

INSPIRATIONS and MODELS

The enthusiasm and creativity of our team and participants in our open meetings have provided most of our ideas, and the centre we are proposing will no doubt be a unique building and venue based on a unique collaboration. But we have also visited and observed other communities and venues that have achieved similar ends to ours, to the benefit of their villages, towns and cities and often without recourse to public funding, also our aspiration. Other communities have created and supported similar enterprises - why shouldn't we?

Grosmont Gallery and Jazz Cafe, North Yorkshire, www.grosmontgallery.com

A small privately-run cafe in a tourist spot, selling the usual refreshments, plus paintings, pottery and other local crafts.

Halton Mill, near Lancaster, <http://haltonmill.org.uk/>

An new environmentally friendly and ethical business hub opening in late spring 2013, based in a historical industrial building and offering "a vibrant and inspiring environment in which small businesses, social enterprises, community based organisations, artists, craftspeople, and freelancers can flourish. We aim to minimise the environmental impact of our working activities and to encourage the sharing of resources, skills, opportunities, ideas and facilities. Green Elephant, a not for profit cooperative, will manage the Mill."

Landmark Centre, Teddington, <http://landmarkartscentre.org>

Just across the river from Kingston, this redundant church (*pictured right*) was rescued after a passionate campaign by local people and others interested in preserving Victorian architecture. It has become an independent charity that receives no statutory funding towards core operating costs, and is supported by ticket and drink sales, classes, donations and legacies, events, and its volunteers.



Living Green Centre, Morden Hall Park, <http://www.sustainablemerton.org/projects.htm#LGC>



A new environmental centre and community outreach project based in the UK's most energy-efficient historic building, an old stable block in the park (*pictured left*), owned by the National Trust. It includes a café, exhibition space, offices and craft workshops. Sustainable Merton hosts drop-in advice sessions on sustainability.

Old Cardigan Police Station and Court House, <http://www.4cg.org.uk/index.htm>

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A community benefit society, set up to raise the money needed to buy the old Police Station and Court House: " the buildings could be used to promote tourism, events, conferences, local foods and crafts and provide local jobs. More immediately the buildings will be available for local community groups to hire as office space and hold events. Coupled with the income from renting out additional car parking spaces, the site should be more than able to service current loans and with sufficient additional share funds we would look to forecasting an interest rate return on investment to all shareholders..."



Selby Trust, Tottenham, <http://www.selbytrust.co.uk/about-us>

The Selby Trust was set up as a charity in 1992 by local people who recognised the need for a multi-purpose centre led by the community and third sector organisations. It operates in former school premises (*pictured left*) which the Trust manages as a multi-purpose community and social enterprise centre, with a 25 year lease from LB Haringey. It includes offices, meeting rooms, training facilities, sports and events halls and a large car park. Over 70% of funding is self-generated.

Sumac Centre Nottingham, <http://www.veggies.org.uk/sumac/welcome.html>

A large terrace house (*pictured right*) was bought in 2001 by a co-operative to provide a social venue and resource centre for everyone concerned with global issues, animals, people and the environment, with radical library, internet access, club/function room, gardens and vegan community cafe, which now manages the premises. Rent from two upstairs flats helps to finance the centre.

