

WEST FAVERSHAM COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION
WEST FAVERSHAM COMMUNITY CENTRE

**BYSING WOOD ROAD, FAVERSHAM, KENT ME13
7RH**

**Charity Registration Number
293100**

31 March 2010

Your reference SW/09/1341 RA

Planning Department
Swale Borough Council
Swale House
East Street
Sittingbourne
Kent
ME10 3HT

Dear Sir

**SCHEME FOR A NEW COMMUNITY CENTRE NEEDED IN A DEPRIVED AREA
OF FAVERSHAM TO MEET THE IDENTIFIED HOLISTIC NEEDS OF THE
RESIDENTS**

Further to my letter to Mr Allen dated 9 March 2010 I would like to make some more comments in support of the Association's application.

Firstly, I would briefly mention that although some of the points in the letters of objection are valid there are a considerable number that are no fair, reasonable or accurate.

The Centre which is the only Community Centre in Faversham, is a vital resource for the Community and every week it is used by hundreds of people from West Faversham Current regular users include: My Nursery providing care for children., The Over 55s Afternoon Community Bowls Club,, Instep Dance School, Bysing Wood Short Mat Bowls Club, FAVARA Badminton, Pioneers Social Club (for Senior Citizens). Bysing Wood Youth Club and Pilates Classes, By Chartered Physiotherapists. In additions at weekends there are weddings, family celebrations and social events.

Everyone can become a member and have their say on how the Centre is managed. There are regular newsletters to encourage people to use the Centre. Regular consultation meetings have also been held with neighbours to address any concerns that they have.

The dedicated Committee that I lead are fully committed to minimising any disturbance the Centre causes to its neighbours and I can give you an absolute assurance that we will do our utmost to do that. The whole design of the Centre has been dictated by a desire to minimise any disturbance to them. As a Health and Safety Consultant I have calculated that the noise from the Centre will be reduced by 85%. There will be a Police Office, a Full Time Manager and the latest CCTV systems installed.

There has been an extensive public consultation with questionnaire going to 5,000 homes and an open day. The support for the scheme has been incredible positive and overwhelming with many comments to the effect that Faversham needed this centre to be built years ago. We are particularly grateful for the active support of our M.P. Hugh Robertson as well as the Housing Associations and other agencies operating in West Faversham. Swale Borough Council has generously offered the Association a 99 year lease at a peppercorn rent to facilitate this project.

I hope that you will feel able to support this worthwhile project that is the best chance that West Faversham has had to get a first class Centre in a generation.

Yours faithfully,

Stuart Blenard.

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