



**Notes of the Stakeholders Meeting
22nd September 2009**

Speakers

Tim Smith
Norrie Porter
Penny Cooper
David England
Chris Watkins
Neil Myers

OSP Ambassadors

Danny Budd
Jonathan Begley
Jo Grainger
Ben Weatherley
Matthew Baugh-Brown
James Shelley

Other Officers/ Team Members in attendance

Jane Pittaway
Richard Roberts
John Thorne
Bill Kiely
Ian Bartlett
Pc Tim Weaver

Apologies

Peter Walker and Andrew Stirling

Approx 50 stakeholders / audience in attendance.

1) Introduction by Chair (Tim Smith)

2) Project Progress To Date: (NM & CW)

- NM reported progress is going well. The site is safe, clean and tidy.
- Final tower crane is now down and in situ concrete frame to teaching block and Arts Centre is now complete.
- Steel frame to sports hall is complete and being roofed.
- Glulam timber frame to swimming pool is complete also.
- Internally, now being fitted out with partitions and linings as well as Mechanical & Electrical installations.
- Beginning to enclose the shell of the building. Timber cladding to the teaching block is on site and will start soon.
- Stonework to the Arts Centre has also started.
- Externally the existing red gra area has been removed.
- 1.5 weeks over programme at present but happy with progress.

Now until Christmas :

- Continuation of the above including external cladding to walls and installation of windows.

- Internally 1st fix joinery followed by plastering.
- Artificial Turf Pitch (ATP) and running track being developed.
- Drainage has begun.
- 16 week programme for sub contractor – 1st Feb planned ‘early’ completion. Finishing trades will follow on.
- Plant is being lifted onto the roof late this / or next week.
- Cladding to the pebble can then be completed.

Q Concern about the loss of ‘green’ playing areas and the adequacy of pitch provision.

MH – 3 teams plus school play on Gaskell Field

PAC – Confirmed the school and Gaskell Field will benefit from early completion and use of the ATP.

3) Presentation by OSP Ambassadors

- Webcam – updates every 60 seconds and a video was shown of progress.

4) Questions on current and future progress on the building project.

4.1) Bob May Are there any facilities that are aspirational and not ‘funded’?

TS On course re school provision

DJE/PAC Most community aspirations are included within the budget. There is an aspirational ‘would be nice to have’ list that could be incorporated into the scheme if funding is found. e.g.

- Time Pads on the Swimming Pool
- Curtain Covering Cinema Screen in Lecture Theatre
- Sports Facilities enhancements to track and ATP
- Geological Timeline in Geography Area

There are a number of school and community aspirations that could be provided if external funding was forthcoming.

4.2) Tim Pinches Is there any funding for Gaskell Field maintenance primarily due to increased use of the grass pitch?

TS Specific agreements will be required. No specific funding has been allocated at present.

4.3) MW Male Voice Choir Is there a stage; concerns about numbers in the choir.

PAC Demountable and flexible staging will be provided. Raked

seating and stage curtaining will also be installed. Same sort of facilities as now but more flexible. A large stage area could be set up with staging blocks.
PAC invited the representative to review further.

4.4) New School at Woodside Telford & Wrekin - There are some energy generation items, is there any here?

NP Advice has been received from our Sustainability Consultant that a number of energy generation installations do not give a future environmental or financial benefit. However the new school has been designed to consume 60% less energy than a building constructed at the start of 2000. More energy efficient by thermal mass, solar hot water to support heating the swimming pool. We are clear in SC that we create energy efficiency in all new buildings.

Regarding the aspirational items, we continue to explore opportunities for enhancements subject to funding being available e.g. pool cover, etc.

TS All LA's will be subject in 2 years to Carbon Trading and baseline measurements are taken and challenged by the Government. This is a major consideration therefore all existing, and new premises need to consider carbon footprint

4.5) Tim Pinches Gaskell Field - Is there going to be car park access via the school?

See item 7.1 for a response.

4.6) Sustainability – How much of the existing school can be recycled?

NP Reuse of certain parts has been dismissed. Not a lot can be reused however efforts will be made to recycle where possible. Educational content will be reused.

NM Materials from the building will be used elsewhere. Demolition contractors separate materials as they are an asset to them.

4.7) Asbestos Removal – What will protection to residents be?

NM We need to comply with robust legislation and H&S procedures; therefore there will be no danger to the surrounding residents or occupants on site.

5) Site Security and Boundary

5.1) Presentation

- Need to consider:
 - Protection of pupils (safeguarding)
 - Protection of property
 - Protection of facilities – (investment by community)
 - Access by public
 - Segregation of users – (safety and usability of facilities)

5.2) **Danny Budd** **Will people get over a 2m high fence?**

NP It would be difficult without assistance and you would need to be very determined and you would be likely to be seen. It is very difficult to cut with wire cutters. It is possible to bend the panels but would need a gang of people to do so.

5.3) **Access is no longer available onto the North End of the Gaskell Field from Farley Road.**

NP We need to review access.

5.4) **Much Wenlock Civic Society** **In the original brief, visual impact of design features wasn't required. This is a semi rural setting with straight long lines in the design.**

NP The footpath is existing. Some of the fencing panels will be able to be removed for maximising access between the 2 sites. Visual impact was of significant importance and identified as such, therefore palisade fencing was rejected in favour of weldmesh. Visual impact of the posts will be disguised somewhat by the line of trees. There is no intention to include planting between the running track and footpath.

5.5) **Helen Cromarty** **How many break-ins has the school had in its history to warrant security fencing?**

PAC There have been a number of break-ins including during the school day and personal possessions stolen very recently and car keys taken out of the school building and the car stolen. Exact figures for break-ins since the school was built are not available. However recent nuisance intrusion and theft has happened in the past and recently.

5.6) **Why do you feel the need to fence in the site now, including the sports field with unsightly fencing?**

PAC A significant area is open to public use including the Gaskell field etc for casual public use. On the school site

there are extensive specialist sports facilities including ATP and all weather track, grass football and rugby pitch as well as the Muga. The specialist surface of the track would be ruined by misuse i.e. boot studs, cycles etc. Ditto for the ATP.
 Regarding use, this is a commercial issue. The facilities need to be protected to ensure continued use and adequate maintenance provision.

6) OSP Presentation on 'Our Environment'

7) Additional Questions

7.1) Lesley Durbin **Given that the school will on occasion use the Gaskell Field, how will the community using the Gaskell Field access car parks and facilities when the Leisure Centre is closed. There is a need for community service vehicles to get onto the Gaskell Ground. Also if the central path is retained open then the gates on Station Road need replacing.**

NP Replacing the gates is not included in this contract.

Access around the boundary fence will be assessed.

Access from the car park to the Gaskell Field:

- Uncontrolled leisure route at bottom of Windmill Hill footpath and beyond the railway path.
- During opening hours of the leisure centre, controlled access will be available through the site. Extended hours will not exceed those identified in the planning conditions.
- Vehicular access to the Gaskell Field is not possible other than for grounds maintenance purposes.
- We need to review the options for clubs to have designated key holders or similar to use the pedestrian routes through the school grounds when the school and leisure centre are closed. Access around the boundary fence will be assessed.

7.2) What is the distance between the ATP fencing and residents boundary?

NP Around 20ft.

PAC School and community will utilise this area for controlled viewing of the sports on the ATP.

7.3) Lesley Durbin Could electrical access be made available instead of keys?

- 7.4) NP This is still being discussed and may be possible.
Access onto the Gaskell Field was raised regarding the service road. Why cannot people walk through that route?
- PAC There is an outdoor theatre adjacent. There is also the accommodation for refuse and recycling bins. These need to be protected also.
- NP We have a commitment to resolve the 'public' pedestrian access routes between the two sites.
- Bob May confirmed that a vehicular route was never promised. PAC confirmed that car parking will have restricted hours in order to retain security of the site when Leisure Centre and school facilities are closed.
- 7.5) **Much Wenlock Civic Society** **Delighted that the pool will be used extensively between 6am to 11pm. Tensions previously with the school and community use, is this eased by the creation of the unitary council. Presumably there will be security staff employed.**
- TS Now is the opportunity to manage those tensions. There is a management committee reviewing opportunities for both school and community use for a wide a use as possible in sports, arts and drama. Security is a key issue which will not just be a school issue.
- PAC We will not be able to afford 'security staff'. 'Security' will be carried out by duty officers with other responsibilities.
- TS The school should not be paying over the odds to support community use but the management plan will respect this.
- 7.6) **Need to protect sports facilities. Where will the children be playing in their free time during the school day?**
- NP Majority of leisure time will be spent in the Playground and Muga to the north. A lot of school sports clubs will use the sports facilities. Curriculum gardens will be also be used for recreation. The limited open grassed areas will also be used for recreation, including the rugby pitch.
- 7.7) **The fences make it look like a prison. Is it to keep people out or students in?**
- NP It's about ability to control. The students themselves want to feel protected and safe. The community will be able to safely use the external sports facilities. It will be just as easy for the community to have controlled access

to all the facilities.

TS If I thought I were providing a 'prison' type environment then we would have failed. However the proposals here attempt to meet the security criteria for the both the school and the community without being overbearing, which is why this consultation is so important. SC do take the safety of the school community very seriously.

7.8) Tim Pinches Where will the children play during the school day?

As previously explained in 7.6, NP reiterated as per earlier question, where these areas are.

8.0) Conclusion

8.1) TS Reiterated that the next steps are as set out in the handout. Over the next month any questions or comments can be forwarded up until the 22nd October to NP or to the school itself.

The next Stakeholder meeting will be in the New Year, Jan/Feb 2010.

8.2) Tim Pinches There is local concern that there is a lack of local people from Much Wenlock working on the site, believed to be only 2.

NM July Edition of the Jagged Edge reported that 78% of the site staff are from within a 25 mile radius.

*A private discussion took place between a member of the audience and Kier Moss after the meeting regarding the above issue.

7.50 close.