

BROOMFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting of Broomfield Parish Council
Held on Wednesday 3rd February at 7.30 p.m. via Zoom

21/22.	<p>Members attending Chairman Cllr Barnes Councillors Blake, Bleet, Daden, Faulds, Hubble, Howell, Hance, McKie, Mercer, Steed, Thomson.</p> <p>Also present The Clerk, two representatives from Wernick Modular Buildings, City Cllr Steel and fifteen members of the public.</p> <p>Not present Cllr Need.</p>
21/23.	<p>To receive any Declarations of Interest from Councillors. There were no declarations of interests.</p>
21/24.	<p>Public Question Time. Four letters of comment have already been received – the correspondence was later collated and published as a Q&A table on the website and is attached as appendix one.</p> <p>The questions received at the meeting were summarised as – the Council already has two community assets on David Smith Field and Angel Field, so why does another need to be built on green space? Residents applaud the idea of a youth centre, but several disagree with the proposed location. Why not improve the existing facilities instead? The Council has not engaged with the wider community and should ask about other uses for the money. Rather than spending on a new building, there were recommendations that the Pavilion is used to pilot the facility. Whatever happens, more consultation should be undertaken.</p>
21/25.	<p>To consider proposal for construction of Youth Centre on David Smith Field</p> <p><i>At the January meeting the council received an update on Youth Centre at minute 21/13 where it was reported that the favoured contractor would be providing prices for the planning application and for location to two sites on the David Smith Field. The latest proposals are now available and the Council will call a specific meeting before the February meeting to meet with the preferred contractor and review the plans in full.</i></p> <p>Two representatives from Wernicks attended to comment on the locations proposed by the Council. They advised that utility connections will have to come from Main Road, so the further away the more it will cost to plumb and wire in. They recommended the site next to the MUGA for simplicity of installation and connection to utilities but this would require cutting into the car park.</p> <p>Alternative plans would require better and more accurate guidance from the Council. Further information will be needed to make a detailed costing.</p>

It was confirmed that Wernicks could not ask for pre-application advice from the City Council until they had a more detailed specification that included an agreed location. The Council must do the initial planning assessment and Cllr Blake will work with the contractor to provide a more detailed analysis of the planning requirements.

Wernicks representatives will meet with the working group onsite to consider the options for location and connection to utilities. This will guide the Council's outline project plan.

In response to a question about the expected life of the building, it was confirmed that it is installed with a year's warranty and can last up to 70 years. The owner would be responsible for disposal at end-of-life. Leasing would be possible, but it would cost more than purchase

The building would support guttering for water harvesting and potentially usable as a grey water supply. It would not be possible to install solar panels on the roof as they would damage it.

A heat pump could be used to temper the air.

The look of the building can be modified to suit, but that will be expensive. Few councillors saw the benefit of spending on cosmetic additions.

Following a presentation from Cllr Hance, The Wernicks representatives left and the meeting opened to debate in which the following comments were made.....

The Village Hall offered support groups for many ages and interests, but not for youth.

The majority of Councillors are in favour of a youth facility, which has been an for many years, but it is a big decision and the residents have asked for more thought and research.

Rather than seeing the building as a youth facility, it could have a wider use and provide a chance for the generations to mix.

The concerns about losing some of the cycleway and green space must be noted, but the centre would be an all-weather facility. The proposed building does take space, but so do the football pitches.

More research would put the project back and the delay might be very damaging. The Council currently has the money, the land and a group of people who are willing and competent to start the project. The project may be a risk, but the council should take the opportunity to do something practical.

Returning to the question of consultation, The Council were reminded that they should have undertaken consultation with the children who will be the users. Why hasn't the council used broomfield times to consult with all the children and parent who will be affected?

Given the risk of starting a new project, it was again suggested that the Council should fund a pilot programme in the Pavilion and then build a better facility at Broomfield Place as part of a Community Hub. The Council were reminded that other sites are available and the Bloor Homes development may include a youth facility.

In contrast, it was noted that other sites may be available, having a base that is in your control is essential for a successful scheme. When seen as part of the Village Hall and playing

	<p>fields, the proposed facility will be a community hub in itself. It will enhance, not replace other facilities. The centre will provide much-needed support for the youth who are affected by Covid. Their loss of learning and freedom has created an emergency that needs a strong and direct response. The Council should create a resource for the whole community and work in partnership with others to rescue the vulnerable.</p> <p>At the conclusion of the debate, there was no conclusion and it was agreed to defer the decision to the next council meeting on 17th when the Wernicks site survey can be considered and the City Council asked about providing guidance on planning requirements.</p> <p>Resolved. Approval of the decision will be deferred to a later meeting. Proposed Cllr Barnes seconded Cllr Mercer and carried unanimously.</p>
21/26.	<p>Motion deferred: Council approves the appointment of Wernicks to supply and fully install a demountable building for use as a Youth Centre.</p> <p>Motion deferred: The Council approves the <state agreed location> to position the Youth Club building and authorises the Clerk to instruct Wernicks to proceed.</p>
21/27.	<p>Items for next agenda</p> <p>Next meeting February 17th 2021.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Meeting closed at 9.19</p>