

**Hanslope Parish Council – New Community Centre Working Group – Meeting 28/10/25 –  
7.30pm on Teams.**

**Present:** R Wallond, R Simpkins, A Flatley, J Gregory, G Merry (recording)

**Apologies:** M Basson

RW: It was agreed the project is still in the feasibility phase and cannot be progressed until we know more about funding. There is a need to meet regularly – it was agreed to meet on the last Tuesday of the month and the clerk will schedule these in and produce a suitable agenda. It was agreed that RW will update Hugo (architect). RW felt we should consider working up 2 options: Option 2A – as original design and intention plus Option 2B – a less extensive/expensive version of Option 2. It was discussed but decided not to do this yet, until we have a better picture of secured funding, as asking for more drawings etc will incur cost.

JG: Further to his October funding report, he is in touch with MB re. phasing the project and potentially applying for funds per phase, as required by some funders. It was agreed that phasing of bolt-on sections would not work, as it is a holistic vision. JG reported that the Lottery application has been submitted but will not hear for 6-8 weeks. Other submitted applications: Feoffee (emphasis on educational provision), MK Community Fund (potential £30K). JG and GM will be meeting with MKCC's Public Art officers re. S106. Public Works Loans Board loan was discussed. JG is working on a brochure to attract business funding, crowdfunding, buy-a-brick scheme etc. He only has 3 day's left of his contract for this project.

RS: Wait for an answer from the lottery before progressing to concrete plans – agreed.

GM explained re. borrowing from the PWLB and we would certainly get funding. An achievable level of repayments is key to how much should be borrowed. She is currently working on the 2026-27 budget and will aim to come up with a sum by the next meeting. JG advised that to be successful, the Lottery may need to know how much match-funding the PC has i.e. PWLB, S106 and reserves. GM confirmed she will propose to the PC, that all reserves (except for general reserve covering 6-months costs), to be earmarked towards this project. This would mean a gradual increase in the precept.

RW has a contact who has successfully fundraised for another PC. JG asked for the details and will follow up any suggestions. Some funders may require match funding and GM advised that the PC would have funds to do this, from EMRs.

GM expressed concern that building will be able to cover its costs and it was agreed that further down the line, a visit would be arranged to her former parish, to view and discuss how they manage their similar facility.

JG advised we will need a more detailed drawing/vision from Hugo to send to funders.

**NEXT MEETING: Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> November 2025 at 7.30, on Teams**