

Agenda Item: 18

Housing Review Board

25 June 2009

EC



Renaming of the Weycroft Senior Citizens Centre

Summary

At the meeting on 30 April 2009 the Board received a report on the outline proposal for joint working with community group/Football Club, including the goal of building a community centre on the land currently leased from EDDC to the football club. The Board agreed that the Weycroft Senior Citizens Centre is kept running until the feasibility of this proposal is fully investigated and, if possible, the new community centre is up and running.

The working group spearheading this project has requested that the name of the Weycroft Senior Citizens Centre be changed to Millwey Community Centre. The reasons for this are outlined in the report.

Recommendation

That the Board agree to the proposed change of name from the Weycroft Senior Citizens Centre to the **Millwey Community Centre** (subject to confirmation by Royal Mail).

a) Reasons for Recommendations

To have a more accurate description of the purpose of the building

b) Alternative Options

To do nothing and keep the old name for the building

c) Risk Considerations

Potential confusion with another local building 'Weycroft Hall' and potential alienation of some local people if the phrase 'Senior Citizens' continues to be used in the name.

d) Policy and Budgetary Considerations

There will be some costs involved in producing new signs for the building.

e) Date for Review of Decision – Not applicable as this is a 'one off' decision.

1 Background information

1.1 The paper presented to the Housing Review Board meeting on 30 April 2009 gives background information to the project looking at the future options for the centre.

1.2 For many years the hall was leased and managed by the Weycroft Senior Citizens Club. They had quite strict rules about who could use the hall. However, in recent years the club has struggled for members and last year decided to give up the lease on the building.

- 1.3 Management of the hall has now returned to East Devon District Council Housing and Social Inclusion Service. Day to day lettings etc are dealt with by our Home Safeguard team.

2 Reasons for the request to change the name

- 2.1 The future options for the hall are being considered by a working group of local residents, users and other interested parties such including town and district councillors. This group has requested that the name of the hall be changed.
- 2.2 The working group is very keen to encourage an inclusive feel across the estate and it is felt that the current use of the term 'Senior Citizens' may put off some groups or individuals who would otherwise wish to use the hall.
- 2.3 Confusion has arisen in the past with another building in the area called 'Weycroft Hall'.
- 2.4 Although not asked as a specific question on the questionnaire circulated around the Millwey estate recently regarding the future of the hall, there was a general feeling expressed that the hall needed to be renamed.

3 Process for change of name

- 3.1 If the change of name is approved ICT Business Solutions will carry out the legal process, liaise with Royal Mail, Land Registry etc. Royal Mail will then confirm that they are satisfied with the change of name.
- 3.2 We will then need to commission new signs to be made for the hall. The estimated costs for this are in the region of £300.

4 Recommendation to the Housing Review Board

- 4.1 That the Board agree to the proposed change of name from the Weycroft Senior Citizens Centre to the **Millwey Community Centre**.

Legal Implications

The legal implications are set out within the report.

Financial Implications

The financial implications are minimal and can be met from existing budgets within the HRA.

Consultation on Reports to the Executive

None.

Background Papers

- HRB reports 6 March 2008, 4 September 2008 and 30 April 2009.