

CHANDLER'S FORD PARISH COUNCIL

7.00 PM 31 OCTOBER 2016, FRYERN PAVILION, GREENWAYS, CHANDLER'S FORD

COUNCILLORS PRESENT: Councillor Atkinson (Chairman), Councillors, Aubry, Bicknell, Boyes, Broadhurst, Cox, Duguid, Foulds, Grajewski, Hughes, Johnson Jolly, Luffman, Pragnell, and Scott.

In Attendance: Duncan Murray (Parish Clerk), and Sukey Spurlock (Assistant Clerk) and Andrew Thompson from EBC.

Public Participation:

There were six members of the public present none of whom wished to speak before the start of the meeting.

684 APOLOGIES

These were received from Councillors Boyes, Bull, Leslie, and Simmonds.

685 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none.

686 COMMUNITY SAFETY – UPDATE

There was no report.

687 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

There was a short report commenting on the correspondence between the Clerk and Network Rail following the Council's representation that had been submitted following the September meeting. It was noted that the cabin was in the road and blocking access for emergency vehicles, and that the rail footpath was currently closed. The Clerk was requested to follow this up with Network Rail and post updates on the council's website.

It was agreed that Agenda Item 8 could be brought forwards to allow Mr Thompson to leave as early as possible.

688 TO DISCUSS AND CONSIDER THE PROPOSAL BROUGHT FORWARD FROM THE HILTINGBURY PAVILION EXTENSION PROJECT BOARD THAT THE FEASIBILITY STUDY, PARISH COUNCIL'S PRECEPT LEVEL AND THE OCCUPANCY FIGURES (AT 25%) AND ON THE ADVICE OF EXPERTS (EBC AND SPORTS ENGLAND OFFICERS) INDICATE THAT PROPOSALS FOR A 4 BADMINTON COURT SIZED EXTENSION SHOULD BE TAKEN FORWARDS WITH REFURBISHMENT OF THE EXISTING PAVILION AS A SINGLE PHASE DEVELOPMENT, BASED ON OPTION 3, AT AN INDICATIVE COST OF APPROXIMATELY £1.5M, WITH THE PROVISION THAT IF IT IS RESOLVED TO TAKE THIS FORWARDS THAT TKL ARCHITECTS BE RETAINED AS THE DESIGN TEAM, WITH RICHARD BARNES AS THE QUANTITY SURVEYOR.

Mr Thompson introduced himself to Council Members and gave the following briefing having confirmed that even though he was moving Local Area Committees, it had been agreed at Borough he would continue to support the project up to the beginning of construction, subject to ongoing consents.

That the Project Team included himself, Duncan as the sponsor, and Mike Hughes as the Cllr link and driving force.

There was a project board made up of quite a few of the Parish council and this is a sub-group of full council.

TKL were employed to work up feasibility designs for both a new pavilion and a refurbished one with outline drawings and costs.

Right back to the beginning – What is the need for a Sports Hall??

Sport & Active Lifestyles Strategy 2015 highlights that as a borough we are full to capacity for sports hall use. This meant peak hours.

Fleming Park Leisure Centre – EBC are increasing provision – but already, a year before opening, most slots are getting booked up – add in Eastleigh College having shut its 4 court sports hall and using FPLC – there remained a need for more courts.

As seen from the report – Places for People are also supportive of this proposal, and rather than a threat, they welcome it and saw it as an opportunity for those smaller community groups to gain sports hall time at peak hours.

In terms of strategy objectives – it fitted those of sport England, various governing bodies and linked into EBC's aim of developing facilities in central community hub sites opposed to stand alone , smaller venues where no economies of scale can be realised – and places are open to be vandalised..

The Football Association (FA), yes the Football Foundation gave a grant in 2008 – however, having met with the FA they back this proposal, as they see a better used venue, a more appealing external façade (a big target for them at the moment) – tidied up changing rooms, and a venue for 5 a side football . The existing grant is safe.

The Designs

As Members could see from the feasibility studies, from a financial perspective, the refurbished option is coming in around £400,000 under the new build indicative costs. For this reason, the team have focused on the refurbished design.

The original brief was to have a minimum 2 court sports hall, with costs and designs for a 3rd court (sports halls are measured in badminton court sizes). Sports clubs require a minimum of 3 courts to function, though to be able to compete with other halls for 5 a side football, though 3 courts could work, it would be highly undesirable and would significantly reduce the potential future income.

Noting the uplift of only £80,000 from 2-3 court hall, the project team asked for costs for the increase from 3-4 courts. This uplift was a further £100,000. This would encroach slightly onto the open space; however, the football pitch could easily be moved down. This would actually help with the reinstatement of the goalmouths.

Though technically building on an open space. The net gain to sport is significant enough for Sport England, the FA and EBC to fully support this development, as the indoor facility can be used 24/7.

Informal advice from the EBC sport team, SE and various governing bodies on the feasibility designs were very positive. They were very complimentary of a Parish Council taking on such a project and wanted this message relayed to the Parish. They were instructed not to focus on the internal layout too much (storage, internal doors, offices etc), but to look at the general layout, the sports hall, changing and multi-use room. Whilst they said they would be happy to offer advice at the detailed design phase for the aforementioned things should this be approved, they were happy with the feasibility in principle designs, though ALL said that for this to be a worthwhile project with proper sports development outcomes and a sustainable business plan, then the 4 court hall is a necessity.

Mr Thompson was thanked for his presentation and the floor was opened to questions. Members asked questions about funding and particularly the use of green energy such as photovoltaic panels and ground-source heating. Comment was also made that if the Parish Council was serious about sports provision then it had to opt for a four court hall not a three court one.

Comment was made by project team members that there were current time constraint issues such as being able to apply for the £400k plus New Homes Bonus Scheme grant before it was reduced further by other projects. It was currently hoped to go either the November or December EBC cabinet meeting for part funding. At this meeting it was about making the decision whether to progress the project to that stage and work up a detailed design for the planning application.

It was confirmed that outline costs and income had been analysed to determine that the project was viable and that a more detailed business plan would be constructed as the project developed flesh on the skeleton.

A couple of Members expressed concerns over the scale of the proposals, suggesting a more modest unit as an extension or erecting the facility elsewhere in the Parish. Other Members disagreed with these suggestions pointing out that the Hiltingbury Recreation Ground was the largest open space, had facilities, which needed updating and could create a facility that had the economies of scale to create a revenue stream and make it a viable project. It was also commented that it was felt that not one councillor would put their hand up and suggest that the existing building was good enough. Design costs for the next stage were enquired about and the Clerk suggested a sum in the region of £40k might be expected.

Concluding the debate and following proposal, seconding and on a show of hands the continuation of the project, as a 4 court sports hall with refurbishment of the

existing pavilion, be taken forwards to detailed design for planning consent, and application to EBC for a NHBS grant of around £400k was AGREED.

It was requested that the vote be recorded as 12 for, with Cllr Duguid against, and Cllr Pragnell abstaining.

689 TO APPROVE/ACCEPT MINUTES OF MEETINGS:

- a) to approve the minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 26 September 2016,
- b) to approve the minutes of the HR Committee meeting of 23 September 2016,
- c) to approve the minutes of the Asset Management Committee's meeting of 3 October 2016,
- d) to approve the minutes of the Policy and Finance Committee meeting of 10 October 2016 to note the financial reports, half-year report, and to ratify the payments agreed by that committee, and
- e) to approve the notes of the Hiltingbury Pavilion Extension Project Board meeting of 17 October 2016.

Each minute was AGREED following proposal, seconding and on a show of hands for each item and the financial reports were noted.

The demise of Wilding Butler and its impacts on the council needing to be reported to Full Council was mentioned as not being on this agenda.

690 TO REQUEST THE CLERK WRITES TO STEVE BRINE MP TO REQUEST HIS SUPPORT IN PROMOTING THE POLICE TO TAKE A MORE PROACTIVE ROLE IN DRUG ENFORCEMENT AT THE RECREATION GROUNDS TO HELP REDUCE ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR.

It was commented that it would have been nice to have a police presence at the meeting due to the subject matter. The topic was started with comments about the risks to the council's officers from removing and potentially transporting drugs paraphernalia, as well as the risk of discarded sharps. Whilst the council might be developing a policy without written police guidance it was

It was agreed that the Clerk should write and copy in the Police and Crime Commissioner.

691 TO DISCUSS AND AGREE A RESPONSE, IF REQUIRED, TO THE CONSULTATION ON THE GOVERNMENT'S PROPOSALS TO CAP PARISH COUNCILS' PRECEPT INCREASES TO 2% OR £5, WHICHEVER IS THE GREATEST.

The Clerk briefed Members that the proposals wouldn't have much impact on this council unless and until its precept was around £750k. Also that it would be unlikely that all parish councils would have to have referenda for an increase of over £5 as for some councils that cost could be greater than the benefit of the increase.

One member made the point that there was a referendum on parish councils every four years, being the election of councillors.

The agreed action was for the Clerk to write to Steve Brine asking for him to represent the Council's view that the system works well currently, so there are no reasons to need to make changes.

692 MEMBER'S QUESTIONS

There were none submitted for the Agenda

693 TO AGREE THE RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE COMMITTEES THAT:

- a) to agree the RECOMMENDATION from Policy and Finance Committee AGREE to refer the updating of Standing Orders and Financial Regulations to the Audit and Risk Committee for review and to report back in the new year, and**
- b) to agree the RECOMMENDATION from Policy and Finance to NOTE the conclusion of the External Audit and the External Auditors' qualified report on the lack of formal minuting of the Council's Risk Assessment, despite the work having been done, in 2015-2016 due to the Clerk's illness is accepted.**

Following proposal, seconding and on a show of hands each recommendation was AGREED.

That being all the business the meeting was closed at 8.42 pm and the time and place of the next meeting was confirmed as the Fryern Pavilion, Greenways at 7.00pm on 12 December 2016.

Chairman.....