

## ALCESTER TOWN COUNCIL

### SQUASH COURTS WORKING GROUP MEETING NOTES – 6 March 2024

Attendees: Wendy Mills (chair) , Mark Cargill, Kathryn Cargill, Vanessa Lowe, Wendy Sherwood, Marcus Bennett. Apologies: Andrew Jackson

Members noted that Andrew Foster had stood down from the group due to his other commitments. The chair had thanked Andrew for his support.

#### **1 Progress against High Level Plan**

Progress continues to be good. Work had begun on the roof, the walls of the kitchen and toilet area had been insulated and plastered, suspended ceilings installed in the courts and electrical work was well advanced. On 16<sup>th</sup>/17<sup>th</sup> the contractor is due to cut out the doorways and HVAC installation is due to start on 18<sup>th</sup> March. The submitted planning application and building control application are still under consideration. Marcus had published requests for volunteers to work on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> to tidy the courts before the HVAC starts. Depending on the number of volunteers it may also be possible to put a base coat of paint on bare plaster.

**Fire alarm system.** It was agreed that Steve Hine's quote be accepted – **VL to place order.**

**Internet Connection.** The Greig Hall internet speed is poor and the shed needs an alternative. **MB to investigate a solution for the Community Shed and report back to the next meeting.**

#### **2 Finances**

Total committed plus actual as at 28 Feb was £93k which meant that grants that had to spent by the end of March were satisfied. 2 further grant applications had been made- Inclusive communities Fund £15k for HVAC (in Community Shed name) and WCC Social Fabric Fund. **MC to chase the former.**

WM had drafted a list of items for the fit out with estimated costs. **Members were asked to let her know of items missed and more accurate costs.**

It was agreed that flexible seating like that in the Depot would be ideal for the public court.

#### **3. Risk Log**

Risk 6 re Vodaphone supply updated to record Vodaphone site visit.

#### **4 Operating Structure**

The options for how the Community Shed would be managed after completion of the project were discussed. It was noted that managing the building with associated safety responsibilities and operating a booking system might be onerous for Men's Shed members. The option favoured by the group was for ATC to continue to manage the building and to hire it to users, the Men's Shed being the sole user of the workshop and to own its contents. This is a similar arrangement to the Redditch Men's Shed. There are sufficient project funds for ATC to waive hire costs until April 2025, thus giving the Men's Shed opportunity to become established prior to paying for hire. **VL to draft an operating structure document** which will need agreement by Full Council.

**4 AOB. Public meeting 9 April.** Some planning required for this. **WM to report on progress at the meeting.**

**5 Date of Next meeting – 11 April 10am at ATC office.**