

CAMBRIDGE COMMUNITY CENTRE PROJECT



Frequently Asked Questions

<p>Who are you?</p>	<p>We are Muslims who live in the Cambridge area. We have formed a charity called the "Cambridge Muslim Trust" as a legal vehicle for progressing the "Cambridge Muslim Community Centre Project". Please see the Website for personal information about us.</p> <p>All members of the community are invited to participate in the development and running of this project, regardless of gender, ethnicity or age.</p> <p>Thus, the community centre will be owned and managed by the community it serves. This means anyone (including non-Muslims) can avail themselves of services and facilities offered, providing they respect the context of an Islamic environment.</p>
<p>Who has been consulted?</p>	<p>Many individuals, including those who currently run community based activities, are extremely supportive and see the benefits of centralising and pooling resources, as are the Muslim Academic Trust and members of the Mosque committee.</p>
<p>What is being proposed?</p>	<p>A community project that will dovetail with the plans to relocate our mosque, <i>insha'allah!</i></p> <p>In consultation with the Muslim Community and with local service providers, such as Social Services, City Council, Education and Health services, the local Community's needs will dictate the specifics, but services are likely to include: Janazah (Funeral) services; Talks; Women's' groups; Youth groups; Social space; Coffee bar; Special interest groups; etc, with an overspill Jummah prayer being offered until such time as the need remain.</p> <p>It will provide a halal social space for students and residents – which is sadly lacking both on campus and elsewhere in the city.</p> <p>Outreach and Da'wah will be an important aspect of the project.</p> <p>A Centre Manager/ Development worker is being budgeted for to ensure the full potential of the project is realized.</p> <p>A copy of the deed of trust, which explains the legal framework and aims of the Trust is available on the website.</p>
<p>Why now?</p>	<p>The Cambridge Muslim community continues to grow and with it, its needs and problems become more urgent to address. Each of us must question ourselves about the fact that we have ignored these issues for so long. We cannot delay in fulfilling our collective responsibility any longer.</p>

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	Plans for the new mosque site are at an early stage so no decision has been made about what will be included there. Moreover, it is estimated that that the Mill Rd site will not reach full operational capacity for at least 5 years.
Why this building?	Its location, planning status (D1 community use), affordability and availability all commend this particular site's suitability for the Community Centre Project. In recent years, such a combination has become extremely rare and we, as a community should grasp this opportunity.
When will this happen?	In reality that's up to YOU! The immediate task is to acquire the site, carry out a feasibility study and refurbish the building. In the medium term, we want to have established appropriate facilities and provision in response to community needs. In the longer term, we would be looking to relocate to better facilities as and when facilities become available.
How much will it cost?	A rough estimate for the purchase, renovations and initial set up costs is just under £750,000. Running costs will depend on the type and frequency of the activities being offered. A financial projection can be viewed on the website.
How can I help?	This is a new venture and those people identified as being part of the steering group are simply there to kick things off. If others are more suitably qualified and have the time to commit, they must fulfill their Islamic duty and step forward now. Of course the most obvious help would be to make a one off donation, a loan or set up a monthly standing order.
How do I contact you?	CMCC Project PO Box 423 Cambridge CB5 8ZT Tel: 0845 6123 353 Fax: 0871 242 9696 Email address: project@cambridgeMuslimsOnline.info Website: www.cambridgeMuslims.info/Community