



Case Study: Luggate Memorial Hall

December 2018

Luggate Hall was a central focal point for the local community and a hive of activity – a place for residents to come together, learn, and celebrate.

Following an earthquake seismic risk assessment in 2017, the Luggate Hall was closed for safety reasons. The community groups and services who regularly used this space either have ceased operating or have had to find other places to use within Luggate or in other communities. The Luggate community has expressed concern that the loss of the hall may damage the “heart” of their community.

What they need

Many of the spaces currently used by Luggate groups and services do not meet their needs, e.g. private homes. Feedback gathered from the Luggate community has shown considerable support for a replacement facility¹.

Where to from here

Funding towards a replacement, permanent facility for Luggate was included in the Queenstown Lakes District Council’s 2018-2028 Ten Year Plan. However, additional funding will be required to create a bespoke facility that meets the needs of Luggate and the wider Upper Clutha community.

In early 2019, QLDC will install a temporary relocatable building at the site of the old Luggate Hall. The Luggate community will use this temporary building while plans are completed for a permanent facility. This will provide a chance to re-invigorate local community activities and further test user demand and need, and will help shape the final plans for a permanent hall.

Developing a networked approach to community facilities (both QLDC-owned and private) is an opportunity identified in the Our Community Spaces report, and could help to address the district’s community facility needs. With this in mind, the development of a new facility for Luggate should not occur as an isolated project. Instead, the plans should factor in the wider role the facility will play in meeting community space needs for Luggate and the Upper Clutha.

Development of the permanent Luggate Hall replacement also provides a significant opportunity to explore new design practices used elsewhere in the world for community facilities including universal design or environmental models such as passive design. This project could provide an effective template for developing multi-use community spaces within our growing district.

“Luggate Hall was an important facility for many community groups and activities and essential to building and maintaining the community. We miss it badly and very much look forward to a replacement facility.”

“It was perfect having the Luggate Hall for our meetings - it isn’t at the moment. We are having to make do, as is every other group who used the hall in Luggate. Some of our community activities have ceased too since the Hall’s demise, and some have shrunk back into private homes to box on in the meantime.”

- Comments gathered from the *Our Community Spaces* research

¹ This feedback was gathered through the 2018 *Our Community Spaces* research and other consultation processes - including the Queenstown Lakes District Council (QLDC) 2018-2028 Ten Year Plan process.