

## 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 - 03 Nov 2020 09:39

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Eastwood Park Programme

March, April, May, June 2020 -

RIBA Stage 1 (Breifing / Feasibility)

June 2020 -

Consider Procurement Route

June 2020 -

Mobilise Design Team

June, July, August 2020 -

RIBA Stage 2 (Concept Design)

June, July, August, September 2020 -

Surveys (ecology surveys are seasonal and critical)

September, October, November 2020 -

RIBA Stage 3 (Developed Design)

September, October, November 2020 -

Statutory Pre Application Public Consultation

December 2020, January, February, March 2021 -

Planning Approval Period

December 2020, January, February, March, April 2021-

RIBA Stage 4 (Technical Design)

December 2020, January, February, March 2021 -

Building Warrant Preparation

April, May, June, July 2021 -

Building Warrant Approvals (Staged)

January, February, March, April 2021 -

Market Testing Information

May, June, July 2021 -

Market Testing

August 2021-

RIBA Stage 5 (Construction: 24 months)

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

Posted by RM64 - 03 Nov 2020 09:56

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There would appear to be nothing in the report regarding the £40m - £60m Cost

- Consultants costs since 2014

- Actual Building Cost

- Running Cost

- Maintenance Cost

All the above have to be paid for by Council Tax Payers - NOT the Leisure Trust.

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

Posted by RM64 - 12 Nov 2020 17:05

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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

Sent: Tuesday, 10 Nov, 2020 At 12:49

Subject: Why information is not held - Instruction from Gerry Mahon ERC Chief Officer (Legal and Procurement) to contact you

Andrew Cahill

Director of Environment

Cc: Gerry Mahon ERC Chief Officer (Legal and Procurement).

I refer to the instruction (Email attached below) from Gerry Mahon, ERC, Chief Officer (Legal and Procurement).

He instructs -

'Your queries as to why information is not held falls outwith my remit in this matter and would be required to be directed to the relevant Director for the service concerned.'

It concerns further information reasonably concluded to be held by ERC regarding the Eastwood Park Masterplan Working Group.

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 is not further information held by ERC regarding the information outlined below.

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

Especially when Trust Board Members and in particular, Councillors who are members of East Renfrewshire Culture & Leisure Trust Board

- are there in a private capacity and not present to reflect the needs of the council



- must place the interest of the trust before that of the Local Authority, including councillors and officers.

This amount and complexity of information cannot just be contained in the memory of the Working Group participants.

Surely, It has to be recorded for reference, accuracy and scrutiny.

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

1. Meeting Agenda and Minute for at least 1 further meeting held on 13 August 2020.

2. 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.'

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

4. 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.'

## 5. Final Leisure Centre Specification

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

6. 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.'

7. I think it reasonable to conclude that there is further recorded information held regarding

- the brief for the project to be progressed by the client team.

- Details/Terms of Reference/members of the client team

- The ongoing Work during lockdown
- The instructions to the design team
- Details/Terms of Reference/members of the design team
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The design team to take forward the development of the brief with the Trust - minutes/notes/reports/documents concerning this development with the Trust

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

Progress of the plans - notes/reports/documents

As the following is now in the public domain -

'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

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8. I think it reasonable to conclude that there is further recorded information regarding

- The 'suggested way forward to accelerate the project.'

- Meeting Agendas

'From: Cahill, Andrew

Sent: 11 August 2020 15:54

To: Fry, Lesley ; Buchanan, Tony (Cllr) ; Daws, Phil ; Fletcher, J (Provost) ; Grant, B (Cllr) ; Ian Harper ; McReavy, Anthony ; Merrick, C (Cllr) ; O'Kane, Paul (Cllr)

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

Posted by RM64 - 17 Nov 2020 16:06

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Our Ref: MR/AV

Your Ref:

Contact:

Tel: 0141 577 3253

Fax: 0141 577 3276

Email:

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

Date: 16 November 2020

Education Department

211 Main Street

Barrhead

G78 1SY

Freedom of Information Ref: 2343989

Thank you for your freedom of information request relating to Eastwood Leisure Centre and Eastwood Park Masterplan Working Group taking forward the development of the brief with the Trust, and fortnightly meetings being held to progress plans.

Please see our response below.

Dates when each of these fortnightly meetings were held.

20/3, 17/4, 1/5, 15/5, 29/5, 12/6, 26/6, 10/7, 11/8, 18/8, 2/9, 11/9, 18/9, 2/10, 20/10

How/where each of these fortnightly meetings were held.

Video conference

Names of who attended each of these fortnightly meetings.

A McReavy, R Hammond (ERCL), A Ross (ERC from 18/9 onwards), Stallan Brand Architects

I trust this information is helpful to you. East Renfrewshire Council offers the opportunity to apply to the Council for a review of how we have dealt with your enquiry.

If you wish to proceed to review, please apply in writing within 40 working days to:

Chief Officer (Legal and Procurement), East Renfrewshire Council, 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.

If you are dissatisfied with the outcome of the review, you have the right to then 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

Mark Ratter

Director of Education

East Renfrewshire Council

Mark Ratter, Director of Education, East Renfrewshire Offices, 211 Main St, Barrhead, G78 1SY

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

Posted by RM64 - 12 Dec 2020 10:33

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Andrew Cahill, Director of Environment has produced Report

### EASTWOOD LEISURE CENTRE AND EASTWOOD PARK MASTERPLAN

for Eastwood Park Leisure Centre New Build.

You can read further on Full Council website page here -

[www.eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk/council-161220](http://www.eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk/council-161220)

Appendix 1

Stallan-Brand

Date: 18/08/2020

1076.00 Eastwood Leisure Centre and Theatre

RIBA Stage 1: Briefing and Feasibility

You can read the report/appendix 1 here -

[www.eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk/media/4421/F...m=637432764415830000](http://www.eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk/media/4421/F...m=637432764415830000)

However.....

Councillors, Council Officials and Leisure Trust Board Members must have

extraordinary memory capacity or

mastered the art of TELEPATHY !

All this work has been carried out to produce the report yet

NO RECORDED INFORMATION IS HELD !!

Most of the information BELOW is mentioned in the report yet it is NOT HELD and yet

Councillors, Council Officials and Leisure Trust Board Members

REMEMBERED ALL OF THIS !! for the report.

It is hard to believe.

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

Posted by RM64 - 12 Dec 2020 10:57

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ALL BELOW IS HELD ONLY IN THE MEMORIES OF COUNCILLORS, COUNCIL OFFICIALS AND  
MEMBERS OF LEISURE TRUST !!!

ACCORDING TO THE DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENT -



INFORMATION IS NOT HELD !!!!!

----- 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

Sent: Friday, 20 Nov, 2020 At 09:34

Subject: Re: Why information is not held - Instruction from Gerry Mahon ERC Chief Officer (Legal and Procurement) to contact you

Hi

Sorry to bother you again, but would appreciate that you consider the following with my request of 10 November 2020.

I have just received information relating to Eastwood Leisure Centre and Eastwood Park Masterplan Working Group taking forward the development of the brief with the Trust, and the previously mentioned fortnightly meetings held to progress plans.

This information will be of help regarding Para 6 in my email below.

These meetings were held on -

20/3, 17/4, 1/5, 15/5, 29/5, 12/6, 26/6, 10/7, 11/8, 18/8, 2/9, 11/9, 18/9, 2/10, 20/10

The meetings were held by Video conference.

The names of who attended each of these fortnightly meetings are -

A McReavy, R Hammond (ERCL), A Ross (ERC from 18/9 onwards), Stallan Brand Architects

Would appreciate if you will give the following information -

Were recordings of any of these meetings made?

If so, are any of these recordings held?

Are there any Agendas/Minutes available for these meetings?

Who is A Ross?

What is their purpose in attending these meetings?

Why have they only attended since 18/9 onwards?

Who is A Ross representing?

How/where/when/to whom did A Ross report back to regarding -

What business was discussed at these meetings?

Decisions made at these meetings?

The outcome of these meetings?

Further actions?

How did they report back, By

- Email
- Report/Document
- Notes
- Minutes
- other(please state)

Why was there nobody from ERC at the meetings prior to 18/9?

How/Where/When was information reported back(and to whom) for the meetings before 18/9 regarding -

- What business was discussed at these meetings?
- Decisions made at these meetings?
- The outcome of these meetings?
- Further actions?

My apologies for this further request, but this information has just been made available and it is important that the above is made known.

Your help with this matter is much appreciated.

Thanks

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