



PRESS RELEASE

25 April 2020

Working with YMCA on facilities planned at Redland Grange site, Emsworth

Sharing work on Redlands Grange, north of the town, means Emsworth Community Land Trust and the YMCA are investigating the possible provision of community opportunities together.

Chair of ECLT, Dwyn Stepien, leads on improving nursery youth opportunities. She says: "Although there is a range of youth activities in the town, there is room for more nursery level facilities and clubs for those in teenage years within Emsworth. A new, purpose-built community centre could include a, community space and dedicated youth room, together with an external multi-use game area (MUGA)."

It is understood that subject to further consultation and analysis it may include an additional hall to accommodate the needs of the 1st Emsworth Scout group should they wish/able to be included in this development. The YMCA would be responsible for the development for the site and in running the centre, once completed.

The ECLT has secured funding from Havant Borough Council's CIL fund for a Feasibility Study to be undertaken by the YMCA to explore the project in more detail.

A project steering group has been set up to advise and steer the project. Membership is as follows: Sally Arscott, YMCA Fairthorne Group, Cllr Richard Kennett, Havant Borough Council, Rev Jo Northey, St James Church and Emsworth Residents Association, Dwynwen Stepien, Emsworth Community Land Trust and Ellie Turnbull Emsworth Community Land Trust. The Group meets regularly and reports to the ECLT Board that is responsible for delivery of the feasibility study to Havant Borough Council.

In particular ECLT is responsible for supporting consultation with local residents and young people through a range of methods including fun days, meetings, facebook etc to ensure maximum potential engagement.

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