

Lacock Vision Prof Ron George







The outcome sought: is a community sports centre of direct benefit to the village of Lacock and those organisations it supports. In this definition "sport" has the widest interpretation and is inclusive to all ages; so extends beyond provision of facilities for our existing adult football and cricket clubs to take account of the needs for other users of the recreation ground and the village organisations that currently have no local facilities. These include the Lacock Primary school who use the playing field and hard surface court in good weather, the ladies fitness group who run and exercise in fine weather, the over 50,s Evergreen Group and the Women's Institute Skittle team. The proposal is to convert an existing semi derelict pavilion building to provide multipurpose spaces for recreational activities undertaken by the widest of age ranges and interests; is inclusive for disabled users and encourages all to visit view and engage.

THE PROJECT BRIEF

therefore required an aesthetic solution respectful of that which was valuable in the existing structure as well as the accommodation of the practical and operational needs of the potential community stakeholder groups listed above. The architects were therefore required to juxtapose the best of modern architectural design with the traditional; an approach favoured by conservation organisations and planners across the UK. A further requirement of the brief was that where possible new materials (energy efficient) and new technologies be incorporated to the benefit of the users e.g. heating and insulation: cricket scoring and public information projection.



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Finance

Capital development projects are costly and involve professional fees (architects, surveyors, planning et al) in addition to construction costs. Full financial projections and accountability will be at the core of the feasibility study for this project as it will involve public funds and must demonstrate value for money. To this end all costs will be the subject of grant application to funding organisations and that commitment will remain throughout the process.

To complete the stage of building design development approaches for revenue financial support will be made to conduct a full consultation process with stakeholders. The financial plan developed during this process will also identify the revenue stream that will maintain the use of the facility once operational in the form of a full business plan.

SPORT FOR ALL

At the core of this proposal is the aim of providing access to sport to parts of our community for whom that is not a reality. A large section of the Lacock community, the active elderly, the youth groups and the primary school use the Recreation Ground but can not regularly benefit from the new facilities now available in the wider region.

Conversely adult sport (cricket and football) is flourishing in Lacock because of its distinctive historical built environment managed by our partners in the National Trust. It is flourishing in Lacock as a result of the value placed on this activity by the Parish Council and the added value the village provide for visiting teams and our many national and international visitors.

This development provides sporting opportunity, both participation and observation for all ages. It is targeted to compliment rather than compete with other regional provision, and whilst modest in scale will enhance village life for residents and those who value and appreciate this community.

