

## **Summary of the Arts Development Company's proposal\***

**\*This is our [Chasing Cow Productions'] understanding of the alternative proposal through discussions with associated organisations.**

- Programme of free and subsidised activities and events
- Open and welcoming space, open 7 days a week
- Run by a large consortium of creative and business organisations, including the Arts Development Company, Wessex Community Assets and Stir to Action (a Bridport-based non-profit organisation)

### **Use of facilities**

#### **Training rooms, courtyard & kitchen (basement floor)**

**Training rooms** – to hire for activity such as:

- Arts University Bournemouth students to receive business and entrepreneurial skills training delivered by consortium partners
- Young people not in employment, education or training to grant-funded training programmes delivered by consortium partner Stir to Action
- Kingston Maurward College to deliver evening classes to local adults

#### **Kitchen**

- Kept as it is for use by external caterers and occasional pop-up restaurants/dining events

#### **Courtyard**

- In the evenings, the courtyard will be free for community groups to use for clubs, talks, and presentations

#### **Ground Floor Lobby and Café area**

During the week, used as a communal workspace (hot-desks for professionals to hire)

#### **Additional public access**

- The business model will include a free membership level for local people, families and creatives to pre-book the space at weekends for free, book onto free workshops and creative activities, and hire the space for reasonable rent for community-based activities.
- Events such as pop-up exhibitions, screenings, to enliven space and bring public in

#### **First floor**

##### **Upstairs (mezzanine)**

- Studio space for local artists to rent (at least 6 in/around Bridport identified in ADC Market Research)
- The artists will also provide drop-in workshops and studio visits to families/community members, open studios, mentors for the young start-ups, exhibit in the ground floor lobby/café space when available

##### **Specialist equipment, e.g. 3D printer, CNC machine**

- For use by young people, members of the public, project participants, professionals
- E.g. making furniture, furnishings, electric fittings for community projects in partnership with Energy Local Bridport, Dorset Community Energy and Dorset Woodhub.
- Mixture of pay-as-you-go and subsidised through project grant funding (applications have been submitted and funds already secured)

#### **Support for the plan:**

- The consortium proposes a partnership with other local organisations and venues, across different sectors (creative, environmental, engineering, business)

- Bridport Town Council are supportive of the focus on community engagement and bringing new audiences to the LSi
- Arts Council England are interested in the approach to supporting and training young people starting new creative start-ups through mentoring, business development, and access to a free workspace.
- Mick Smith, Director of Bridport Arts Centre, will act as a volunteer business mentor.