

APPENDIX 1: Application no. 5 – Active Bentham

**NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL COMMUNITY FUND PARTNERSHIP SUPPORT
PRO-FORMA**

Name of organisation applying:

**Project Sponsor/Accountable Body:
(to which all payments will be made
and which may be the applicant
organisation)**

Bentham Development Trust

Contact Name for Project:

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| 1. Project Title |
| Active Bentham |
| 2. Project outline and method statement |

Active Bentham will develop, co-ordinate and manage three community buildings that are currently managed separately. The three premises offer a wide range of community activities to a dispersed rural community. This is an integrated approach to information and community buildings; this project assumes an increase in private housing over the next few years, with a consequent increase in the number of families and retired people in the Bentham area.

During the period of the Bentham Market Town Initiative, there were regular meetings between the community groups involved in this project, as well as other groups from the North Craven Area. The meetings were convened by members of Craven District Council staff working in the Economic and Community Development field, and the aim was to work towards a streamlined work approach and shared resources.

Following the end of the Bentham Market Town Initiative in March 2004, a study was carried out, 'Bentham - Moving On', in order to create an action plan to continue the work started during the three years of the Market Town Initiative. A series of workshops were held, attended by members of the MTI steering group and representatives from a wide range of local community groups.

During the workshops, it was recognised that there is strength in numbers but it was felt that rather than having a partnership imposed it would be better if organisations co-operated as and when the need arose. The study, by Gillian Howells Creative Consultancy working in partnership with the Development Trusts Association, recommended 'continuity by developing the Bentham Campus', in order to make creative use of existing buildings, maximise resources and generate income.

Three local organisations (Bentham Development Trust, Bentham Community Association and Low Bentham Victoria Institute) have agreed to work together to rationalise resources.

- Bentham Development Trust provides Community and Tourist Information as well as managing Bentham Community Transport. It has one full-time manager, several part-time drivers and manages a large number of volunteers who are 'social car scheme' and minibus drivers and Tourist Information helpers. The future accommodation for the Trust is under discussion: the Trust currently has an office in Station Road, Bentham, opposite Bentham Town Hall. The Town Hall is being refurbished, and it is possible that the Trust will eventually be accommodated in the Town Hall.
- Bentham Community Association manages Bentham Community Centre which hosts many local organisations such as the Youth Club, Brownies, Toy Library, Out of School Club, Toddlers etc. as well as craft and music groups, exercise clubs and classes and children's parties. It employs a part-time manager, a cleaner and caretaker and the Out of School Club staff. The Community Centre was recently refurbished and has access and toilet facilities suitable for people with a disability.
- Low Bentham Victoria Institute is the public building in Low Bentham (about a mile away from High Bentham) which hosts dance classes, the Low Bentham WI, badminton sessions, parties etc. It employs a part-time cleaner. The Victoria Institute building is in good condition, but as yet has no access or toilet facilities suitable for people with a disability.

Active Bentham will employ 3 workers (the existing managers of Bentham Development Trust and Bentham Community Association, plus one additional new post). The project will focus on using new technologies, shared branding and improved marketing to ensure that local people are aware of what is on offer. The promotion of activities for isolated older people, marginalised young people and people with disabilities will be an important part of the project.

Active Bentham will seek to develop a local brand that will draw in more partners over the life of the project.

It is hoped that this initial joint project will lead to co-operation with other organisations within Bentham, and in the North Craven area.

3. Link(s) to Community Strategy aims and priorities

'Active Bentham' links to the Community Strategy in many ways, most notably under the 'Sustainable Communities' heading, by

- enhancing the use of community buildings, providing resource centres, and making the buildings a sustainable, adaptable and shared resource.
- developing a co-ordinated approach to asset management between agencies
- improving physical access to, and standard of public/community buildings
- improving information and access to services and facilities, via improved marketing, co-ordination between agencies, and the use/provision of ICT, internet and electronic service delivery
- tackling rural deprivation and isolation
- developing a community -based initiative and facilitating access to funding opportunities

Under the 'Good Health and Wellbeing' heading we will be

- promoting and building upon existing cultural, leisure and sports provision in the district by continuing to support existing community groups and providing advice, information and active support to help establish new groups.

Under the 'Prosperous Economy' heading we will be

- supporting micro enterprises in partnership with the Scarman Trust's Can Do Investment Fund

4. Outcomes – how will this project make a difference? (Include proposed monitoring and evaluation process)

- It will reach many isolated people of all ages within a dispersed rural community
- It will provide an efficient and effective way of getting information to the whole community
- It will develop and keep alive community open space for all the community, young and old
- It will create better links with services not currently provided in the local area and publicise those already provided
- It will create new activities and groups for leisure and education
- The Low Bentham Victoria Institute building will be made accessible to people with a disability.

A quarterly meeting of representatives of the three participating organisations will review project progress and deal with any outstanding issues not dealt with by the co-ordinator on a day to day basis or at monthly team meetings chaired by the Bentham Development Trust.

5. Timescale of project (start/finish dates) including an exit strategy where relevant

Project start date: October 2005
 Project end date : ongoing

Exit strategy: Bentham Development Trust, Bentham Community Association and Low Bentham Victoria Institute understand that funding from the NYCC Community Fund cannot be continued after the agreed period, and that no further bids to this fund can be made for the project.

It is envisaged that the three organisations involved in this project will have become more closely linked by the end of NYCC's Community Fund support for the project, and that more organisations will be working with us. There will be a greater pooling of resources, improved information about what is available, more and better-supported activities will be taking place in the community buildings.

The amount of paid staff time required will be reduced as a result of greater efficiency. Bentham Development Trust's transport project (Bentham Community Transport) is rapidly growing, and is working towards sustainability, particularly since discussions are taking place on increased Local Authority contracts.

While it is likely that there will continue to be a need for funding support, it is anticipated that the level of support required will be considerably reduced.

5. Funding profile

| Project costs (A) (show breakdown) | | 2005/6 (Oct-Mar) | 2006/7 |
|---|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| * note VAT can only be included if you are not VAT registered | Salaries and Recruitment | 19162 | 38855 |
| | Travel | 250 | 500 |
| | Office Running Costs | 1650 | 3300 |
| | Premises Running Costs | 5900 | 11880 |
| | Information and Publicity | 275 | 600 |
| | Accountancy | 750 | 1500 |
| | Total | 27987 | 56555 |
| Match funding (B) (source and amount) | Own Funds | 12000 | 27500 |
| | Community Fund/Charitable Trust funds | 10987 | 19055 |
| | Total | 22987 | 46555 |
| Amount of Partnership Support Fund grant applied for (A minus B) | | 2005/6 £5000 | 2006/7 £10000 |

END.