

BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL LOCAL INNOVATION FUND
“Doing things differently in neighbourhoods to make better places to live”
WARD PROPOSAL FORM

WARD: Shard End

INNOVATION

TITLE: GLEBE FARM LIBRARY: MORE THAN JUST A LIBRARY

Priorities it would meet

CCP-Jobs and Skills/Housing/Healthy and active
LIF-Citizens independence/Active Citizens and
communities stepping up
Improving local centres

Innovations have to meet the LIF priorities and add value to the City wide core priorities listed below. (Tick all those that apply)

City Core Priorities

- **Children** - a Great City to Grow Up In
- **Jobs & Skills** a great City to succeed in
- **Housing** a great City to live in
- **Health** a great City to lead a healthy & active life

LIF Priorities

- Citizens' Independence & Well Being
- New approaches to investments
- Active citizens & communities stepping up
- Clean streets
- Improving local centres

What is your innovative idea and how does it show collaborative, partnership working and active citizenship?

Welcome Change CIC is a Social Enterprise with a number of projects in East Birmingham namely Shard End, Kitts Green and Lea Village. We currently run a community centre and Cafe in Shard End, Two local charity shops and a community garden on East MeadWay. In the past 12 months Welcome Change have been involved in discussions with the local community, local councillors partner voluntary and community sector organisations (Namely Spitfire/Castle Vale and Compass support-The Pioneer group) about Birmingham City Council's libraries programme and its impact on the Glebe farm Library.

Local cuts to library budgets have meant that certain local libraries are now inevitably going to be open less frequently. The Glebe library is now open 3 days a week. However, the local community in the Glebe have had the ambition for some time that the Glebe library be more than just a library. The building which was the first library built in the area after the Second World War, is currently the only building on the Glebe that has the potential to act as more of a traditional community centre. Obviously local people frequent the library to take out and return books. Currently other usage is limited to a regular coffee morning, a surgery for the local counsellors is held once a month and an IT suite exists for those needing access to computers. During consultation about the library, the Glebe community made it clear that they would like so much more from the building (See separate document) and more importantly that they want

the expended activities to be consistent and sustainable.

Not only do they want more, but it is clear, that as a community they could take real ownership and ensure some of the activities they have identified can go ahead without too much additional financial resource. Activities they identified during the consultation were as follows (A Walking club, Reading club, Youth Club, Games club, Social events, Film nights, Story telling (Children and Adults), History club, Gardening club, Knitting group, Bingo, fishing club) With activities such as these, the library could become a stronger central point of meeting and socialising for the Glebe residents and would not require a huge amount of resource to achieve. However, a willing and enthusiastic member/s of the Glebe community might be needed in order to get activities up and running (ie someone who can knit to lead a club and teach others)

The Glebe community also identified a number of other activities they would like to see happening at the library (See a,b, c, d below) The desire to get a wider range of information advice and support is something that could be built over a 12 month period. In the initial phase of set up, these additional activities would benefit from a more coordinated approach with the key support of Welcome Change CIC and the Pioneer Group. With a coordinated approach we feel that there is the potential to fulfil the "wish list" that the Glebe residents have identified but more importantly the sustained delivery of that wish list. There seems to be a genuine concern that something is often started, but not always seen through in relation to local community projects on the Glebe. The aim of this proposal is to allow the community to make sure they themselves continue something that is born out of the local innovation fund.

- a. Somewhere to meet and socialise
- b. Somewhere to get a wide range of information and advice
- c. Somewhere to access education, training and employment advice and support
- d. Somewhere to access a better stocked library and also improve use of its outside space.

Time Frame – is it:-

Implement and complete within 12 months (2017)-Launch end of October 2017

How will the innovation be implemented?

Timetable/ Implementation Plan

Month 1 (1st November 2017)

- Form small steering group to meet fortnightly initially, to drive forward action plans (Liaise with and include library staff and current users of the library)-Pay sessional payments to individuals to start clubs- (Ie FITCAP could be approached to start the walking club (3 months)
- Create programme for currently activities and those we have been able to add (Youth support/counselling/volunteer workshops)
- Draw up marketing advertising and publicity plan (Banner/Leaflets posters/ Social Media)
- Recruit additional sessional worker/s to lead on coordinating activities/surgeries etc
- Sessional worker to MAP out what other VCS/statutory agencies are commissioned or funded to deliver in the area. Ensure delivery from Glebe Library if relevant.
- Target- recruit 4 local volunteers
- Process DBS for sessional staff and volunteers
- Launch Event 30th September.

Month 2 (December 2017)

- ID local members of the community to start increasing use of the library for Social activities (Skills in fishing/knitting/interest in walking etc)
- Contact additional agencies to deliver advice and information surgeries from the library
- Build on the "programme" at the library as more activities are added. Circulate programme to the community via marketing campaign.
- Weekend events to support marketing campaign

Month 3 (January 2018)

- Hold steering group meeting and evaluate progress
- Target- 4 volunteers recruited
- Review programme with sessional workers, and Identify gaps/set action plans going forward.

Month 4 (February 2018)

- Continue marketing campaign
- Review first quarter outcomes from LIF-start looking into continuation funding for Phase 1 development. 3 years funding for 1 PT coordinator. Partnership bids.
- Christmas Event

Month 6 month progress

-Steering group meeting

- Grant funding bids submitted -WCC have already met with Reaching Communities BLF.

What outcomes will the proposal achieve? What will success look like and how will its impact be measured? How will you ensure legacy/ continuation and what learning will the project provide?

The proposal supports the council strategies ***Every place Matters and Better Deal for neighbourhoods***. By ensuring there is a place for the local community to go and socialise and gain other support needed. This proposal is not just for a library 3 days a week but a thriving centre with additional resources open at least 5 days a week evenings and weekends, into the future.

Do things differently and make a better place to live

The proposal supports the delivery of certain activities from the library by the local community in the form of a team of volunteers. This particularly applies to the social activities that the Glebe residents have identified.

Citizens Independence and Wellbeing-*Glebe residents will be able to run their own activities and get involved in volunteering and have a place to go where they can access advice and information in a range of areas to include health and wellbeing advice and information and signposting.*

Active Citizenship

There will be a wealth of opportunity to volunteer at the library with support from a local VCS organisation/s and the library itself.

Clean Streets and Local Centres. The aim is to improve the use of the outside space at the library. The grounds are large but not currently used. The grounds will be used for local events and gardening activities.

Create Jobs and improve skills.*The longer term goal of this LIF project is to create additional jobs at the Glebe Library to support the community in sustaining activities there into the future. Initially we have the ambition to apply for one Part time Community organiser over three years to continue the work started by the LIF. However, in providing support with education, training and employment at the centre we also aim to support local people into employment*

Have you considered other sources of funding and whether the project can be used to leverage further funding from elsewhere (please specify funding sources)?

Welcome Change CIC has a grant writing and fundraising strategy reviewed annually. The Glebe Library project is part of our strategy for 2017/18. Some of the other funders we are considering are BLF Award for ALL and Tudor Trust, Henry Smith. The strategy document is reviewed quarterly when new grants are added as they become open and available.

What resources will be required?

£

- Capital Marketing and publicity to include launch event (£1,000)
- Running costs (12 months contribution to Library running cost (£5,950)
- Sessional payment 8 hours a day 3.5 days a week (to include some evenings and weekends) over 12 months at UK living wage £8.45 per hour- (£12,303)
- People power volunteers (Out of pocket expenses £1,000)-Based on most volunteers being local and reduced travel costs.

Amount required from LIF £.....20,253.....

Have you got any match funding – in cash or in kind?

1. Carers Strategy Funding-We can currently offer a counselling service from the Glebe library for anyone living with a family member in Addiction (18,500 Carers Strategy funding)
2. YP substance misuse contract_We can offer support to young people on the Glebe affected by substance misuse or at risk whether it be their own or a family members (£30,000) ongoing in partnership with Aquarius
3. We have a number of Capital items that could be used to fundraise for the Glebe if we were to put in event in the grounds. This includes a Bouncy castle/Events tables and chairs/Soft Play/Free books donated to our Charity shops. There are a number of creative ways that we can match fund.
4. The Pioneer Group (Compass support) have recently received YIF funding to provide employment support to YP.

Contact person for proposal

Name Mrs Joanne Mackinnon
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E-mail joannemackinnon@welcome-charity.org.uk

Which residents or community groups was the proposal discussed with and when (please give details of any meetings and which councillors attended)?

Discussed at

Ward meeting

Date

Signatures of all 3 Ward Councillors

Name <u>Paul Wang</u>	Signature <u>[Signature]</u>	Date <u>21-9-17</u>
Name <u>John Ottor</u>	Signature <u>[Signature]</u>	Date <u>23-9-17</u>
Name <u>MARIE BRIDLE</u>	Signature <u>[Signature]</u>	Date <u>25.9.17</u>

Internal use only

Received: Date

Go to Cabinet Committee – Local Leadership for decision: Date

Yes

No

Approved