

Developing a Day in the Life of Gobowen Library and Community Hub

Gobowen Library Partnership Group (a informal group of interested and dedicated organisations working together to develop a hub), invited Locality, a nationally recognised network of ambitious and enterprising community-led organisations working together to help neighbourhoods thrive, to deliver a neutral workshop with the partnership group. At this working session, the group discussed what a 'week in the life' of the community hub/ library could look like, using the information that had been provided, to the group, by the community at the Visioning Event. Partners were given the opportunity to look at the additional days the building could be open and how the space could be utilised. This mapping exercise outlined how the group could use the space to its best advantage for the benefit of local people and commenced discussion on how income could be generated over the course of three years to support the project, partners and those residents using the space. Examples of ideas are presented below.



Written Examples:

Example 1: Gobowen Library is currently closed on a Wednesday. Through conversations Derwen College have offered to open the building on that day with a Member of staff and a student. This would enable their students to gain valuable skills, increase their employability and confidence, via Gobowen Community Hub Project. Library staff would work with the students and the allocated Member of staff to gain the training, to support residents to continue their access to a library service offer outside their staffed hours. They would man the space whilst also deliver customer service and booking enquiries. A coffee social café space could also be ran as a mini enterprise.

Example 2: Shropshire Town and Rural Housing want to provide their customers with the best housing service possible, and an integral part of this is in bringing communities and residents together. Shropshire Town and Rural Housing feel that a Community Hub would ensure that they reach their residents and mutual clients locally and enable fuller access to their residents living in Gobowen, Weston Rhyn and St Martins. Shropshire Town and Rural Housing are committed in principle to offering a staff member for a half day a week to offer a drop-in surgery for housing related issues, and are looking forward to strengthening links with partners.

Example 3: Three Parishes Big Local are keen to continue to their outreach which is currently delivered from the library on a Tuesday through Fairshare advice and through the Community and Youth worker. Three Parishes Big Local would look to use the community hub to support any relevant projects and initiatives that their programme might fund or launch.

Example 4: There are a number of partners who currently lone work or do not have a designated office space in the area that they could utilise whilst working. Partners such as West Mercia Police, CSO's and Selattyn and Gobowen Parish Council Clerk. The partnership have discussed the possibility for a number of partners to have joint surgeries. This would offer local people an increased access to a point of contact for an enquiry or even for reporting an incident locally.

Example 5: North Shropshire College as part of discussion about access to skills learning would be keen to hire space and run IT sessions. This delivers on their Community Learning Trust aspirations of accessing those who most need the support.

A very draft table is presented over page with logos and photos, illustrating the above examples. **Please note that these are examples and to be further developed.**

Please note this is only an example to give a feel for what could happen at a community hub.

A day in the life of Gobowen Central Community Hub- What could this look like?

Community Aspirations...Increasing the levels of academic qualifications...Improving health and wellbeing....Making the most of our rural location....Supporting businesses and social enterprise...Making the most of our community buildings...Reducing the risk of exclusions!

Mondays (currently open 2-5).....could move to be a STAR housing outreach



Pay your Rent

Housing and Financial Support

CV & IT advice

Tuesdays (currently open 10-1 and 2-7)....would remain staffed by library team



Rhyme Time and Time to Listen



Debt advice



Big local outreach



Book clubs

Wednesdays (currently closed)....would move to be staffed by Derwen College Staff and Students



Social enterprise



Education



Pathways to employment



Library skills



Pop up Market



Thursdays (currently open 10-1 and 2-5).....would remain staffed by library team



Dementia Friendly café



Parental advice



Pier support



Health zone



Mental health



Self- help

Fridays (currently open 2-5).....could move to be mixed hire, use, friends of group, joint advice



online support



Police



Parish council



Shropshire councillor surgeries



IT training

Saturdays (currently open 10-1).....would remain staffed by library team



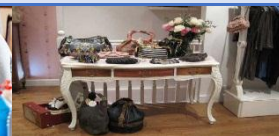
Pop up shops



social café space



knit & natter



craft exhibitions



community groups



Please note this is only an example give a feel for what could be happen as part of a community hub.