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CAPITAL PROJECT REPORT – Full Council 12th August 2019– Agenda item 12

This is a summary of recent progress made in relation to the proposed Community Hall and Sports Pavilion Project.

- 1, As reported last month, the Planning Application is still in the system and consultation responses are being reviewed. Sport England have now responded and raised no objection to the application. As is often the case with such applications, some further surveys linked to the residential development element of the application have been requested by statutory consultees and another matter is being addressed. We anticipate that we will see further developments over the next few weeks as we near a time for the decision to be made.
2. I chaired a meeting of the Council's Project Steering Group to update members on progress being made, and to discuss the next steps in the project's processes following the grant of planning permission – most particularly with regard to procurement options and the development of the construction tender documents which will be overseen by Synergy.
3. The matter of Funding applications was discussed at the PSG meeting. I am leading on the RDHCT application and am in liaison with the Colyer Fergusson Charitable Trust which has now agreed to consider the project. I will be meeting the Trust's representative's following the (hopeful) grant of formal planning permission. Cllr Thomas will lead on the application to Sport England and other National Lottery funding streams. Other funding streams are being researched and considered.
4. I have been approached by several potential users of the proposed amenity who are keen to see the new facility developed and hope to use it as a base for service provision. This will benefit local residents and provide some positive income revenue streams if they materialise.
5. I have provided Cllr Thomas with answers to some detailed questions that he received following a meeting with a local resident. May I point out that the whole development is being managed by an extremely well respected and experienced Project Management Consultancy and as representative of the 'client' the PSG are both steering and closely monitoring all areas of the project – finance, design, planning and legal (supported by the Town Council's appointed solicitor). As is usual with such projects, all consultants are on hold pending the grant of planning permission following which the project will progress forward in line with the anticipated programme of works towards the construction tendering phase.

Councillor Patricia Rolfe
Chair of CHSP Project Steering Group
12th August 2019

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