

ALCESTER TOWN COUNCIL
SQUASH COURTS WORKING GROUP
MEETING NOTES – 25TH OCTOBER 2023

Attendees

Wendy Mills, Mark Cargill, Kathryn Cargill, Andrew Foster, Vanessa Lowe, Wendy Sherwood

Notes from Meeting

1. Wendy Mills was elected Chair of the Working Group
2. Wendy Mills gave an update on the background:
 - Squash courts acquired by ATC in April 2021 as part of the 125 year lease of the Greig Hall from SDC.
 - Survey in August 2023 indicated that the fascia cladding was falling off and there was water ingress inside the courts.
 - ATC own the building therefore under Occupiers Liability Act, the Council is responsible for any injury. Action is therefore required.
3. Options are as follows:
 - Demolish the squash courts – estimate cost £50,000
 - Redevelop as a community building.

Funds are only available for the latter option.
4. Very positive feedback from the community at the prospect of a Men's Shed. Primary aim to support men's mental health.
5. Repair Café has been really successful and many of the attendees are interested in the prospect of a Shed.
6. Alcester Community Shed has been constituted and has a bank account. They just need premises.
7. More environmentally friendly to convert an existing building than to build a new one.
8. An anonymous donor has given substantial funds to ATC to redevelop the squash courts as a Men's Shed.
9. Mark Cargill gave an update on the quotes and estimates he has already obtained and requested. He outlined the list of work required.

10. The roof needs to be dealt with urgently as it is leaking. A tender document had been issued on the Contracts Finder website with a closing date of Friday 27th October. The tenders will be opened on Monday 30th October with a proposal to F & GP on 31st October.
11. The draft business case and options paper were discussed.
12. It was agreed that the project should be managed by ATC in the same way as the Greig Hall redevelopment had been run.
13. Costs of the project were discussed.
14. It was agreed that a motion would be put to Full Council as set out in the draft business case.
15. Subject to this motion passing, there would be a further motion to award the roofing contract.
16. Next meeting – 1 pm on Wednesday 8th November at Globe House.