We’re looking for your ideas about what a Town Hall should be like.

We want your ideas – ideas from every school pupil in Penicuik – to start a whole-town debate about your Town Hall.

Can you imagine a place where you and everyone in your town would feel welcome and come together as a community? A place to gather, to celebrate, to debate and to enjoy your place?

What should a Town Hall be like for modern life and future generations? What would be there? How might it look? What would make you go there? How would you get involved?

A Town Hall for Today, and Tomorrow
A Town Hall of Ideas – BIG and small
A Town Hall without Walls?
What would make a Town Hall for All?
Do you know where Penicuik Town Hall is? Have you been there? When were you last there? What would make you go more often?

What we now know as Penicuik Town Hall was built in 1894 – 125 years ago next year! It was originally the Cowan Institute, a gift to the town by the paper-mill owning Cowan family, ‘for recreation and instruction and the furtherance of all objects affecting the welfare of the Community’. The Cowan Institute featured a grand public hall, library and reading room, museum, snooker hall, gymnasium and baths.

http://www.penicuikpapermaking.org/cowaninst.html
http://www.doorsopendays.org.uk/places/midlothian/penicuik-town-hall/

Penicuik’s Town Hall needs improvement and is a priority for the ongoing Penicuik Heritage Regeneration project. It is hoped to transform the historic town hall to meet the needs of folk in Penicuik. So what are your ideas for a Town Hall for the future?
Penicuik was a renowned paper-making town. So let’s get your ideas for A Town Hall for All down on paper! Every school pupil in Penicuik is invited to share ideas on a Paper Chain Person.

You will need:
- scissors (or somebody to cut out your Paper Chain Person)
- a pen / pencils / paints or other crafts
- some exciting ideas!

What to do:
1. Cut out your Paper Chain Person from the coloured card (there’s a colour for each school in Penicuik).
2. Write your name and class on it.
3. Sketch, write, collage, or jot down in any way you wish, your ideas for a Penicuik Town Hall for All. Use both sides of the Paper Chain Person, if you want.
4. Once you’ve finished hand your Paper Chain Person to your class teacher.

Your ideas will be shared with everyone in Penicuik and help shape ideas for the future of Penicuik Town Hall. We hope to exhibit the Paper Chain People in Penicuik Town Hall and show off your ideas.
To encourage young folk in Penicuik to become more actively engaged citizens

To enable creativity and debate among young people about their place and future communities

To showcase the ideas and illustrate the combined potential of the young folk in Penicuik to the whole community

To assist in shaping and inspiring future action in the repurposing of Penicuik’s Town Hall / the Cowan Institute

To foster increased capacity in Penicuik for young folk to meaningfully engage and shape the future of their town.

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