



The Bank

Town Hall Engagement Events

2nd October 2023



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What's Been Happening?

- *The Bank*, more commonly known locally as 'The Old Bank of Scotland Building', is a Category B listed building built in 1835. It served as a bank until its closure in July 2022.
- It was bought by a local charity in 2023 to ensure it was retained for the community.
- Funding is currently being sought to transfer the building to a community owned organisation.
- The team have: Held community engagement events; started the planning process; started grant applications & founded Dunblane Square.



Dunblane Square

- Dunblane Square is the ownership entity in which *The Bank* will sit.
- This entity has been established with the purpose of contributing to Dunblane town centre development by providing a central point to draw residents and visitors alike to the town centre.
 - Company Limited by Guarantee (SC774097)
 - Owned and managed by Members
 - Overseen by volunteer Directors
 - Profits to be re-invested back into the community

The Bank Team



David Storrie
Chairperson



Ailsa Gray
Director



Ferdi Van Zyl
Director



Bill Carman
Director



Anita Smiley
Director



Neil Earnshaw
Committee Member



Celia Aitken
Committee Member



Rosie Hunter
Committee Member



Amanda Cunningham-Gray
Communication Manager



Amelia Carman
Project Manager



The Vision

From the community engagement undertaken, the current plan for *The Bank* was developed.

A multi-functional, community owned, arts, education, tourism and hospitality venue, named *The Bank*.

Focused on hosting specific events, it will be made up of two core areas:

1. music / cinema / lecture room
2. café / restaurant area

Key Objectives

- Increase visitor numbers to the town centre:
 - Local residents & tourists
- Contribute to, and accelerate, the revitalisation of the town centre.
- Provide a fun, relaxing space for families to come during the day:
 - Future plans to look at opening in the weekday evenings
- Act as a central focus point for Dunblane town centre, connecting the commercial high street with the historic centre.
- Host a wide-range of film & music offerings throughout the year.
- Host a wide-range of exciting Supper-Club dining experiences.

Community Engagement



- Dunblane Fling 2023
- Dunblane Extravaganza 2022

Suggestions from the Dunblane community in terms of focus for the building included:

- A bank....
- Family-friendly venue
- Cinema
- Swimming pool
- Space to meet
- Music
- Escape room
- Varied food offering

Some of these suggestions are feasible, some are not.



Initial Design



Area 1:

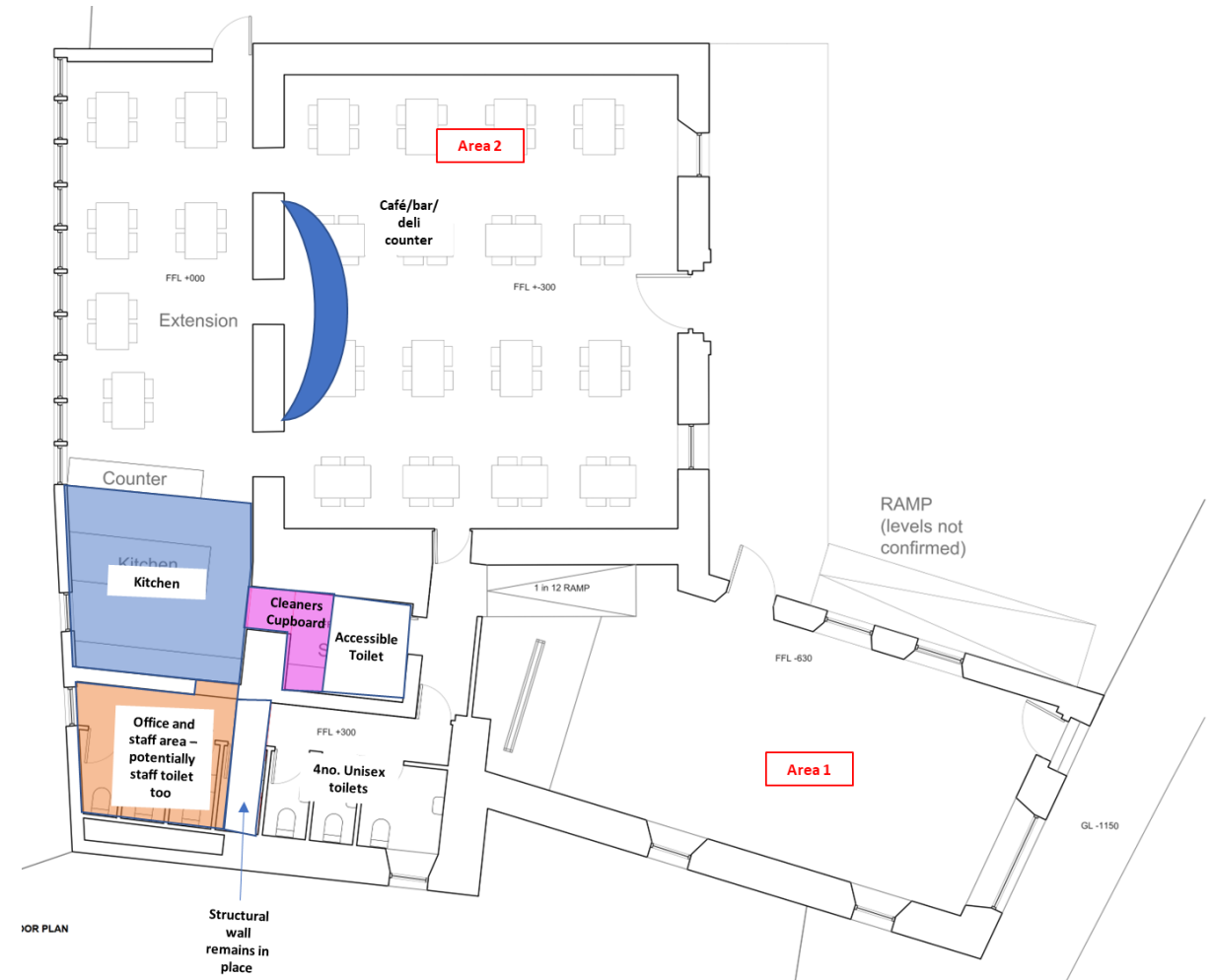
- Cinema
- Music
- Lectures

Area 2:

- Supper Club restaurant
- Bar for events
- Café & Delicatessen

Design Ethos

- Inclusive to all
- Sustainable/Net zero



Example Weekly Programme



		Morning	Afternoon	Evening
Monday	<i>Area 1</i>	Overspill from café		
	<i>Area 2</i>	Café & Deli		
Tuesday	<i>Area 1</i>	Overspill from café		Lecture/Talk
	<i>Area 2</i>	Café & Deli		Refreshments
Wednesday	<i>Area 1</i>	Set-up for fim screening	Film Screening	
	<i>Area 2</i>	Café & Deli		
Thursday	<i>Area 1</i>	Overspill from café		
	<i>Area 2</i>	Café & Deli		
Friday	<i>Area 1</i>	Overspill from café		Film Screening
	<i>Area 2</i>	Café & Deli		Basic food menu
Saturday	<i>Area 1</i>	Overspill from café		Music Event
	<i>Area 2</i>	Café & Deli		Supper Club
Sunday	<i>Area 1</i>	Set-up for fim screening	Family film	
	<i>Area 2</i>		Sunday Lunch	



Partnerships & Community Support

Partnerships and working in collaboration with the amazing community groups in Dunblane will be fundamental to the success of *The Bank*.

Key engagement so far:

- DDT
- Community Council
- Macrobert Centre
- Visit Scotland

Issues / Queries

- Number of existing community centres
 - *The Bank* is not a community centre – it is to be run as a for-profit business, with the ethos of a community centre and with profits being re-invested back into the community.
- Competition with existing small businesses
 - We do not want to compete with existing businesses – we want to work with them to increase visitor footfall and revitalise the town centre.
- The Macrobert Arts Centre
 - They are fully supportive of the project and will use *The Bank* as a satellite venue.



Initial Membership Engagement

- Launched the website in mid-September
- Community Engagement has been positive – already 550 local members have signed up
- Initial feedback on reasons as to why the local community are signing up:

“Brings a variety entertainment to town centre”

“I want to support anything that brings a bit more light to Dunblane. I love the sound of this project!”

“Part of the local community and glad to see The Bank being put good use for the community”

“A brilliant community venture, I’d love to be involved”

Getting Involved

- Membership – please sign up and share in your networks
- Engage on social media
- Send us your thoughts / ideas / feedback

Volunteering

- Recruiting two new directors, ideally with experience in one of; music, cinema, hospitality, venue / events management.
- However, if you have a specific skill and would like to contribute i.e. marketing, design, videographer, funds / application writing, please get in touch.
- As the project progresses, we'll be looking for lots of help – stay tuned.

Next Steps

1. Transfer of the building to Dunblane Square
 - Community Ownership Fund
2. Detailed design
3. Planning Permission
4. Funding (and lots of it!)
 - Stirling Place Based Investment Fund
 - Various Scottish Landfill funds
 - Architectural Heritage Fund
 - Specific targeted fund
5. Development
6. Open – Summer 2024 (if all goes well...)

Q & A

