Community Gateway Access Project Report

Pavilion Launch: 5th October-26 October, Storytelling event 26 Oct

Project Aims:

To publicise the upcoming 12-month License of the Grange Pavilion and promote a clear understanding of the intent of the 12-month pilot and Cardiff University’s role in supporting a Community organisation in developing a business case for a Community Asset Transfer

To continue to develop and build on connections with all communities in Grangetown.

To invite ideas and feedback on potential uses of the Pavilion over the next 12 months.

Project Partnership: Community Gateway, Grange Pavilion Project, Artshell, Cardiff City Libraries

Project Outcomes:

A lively and well attended day with multiple children’s and adult activities to test the Pavilion as a community venue, with a well-crafted storytelling booth created by students in collaboration with Grangetown resident artists as a key centrepoint for activities.
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Stories collected included:

I love the streets of Grangetown because: Everyone living here is so friendly and they are all so kind to me. Nothing is too much trouble for them.

The day I moved to Grangetown: I was overwhelmed with the community here, to see people from so many different cultures and backgrounds coming together.

I love the people of Grangetown because: They are nice to me. They say hello to me and ask how I am. Everyone is friendly.

Education and youth activities: I love the idea of getting children involved in creative activities which could make them be aware of the importance of green places in their city.

Student experience included:

An interest in creating 1:1 installations aimed at bringing people together. The social aspect of the brief greatly interests me because architecture is always about the people and for the people.

This project truly integrates itself into our community, and provides us with the opportunity to connect the designer and real individuals within Grangetown

As our response depends on the research and our personal response to the stories, it will result with very engaging proposals. I am very interested as to how the community will have an impact on the environment that they will be using in the future.

I believe this unit is concerned with many of my interests in architecture. I am very passionate about projects of regenerating areas that are derelict and unused.

Benefits to the community included:

Introduced the Pavilion project to a wider community audience, including some who had not been previously aware of activities and proposals. Presented a vision of an improved facility through a temporary installation and conversion of a changing room. Two expressions of interest emerged.

Benefits to the University included:

Engaged 11 BSc Architecture students in a live teaching project led in partnership with community representatives. Students gained experience of constructing their design, meeting building control, fire, structural, budget and project management concerns (they brought the project in on time, under budget, and in compliance with statutory requirements) Students reported a sense of meaningful engagement with an impact on their thinking as architects. Community Gateway strengthened relationship with partners and promoted our role in Pavilion project and community.

Next steps:

Storytelling booth to remain in place for use in future activities and consultations (has been used as a storytelling / craft booth, musicians stage, and exhibition space), contacts invited to further consultations, and follow up on expressions of interest generated from event.

Project Costs:

£4000 budgeted. Actual cost: £4000 (plus £500 RIBA, £360 BSc3, £300 Pavilion external works)