

PROPOSAL FORM

#GlasgowCommunities

**PEOPLE
MAKE
GLASGOW
COMMUNITIES**

Name of building / venue / facility		
Barlia Football Centre		
Name of your organisation		
Castlemilk Community Football		
Please provide details of the legal status of your organisation		
Charity <i>(please provide Charity No if applicable)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Company Ltd by Guarantee	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Community Club/ Sports Club	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Other <i>(please specify)</i>		
		Constituted group
Do you have a formal constitution/ governance documents? <i>(please provide a copy)</i>		YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>
Tell us about your proposal for the building/ venue/ facility and how you see this operating. Provide some detail as to why your organisation is well placed to deliver the benefits that will flow from the proposal.		
<p>When Barlia was redeveloped in 2011 to a new 3G pitch with new floodlights and 3 x five a side pitches, our group was formed to support and develop football activities in the community, ensuring community voices were heard and represented and local teams retained access to the facility. Initially we helped support Glasgow Life booking process by collating all local lets and liaising with centre management. Since then we have also run local events, football camps, diversionary projects, school festivals, emergency food provision and other activities for local people, using Barlia as the base.</p> <p>We have always seen Barlia as a main focal point for community football and other activity and wish to restore it to its rightful place as a thriving community hub and valuable community asset. Castlemilk has long had a great footballing history littered with added international recognition for players and to see its demise as a footballing community (since Covid began and before due to mismanagement and neglect) has been a shameful act by Glasgow Life and Glasgow City Council as owner of Barlia Football Centre.</p>		

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Our proposal has been shaped by a wide scale feasibility study conducted by Community Enterprise Ltd. Gathering views of potential usage for sport and additional activity. 486 survey were completed, 16 stakeholder conversations and an open community meeting. The feasibility study report is currently in draft form and we hope to use these findings to create a full business plan

We propose to provide a high quality and accessible sports (and other) facility that will promote health and wellbeing.

We aim to help reduce isolation and bring local people together, nurturing a sense of a self-supporting community where people look after each other.

We will promote pride in the community by taking local control of a key community asset.

We will promote participation, inclusion and community engagement.

Usage

The football pitches will be used by local teams and by visiting football sides, booked by groups of people and local schools and community groups. There is clear demand from local football teams and beyond, providing a platform for both organised games/ training and recreational activity.

As well as regular hiring opportunities there is the potential for parks to be open for free play when not booked to help reduce vandalism at the site and encourage engagement opportunities with young people.

It will also see the facility function as more of a community hub, helping reduce isolation. For multi sports and activity and better use of the multi-purpose spaces in the pavilion and Clubhouse. There is the potential to link with local cycling project and use Barlia as a base for their activities and potentially expanding / offering use of facilities to Cathkin Braes mountain bike participants. (changing, washing, refreshments). The local walking group have also registered interest as using as starting point.

Many groups already make use of the clubhouse, some of these activities could be provided longer term and possibly within the main pavilion. (Suicide awareness group, supporters groups, parents meetings, walking groups, recovery groups, emergency food provision, energy support information)

Jobs and Volunteering

Crossing all of these elements is the opportunity to develop volunteering and job opportunities.

Volunteers will be supported with good policies, procedures and training with careful placements. We will also create local employment. Most of these jobs are part time and but they will give some income locally while enabling transferrable skills to grow, especially for local young people.

We are well placed in a sense that we have the support of the community and have wide local knowledge and experience. We have a proven track record in community engagement and delivery of projects. We have been using/ hiring the facility since 2011 when it was redeveloped (and members since 1992) and also made improvements to the surrounding environment, painting murals to help reduce vandalism at facility, working with woodlands officer to plant in local area, developed the clubhouse space in able to offer diversionary activities and have been at the forefront of the recent campaign to save the facility. We will need to work with other partners in order to achieve our aims. We also need to look at and change our group legal structure in order that we can become legally protected, develop jobs and access additional various funding to support our intentions.(whether that is as a charity or trust needs to be further explored)

Our draft business plan does set out full staffing structures on a short and long term basis and the actions required to achieve this. This includes :

Project Development and admin role (short & long term)

Coaches, facilities operations, marketing (long term)

Given the information above, our being in the final stages of firming up our draft Business Plan including a Funding Strategy, and having multiple partnerships who are ready to offer their support to

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fill identified gaps, we are confident that we are best placed to move forward with taking ownership of Barlia Football Centre.

Tell us about the benefits that you expect to generate from this proposal and how these might meet an existing need. Will your proposal benefit the local community, a community of interest or both?

According to the Index of Multiple deprivation (2020) Castlemilk as a community is among the 5% most deprived communities in Scotland. The immediate area around Barlia (Glenwood South) is the 15th most deprived in the whole country. The area has higher than average health inequalities highlighting the need for increased access to health and wellbeing opportunities. Other statistical evidence of need is :

19.6% of people living in the area under 16 (above national average of 16.9%)

54% of all families with dependant children in Castlemilk are lone parent (double national average 27.6%)

16.9% youth unemployment (8.3% national average)

Covid has had a devastating effect and the reduction in community resources and closure to facilities such as Barlia has further exasperated the negative impact of the pandemic.

Currently our local teams are having to play and train at facilities elsewhere in the city and beyond. This has an impact on their funds (and players and parents) due to transport costs and a direct impact in participation rates – parents unable to get kids to other venues and people wishing to play locally. (As an example, over one weekend we have seen 7 team matches being played elsewhere that should all have gone ahead at the venue. 6 local clubs are also without regular training facilities midweek). We have recently seen teams fold over having no home pitch / increased costs and no community focus.

Having the facility run by a local organisation can hopefully inspire more people to become involved both as participants and volunteers. Having an opened facility in our community may also support our requests/ needs to engage with SFA and provide a host venue for the numerous football led activity programmes happening across the city/ country – mini kickers/ playmaker/ women's/ walking football/ soccer centres/player pathway/ McDonald's football fun, increasing opportunities for participation at all levels, ages, abilities and gender.

Regular participants will meet many of the Scottish Government key physical activity targets.

Encouraging and enabling the less / non active to be more active.

Improving our community's active infrastructure – people and places.

Supporting wellbeing and resilience in communities through physical activity and sport.

We will improve opportunities to participate, progress and achieve in sport.

The named benefits above will also apply to local people accessing other activity at the facility. All our activities (football or other) will help reduce isolation and support peoples mental health and wellbeing. Helping people develop relationships and build resilience.

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The core target area for this project is ultimately the people of Castlemilk. Residents from the surrounding areas will also be welcome to use services and facilities. Our fundamental objectives are to provide opportunities to support local people, young and old alike, Sports teams, individuals, groups, people with physical and mental health issues. Football provision will be the main focus with other activities developed in line with community demand/ request.

The community will also have the opportunity to show their support for local clubs and the facility can be again used as a regular meeting place and place to foster community spirit. Barlia can be the place to reconnect people and tackle the disadvantages people face on a daily basis.

We would be looking to enhance the current pavilion, upgrade showers and changing facilities and making the place more accessible to the wider community. We would also look to enhance the surrounding environment working with local community groups

Some proposed outcomes

End of year 1

400 local people will improve their lives through sports participation

200 local people will access the facility for other activity

Equivalent of at least 2 full time jobs will be created .

Year on year

The most disadvantaged and disengaged in our community will be healthier and happier and will feel a contributing part of the community.

250 young people will improve their lives through accessing local sport and or other diversionary activity.

250 adults with poor health will improve their future live chances accessing the facility for sport and other activity.

Our intention is to implement a 3 year plan that is currently being developed which we will monitor and evaluate. We will also show our members and the local community the difference we are making.

What are your plans to generate sufficient income/ grants to be able to sustain the ongoing operating costs of the building/ venue/ facility?

We will manage regular lets at the facility and promote any available lets as appropriate to maximise income generation whilst supporting affordable activities for local people where possible. We would hope to generate enough income to cover revenue costs.

We will identify grant funding opportunities to support staffing and capital improvement works.

We will access various grants/ funding for revenue and capital upgrade will enable us to create a sustainable community owned asset both meeting needs and generating income from visiting teams and from local use. We are aware that because of this, we will have multiple outcomes to achieve as a consequence of that funding and we will establish a monitoring and evaluation framework which sets out to achieve or exceed these targets.

Fundability and Financial viability have been explored via the feasibility study mentioned previously.

Tell us about any experience you have in managing a building/ venue/ facility.

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We currently part manage Barlia Clubhouse – responsible for booking/ opening /closing / cleaning.
Have our own alarm system in place
Responsible for insurance.

Host Friday night diversionary programme alongside Youth Project.events.
Host school holiday programmes and special e
Meeting point / space for local groups
Designed and delivered successful community events.
Liaison with Community Police and Fire Service to help reduce anti social behaviour and reduce willful fire raising incidents.
Local knowledge and contacts.

What help and support from the council family would you require for this proposal?

We would require support with ;

Legal Structure (we are aware that as a constituted group we are limited in what we can achieve)
Employment Laws/ Process
Health & Safety requirements

Please provide us with any other information that you feel is relevant to your proposal.

We are ready to participate (in partnership with Castlemilk Youth Complex) in a 6 month community activation pilot. This will allow us to identify specific areas needing developed (in our organisation and at facility) and highlight areas of work related to ongoing management of the facility. This will also give us time and space to identify other potential partner orgs for the longer term asset transfer.

Our current Partnership Approach

Work in partnership with Castlemilk Together(multiagency) Group to deliver emergency food distribution.

Work in partnership with local housing associations (Cassiltoun/ Ardenglen) to deliver diversionary activities.

Work in partnership with Streetwise/ Castlemilk Youth Complex, Police Scotland, HSCP to deliver diversionary activities and information / awareness raising programmes.

Work in partnership with local football clubs to deliver holiday programmes and local activity (Castlemilk Dynamo, Castlemilk United, Castlemilk OBC, Castlemilk Boys Club, Third Lanark, Little Dynamos)

Work in partnership with local schools to deliver community events.

Work in partnership with Football Glasgow to deliver holiday programme.

Work in partnership with local business (food) Bistecca/ The Bistro/The Croft/ The Senior Centre/ Christines Café/ McDonalds/ Castlemilk Parish Church to help deliver holiday programme lunches and emergency food provision.

Work in partnership with Woodlands Officer to enhance local environment via wild flower meadow planting.

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