

## Comments on Church Proposals from AGM 24 October 2018

<b>Do you support community ownership of Kilmartin Church (18 yes, 0 no)</b>	
<b>WHY?</b>	<b>WHY NOT?</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If the feasibility study confirms its viability and sustainability X5</li> <li>• It needs to be an integral part of the community, now and into the future</li> <li>• Would hate to see it 'left to die'</li> <li>• Suck it and see what the feasibility study says</li> <li>• The church holds a lot of personal memories for a lot of local people ..... we need to keep it</li> <li>• To maintain a sense of village identity</li> <li>• A large gathering space</li> <li>• Yes, but concerned at potential cost of repairs/running costs</li> <li>• We should also consider the church hall X2</li> <li>• Only after a detailed positive feasibility study</li> <li>• Churches are being sold for £1.00, for example Rosebank in Nairn (several decades ago, (ed)) and turned into B&amp;Bs</li> <li>• Great opportunity if retails and difficulties can be overcome, establishing Kilmartin as a cultural community hub/resource for mid-Argyll</li> <li>• Yes, an excellent opportunity – feasibility study important as already discussed</li> <li>• If feasibility study says yes – need a robust business plan that compliments other spaces/places in the area</li> <li>• Preserve the church for wedding/funeral/exhibition space and explore the option of purchasing the church hall for community hub. The church building and grounds need to be respected.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1* email after the event asking us not to purchase the church</li> </ul>

<b>Shop and Post Office (14 yes, 2 no)</b>	
<b>WHY?</b>	<b>WHY NOT?</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• They are sorely missed X3</li> <li>• I am spending time and money travelling to Lochgilhead for postal services and milk X2</li> <li>• Sorely missed by people with a lack of transport</li> <li>• This would be wonderful but presumably the P.O. puts conditions on such things which may be onerous, so may not be practical</li> <li>• Would like a shop/P.O. but have concerns about viability</li> <li>• Would need to be financially viable, so possibly in conjunction with another use</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Just not viable X2</li> <li>• Obviously not viable as the closure of the previous shop shows.</li> </ul>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Needed</li> <li>• Could this be explored with the museum shop providing support?</li> <li>• Much missed.</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The idea is great, but a) why did the existing shop and PO close and could any weaknesses from that model be overcome in a new venture? b) Did we use it last time and if not why not?</li> </ul>	

<b>Rehearsal space (11 yes, 1 no)</b>	
<b>WHY?</b>	<b>WHY NOT?</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If there is a demand</li> <li>• Presumably the pipe band or similar would find it useful, but ..... X2</li> <li>• Goes along with music and drama</li> <li>• Good for young people</li> <li>• If there's a demand and it doesn't conflict with other spaces that are already available</li> <li>• Always useful but there are other options – Living Stones/Pub.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Not convinced there is a demand</li> <li>• Maybe space is readily available elsewhere – some research needed?</li> <li>• Plenty of space available elsewhere – we would be competing with others, reducing viability.</li> </ul>

<b>Community space (14 yes, 0 no)</b>	
<b>WHY?</b>	<b>WHY NOT?</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This is most needed in the village – somewhere for ceilidhs</li> <li>• There currently isn't one other than the pub or museum, which do not cater for everyone or all occasions</li> <li>• Yes, a community space where groups could self-cater</li> <li>• Community do have access to Living Stones – suggestion of investigating the Hall rather than/as well as the church</li> <li>• Village hall always useful – the Church of Scotland will, I am sure, always impose restrictions on the use of the church</li> <li>• A space that complements activities on the Green, recharging electric vehicles and bikes, a community solar powered hall/air source heat pump</li> <li>• There will be 3 spaces in Kilmartin and none in Kilmichael – poor Kilmichael!</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• As per all ventures, need to take account of the access and parking available.</li> </ul>

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<b>Music and Drama space (12 yes, 1 no)</b>	
<b>WHY?</b>	<b>WHY NOT?</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Showcase community talent and bring entertainment to the community. Make Kilmartin a destination X2</li> <li>• Would like some drama, travelling theatre groups X2</li> <li>• Burgh Hall in Dunoon is a good example of really vibrant music/drama being brought to the community</li> <li>• A space that visiting drama groups could access would be great – encouraging more community cultural meetings. What about a small cinema space? (Maybe too expensive to operate?)</li> <li>• Ceilidh/music/drama space is very lacking</li> <li>• Yes, so many travelling artists and theatre groups could perform – also local community performers. Like the cinema idea.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is there really a demand – what about the Community Centre in Lochgilphead?</li> <li>• Access could be a problem for theatre groups, if large items of equipment are needed.</li> </ul>

<b>Activity space (8 yes, 1 no)</b>	
<b>WHY?</b>	<b>WHY NOT?</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We need to be active and healthy in both mind and body</li> <li>• Good for mental and physical wellbeing X2</li> <li>• See also comments on music/drama, meeting space and rehearsal space etc</li> <li>• Great space for a climbing wall X2</li> <li>• Positive for social/community promotion. X2</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Already plenty of wide open activity spaces – all free. X2</li> </ul>

<b>View point (Tower) (18 yes, 0 no)</b>	
<b>WHY?</b>	<b>WHY NOT?</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Great idea for people to admire the views</li> <li>• .....and a source of income</li> <li>• Good way of getting perspective on the Glen and its monuments in a wider setting X2</li> <li>• Great point to view the historic glen</li> <li>• As part of a Heritage Centre</li> <li>• Nice idea. It seems to work in Inverary, but one could always walk up Barr Mhor</li> <li>• Source of income</li> <li>• Local Heritage Centre instead of the museum</li> <li>• A beautiful place to see the whole glen.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Insurance costs/health and safety risks.</li> </ul>

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<b>Tea and coffee drop in (14 yes, 2 no)</b>	
<b>WHY?</b>	<b>WHY NOT?</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Somewhere for the community to meet without the pressure of consumerism X2</li> <li>• To help develop community spirit</li> <li>• Community needs focal point</li> <li>• Brings the community together</li> <li>• Great for the community and visitors alike X2</li> <li>• As part as other activities, but don't want to undercut existing provision (hotel/museum) X2</li> <li>• Especially good during winter months when hotel/museum not available</li> <li>• Building of local relationships</li> <li>• Somewhere for the elderly, who are often alone</li> <li>• Somewhere to meet and make friends</li> <li>• Good community meeting place – could be developed further i.e. soup mornings etc.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conflicting with the museum/hotel. X3</li> </ul>

<b>Ice skating rink (0 yes, 12 no)</b>	
<b>WHY?</b>	<b>WHY NOT?</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cost of ice!</li> <li>• Insurance</li> <li>• Not needed and costly</li> <li>• Church not big enough</li> <li>• To expensive to run and keep</li> <li>• Very risky (insurance)</li> <li>• A little ambitious</li> <li>• Probably wouldn't generate enough income to pay for itself.</li> </ul>

<b>Accommodation for tourists (4 yes, 6 no)</b>	
<b>WHY?</b>	<b>WHY NOT?</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• May not work within a community facility, would need to be more informal – hostel style</li> <li>• More beds needed for tourists</li> <li>• Lack of beds especially with the museum expansion</li> <li>• There's a really big need for more visitor accommodation. It would be really good if it could be used for a community space as well.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is quite a lot of B&amp;B and holiday accommodation in the area</li> <li>• Conflict between tourist accommodation and community use</li> <li>• Not appropriate</li> <li>• Might work but would have to prove a demand first – and no conflict with existing accommodation suppliers. Lack of facilities might be a problem</li> <li>• Current accommodation not full</li> <li>• Disrespectful to church building.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Do we know there is a lack of beds and therefore a need? Is it a case of collective/collaborative working to fill the provision we already have.</li> </ul>	

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<b>Enterprise opportunities (9 yes, 1 no)</b>	
<b>WHY?</b>	<b>WHY NOT?</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Always good to encourage micro-businesses</li> <li>• Depends on the type of enterprise</li> <li>• Successful enterprise and creative thinking are happy bedfellows</li> <li>• ....but it would need to fit in with the ethos of the building</li> <li>• Allow shared hub/office equipment for a number of small enterprises/charities/micro-businesses</li> <li>• Need a robust business plan (artists workshops, bike hire??)</li> <li>• Again, it would depend on whether there was a conflict with other businesses. Useful maybe as a springboard for a limited time.</li> <li>• Could be explored in the feasibility study.</li> </ul>	

<b>Arts and crafts exhibition space (12 yes, 1 no)</b>	
<b>WHY?</b>	<b>WHY NOT?</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• You can never have enough space to encourage local or visiting talent. Some surveys have shown that art exhibitions and events have been a catalyst for other commercial activities, community regeneration etc</li> <li>• Possibility of the experts passing on their knowledge in workshops that may generate income</li> <li>• A community space/hub would provide this opportunity</li> <li>• Great for local artists and craftsmen/women. So many local artists would contribute and share tasks</li> <li>• Good to have a local space for local talent.</li> <li>• Great to have a local space for artists and for people to appreciate their work</li> <li>• Need to make sure that it compliments existing facilities.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More than enough art space in mid-Argyll. With the possibility of the Clock Lodge also being an Art Space, we could soon overload on art.</li> </ul>

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<b>Local heritage centre (6 yes, 1 no)</b>	
<b>WHY?</b>	<b>WHY NOT?</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The museum concentrates on pre-history and archaeology. We have nothing celebrating more recent history, local characters, people who have gone on to contribute to the country or Argyll or further afield X2</li> <li>• Also to attract cultural events – interest in the history of this area X2</li> <li>• Important to preserve the local culture and history, not the ancient culture as in the museum</li> <li>• Brilliant to bring the people and local culture to life</li> <li>• Can be explored in the feasibility study.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inertia!</li> <li>• No funding available</li> <li>• No income generation.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conflict of interest with the museum?</li> </ul>	

<b>Meeting space (13 yes, 0 no)</b>	
<b>WHY?</b>	<b>WHY NOT?</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encourage community wellbeing X3</li> <li>• Getting to know each other</li> <li>• Bring community together</li> <li>• Excellent to get to know each other and take time to chat and share stories</li> <li>• Would still be a good venue for weddings! Community hub – good idea</li> <li>• Community opportunities. Building relationships. Getting people together. X2</li> <li>• Good for the community to have its own space. X2</li> <li>• Venue opportunities X2</li> <li>• Humanist funerals</li> <li>• .....but need to make sure it compliments other facilities</li> <li>• Good to bring people together.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• But there is meeting space in Living Stones.</li> </ul>

<b>Childminding and after-school activities (8 yes, 4 no)</b>	
<b>WHY?</b>	<b>WHY NOT?</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To stimulate and grow the community X2</li> <li>• Benefit the community</li> <li>• A 'cave' for kids</li> <li>• Benefit for parents and children</li> <li>• Builds relationships between the children</li> <li>• Family support</li> <li>• Be hard to make it feasible on its own</li> <li>• Boost numbers in Kilmartin School – many don't attend who are local because there is no after school care in the Kilmartin area.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No kids</li> <li>• Don't think there are adequate numbers to make it feasible</li> <li>• As soon as you designate it a space for youngsters it then becomes an 'official space' so they ignore it</li> <li>• Regulations around this may prove too difficult. Might work but anyone willing to do this may already have to work in with individual needs.</li> </ul>

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### Summary of responses to ideas about purchase of the church and possible uses

	YES	NO	Ranking
Support community ownership of church	18	0	
View point (tower)	18	0	1
Community space	14	0	2
Meeting space	13	0	3
Shop and Post Office	14	2	4=
Tea and coffee drop in	14	2	4=
Arts and crafts exhibition space	12	1	6=
Music and Drama space	12	1	6=
Rehearsal space	11	1	8
Enterprise opportunities	9	1	9
Activity space	8	1	10
Local heritage centre	6	1	11
Child minding and after-school activities	8	4	12
Accommodation for tourists	4	6	13
Ice skating rink	0	12	14