



Community is at the



of it ...!





The Ricoh Arena Community Space

Registered Charity: Number 1141455 Company Limited by Guarantee Registered in England: No. 06777482

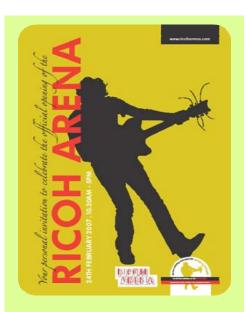
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Make a difference in your community



The versatility of The Ricoh Arena Community Space was demonstrated during the official opening of the Ricoh Arena in February 2007. During the "Made in Coventry" Community Open Day over 10,000 people visited the Ricoh Arena including The Ricoh Arena Community Space, which was used for a variety of musical and dance events, performances and literary workshops.



Volunteers are an important resource in all our work and have been involved in the visioning, planning, design and development of The Ricoh Arena Community Space since its original inception, including carrying out community consultation about that design and development, obtaining funding for and commissioning a feasibility study to identify the resources required to establish and operate a successful multi-purpose community facility within the Ricoh Arena.

About Us ...

The Ricoh Arena Community Space is an incorporated registered charity investing in the local community and operating for community benefit.

We provide conference, workshop, event, and meeting facilities which are available for hire to community groups and other organisations. We also work both independently and with partners to promote community benefit across the City of Coventry through information sharing and the provision of training.

The Ricoh Arena Community Space is operated and managed by volunteers, all of whom give freely of their time including during evenings and weekends. The trustees and volunteer staff have a wide variety of experience and expertise, ranging from local knowledge to accountancy and management skills which they give to The Ricoh Arena Community Space and its beneficiaries.



A brief history ...

Provision for The Ricoh Arena Community Space was included in the original planning for the Arena Development. The vision was to provide a community facility of a comparable standard to the rest of the Ricoh Arena as a lasting community benefit from one of the largest mixed use regeneration projects undertaken in Coventry in recent years.

Extensive community consultation, including with local children, was carried out in relation to the provision of the facility and the type of activities it has been designed to accommodate.

This consultation enabled the original vision to be developed by local residents, through their own community representatives, and resulted in the designing of a high quality multi-purpose community event and meeting facility that is available for affordable use by both local and city wide communities to enable them to hold their meetings and activities, develop projects and hold social and celebration events.

What we do ...

The Charity is developing, equipping, maintaining and managing the community facility, The Ricoh Arena Community Space, to ensure continuation of the original vision to provide a sustainable and first class community facility as a lasting legacy from one of the largest mixed use regeneration projects undertaken in Coventry in recent years.

The Ricoh Arena Community Space works independently and with partners to promote/provide activities and opportunities such as information sharing, networking, peer mentoring and training events to facilitate education and learning, community involvement and capacity building. Events and activities providing benefit to both local and city wide communities have included:

- environmental courses to promote understanding of climate change issues and energy saving methods for both residents and community organisations, including those operating community facilities
- community training courses e.g. trustee/ director training, community writers courses, community quality assessment standard training course
- women's and men's health workshops, management committee roles and responsibilities workshop
- organisation of information fairs, workshops and seminars to provide learning, educational and cultural opportunities and direct access to service providers for both individuals and community organisations e.g. to access volunteering and involvement information on London 2012.
- intergenerational local history reminiscence project encouraging cohesion and understanding while providing local history learning opportunities

The Ricoh Arena Community Space also mentors those wanting to hire the facility for their own activities but who have no previous experiencing of organising their own events, again assisting with learning, community development and capacity building.

Our community facilities and events are widely advertised and we welcome the participation of all both local and city wide.



The Ricoh Arena Community
Space is used by varied community
groups and organisations, including
local dance and cheer leading
clubs, residents associations,
archery club, gardening club, faith
based and fellowship groups,
music group practise, book club/
literary group, athletics club, local
scouts association and girl guides.



Our facilities are also available for hire to charities and voluntary organisations and have hosted charity programme launches, funding workshops, conferences, volunteer training and celebration events. When the facilities are not required for community use they are available for hire on commercial terms. Such income contributes towards operational, maintenance and equipment costs.



The future ...

The affordable provision of first class conference, seminar, workshop, event and meeting facilities allows community groups, organisations and individuals to develop and hold their own events, collaborate in partnership events and benefit from training, learning, capacity building, community involvement and cohesion opportunities (some of which would otherwise not be able to take place).

It assists development of new community groups and activities, helping increase provision of community activities and increasing capacity, capability, understanding and cohesion within and between Coventry's communities. Such provision also enables activities and events to be offered by those groups and organisations to their members and other local and city wide inhabitants at low cost or no charge, again promoting public benefit, including for those who would otherwise be unable to afford to take part in such educational, learning or social activities.



Our long term aims are to continue the sustainable development and operation of The Ricoh Arena Community Space, provide opportunities for activities and events to advance education and learning and facilitate community involvement and capacity building in local and city wide activities. In addition, through the provision of affordable, high quality community facilities and activities supported by and held in The Ricoh Arena Community Space, help to ensure lasting local and city wide community benefit from the Ricoh Arena development.

Such activities and provision will also contribute to community cohesion and the vision for Coventry to be a growing, accessible city where people choose to live, work, learn, and have opportunities to develop and participate in recreational and leisure time activities for the benefit of all.







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