



**NEW ROMNEY TOWN COUNCIL
FULL COUNCIL MEETING 7TH FEBRUARY 2024
CAPITAL PROJECTS REPORT – Proposed Community Hall and Sports
Pavilion**

On Tuesday 23rd January 2024, the final (interview) stage of the tendering process was undertaken with a view to awarding the Design and Build contract for this project as soon as possible. The confidential, Detailed Report on Tenders, together with the Clerk's confidential report will be received and noted at this meeting and the Town Council will be asked to consider recommendations therein.

The Project Steering Group participated in the interview process and all of those present (PSG Members, Project Management Consultants, Electrical and Mechanical Engineering Consultants & Architect) were in unanimous agreement in terms of resulting opinion following conclusion of interviews.

The Project Steering Group had met briefly with the key stakeholders ahead of this process to provide a project update and to further discuss logistical matters, such as provision of temporary changing facilities and temporary parking arrangements during the project construction phase. The Chairman of the PSG and the Clerk then met on site with the nursery provider to follow up on this discussion, since the main focus of the afore-mentioned meeting had been on the sports club, and to check that there were no concerns with the logistics of transferring into a new building at the relevant time.

A further meeting was held with the Football Club representatives on Monday 29th January to discuss any queries that had been raised at the previous meeting and to provide an update in respect of the likely construction period. It was noted that there may be a requirement for the developer to utilise a strip of the field to the rear of the new-build footprint within the construction site. It was agreed that the Council would follow up on the question of the extent of this area with the developer, at such time as any contract is awarded, in order to try to retain the first pitch in use throughout the construction period and that the football club would commence discussion with another local club about the potential for ground sharing for the duration of the construction period in such case as it is not possible to keep the first pitch in use during that period.