

# News update



April 2018

## Ark T Centre to take over management of The Venue@Cowley

**Cowley-based Ark T Centre is set to take over management of The Venue@Cowley from GreenSquare Group this summer, having been successful in its bid to run the community facility.**

The Venue@Cowley was built by GreenSquare and opened in June 2016. It is a state-of-the-art community venue in central Cowley, Oxford, and provides a fantastic meeting place and base for local people to enjoy a range of social, cultural, and educational activities at the heart of the community.

Ark T already runs an impressive range of community activities in Cowley from its base at Crowell Road. Its vision for The Venue is strongly aligned to the management of this existing space – The Ark T Centre. It aims to strike a healthy and economically viable balance between external community hires and grant funded projects, which benefit the whole community.

GreenSquare, which has been running The Venue@Cowley since it opened, put the opportunity of managing the facility out to tender at the beginning of this year.

Julie Bielby, GreenSquare's Fundraising and Partnerships Manager, said: "Ark T put forward the winning tender bid, with a realistic business plan and inspiring interview presentation.

"We wish Ark T every success in the running of The Venue@Cowley. Ark T is an established and

experienced community-orientated organisation and we have no doubt that it will ensure The Venue continues to be a vital and vibrant facility in the community."

Emmy O'Shaughnessy, Director of Ark T Centre, said: "As a local organisation, which places community, wellbeing and creativity at its heart, we couldn't be more thrilled to be taking on this role as the new management organisation.

"The Venue@Cowley has built up such a fantastic offer to the local community over the last two years and we hope to build on this with further opportunities for activities, which enable the diverse communities of Cowley to enhance their lives.

"We will bring our passion for strengthening Cowley community life, and we are very much look forward to getting to know the stakeholders, members of the community and neighbours."

GreenSquare is preparing to hand over management of the centre to Ark T on 1 June 2018, for the next three years in the first instance. While GreenSquare will continue to own the building, all other aspects of the management of The Venue@Cowley will be handed over to Ark T at that point.

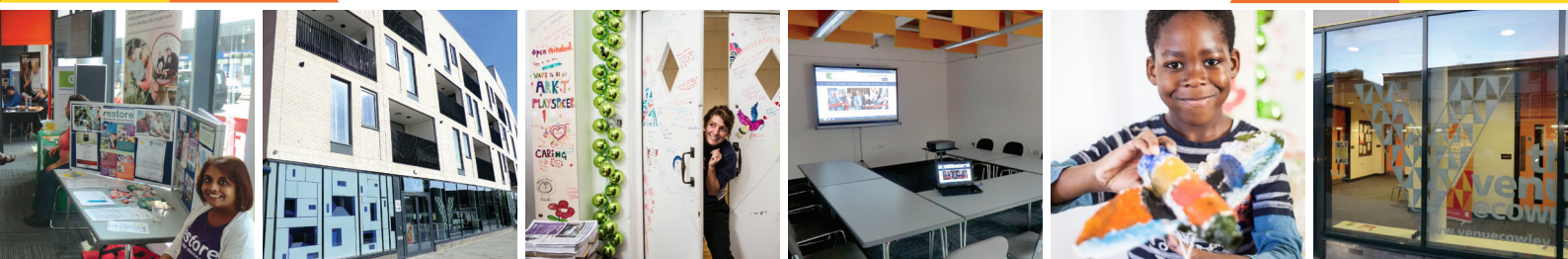
- To find out more about The Venue@Cowley, visit [www.venuecowley.co.uk](http://www.venuecowley.co.uk).

- You can find out more about Ark T by visiting [www.ark-t.org](http://www.ark-t.org).



## Ark-T Centre

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