



The groups explore the energy efficiency of the Mike Wilde Eco-Centre on the study tour



Trainers Leo and Claire map the urban context of the building Sarah and Emma from SoundWave will move into



Sarah from SoundWave explains the group's issues to other participants through their model



Free For All develop a collage of the spatial vision for their community building



Margaret from Dalton models a colourful play area in a currently dark, disused yard

# THE GLASS-HOUSE BUILDINGS BY DESIGN CASE STUDY

COCKERMOUTH, CUMBRIA 23-24 MARCH 2010

This **Buildings by Design** training course for community groups involved in the development of their community buildings took place at Cockermouth Town Hall.

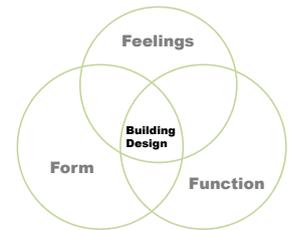
Leo Care and Claire Kemp of research unit 'bureau – design + research' from Sheffield University as trainers provided architectural and community involvement expertise in the training and workshop modules.

Maja Jorgensen and Hannah Gibbs from The Glass-House co-ordinated and facilitated the course.

# THE GLASS-HOUSE BUILDINGS BY DESIGN PROGRAMME

DAY 1: 23 MARCH 2010

The Buildings by Design Principles



## DESIGN BASICS

- The importance of community buildings
- Why is good design important in community buildings?
- Buildings by Design Principles – Function, Form, Feelings

## INSPIRING BUILDINGS

- Examples



## THE STORY SO FAR

- Set up work areas and discuss your building project and opportunities using pictures and plans
- Presenting your building projects to the group



*Jerwood Centre,  
Grasmere*

## FIELD TRIP

- Exploring energy efficiency, community involvement, learning from people who have developed buildings

## REVIEW OF FIELD TRIP

- Analysing the buildings and lessons learnt



*Mike Wilde Eco Centre,  
Cockermouth*

DAY 2: 24 MARCH 2010

### BUILDINGS BY DESIGN

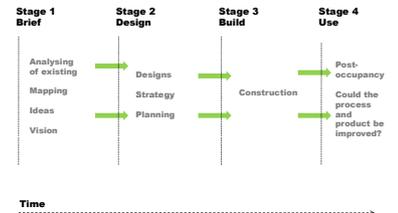
- Understanding the language
- Understanding drawings and models

### BUILDING CREATION PROCESS

- Involving professionals
- Developing a participative approach
- Creating a strategy



#### Building creation process



### DEVELOPING A NARRATIVE AND A VISION FOR YOUR BUILDING

- Memory mapping
- Collage / drawings / photo-montage

### DREAM AND REALITY

- Modelling the vision for your building
- Continue modelling the vision for your building
- Presentations



### COURSE REVIEW

- Learning points

### NEXT STEPS

- Buildings by Design resource book handed out
- How The Glass-House can help you in the future



## SOUNDWAVE, WORKINGTON



*“Coming here and seeing how passionate the other groups have been, I now see how I can be involved. I really feel that I want greater ownership of the project.”*

Moving into the mezzanine of a council owned building, the group wanted to explore how to make their new space work best for them. They came to the course feeling powerless in the current refurbishment process, but the group’s confidence grew. After the course they emailed us an update on their project:

“When we got back into the office we called a halt to the plans and asked for a total review. As you can imagine the partners weren’t best pleased but the result is that we’ll now have a space that’s far more useful to all.”



*“We will work to cultivate a collective passion for our ideas and the resulting work space.”*

## FREE FOR ALL, WIGTON



*“[I feel I have learnt] to have confidence and to go for it! We can do anything!”*

Based in old, leaky buildings, this community recycling group used the two days of training to “galvanise their ideas” for a refurbishment of their community spaces. They increased their understanding of the importance of involving the wider community in the design process and felt more confident to seek professional support for the project through developing design skills and terms.

Following the course the group has developed their model and are looking into an asset transfer of the buildings into the hands of the group.

“The model really sparked debate with our trustees - we are making headway with the project thanks to The Glass-House!”



## DALTON COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION, DALTON-IN-FURNESS



*“[The course was] fun and light-hearted whilst getting serious factual info across.”*

Aiming to future-proof the old drill hall they manage, the group explored ways of ensuring that the building is sustainable both in terms of running costs and usage, and that the local community feel the building. They thought about ways of tackling the need for a roof replacement, and for insulating and decorating throughout the heavily used building, but also opportunities for a better use and layout of the available spaces.

The group will be using the model they created on the course to engage the community in the process.

“We’re trying to get everyone to take a step back and look at the building as a whole, instead of working bit by bit. We will be developing the model into a more flexible version, so that everyone can work on it.”

