

## **BARMULLOCH COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMPANY**

### **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2012 ANNUAL REPORT**

The Report content covers some of the activities of your Board and Company from October 2011.

#### **1. NEW HALL PROGRESS**

After a long process the Company is on the verge of making a Stage 2 application to the Big Lottery Fund for a grant of £1m to assist with the building of a new hall complex on the site of the present Tenants Hall. This Application, to be made by the middle of November will be the last act of a project that started in 2006. Many phases have been gone through and some £120K has been expended to bring us to where we are now.

Early in 2012, the Big Lottery awarded a grant of £18k for the Company to hire a consultant to take us through this final and crucial stage. A 5-year Business Plan was required together with an in-depth community consultation, a halls utilisation analysis, activity list, identification of funding partners and many other factors relevant to the Application. Your Board are delighted with the performance of the consultants, Community Links Scotland, and we feel sure that all that can be done has been done to make this Application successful.

With grant applications nothing can be taken for granted. If we achieve the grant award, approximately £250k will be set aside to assist with running costs over five years, but the Big Lottery's concern is that the Company and its Halls should be sustainable over a longer term. Unfortunately there is a sad history of similar projects failing and we have had to prove this will not happen to BCDC. One major fact in our favour is that BTRA and BCDC have run the Tenants Hall and now this hall on a sustainable footing since 1955.

Approximately four months after a Stage 2 Application is received we will receive notification of the outcome of our bid in four months time. If it is successful we need to pull in other public/private sector grant support to meet the shortfall of approx. £450k between what the Lottery will offer and the cost of building. Already, almost 2/3 of that amount has been promised and it is likely other funders will become interested if the Big Lottery award a grant.

Assuming a positive outcome from the Application, we estimate we will be able to recruiting a building contractor by September 2013, with building work being commenced in early 2014.

In the past year your Board and Staff have had to devote considerable time to the project, attending numerous meetings with the Big Lottery, Consultants, Glasgow City Council, Glasgow Housing Association, City Properties Limited, Collective Architecture, Design Team, potential funders, potential hall users as providing information and assistance to Community Links Scotland as required.

It is pleasing to note that all contacts we have had have been positive about our requirement for a new hall in Barmulloch and have complimented the Company on the way it progressed its Lottery bid.

#### **2. TENANTS HALL**

As reported last year, we entered into a lease arrangement with Rob Roy Boxing Club for full use of the Hall. Their Managers completely refurbished the premises, inside and out, and installed various items of equipment relative to boxing and keeping fit, including a boxing ring

They have proved to be excellent tenants with a wide range of boxing and non-boxing related courses for young and old, male and female. I would recommend you call in to see them - I guarantee you will be impressed.

### **3. FORMER CHURCH HALL**

We are indebted to the Church of Scotland for the continuing use of their former church hall for a nominal annual fee. Originally the lease document was for a year, but they are aware of our new build plans and have indicated we can use the hall for the foreseeable future.

Our duty is to use the hall responsibly and to keep it well maintained. I am delighted to report that no vandalism has been reported in what is a well used facility.

The Church is currently carrying out a valuation exercise on all their premises in Glasgow and has promised to keep us informed of their long term plans for the building.

### **4. GROUNDS AND BUILDING MAINTENANCE**

Users of the Hall may have noticed some recent improvements. Grass edges have been cut, railings painted and the grounds are regularly cleaned by community janitors and a group employing people on community service orders. They do an excellent job. Thanks are due to David Sommerville of GHA Unity Homes for his guidance and advice on grounds maintenance.

With increasing use of the Hall we found the existing refuse storage methods to be inadequate, An industrial wheeled refuse unit was hired and this has eliminated all our previous problems, thus helping to maintain good relations with hall users and neighbours..

### **5. BARMULLOCH STRATEGY GROUP**

Membership of this Group had been falling for some time and the Group seemed unwilling to become involved in local development activities. Indeed a number of scheduled meetings were cancelled because of an apparent lack of interest. Many of the topics usually covered by the group are now dealt with by others, including Community Councils

After many years of providing secretarial services and premises on a free issue basis, the Board accepted a recommendation from the Development Officer that remaining members should transfer to the Barmulloch/Balornock East Estate Management Group, organised by Unity Homes.

### **6 FOOTBALL**

The Board continued to run two football teams in the Glasgow and District Youth Football League until March of this year. Players were coached each Wednesday evening in All Saints School and teams taken to Toryglen every Sunday morning for games. After a planned break in the League from November to February (to avoid inclement weather) the coaches discovered they had lost a number of players and, reluctantly, we had to disband the teams.

We are still keen to support youth football and recently gave financial support and other assistance to a new team in the area, North Glasgow United FC. A well resourced group they run 7 teams in the Glasgow 7-a-side League and we hope to continue with our support to them in a financial and non-financial fashion.

## **7. BARCLAYS FUNDING**

The Company together with Glasgow Life were instrumental in bringing the Multi-Use Games Arena to Robroyston Park and BCDC is responsible for reporting to Barclays Bank Football Foundation every six months on the use and maintenance of the facility.

The Company also received ring-fenced grant monies to provide coaching for a number of sports. In the main this has been for football coaching although we have delivered other coaching activities including hockey. We draw down a tranche of these monies by submitting signed receipts from qualified coaches. Because of bad weather conditions in recent years we are well outside the original 'spend' date of the project. In the past this has been readily accepted by Barclays, but now they have set a deadline of 31<sup>st</sup> October for final application.

The Board have decided to use remaining monies on sports such as athletics, tennis, hockey, cricket, basketball- all approved by Barclays. This must be carried out in the MUGA but with the onset of winter an approach will be made to the funder for an extension of the deadline until early summer.

## **8. FUND RAISING EVENTS**

In the past year the company organised a number of events. These included:

A Family Fun Night on 15/10/2011 which raised £100 for BCDC funds

A Christmas Fayre on a Saturday on 10/12/2011 which raised £358. BCDC donated £150 to the Strathclyde Autistic Society

A Scottish Family Fun Night on 31/03/2011 proved very popular, raising £358 from which a donation of £120 was made to the Ayesha Fund

Our annual C-in the Park was held on 26/05/2012 the last Saturday in May and was held, for the first time in the former church hall and grounds, in part of Quarrywood Avenue and in the nearby Robroyston Park. We were supported by a number of outside groups and were able to offer a Pipe Band, climbing wall, fairground rides, environmental information, dance teams, information on the park and Local Nature Reserve, boxing show, organised games such as tennis, police and fire brigade displays and many other attractions. With the north leg of Quarrywood Avenue closed to traffic (thanks to Strathclyde Police) and probably the best day of the Summer, a great day was enjoyed by all.

I am delighted to report that BCDC covered its basic operating costs from income earned by Board endeavours, as it has done since its inception in 2004.

## **9 NEW ACTIVITIES**

Your Company ran a number of new events including a Silver Surfers IT course and a Silver Active keep fit programme, both of which were free and were extensively advertised.

North Glasgow College provided the computers and instructor for the IT course held in the Office in the former church hall. This proved very successful and we hope to repeat it soon.

The Silver Active keep fit programme was offered by Glasgow Housing Association in the Hall. Unfortunately it did not attract much support

## **10. BOARD RE-ORGANISATION**

Board reorganisation, first reported in my corresponding report of 2011 has continued. Our Committees for Halls, Events and Fundraising, Finance and Activities meet regularly and the Convenors Committee meets as required.

They have proven to be worthwhile, not least for involving the whole range of Board members in planning and implementation stages.

It is worth stating that the present Board in terms of quality, commitment and knowledge is approaching what is ideal for a local community group about to be assessed for its ability to manage a considerable financial investment.

It is likely however that new funders may want to place people on the Board to help safeguard their investment. The Board will welcome such moves.

#### **11. BCDC ASSISTANCE TO OTHER GROUPS**

Over recent years the Board has become increasingly involved in providing free assistance to local organisations. For example the Company frequently loans out its display boards, tents, games, equipment and regularly offers advice on business formation, organisation and fundraising. Company staff and Board members are regular helpers at events throughout the area.

The Company also lends its expertise to help organisations compile and submit funding requests. Over the past year seven local groups have been assisted in this fashion.

#### **12 WEBSITE.**

Your company website [www.bcdcglasgow.co.uk](http://www.bcdcglasgow.co.uk) is designed and maintained by our Treasurer Jackie Stewart. It is comprehensive and contains company history, activities, photographs calendar of events, means of contact and many other details about BCDC. It is becoming increasingly popular and receives many 'hits' per month.

#### **13, WHATS ON**

The hall is in use every day Monday to Friday. Activities ongoing include a Playgroup (3-sessions), Bingo (2-sessions), Arts and Crafts Club, Barmulloch Coffee Club, Line Dancing, Youth Club and Brownie Guides. It is the base for all BCDC activities and meetings. Many one-off lets are granted for birthday and family parties, communion celebrations and other social events.

#### **14. BCDC REPRESENTATION**

Your Company is represented on a number of local organisations. By invitation staff and Board members serve on Barmulloch Parents Council, Unity Homes Housing Association, Robroyston Park Local Nature Reserve Management Committee, Springburn Credit Union and Friends of Robroyston Park.

#### **15. BCDC STAFF**

We continue to operate with only one staff member. As reported last year the incumbent had worked without pay for over 18 months until November 2011 when we managed to secure funding from Glasgow City Council to cover salary payments for a year.

#### **16. NEWSLETTER**

A newsletter was launched this year and so far we have published two issues and hand delivered them to every household in Barmulloch. The Newsletter does not report on things

past. It is intended to make the people of Barmulloch aware of what is available for them and what is being planned for the future.

With such a forward looking approach we hope to create an enthusiasm in our community that will benefit all.

#### **17. SOCIAL ENTERPRISE COMPANIES**

BCDC is planning to launch two social enterprise companies in the next few months. These are companies who will employ local people and trade on the open market. All surpluses (profits) are channelled back into the company.

Social Enterprise Companies are successfully run in many areas of high unemployment and owe their success to the skills and abilities of those who work in them and by using local knowledge and inventiveness to identify a local need.

Both companies are designed to help young people to work, earn and learn. They are at an early stage of development, with support from Glasgow Regeneration Agency and the Princes Trust.

#### **18. BTRA – PRESENT STATUS**

For information, Barmulloch Tenants and Residents Association is still registered as a Company incorporated at Companies House and still has Registered Charity Status. . The Company is dormant, i.e not trading. Its current status will be maintained and reviewed regularly. BTRA are still technically owners of the existing hall in Quarrywood Road and will remain so until the new hall is occupied.

#### **19. THANKS**

The Board wish to thank the following for their support and encouragement throughout the past year:

Councillors Leonard, Boyle, Burke and Singh  
Paul Martin MSP  
Willie Bain MP  
Glasgow City Council (various departments)  
Glasgow Housing Association  
Unity Homes Housing Association  
Strathclyde Police  
Church of Scotland  
Robroyston Boxing Club  
All Saints Church  
St. Catherines Laboure  
Glasgow Community Planning  
Glasgow Regeneration Agency  
All Saints High School, Balornock, Barmulloch, St Catherines and Wallacwell Primary Schools  
Collective Architecture  
Local Clergy  
All Members of the Company and the Board of Directors and Co-optees.

Evelyn Scott  
Convenor  
20<sup>TH</sup> October 2012