

CORNERSTONE

APPLICANT

Newbattle Parish Church
www.newbattleparish.org

TOTAL PROJECT COST

£349,593

£90,000

(25.7%)

Tyne Esk
LEADER

£259,593

Match Funding

PROJECT AIMS

- Provide an accessible and well-equipped community hub that facilitates community integration and cohesion.
- Provide a stylish place to meet which fosters pride of place in the centre of town as other hubs move out.
- Make the building a modern and flexible meeting space for hire, providing an improved income.

PROJECT DETAIL

Mayfield and Easthouses Church opened in 1955 as a “hall-church”, a place for community activities and worship for the rapidly growing community. It is located in the heart of Mayfield and Easthouses, a deprived area of Midlothian. At the time of application it was still a central hub, even more so because facilities were being moved out of the town centre, but was dated and lacked the layout for activities and people to flow. The Cornerstone project aimed to address these issues and provide a community hub fit for the 21st century.

RESULTS

A state of the art community hub has been created, offering an enhanced café and thrift shop, a new soft play area for young children and flexibility for the space to be adapted to suit. The front of the building has been repositioned, so that it more naturally leads from the car park and the grounds have been improved with elegant landscaping.

The refurbished church is used by a host of community groups, all of whom have representation on the board.

It is also a drop in space for residents, providing a comfortable, safe place to meet and interact. Their café provides low cost, nutritious cooked meals and plans for healthy eating courses are underway. Community planting projects are also planned for the landscaped grounds. The space is intended to be used largely for secular activity, open to all regardless of religious belief, ethnicity, age or economic background. Volunteer posts are offered for younger and older generations, building skills and confidence in participants. Crucially, the church will now be self-sustaining, through increased external hires, which will secure its future long term.

