

Ferrymuir development.

A special meeting was called to be addressed by Ian Leaver from The Scottish Development Trust, (SDT)

Present: Keith Giblett, Grant Sangster, June Jarvis, Laura Sexton, Anne Mitchell, Neil Mackinlay, Graeme MacKinley. David Flint.
Ian Leaver, Johnathon Clarkson.

The SDT assists small communities to develop, there is no strict definition for such a community, it can be wide ranging.

The Ferrymuir site in question is small ($170m^2$) which has been donated to QDCC together with a promise of £365,000 to develop it.

Our purpose is to look to a Community Development Trust for local improvement.

It was pointed out that Queensferry Ambition no longer exists and Edinburgh City Council has refused to offer any help towards this project.

A development trust has two types of members. Director members, minimum of three, and ordinary members. The trust must not be controlled by any 'outside' body - it must be non-political. Minutes of meetings must be kept and be open and made available to the public.

The question was asked "What is the start up process?" This should be engaging with the community, going 'out and about', holding publicity events etc...Establish what the community would prefer. Others can be brought in as facilitators to help, talk to smaller groups to get them 'on board'.

Three different organisations were mentioned. Development Trust, Scottish Charitable organisation and Community Benefit Society.

Application can be made for lottery funding - up to 1 million pounds.

The benefits of joint the SDT include general advice, legal advice and a network of 250 trusts in Scotland who can be contacted.

The costs of membership start at zero and increase gradually to a maximum of £75 per annum.

The SDT can offer training eg. dealing with conflicts of interest, clarifying situations etc.

Separate projects have to be dealt with individually.

The model for Ferrymuir might lead to a 2 floor building which would be of much greater use than single floor. (*Keeping in mind that much of the ground floor is taken up with toilets, office, storage, cleaners, and plant, leaving little useable space.*)

It could cost £25 -£30k for a project manager.

We can contact SDT at any time for information.

There followed much discussion mainly to do with projects and finances but no decisions were taken at this stage.

The Ferrymuir group should organise a follow up meeting soon.

David Flint
8/11/17.