

## Councillors and Eastwood Park Masterplan cross party member and officer working group

Posted by RM64 - 27 Jan 2020 12:31

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Sent: 03 January 2020 16:49

Subject: Eastwood Park Masterplan cross party member and officer working group.

I am writing to you regarding the Eastwood Park Masterplan cross party member and officer working group.

The first report regarding this matter was commissioned in early 2014. It is now 2020 - 7 years on.

I would request that your constituents are represented regarding this matter and the following be addressed in the terms of reference and/or agenda -

1. Why no representation on the group from Busby, Clarkston, Netherlee, Williamwood ? How will these Residents have their views/requirements represented?
2. The Councils inability to maintain the existing complex( if the Council had spent money on maintaining the existing complex, there would not be such an urgent need for new build replacement)
3. The Councils inability to maintain any new Leisure Complex and/or buildings in Eastwood Park
4. What is the cost of the continuing support by consultants?
5. What input from Residents/Leisure Centre Users? Why Membership of group should not include Residents/Leisure Centre Users?
6. The influence of the Leisure Trust on the group? (Group dominated by 6 Leisure Trust members - CEO + 1 non elected member + 4 Elected members)

7. What will be the cost for this cross party member and officer working group?

8. What about openness and transparency -

- Is this cross party member and officer working group to be conducted in secrecy?

- When can we expect information during the life of this cross party member and officer working group?

- Will this this cross party member and officer working group conduct business/convene in public?

- Will this cross party member and officer working group meetings be available via webcast?

9. The case for a 50m pool?

10. The cost of 50m pool?

11. The case for a 25m pool?

12. The saving cost of 25m pool?

13. What about running costs for all the options?

14. What about Maintenance costs for all the options?

15. Will the actual cost be nearer £60M?

16. How can the current Leisure Centre/pool be kept open for another 5 years?

17. Running Costs for keeping Leisure Centre/pool open for another 5 years?

18. Maintenance Costs for keeping Leisure Centre/pool open for another 5 years?

19. Public transport access to Eastwood Park from Busby, Clarkston, Netherlee, Williamwood

20. Is this not a 'Vanity Project' rather than what is actually required?

21. There is a sizeable number who regularly use the current gym facilities and who are currently satisfied with the size of the gym and the facilities - They are not interested in a large 'barn' gym and a Changing Village. How will their views be represented by this group ?

22. Is Refurbishment of the current facilities still a viable option?

23. It is essential that the input from Councillors who are members of East Renfrewshire Culture & Leisure Trust Board - Councillors Paul O'Kane , Colm Merrick, Barbara Grant , Jim Fletcher is clearly defined as to whether they are acting on behalf of

- Their constituents/Council

or

- East Renfrewshire Culture & Leisure Trust

For clarification -

Councillors who are members of East Renfrewshire Culture & Leisure Trust Board -

Councillor Paul O’Kane , Councillor Colm Merrick, Councillor Barbara Grant , Councillor Jim Fletcher

Company law demands that -

‘all board members must place the interest of the trust before that of the Local Authority, including councillors and officers.’

‘Although councillors can and will be on the board, the law is clear that they are there in a private capacity and not present to reflect the needs of the council.’

23. The latest info from The Leisure Trust still posted on their Website is -

‘Therefore, we strongly support Option 4 - a new state-of-the-art culture and leisure facility on a different site within the Eastwood area. This is the only option which would allow us to gain a specifically designed culture and leisure centre which can provide all these required facilities.’

Is it still the view of the Leisure Trust that the only option is a new build on an alternative 'greenspace' site?

24. Is the School/Education Dept taking over Eastwood Park?

Your help with raising and addressing these matters with the group will be appreciated.

An acknowledgement and update would be appreciated.

Thanks

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## Re: Councillors and Eastwood Park Masterplan cross party member and officer working group

Posted by RM64 - 19 Oct 2020 12:42

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East Renfrewshire Culture & Leisure Limited

St John's Campus

Ground Floor

18 Commercial Road

Barrhead

G78 1AJ

Our Ref: I/FOI/101002334853

Your Ref:

Contact: Anthony McReavy

Tel: 0141 577 3900

Email: [businesssupport@ercultureandleisure](mailto:businesssupport@ercultureandleisure)

Date: 19 October 2020

I am writing with regards to your Freedom of Information Request of 5th October 2020 ref 101002334853.

### 1.Details/Terms of Reference/members of the client team

- The Client will be East Renfrewshire Council.

No further information is held as per Section 17(1) (Information is not held) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act.

2.The ongoing Work during lockdown - minutes/notes/reports/documents

- not held as per Section 17(1) (Information is not held) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act

3.The instructions to the design team

- not held as per Section 17(1) (Information is not held) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act

4.Details/Terms of Reference/members of the design team

- not held as per Section 17(1) (Information is not held) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act

5.The development of the brief

- not held as per Section 17(1) (Information is not held) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act.

The design team to take forward the development of the brief with the Trust

- Agendas/minutes/notes/reports/documents concerning this development with the Trust

Details of fortnightly meetings - Agendas/minutes/notes/reports/documents

- not held as per Section 17(1) (Information is not held) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act.

Progress of the plans - notes/reports/documents

- not held as per Section 17(1) (Information is not held) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act.

All information held regarding this 'Steering Group' and the organisation

- attached is the only correspondence held in relation to this group

I now regard this matter closed. However, if you should wish to apply for a review of how we have dealt with your enquiry, please apply in writing within 40 working days to:

Chief Officer (Legal and Procurement)

Council Headquarters

Rouken Glen Road

Giffnock G46 6UG,

marking your letter "Freedom of Information, request for review", and stating the exact nature of the matter you wish to be reviewed.

The review will be carried out within 20 working days of receipt of your appeal.

If you are dissatisfied with the outcome of the review, you then have the right to appeal to the Scottish Information Commissioner who has extensive powers to investigate such matters. His address is:

Scottish Information Commissioner

Kinburn Castle

St. Andrews

Fife KY16 9DS

Yours sincerely

Anthony McReavy

Chief Executive

East Renfrewshire Culture and Leisure Limited

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**Re: Councillors and Eastwood Park Masterplan cross party member and officer working group**

Posted by RM64 - 19 Oct 2020 12:59

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From: Cahill, Andrew

Sent: 03 August 2020 17:18

To: Fry, Lesley

Cc: McReavy, Anthony; Ian Harper; Buchanan, Tony (Cllr)

Subject: Eastwood leisure centre

Lesley

Could you look at the possibility of setting up a virtual meeting of the member/officer working group before I go off on 15th August for two weeks annual leave.

Please check Gordon Wallace is available before deciding on a date.

I will sort out the agenda with you in due course including attaching the most recent report from Ian Harper.

Thanks

Andy

From: Fry, Lesley

Sent: 04 August 2020 16:54

To: Buchanan, Tony (Cllr); Daws, Phil; Fletcher, J (Provost); Grant, B (Cllr); Ian Harper; McReavy, Anthony; Merrick, C (Cllr); O'Kane, Paul (Cllr); Shaw, Mhairi; Smith, Graeme5; Wallace, Gordon (Cllr)



Subject: Eastwood Leisure Centre and Eastwood Park Masterplan Working Group - Date for Next Meeting

Importance: High

Good afternoon

I have been asked to arrange the next meeting of the above group.

I'd be obliged if you could let me know if Thursday 13th August around 11.30am would suit (after the Cabinet meeting).

Could you also send me a rough idea of your availability up to Friday 14th August in case 13th doesn't suit and I can then look for a different date.

The meeting will take place via Teams.

Regards

Lesley

Lesley Fry

Secretary to Director of Environment

East Renfrewshire Council

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**Re: Councillors and Eastwood Park Masterplan cross party member and officer working group**

Posted by RM64 - 19 Oct 2020 13:09

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- Above is the only correspondence held in relation to this group ?

You have to marvel at the memories the Leisure Trust members of the Eastwood Park Masterplan cross party member and officer working group have !

They carried out all the work below and all that is recorded is the above 2 emails?????

EAST RENFREWSHIRE COUNCIL

CABINET

10 SEPTEMBER 2020

Report by Director of Education

EAST RENFREWSHIRE CULTURE AND LEISURE END-YEAR REPORT 2019-2020

12.The vision for ERCL “is to be the highest-performing Leisure Trust in Scotland”.

Action continues to be taken to improve performance further and modernise service delivery.

The Eastwood Leisure Centre and Eastwood Park Masterplan Working Group, chaired by the Leader of the Council, met in March and agreed the development of the brief for the project to be progressed by the client team.

Work has been ongoing during lockdown and the next meeting of the group is being arranged.

and

Report to Cabinet Meeting 10 September 2020 -

East Renfrewshire Culture & Leisure Limited

Balanced Scorecard For the quarter ended 31 March 2020

Eastwood Leisure Centre and Eastwood Park Masterplan Working Group

The first meeting of the Eastwood Leisure Centre and Eastwood Park Masterplan

Working Group took place on March 12th.

Chaired by the Leader of the Council, it had with representation from the Trust in the form of independent and Council Trustees, and the Chief Executive.

The group instructed the design team to take forward the development of the brief with the Trust,

and fortnightly meetings have been held since then to progress the plans.

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**Re: Councillors and Eastwood Park Masterplan cross party member and officer working group**

Posted by RM64 - 28 Oct 2020 11:20

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----- Original Message -----

To:

This e-mail address is being protected from spambots. You need JavaScript enabled to view it

Cc:

This e-mail address is being protected from spambots. You need JavaScript enabled to view it

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This e-mail address is being protected from spambots. You need JavaScript enabled to view it

Sent: Wednesday, 21 Oct, 2020 At 12:52

Subject: Request for Review - FOI 101002334853 - Leisure Trust - Masterplan Working Group - Brief/Plans/Progress

Chief Officer (Legal and Procurement)

Council Headquarters

Rouken Glen Road

Giffnock

G46 6UG

As instructed by Anthony McReavy, CEO, East Renfrewshire Culture & Leisure Trust(ERCLT) in their email(and letter) dated 19 October 2020 (attached) in response to my FOI request dated 2 October 2020 (attached below) and as Gerry Mahon, The Chief Officer Legal & Procurement, has previously stated that for the Council, Fol is normally a 2 stage process -

'As you will be aware the Council's response to an FOI request does not merely revolve around the initial request but also the review process. It is hoped that any human error in relation to the 1st part of the process is properly remedied at the 2nd stage.'

I wish to request said FOI review.

This is a large and complex project that has been running since 2014 with an approx cost of between £40m - £60m.

It is very difficult to believe that with a project of this size/complexity and cost, that there are only 2 emails of information held by East Renfrewshire Culture and Leisure Trust.

East Renfrewshire Council tax payers must have confidence in this process and in the way it is being

carried out.

This amount and complexity of information cannot just be contained in the memory of the Leisure Trust participants. It has to be recorded for reference and accuracy.

If no information is held by the Leisure Trust, how can the workings and decision making process of this group be scrutinised?

It is therefore reasonable to conclude from the attached email information from the Leisure Trust and other public available information referring to the work of the Masterplan Working Group that the Leisure Trust does hold further recorded information etc (emails/reports/documents/notes/agendas/minutes etc) regarding/in the form of -

1. Copy of versions of the Working Group Summary Update Report
2. Meeting Agendas and Minutes for at least 2 meetings held on 13 March 2020 and 13 August 2020
3. Reports from Ian Harper(as it refers to the most recent report, it is reasonable to conclude there is more than 1 report)

'I will sort out the agenda with you in due course including attaching the most recent report from Ian Harper.'

4. Specifications regarding Leisure Centre facilities

'- Ian Harper / Anthony McCreavy to determine final specification for the Leisure Centre facilities'

5. Details of focus groups/Focus Group results. Specification and results regarding focus groups.

'Focus Groups to take place for what facilities are missing / people would like to see in the new Leisure Centre – focus groups to include; pupils, parents, users of the leisure centre and non-users'

'Bring specification and results of the focus groups back to the Working Group to sign off final Leisure Centre Specification.'

6. Final Leisure Centre Specification

'Bring specification and results of the focus groups back to the Working Group to sign off final Leisure Centre Specification.'

7. As the Cabinet Committee were informed that 'fortnightly meetings have been held since then to progress the plans.'

- Please provide Agendas/minutes/notes/reports/documents/emails regarding these fortnightly meetings

'Report to Cabinet Meeting 10 September 2020 -

East Renfrewshire Culture & Leisure Limited

Balanced Scorecard For the quarter ended 31 March 2020

Eastwood Leisure Centre and Eastwood Park Masterplan Working Group

The first meeting of the Eastwood Leisure Centre and Eastwood Park Masterplan Working Group took place on March 12th.

Chaired by the Leader of the Council, it had with representation from the Trust in the form of independent and Council Trustees, and the Chief Executive.

The group instructed the design team to take forward the development of the brief with the Trust, and fortnightly meetings have been held since then to progress the plans.'

#### 8. Emails to/ from Leisure Trust/Chief Executive

- Regarding meeting invitations

- Regarding responses

- Emails referring to/regarding all of the subjects(1 - 7) above.

9. I would also request that the rest of the information requested in my original FOI request is reviewed to see if it is held.

It is very difficult to believe that with a project of this size/complexity and cost, that there are only 2 emails of information held by East Renfrewshire Culture and Leisure Trust.

It is very difficult to believe that with a project of this size/complexity and cost, that this amount of complex information is only held in the memory of the Leisure Trust participants.

Electronic copies are acceptable.

Thanks

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**Re: Councillors and Eastwood Park Masterplan cross party member and officer working group**

Posted by RM64 - 28 Oct 2020 11:37

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FOI Made On Line

22/10/2020

101002343989

East Renfrewshire Culture and Leisure Trust(ERCLT)

This Freedom of Information(FOI) request concerns a report/ERCLT report presented to East Renfrewshire Council Cabinet Committee on 10 September 2020 (Agenda Item 4).

**'PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1. The purpose of this report is to inform the Cabinet of the end year performance of East Renfrewshire Culture and Leisure (ERCL) for 2019- 20. The report is based on performance indicators and activities in the Outcome Delivery Plan (ODP) and ERCL business plan.

2. Detailed performance results prepared by the Trust's Chief Executive are attached in Appendix A .'



It specifically concerns the statement made in the report in the attached Appendix A on page 39 that

‘fortnightly meetings have been held since then to progress the plans’

and concerns these fortnightly meetings that we are told have been held.

‘Balanced Scorecard & Business Performance Overview For the year ended 31 March 2020 East Renfrewshire Culture & Leisure Board 23 June 2020

Prepared by: Karen Storie Reviewed by: Anthony McReavy Dated: 15 June 2020

East Renfrewshire Culture & Leisure Limited Page 2 of 13 Balanced Scorecard For the quarter ended 31 March 2020

Page 39

East Renfrewshire Culture & Leisure Limited Business Performance Summary

Eastwood Leisure Centre and Eastwood Park Masterplan Working Group The first meeting of the Eastwood Leisure Centre and Eastwood Park Masterplan Working Group took place on March 12th. Chaired by the Leader of the Council, it had with representation from the Trust in the form of independent and Council Trustees, and the Chief Executive. The group instructed the design team to take forward the development of the brief with the Trust, and fortnightly meetings have been held since then to progress the plans.’

As it is stated in the report presented to the Cabinet Committee(excerpt above) that these meetings have actually been held, please provide

- Dates when each of these fortnightly meetings were held.

- How/where each of these fortnightly meetings were held.

- Names of who attended each of these fortnightly meetings.

An electronic response is acceptable.

Thanks

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## Re: Councillors and Eastwood Park Masterplan cross party member and officer working group

Posted by RM64 - 02 Nov 2020 12:10

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This is a text transcript of file received. Unfortunately for tech reasons I cannot post the whole file.

Stallan-Brand

Date: 13/08/2020

1076.00 Eastwood Leisure Centre and Theatre

Working Group Summary Update

Summary

Key Points from Initial Working Group Meeting in March

- Benefits of location of Leisure Centre and Theatre agreed.
- Progress proposal for the Leisure Centre and Theatre with Leisure Trust as initial priority.
- Closer relationship between Leisure Centre and Theatre and Eastwood House.

- Physical link with St Ninians not desirable.
- Parking noted as point for further consideration, particularly in relation to St Ninians.

#### RIBA Stage 1 Briefing and Feasibility Developed

- Fortnightly workshops from early April to end June with Leisure Trust.
- Draft document issued for comment.
- Animations prepared to give a sense of the vision.

#### Key Developments

- Initial aspirations of the brief and vision developed.
- Concept design strategy developed which establishes excellent facilities can be accommodated which are sensitive to and benefit from the site.
- Building remains in similar position but pulled away slightly from St Ninians to allow existing parking to be maintained during construction and beyond if preferred.
- Revised building position avoids a key sewer which has been identified.
- Diagrammatic building plan developed which tests spatial requirements with clear legible architectural approach whilst considering engineering and environmental design at same time as offering flexibility.
- Clear strategy for delivering best value and quality considering existing infrastructure, opportunities, constraints and attractive site characteristics

- Tandem build allowing existing buildings and parking to remain operational during construction.

#### Additionality Considered

- Broader potential of Eastwood Park and each of the facilities within it.
- Potential incorporation of library in the theatre and leisure centre.
- Orangerie proposal for Eastwood House.

#### Programme

- Outline Programme prepared to consider overall timescales and priorities

#### The Theatre & Buildings 'Front of House'

#### Orientation

The proposed location of the new Eastwood Theatre is on the eastern edge of the building plan.

The positioning of the theatre provides the facility with a 'front of house' and a civic expression towards its principal approach.

In addition to culturally animating the buildings front door, encouraging footfall the theatre stage area is also well located for essential service access and egress.

#### Aspect

Additionally, the theatre has the potential to activate the public spaces around the building with different uses.

On the buildings east elevation the opportunity exists for an Eastwood Theatre restaurant with an area for external seating.

To the north extending directly behind the theatre a foyer bar is well located to again enliven the buildings perimeter.

South of the theatre directly behind the stage area and back of house there is an area where outdoor theatre and performance events can occur.

This area benefits from a sunny 'garden' aspect.

Concept Diagram: Gym, Courts, Arcade, Cafe & Library

### Orientation

The gym and courts area are organised each side of a proposed leisure arcade that helps link the south and north areas of the park.

During the day the arcade will be a convenient through route for pedestrians.

A cafe and reception space will orientate people helping make what is a large building highly legible.

It will be super clear where activities are and how to get to them, whilst ensuring supervision and necessary security measures. There is the prospect of incorporating a local library service to encourage further community synergies.

### Aspect

The north south arcade axis is strategically planned to provide an entrance to the building from both the south garden area and from the area of parking and from St.Ninians School to the north.

The ability to access the park at these points supports increased external sports activities through the provision of convenient changing areas and amenity.

### Concept Diagram: The Swimming Pools & Wet Areas

#### Orientation

The swimming pools are located at the western end of the proposed building. This end of the park is quieter and less trafficked.

The ancillary and changing areas are located to the north against the existing football pitch to allow the pools to take advantage of the open views to the south towards the existing Eastwood House.

#### Aspect

The swimming areas are presented with a wooded outlook helping to reinforce the visitor experience, a sense of wellbeing and to respect the existing mature trees.

### Efficiency of Concept Diagram

#### Orientation

All of the buildings activities have been arranged to optimise adjacencies, legibility, internal circulation, access, security & supervision and importantly mechanical & electrical servicing and structural efficiency.

The building is 'skewed' with a super rational east west route that organises the large span activities to the south and the small span spaces to the north.

This route will help make a very large building easy to navigate, operate and environmentally control.

#### Aspect

All of the internal activities take full advantage of a positive aspect towards the parkland setting.

The character areas and social pockets surrounding the building will help to humanise the architecture and contextualise it.

## Environmental Response

### Orientation

The proposal presents a long south elevation that elegantly inserts itself into the landscape so as to frame the north edge of the Eastwood House garden area and set itself back from impacting on the existing trees.

Fundamentally the proposed building plan has been organised to take advantage of this south facing orientation.

From an environmental design perspective this has numerous advantages, with regards to energy consumption and daylighting.

### Aspect

The buildings natural setting is and its relationship to Eastwood House has been carefully considered.

The buildings scale and proximity is informed by new garden narrative that frames context, allowing the building to become more a 'background' building than a 'foreground' feature.

The northern side of the building is much more functional with parking and playing fields, the buildings siting effectively helping to mask these uses from the more picturesque area around the existing house.

### Open Space & Parking

### Pedestrian Priority

The Park requires to be pedestrian prioritised with vehicles being required to reduce their speed and give-way to people and cyclists.

The traffic management tries to avoid the cross over between people, pathways and roads where possible. Parking is generally gathered to the eastern edge of the park although further rationalisation is possible.

### Diagrammatic Plans

#### Plan Diagram Testing and Flexibility

The key diagrammatic principles have been tested with a variety of sizes of building.

Examples of aspects tested are as follows.

- Allowing generous circulation and arrival space to recognise the potential for events and to accommodate activities for all ages groups complimentary to the cafe space
- Potential for the health suite to deliver an attractive spa experience
- Generous provision for circulation in the theatre recognising emphasis on spectators, performers and technicians with mobility considerations
- Generous support space provision to theatre including social space, a studio theatre a rehearsal space reflecting this a main arts and culture offer in East Renfrewshire.
- Generous provision for storage allowing flexible use of spaces to be optimised.
- Potential to incorporate other complimentary facilities including a library, agile workspace and meeting spaces.



The process demonstrates a clear flexibility which will enable the design to be managed to suit key considerations including quality of spaces and facilities, flexibility of facilities for general use and events, budget and lifecycle cost

Eastwood House

Potential Orangerie

An orangery could provide potential for larger events.

It could potentially also accommodate council chambers and existing area in Eastwood House could become facilities for elected members and other council services alongside existing community uses.

The floor area of the orangery shown adjacent is 400sqm which is similar in scale to the existing council chambers.

Programme

Preliminary Programme

A high level programme has been developed to allow discussion around key considerations.

Delivery of the project is a priority as the existing facilities are aging.

They are inefficient to run, often closed for maintenance and not providing the quality of facilities which are available elsewhere leading to a gradual

decline in customer numbers and impacting on essential services that can be provided such as swimming lessons.

The high level programme indicates the earliest timescale is likely to be 3 years to completion of the leisure centre and theatre.

In essence, 1 year for design and 2 years for construction.

The demolition of existing facilities and making good of landscaped areas would follow this.

There are a number of key aspects which affect these timescales.

Many of the studies informing the design stage are seasonal such  
ecology studies.

These timescales could accommodate a variety of procurement routes, although some are better suited than others where efficient delivery timescales are critical alongside the need to deliver a high quality of design within a sensitive setting.

Significant changes in programme also have a significant impact on budget with the impact of inflation.

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