



# Battle Town Council



**MINUTES of an additional meeting of the ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING  
held on TUESDAY, 27 AUGUST 2019 at The Almonry, High Street, Battle AT 7.30pm**

**Present: Cllrs V Cook (Chairman), B Brown, G Favell, H Sharman**

In attendance: Cllr J Gyngell, Carol Harris (Town Clerk)

- 1. Apologies for absence** – Cllrs L Samms and C Would.
- 2. Disclosure of interest** – None.
- 3. Minutes of previous Meeting held on 6 August 2019** were approved by members and duly signed by Cllr Cook.

#### **4. Pavilion and refreshment area**

The Clerk reported on a meeting with the Step up Sports Consultant and Chairman of Council to clarify the funding options for the facility. Members noted that the approved plan for the Pavilion has three distinct areas: clubroom at rear; changing and toilet facilities; and refreshment area. A draft business plan draft for the refreshment area had been requested to form part of the specification for the tender and to attract external funding. It was confirmed that a part-time (initially) refreshment service will not attract capital funding. It had been suggested that the clubroom and refreshment area be merged at the front of the building, with a servery to the outside. Although it could potentially be reduced in size this was felt not to be appropriate due to the essential storage provision beneath the extended building.

The benefit of a new combined space would enable multi-purpose use: for refreshments for local residents exercising around the Rec as required, for the football club requirements on Saturdays in the season, for meeting space for local clubs or coach education courses. With a revised layout it was felt that it would attract sports funding. The Clerk confirmed that the Architect would charge £350 for a redesign, but there should be no additional cost or time involved for a 'non-material amendment' by the Planning Authority. The Football Foundation(FF) would also be asked to approve prior to going to tender. Funding from Sport England could then be targeted to cover some of the capital cost for the clubroom/refreshment area. The FF would be expected to give funding for costs of changing facilities and toilets, and also part of the flexible space (clubroom). This may reduce the need to find as much capital funding for the refreshment area as per the original design.

It was reported that, if the areas are merged, a memorandum of agreement for specific use would be required between the Council and Battle Baptist Football Club for FF funding purposes. Whilst Council match funding is not required, the figures will need to balance prior to grant applications being submitted. A business plan should contain aims and objectives and be strategic rather than financial with a risk assessment on how to improve should the facility not reach expectation. As with most grant funding, there will be some feedback and analysis required post completion. The Consultant felt that, with the suggested alteration, there would be a good chance of obtaining full grant required. She confirmed that once invitation to tender had been submitted, more detailed dates would be provided.

The Clerk was asked to obtain indicative build costs from the Architect.

**Cllr Cook proposed that the Architect be contracted, at a cost of £350 (210/4800), to merge the club room with the refreshment area together with all consequential amendments, including a serving**

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point to outside and for this to be submitted to the Planning Authority as soon as possible. This was seconded by Cllr Sharman and agreed unanimously.

## **5. Matters for information / future agenda items**

- Outdoor gym equipment
- Health & Safety Risk Assessment for the Abbey Green
- High Weald AONB advice
- Parking at the recreation ground – non recreation ground users
- Estate Management Plan

## **6. Date of next meeting:** 1 October 2019

The meeting closed at 8.05pm.

Cllr V Cook  
Chairman