

NFA Spring Gather-In Proposals

Dear NFA Member,

Recently a visitor to the community asked, *“what are the main projects and conversations taking place in the community?”*

The Gather-In on Saturday 14 March is an exploration in this direction - to collectively choose what four projects we would like to support for the coming year.

This is an experiment to see what happens to a project or initiative and our community’s flourishing if enough of us put our wholehearted, intentional focus behind a few projects for a year, or perhaps longer, in some cases.

We have a feeling it will help to create more coherence and transparency, more engagement and collective focus in the community. Which could be a good thing. We want to move the decision-making out beyond the NFA Council and put that responsibility transparently into the hands of the NFA membership.

This proposal ‘booklet’ is the next step in making these collective decisions which will take place at the Gather-In.

Following on from this introduction you can read about 15 proposals from NFA community members. We have purposely designed the proposals descriptions to be brief so you can read through them without being overwhelmed. If you have questions about the proposals, the proposer’s contact information is there with their proposal. They are happy to be contacted.

Between now (28 February) and the 14 March you have two weeks to read and ask questions about each of the proposals. Talk about them with friends and other community members. Be with them.

Then on the 14 March the proposals will be presented at the Gather-In between 10am and 3:30pm. The presentations will be brief. And there will be a short time for a couple of questions. The purpose of the presentation is to give you a qualitative feel for a project rather than lots of detail.

At some point during the Gather-In the decision-making process for the four proposals we want to support will begin. Which ones will we put our collective awareness and energy, and even some funding over the coming year?

Choosing means that for the coming year we as a collective, support the project or initiative to come to life & light. Making these choices does not stop the other projects from going forward or for new ones to emerge. Choosing does not mean you have to physically do the project - unless ‘hands-on’ support is something the proposal champion has asked for and you’d like to join in.

By making a choice when we are asked what the community is about, we can all answer with the four we select. And other ones that you love as well, for as we all know part of what makes this community work is its diversity.

So what next?

Read through the proposals from the perspective of making a choice - which one calls out to you? What resonates? Maybe read them while enjoying a cup of tea or at several sittings.

If you need more information or clarification about a proposal get in touch with the person who contributed the proposal. Some proposers happen to be giving presentations about their proposals in the lead up to the Gather-In.

Plan to attend the Gather-In on Saturday 14 March and participate in making the decision together. Information on how to reserve your place will be in next week's Rainbow Bridge (6 March).

We want all NFA members to participate in making these decisions. If you are unable to attend the Gather-In we will provide a way for you to make your choice count. This will probably be by giving your proxy vote to someone who is attending. More information about this will be in the Rainbow Bridge on 6 March. The process will use Single Transferable Vote - so your votes won't be wasted.

Thank you for joining in with what we hope may become an annual and evolving event.

Thank you also to John Wragg for his work to put everything on the NFA website findhorn.cc/events/2015proposal

Ariane, Dürten, Annie, Laurence and Ilona - the Gather-In Team
On behalf of the NFA Councillors and Listener Convenors.

Proposal: Beautiful Traffic Management Measures

Village Model: Culture, Governance, Communication

Name

Cornelia Featherstone, NFA Individual Member

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01309 690943

Issue

Road safety is an urgent issue at The Park - we can create beautiful form that reduces car (and bike) speed and emphasizes the true nature of our streets as shared space. So far only NFD as the factors have addressed the issue of safety - with signs etc. We can do so much more to enhance the environment at The Park - with a cohesive concept, creativity and diversity.

Building on the work done by the ACeS group (Action for Community Streets) - create a concept for the whole Park for pedestrian priority/shared space/community streets

Proposal

A group to get together to formulate the concept and seek funding to implement the changes on the form level (such as planters, chicanes, raised crossings, mosaics, street art)

Who benefits if your proposed project / initiative was carried out?

All road users at The Park - i.e. residents, guests, visitors, people working at The Park. And if we manage to create an inspiring model in our ecovillage it may well benefit well beyond the local sphere.

What kind of community support would you like?

Hands-on - a big push over a few days, Money

What is the full project cost?

Initially £5000

How much would you like the NFA community to contribute?

Partial Funding - £500

Proposed Start Date

1/4/2015

Proposed Completion Date

1/10/2015

Your Support Network

The initial ACeS group is still interested in progressing the concepts discussed. The group presented a comprehensive report to the community, and had feedback on the proposals. Some work has been done - esp. around the Stop Worrying Plaza - to implement the concepts.

The THA is discussing the issues - two small groups have met to discuss proposals, NFD as the factor has taken some immediate actions to create greater safety in the worst spots but is awaiting a comprehensive concept to move further.

the project needs broad base community support to really work

If you didn't get NFA community support will you do the project / initiative anyway?

Yes

Are you happy to be accountable to the NFA community?

Yes

Proposal: Recycling-One Stop Drop

Village Model: Nature & Ecology, Health & Well-being, Education

Name

Christine Preece, NFA Individual Member

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Phone Number

07982 161282

Issue

Recycling is not easy on the park, and many materials get inappropriately dropped at the Boutique and, I suspect, put in green bins. This is partly due to a large transient population but also because the recycling points are randomly distributed, not fully comprehensive or well signposted. Scotland now has a Zero Waste policy and it would be good if this community not only supported it but became a beacon for that initiative.

Proposal

A recycling hub situated near the existing clothing etc banks which was set up to accept all the materials we can recycle. This would include metal, ceramics, TV's, Computers, batteries, printer cartridges, wax, reading glasses, small electrical goods, bulky items and so on. I envisage a pergola type structure with a roof housing various recycling containers. These would need emptying about once a fortnight. By use of a trailer and the Car share?

Individuals, particularly those without transport will have an obvious place to recycle their stuff when they move on. No need for education programs or complicated signage. Everyone who visits will see an example of an Eco village in action. The community will regain its position at the forefront of ecological living. Scotland's Zero Waste target will be boosted. Essentially the planet will benefit by fewer carbon and methane emissions being sent into the atmosphere.

Who benefits if your proposed project / initiative was carried out?

Individuals, particularly those without transport will have an obvious place to recycle their stuff when they move on. No need for education programs or complicated signage. Everyone who visits will see an example of an Eco village in action. The community will regain its position at the forefront of ecological living. Scotland's Zero Waste target will be boosted. Essentially the planet will benefit by fewer carbon and methane emissions being sent into the atmosphere.

What kind of community support would you like?

Enthusiastic awareness and energetic support, Hands-on once a month, Money

If you are seeking funds: What is the full project cost?

£2,500 The cost of a shelter could be in the region of £1,000- £2,000 although I have seen metal ones on ebay for £600. Labour costs would be on top of this. Cost of the recycling bins is about £50 per bin from <http://www.recyclingbins.co.uk>. In addition there will be running costs, for bin liners and petrol.

Do you want full or partial funding support from the NFA community?

Full

How much would you like the NFA community to contribute?

Minimum £500 up to £2,500

Proposed Start Date

1/5/2015

Proposed Completion Date

This is an on-going project.

If your proposal is contingent on other organisations/groups saying yes, have you received their agreement?

No

Your Support Network

Its a loose network, some of the Boutique team are interested in recycling and the VHS tape recycling group that has recently been formed are into the idea.

I would need the support of dedicated volunteers to do regular sorting and transporting of materials.

I would need the support of the NFA to provide funds and advertising, help recruit builders and dedicated volunteers, allocate space and set up a structure so that regular recycling can take place.

If you didn't get NFA community support will you do the project / initiative anyway?

Maybe, if I could get enough support and voluntary funding.

Are you happy to be accountable to the NFA community?

Yes

Proposal: Outreach to our Moray neighbours

Village Model: Culture, Communication and Spirituality

Name

Daphne Francis, NFA Individual Member

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Phone Number

01343 835305

Issue

My proposal would address the at times difficult relations between some Moray residents and the Foundation and NFA community due to lack of mutual understanding and contact with each other.

Proposal

This project would bring to together a group of NFA members keen to be involved in local groups or activities, offering their energy and skills to improve the region's quality of life and their own . This involvement could take many forms but essentially give members an opportunity to integrate more with local people on an equal footing

Who benefits if your proposed project / initiative was carried out?

this would help NFA members situate themselves in the region and learn more about its geography, culture and indigenous wisdom. It should also earn the NFA more respect and affection locally and ease their existing involvement of in current Moray groups

What kind of community support would you like?

Enthusiastic awareness and energetic support, Hands-on once in a while

Proposed Start Date

1/5/2015

Proposed Completion Date

This is an on-going project.

Your Support Network

Several NFA members have expressed enthusiasm for this to go forward.

If you didn't get NFA community support will you do the project / initiative anyway?

What I can

Are you happy to be accountable to the NFA community?

Yes

Proposal: Welcome Centre

Village Model: Culture, Communication

Name of Organisation & Lead person

Park Ecovillage Trust, NFA affiliated Group, David Hammond

Email Address

pet.chair@findhorn.cc

Phone Number

07768598409

Issue

There is no integrated and clear welcome for visitors to The Park, nowhere that the whole community is represented for visitors and often confusion created for visitors as to what is here and where they can go. We are losing opportunities to share all that we are and have to offer.

Declining visitor numbers are a concern for many NFA organisations. We can do something about this.

Proposal

The aim of our project is to build a new Welcome Centre - to welcome, inspire, inform and nourish - that will house a larger visitor centre that represents the fullness of who we are, with a new shop, and on an upper floor, a café with outstanding views of Findhorn Bay. It will be a landmark destination for people interested in finding out about this community and its low-carbon lifestyle and act as a focal point for the community itself.

Who benefits if your proposed project / initiative was carried out?

Visitors' benefit, and NFA individuals and organisations benefit if they choose to be represented in the new Welcome Centre.

What kind of community support would you like?

Enthusiastic awareness and energetic support for project which will cost around £1.3 million

Proposed Start Date

28/1/2015

Proposed Completion Date

This is an on-going project

If your proposal is contingent on other organisations/groups saying yes, have you received their agreement?

Yes

Your Support Network

Welcome Centre Group and Visitor Centre Group, with representation from Phoenix, PET, NFA, Ekopia, FF, NFD

Please tell us how you intend to ensure the project / initiative is carried out.

Regular meetings to monitor progress, business development plan from Phoenix by 28 Feb 2015, applications for grant funding and commercial borrowing to cover design and build costs, engaging architects and professionals to design a building fit for purpose and a project manager to see it through to completion.

If you didn't get NFA community support will you do the project / initiative anyway?

We would do a community consultation to see what would need to be different to get a "yes."

Are you happy to be accountable to the NFA community?

Yes

Proposal: Community Owned Affordable Housing

Village Model: Culture, Health & Well-being

Name of Organisation & Lead person

The Park Ecovillage Trust (PET), NFA affiliated Group, Cornelia Featherstone

Email Address

cornelia.featherstone@findhorn.cc

Phone Number

01309 690943

Issue

How to provide affordable housing at the Park, especially to younger members, families, elders and core workers of the community?

This is a challenge that reminds me of the purchase of the caravan park in 1983. If and as we meet it, our community will be able to look after its own and make choices that can create collective wealth and sustainability.

Thinking ahead - Making Social Sustainability REAL

Proposal

We want Affordable Community Owned Housing to be a priority project for the NFA. We have made an excellent start with the 4 homes, which we manifested as a community in East Whins. We now embark on the next step with 5 flats on West Whins. The PET board is looking at a financial strategy that maximises different sources of funding, including grants, loans, and gifts. We are also considering affordable building with some very small accommodation as well as more varied shared residential facilities.

Who benefits if your proposed project / initiative was carried out?

The whole community benefits from a strong multi-generational balance as it secures Social Sustainability. The criterias for allocations of the community owned affordable housing will be reviewed by the whole community from time to time. In East Whins the focus was on younger members, families, and core workers of the community. For West Whins we may also want to consider elders as a category - it is up to all of us to set the priorities.

What kind of community support would you like?

Enthusiastic awareness and energetic support

If you are seeking funds: What is the full cost for carrying out your proposed project?

We will seek donations and low interest loans up to £70,000 from 1/4/2015.

Proposed Start Date

1/4/2015

Proposed Completion Date

31/3/2017

Your Support Network

The PET subscribers and board - PET will be the organisation owning the properties for the community. We have a fundraiser working with us and also have a contract with Get2Grips With Grants for other aspects of the fundraising.

Duneland Ltd - is a partner in the development as they fulfil their 'developer obligation' by funding a part of the development.

Ekopia - has provided loans for the EW homes and is in principle ready to do the same for WW. the scope of the project will be much reduced as the manifestation depends on a strong energy field

If you didn't get NFA community support will you do the project / initiative anyway

Yes

Are you happy to be accountable to the NFA community?

Yes

Proposal: PET Broad-Based Charity Membership

Village Model: Culture

Name of Organisation & Lead person

The Park Ecovillage Trust (PET), NFA affiliated Group, Cornelia Featherstone

Email Address

cornelia.featherstone@findhorn.cc

Phone Number

01309 690943

Issue

Create a broad base of membership for PET to enable us to fulfil our objectives of community development, citizenship, environmental protection/improvement and education to our full potential.

With a solid grounding and holding within the community PET can act as the vehicle for us all to manifest the funding for projects, including community owned assets.

We hold the vision that all community members feel drawn to becoming a PET member to add their energy to this manifestation.

Proposal

PET membership is open to all community members, making it the ideal vehicle to place the stewardship for community owned assets into the hands of those who care deeply about the ongoing evolution of this spiritual centre. This is independent of where they work or how they relate to the organisations and structures of the community, thus creating the broadest possible base of membership holding.

We need YOU to make sustainability REAL!

The whole community benefits from any project fulfilling the objectives of the charity. Benefits vary for each project, most will at least provide employment which contributes to financial sustainability - many give direct benefits such as affordable housing (creating social sustainability). Community owned assets will give us collective financial sustainability and choices as to how we invest for the future of this community and spiritual centre.

Who benefits if your proposed project / initiative was carried out?

The whole community benefits from any project fulfilling the objectives of the charity. Benefits vary for each project, most will at least provide employment which contributes to financial sustainability - many give direct benefits such as affordable housing (creating social sustainability). Community owned assets will give us collective financial sustainability and choices as to how we invest for the future of this community and spiritual centre.

What kind of community support would you like?

Enthusiastic awareness and energetic support, Hands-on once in a while the membership of the charity carries only a limited liability of £1 for each member.

Proposed Start Date

28/2/2015

Proposed Completion Date

on-going

Your Support Network

The existing 70 members of PET as well as the PET board and project champions

If you didn't get NFA community support will you do the project / initiative anyway

Yes

Are you happy to be accountable to the NFA community?

Yes

Proposal: Spirited Winds

Village Model: Culture, Nature & Ecology

Name

Nikos Valmas, NFA Individual Member

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07901306759

Issue

The issue we would be addressing is the lack of 'hands on' workshops and learning in general in this community. Many are the workshop that focus on the nonphysical. But scarce are those that teach practical skills.

In modern society we are so cut off from the creational process of crafting our own material world... be it household items like kitchenware, musical instruments or even our own house. This is knowledge that we need to reclaim and evolve as we step into a more sustainable future.

Proposal

I am aiming in the creation of a physical space to house the learning on various skills, arts and crafts. My foundation is woodworking so that will be the initial focus. From intricate flute making and woodturning to furniture making, we will be consciously working with the medicine of Trees to bring vision into physical matter. The space will be available for any other craft that this community is willing to learn, be it metal-working, glass or ceramics.

Who benefits if your proposed project / initiative was carried out?

Younger at heart people who want to learn skills that they will use in the future in community building or just Love to learn!

Those that want to Ground some energy into practicality.

Artists and craftsmen alike who would like to pass their knowledge on.

Myself as I evolve into a creator of my future and solid supporter of my family.

What kind of community support would you like?

Enthusiastic awareness and energetic support, Hands-on - a big push over a few days, Money

If you are seeking funds: What is the full cost for carrying out your proposed project?

£7,000-£12,000

Do you want full or partial funding support from the NFA community?

Partial

How much would you like the NFA community to contribute?

A Minimum of £500 up to £10,000

Proposed Start Date

1/5/2015

Proposed Completion Date

On-going

If your proposal is contingent on other organisations/groups saying yes, have you received their agreement?

Yes and no.

Your Support Network

The project is young in its weaving process.

For now I have the support of Petra Julian, puppeteer, and Peter McKay, woodworker.

If you didn't get NFA community support will you do the project / initiative anyway

Yes

Are you happy to be accountable to the NFA community?

Yes

Proposal: Roots Fruits and Leaves

Village Model: Nature and Ecology, Communication, Culture

Name

Karen Hughes, NFA Individual Member

Email Addressrootsfruitsandleaves@gmail.com**Phone Number**

07870 131942

Issue

RF&L is a new model for local food resilience and is linked firmly with the aims of the Scottish Government's Food and Drink Policy. The issues that the business plan addresses are:

- *supporting producers in the local area who are growing fruit and veg using organic methods
- *offering them a direct route to market
- *giving them a fair price for their produce
- *making their produce available to local customers at an affordable price

Proposal

RF&L is a natural extension of the "create your own" veg box scheme that I have been running at Roseisle Gardens since June 2013. We will add to the range of produce supplied by Roseisle Gardens, fruit and veg sourced from other growers, ideally from within a 25 mile radius of Findhorn. RF&L will take care of the sales, marketing, advertising, customer liaison, packing and delivering of veg boxes to local customers, freeing up time for the growers to focus on growing produce!

Who benefits if your proposed project / initiative was carried out?

RF&L consists of myself (Karen Hughes - Executive Director) and 3 other board members, all of whom are NFA members.

Many of the producers that will be supplying RF&L are NFA members as are the majority of our customers.

RF&L intends to pass on its learnings and experience to other groups who want to start up similar businesses / projects within Moray and Scotland and will also share its knowledge with participants of workshops here at the Findhorn Foundation and Findhorn College.

If anyone wants to know more, I am doing the Sunday Slot on 8 March 12:30-2pm in the Upper CC (venue to be confirmed).

What kind of community support would you like?

Enthusiastic awareness and energetic support, Money

If you are seeking funds: What is the full cost for carrying out your proposed project?

The start up costs for the first 12 months, based on the projections of my business plan, is £20,000

Do you want full or partial funding support from the NFA community?

Partial

How much would you like the NFA community to contribute?

Between £500 to £10,000 - though any amount will be gratefully received

Proposed Start Date

13/4/2015

Proposed Completion Date

This is an on-going project.

If your proposal is contingent on other organisations/groups saying yes, have you received their agreement?

Yes

Your Support Network

As a Community Interest Company, Roots, Fruits and Leaves Board of Directors are Mark Anderson, Iain Findlay, Jacqueline Buckingham and myself, Karen Hughes - Executive Director.

If you didn't get NFA community support will you do the project / initiative anyway

Yes

Are you happy to be accountable to the NFA community?

Yes

Proposal: Regenerative Water Management System for the Edible Woodland Garden

Name of Organisation or Group

Findhorn Hinterland Group, NFA Member Organisation, Ariane Burgess

Email Address

labyrintista@gmail.com

Phone Number

01309 691841

Issue

The EWG is a pilot project exploring the long term provision of perennial food to NFA community. This may not seem necessary now however future we have to get most of our food locally.

Proposal

We were successful in funding most of the Edible Woodland Garden project (making 15 applications to organisations in Scotland). We need a bit more money to be able to install the water system for the garden.

To install a water system for the Edible Woodland Garden (EWG). The system will take the grey-water from the Soillse Boiler House laundry, clean it through a reed-bed system before we put it onto the land. We will also collect rain-water from the boiler house roof. This is a demonstration system that could be replicated by anyone with a washing machine, a roof and a garden.

Who benefits if your proposed project / initiative was carried out?

The NFA membership - will benefit from the knowledge gained in this pilot project - as to the feasibility of implementing low maintenance food growing systems.

NFA members may be inspired by the garden as a whole.

The wildlife of the Hinterland will benefit as we are consciously including wildlife habitat for birds, frogs and insects.

The Findhorn Hinterland Group will have a demonstration site that they can use for educational purposes.

What kind of community support would you like?

Enthusiastic awareness and energetic support, Hands-on once in a while, Money

If you are seeking funds: What is the full cost for carrying out your proposed project?

£3,500 (for the water management system)

Do you want full or partial funding support from the NFA community?

Partial

How much would you like the NFA community to contribute?

Minimum £100 up to £2,000

Proposed Start Date

1/4/2015

Proposed Completion Date

31/5/2015

Your Support Network

As the project champion I briefly attend the Findhorn Hinterland Group's monthly steering committee meeting to report on what's going on with the project. This is also an opportunity for the members to provide insight and information that may help the project to move forward.

If you didn't get NFA community support will you do the project / initiative anyway

Yes

Are you happy to be accountable to the NFA community?

I am already accountable to the FHG committee and could report on the project to the NFA at a Community meeting

Proposal: Regenerative & Zero Waste Community

Village Model: Nature & Ecology, Education, Economy

Name

Ariane Burgess, NFA Individual Member

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Phone Number
01309 691841

Issue

As conscious as I try to be I find that I generate quite a bit of waste. As an individual there's only so far I can go to minimise my contribution to the waste-stream, or even the recycling stream. I know I am not alone. I've spoken with fellow community members who'd like to reduce their waste footprint however the systems to do that within the community are just not joined up.

Proposal

Design/set up systems to support The Park (a place to start) reduce waste & recycling outputs from homes & businesses.

Actions:

- 1 - work with Findhorn Hinterland Group to provide places for garden 'waste', cardboard etc to be turned into soil.
- 2 - collaborate with Chris Preece's recycling project.
- 3 - campaign to minimise plastic packaging that comes into circulation in Moray. Eg Get Tesco to stop using plastic for fruit & veg.
- 4 - create a replicable community model - start a pilot with 20 - 30 households.
- 5 - engage Zero Waste Scotland

Who benefits if your proposed project / initiative was carried out?

Individual members play their part in reducing waste.

If designed well the project could employ a part-time person/s

The community/place - long term plan for fertile soil for community growing.

The planet - we collectively play our part in sending less long term waste to be buried in the earth or burned to pollute the air, water and soil.

What kind of community support would you like?

Enthusiastic awareness and energetic support. 30 households that would like to be participate in a pilot project.

Proposed Start Date

7/6/2015

Proposed Completion Date

This is an ongoing project

If your proposal is contingent on other organisations/groups saying yes, have you received their agreement?

Yes

Your Support Network

I'm in conversation with Zero Waste Scotland about the feasibility of the project. I have discussed the project with Jonathan Caddy (FHG) who recognises that we need to take action. Chris Preece and I are talking about how to work together. People who participate in the pilot.

If you didn't get NFA community support will you do the project / initiative anyway?

Yes, however I would seek between 20 and 30 households to be involved with the project - a bit like the Origin Project - for waste rather than energy.

Are you happy to be accountable to the NFA community?

Yes

Proposal: Alchemical forging of singing bowls

Village Model: Culture, Nature & Ecology, Spirituality

Name

Ilona Kästner, NFA Individual Member

Email Address

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Phone Number

07519 217736

Issue

What would higher possibilities of this community sound like if they would emerge as new individual vibrational patterns all sounding in harmony together? What could support the different aspects of our community to find new relationships to each other, in alignment with the original impulse and the emerging future?

Proposal

A community process of forging 12 singing bowls through co-creation with elemental, etheric & other realms of intelligence. The group will draw from questions in the field & will weave a vibrational field of potential & coherence by allowing new vibrational templates to arrive in form. It's an alchemical process of physically anchoring new frequencies in the singing bowls that resound with the impulses of the makers, the community, the land & the transformed material. www.resoundingearth.org

Who benefits if your proposed project / initiative was carried out?

The community (incl. visible and invisible beings), the people participating, the land, nature ...

What kind of community support would you like?

Enthusiastic awareness and energetic support, Hands-on - a big push over a few days, Money

If you are seeking funds: What is the full cost for carrying out your proposed project?

£3500

Do you want full or partial funding support from the NFA community?

Partial

How much would you like the NFA community to contribute?

£500 - 1500 for a bursary fund. This fund will be used for community members who have been selected by community attunement to make the bowls - who might need it to cover their cost.

Proposed Start Date

18/9/2015

Proposed Completion Date

21/9/2015

If your proposal is contingent on other organisations/groups saying yes, have you received their agreement?

Yes

Your Support Network

Cullerne Gardens (Martin) has agreed to provide the venue for the workshop. Barbara Swetina, Jill Denton, Katharina Brocke, Sarah Perricone, Eian Smith (as community member) are supporting the project so far, more to come

If you didn't get NFA community support will you do the project / initiative anyway?

not sure yet, depending on the total resonance in the field.

Are you happy to be accountable to the NFA community?

Yes

Proposal: CC Event Lighting

Village Model: Culture, Health & Well-being, Spirituality

Name of Organisation & Lead person

CC Social Club, NFA affiliated Group, David Janes

Phone Number

07887 553881

Email Address

david.janes@findhorn.org

Issue

When we are using the Community Centre for events, such as Open Mike, the area where performances take place is badly lit.

Proposal

I would like to install some spotlights on tracks either side of the projector.

These would be used to light up performances in the corner, which is seeing increasing use. They would also provide additional lighting to that whole side of the room, which is currently badly lit when the 'house' lights aren't being used. Some of these spotlights would colour-changing by remote control.

Who benefits if your proposed project / initiative was carried out?

This will benefit most Community Events using the space - both for the organiser and also the participants.

What kind of community support would you like?

Money

If you are seeking funds: What is the full cost for carrying out your proposed project?

£250

Do you want full or partial funding support from the NFA community?

Partial

How much would you like the NFA community to contribute?

Minimum: £100 up to full amount: £230

Proposed Start Date

16/3/2015

Proposed Completion Date

30/4/2015

If your proposal is contingent on other organisations/groups saying yes, have you received their agreement?

Yes

Your Support Network

The CC Social Club, representing the NFA, Foundation and interested community members, is supporting this project.

If you didn't get NFA community support will you do the project / initiative anyway?

Yes. It will probably not happen before the summer, so would be pushed back to next winter.

Are you happy to be accountable to the NFA community?

It will be reported on in the CC Social Club Annual Report.

Proposal: Making Our Community Organisations Visible!

Village Model: Culture, Communication, Education

Name

Adriana Bijman, NFA Individual Member

Email Address

adrianab@findhornimages.com

Phone Number

01309 690081

Issue

Issue: The invisibility of groups, organisations and businesses within our community. There are about 30-35 of these groups member of the NFA Forum of Organisations.

Proposal

Creating a form, which would give the groups/businesses/organisations an opportunity to explain their goals, visions and alignment as well as give the possibility to raise their profile within and outside the community. I will do this through

- Interview: collecting historical & present info, goals, purpose
- Photo session with the team. Co-creation of the idea. This photo will come in kind of a photo-collage/colourful artistic impression, the exciting part for me.

Part I is in progress with ten organisations - This proposal request is for Part II to work with 10-15 further organisations.

Who benefits if your proposed project / initiative was carried out?

- the groups/businesses/organisations themselves, but it goes much wider than that, as also other community members

What kind of community support would you like?

Hands-on once in a while, Money

If you are seeking funds: What is the full cost for carrying out your proposed project?

£1550

Do you want full or partial funding support from the NFA community?

Partial

How much would you like the NFA community to contribute?

Minimum £500 up to £1050

Proposed Start Date

15/4/2015

Proposed Completion Date

30/9/2015

Your Support Network

I intend to build an individual support network, partly this is already in place, partly it will be a small group of critical colleagues and friends, whom I will show the series and ask feedback. I also hope to receive feedback from NFA council members for this project.

If you didn't get NFA community support will you do the project / initiative anyway?

I would try to get donations and payment from the groups/business/organisations themselves, if this is not enough, I would leave it this time. I have given quite some volunteering effort into the first part.

Proposal Title: NFA Mutual Care - Scoping & Feasibility Study

Village Model: Health and Well-being, Governance, Culture

Name

Miriam Connor, NFA Individual Member

Email Address

mirconnor@hotmail.com

Phone Number

01309 671476

Issue

The traditional model of family caring for family is breaking down we need effective dialogue and action towards a new model of care in our community.

Proposal

According to The Centre for Policy on Ageing the budget for present levels of care in Scotland will more than double in the next 16 years. (http://www.cpa.org.uk/cpa/policies_on_ageing.html)

Proposed austerity cuts imply that even present care levels will be threatened.

What challenges face those, young and old, needing care in our community?

A community initiative for those interested in building a 'care pension' for themselves while caring for others. To that end, the study will explore how best to ensure quality of care for both 'client' and a carer. Training and ongoing clinical supervision is considered paramount.

Inspired by the models 'Care4Care' and time bank initiatives in Japan, every care hour worked by a carer will be 'remunerated' with a mixture of 'Care Credits' (similar to a LETS system) and cash by negotiation.

Who benefits if your proposed project / initiative was carried out?

Potentially the whole NFA community will benefit, not only those concerned about their future care but also creating resources to serve those who may be unexpectedly challenged. The aim is to bridge the gap foreseeable in David Cameron's "Big Society" by using an asset-based model.

What kind of community support would you like?

Enthusiastic awareness and energetic support, Hands-on once a month, Money

If you are seeking funds: What is the full cost for carrying out your proposed project?

Over £1,000. We are presuming to carry these costs ourselves: a contribution of less than 10% is asked for. Because of this, no budget is submitted.

Do you want full or partial funding support from the NFA community?

Partial

How much would you like the NFA community to contribute?

£100

Proposed Start Date

4/1/2015

Proposed Completion Date

This is an ongoing project.

Your Support Network

Pete Hollings (NFA Member, LCG, counsellor, community carer, retired accountant)

Edith Schumacher (Germany, physiotherapist)

Tula Riemersma (Netherlands; former FF member, retired nurse, end of life 'specialist')

Cornelia Featherstone (NFA Community Care Circle Member, retired GP)

If you didn't get NFA community support will you do the project / initiative anyway?

More slowly and with less credibility; NFA support fundamental.

Are you happy to be accountable to the NFA community?

Yes

Proposal: Project Engage

Village Model: Governance and Communication

Name

Laurence McLeod, NFA Individual Member

Email Addressmcleodonline@gmail.com**Phone Number**

0778 7957021

Issue

A need has been identified within the community for a more responsive system to receive and process feedback, suggestions, initiatives, network resources and develop more reliable approaches to implementation as well as evolving opportunities for the community to be able to be more engaged. The NFA council and Listener conveners are stretched in their capacity to administer the needs of an ever growing membership and are keen to create a more engaged and collaborative community model.

Proposal

We intend to set up a 'workspace' both online and in the NFA office that's purpose is to listen to, receive, record, process and facilitate community members' observations, suggestions, ideas, resources, projects, skills and wisdom in ways that will promote engagement, collaboration, co-creation, evolve collaborative practice and skills, understand, work with and help to improve current systems in relation to the journey from suggestion/initiatives to implementation, working closely with both Listener Conveners, NFA governing body and community members.

For more info go to: <http://www.gini.org.uk/nfa/NFAproposal.pdf>

Who benefits if your proposed project / initiative was carried out?

The NFA community, NFA Listener Conveners/NFA Council, visitors and the wider community.

What kind of community support would you like?

Enthusiastic awareness and energetic support, volunteers, Money

If you are seeking funds: What is the full cost for carrying out your proposed project?

To run the project over a year. £7000 (see figures/webpage for more details)

Depending on available funding we are looking at long and short term strategies.

Do you want full or partial funding support from the NFA community?

Partial

How much would you like the NFA community to contribute?

Minimum £500 up to £5,000

Proposed Start Date

23/4/2015

Proposed Completion Date

This is an on-going project.

If your proposal is contingent on other organisations/groups saying yes, have you received their agreement?

Yes

Your Support Network

Dürten Lau/Listener Convener + use of General NFA office and collaboration with NFA council Erik Willekens, Mark Dammer in support roles. Several community members who have an enthusiastic interest in the project acting in an advisory role. We also propose to create an advisory working group as well as promote focus groups.

If you didn't get NFA community support will you do the project / initiative anyway?

Yes, without funds this would be limited but we would continue to seek funding through other initiatives.

Are you happy to be accountable to the NFA community?

Yes. We would provide regular updates and reports to the community and be working closely with Listener Conveners and NFA Council. The success of the project is dependant on listening and responding to the needs and vision of the community and NFA council and reflecting and implementing them in a way that is in accordance with what people want to achieve.

Proposal: Barbeques

Village Model: Culture & Spirituality

Name

Joan Wilmot, NFA Individual Member

Email Address

joanwilmot2004@yahoo.co.uk

Phone Number

07974 115028

Issue

2 permanent barbecues on the Field of Dreams green. One vegetarian and one meat. Save every time we have a community barbeque people running around trying to construct them. Create community eating in the summer.

Proposal

It would be something we could build together. I am happy to fund the materials. Just need the labour and permission.

Who benefits if your proposed project / initiative was carried out?

All ages, families, residents, guests, NFA, FF.

What kind of community support would you like?

Hands-on - a big push over a few days

If you are seeking funds: What is the full cost for carrying out your proposed project?

joanwilmot2004@yahoo.co.uk.

Do you want full or partial funding support from the NFA community?

How much would you like the NFA community to contribute?

Proposed Start Date

1/4/2015

Proposed Completion Date

30/4/2015

Your Support Network

Neighbours on the field - informally so far.

If you didn't get NFA community support will you do the project / initiative anyway?

No

Are you happy to be accountable to the NFA community?

Yes

Thank you for taking the time to read all these amazing, diverse and varied proposals.

When you tune in which ones call you?

Which ones do you say 'yes' to?

When we tune in we say 'yes' to them all, and we ask you, which are your top four that you'd like to see happen or get started this year. There's always next year for the others, and more.

The Gather-In is the start of a new community process and pattern over the coming year. This pattern will include several Dragon's Den events, The Game of Transformation or something similar for collective & collaborative inner listening, along with our monthly community meetings. Let's see how this experiment goes with all of us together.