

## Case Study: Save Alva Pool

June 2011

<b>Contact Details:</b>	Ochil Leisure Enterprises (new organisation name) <b>Web:</b> <a href="http://www.facebook.com/savealvapool">http://www.facebook.com/savealvapool</a>
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<b>Legal status:</b>	Currently Ochil are an unconstituted group although are poised to apply to become a company limited by guarantee with charitable status should they be given the green light to progress with the transfer of the asset.
<b>Background:</b>	The Alva Swimming Pool had been scheduled for a multi million pound refit however in February 2011 the local authority announced the facility would be closing as of June 2011.  Original proached by Alva Swimming Club in February 2011, then laterally the wider community group, seeking advice on the feasibility of attaining the asset from the local authority and running it as a sustainable social enterprise.
<b>Support Accessed:</b>	Support provided by the Coordinator via meetings, signposting and contribution to “Interim plan” e.g. statistics and case studies from other Sport SEN members.  COSS (Community Ownership Support Service) project have liaised with the group and are also working with Clackmananshire Council.  Investing in Ideas – feedback given on application. This money would allow a full investigation of the proposal for the community to take over the asset however timescales mean any decision will be after the September deadline  Community Enterprise, a social enterprise business development organisation agreed with the Coordinator to offer some support on pro bono basis.
<b>Future Plans:</b>	Submission of interim plan including financial modelling to be submitted to the local authority by 30 <sup>th</sup> September 2011.

	If given a stay of execution by the local authority then to carry out a full feasibility study / business plan into the viability of saving the facility and running it as a community led social enterprise.
<b>Lessons Learned</b>	Early financial support is vital to ensure full feasibility study and business plan can be carried out prior to acquisition of an asset.
<b>Best Practice examples / potential for replication</b>	Community campaigning can ultimately be successful against the odds
<b>Enterprising Activity</b>	Despite negotiations being ongoing the group are organising a fundraising ceildh for early 2012.
<b>Transferable skills / knowledge</b>	Use of Dropbox for shared files Experience of campaigning to local elected members



<b>Progress update:</b>	<p>The facility, as of 26<sup>th</sup> June 2011, is now closed with plans to demolish it at the end of September 2011. The local authority have intimated that they will consider a fully costed business plan to be submitted by end of September 2011. Due to time constraints the plan the group will submit will only be interim in nature.</p> <p><b>A council decision was made on 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2011, to transfer the asset to the group with an additional sum of £100,000.</b></p> <p>Jan 2012 - The group have now been presented with a legal contract by Clackmannanshire council and with the financial support of the COSS project are accessing Senscot Legal for advice. In addition they took part in a study visit to fellow Sport SEN member Atlantis Leisure.</p>
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