

POTTON HALL FOR ALL ONLINE PUBLIC MEETING

Monday 19th October 2020 at 7pm, using Zoom

Public Meeting for the Potton Hall for All Community Consultation

Present:

Potton Hall for All Joint Steering Group members:

Mr Phill Banks - Potton Hall for All Charity Trustee (PHfA Charity Trustee)

Cllr Andy Gibb – Potton Town Council (PTC)

Mrs Kim Gutteridge - PHfA Charity Trustee

Cllr Angus Macdonald (Chairman of the meeting) – PTC

Cllr Jonathan Price Williams – PTC and PHfA Charity Trustee

Mrs Liz Smith – PHfA Charity Trustee

Cllr Vaughan Watson – PTC

Cllr Adam Zerny – PTC and Central Bedfordshire Council (CBC)

Also present:

Seven members of the public

The Town Clerk

Apologies for absence:

None

1. Welcome, introduction and detail of the format of the evening

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the Public Meeting and explained that the meeting was being held to discuss the Hall for All project in Potton.

The Chairman advised that there were a few members of the public present that some pre-submitted questions from the public had been received and some members of PTC and also members of the PHfA Charity Committee present.

2. Presentation

Before going to the pre-submitted questions, the Chairman asked the PHfA Charity Committee to give a brief presentation to outline what the project is going to do, what it will deliver and the benefits to Potton and surrounding areas.

KG said that they thought they had decided not to do a presentation.

3. Pre-Submitted Questions

Key:

Q = Question, **A** = Answer, **S** = Statement

(C) = Chairman

(PB) = Mr Phill Banks

(AG) = Cllr Andy Gibb,

(KG) = Mrs Kim Gutteridge

(JPW) = Cllr Jonathan Price Williams

(LS) = Mrs Liz Smith

(VW) = Cllr Vaughan Watson

(AZ) = Cllr Adam Zerny

Q1 – Submitted anonymously

Will the car park be locked at night? My concerns and others who live on this estate is trouble it would attract at night time.

(C) That's because the building is going in at the bottom of the new Tall Trees development and I can assume possibly that that's from a local member of the public.

A – PB

The expectation is that that hall will be open and people will be there from 8am until 10pm, six or seven days a week. So, the hall and the grounds will be occupied, so there will be continual surveillance of the area to help overcome or help dissuade people from anti-social behaviour.

Secondly, there will be a management committee, whose job it will be, as well as running the hall, will be to liaise with local residents and other interested parties concerning shared issues to make sure that the running of the hall is not only smooth and beneficial and profitable, but also does so with the minimum possible impact to surrounding residences.

We will take advice from statutory authorities such as the Police and Community Anti-Social Task Force who will be able to advise us during the design phase on elements we might need to include such as CCTV or any other measure that we haven't yet thought of - it is still very early in the design phase - and we will always be alive to communications that we have from our neighbours; we are a group of Potton people and the success of the Hall for All will be dependent upon maintaining a good reputation and maintaining a good relationship with people from Potton, that's a necessity for us.

So, as the hall operates and as we get some experience of exactly what kind of things may or may not occur, then we can respond in kind at that time.

(C) – Asked if anyone else in the committee wished to add anymore.

(AG) – Just a few words that I once heard when we were discussing the cycleway from Potton to Sandy Station, and the advice that we were given was very similar to what Phill [PB] has said that use is the best guard against mis-use. So with a hall that we intend to be used from 8am until 10pm the chances of mis-use are greatly diminished.

Q2 – Submitted anonymously

The level of noise, for example weddings and parties, you need to remember that we are going to have people living locally because this is right next to a housing development.

A – PB

The building will include design features that will help contain sound within the building, so there will be a good level of sound insulation of the building envelope that's taking into account other requirements such as the ventilation and natural light and so forth. It's very likely that as part of the management of the hall, we will have limits on the type of activities, we will have limits on the hours of operation for normal and special events in order to minimise and help prevent that disturbance.

Once again the management committee will be tasked with ensuring that those events, whether regular or special one-off events, run smoothly including minimising disturbance to our local residents and nearby neighbours; and again, the measures that we adopt and the procedures that we take to prevent disturbance will to a certain extent dictated by what we see when we start to operate, so there will be a management review periodically to make sure that we are abiding by proper practices and preventing disturbance as much as possible.

Finally, as a backstop, although this hopefully would never occur, residents would be protected by prevention of statutory nuisance by legislation, which would ensure that any nuisance would be prevented or abated should it persist, but it's very unlikely it would ever get to that stage, things would have broken down terribly were that to occur.

(C) Asked there was anything more from any other members of the committee.

(LS) One of the things which I hope very much is that going forwards the management committee that's running the hall will involve people from the local area and we'd be very grateful for people coming forwards from there. So if people who live locally want to be part of this we'd be delighted for them to join us.

Q3 – Submitted anonymously

The amount of traffic is the concern coming in and out of the [Tall Trees] estate, which the person who submitted this question feels they don't believe Biggleswade Road will cope with it and it is already grid locked at busy times.

A – JPW

When the Tall Trees estate was put in place and CBC looked at it and it was granted full planning permission, they did a full traffic review of the traffic levels in and out of the estate. So, at that time when the planning permission was granted, CBC looked at it and, knowing that the hall was going to be there, deemed that it was an appropriate access path to the hall and through the estate, remembering there's also an access path into an adjacent site, which is designated for use for light industrial where there is no traffic at the moment anyway. So, you have got the hall, you have the light industrial site.

So, when the project was put forward, everything was considered by CBC, it was deemed to be an appropriate access and not an issue. Whether that happens to be different subsequently is a moot point, but that's as it stands at the moment.

We are willing to consider anything that people put forward and if there is an issue with traffic in the estate generally, then people on the estate should go back to CBC and highlight that to them anyway as their original estimation or review would have been incorrect.

(C) Asked if anyone else on the committee or council wanted to add anything.

Q4 – Mr Denis Ellison (not present)

(C) I should say up front that Denis has submitted three questions. Now, we haven't had many questions submitted from the public tonight, which is why we are going to go through every question that has been submitted. So I know we limited it to one question per person, however given that, as I say, we do have the volume of questions that we wanted or expected, we are able to go through them all.

With a shortfall of in excess of £200,000.00 and an end date for submitting a viable financially sustainable programme to CBC, what is the proposal if funding for [the current HfA scheme] if this cannot be achieved within the defined time window?

A – KG

So, just a bit of background for those on the call that may not know all the details. There was a deadline set by CBC's Executive by which the project would have to demonstrate that it had 100% funding lined up, not necessarily in the bank, but lined up for the project, and that was set for May 2021. What with Covid-19 and everything else going on, we realised that that would be a tall order and we applied to, and successfully got an extension from CBC's Executive to push that deadline back a year. So, the date at which we have to present this is the building fully funded is May of 2022. So, there is a little bit of time, but we are aware that the clock is ticking and we need to get on with this and we don't want to lose the funding that has already been gathered up for it. So, that is the reason why we have gone down this route.

What happens next is obviously dependent on the result of the public consultation, and if that is a success, we can then take that to the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) and they're the people who make the final decision on whether the town council can take out a [public works] loan.

Whilst all that is going on, we would be looking back to fund raise for that remaining £200,000.00. In fund raising, the more you can close a gap, the more attractive the project is and the more funders feel that it is going to happen. So, if we can get it to that point, there will be a better chance. So we have a full funding plan and the outline of that has been already distributed to you all through the newsletter that came out in October, and we would start those applications ready for hopefully a "yes" decision from the MHCLG and they would probably start to be submitted in Spring of 2021. There is quite a long lead in for grant applications, but that would give us the time to go for those things, and by that time hopefully the Covid challenge where funders aren't funding as much that isn't related directly to Covid will be loosened up, we hope.

If, for some reason, the consultation is not supporting going for a [public works] loan, that is the point in which we kick in a contingency plan. So, the Joint Steering Group of PHfA and PTC have meetings every month and we would then draw up our contingency plan and that would then involve working with CBC on what were the different options. Those haven't been discussed yet because we are having to concentrate all our resources on the

public works loan and consultation activity, and that's where we are at the moment.

(C) Asked if anybody else on the committee or any councillors wished to add anything.

(PB) I should add that it is one of the conditions of CBC extending our deadline that we have to provide regular updates to them not only on the process of our fund raising, but also on our contingency, so there is not only plans, but oversight of our plans to make sure that the project overall or the concept of having a community hall in that location is fulfilled to the greatest extent possible.

(C) Asked if there were any further comments from any committee members or any member of the council.

Q5 – Mr Denis Ellison (not present)

If we are able to fund and build a hall – with PHfA project managing the facility - if the hall for whatever reason were unable to finance itself going forward what is PHfA's strategy for financing any shortfall. It should be remembered that the current pot already accounts for £125,000.00 of funding allocated by PTC from its General Reserve Fund.

A – (C)

From our [PTC] side of things, if we find that the income is not as expected from the PHfA, and we don't get as much coming in the door as anticipated (which isn't exactly difficult at the moment given that nobody's halls are really generating any income), we will be using steps such as additional marketing to try and attract new revenue streams and we will be looking to try and attract a number of new activities. There are established activities, which form part of our business plan and we have support from a number of organisations around the town, but there are also people and clubs out there that we haven't spoken to yet, we don't know what they need and we don't know whether they will see us [PHfA] as a preferred option, for example rather than travelling to Gamlingay, Biggleswade, Sandy or further afield. So, we could be underselling what we have at the present time.

The PHfA [committee] would also continue, as Kim has already pointed out, to fund raise throughout for revenue and running costs and look at other avenues that are available to us. For example from a town council perspective, we have two halls in the town at the moment, neither of which the town council owns. You have the Community Centre which is owned by CBC and that the town council actually use - we also pay for the upkeep within that building - and there is the Mill Lane Pavilion, which is owned by Potton Consolidated Charity in which the [town] council has a tenancy agreement to use up there as well. We may not and, indeed we will probably will not, need three halls if the PHfA project comes to fruition and there has been discussion that the Community Centre is one building which may not be required. Now that forms a considerable amount of money to keep that running and that's something that we have to do in agreement with CBC who own it. Now that's money that could be diverted towards the Hall for All, indeed that might be very, very useful and also brings with it user groups who may use the Community Centre currently who could then switch to the Hall for All.

So, there are a few opportunities there for us to continue building and fund raising and see what we could do and to continue to attract new user groups with the facilities that we have on offer. Ultimately, at the end of the day, it will come down to the town council to fund any shortfall. There is an expectation from CBC that any shortfall would be made up by the town council and that would be made up via the precept. So, they [CBC] have made that clear throughout the process. Indeed, they [CBC] were arguing a lot sooner for us (PTC) to go to the public and actually increase the precept to fund that. However, we have done as much as we possibly can to fund raise as far as possible to prevent that scenario from taking place. So, ultimately, that's where we would be. It would be underwritten by PTC as part of their annual budgeting process.

(C) Asked if any other councillor or committee member wished to add anything.

(AG) Just for the absolute clarity and avoidance of doubt, the £125,000.00 is not an ongoing annual figure, it is a one-off from the general reserve to help fund the capital for the building.

(KG) Just to make the point that, to reiterate what you (C) said, is there will be, we hope, a site manager or a hall manager part of whose role will be to market this hall very vigorously, and the aspiration is that we don't only have facilities for current activities, but we can do things in that hall that we currently haven't got in Potton and we have had interest from outside of Potton that say yes we would love to come to Potton and do our activity because there is no day time use or hall big enough. So, we believe that there will be sufficient demand and the income and expenditure planning that we have done, the projections, show that it should stand on its own feet.

(C) I guess we plan for what we know, in terms of who is going to use it, what we don't know is what we don't know, so hopefully it will be an attractive facility to other users and other groups out there. There are certainly a lot of user groups go to Gamlingay, which doesn't need to happen if this hall is built.

Q6 – Mr Denis Ellison (not present)

Current plans appear woefully inadequate in terms of provisions for toilets and kitchen/bar space. Are such issues going to be addressed going forward?

A – (PB)

The toilet provision in the hall at the moment is adequate for 90% of the hall projected operation. For larger gatherings, there will be a requirement for the hall hirers to include for mobile facilities such as portaloos and so forth. The kitchen/bar area is also appropriate for about 90% of expected hall users and, again, larger gatherings who require further facilities of food or drink can have mobile facilities or satellite bars within the hall or in the curtilage of the hall itself. It is important to note that these decisions, we made them so that we could maximise the size of hall that we could afford to build. The clear decision was to meet most of the needs of most of the people most of the time, and that's why we have come to the balance that we have; it's a trade-off between various different criteria and that's why we have the extent of toilet provision and the size of the bar that we have.

Now the internal layout of the hall is not fixed, it can still be modified, and we will be talking to our designers about that and hall users as we go into the detailed design phase. So, for example, it is known that the town council would need a larger office space than is currently shown, and that can be accommodated within the other requirements in the hall. It's important to state, however, that there will always be things that our user groups want that we can't provide – extra storage, extra toilets, extra facilities, extra lighting or electronics and so forth. What we have designed and what is shown in the plans at the moment, is the optimum that we can provide knowing all of the user group requirements that we know at present and what we can afford to build.

Now, people who have strong feelings about the internal layout or what the hall provides or the services or the layout, are most welcome to make their opinions known to the PHfA [committee] and we will do our best to include it within the design decisions or indeed you can come and join the Charity and your input will be guaranteed.

(C) Asked if there are any other comments from any other member of the committee.

(JPW) As part of the process of consultation, local businesses were asked if they had an interest in being able to provide services to the hall and several local businesses – Number One King Street for example – have indicated that, if the hall were built, then they would see it as a business opportunity. So, where you are thinking about kitchens or the lack of facilities for some events, there are local businesses who would be willing to fill that gap and more than happy to discuss it with those people. So, albeit with 90% of people 90% of the time that 10% extra take up can be furnished within the town by organisations which are here already and more than willing to help. So, it is worth people noting that point. It is also worth noting you have the Cricket Club Pavilion adjacent and I am sure that the people who run the Cricket Club Pavilion and the cafeteria there would be more than willing to also help in situations where there is extra requirement for external catering. So, it has met most things most of the time and it is an ideal location.

(C) OK, the only I would add is that for most of you who have experienced the joy that is Party on Potton (POP), it is not exactly the biggest toilet facility provided there. They are posh toilets yes, but they are not exactly the biggest toilets and they seem to be more than adequate for all the happy people who go down and spend their nights down there, and it's very rarely that one of those nights isn't absolutely packed so that seems to be more than enough as Phill [PB] says for the occasions that it does happen.

(KG) It's worth just pointing out also - in case you are not as au fait with the design as we have been for many moons - I was talking with somebody who had some concerns about the layout and what was in it, and I was pointing out that the two meeting rooms that are in the design, at the far side of those meeting rooms there is also a provision for additional toilets. At the moment they are planned to be particularly suitable for younger children and there is a multi-use one, and those can also be locked off from the main part of the building, so if you were doing something with young people there would be a bespoke toilet facility for them, but in a big event again they

could be brought into use. So, there are actually two sets of toilets in that building though they may not be totally obvious.

(C) Asked if there was anything else anyone wished to cover.

Q7 – Submitted anonymously

Who would be paying should it go over budget?

A – KG

OK, well we don't plan to go over budget, of course nobody does, and to that end the budget has been drawn up with professional cost consultants working with the architects to cost this up accurately. In that budget there is also contingency and inflation, so it's not like there isn't a bit of wriggle room in that budget. In addition, we will need to employ a project manager (not the exact title, I'm sure Phill (PB) will know what the name is) on behalf of the client, that it is part of their role to make sure that the build goes ahead on time, but also goes on budget, and if we start to see that there is problems with the budget, we would be then having conversations with the cost consultants and the architects and the other professionals because we wouldn't be allowing that to just run away with itself. So, that it is an ongoing risk management that would be taking place throughout the whole of this process, and we would also continue fund raising. When you are doing a project like this and running a facility like this, and as the Eco-Hub at Gamlingay know they've got a similar set up where they have a got the town council, or the parish council in their case, and a charitable body working together so that you can utilise all funding sources and you would continue to fund raise so, you can take advantage of funding that is only funding to the local authority or council, but you can also take advantage of the funding that is available for charitable organisations. So, those are the sort of measures that we have put in place to keep it within budget.

(C) Asked if anybody else has any points they wish to add from the committee or the council.

(C) The only point I would make from a town council point of view is (I've seen it debated online) £500,000.00 over 15 years is the town council's worst case scenario. So, as Kim (KG) has rightly said, we carry on fund raising and the town, it may not have escaped you, is continuing to grow as well. So, from our side of things, if there is a way to pay that money back and pay that money back sooner so that there is less impact to the tax payer, we will be doing that. We are not taking out the loan in a rigid form and it won't take 15 years. It will be as flexible as it can be to ensure that we pay the loan back as quickly as possible and give the best value to the tax payer of Potton.

Q8 – Submitted anonymously

(C) Again, I think it is a bit of repeat from one of the earlier questions, so Phill (PB) you may be called upon again.

Whilst we understand there will be sound proofing to the building, we are worried about the level of noise outside the building, particularly in the summer months with doors open, the terrace in use and the overspill of clientele into the surrounding area.

A – PB

There is a small area that is not covered by the previous question and that is do with activity outside the hall. At present there are no plans for any organised events to take place outside, but for a big event like a wedding, or a show, or a conference for example, there might be people who spill out into the general area. People speaking in the outside area will be far enough away from residences that it won't be a problem. There simply won't be an impact from people's voices, people milling about, car park activity – that won't be a potential noise impact. The potential noise impact which could occur would be if it was a hot day and there was amplified music for example occurring inside the hall and people wanted to open the doors for ventilation or they were going in an out regularly, that would be a management issue and it would be something that would be taken into account firstly in the design process looking at how the hall could be ventilated to prevent that kind of situation arising in the first place, but secondly during operation these things will be reviewed and it will be part of our job as hall managers to make sure that problems don't arise as part of the operation as part of reviewing the activity to make sure that they don't cause problems to the surrounding area.

(C) Asked if anyone wish to add anymore to that.

Q9 – Anonymous

With the above in mind, we would like an assurance that the building will close with everyone off site at a reasonable time so as not to cause high noise levels late at night in a residential area where families with young children reside.

A – LS

Well we keep coming back to the fact that when we are running, there is going to be a management committee who will, among other things, are going to be responsible for managing the relationship with our neighbours and we really want to stay in good contact with the neighbours and in good communication with them. To some extent, this will be stuff that will evolve as we go along. We are not expecting it [the hall] to be open all night, every night. Our normal weekday curfew is likely to be about 10pm, but this will be subject to discussion between the management committee, the centre manager and the people around, so we are expecting to keep this down to a reasonable and acceptable level for the people who live locally.

(C) Asked if anybody wished to add anything from the committee or from the town council.

(PB) It is important to note I think that there will be a number of layers of regulatory oversight, so any event that includes consumption of alcohol that will have licensing conditions that apply to it. So it is likely that there will be hours limitations on any premises license that applies to the hall and there is, once again, nuisance legislation which would prevent general disturbance.

Q10 – Submitted anonymously

If we achieve the full capacity of 300 people and we only have parking for 93 cars, we further understand that the [Hutchinson] Hollow will be used for overflow parking. That's fine, but what happens if there is a big event (i.e. wedding reception) and a home football game on a Saturday? Please be

mindful that this is a residential estate, which already has plenty of cars parked outside houses by the people who actually live here. We do not want our access roads becoming an additional car park.

(C) So I guess the question is, how do we avoid that?

A – LS

Well one of the things is we want to encourage people using the hall to walk to the site and there is going to be a footpath through so that people can walk to the site without actually having to walk down Biggleswade Road, but there obviously will be people bringing cars down there. The management committee and the site manager will be working with the other venues at the Hutchinson Hollow to agree the way we can share some of the traffic and parking and again, we would welcome people from the Tall Trees [estate] to be part of the management committee and helping to organise this. Again, 93 parking car parking spaces is actually quite a lot and we will have to monitor what happens when we are running, and that's where I think the residents of Tall Trees can participate in this and become part of the management committee and helping to ensure that they are not inconvenienced, again with the planning having been considered and there are statutory ways of reforming this if it isn't working.

(C) Asked if anybody else from the committee or the town council wished to comment before going to the 'floor' and to a member of the public (Judy Oliver).

(KG) Just to say one quick thing before you throw it open a bit further. These are important issues, but we have to put it into context of the overall thing is that these are operating issues and these things can be worked out and it shouldn't really be a reason to not go ahead with the project or to block the project. These are things that can be worked out and all the buildings in Potton that are like this that have had to work through this in the past have done so, and we would aim to work with people on this. So this will come out when operations start to become more embedded.

(JPW) It is worth noting, as Liz (LS) has already mentioned, there should be an access through to Sheepwalk Close by the fire station and you have Potton town car park, which will be a short walk from the hall through that access path. So during times when there are a number of vehicles around, that facility should be available depending obviously on time of day.

(C) Invited Judy Oliver (JO) to speak.

(JO) I just wanted to point out that when we have POP, the town is very used to walking to that venue and we have 500 people in that tent and I don't believe we have ever had problems with parking down there. So it's not that much different, in better position in fact, if we've got 90-odd parking spaces for a capacity of 300.

(C) Asked if there are any other points from the committee or the town council. Announced the end of the pre-submitted questions from members of the public.

4. Questions from the floor

The Chairman opened the floor to everybody in attendance to give the chance to put their question across. Asked that anyone on video raise their hand or if not, to call out.

(JO) Going back to the point of POP, has there been any positive come back from them? Would they want to continue using the venue of Henry Smith field or would they ever consider using the Hall for All as a venue? Has anybody actually talked to them about that?

(KG) There have been some discussions with POP. I believe that isn't the plan that they would relocate POP, but I suppose that might depend on how things go forward. I know there are other groups that have talked about potentially using the hall inside and outside, but as we have heard, that would have to be carefully managed. And, of course, outside the hall you've got the [Potton Community] orchard already laid out which is directly in front of the main part of the hall to be attractive, and then you've got the community green space, which is going to be owned and run by the town council, but at the moment there aren't plans as far as we know to take POP in to that hall, but that could be part of the future plan if they so wish.

(C) I think one of the other things that is worth considering is that a lot of those POP volunteers travel a number of miles at weekends to take mobile bars out and about around the country to try to raise as much funding as possible for the next POP event. It would be far more convenient for them if they were able to provide a mobile bar at the Hall for All which is literally just round the corner, it gives them some time back and hopefully helps them spread the POP message across the community.

(C) Asked if there are any other points in relation to the question.

(C) Opened the floor again for further questions. Ladies and gents just call out or raise your hand if you have anything else you wish to raise at this point.

The Town Clerk advised the Chairman that [a member of the public] was using the "raise hand" facility to speak.

(C) Invited [the member of the public] to speak.

(C) Asked if [the member of the public] is on mute.

(C) OK I'm not too sure what the issue is whether it's a sound issue or if [the member of the public] is able to pass any comments on through the comments bar [chat feature], if we can't hear that way at least we will get to know what the question is.

(C) OK, so whilst we are trying to see if there is any way we can work around that, I will ask if there is anybody else; has anybody else have any questions that they wish to raise at this point.

(C) No. OK, see if we can try [the member of public] again. You look as though you are on mute, if you can come off mute we can see if we can hear

you if that's possible. I can see you are off mute, but we can't hear you unfortunately.

(C) What we can do (if you can hear us then apologies I don't know whether it's just something with the Zoom connection) if you are able to submit your question to either/or and/or PTC and the PHfA Facebook page, you can if you like contact them directly rather than post it up on the page, we will get back to you with an answer and will address your point. I don't want you to feel you are being ignored.

The Town Clerk advised the Chairman that it had been requested to disable the chat feature for this meeting.

(C) So, again if you are unable to get through, if you are unable to get through please do make sure you let us know your question. So if you contact PTC through their email address and also get in touch with the PHfA Facebook page and you can direct message them and pass the question on. We will endeavour to get you an answer so that you have had your question answered.

(C) OK, are there any further questions and any other points that people wish to raise at this point.

(KG) I just wanted to flag up, I'm sure you are all aware, that this week coming is the final week of the consultation and if you haven't already made your response, then you need to do so by the end of Friday [11:59pm on 23rd October] because that's when the consultation closes. So, I would urge you to do that if you haven't and if you have got family or neighbours talk to them about it and make sure that they have had a chance to have their say as well.

(C) OK and remind us again Kim (KG) what's the easiest way to have the say on the Hall for All referendum [consultation] if you want to call it that?

(KG) Well there's a couple of ways. Electronically you can go to the PHfA website, which is pottonhallforall.org.uk, and on the front page there, there is a great big button and the countdown that takes you through to the two questions that you get asked and they are yes and no answers. Or you can, if you are on Facebook, there is also links through on the Facebook page and you will have seen us putting various things out. If you are not online or on social media – not everybody lives on Facebook we know – everybody in Potton has had delivered to them a newsletter, which the back of which is a voting slip, which you can then use and put through the door of the town council. If for some reason you know of somebody that wants to use that, but hasn't got it, there are spare ones in the Post Office or you can contact the Town Clerks and they will get you one.

(C) OK does anybody have any other questions or points at this point in time please?

(C) OK I will give one last call for any final questions or any final points at this point, and if I don't receive anything then I think we will wrap it up there. So does anybody have any points or any final questions they wish to ask?

(JPW) Do we want to check the Facebook page for the Hall for All to see whether [the member of the public] has put the question up now in which we can answer it?

(KG) I can't see any new notifications and I can't see anything in the inbox which suggests a new message to PHfA Facebook, but presumably Town Clerk you have [the member of the public's] contact details, because she must have registered and perhaps you can get her question from her.

The Town Clerk confirmed he has the member of the public's contact details and advised he was checking the PTC Facebook page.

(C) Just going to double check that [the member of the public] hasn't reached out to We Love Pottton [Facebook page], which seems to be a very common thing and the answer is no.

The Town Clerk confirmed there was nothing else on the town council Facebook page either.

(C) OK then at this stage of the evening I will thank you all very much for your attendance. Hopefully this has been of use to you and you have gathered the knowledge on the Hall for All that you didn't have beforehand. Again, just a reminder and to echo Kim's (KG) words, you do have until Friday this week to complete the consultation paperwork or vote online. Please make sure that your voice is heard. We have asked the question, we are not going to make the decision without your answer. That's what democracy is all about, so please make sure you express your opinion.

With that I will thank you all very much for your attendance this evening and wish you all a very good evening. Thank you very much.

The meeting closed at 7.53pm.