



"In Safe Hands" - Kilmarnock Academy Legacy Project Consultation Event - Wednesday 2nd May 2018, 6.00 - 6.45pm

Centrestage Theatre

Consultation Purpose:

- *Forming and maintaining healthy relationships with 'our neighbours' and key stakeholders;
- *Sharing the concept of the Kilmarnock Academy Legacy Project, the Centrestage vision and setting the scene for residents
- *Providing a forum for guests to ask questions and share ideas for the site

Audience and Numbers Present:

59 Guests attended the event. This was a cross section of residents living next to and adjacent to the site, Centrestage patrons and one EAC Councillor (Douglas Reid). This was a highly successful first consultation and the questioning was genuinely inquiring and positive.

Event:

Following a presentation and vision sharing, guests got an opportunity to view draft 1 of the Kilmarnock Academy Legacy Project planning application package and were then invited to ask questions and make note of any suggestions and ideas that they wished to be recorded. The following are the ideas / questions received.

Questions (answers) & Ideas

1.Environmental

What will be the parking provision on Elmbank Road?	Ayrshire Roads Alliance are proposing to create 4 x coach parking spaces in Elmbank Drive (left hand side) – 2 towards the top of the hill and 2 towards the bottom. As part of our Planning Application we can accommodate 102 car parking spaces on site (inc Disabled Spaces). EAC, who are retaining the playground area adjacent to London Road, are proposing an additional Pay and Display Car Park (9am-5pm) for 52 Spaces (inc Disabled Spaces)
Who will be responsible for the maintenance of the building and grounds?	Centrestage will be responsible for the ongoing maintenance on the site (excluding the playground adjacent to London Road that will become a car park)
When will the construction work start on the site and for how long?	The Contractor will hopefully start in early 2019 for a period of approximately 10 months
Will there be outdoor garden space and activities?	YES
Will there be bike racks?	YES

Will there be more rehearsal space available?	YES
How will the gym hall be used?	We are working with local "Change Through Sport" organisations to reuse the gyms to offer activities for all the participants within the village and the wider community
 <i>2. Internal use of the Building</i>	
Will the rooms be leased to other organisations and clubs?	A number of classrooms will be made available for community groups, clubs and organisations to use. In addition to this there are several groups and organisations that will also operate from Kilmarnock Academy as part of the Village on a long-term basis working alongside Centrestage to help positively affect our community #oneteam
Will there be WIFI?	YES
How many seats will the auditorium hold?	The auditorium will offer different seating layouts depending on the event or performance and therefore the capacity will range from approx 180-300 accordingly
How many changing rooms will there be?	The backstage area will include 2 x large changing rooms, 1x large wardrobe room, WC s and circulation space exclusively for performers
 <i>3. Accessibility</i>	
Will there be access to disabled toilets?	YES
How many disabled toilets will there be?	14 x accessible WCs and 1 x Changing Places WC
Will there be wheel chair access to the building and to the stage?	YES - We have been working with Susan Fulton from EAC (Inclusive Design Advisor) for advice with the design of the project
What public transport will be available, without having too far to walk?	Bus stops are located on both sides of London Road and on Holehouse Road (all within 5-minutes' walk) providing a number of services to Kilmarnock and the surrounding areas. Additionally, further services can be accessed from Kilmarnock Bus Station which is a 5-minute walk from the site. Kilmarnock train station is approximately 15 minutes' walk from the site. There is a half-hourly service to and from Glasgow and Carlisle which run to an uneven frequency depending on what time of the day it is (some trains only go as far as Dumfries). Trains to Ayr and Stranraer run approximately every 2 hours with extra trains running at peak times to/from Girvan. On Sundays, there is an hourly service to Glasgow and only 2 trains a day to Dumfries and Carlisle with no service to Ayr and Stranraer.
 <i>4. Communication</i>	
More publicity required, not just shared on Facebook	Agreed. In addition to Facebook, our website, Your Centrestage and other forms of media will be used going forward to communicate relevant PR around the KA site.
When will Centrestage move in?	We are aiming for Easter – Summer 2020
Will the times of classes change?	Our Creative Learning Curriculum will be enhanced at Kilmarnock Academy allowing us to increase the offering and volume of our activities. We will try where possible to retain the times/days of our current activities. The design process for this will begin over the next 2-3 months
Will there be teaching classes in other languages?	Good Idea – We will include this suggestion as part of our design of the creative learning curriculum
 <i>5. Opportunities</i>	
Links with other schools to shared learning	Our Connect Project currently links in with numerous primary and secondary schools across Ayrshire. Our intention is to continue our links with these schools and to enhance our offer when we move into Kilmarnock Academy
Will there be apprenticeships available?	Yes - We have already started this process

6.Ideas

Trial nights before you buy
Karaoke nights
Piano bar and singing
Monthly music/cabaret nights
Quiz nights
Line dancing/ballroom dancing
Drag nights
Instrument tuition
Furniture upcycling
Clothes bank
Boys2 Men
Recording studio

Crafting corner
Homeless project

Over 50's
Nail Bar
Keep fit and Zumba classes
Hip hop classes
First aid class

Good Idea – We will include this suggestion as part of our design of the creative learning curriculum

Good Idea – We will include this suggestion when we design our entertainment programme

We have already secured a baby grand piano!

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We are currently including this as part of our creative learning curriculum

We currently do this as part of our Catalyst project

We have offered this as part of our "On the Road" project previously. We feel that at Kilmarnock Academy this could be a regular offering

Good Idea – We will include this suggestion as part of our design of the creative learning curriculum

We currently offer a recording studio at one of our premises in John Finnie Street. Our intentions is to move this resource to Kilmarnock Academy

Good Idea – We will include this suggestion when we design our entertainment programme

We are currently working on helping with a reduction in Homelessness as part of our Catalyst project in association with Change Centre Scotland

We are currently working on offering more activities for over 50s when we move into Kilmarnock Academy

We are currently working on including this as part of the Life-long Learning neighbourhood of the village

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Event Summary...

The overall impression was a community of people very much in favour of the vision and plans shared for this iconic site. Questions put forward on the night have been answered above and all ideas will be reviewed in terms of viability as part of our project plan and overall offering at the site. As we mentioned on the night, we very much look forward to working with the wider community to make this something special for Kilmarnock and Ayrshire and thank you all for attending the event. We have much to do and hope that we have your continued support over the weeks and months ahead as we bring everything #funfoodfolk to Kilmarnock Academy.

Collection of images...





