



A unique new asset for
Cambridge City Centre



The Cambridge Community Innovation Centre

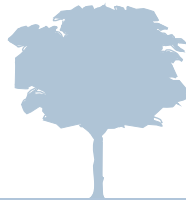
The Cambridge Community Innovation Centre will provide social enterprise facilities in the heart of the city. It will be a flagship building for Cambridge, and an asset for Petersfield itself.

The Centre is planned by Citylife, a charitable society at the forefront of developing social investment mechanisms that enable organisations, businesses and local people to finance solutions to counter disadvantage in their own communities. The new building will become a launch pad and base for social enterprises run on a not-for-profit basis and for enterprises started by young or disadvantaged people. The purpose-designed premises will act as a central hub for advisory services and will also have a café and other space for local people to enjoy.

Citylife envisages an innovatively designed building on the site of the Howard Mallett Centre on Sturton

Street; a building between mature trees that will be an integral part of its green environment: open, airy and welcoming. It will be a showcase for local small creative firms that are a growing market for employment; it will provide small business units and management support for individuals and organisations currently excluded because of the cost or unsuitability of local premises and it will offer community facilities such as meeting and rehearsal space.

Organisations hoping to use the centre include the Prince's Trust, Cambridge Co-operative Development Agency (The Social Enterprise People), Cambridge Enterprise Agency and Momentum Arts. Citylife is working with Start International and St John's Innovation Centre, both specialists with a track record of creating innovation centres around Britain.



Proposed cross-section in context

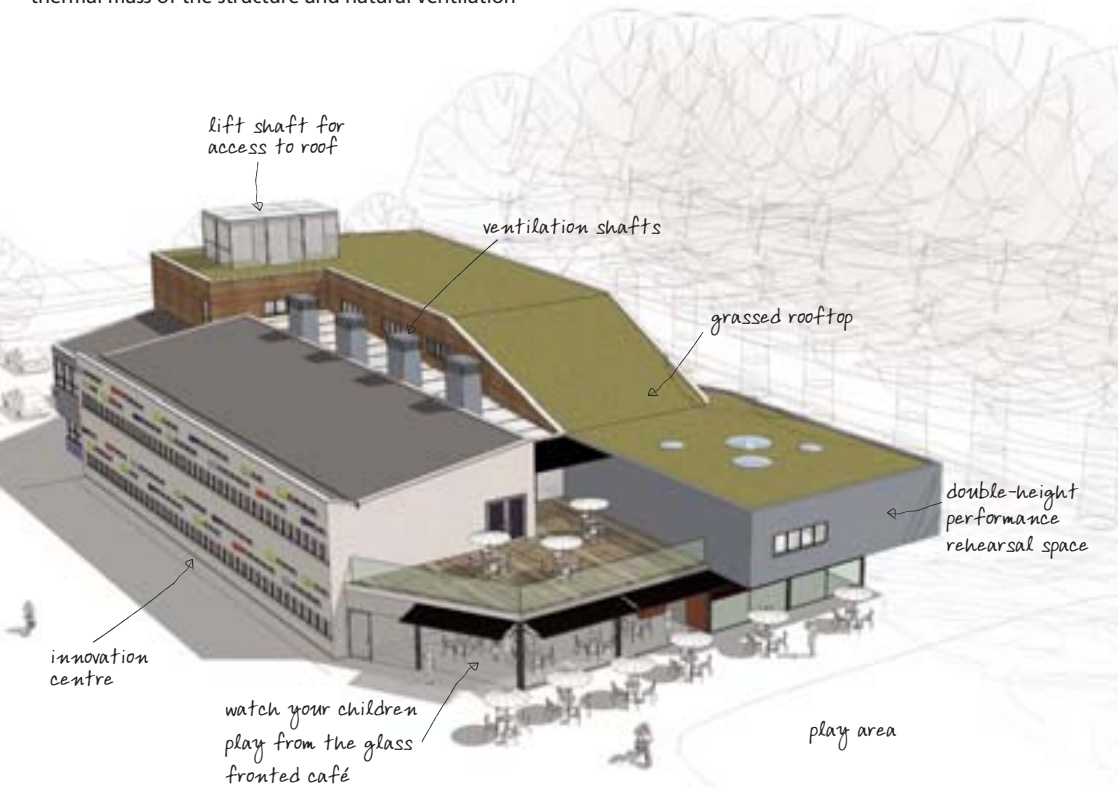
Parkside Community College – site photographic consultation



The Cambridge Community Innovation Centre will occupy a smaller ‘footprint’ than the current Howard Mallett building it replaces, with its entrance facing New Street and the car park. It will be fully accessible. An internal ‘street’ will run along the centre of the building towards a community/rehearsal space adjacent to the café, which is located at its southern tip. The glazed facade of these spaces opens up completely, blurring the boundary between the building and the landscape. The building will be as environmentally sustainable as is possible, using the thermal mass of the structure and natural ventilation

to help cool it. There will also be a landscape of green and accessible roofs on top of the building.

After the proposed building is complete, the plan is for there to be a greater area of useable green space than currently exists, or existed prior to the construction of the Howard Mallett Centre (following which a new south-eastern extension to St Matthew’s Piece was created to compensate for loss of the northern area).



What is Citylife?

Citylife's vision is of a society where communities and neighbourhoods are good places in which to live, work and learn; where all members of society have access to the choices that will enable them to feel physically safe, financially secure, at peace with their neighbours, valued as part of their community and willing to balance personal with community benefit. Established as a charitable society, it has a track record of success in Yorkshire, London and the North East.

With its headquarters in Cambridge, Citylife works with a range of partners, including local authorities, the private sector and neighbourhood groups. Its projects are non-political and are backed by government ministers, cross party supporters, charities, businesses and statutory bodies. Citylife supports its programmes with funding raised through grants, membership, donations and its unique charitable bonds where individuals and groups invest a specific sum of money in a particular project. Citylife uses the interest on this investment as a donation to fund its work, but returns the original loan to the investor after a set period of time.

Key supporters include Cambridge City Council, the East of England Development Agency, the Greater Cambridge Partnership, St. John's Innovation Centre and Momentum Arts.

For more information or to give your comments on Cambridge Community Innovation Centre; to find out more about the work of Citylife; or to discuss how you can support its work, contact:

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