

Project Overview (brief)

Please complete the form below and ensure there is a copy for the Dollar CDT lead.

<p>Background to the project (PLEASE KEEP BRIEF)</p> <p>Clacks council's closure of the civic centre at the end of Sept 18 included closure of Dollar library. Our CC survey showed that the library was the single most valued service provided at the CAP and usage data suggested it was reasonably busy (250 visits per month). Many respondents also commented on the lack of Saturday opening as a barrier. Clacks council offered to leave us a stock of shelves and books if we wanted to run it as a community library. A small project team was set up at our AGM and has been meeting regularly to design the new service and encourage volunteers. We now have a core volunteer team of around 20 people.</p>
<p>General aims(s)</p> <p>Specific aims are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• to provide a thriving community library in Dollar which is used and valued• to encourage children to develop a love of reading and to support literacy• to increase social inclusion in our older population by making the library welcoming and accessible, building other events and activities around it
<p>Initial Risks</p> <p>Initial lack of clarity from council re what would be left by way of stock or furniture</p> <p>No specific funding streams other than broad brush Co-op support</p> <p>Unknown whether there would be sufficient demand/supply of volunteers to keep it going</p> <p>No IT equipment or wifi left in building so library systems need to be paper based</p>
<p>Expected Outcomes</p> <p>Library open initially 2 sessions per week (Sat 10 – 1 and Wed 2-5) with more if demand is there</p> <p>Gradual build up of library membership and regular users</p>
<p>Benefits of taking on this project</p> <p>Community strength of feeling - "we've lost our bank and our hotel, we're not losing our library too".</p> <p>Passionate group of volunteers full of ideas and engaging with the community</p> <p>Opportunity to create a community resource which provides social and educational benefit</p> <p>Opportunity to attract a range of additional and new services to Dollar (eg storytelling for children, book clubs, authors events, social support for older people)</p> <p>The availability of the library also enhances the Civic Centre offering, giving parents and siblings somewhere to go while waiting for a child at dance class for example)</p> <p>Longer term, could also develop into community wifi access including awareness training and UC support etc</p>
<p>Initial estimates of cost and time</p> <p>£: £500 initial set up costs (library stationery, tickets, stamps etc) (<i>Spend as at 25/11 =£531.55</i>)</p> <p>Donation box to be available at reception and library team considering regular book sales to refresh stock and raise some additional funds. Other fundraising activities to be explored.</p> <p>Large book donation already received with offers of more.</p> <p>Time: 2 sessions p/w with 3 volunteers per session, we have more than enough volunteers to cover this and will be able to consider additional opening if the demand is there.</p> <p>Also require co-ordination of volunteer rota, running the gmail account, website and facebook info, arranging regular volunteer group meetings, ordering stationery etc</p>

