



**REPORT of
DIRECTOR OF SERVICE DELIVERY**

to
**COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE
2 APRIL 2019**

**WEST MALDON COMMUNITY CENTRE - REQUEST TO CONSTRUCT
EXTENSION**

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 This report informs Members of a communication received from West Maldon Community Association (WMCA) requesting the Council, as landlord, to support a planning application which will be submitted by WMCA to construct an extension to the Community Centre.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 That Maldon District Council supports this request to extend the Community Centre, subject to WMCA obtaining all necessary consents.

3. SUMMARY OF KEY ISSUES

- 3.1 Members will be aware that the Council owns the Community Centre, but the facility is managed by WMCA.
- 3.2 The current lease with WMCA expires in April 2037, and no request has been made to extend the lease to enable work to be funded.
- 3.3 The facility is well run, and the requirement for this extension is to meet the increasing demand on the community centre, such as additional storage of equipment for various user groups including table tennis tables, chairs and other items of furniture.
- 3.4 Although a third party can submit a planning application on property not in their ownership, the correct course of action has been followed in this instance, by seeking to obtain the building owner's permission first.
- 3.5 It will be a requirement that the WMCA obtain and adhere to all necessary consents, including funding for the work: no obligation will be placed on the Council.
- 3.6 A location plan is shown at **APPENDIX 1**. Details of the proposed extension are shown within the sketch received from WMCA at **APPENDIX 2**.

- 3.7 It must also be noted that planning permission was granted in 2000 for an extension to provide a bar and function room (planning reference (FUL/MAL/00/00225 refers), known as the Jubilee Lounge. This work was funded and carried out by WMCA.

4. CONCLUSION

- 4.1 The WMCA has a long standing lease, and giving landlords consent to support a planning application will assist them in meeting the increasing demands on the centre.

5. IMPACT ON CORPORATE GOALS

- 5.1 ‘Effective engagement to support strong and resilient communities’ accords with the Council’s Strategic Theme under the Community strand of the Corporate Plan 2019-23. The continuing provision of this well-run community facility contributes directly to this strategy.

6. IMPLICATIONS

- (i) **Impact on Customers** – The community centre is popular and well used by the local community.
- (ii) **Impact on Equalities** – None directly associated with this report.
- (iii) **Impact on Risk** – No corporate risks have been identified with this report.
- (iv) **Impact on Resources (financial)** – None to the Council.
- (v) **Impact on Resources (human)** – None to the Council.
- (vi) **Impact on the Environment** – Minor impact on part of the site used as rear access and exit to and from the building.

Background Papers: Request from WMCA.

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