

# Marden Parish Council

New Community Facilities Working Group (NCFWG) Meeting  
for the New Community Centre  
on Tuesday 24 October at 19.30 in Community Centre

## Notes of the Meeting

**Present:** David Bennett (Chairman), Paula Barrett, Jess Tidball, Angela Sasso and Chris Wathen.

**In attendance:** Alison Sutton, Parish Clerk.

1. **Apologies** – Sandra Gladwyn, Jenny Larkham, Robin Brook and Dave Lloyd.
2. **Open Forum** – Comments received by email – if project pursued, Pre-school needs to be open about its finances; why is the Pre-school not funding or fundraising for its own building; how many of the current Pre-school roll are out of parish children; why is the PC funding this.

3. **Update on response of PC to presentation and further information obtained –**

PC agreed to progress proposal to a public consultation on whether to take out a loan or not.  
Clerk has information on VAT and planning situations, following Clerks' conference and long phone calls to HMRC –

- PC cannot reclaim VAT on a demountable building and charge Pre-school rent, as Pre-school is a charity – unless PC registers for VAT and Opts to Tax – which means PC would have to charge Pre-school VAT on rent
- But renting is an exempt business supply for a PCs, so cannot charge VAT anyway – and therefore cannot reclaim
- And special rules apply to charities running Pre-schools – could ask for non-option and could not reclaim VAT anyway.
- HALC told Clerk verbally that PC would be able to include VAT to be paid in loan requirement if reclaiming – awaiting confirmation that can still do this if not going to reclaim
- Planning – in principle no problem with siting demountable on school land – education and legal departments of Herefordshire would still have to agree
- But Planning would not support siting building on Recreation Ground or nearer road.

Best of four companies quotes – for 5-bay is £153k +VAT = £189k. Plus other costs that would need to be included to fund community centre return to community use. Also issue of how much Pre-school can pay in rent.

4. **Format and display for public event** – Not considered.

5. **Next steps –**

Agreed need urgent meeting of full NCF group – as many apologies given for tonight – to decide if viable to take project forward due to significant cost implications.

Alison – Email Robin as chair of MVT and Maggi as academy principal and ask them to discuss and agree safeguarding and plan and estimated cost – need to know what is minimum requirement that academy and MVT happy with and the cost

Paula – Check if 4-bay possible or not and speak to Pre-school trustees to get definitive figure that could pay in rent.

Both these actions needed before meeting of NCF on Thursday 2 November.

6. **News and Views copy for December/January copy date (20.11.17)** – Not considered.

7. **Next meeting – Thursday 2 November 2017 at 7.30 pm in Community Centre.**

Alison Sutton – Parish Clerk

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