

Firrhill Community Council
Colinton Mains Park & Pavillion Stakeholders Meeting
Thursday 14th May 2009
Oxgangs Neighbourhood Centre

Present-: Heather Levy, Chair (Chair, Firrhill Community Council);
Craig Cunningham (Senior Sport Officer)
Craig Dunlop (Parks & Leisure);
Mike Galloway, (City Development Projects Officer),
Liz Simpson (Senior Health Promotion Practitioner),
Sylvia Taylor (Dunedincanmore),
Stuart MacKay (Carillion flood prevention contractors),
Peggy Wright (Colinton Mains Bowling Club),
Pauline I Podd (Firrhill Community Council)
John Spence (ONC centre worker)
George Lightheart (Pentland Community Centre)
John Gibblin (AC Oxgangs Football Club)
Louise Maguire (Fairmilehead Assoc)
Lyndsy Adam (Business Manager St Marks Primary School)
Eric Barry (Firrhill Councillor)
Chris Mahooney (Lochan Residents Asso)
Norman Dunlop, Leah Marchbank, Steve Lynch, (Local Residents)

Apologies-: Mike Avery, Elaine Aitken, Jason Rust, Inspector S. Wilson, Margaret Carson (Colinton Mains B.B's)

This report is to inform the Partnership of the decision made on three options for the Colinton Mains Pavilion.
It was agreed that there was a good cross section of Stakeholders present (see list above)

History

Oxgangs Neighbourhood Centre created the 'Twin Project' eight years ago sourcing funding (£30,000) for two feasibility studies and a proposed £2 million to build a new pavilion. As we all know there

has been much change in both council and financially structures. The existing Pavilion is not fit for purpose and does not meet Health & Safety criteria and in the interim local teams and residents have been displaced to facilities at Meggetland and Sighthill. The Park pitches are complete but cannot be used to their full potential until there are changing rooms.

Users

AC Oxfords Football Club have 17 teams aged 5yrs- 19yrs, Firrhill High School and St Marks Primary school all access the park and the Jake Kane Centre manage pitches for city wide users. There is also a demand for Girls football, but this is out of the question with the present facilities.

Finance

There is £200,000 ring fenced from Applecross, Meggetland developers, Sport Scotland £50,000 per changing room maximum £300,000, CEC £750,000 out of a £1.2 million Parks & Pavilion city wide budget, although these sums are for capital costs only and do not cover running costs. A possible total of £1.25 million. It was noted that although Colinton Mains is a priority it was unlikely that CEC would agree to the whole £750,000 pavilion budget being allocated to one project.

Options

There were three options for discussion

Option 1 - A new stand alone building with six changing rooms, male and female toilets, small server and a general purpose/community room. This option has been costed at £1.4 million.

Option 2 - Would be to utilise the existing building. This would involve a major overhaul and refurbishment with four changing rooms costing £600,000.

Option 3-is effectively Option 2 but to extend the building to include a further two changing rooms, giving six in total, toilets and a general purpose/community room. This is costed at £1 million.

Discussion

It was suggested that if we had a new build, the old pavilion could be sold off to EDI to manage as workshops etc although there are workshops being built as part of Phase 2 of the Dunedinanmore development (completion 2010). All agreed that a new build would be the preferred option. Crucially, though, there is not enough money presently for Option 1. It might be possible to tap into other funding (e.g Fairer Scotland Fund), but sourcing funding, completing applications and going through the bidding process, requires people able and willing to do this, and can take months, whereas this project is now time critical. It was confirmed that if the old pavilion is refurbished football teams will be provided with port-a-cabins and the large existing Bothy can be used for storage. The bowling club will also be provided with a port-a-cabin for storage and their electricity meter re-sited.

Recommendations

The initial vote was tied a second vote resulted in 8:6 in favour of Option 3. A report must now be submitted to the Culture & Leisure committee in June 2009 for approval.

It is hoped that after due process this project will commence early 2010.

Heather Levy
Chair Firrhill Community Council