

Community Centre Working Group Meeting - Tue, Jun 16, 2026 – 17.30 on Teams

Summary:

The meeting reviewed fundraising status and refined the pavilion sketch design, focusing on deliverable costs, circulation, user facilities, and grant opportunities.

Fundraising: The GoFundMe is live with £1,095 received and weekly social promotion agreed; printed donation letters/envelopes are being prepared and distributed. A Line Dancing Club fundraising event was offered. Richard maintains a funding spreadsheet showing current and prospective lines including a possible £100k MK Community Foundation contribution. Several external funding routes were discussed (Community Lottery unsuccessful, Sport England, Football Foundation, newly surfaced community-asset funds) and members committed to register on portals to pursue applications. RW will produce clearer financial statements summarising Section 106, council reserves, loans, and the funding shortfall for external conversations.

Design and layout: HH presented a revised layout that relocates the main stair to a central “village” position to create seated circulation, social/performance seating, and a raised mezzanine overlooking the cafe/atrium. The bar/reception is oriented at the tower entry as a central hub feeding the sports hall, atrium, and cafe. Features shown include sightlines to fields, a covered first-floor balcony, a covered walkway from parking, rooflighting in coffers with LED accents, and a lift for disabled access. A dividing, sound-insulated sports-hall wall was proposed for simultaneous events and storage is located under the main stair to maximise open-plan flexibility. Hugo committed to deliver a stage one report (plans, renders, findings, risks, area comparison) by Monday or end of the week.

Facilities, compliance, and constraints: Proposed changing-room areas were reviewed and agreed at approximately 27 and 27.5 m² with separate shower areas of roughly 11–11.5 m², representing an improvement over existing provision and broadly within Sport England/Football Foundation guidance; Hugo will verify exact Sport England sizing against earlier proposals. The Hornets youth group currently do not require dedicated changing rooms; A referees’ room is required to meet FA/league rules and possible locations were discussed (under mezzanine or by slightly reducing away changing footprint). Accessible toilets (around 5 m²) and toilet availability outside cafe hours were discussed and toilets will be open with cafe rather than 24/7. Garages were assumed outside scope and may need separate funding.

Costs and value engineering: The QS is appointed and will provide early costings on the sketch design to identify scope-in/out of fixtures, fittings, and white goods. Cost-control options discussed include reducing glazing, substituting timber balustrades for glass, using standard timber/steel construction, and shopping glazing suppliers. Renders may be used to stimulate donations if clearly labelled as artist impressions; the team also discussed adding an FAQ and blog/newsletter to the website to present factual funding status and reduce misinformation. Unresolved issues include securing key funding by the end of stage two before planning submission and confirming exact Sport England sizing and the referees’ room location within constrained headroom and circulation.

Action Items:

- * Parish Clerk will promote the GoFundMe on social media once a week
- * GM will look into placing promotional materials on parish-owned land and confirm specific locations
- * Parish Clerk will bring completed donor letters/envelopes to the allotment meeting on Thursday for distribution
- * GM and James Gregory will contact Hanslope Park to explore corporate community engagement and match-funding opportunities
- * RW will prepare a concise financial statement showing total project cost, confirmed funds (Section 106, reserves, loans) and the funding shortfall for communications
- * James Gregory will follow up with Damon about the foundation funding timeline and report back
- * James Gregory will register and update the Football Foundation and Sport England portals and pursue eligible funding opportunities
- * JG will identify which Football Foundation grants the project might be eligible for and report findings
- * Hugo Hardy will email about newly available community-asset funding opportunities and any relevant changes
- * James Gregory will prepare a proposal and estimated profit/costs for running a village pub quiz fundraiser and present it to the group
- * Hugo Hardy will deliver the stage one report including plans, renders, findings, risks, and the area comparison by Monday at the latest, likely by the end of the week.
- * Richard Wallond will share the spreadsheet and go through the red-note list top to bottom with the team.
- * Hugo Hardy will revise the changing-room plan to create a referee's room in the corner of the away changing room with a separate door, keeping it larger than the current referee provision.
- * Hugo Hardy will verify Sport England changing-room size requirements against the July 5 proposals and confirm whether the current design meets those standards
- * James Gregory will pass the Football Foundation guidance note to the team (Football Foundation note)
- * Hugo Hardy will review glazing and framing suppliers to identify lower-cost options and report back with refined cost estimates after the QS pricing – in due course
- * Hugo Hardy will instruct the appointed QS to cost the phase-one sketch design and provide lump-sum pricing for elements such as lighting and fit-out – in due course