



**NEW ROMNEY TOWN COUNCIL**  
**FULL COUNCIL MEETING 12<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2024**  
**CAPITAL PROJECTS REPORT – MAUDE COMMUNITY CENTRE PROJECT**

It was reported to Council that there have been significant issues with utilities connections at the Maude Community Centre Site which, it was previously reported, have been resulting in increased costs due to (a) the necessity to utilise a generator onsite whilst issues regarding the installation of a replacement electricity meter were resolved and (b) paperwork was being chased to evidence disconnection of gas and prevent further billing for estimated gas usage when there is no gas connection on site. The matter of the electricity meter installation now appears to have been resolved with installation currently in hand and it is hoped that the issue regarding gas billing can be resolved within the coming weeks, albeit that it may be necessary to pay bills received to date and then claim back the relevant payments.

Despite the afore-mentioned issues and the previously reported delay due to a nesting jackdaw, Kent Structures have been working at pace and the foundation slabs for the main community building and the annex have been laid and the project is now 'out of the ground'.

It was also reported to Council that the Project Steering Group has been considering the naming of the three main rooms in the Annex building as it is intended that there will be some community use of at least one space at weekends for smaller groups / activities. Names that have been put forward and considered by the Project Steering Group have intentionally been based on significance of the name within the community of New Romney.

The Council was reminded that it was originally intended that the name of Lord Peter Imbert should be used for the first floor community Hall and Maude Pavilion should be retained as the name for the ground floor pavilion. However, the revised project now has the single name of Maude Community Centre. It was agreed that it is important to retain use of the Imbert name within the project, since it was agreed by resolution of the Council that this name should be used due to Lord Peter Imbert's position as Chief of the Metropolitan Police, which put New Romney on the map, as well as his strong links with New Romney, which he retained throughout his life.

Other names were also put forward for consideration:

‘Carey’ – since Councillor Ted Carey was not only an active and well-respected Town Mayor but also Chairman of the New Romney Football Club for many years.

‘Palmer’ – since Councillor Barbara Palmer was another active and well-respected Town Mayor who was always very involved in the local community.

Two further past Mayor’s who had a huge involvement in the running and development of the Town:

Teichmann-Derville

Tubbs

In addition, a further two names were also put forward:

Mabel Stringer – golf enthusiast and sporting journalist born in New Romney and captain of Littlestone Golf Club in the 1880s.

Dorothy Bannon – pioneering British nurse born in New Romney (but no evidence of having grown up / lived in New Romney)

Having given the matter of naming rooms in the Annex due consideration, it was agreed by the Council that the three names to be adopted were:

The Imbert Room

The Palmer Room

The Stringer Room

Town Clerk