

EVERDON OUTDOOR LEARNING CENTRE – APRIL NEWSLETTER UPDATE



Since the first update in February, the Parish Council has been gathering information in respect of the likely costs of carrying out the necessary due diligence work associated with the possible acquisition of the Outdoor Learning Centre (OLC). Whilst this exercise has proved slower than originally anticipated, good progress is being made.

The main areas of interest include the validity and accuracy of the financial figures provided by the County Council in respect of the current income and expenditure at the OLC and the likely ongoing maintenance costs for a building of this type, size and use. There is a particular focus on the costs, which would fall upon the Independent Charitable Educational Trust Company, if it takes over the running of OLC and becomes a tenant of the Parish Council. These would include any costs which are currently absorbed by the County Council, such as staff pensions and insurances, together with other building-related expenses. We have approached a building surveyor for a quote to survey the building, which would include a full report on the current condition of the building, together with a list of likely dilapidations, which would be scheduled as part of the ongoing maintenance costs.

Good progress has been made with the formation process for this company, with a number of Parishioners, with a wide range of appropriate skills, having agreed to act as Directors.

The Parish Council has been seeking quotes for the cost of insuring the building as landlord, including the possible loss of rental income, much of which will depend upon the professional opinion of the building surveyor.

As soon as accurate figures are available, the Parish Council will advise Parishioners prior to arranging a specific meeting to discuss progress to date. In the meantime, there will be an open session at the Annual Parish Meeting which will be held on Monday 15th April at 7.15pm in the village hall, where Parishioners can ask questions on this, or any other topic, pertaining to the village.

As mentioned previously, the Parish Council will not take any further actions or make any commitments relating to the possible acquisition of the OLC, until such time as the full facts can be placed before Parishioners and an opportunity can be arranged for all members of the community to have their say.

Please look out for further updates, which will be posted on the official Parish Council website www.everdonpc.co.uk together with individual flyers which will be hand-delivered to all households.

EVERDON PARISH COUNCIL