

Åpne Tanker

Christoffer Imislund og Ingrid Dahl



English summary

background:

The project *Åpne Tanker* was initiated by the Architects Christoffer Imislund and Ingrid Dahl as a contribution to *the year of architecture 2011*. The intention of the project was to start a process of urban development in an area called *Stornes* in Hammerfest. Involvement of the citizens in the process has been a very important dimension of the project.

The site:

Stornes is located around 3km from the city centre of Hammerfest. The plot is sloping towards the sea, with a great view and very good climatical conditions. The passed years Stornes has been used for industrial purposes, to store oil in huge oiltanks. Although there are many years since the work here was dismantled, twelve oil tanks are still present here. Owing to the fact that there is quite a shortage of unbuilt areas in Hammerfest, Stornes is a very attractive area.

Approach and accomplishment:

To engage people in the debate about the new Stornes, we asked the two questions: What can Stornes be today? What can Stornes become in the future? In february 2011 we arranged an event where the biggest of the oiltanks was used as a canvas, and films were projected every day for a week. The films showed different scenarios linked to the future Stornes. This way we got people to discuss different possibilities for developing the area.

Interviews with people passing by watching the films, together with a presentation of the project was displayed in the VERK gallery in Hammerfest in october 2011. At the same time a model of the site was displayed in the library. We invited people to come and build their own future Stornes in the model. This was filmed with a web camera and displayed at the gallery and on the internet. This way the exhibition became interactive. Everybody was free to express their opinion through the model.

In november 2011 we invited to a workshop at the library. Local politicians, the municipal administration, neighbours to Stornes and representatives from *Husbanken* was invited to build their own Stornes in the model. Three very different suggestions were built, and in the end the politicians were proclaimed as the winning team. The winning proposal used the oiltanks as inspiration for the new settlement, and they suggested a quite densely built-up dwelling area. This way the exploitation ratio is high, yet the identity of the site is pursued.

Conclusion:

The information collected in interviews and workshops is to be used as a idea bank. By involving the municipality and local politicians throughout the process we have started a collaboration, which we hope will continue in further development of Stornes.