

Brimscombe and Thrupp Community Space Project Development Consultant

Brimscombe and Thrupp Parish Council (B&T PC) are looking for a consultant to work with them to develop an ambitious yet achievable business case for a community space within the Brimscombe Port development.

Stroud District Council (SDC) has offered the Parish Council a plot of land in a prime waterside location, on which to build a new community space. This is primarily for the benefit of the residents of the Parish of Brimscombe and Thrupp but would also be used as an amenity for the wider area.

People have told us that the Parish, divided by a busy road, is lacking a heart / identity. The ambition is that the new port development and our space within it will fulfil this in part.

The vision of the B&T PC is *'to create a vibrant, inclusive and accessible community space that is welcoming and appealing to all segments of the local and wider area. More than a 'building', a place that contributes to and responds to the regenerated Port as the heart of our community'*

Planning for the Port development is now full speed ahead. Stroud District Council have funding in place for the complex engineering works to the canal with outline planning for the multi-use development due to be submitted in late February 2019.

At this critical point there is a need for B&T PC to review and update findings about the 'needs and wants' for its community space - however there is potential for consultation fatigue. This project has been talked about for a very long time!

The idea for a community space has been tested on numerous occasions with the local community, other stakeholders and potential partners who all widely support the plan. A sub-committee has looked at other good practice models and are confident that their learning can be applied in order to ensure our space flourishes. We are looking at a business model that includes an income stream with the intention that the amenity is not grant dependent and are open to working with local partners to create a sustainable business model.

There is a tight timescale involved - a draft outcome is required by June 2019 to align with Stroud District Council's programme for the development of the Port.

We are expecting this part of the project to cost up to £5,000.

Please submit your proposal demonstrating how you would meet the brief as outlined below by midnight 17/03/19 to colettecuddihy@yahoo.co.uk. The submission is to include examples of relevant experience and at least two referees. Please contact Colette if you want to discuss the brief in further detail, by email in the first instance with a contact phone number.

Applications will be short listed with interviews taking place w/c 25/03/19

The Brief

Outputs

- Produce a high quality business plan to support the B&T PC to apply for funding (Public Works Loan, grants and or social enterprise).
- To include;
 - a finance and funding model
 - a recommendation of a management structure for the community space
 - an embedded qualitative evaluation process
 - a developed risk register
 - a SWOT analysis of options
 - a sustainable communications plan or framework
 - a realistic timeframe

We are looking for someone who;

- can demonstrate a good understanding of the social/community dynamic within the B&T Parish and adjacent areas.
- will consider the wider implications of the development as a whole and where this community space fits within it
- can interact effectively with relevant stakeholders,
- is self-motivated and dynamic,
- is able to keep the overall interests of the community at the heart of the process.
- will develop an asset map showing the strengths of the local community as well as the gaps
- will implement best practice around community building to ensure the space reflects the needs of a changing demographic.
- can crystallise the vision using existing data gathered, test this creatively with local stakeholders and respond and adapt to feedback
- Build on existing partnership links with existing organisations that could use the space and have a positive impact on the business plan – either by driving forward a shared vision, capital involvement, long term lease or ongoing management of the centre.

Structure

The Project Co-ordinator will report to the Parish Council and will work closely with the Community Space Project Working Group (a sub-committee of the Parish Council). Meetings are held monthly. Attendance at PC meetings is expected unless informed that attendance is not required.