

A Leisure Strategy for Stone

Briefing Note

The Leisure Strategy for Stone has been a project which commenced in 2012. Cabinet on 11 December 2014 approved in principle an overall new leisure provision in Stone, including a new leisure centre and destination play area at Westbridge Park, and a commitment to maintaining the undeveloped part of Westbridge Park as open space (P2- N22). As the Council does not have the finances to fully fund the leisure centre, the Council agreed it would be necessary to release a small area of land on the already developed part of Westbridge Park.

In 2015 a tender process was undertaken to appoint project managers and subsequently a specialist design team to implement the strategy and improve the community and Leisure offer in Stone.

The council and the project management and design team have so far:

- Agreed the sale of the area of land and signed a contract to sell with a retail development company
- Undertaken full consultation with local guide leaders and agreed the relocation of the guide hut and outline specification of the layout and block plans
- Identified funding to replace tennis courts through the provision of a Multi-use games area as part of the teenage destination section of the strategy
- Commissioned Facilities planning Model runs through Sport England
- Design tour undertaken to inform specification and design of new leisure centre
- Initial block plans produced for new leisure centre
- Design phase for leisure centre almost complete and preparation underway for planning application submission
- Procurement of all site surveys commissioned

The Project plan is well underway with a large amount of detailed work underway or completed to submit a planning application in the next few months.