

To: Local Residents and Users of  
Haywood Road Community Centre

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Our Ref: 17-48 JC/CMc  
Your Ref:

Date: 12 October 2017

Dear local resident

### **Haywood Road Community Centre and Bowling Green**

In recent weeks, there has been a lot of speculation about the future of the Council-owned community centre and bowling green. In particular, concerns have been expressed about the proposed loss of part of the bowling green to develop a small number of new homes.

The site has been in the spotlight because Gedling, like virtually every other local Council, is having to make massive cuts in its budget. In our case, the money we receive from national Government has dropped by some £5.4 million or a staggering cash reduction of 62%.

At a time when we're having to run the Council with millions less money but increasing needs and demands, we're also faced with having to make many difficult choices and decisions.

Selling off part of the Haywood Road site is just one of many proposals that we've been wrestling with in response to having less money. Every single part of the Council has come under scrutiny as we try to juggle competing priorities.

Our purpose for writing to you is to confirm what we decided earlier today.

First of all, the Haywood Road bowling green will **not** be sold for housing and instead, the land will be retained by the Council and developed as an area of public open space that will be accessible to the whole community. While this will result in a potential loss of approximately £300,000 and up to 6 new homes, we have been persuaded by the depth of feeling to create additional open space for the whole community. Council officers will therefore draw up design options and seek to progress these in partnership with the new management committee of Haywood Road Community Centre.

Secondly, Haywood Road community centre will **not** be sold but instead the Council intends to transfer its management to the new management committee. The committee comprises local residents and users of the centre and it has already made good progress to increase participation at the centre, giving us confidence that the centre can become a much used and valued asset for the local area.

The two decisions above have not been easy and have implications for the rest of Gedling, as we'll now have to look elsewhere for replacement income and savings. However, throughout the process of consultation, we made it clear that we would genuinely listen to, and take account of, the views of local residents, which is exactly what we've done.

The majority of the feedback and contributions that we've received have been constructive so if you have taken the time and trouble to get involved, thank you for helping us make our decision.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Clarke'.

**Councillor John Clarke**  
**Leader of the Council**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michael Payne'.

**Councillor Michael Payne**  
**Deputy Leader of the Council**

**MINUTES  
CABINET**

**Thursday 12 October 2017**

Councillor John Clarke (Chair)

Councillor Michael Payne  
Councillor Peter Barnes  
Councillor David Ellis

Councillor Gary Gregory  
Councillor Jenny Hollingsworth  
Councillor Henry Wheeler

Observers: Councillor Chris Barnfather

Officers in Attendance: J Robinson, H Barrington, M Hill, S Palmer, A Solley,  
D Wakelin and A Dubberley

**33 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.**

None.

**34 TO APPROVE, AS A CORRECT RECORD, THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 7 SEPTEMBER 2017.**

**RESOLVED:**

That the minutes of the above meeting, having been circulated, be approved as a correct record.

**35 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS.**

None

**36 PROPOSED SALE OF PART OF THE FORMER BOWLING GREEN AT HAYWOOD ROAD, MAPPERLEY**

The Chief Executive introduced a report, which had been circulated prior to the meeting, seeking approval to sell part of the former Bowling Green at Haywood Road, Mapperley.

Councillor Payne said that he had had time to consider the matter further and had witnessed the strength of feeling in the local community and despite the significant financial challenges facing the Council, was minded to recommend that the bowling green should be retained as an open space and that the council should not proceed with its sale. He therefore proposed an amended recommendation.

**RESOLVED to:**

- 1) Retain the whole of the Haywood Road bowling green in the Council's ownership and instead of progressing a scheme of housing development, to instruct the Service Manager Parks and Street Care to draw up design options for making the bowling green publicly accessible for the whole community including play provision for children and young people;
- 2) Receive a further report with a proposed scheme of works, costing and funding sources to the February 2018 Cabinet meeting; and
- 3) Welcome the progress that has been made to increase participation at Haywood Road Community Centre and re-affirm support for asset transfer of the centre to a new community association.

Councillors Hollingsworth and Payne left the meeting.

### **37 SELECTIVE LICENSING SCHEME CONSULTATION**

The Food, Health and Housing Manager introduced a report, which had been circulated prior to the meeting, seeking authorisation to start the process declaring a selective licensing scheme for privately rented property in the Netherfield Ward.

#### **RESOLVED to:**

- 1) Note the scheme of Selective Licensing as outlined in the Proposal to Declare a Selective Licensing Designation within the Private Rented Sector at Appendix 1 to the report;
- 2) Approve the Proposal to Declare a Selective Licensing Designation within the Private Rented Sector contained at appendix 1 to be issued for a 12 week public consultation; and
- 3) Support the proposed fees and resource requirements outlined in financial implications section of this report, subject to the result of the public consultation.

### **38 REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS ELDERLY PERSONS SCRUTINY WORKING GROUP**

Councillor Doyle introduced a report, which had been circulated prior to the meeting, informing Cabinet members and relevant Portfolio Holders of the findings and recommendations of the Elderly Persons' Scrutiny Working Group. Members commented on the findings of the group.

Councillor Wheeler thanked the group for their report and suggested that Councillor Doyle attends the Health and Well-being delivery group in