



New Romney Town Council – Press Release

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BUILDING COMMUNITY SPIRIT



TOWN COUNCIL FORGES AHEAD WITH DEVELOPMENT PLANS FOR NEW SPORTS PAVILION AND COMMUNITY HALL WITH THE SUPPORT OF LOCAL RESIDENTS

Design plans for a new state of the art Sports Pavilion and Community Hall for New Romney were revealed to residents of the Town during a 2 day consultation event held in the Town's Assembly Rooms. New Romney Town Council has been progressing the long-awaited project for over 3 years. A Project Steering Group – led by Deputy Mayor – Councillor Patricia Rolfe, has been working with a professional design team involving the award-winning firm– Guy Hollaway Architects –and Project Management & Cost Consultancy firm Synergy LLP.

Following several stages of consultation and liaison with local residents and stakeholders, the site layout and plans for the building were presented to members of the public. The Council proffered several formal presentations so providing local residents with a clear understanding of the aims of the project, which is to provide a social and community focal point for those living in, working in or visiting the area. The project's funding requirements was explained as well as well as how the Council plans to ensure the £3.9 million project is delivered in a timely and cost-effective manner. Attendees were able to talk to members of the Design Team who were on hand to answer any questions and receive any comments on the proposals which include a small linked enabling development to the rear of the site which will provide a significant percentage of the funding required.

The new Two story building features sports and changing facilities on the ground floor whilst the first floor will offer a large community hall area capable of seating up to 150 people, two meeting rooms, bar and kitchen area. The main hall can be subdivided for greater flexibility to allow multiple events to take place at any time. It will be available for hire to local individuals, clubs, organisations and businesses. The sports pitch layout has been adjusted and its flexibility increased to facilitate 7 football pitch options as well as the central cricket pitch.

Councillor Patricia Rolfe observed “This is an ambitious project for a first tier local authority. The aim is for the new building to become the social and community hub of the Town. The Design Team have responded to feedback to create a landmark building that meets the needs and

aspirations of local residents, and the feedback from those who attended the events has been extremely encouraging, positive and supportive. I was delighted that local people came along to engage with us and we will hopefully take on board the comments received in the process.”

The Council will now press forward with the project as the Design Team begin to finalise the design and prepare all the necessary information required to submit a planning application towards the end of the Summer.

Alex Richards – Lead architect noted: “It is fantastic to be involved in this unique project that will offer the residents and visitors to New Romney a diverse sporting venue and community space. The replacement of the existing facilities onsite is long overdue and the work to the existing nursery building and car parking will further improve the site. The consultation was a good opportunity to share these proposals with the local residents and gather their feedback. All aspects of the proposal were very well received and we look forward to continuing to work with the town council to deliver this scheme.”

Some of the many positive comments received from residents:

“It’s just what is needed in New Romney”

“Long overdue, look forward to using it”

“Fantastic design for the people of New Romney”

“Very well thought out”





To make a donation to the project, please contact:

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