

## Responses to comments and questions posed during open forum at Parish Assembly 2019

It was suggested that a way to encourage more young people to meetings such as this was needed. This is the responsibility of the ER&TD Committee. Their Action Plan includes making recommendations regarding a new format for the Parish Assembly. It also includes the setting up a Town Forum for the exchange of ideas and mutual support and a Young People's Forum.

Whilst not against repairs to the Almonry, concern was expressed at the provision of a wedding venue and a café, the latter had previously lost money when based in the Almonry. A question for the new Town Council to consider: Could the Council look again at expenditure required? The wedding venue requires no additional expenditure. The expenditure for the Café is continually under review within the Fit for Battle group.

It was stated that a café is required in the recreation ground as a vital community hub for children, their parents and their grandparents. An outside provider, using Council facilities should also be considered. 87% of respondents to the questionnaire were in favour of a café. Various methods of operation of the cafe have been considered in the past. The business plan is still in draft following the decision to rebuild the Pavilion. The original plan to employ a manager, supported by volunteers to allow the Council to enable wide social use and control pricing etc may change as there have been recent enquiries from people wishing to run the facility.

Suggestions for the new Town Council to consider: a further consultation in relation to the Almonry project; costs for the provision of a café to be published. A further consultation is not planned, but residents will be kept informed of plans. The business plan for the provision of the café will be published, but the estimated cost to build is currently confidential as the project is going out to tender.

A complaint that a property photograph on the Heritage Charter display had not been permitted was made. Councillor Russell has made a direct response to the complainant, however, the photograph was taken from a public place.

A question for the new Town Council to consider: In the absence of any demonstrable need for additional meeting space in the town or a business plan to justify the development aspects of the Almonry project, will the Council abandon the plan in favour of one which focusses solely on essential repairs to the historic fabric? A response to this unsupported statement will be included in the Almonry Redevelopment Working Group report to F&GP.

A statement highlighting the small number of responses from 6500 residents to the consultation on the Almonry project with a suggestion that all Councillors resign. Council are committed to continuing to research ways to communicate with residents and obtain their views.

A request for a safety alert sign to be erected close to the Telham Playing Field. A request for a sign was made by the previous Council, but was rejected. The idea of match funding of a crossing was also put forward, but is not feasible. This will be raised again with East Sussex Highways at the next joint meeting of BTC & ESCC Highways.