

NEW ROMNEY TOWN COUNCIL

FULL COUNCIL MEETING 17TH MARCH 2021

CAPITAL PROJECTS REPORT – Proposed Community Hall and Sports Pavilion

Community Hall & Sports Pavilion Progress Report

Further progress has been made regarding the development of the new Community Hall and Sports Pavilion ('the CHSP') which I can summarise as follows:

Section 106 and Legal matters

We have progressed negotiations with the developer continue. Cllr Thomas, the Town Clerk and I met with him in February to discuss several issues mostly relating to the Section 106 contributions. Following on from those discussions, I chaired a meeting of the Project Steering Group to update all members on the current situation.

We have now instructed our solicitor who will be liaising with the Developer's legal adviser and, when appropriate, the District Council's solicitor. It is anticipated that an Especial Meeting of NRTC Full Council will be convened at an appropriate stage in the next two months and once all the information is available.

Funding

As previously advised, I was asked to give a presentation to the Board of Trustees of the Roger De Haan Charitable Trust. I met with them in February and arranged for Cllr Thomas to be in attendance. A copy of my presentation is attached to this report. This consolidates and updates certain elements of our original Funding Pack, relevant extracts of the Design & Access Statement that was submitted as part of the Planning Application, together with specific slides that address key issues raised by the charity's Trustees when they first considered our application in November. It was imperative that I took the Trustees through the project's 'journey' which was quite a challenge given the time limit imposed. The feedback at the meeting, and following the meeting was very constructive – and I was able to answer all of the questions that were put to me. The Trustees were extremely positive and encouraging about what we have achieved to date.

Going forward, there may be some very exciting opportunities for 'partnership working' in relation to the use of the new facility and I will update fellow Councillors when further information is available.

At the time of writing this report, we are still waiting to hear if our application has been successful. So, fingers crossed

Due to the amount of work involved in the preparation of the aforementioned presentation, I am in the middle of drafting our application to the Collyer Fergusson Trust and plan to work with the Town Clerk over the next couple of weeks to finalise the details. Hopefully, a submission will be made this month for consideration by the Trustees at a future meeting.

Other Funding opportunities continue to be investigated.

Councillor Patricia Rolfe Chair of CHSP Project Steering Group 9th March 2021 E & O E