

A New Community Building for Mendlesham

We have a one-off opportunity to build a new community building for Mendlesham. Our aspiration is that it should be a modern, eco-friendly, and accessible facility that provides a wide range of amenities and services to meet the growing diverse needs of the community for many years to come. It should reflect the unique character and history of its setting while also being functional and practical, providing a space where community members can gather, learn and connect.

Design:

The Community Building should have a modern and innovative design that incorporates sustainable and eco-friendly features. The construction and fit out should be predicated on sustainability as far as possible and achieving low running costs, value for money and following a fabric first approach.

It should be functional, accessible and designed to make best use of the proposed location, integrating the needs for users of the adjacent playing fields, sports and play equipment facilities and community hirers.

Sustainability:

The Community Building should be a beacon of sustainability and be designed and built to the highest environmental standards, with a focus on energy efficiency, water conservation and waste reduction and an innovative use of natural light throughout the entire building. The building should be equipped with renewable energy systems, e.g. solar panels, and it should be constructed with sustainable materials as far as possible.

Capacity:

The Community Building should be large enough to comfortably accommodate events with people seated for dining in a single room, with enough space for additional seating or standing room as needed. The space should be flexible and adaptable, able to be reconfigured for a variety of concurrent uses, from community meetings and events to recreational activities, exercise classes and sports including carpet bowls.

Amenities:

The Community Building should be equipped with modern amenities such as high-speed internet access, audio-visual equipment, and lighting that can be adjusted to meet the needs of different activities and events. The building should also include accessible toilets, a kitchen, preparation and serving area and storage space for equipment and supplies, and be adaptable to offer other amenities, e.g., a bar. It should also accommodate the needs of users of the adjacent playing fields by including sports changing and showering facilities.

Accessibility:

The Community Building should be designed and constructed to be fully accessible to people with disabilities, with features such as ramps, wide doorways, lavatories and access onto a patio area and the playing field beyond. The building is proposed to be centrally located in the underutilised space between the open playing fields and the wheeled sports facility, playground and MUGA, and will join up to the existing car parking.

Safety:

The Community Building should be designed and constructed to meet all relevant safety codes and regulations, with features such as fire suppression systems, emergency lighting, and accessible exits. The building should also be equipped with security systems such as CCTV and alarms.

A New Community Building for Mendlesham

Maintenance:

The Community Building should be designed and constructed to require minimal maintenance, with durable low maintenance materials and systems that are designed to last for many years with minimal upkeep. The building should also be equipped with systems for monitoring and controlling energy use, to help reduce costs and promote sustainability.

We hope that you too will share our aspiration and vision of a space where the community can come together for events, meetings and recreational activities in a modern, eco-friendly setting for years to come.

Disclaimer: This document is an aspirational vision that represents an idealised version of a future state, which may not be immediately achievable. However, it is important to note that this document is subject to later revision / change. As circumstances evolve, new information becomes available, and new challenges emerge, it may be necessary to modify the vision to better reflect reality. It is important to keep an open mind and remain flexible as we work towards achieving this aspirational vision.