

RECREATIONAL FACILITIES WORKING GROUP MEETING – 11 JUNE 2021

At the remote meeting of the Recreational Facilities Working Group held by video conference on Friday 11 June 2021, the following Councillors were present: -

Mrs J Leggett - Chairperson

Mr M G Callam - Ms D Coleman

Mr J H Mallen

In attendance

Mr G Ranaweera - Town Clerk and Responsible
Financial Officer

Mr Jason Menezes - Bidwells Property Consultants

21/052. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

No apologies for absence were received.

21/053. FORMER-VIKING PUBLIC HOUSE DRAFTING A PROJECT BRIEF (JASON MENEZES)

During a debate on what Councillors wanted to achieve from the project the following issues were discussed.

- purpose of the building, a community hub with independent flexible space;
- whilst community groups had been consulted residents had not been canvassed for their views;
- the recreational facilities survey highlighted a desire for a place for older people and for young people to meet in their individual groups;
- a Café would draw people to visit the building which could link into other uses;
- a professionally run café reduces the amount of Council involvement whereas a community run café would require more support from Council including possibly some degree of financial underwriting;
- it would be a more attractive proposition to a community café if some basic fitting was carried out;

21/053. FORMER-VIKING PUBLIC HOUSE DRAFTING A PROJECT BRIEF
(JASON MENEZES) (CONTINUED)

- make generic flexible spaces for the building to organically evolve into what people want;
- development is constrained by room sizes, layout and structural walls;
- central, individual, disabled, unisex toilets or communal toilets;
- first floor rooms could be suitable for leasing to small business or room hire;
- onus is on service provider to offer alternative solution if no disabled access to first floor trading and must make lack of disabled access clear to potential hirers from the outset;
- future consultation with residents to present layout, available space, initial ideas, impact on the precept and invite comments;
- limit canvassing to Sprowston west ward and west of the central ward;
- phasing of works to coincide with CIL receipts;
- an extension to incorporate a hall desirable if achievable without a public works loan (PWL):
- more cost effective and straightforward to develop the property and extend in one phase. This would involve a PWL which requires community consultation. This could be achieved via Sprowston Matters July issue. This would require a delay in publication in order to prepare;
- Wi-Fi hub or dedicated Broadband;
- SYEP and food hub as possible users;
- storage requirements of potential users in addition to Councils';
- future name of property. suggestion The Viking Centre;
- possibility of Sprowston Diamond Centre subsidising the new property;
- timeline from community engagement to build including planning and tender estimated to be March 2022 with a build of 6 - 9 months.

It was agreed

(1) Mr Menezes to:

21/053. FORMER-VIKING PUBLIC HOUSE DRAFTING A PROJECT BRIEF (JASON MENEZES) (CONTINUED)

- produce a range of designs for the working group to consider;
 - prepare a brochure with proposed layout and pictures depicting possible applications.
- (2) community groups to be re-contacted;
- (3) clarification of SYEP's aspirations for the building;
- (4) consult residents via July issue of Sprowston Matters, Facebook and Council's website;
- (5) a tour of the former Viking Public House arranged for 23 June 2021 at 6.15pm.

21/054. MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 28 MAY 2021

Minutes of the meeting held on 28 May 2021 were agreed with the following amendments:

Minute 21/048 paragraph 7, to read Mr M G Callam had forwarded details of a knowledgeable contact to the Town Clerk.

Minute 21/049 delete M G Mallen and insert J H Mallen

Minute 21/050 delete Cllr. Mallan and insert Cllr. Mallen

21/055. MATTERS ARISING

Mr M G Callam reported he had been advised that Eaton Park was one of the better skateparks in the area to visit.

Ms D Coleman commented that residents near her were planting verges with wild flowers and concerned that the Town Council would mow them. She suggested a sign which could be attached to an adjacent fence stating wildflower verge do not mow. To be discussed at the next meeting.

Further to Minute 21/048, the Town Clerk reported Cambridge University's Management Agent had advised him the land was not available for lease or sale at the moment. He would contact the agent in three months-time for an update.

Councillors approved the quotation for professional VAT consultancy services from DCK Accounting solutions.

Further to Minute 21/039, the Town Clerk reported there was no progress with developers of White House Farm on provision of play equipment however, he would continue to pursue.

21/055. MATTERS ARISING (CONTINUED)

A tour of the 3G all-weather pitch at Open Academy was arranged for Wednesday 7 July 2021 at 6.30pm.

21/056. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN MONITORING REPORT 2021

It was agreed that Councillors forward their comments to the Town Clerk for inclusion in the review and update of the Neighbourhood Plan, to be considered at the next meeting of the working group.

21/057 FEEDBACK FROM RECREATIONAL FACILITIES SURVEY

The Town Clerk presented the results from the Recreational Facilities Survey and it was agreed that:

- (1) Cllrs. Callam, Coleman and Mallen send their views to Cllr. Leggett to include in her verbal report to full Council on 23 June 2021.
- (2) Town Clerk to present the results of the Recreational Facilities Survey to full Council on 23 June 2021.

21/058. PRIORITIES AND TIMESCALES

- (1) Former Viking Public House
- (2) Feedback from the Recreational Facilities Survey
- (3) Update the Neighbourhood Plan

21/059. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Friday 16 July 2021 at 4.00pm, remote meeting by Zoom.