



**NEW ROMNEY TOWN COUNCIL
FULL COUNCIL MEETING 13TH NOVEMBER 2017
TOWN CLERK'S REPORT – CAPITAL PROJECTS**

AGENDA ITEM: 11(i)(a)

CAPITAL PROJECTS REPORT

Proposed Community Hall and Sports Pavilion

The Chairman of the Community Hall and Sports Pavilion Steering Group – together with the Town Clerk and the Deputy town Clerk – attended a site meeting at the Maude Pavilion and then the existing Community Hall (Baby Seashells Nursery), at which the Council's appointed architect listened and responded to comments and / or ideas raised by, first, a representative of the New Romney Sports Club and, next, a representative of the nursery in respect of relevant details of the proposed community hall and sports pavilion project.

The architect was able to look around the inside of both buildings – particularly the nursery building – so that he had a good idea as to what may be required in terms of the uplift of the existing building via cladding / rear access / windows etc. Some discussion took place regarding the layout of sports pitches and it was noted that it may be possible to provide an additional football pitch if the cricket square was moved. The architect was not looking closely at this option at this time but the provision of an additional pitch would provide strong evidence of sports development by allowing for additional youth members to participate and this would, in turn, strengthen applications for sports funding.

There was also some discussion about a potential further (future) project to install an 'all weather' pitch at the sports field along the left hand side (from Station Road end) of the field as it was pointed out that such pitches are much sought after during the winter months for training purposes – with New Romney's own football team travelling to Cheriton on a weekly basis for winter training – hence, such provision could provide the Town Council with a valuable source of income by hiring it out to various clubs during the winter months or even year-round.

The architect has been tasked with re-visiting the front façade of the proposed community building as it was felt that this was an aspect of the proposed design that still required further thought. He has also been tasked with giving further consideration to the issue of parking. At the same time, the appointed project management team is preparing updated costings and programming schedules.

A further meeting with the architect and project management team has now been arranged to take place towards the end of November, following which it should be possible for a 'fundraising pack' to be prepared on behalf of the Council by the project management / architect teams in readiness for the fundraising period to commence (this will, of course, require the completion of a detailed business plan – preparation of which is underway and which will also be presented to the Council for approval in due course) and a meeting of Full Council arranged, at which time all relevant matters can be put to Council for consideration with a view to submitting a planning application.