

West Rainton Parish Council

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22 January 2018

Mr C Morgan
Durham AAP Co-ordinator
Durham County Council
Town Hall
Market Place
Durham
DH1 3NJ

Dear Mr Morgan

Future of Jubilee Hall - West Rainton

Thank you for your email of 12.02 on 18 January 2018. This was received too late to be formally tabled at the Parish Council meeting that evening.

However, a verbal precis of your response was provided to the Parish Council. It was agreed that I contact you again.

Unfortunately, your understanding of the Parish Council's position is incorrect. No decision has been taken by the Parish Council in relation to any role it may have in future ownership arrangements for Jubilee Hall.

Durham County Council (DCC) should make no assumptions about the Parish Council's position on this matter.

Turning to your other comments:

I note that you advise that WRLCA are meeting this week. Whilst I appreciate that DCC has no jurisdiction of the CA and its' governance arrangements, it would be premature for the CA to announce details of "proposals".

I confirm that the Parish Council will consider appropriate mechanisms for the setting up of a cross-interest working group or similar - but this is dependent upon receipt of a formal proposal from DCC.

I note your suggestion that a valuation additional to that undertaken by DCC be obtained. In due course, please let me know the outcome of your enquiries for funding available for this aspect.

Your email continues with your personal understanding of the proposed funding process. This falls far short of the Parish Council's request for a formal, written proposal from DCC.

It is disappointing to read that DCC are unable to help with the provision of a range of professional and support services. DCC should be aware that other than a small amount allocated for potential supply of legal advice, the Parish Council has no budget for 18-19 to cover any costs associated with the services described in my letter of 8 January.

Please continue your enquiries with Durham Community Action and Durham Sparks Project.

I note your request for a meeting. The Parish Council has asked me to re-iterate its' position that it will not be possible to meet with you until a formal written proposal has been received from DCC.

The Parish Council next meets on Thursday 15 February. I will require the County Council's response to this letter no later than noon on Thursday 8 February if there is to be an agenda item included to update Council and consider progress.

Yours sincerely

Mark Ramshaw

Parish Clerk
West Rainton Parish Council