

## Progress report for St Kessog's

Since the last report, there has been a further two meetings, the first was of the St Kessog's working party to discuss the building design before the next meeting with Stirling Council and the Architect.

The current timescales for St Kessog's programme-the sign off/ design freeze of the stage 2 works - is the end of this year. There is a risk that if these deadlines are missed, the overall programme for the project will understandably slip. The working party feels it is under increasing pressure to sign off on the design, operational plan and business case whilst there are significant issues which have yet to be resolved. The working party has requested that there is a further community engagement presentation to garner support for the direction of travel and ensure that the community is aware of the overall project and the risks and opportunities it presents to Callander.

Whilst good progress has been made over the last few weeks, the working party is still to see the finalised business case and operational plan. These will inevitably change and evolve going forward as the project progresses, but need to be finalised to reflect the current building design and area allocated to each function. It is important that the working group understands the project as a whole package - one aspect of the project cannot be signed off until all can be reviewed in their final form. One aspect which is lagging behind is how St Kessog's will be leased to a yet to be defined community organisation which will manage the business hub and community facilities on behalf of the community.

The working group raised concerns that were discussed at the separate working party meeting regarding the public consultation. It proposed that there should be a final community presentation made to allow members of the community to ask questions, garner support for the scheme thus far and raise awareness of this significant investment in St Kessog's. The proposal was that Stirling Council would present the operational plan and business case and NORR would provide a design overview of the proposed reworking of St Kessog's. This would give the working party the confidence that it was representing community views and that it had the backing of Callander.

Stirling Council has allowed the working party to share the most up-to-date plans with the organisations it represents, to enable further comments and gain the support of these groups for it to be able to report back.

### Next Steps

The plans will be updated in line with feedback from the Working Party. A further meeting with Stirling Council is due to be held this side of Christmas, the main purpose of this meeting will be to discuss the operational plan and business case in response to the finalised building plans.

