


FINAL EVALUATION REPORT		
Project Name: SEAVINGTONS' COMMUNITY SHOP PHASE 1		
Project Number: SATS 20		
Start Date: 23/01/07	Finish Date: 11/05/07	

Introduction and Scope

1. This Final Evaluation Report requires **The Seavingtons' Community Shop & Services Association** to provide a report on the success or otherwise of the **Seavingtons' Community Shop Phase 1 Project** in achieving its stated aims and objectives. It moves beyond the scope of the Quarterly Progress Reports already completed for each claim, by reviewing the wider impact of the project. Please refer to the guidance notes

Project Aims and Objectives

2. Please provide a brief narrative summary of the project's success or otherwise in achieving its broad aims and objectives as given in your original application and your M&E plans as appropriate. Describe how you achieved them, and if you didn't achieve some of them please explain why.

Full design and planning approval for a new build community shop and café on land already in the community's ownership was achieved. This has made possible the creation of a full business plan, registration as an Industrial Provident Society together with appropriate fund-raising plans and activities in preparation for seeking further grants from government and non-government organisations and bodies.

Project Outputs

3. The agreed Outputs for the **Seavingtons' Community Shop Phase 1 Project** are set out below. Please report on the progress the project has made in achieving these Outputs, including, if relevant, detail of how the project overcame unforeseen difficulties in relation to delivering on the Output targets. Where possible outline the tools you used to measure them

4. Outputs Summary Table.

Output Type	Target total All years	Total achieved to date (31 March 08)	Future years (08-09)
Core 6 - skills	50	4	Depends on build proceeding in 08-09
Core 6b - skills	25	25 partial	
Suppt 8 - workspace	180	0	Phase 1 was design only – full success requires the new building
Access 11a – new fac	2	1 partial	
Access 12 – new svces	5	1 partial	
Access 13 - Usage	440/week	30	

5. Report on Outputs Progress:

The agreed outputs were all dependent upon completion of the full project ie achieving a further investment approaching £300K and construction of the shop and café. The actual achievements are the result of training of committee members and volunteers and the fact that the RR investment gave the community the impetus to commence certain activities, eg the Internet Café, on a modest scale in advance of the main project.

To the Seavington Community, the most significant output is the completion of building design and the ability to go to tender and raise funds against a properly formulated programme. For this, the community is grateful.

Project Outcomes

6. The agreed Outcomes for the **Seavingtons' Community Shop Phase 1 Project** are set out below. Please report on the progress the project has made in achieving these Outcomes, including, if relevant, detail of how the project overcame unforeseen difficulties in relation to delivering these Outcomes:

7. Outcomes.

Outcomes Summary Table:	
Outcome	Progress on Achievement
Progress to full funding to enable movement towards full funding of a mix of residents' bonds, grants, donations etc.	Full building design, grant of planning permission etc achieved. A full business plan has been created and tenders for construction sought. Full fund-raising is now in progress and tenders have been invited. However, cut backs in central funding eg RR and Lottery put the project at risk.

Wider Impact

8. Please comment on the wider impact of the project across the region/area. Please also report on any evidence that you may not already have used.

9. Commentary on the Project's Wider Impact:

Within the local community the project has had an impact on people's interest in environmental matters such as carbon footprint through travel for shopping and for space heating etc. The latter is a direct result of the choice of an environmentally friendly heat pump system for the shop and café's heating and the proposal to install a photo-voltaic roof.

In one immediately neighbouring community the project has generated an awareness of the significant community impact of possible closure of existing facilities.

The offer of basic IT training by the Seavington Shop and Café project drew students from as far away as Crewkerne, Chard and Ilminster.

Ongoing Sustainability

10. Where relevant, please report on the ongoing sustainability of the facility/service delivered by this project. Where project completion also represents the termination of a service delivered by the project funding, this section is not applicable.

11. Review of Ongoing Sustainability.

The, newly developed, business plan, prepared in conjunction with the Village Retail Services Association (ViRSA), demonstrates that, if manned by community volunteers, the shop is sustainable at the lowest conceivable community usage. At a slightly higher utilisation it will be possible to meet the committee's objective of employing a manager. On the environmental side, the shop will save some 40 tonnes of carbon emissions through reducing the community's car travel. Further, the building is to be heated (and cooled in Summer) by a heat pump system reducing energy needs by some two thirds. It is hoped that sufficient funds can be obtained to support installation of a photo-voltaic roof to generate electricity.

Publicity

12. Please report on any key publicity undertaken. You should make specific reference to any SWRDA/Somerset Rural Renaissance inclusion in any publicity. Please include copies of any publicity materials or indicate if already provided.

13. Report on Publicity Undertaken.

The project has generated interest resulting in printed and broadcast publicity from the local press (Western Gazette and Chard & Ilminster News) and BBC local radio. Additionally there has been regular publicity in the local community magazine – The Seavingtons' News. Both BBC and Chard & Ilminster News are in regular contact and appear very supportive.

The Project Experience

14. Please report on the project experience overall. Please indicate what you would do differently in future and in addition include anything else you think will help to show how you spent Rural Renaissance funding eg letters of support from beneficiaries, businesses or users, other reports etc. You should consider including lessons learned that could be disseminated to other Organisations delivering related projects or those using a similar delivery model. Please also include suggestions as to how relationships between your organisation and the beneficiaries of the project and also your organisation and Somerset Rural Renaissance could be improved/revised. This will help inform our thinking on future funding programmes.

15. Review of Project Experience.


The interface and dealings with the managers of the Somerset Rural Renaissance Project have been very straightforward and open. This has allowed for open dialogue when there was a need for consultation.

The various meetings arranged by the RR team have been useful as a forum to allow the wide range of RR projects to exchange ideas and experience. This forum has a significant value with or without the opportunity for grant funding and I suggest that the team should consider quarterly or bi-annual meetings even if there is no replacement funding vehicle for the current programme.

Phase 1 of the shop and café project itself was relatively straightforward with the volunteers within the Seavington community and there is no lesson of significance to promulgate.

For any future programme of this nature I suggest that there is a close look at the financial reporting spreadsheets to ensure that they may be readily used by people who are neither experienced accountants nor familiar with Government methods and terminology. These reporting tools need to be debated and agreed between the RRP and SWRDA to ensure that both methodology and terminology can be understood by lay persons.

I certify that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the information contained in this claim and supporting document/s is true and accurate.

Signed		Date	27 th March 2008
--------	---	------	-----------------------------

Name in Block Capitals	David Froome
Position in Organisation	Chairman
Organisation Name	Seavington Community Shop & Services Association
Telephone Number	01460 249445
E-mail	david@dfac.demon.co.uk