



Credition Community Hub

Credition is a market town (pop 7,800) in rural Mid Devon, which lacks adequate facilities for its many thriving cultural groups and for some of its key community services. In June 2016 Credition Town Team published an in-house feasibility report, summarising 18 months of research and consultation into the cultural and social needs of the town. The report outlined various options for addressing these, including a new £4- £5m 'flagship' Community Hub on the edge of town.

The Vision - the ACE concept

The Hub could provide all or some of the following:

ARTS - flexible theatre space/cinema with seating for 200 – 220;
dance and art studios; gallery.

COMMUNITY – café, meeting rooms, activities for all ages, transport hub.

ENTERPRISE - hot desks, business units, conference facilities, employment and training

A Sustainable Social Enterprise

The report recognised that the Hub would have to provide the right combination of services to meet the needs of the town, while generating sufficient income to be self-sustaining. It would be run by a charity, with a small team of paid staff and a large pool of volunteers.

Partnerships

The report highlighted the possible benefits of partnerships/co-location with other organisations such as:

1. **Age Concern** urgently needs a larger, better equipped space to meet the growing demand on its services. They own a building which they are prepared to sell in order to move into the new Hub.
2. **The Children's Centre** has lost its purpose built building due to cuts and is currently operating from a temporary office and church halls, with no 'drop in' facilities for young families. It would welcome a base in the new Hub.
3. **Out & About Community Transport** also needs more office, storage and parking space, all of which could be provided by the Hub.

Support

We have the full support of Credition Town Council and Mid Devon District Council, who have offered consultancy services.

The next phase

The Town Team plans to recruit a sub group to take the project forward. This group will develop the vision, seek funds to undertake a professional feasibility study, develop a more detailed business case, identify the best site and produce designs.