

Preliminary Steering Group meeting

Wednesday 4th October 6pm at Active Gloucestershire

Apologies: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Present: Saj Patel, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Leanne Purnell

Introductions

Objectives of the group

- Agree on final use of the site
- Further consultation
- Ensure accessible for school and use of Forest School

[REDACTED] raised concerns that the Forest Site is preserved but is keen and on board to develop the site for young adults, would like to see a user level agreement in place.

The group were in agreement that the facility would be an all weather all round facility, the report that Active Gloucestershire carried out has identified a need for a facility in the area, however further consultation to be done to establish what the community would like to see being done there.

[REDACTED], Client Liaison Manager, Asset Management and Property Services for Gloucestershire County Council sent his apologies, however clarified a few points around the ownership and running of the site in advance. [REDACTED] is happy to be involved once a proposal has been formalised.

- The Glebe field is the detached playing field used by nearby St James C of E Junior School.
- The County's freehold ownership comprises all of that land coloured turquoise on the attached plan.
- The County is required to provide Junior School's with playing field facilities.
- The school is maintained by the local authority.
- The County make the decisions on the land and manage the estate management aspects.
- Day to day maintenance is devolved to the school.

[REDACTED] explained to the group about the Forest School. The site is a grade 1 forest site run by an accredited teacher, it is the only Forest School in the area and a real asset to the school. The school also use the site to deliver their curriculum, sports day and inter school competitions.

The group discussed about the need for further consultation, there is a concern that by calling it a sports facility we could be excluding some of the community could be marketed as a 'hub'. [REDACTED] suggested calling on the expertise of [REDACTED] at the County Council to put a consultation document together for us.

Consultation questions to be narrowed down and measurable and due to the multi culture of the area to be delivered face to face. [REDACTED] mentioned what requirements and evidence Sport England would require to consider any funding, there would need to be a wide range of use,, document the project is wanted, getting those that aren't active, active, sustainability and structure of running it.

We talked about the plans for the site which may not allow for changing/toilet facilities, [REDACTED] suggested involving the Kingfisher Church that currently lease the site from the County Council to use their facilities, [REDACTED] currently has a good relationship with them. There could also be scope for using the car park area.

[REDACTED] suggested using the Hello Gloucester van to carry out some consultation in the area, once the questions have been clarified, drawing on the experience and knowledge of Community Builders in the area. [REDACTED] also mentioned that she has a meet and greet at the school next week and it was agreed she could carry out some consultation, keeping the questions very simple.

Actions for the group:

- Leanne to arrange a meeting with [REDACTED] to discuss consultation, questions to be agreed by the group by email, to be done within the next month
- [REDACTED] arrange for plans for site to be drawn up
- Leanne and [REDACTED] to visit Abbeydale Community Centre to look at facility there.
- [REDACTED] invited group to look at Forest Garden, to be arranged
- [REDACTED] to speak to Kingfisher Church about future involvement

Date of next meeting, Wednesday 8th November at 5pm at the City Works, invites to be sent separately.