

How are we funded?

Dragons is not funded, we operate like any other commercial enterprise, by working hard to earn a fair return on its assets.

Money is always a fundamental issue to be addressed and we have been able to advance our plans with the help of a very smart investment.

Our 2 youngest members, both aged 4, each received a small lump sum to save for future projects such as their education or starting a business. Until such time, together with the rest of their family, they have elected to invest it in Dragons coop as loanstock, which can then be used as a deposit for the co-op to secure a commercial mortgage. We have chosen to work with an ethical bank who often work with co-operatives, Triodos Bank .

These loans will be serviced by the rent we charge our members who will live in the three bedroom cottage adjacent to the shop. We hope that over time income from the Dragons trade will grow enough to be able to service the mortgage alone, allowing us to invest rental incomes into future ventures with similar objectives: allowing us to become a hub for local community co-operative action.

Providing Space for creativity and enterprise

So much more than retail, we have many plans and are open to suggestions. Internet hub, Workshops and demonstrations, crafts and traditional skills, community broadcasts, and much more.

Dragons Coop

Market Street,

Llanrhaeadr Ym Mochnant

www.DragonsCooperative.org.uk

Our Vision:

We want to play an active part in a vibrant, sustainable and interconnected local community. We also want to play our part in helping the wider world move towards a sustainable way of being.

We recognise and value the principles of co-operation and work to live within the permaculture ethics of caring for the Earth, caring for people whilst reinvesting surplus back into the same mutual long term objectives.



Dragons co-operative are committed to sharing knowledge and offering mutual support

We are members of the newly formed Permaculture Academy, a network of people and projects who have been working together over the last decade, delivering permaculture design training.

The PDA believes everyone should have access to such knowledge as how to start small business such as housing or worker co-op and how to grow food organically and live in a productive partnership with community, nature, wildlife and biodiversity.



Affordable Housing Community Development Local Produce



Who Are We?

Our founder members are:

Steven Jones has a long history of involvement with co-operatives, as a founder member of both Chickenshack Housing Co-operative in 1995 and Permanent Housing Co-operative in 2010. Steve also operates his own training and consultancy business: Sector39 who offer permaculture design and forest garden courses as well as consultancy on community garden development. He is a founding member of both Dragons Housing Coop and Dragons Workers Coop.



Mark Burnett is a local social entrepreneur with a history of involvement in community projects such as Llanfyllin Workhouse. Mark's role as a founder member is as a representative from Permanent Housing Co-operative, also in Llanrhaeadr Ym Mochnant. He is a founding member of Dragons workers cooperative who are planning to manage the tenancy of the shop. Mark runs his own music productions and training studio: The Live Lab.



Grace Maycock is a recent graduate in Peace and Development. She has a growing interest in and passion for co-operatives and was an active member of Branches Housing Co-op in Bradford previously. She is a founding member of Dragons Housing Cooperative and a prospective tenant.



Sue Dolman is a spinner, weaver, musician and cook, who has a passion for cooperative ideals. She is part of a network of crafts artisans in Mid Wales, an area she has lived for over three decades. She is founding member of Permanent Housing Cooperative and will be a member of the Dragons Workers Coop.



Richie Stephenson is a traditional green wood carpenter. He is gifted teacher of these skills and has worked on a variety of renovation projects of all sizes - from timber frame buildings to traditional Welsh harps. A founding member of Permanent Housing Cooperative he will also be a valued member of the Dragons Workers Coop.



The Plan:

Formed in April 2015, Dragons Cooperative brings together a group of people with mutual interests in affordable housing, community action and delivering training for sustainability.

This three bedroom property with attached former shop is one of the oldest houses in the Welsh hill village



of Llanrhaeadr Ym Mochnant. Situated in the heart of Mid Wales, on the road towards one of the region's most popular tourist attractions, Pistyll Rhaeadr, the highest waterfall in Wales & England. With its ideal location, centrally in the heart of village, we envision the shop not only to be a place of interest for tourists but also to serve as a community hub. Dragon Worker Coop will be a shopfront for local creativity. Through the shop we will promote local arts and craft, as well as workshops and events on green living and permaculture.



Dragons has the potential to be a fantastic working example of cooperative ideals in action. whilst providing affordable housing in an area where rental properties are few and far between.