

From: TPC Enquiries [<mailto:enquiries@tpcouncil.plus.com>]

Sent: 24 March 2015 11:05

To: Bill Bagnell

Subject: primary school

Hi Bill,

Just to let you know, I have sent out the summons for a parish council meeting on Monday 30th March so that we can make some progress on the school site issue as soon as possible.

The councillors have asked for more information regarding the highways comments and views on the suitability or not of sites 1 and 4. It would be very helpful if this information, together with an accurate measurement of site 4 as discussed, were to be available in time for the meeting on the 30th.

I hope the project board understand that the giving up of public open space is a big decision for any parish council and the councillors would not be doing their duty if they took such a decision lightly. Members of the project board probably know the details inside out but last night was the first time the councillors had access to information regarding the new primary school project and it was natural for them to have lots of questions.

I know you weren't personally involved in the previous attempt at rebuilding the school but I would like to point out an inaccuracy in the Business Case report. The reference to the meeting held with the parish council in March 2014 gives the reason for the council's rejection of WBC's request for recreation ground land as "well used area of the park and served as a well defined public amenity space." This is not correct. The parish council was of the opinion that rebuilding on the current school site would not deliver a good, long term answer to the issue of educating the increasing number of children. WBC was proposing to provide outside space that met only the legal requirements of an inner city school, not something the council felt appropriate for Theale. The parish council felt that such an expensive project should be done properly and should serve the village long term, hence their request that WBC investigate the possibility of a new school on a new site. I mention this because the councillors really are looking at the best, long term solution for this seemingly ever expanding village!

Kind regards,

Jo

Jo Friend
Clerk to the Council
Theale Parish Council
The Pavilion
Englefield Road
Theale
Reading RG7 5AS
0118 9306592