

Intergenerational Housing Spaces and Places Meeting Report

Date and time: Monday 30th August 2021, 10am – 11.30 am

via zoom

In Attendance: Bella Kerr (GWT), Alison Clyde (GWT), Sarah Brown (Anderson Bell Christie), Jennifer Challinor (The Crichton Trust), Louisa Turner (GWT Fife Network), Intan Liana Binti Samsudin (Universiti Teknologi Malaysia), Maria Suarez-Alvarez (Linstone Housing), Tina Morrow (Shared Lives Scotland), Caroline Dearden (Anderson Bell Christie), Sarah Brown

Apologies: Tanya Allen (Trust Housing Association), Dianna Findlay (Borders Older Peoples Forum and also SOPA), Margaret Coles (Helensburgh Community Council), Rowenna Statt (Anderson Bell Christie), Peter Mogridge (Shetland Islands Council), Marie Sweeney (Family Mediation Argyll and Bute)

You may have already filled this in and if so Thank You and if not this is a reminder

<https://forms.gle/XvhK3qouqjVQb2c6>

1. Apologies and introductions: as above. **Alison Clyde** (GWT CEO) introduced the session explaining that there is increased interest in shared sites, IG housing builds, community hubs and opportunities for people to be involved in public, private, voluntary and from grass roots. Alison Offered the example of Heart of Newhaven who have made a successful asset transfer and will be working toward their plans of transforming the old primary school into an IG HUB.

- **Maria from Linstone Housing** offered information about Glaham – where an established community on Glasgow is working to develop space creating a low impact sustainable housing initiative.
- **Intan from Universiti Teknologi Malaysia** is a student in architecture and is most interested in IG, looking to start this work and share today.
- **Sarah from Anderson Bell Christie** works with Rowenna and is happy to take questions back.
- Tina Morro from Homeshare UK explained that she will be presenting on that housing models have to develop and more on how Homeshare can bring people together.

2. Presentations and discussion:

Tina Morrow Scotland's Homeshare Programme

Tina's presentation will be available after the session and is on our website. Tina will send round a video produced by the BBC of a 94 year old lady who uses Homeshare.

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Tina explained that there is currently no schemes of Homeshare in Scotland but they are aware of the demand and potential. They are presently seeking interest across Scotland and looking at feasibility work, looking for partners and capacity to share.

Feasibility Work :

- Homeshare are looking for partners to work with and are currently doing a survey looking at what people are thinking or need?
- They want to understand relationships, identify who homesharers are.
- It may have the potential to be self funding, there is a fee for matching people.
- They are keen to show the impact the home sharing has.

Conversations:

- There are challenges for rural communities keeping young people, Homeshare are working with families.
- Home Share want to understand geography and key relationships – find out needs – take it further.
- They are looking for further funding to take this all forward – may look at consortium approach.
- **Maria** enquired re costs – who pays for that? It depends who is delivering eg Dumfries / Edinburgh maybe £200 per month for sharer £80 for householder – some do not charge depends on provider and what they wish to do. **Maria** expressed that many people would not have the finances? Tina gave example of Clarion starting as a pilot in England. Clarion are looking at the housing list to do this. Other places are developing with refugees, care leavers ... Looking at developing Homeshare to support delayed discharge too. **Maria** plans to look at this and talk to her team, **Tina** offered to come and talk to the team.
- Do people buy their own food? It depends on arrangement? There may be a cost sharing arrangement? It depends on that arrangement – maybe community meal, its adaptable.
- Council Tax – lots of local authorities will still waive the single person discount even though they are taking part in Homeshare scheme.
- **Alison** suggested National Leadership Network – with the Life Changes Trust and young carers.
- Students often are more mature who take up Homeshare.
- Further study is required on what sharers can do for householders and what do householders do for sharers, tends to be older younger students and householders tend to be women in their late 40s.
- **Louisa** enquired do they look at ex-prisoners – is society apprehensive – It would depend on individual it's not a regulated service. They do police checks. Spend a lot of time on getting to know parties. Do you take couples? Yes they do.

Rowena Stat Anderson Bell Christie Presentation Video (The Gannochy Trust Development)

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Rowena was unable to make the session but sent along her presentation which we watched and listened to. Rowena explained in her video that getting outside was a factor for older people's health and mobility and had positive psychological benefits. In the presentation we saw that the shared space at Gannochy Trust Development had many benefits such as:

- Had a wide range of outdoor uses.
- Different degrees of sociability.
- Enjoying activity in shared spaces.
- Pavements and roads being a connecting key factor.
- Encouraged outdoor life – preventing social isolation.
- Being outdoors and having social contact outdoors.

They have aimed for and achieved new houses with:

- Integrated across communities.
- Space for all older younger and families.
- Affordable rent.
- For a wide age range of mixed abilities.

Conversations:

- Anyone with any questions please send them through and Rowenna will get back to you.
- **Alison** talked about the exciting future of the development of Gannochy which has a cricket ground and a care home in the grounds.
- Rowena may attend a future meeting and GWT may ask someone to attend from Gannochy in the future.
- The houses are complete and they have been occupied for some time, people are settling in and there is a good indoor / outdoor air quality.
- **Intan** commented that the height and safety look excellent and that they have considered across abilities.

3. Sharing News

Bella shared information on Knightswood Community Intergenerational Shared Space in Glasgow. This intergenerational space came from a community consultation where the community asked to have an IG shared space in the former Knightswood swimming pool. Bella will share more information about the development as it progresses, it is currently in design phase where architects (INCH Architecture) were appointed and met with the steering group and consulting / planning group and came up with ideas for the design. This is almost complete and they await some pricing. The next stage will be looking at funding and reaching out to possible shareholders / tenants / service providers.

Another such developed that is thought to be ready by 2022 is Johnstone Police Station which has been closed for some time and is being designed to become an Intergenerational Shared Space, RPAR from Paisley will be occupying this space with other orgs. Future

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meeting may involve some people from these projects to talk about where they are and what their own plans may be going forward. Exciting times indeed! Gregor from ROAR has taken part in intergenerational training which he said has been useful for him on his intergenerational journey. **Maria** has seen the plans for Johnstone and felt very pleased about this too.

Rapid Research Project: **Bella** brought the groups attention to the Intergenerational Housing Network in England's research and asked if people could fill and share with anyone they thought interested as it is a cross the UK that they are looking for feedback from. The research question: *Can intergenerational housing above and behind the High Street, connecting through shared, public and commercial uses onto the High Street be a positive catalyst to revitalise town centres?* **Bella** will send out the questionnaire to the group.

Alison informed the group that the next meeting will be a 2 hour session with a speaker from America who has worked on intergenerational programmes for many years. She is now a retired fellow with [Generations United](#) who do amazing work. They have a very useful [Resources](#) .

You can access most of the presentations online if you miss any meetings. We will be looking for more feedback from you of what discussion you would like to have, if you have ideas of your own, we want the network to be proactive, bring people from different levels together to look at potentials. The first few meetings are about bringing people together. There are many excellent examples beginning to show what possibilities are out there to change the way we design our communities and to bring generations together. We look forward to the next meeting and hope to see you there.

Next meeting:

Date: Monday 8th November 2021

Time: 2.30 pm until 4.30 pm

Venue: via zoom

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