high school?

The Education Department carried out a consultation exercise in October about the siting of the new community high school for the Craigmillar area. It appears that after these initial consultations the preferred option would be a site on Niddrie Mains Road. However, feedback from community groups suggests that the site at the Jack Kane Centre would be more appropriate.

Do you have an idea of where the new school should be sited? Would you like us to carry out a short consultation with your group or express an opinion of your own? Then call us at CBP on 661 0200.

