

Carnegie- Crosby Update

Issue 01 June 2016

Development funding secured

Regenerus has secured £10,000 start-up funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund, matched with £3,000 from the Architectural Heritage Fund and £2,100 from Blundellsands ward councillors, to undertake further development work to bring the Carnegie-Crosby back into use.

The funds will build on the contribution already made by Regenerus in terms of undertaking more structural surveys on the building, plus developing a crowdfunding campaign, fleshing out the activities plans and reviewing the business plan and fundraising bids.

Regenerus has also commissioned Impact Fundraising to help it review its funding plans, and retained Rowley Szilagy to manage the structural surveys and We Make Places – who prepared the internal plans – to front the crowdfunding campaign and activity plan.

Regenerus will be working with this team over summer to strengthen the proposals for the Carnegie-Crosby and we will keep you updated of progress via this newsletter and our website – www.carnegie-crosby.org.uk

New panels generate ideas

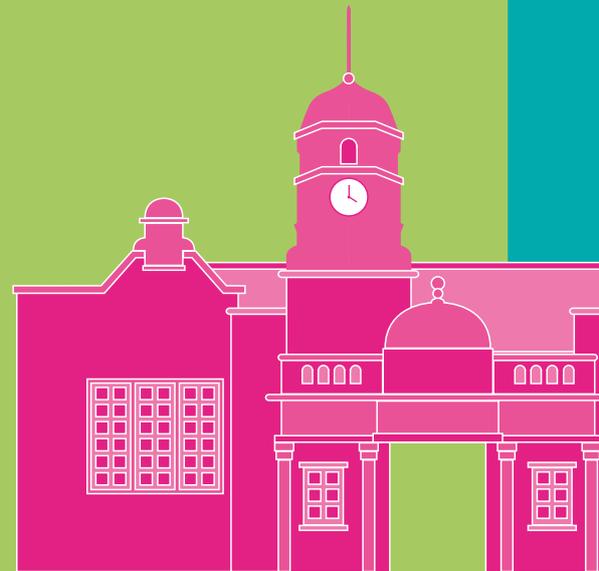
Three of the four Carnegie-Crosby Ideas Panels have now met, and they have generated a raft of ideas and suggestions about how they want the building to be used in the future, how we celebrate and build on its heritage and – most importantly – how we raise the money to do this.

Comprised of local residents who are keen to contribute their ideas, the panels have taken a fresh look at how we cement the building's future in the community and made the following key suggestions.

Heritage

The key is not just looking at the building's history – it's about setting the blocks in place to build the heritage of tomorrow, and to link the building to the economic, social and historical events and landmarks of the wider Crosby community. The ideas suggested by panel members include:

- Heritage moving forward – not just about the past
- Exhibition space for local artists
- Historical societies – talks, events, meetings
- Food and drink festivals
- Record cards
- Linking with Antony Gormley's Another Place – visitor centre
- Mobile reading room – for older people, link with schools
- Book exchange
- Heritage walks – link with schools, walks suitable for children and families
- Ideas from Formby village, eg Victorian Day – supported by local businesses
- Other listed buildings – eg Merchant Taylors – potential link?
- Shore line – area of scientific importance, archaeological link with Lunt woods



Activities

There was no shortage of ideas when it came to the panel members looking at how the building might be used – the challenge would be to fit them all in! Two key points came across strongly – firstly, the need to get the balance between the commercial and community activities right, so that the building would remain open and thrive and, secondly, that there should be an annual membership fee for supporters. Alongside this, the initial ideas for use included:

- Pop-up space for craft fairs, Christmas markets, special events, vintage fairs
- Author events, book launches – potentially link with local book shop, local authors
- Youth groups/activities such as free events, courses, specific networking, coding
- Theatre nights/drama productions/groups
- Secret cinema events/private screenings
- Small business space, events, networking, fairs
- Pre-school music groups
- Reader organisation activities
- Book exchange/reading groups
- Evening classes
- Interschool debating space – neutral venue
- Cooking/baking class for children – healthy eating events/classes
- Diet groups
- Yoga/Pilates classes – also yoga for disabled children
- After school/holiday clubs
- Parenting classes – commissioned services from PCT/local health Authority
- Local recipes
- Satellite site for community services ie CAB, Macmillan
- Engage young people at pre-development stage and ask what they would like, potentially linking with schools - various ways to engage through art, writing competitions, local history
- World Book Day
- Sleepovers

Funding

The funding group focused on the need to clarify the purpose of the building – the ‘pitch’ – which would help with fundraising, but also with our ability to promote the space. The outcome of the discussion was about incorporating ‘learning’ and ‘creativity’ in the focus of the Carnegie as this would complement the original motivation of Andrew Carnegie, and also give the space a unity.

The group were keen to look at other creative spaces – in Liverpool, other cities in the UK and Europe – to see how they managed to create a versatile space for multiple use, and also to try and contact famous ex-Crosby and ex-Waterloo residents to ask for their memories and support.

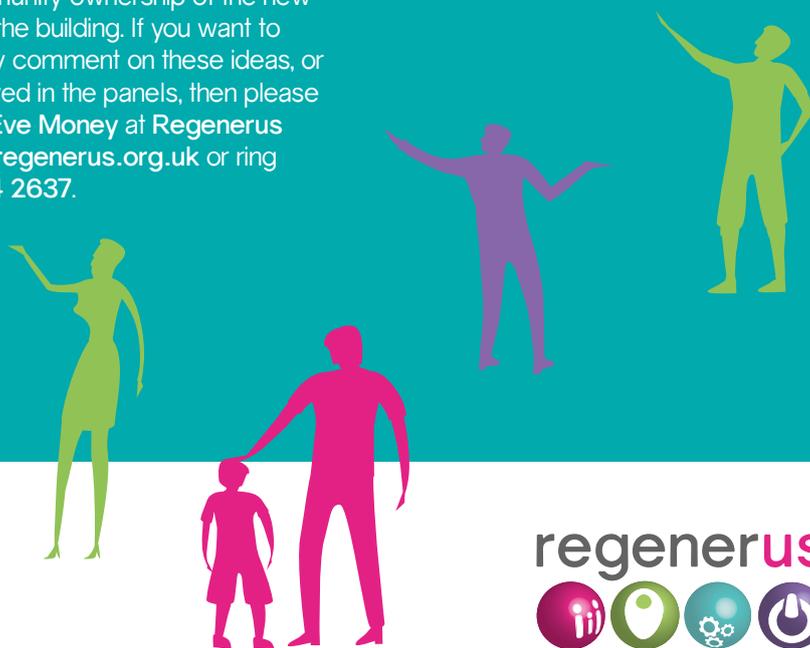
We are also looking to engage with University of Liverpool students from September to ask them to help us in developing the research and consultation which will inform all panels.

These three Ideas Panels – and the Landscape Panel which hasn’t met yet – bring together local residents, businesses and those with an interest in the Carnegie-Crosby to help shape the community ownership of the new uses for the building. If you want to make any comment on these ideas, or get involved in the panels, then please contact **Eve Money** at **Regenerus** on **eve@regenerus.org.uk** or ring **0151 934 2637**.

Updates will be posted on our website **www.carnegie-crosby.org.uk** – so keep a look out!

Our next newsletter will be out in September.

For more information call **0151 934 2637** or visit **www.carnegie-crosby.org.uk**



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