

Report to EPC Meeting of 17th February 2020

At the January meeting, the Chairman explained that a test bore at the Wesley site has indicated that five bore holes, each of 100m depth, are needed to serve the ground source heat pump. Meanwhile, all scaffolding has been removed and the high level chapel works, including the installation of sound attenuation panels, are complete. One of the chapel windows has had to be replaced, all of the remaining frames can be made good. He confirmed that there is a site meeting every four weeks and that a site visit for the Committee and Councillors will be arranged as soon as the site is safe. The finish date remains the end of April. It was agreed that all fees will be decided by the Committee once works have progressed sufficiently for an assessment to be made

It was noted that relations with Greene King are very good and that professional advice is that, for VAT purposes, the conveyance should be with the Tavern as a going concern retaining the current tenant. This does not mean that the Council is committed to this arrangement any length of time. If, as some hope, there is the possibility of it becoming a community pub, these are usually run as a Community Interest Company with community members as shareholders. This can open the door to Government funding.

With regard to the proposed establishment of a Community Land Trust (CLT), a solicitor, a tax advisor and a community advisor have all been or will be engaged. It was suggested that information regarding the CLT could be widely shared through the Newsletter when other input, and membership, can be invited.

The meeting noted that the Chamberlayne extension scheme is progressing through the final design stages towards going out to tender.

The Treasurer Reported income of £54,001.54 to date which extrapolates to an annual turnover of £66,996.03. After a couple of quiet weeks, a recent substantial booking will bring in some £5K. The Suffolk Parent Carer Network has opted to hold its annual conference and AGM at Blackbourne rather than at Trinity Park.

The recent regular locking of the Car Park has reduced disturbance at night and also litter. The new ceiling-mounted projector in the Chamberlayne is proving successful and offers a worthwhile saving in staff setting-up and clearing away time.

Peter Edmonds, Secretary