

Gosport Waterfront and Town Centre Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) Consultation Draft

PLANNING POLICY SECTION
19 SEP 2017

We are seeking your views on the Gosport Waterfront and Town Centre SPD which provides the planning framework for this part of the Borough.

A copy of the document is available on the Council's website:

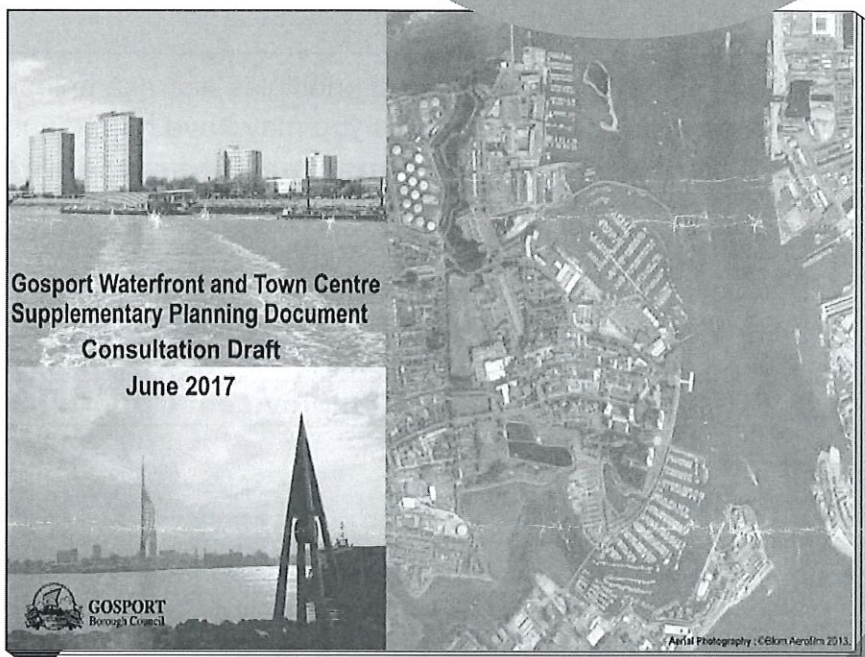
www.gosport.gov.uk/waterfrontspd

If you have any queries regarding the SPD or about making any representations please contact the Planning Policy Section at planning.policy@gosport.gov.uk or telephone **023 9254 5458**

The Comments Form is divided into sections to assist with structuring any comments you may have.

There is a section near the end of the Comments Form (Question 11) which can be used if you require additional space or make comments not covered by the questions included on the form.

Comments will need to be submitted to Gosport Borough Council by **19th September 2017**



Vision (page 5 of the SPD)

1. Do you have any comments regarding the Vision?

Strengths, Weakness, Opportunities and Challenges (page 10 of the SPD)

2. Do you have any comments regarding the **strengths** of the Waterfront and Town Centre area identified in the SPD? (eg. agree, disagree, any additional ones?)

3. Do you have any comments regarding the **weaknesses** of the Waterfront and Town Centre area identified in the SPD? (eg. agree, disagree, any additional ones?)

**Please use back page if you require additional space.*

Strengths, Weakness, Opportunities and Challenges *(page in SPD)*

4. Do you have any comments regarding the **opportunities** of the Waterfront and Town Centre area identified in the SPD? (eg. agree, disagree, any additional ones?)

Please see attached re the Waterside Community Centre
" " Church.

5. Do you have any comments regarding the **challenges** of the Waterfront and Town Centre area identified in the SPD? (eg. agree, disagree, any additional ones?)

Themes (including the objectives, principles and examples given)

6. Please include any comments you may have regarding:

Theme A: Creating an Attractive Townscape *(page 19 of the SPD)***Theme B: Creating New Employment Opportunities** *(page 26 of the SPD)***Theme C: Enhancing the Shopping and Leisure Experience** *(page 29 of the SPD)***Theme D: Providing New Homes** *(page 32 of the SPD)***Theme E: Improving Accessibility** *(page 34 of the SPD)***Theme F: Improving Public Realm and Green Infrastructure Provision** *(page 40 of the SPD)*

Themes (including the objectives, principles and examples given)

Please include any comments you may have regarding:

Theme G: Managing Flood Risk *(page 44 of the SPD)*

Theme H: Providing Appropriate Infrastructure *(page 49 of the SPD)*

Theme J: Creating a Healthier Town *(page 50 of the SPD)*

Character Areas

7. Please include any comments you may have regarding the proposals for the Character areas (including: What else would you like to see? Additional opportunities? Issues not covered? Concerns or queries?)

The Bus Station and Falkland Gardens *(page 55 of the SPD)*

Gosport Waterfront North of Mumby Road *(page 60 of the SPD)*

Royal Clarence Yard and the Retained Area *(page 61 of the SPD)*

North of the High Street *(page 64 of the SPD)*

The High Street and associated areas *(page 67 of the SPD)*

Character Areas

Please include any comments you may have regarding the proposals for the Character areas (including: What else would you like to see? Additional opportunities? Issues not covered? Concerns or queries?)

South Street *(page 70 of the SPD)*

Trinity Green area *(page 73 of the SPD)*

Haslar Marina *(page 77 of the SPD)*

The Gosport Lines *(page 79 of the SPD)*

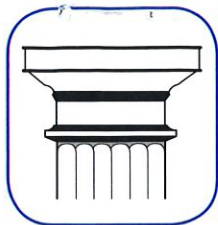
Overall comments

8. Is there anything in the SPD that particularly concerns you and why?

9. Are there any other sites within the Waterfront and Town Centre area which have potential for development?

10. Please can you give any suggestions of what else the Council should consider to include in the final version of the SPD?

**Please use back page if you require additional space.*



THE PROJECT SUPPORT PRACTICE

SURVEYING • CONCEPT & ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN • PLANNING
PROJECT MANAGEMENT • CONTRACT COSTING • CLAIMS CONSULTANTS

THE STUDIO • [REDACTED]

Tel: [REDACTED] • Email: [REDACTED] • Web: www.projectsupport.co.uk

PLANNING SERVICES GOSPORT

18 SEP 2017

Deputy Head of Planning Services [Policy]

Gosport Borough Council

Town hall

High Street

Gosport

Hampshire

PO12 1EB

15th. September 2017.

Dear Sirs,

Re: Gosport Waterfront & Town Centre SPD.

I attach herewith a copy of a letter that was forwarded to our client who represents the Waterside Centre. Whilst you will appreciate that I refer to the main infrastructure problem [which is, historically, generally known] I also highlight the fact that no consideration whatsoever has been given to the Centre.

Taking into account the general support service offered by the Centre and the Councils knowledge of how important this is I feel that the proposals should, without any question, be revisited and allowance be made to accommodate the Centre in its current strategic position.

Yours faithfully,

D.J. Boddy,

Enc:

Cc: Hilary Viccars [The waterside Centre]

I

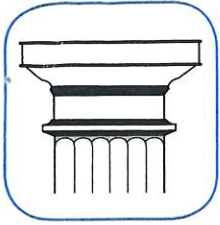


A MULTI-DISCIPLINE PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE OPERATING IN ASSOCIATION
WITH CHARTERED SURVEYORS, ARCHITECTS AND STRUCTURAL ENGINEERS

Donald J. Boddy ACIOB FFB MRSH • Mobile: [REDACTED] • Email: [REDACTED]

Architectural Consultant

Phil Sibley BA(Arch) • Mobile: [REDACTED] • Email: [REDACTED]



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THE STUDIO • [REDACTED]

Tel: [REDACTED] • Email: [REDACTED] • Web: www.projectsupport.co.uk

Hilary Viccars



7th. September 2017.

Dear Hilary,

Re: Gosport Waterfront & Town Centre Redevelopment.

Further to our meeting to discuss the document produced in respect of the above I would offer the following comments which, as explained, have been made following an initial review of the documentation.

1. Having regard to the actual redevelopment outlined I feel that the document has been produced and presented in a professional manner and generally took an all embracing view.
2. You will, however, note that there is no mention of the Waterside Centre. I would refer not only to the religious aspect but also the numerous types of necessary support that you give to the local community. As the Council is fully aware of this and also the burden that you relieve them of I consider it totally unacceptable that the centre has been totally overlooked. There is, as you will appreciate, not even a suggestion that it be relocated. Not only are you currently strategically positioned, the anticipated increase in the proposed housing will obviously have an impact on the level of support that the extended community will require. As such I feel that the current site should not only be retained but there should be allowances put in place for the footprint to be increased.
3. Also of significant importance will be the need to persuade developers to invest in the project. When taking into account my previous experience with developers I have always been met with the ongoing problem of restricted vehicular access to the Gosport area. This is a historically commonly known problem but if you refer to 4.18 on Page 34 of the main document it only appears to be mentioned, in passing, at the bottom of the page.



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Architectural Consultant

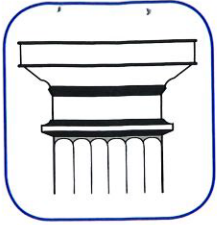
Phil Sibley BA(Arch) • Mobile: [REDACTED] • Email: [REDACTED]

Also, on the Contents Page at the front of the document 'Providing Appropriate Infrastructure' is seen not to appear until Page 49 and then generally relates to the situation within the boundary of the proposals. Reference to improvements to the bus depot, bus routes and the Gosport ferry do not, in my opinion, address the main access problem. As such I feel that this should have been one of the main issues reflected upon, declared at the front of the document with firm proposals outlined and an anticipated time frame confirmed. Without this problem being resolved I feel that the proposals relate to 'the spectacular rejuvenation of an oasis in the desert without any camel trails being present'.

The proposals for the rejuvenation of the area I applaud but without the main access issue being addressed initially I feel that securing the necessary capital support will not be achieved.

Yours sincerely,

D.J. Boddy



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Hilary Viccars



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Architectural Consultant

Phil Sibley BA(Arch) • Mobile: [REDACTED] • Email: [REDACTED]

VAT Registration Number: 140121577

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Yours sincerely,

D.J.Boddy.

To Jayson Grygiel at Gosport Borough Council (Town planning department).

From Waterside Community Church – Debbie South.

Dear Jayson,

I know full well that the credibility gap between Waterside's current building and the new-build we designed seems massive. So I would plead with the Council to consider marketing us as a mini "John Pounds Centre" as can be found in Portsmouth. That took very many stages to grow into what it is nowadays. Our site also was a Victorian ragged school in the past, and the Gosport & Portsmouth seaman's mission too – established by Henry Cook in the 1850's. It may even be feasible for us to consider calling a new building – "The Henry Cook Centre" in future. The point is - we can fill a substantial gap in the market for community coming together in a strategic, near-harbour location. We are far enough away from Thorngate to not encroach upon their excellent activities offered and their surrounding neighbourhood. We would never seek to detract from their specialities, such as their ballroom and the fantastic Bury House. However, they do have some large, rundown and depressing buildings which would cost an absolute fortune to replace - far far more than relocating some of their activities into a brand new venue with us – but with them still entirely in charge of whatever activities they wanted to head up. On the middle floor of our front building we have designed a large hall with stage - to be used for entertainment purposes at weekends. We would love to host their amazing shows for people on a strict budget – not being able to easily access Thorngate – and not able to afford the ferry and eateries and cinema at Gunwharf, or afford local pub prices even. We would promote the free little music concerts at Holy Trinity as well.

For community support services (esp. community advice) - we would act purely as a 'bridging' agent or feeder/facilitator service - not a replacement or competitor of our wonderful Citizen's Advice and other key organisations like the Discovery Centre and GVA. I did many years of work with CA myself in the past. We would like CA/GVA/Discovery Centre to experience good referrals and advertising of their services from our new centre.

Finance is of course going to be the big sticking point. If the Council could just focus on helping us get a new ground floor building for now – it would reduce pressure. Also consider for the future that the 3rd floor has 2 large conference rooms which could be marketed out to a business investor. Also there may be property investor interest in our backbuilding plot. I'm just trying to look at different angles. Maybe a trade-off would work. We will continue to run surveys and questionnaires in order to assess public need and want.

Thanks for your help in this matter.

Yours faithfully,

D.M South.



16th September 2017

Tel [REDACTED]
e-mail: [REDACTED]

We believe the Waterside Community Centre, on South Street, is “strategic” to serve the greatest needs in the Community. Having been to a recent meeting at Martin Snape House, led by Jayson, it was strongly mentioned by the voluntary sector (who provide unpaid support for the community) to have somewhere “significant” to meet and facilitate their work in supporting the local community. The word “hub” comes to mind and this building would be vibrant and bring folk into our Town. It would be somewhere where people are valued, supported and encouraged in their daily lives. Our vision has always been to serve the “greatest needs in the community”. It would be a flagship, something to be very proud of, an icon and a building that the local people and GBC would be proud of. We already provide facilities for two Churches and Narcotics Anonymous, Cocaine Anonymous, a Diabetic Group, Street Pastors and Healing on the Streets to meet in Waterside and other groups including GVA, GAIN and the NHS have in the past been very grateful for our facilities. We need a much bigger building to embrace all who wish to bless and serve Gosport. Also to honour those serving our community, like your good selves.

We would encourage all involved in the SDP to not take their eyes off the people of our Town and their needs not just housing. This new development would bring a feeling of life, vibrancy and wellbeing to all.

Please find attached a letter from our Project Support Manager, Mr. Don Boddy, who has been involved from the beginning of our Vision, together with my late husband, Mr. Andrew Viccars, right up to planning permission in September 2013.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Hilary Viccars
Leader/Trustee
Mobile: [REDACTED]



The Waterside Community Church,
The Waterside Centre
South Street
Gosport PO12 1ES

Charity Reg. 243256

www.thewaterside.cc

Any further comments?

11. Please include any comments you may have

More space available on the back page.*Contact details**

12. Please could you complete your contact details.

Name:

HILARY VICCARS - LEADER / TRUSTEE

Organisation (if applicable):WATERSIDE COMMUNITY CENTRE
" " CHURCH**Address:**

SOUTH STREET, GOSPORT, PO12 1ES

Postcode:

PO12 1ES

Email:

[REDACTED]

Data protection: Gosport Borough Council is registered under the Data Protection Act 1998. The information that you provide in completing this form will only be used by the Council in the development of Planning documents. Please note that private individuals will not be named when we report comments to the Council's Board. However hard copies of each comments form will be available for inspection at the Town Hall once the consultation period is completed (address, and e-mail details will be redacted).

Returning responses

Comments can either be sent to Deputy Head of Planning Services (Policy)
Gosport Borough Council
Town Hall
High Street
Gosport
PO12 1EB

or emailed to planning.policy@gosport.gov.uk**What happens next?**

All comments received will be reported to the relevant Council Board together with any proposed actions and/or amendments to the SPD as a result of the consultation process. The SPD will then be recommended for adoption and will become a key consideration when determining future planning applications. Future planning applications will also be subject to public consultation.

Please use back page if you require additional space.*Thank you for your comments.**

(SUGGESTED) VISION STATEMENT :- To provide under one roof - community support services, constructive 'no fee or low fee' activities, and key technological facilities, in order to benefit especially the disadvantaged - thus gaining local citizens better health, education, work experience, advice, spiritual growth and leisure/entertainment opportunities, in an area of deprivation (and to sustain through business & partnership investment, with some community funding through Hampshire County council. (Possibly Lottery funding too - 'Building Communities Strand'.) If we are able to erect the backbuilding of our design - the vision includes short-stay accommodation. Our project needs to break down into several smaller projects, leaving room for ample negotiation and flexibility, at each stage, with future developers, fundmakers and Council.

FUNDMAKERS – EVIDENCE REQUIRED : we continue to work on this.

1. List of leaders, trustees and 'Gathering' Meetings over last few years.
2. Consultation process. / project support team details etc. / linking up with local businesses and other key organisations.
3. Engagement with local community. Surveys and questionnaires to keep on record. Information flyers & picture advertising of the project for locals. Invitations to hall meetings.
4. Followed up with focus groups using especially our Sunday & Wednesday church members. It is vital to prove they, their families & their friends are involved in planning. As well as a 'churches together' focus; We do intend to involve good partner churches with the scheme as a whole, and will be asking them to complete questionnaires and survey sheets to make sure we accurately provide the right services and facilities for their congregations, families and friends too. It is anticipated that the Church of Pentecost will continue from the same building as us, along with one or two other smaller churches joining us. We are in talks.
5. Checking Index of multiple deprivation – annual statistics. Gosport is ranked 161st out of 326 local authorities (1 being most deprived.) Gosport remains the second most deprived area in Hampshire County Council after Havant. Of 31 SUPER OUTPUT AREAS (WORST POSSIBLE) IN HAMPSHIRE – 4 are located in Gosport, within the wards of TOWN/ GRANGE / & LEESLAND. The same 4 SOA's in Gosport were classified within the top 20% most deprived areas in the UK during 2004 and 2007.
6. Show project clearly complements Local Authorities sustainable communities strategy and equal opportunities ethos. Environmentally friendly approach at all times, as well as disability friendly approach at all times. Regarding infrastructure – any new land developers will need our full cooperation to access pipelines underneath Waterside and will benefit from all the flood risk reports carried out by us, as well as an important document we researched on transport issues. Our own carbon footprint policy would be light. In return, we would need to be included in any land developer's foundational archaeology and world war 2 bomb investigations, with some support to set our new foundations & commence building a new ground floor.

OVERALL (SUGGESTED) AIMS OF OUR PROJECT :- To reduce isolation , and to improve quality of life & increase engagement in local networks , and particularly - in job trainings.

- a.) In a SAFE HAVEN - to provide practical and/or spiritual guidance , when requested, under mainstream Christian Churches Together ethos.
- b.) To support the disadvantaged , using up-to-date equipment and resources.
- c.) To promote a more holistic approach to health, reducing burden on the NHS.
- d.) To facilitate access to wider community services.
- e.) To give all people , including those with disabilities , increased self-confidence & able to make more informed choices about future employment - using our modest learning centre.
- f.) To help give people with disabilities improved employability skills & an increased take up of suitable jobs or training opportunities.
- g.) To help local employment agencies and employers feel more informed about the support needs of people with disabilities and feel more confident about offering them a training or employment opportunity. Working in tandem with GVA/wheat/sheaf .
- h.) To give mentally vulnerable people , particularly those with aspergers / autism spectrum - through active leisure pursuits and achievable work tasks - a reduction in challenging behaviours. We aim to increase their independence, and to give them support for smoother transition processes.
- i.) To promote care for the environment as a benefit to all local residents.
- j.) To improve literacy & numeracy for local citizens, increasing their opportunities .
- k.) To promote pride in all Gosport's history and our heritage at waterside – once the site of the Christian seaman's mission and of Cook's ragged school.
- l.) To support street pastors & school pastors in our town. + provide evening café hub 4 esp. teenagers .
- m.) In the wake of increasing threats from climate change disaster , and terrorism on (6-8pm) many different levels , we want to give our harbour locality a real sense of cohesive citizenship teamwork , with good emergency response planning . Equally, to avoid the identity of South Street becoming a jealous " neighbour" of Gosport's swish new waterfront residents – we have a characterful & unique landmark building design, to help keep a balance with new 4 storey flats possibly arising on both sides of our site, & to better serve all the tower blocks opposite . Our council would want to discourage a Grenfell Tower "them" and "us" divide . Together with the precinct groundfloor businesses being transformed, South Street residents would then enjoy far more than just endless extra housing , as their future view. To stay in line with 4 storey flats – we can add a roof garden as an extra level to our existing 3 floor plan, & make it a community wellbeing project .

(SUGGESTED) OUTCOMES EXPECTED FOR OUR PROJECT :- (Overall less isolation – participation in new social networks and constructive work/leisure activities. Less crime too.)

1. Guidance into help on our site , and sometimes referrals into help from other organisations. For example – help to join Narcotics Anonymous.
2. Greater ownership of the community & a greater voice in important issues.
3. Our services will be more responsive and have better understanding of local people's needs, near to our church site, eg. Part-time harbour job trainings.
4. We will plan and deliver more appropriate services in an area of deprivation.
5. EDUCATION and job training greatly facilitated. (Creche supporting attendees).
6. Easier access to legal services signposting advice & easier access to Social Services signposting advice.
7. Citizen's Advice (esp. money advice)- support to help individuals with learning needs approach the CA service with confidence. Like a feeder service using an already trained and experienced CA adviser to make direct referrals.
8. Happier, healthier citizens who are more able to contribute positively to our local community - with a safe haven of peace in which to recharge their batteries , frequently. (Over 55's friendship club to address ageing population.)
9. People with significant disability , such as autism spectrum or Down's Syndrome , to feel more supported and stabilised, and to be provided with the right leisure equipment and pre-vocational opportunity. Ex-servicemen in our region to be included under significant disability category , when they have been prematurely, medically retired from the armed forces. We do live in a military region and we have been forming a bond with the Veterans café in the High Street. A modest, very low-fee fitness centre for them would be great.
10. Environmental enjoyment , thru' small & simple garden projects on our site.
11. Literacy & numeracy levels improved for local people, leading to wider opportunities & greater self-fulfillment with more self-respect.
12. Townspeople to feel cared for by a Christian pastoral team , who will support & guide unconditionally , regardless of whether or not Waterside users become churchgoers or Christians themselves.
13. People to take pride in the heritage of their town and, more specifically, in the heritage of waterside's own site.
14. Street pastors & school pastors in our area to be properly resourced, with the added provision of greater training facilities on our new site.
15. Community resilience fortified, and vibrant new identity for South Street area.

GOSPORT BOROUGH COUNCIL'S REGENERATION PLANS FOR WATERFRONT & TOWN CENTRE.

WATERSIDE CHURCH HAS BEEN TRYING TO INTERWEAVE :

1. THE MAIN INITIATIVE, UNTIL THE YEAR 2029, IS GETTING LOCAL PEOPLE INTO LOCAL EMPLOYMENT - AS THE DRIVING FORCE OF REGENERATION. THEREFORE WATERSIDE IS SEEKING CLOSE TIES WITH THE WHEATSHEAF TRUST - WHO EMPOWER THE DISADVANTAGED BY GIVING THEM NEW EMPLOYABILITY SKILLS. (INCLUDES HELPING PEOPLE TO STAY IN A JOB.) WE HAD TALKS WITH JODIE WHO HAS NOW MOVED ON. OUR NEW DEVELOPMENT IS AN IDEAL TRAINING GROUND FOR MANY DIFFERENT TYPES OF WORK PLACEMENT. We hope soon to establish contact with an organisation called ACE who operate from Portsmouth university. They specifically support workseekers with autism, and they support their prospective employers too. We've encouraged our folk into 'training as volunteers' by the GVA system. Some short St Vincent courses are also vocational. We continue to support the "Out There" project & held talks with organisers. Toucan diversity we also favour.
2. In the Council's local plan - dated 2011 to 2029 - it states that: the potential for the growth of the tourism sector will be realised. POLICY LP18 STATES THAT "PROPOSALS THAT DEVELOP THE TOURISM SECTOR WILL BE SUPPORTED IN THE BOROUGH". WATERSIDE INTENDS TO ADVERTISE at the Tourist Office - ONE ACCOMODATION BLOCK FOR PAYING GUESTS, esp. WEEKENDING SAILORS package. (Weekend trade is being specially promoted by Council because so far Tourist accommodation usage is higher during the working week days, than on weekend bookings.)
3. THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY OF GBC HAS IDENTIFIED THAT OFFICE & BUSINESS SERVICE SECTORS WILL BE ONE OF THE KEY AREAS OF EMPLOYMENT GROWTH - AND THAT THIS SECTOR IN THE BOROUGH SHOULD BE FACILITATED. WE HAVE TWO BUSINESS CONFERENCE ROOMS ON TOP FLOOR OF OUR FRONT BUILDING - IDEAL FOR RENTING OUT. WE ALSO HAVE TWO OFFICES OF OUR OWN TO RUN IN THE FRONT BUILDING - used for community service admin.
4. The GBC local plan document also explains the fact that it is IMPORTANT FOR THE BOROUGH COUNCIL TO FACILITATE THE CREATION OF NEW FACILITIES WHICH ENABLE TRAINING AND LEARNING. WE WILL HAVE A MODEST LEARNING CENTRE ON SITE IN THE FRONT BUILDING (ground floor). Additionally - we have planned a reading/library area on top floor of front building.
5. THE COUNCIL SAY THERE NEEDS TO BE AN ENHANCED TOWN CENTRE WITH A QUALITY EVENING ECONOMY. WATERSIDE WILL BE PROVIDING AN EVENING CAFÉ, APPROX. 6PM - 8pm. OUR NEW DEVELOPMENT ALSO PROVIDES A LARGE COMMUNITY HALL ON THE MIDDLE FLOOR (front building) - and incorporates a stage area. We anticipate 45min family entertainment shows for the general public to see, at least once every 3 - 6 months (low fee). Weekends / Early evening - 7pm start perhaps. A meal in our café - followed by an hour of entertainment at our mini "theatre" could prove a great budget experience to all.
6. CYCLING WILL CONTINUE TO BE A SIGNIFICANT FORM OF TRANSPORT, AND THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE WALKING TO WORK WILL INCREASE. WATERSIDE CAN HAVE MANY BIKE - FRIENDLY FACILITIES, possibly even very small-scale bike borrowing or repair kits to purchase, esp. for anyone staying in our backbuilding. Bike storage can be arranged in a double-decker system to save space. The Council have planned better

walkways between town centre and waterfront, which we should be able to take full advantage of too.

7. Council want the marine theme to be reflected in new builds for our town - so we will incorporate that character in various aspects of our new building. At next year's marine festival (2018) - we will be showing a modest display of Henry Cook's boats and work for the old Gosport & Portsmouth seaman's mission. Using a space in Holy Trinity's hall, as part of its' marine picture exhibition, and will encourage church members to get out on the water for that event.
8. We have contributed actively to Gosport heritage days in September 2016.
9. We are involved with the 'community resilience' pilot plan launch in 2017.
10. We are connecting with the annual Community Voice conference 2017 and continuous meetings.
11. We have attended a lottery funding course at GVA – covering heritage and Arts Council.

Evidence of need to address wider disability problems :-

Need for this part of the project links directly to specific parts of the Government's national "Independent Living Strategy". There is also Local Authority strategy highlighting the need for improved access to employment and training opportunity for disabled people (Physically or mentally disabled).

Consultation with local employment agencies proves the need.(Jobcentre etc).

Questionnaire from an employability Forum proves need.

Local Authority data on employment of disabled people , showing the rate of employment with disabilities is lower than for the non-disabled population as a whole. Nationwide research has shown that disabled people fear there are barriers to accessing employment & training.

More proof - see the Medscape website – 2006 report –" stigma & employment equity".

Link with getting help from the Autism Wessex organisation – for therapeutic leisure ideas ensuring greater self- confidence , perhaps then leading into the part-time employment market. Special facilities for our new building required. Also Down's Syndrome Association we will keep in constant consultation with.

ADVICE SERVICES - this aspect of our project is aimed at people who find it difficult to obtain advice about their rights, especially on low income. Reasons include: mental health issues related to joblessness / literacy levels / confidence levels / poor levels of understanding rights prior to a crisis point / a lack of time or childcare when a couple are both working full-time on different shifts , in order to survive financially . It has been found that : Money and debt problems are a big source of stress that affect quality of life and mental health. We have access to materials from Christians Against Poverty, but that office in Gosport has closed, so we intend to access CA's online Adviceguide with a client (who may have learning difficulties, or sight problems or dyslexia or be illiterate or have speech problems) & signpost people onto Citizen's Advice with a written or printed note they can hand to a CA receptionist. We have already played our part with GVA's GAIN initiative.

EVIDENCE OF NEED –

- a.) GP's and health professionals in Gosport have seen an increase in numbers of people experiencing stress in the last few years due to their financial situation , and GP's report they have difficulty knowing what separate agencies to refer patients to, notably when those agencies are already overloaded. Health professionals in our area would prefer to refer people to a community service which can deal with health and financial issues together , leastways as a starter. Pay day lenders & the changeover to universal credit benefits currently pose the biggest threat.
- b.) Surveys of people , who do not currently use citizens' rights services , have been conducted , with many potential beneficiaries showing that they were only reached thru' other activities, such as :- claiming benefits/ attending playgroups with children / securing council housing etc. This provided info. about what would work best to help them find out about services , and the main barriers that might stop them using those services. In our experience there needs to be a bridging service between those who do not think or communicate very clearly , and the services best placed to help them. Also help to overcome an embarrassment factor and assistance to choose which services are most appropriate for the relief of each individual's problem.
- c.) Local Authority 'sustainable community' strategy has shown a need to focus on improving access to advice and support for vulnerable groups. Moreover there is a

need to actually CELEBRATE diversity. WATERSIDE CHURCH HAS BEEN DOING THIS FOR VERY MANY YEARS.

d.) The local Citizen's Advice Bureau has reported increasing uptake of their services, such that they are sometimes operating quite long waiting periods before giving people drop-in interviews, restricting those who have urgent deadlines to meet before their problem doubles. Also problems with some clients making themselves understood verbally and in writing. Those with mental health issues experiencing reluctance to attend the CAB due to an embarrassment barrier. Filling in the initial CA form is an offputting, mountainous task for many people we already know. Having to voice the fact that they need help with that, inside an office setting - with many other clients overhearing - can cause distress. Sometimes people have been told to make a telephone advice appointment - making the task of receiving advice even harder for people with speech or hearing difficulties. Also very hard to open up about private money problems over phone, rather than face-to-face with another human being who is responding empathetically. CA is also understaffed at this time (2017). There are still citizens who are not computer literate - so accessing the CA's Adviceguide online at home or at the library is not an option for those people. Having to admit computer ignorance in front of library staff can induce a sense of shame. In our new building, Waterside would offer a member of staff who can do simplified sign language (MAKATON), in addition to helping overcome other communication barriers.

We can also offer easier access to advice for a minority of clients who have problems speaking, reading, writing & understanding English as a first language. For signposting advice only and as a feeder service of Citizen's Advice. We live in a busy port area and seek to redress this issue.

e.) A review of services by the local Authority in Gosport confirm that people can find it difficult to obtain advice about their rights, especially on low income & with restrictive disabilities. Home visits are not easy enough to obtain. People with multiple problems get tired of having to traipse around between several different advice stations. (Looking for a more straightforward approach to problem-solving in a 'one-stop shop' and telephone / email / fax^{*} - referral help on our site).

(* TEXTING.)

OUTCOMES FROM OUR SIGNPOSTING ADVICE & REFERRAL SERVICES :-

--- INCREASED CAPACITY OF ADVICE ,TO DEAL WITH ADDITIONAL CLIENTS IN A TOWN CENTRE AREA WHERE FREE ADVICE AGENCIES CAN BE SWAMPED OR CONSTANTLY OVERWORKED. Even to the point when people give up trying. There are very many large blocks of council flats all around Waterside's immediate area. Added to that will be 4 storey blocks of new flats coming to South Street – next to Waterside's site on both sides of it. They would flow straight into our building literally ! Along with the very large , new block of flats planned on the police station site.

--- PEOPLE ON LOW INCOMES WILL EXPERIENCE REDUCED STRESS AND ANXIETY ,AS A RESULT OF WATERSIDE LIAISING WITH CITIZEN'S ADVICE and using their online Adviceguide. This , in turn, will lead to IMPROVED WELL-BEING for Gosport citizens. Especially since they will have low fee or no fee activities to enjoy on our new site, sometimes leading to ways for increasing their own incomes.

--- SIGNPOSTING TRANSLATION HELP - PRINT OFF UPDATED LEAFLETS FROM RELIABLE WEBSITES IN SOME FOREIGN LANGUAGES , using a qualified linguist (eg. to seek help for domestic abuse from the Women's Aid website) regarding people whose first language is not English, in a seaport area. According to WA statistics –

the estimated cost of domestic violence to society in monetary terms is £23 billion pounds per year. There has been a sharp increase of that problem in our own locality, particularly linked with drug and alcohol abuse. It is also one key reason why young individuals become homeless. Added to that we know people traffickers are operating modern slavery networks on the South coast and we hold assistance leaflets in several languages for victims of that.

--- WE INTEND TO HELP CLIENTS PHONE SOCIAL SERVICES FOR SIGNPOSTING ADVICE, WHENEVER NECESSARY. ALSO TO ENCOURAGE TELEPHONE SIGNPOSTING ADVICE FROM BISCOES' SOLICITORS OFFICE IN THE HIGH STREET. This service may run just one day per week, but would bridge an important gap for citizens who struggle to make themselves understood, particularly when needing legal support. As an example, it could be possible for domestic abuse victims to get a same day appointment for a restraining order. WE ALSO INTEND CLOSE WORKING WITH THE POLICE. We have already had talks with our local police service, and again we interact through Street pastors.

WIDER WELLBEING aspect of our project : NEED :

Adults with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) & those with Down's syndrome still experience some isolation in our town area, together with a lack of suitable leisure equipment and a lack of vocational training opportunity. They report to us discrimination & bullying by other citizens, when they come for help to Waterside coffee mornings. Sometimes they have been afraid to leave their homes, so becoming increasingly housebound, which leads to inactivity & sometimes obesity, shortening their lifespan. Family members and carers of ASD adults, as well as of Down's adults, sometimes feel disconnected from support networks which can be reached locally & which do not need transport.

For other wellbeing clients - we intend to run stress management courses – due to the fact that our research has found there have been huge waiting lists for such services at GP surgeries. In our local church community there have been steep rises in mental health conditions of both anxiety and depressive disorders. We are particularly considering the needs of ex-servicemen in our military town - who have been on active service & who require well-being support, once retired. We intend to link up with our local SAAFA branch, in order to encourage their clients to receive extended help at the new Waterside. We are also tracking 'Help For Heroes' funding in our Gosport/Portsmouth region, to see if we could link. We have also formed a strong friendship with the Veterans café in the high street. At Haslar memorial gardens we would seek to liaise with the excellent "Shore leave" program of veterans therapeutic gardening.

For a few wellbeing clients - we will be offering support to those suffering domestic abuse. We will be in contact with our nearest refuge, & we will be helping abuse victims to make a safety plan in advance of the next attack. We are aware of how trapped abuse victims feel - backed into a corner, knowing they will suffer if they stay & suffer if they leave. Through gentle counselling – it is hoped we will be able to make referrals to the Fareham & Gosport refuge.

Art & craft therapy (liaising with discovery centre and Square Pegs charity) / pet therapy / mindfulness training / health & beauty room - all possible on our new site. We would seek student help from St Vincent's College to run a very basic health and beauty service.

OUR SUGGESTED AIM for wellbeing clients is :

TO INCREASE ACCESS TO SPECIALIST SUPPORT SERVICES FOR THOSE WITH DIFFICULT HEALTH CONDITIONS. Also to run health management programs.(Diabetics / stroke victims etc. With visiting NHS speakers on our new site.)

TO PROVIDE STRESS MANAGEMENT COURSES FOR ALL.

TO PROVIDE PEACEFUL CHILL-OUT AREAS OF OUR NEW BUILDING COMPLEX.

TO HELP THOSE INTERESTED IN THE ENVIRONMENT TO DO SMALL THERAPEUTIC GARDEN PROJECTS.

TO PROVIDE STRESS-REDUCING LEISURE FACILITIES & ACTIVITIES.

TO PROVIDE BASIC COUNSELLING & REFERRALS TO OTHER PROFESSIONAL ORGANISATIONS – eg. Bereavement issues, linked up with the CRUSE organisation/ or non-judgemental counselling for unplanned pregnancy issues etc.

We do already have a good rapport with CENTREPEACE in the high street which is a good, free counselling service, and we already act as a feeder service to that office. In our new building - we could do a very brief GATEWAY assessment of people who approach us outside of Centrepeace's open hours - prior to making those same people an appointment (referral) at the Centrepeace agency address.

WELLBEING CLIENTS;

- **SUGGESTED OUTCOME** -- Those adults with ASD & Down's S. will have improved confidence and social skills , allowing better integration with their peers. Staff at a new Waterside centre will have greater understanding of their difficulties & be better at providing guidance to family members and carers of adults with ASD or DS. Families will feel better supported through sharing their experiences.

- **SUGGESTED OUTCOME** – other Waterside users will experience a range of uplifting services , activities & facilities to counteract modern-day stress. Especially ex-navy people who no longer have use of leisure facilities at their former naval base & who experience much reduced income , as well as no longer being fit for any active work. They would be great for emergency response planning - as many have military training for fire situations and so on.

Main SUGGESTED aim of the environmental aspect of our project :

There has been a deterioration of Waterside's green area potential which needs addressing in order to improve overall well-being of residents around us and to produce some edible plants and aromatics to source our café in the reception area to our main building. Small area Local habitats for wildlife also considered. We want to increase participation in environmental activity, leading to local people learning new skills on our site. Gentle campaign against vandalism and littering.

Consider B&Q waste donations to help projects along free of charge – eg. Dented tins of preserver paint or stainer / trellis a bit damaged – goods just beyond selling condition.

Proof of need – THE PRESS report regularly that the positive wellbeing of people is linked to the environment around them.

Minutes from monthly multi-agency meetings in our area identify issues of vandalism and littering.

NEED FOR IMPROVED LITERACY & NUMERACY FOR LOCAL PEOPLE. Evidence for this need : The TONIGHT program on T.V. channel ITV1 broadcast on the 30th oct. 2014 - reported that the numeracy problem alone, in the UK, is costing the economy an enormous amount of money every single year.

Regarding short-stay emergency accommodation - which our project would provide in one block of our backbuilding :

Shelter's chief executive Campbell Robb - in The Portsmouth newspaper 1st December 2016 - said : " A modern-day housing crisis is tightening its grip on our country It breaks up communities and wreaks havoc on family life."

Shelter's study had found that one person in every 199 people ended up homeless in Gosport, ranking us the 44th worst place in the country. Out of 48,205 uk towns & cities – according to townslist website.

A new Waterside would be a fantastic option for those who have just emerged from rehab, but are without a good short-term housing option - until Council can rehouse a vulnerable person properly. Barclay House is chocabloc, So is Two Saints and Agnew . The young woman who recently died homeless in Gosport I remember seeing asleep with her partner in Falkland gardens in broad daylight. I had been giving them hot drinks and sandwiches whenever I could. She was a really awful challenge to the Council's housing team I know – multiple issues, including biting people and trying to grab money off them with a court case due . We have an extremely good housing team at our council - but more options, for especially women and youngsters (teens and twenties) on the street, have to be found. Otherwise that awful Kensington and Chelsea council problem of the "haves" and the "have nots" is going to threaten our brave new regenerated Gosport.

Ten slots for listing main ACTIVITY categories to be provided by our project : Each category qualifies us for separate funding.

1. Job training --- We have already linked up with St Vincent College in talks to consider running simple 4 or 5 wk training courses - from their free "Out There" project. On our future site they would be interested. W heatsheaf trust have had talks with us to develop employability counselling and 'Cooking' sessions - in W side. Jodie was the W heatsheaf worker we dealt with. Agreed that in future time W heatsheaf could well liaise with our organisation. We continue to encourage church members to keep using St Vincent outreach project as mini-job trainings. (See copy of info sheets we pinned to our Notice boards - explaining to our church members, and other w side users, how they could use some of St Vincent's free courses.) It means they would then be more able to help run different activities within our new building, with a buddy-up system of apprenticeship. We also greatly value GVA's volunteer trainings and would encourage them to extend their services to our site - should they ever need more space or extra facilities at different times. Consider many new residents expected to come to Gosport town centre - including new waterfront people.

We would offer work placements in OFFICE skills / CATERING skills / accommodation maintenance (HOTEL skills but only if we get a backbuilding - cleaning duties & change disposable bed linen - approx. £2 per bed) / small SHOP experience : product-selling skills & cash register skills, for items to be sold from back shelves at reception office.

Modest Learning centre & Library skills - keeping admin records / booking items in and out / basic computer research skills.

Health & Beauty skill - Includes basic hairdressing - students from St Vincent hairdressing department.

Fitness area - assistant skills.

Creche assistant skills.

RUNNING an over 55's friendship club - assistant skills.

General Technology skills.

New building - caretaker skills.

Some vocational experience will be by observational learning, by copy learning with an experienced co-worker, & by very simple instructional folders, using large print and very basic wording (with possible explanatory pictures) to follow.

2. EDUCATIONAL training - life skills - IT training / basic literacy & numeracy / preparing simple job CV & practice basic interview questions. (Preparation for short, part-time work placement). Free courses from Barclays Bank website on lifeskills. Endorsed by City & Guilds.

Childcare: Penny Tassoni books -- education and practical skills. Using Life choice (Virtual baby Company) -- which hires out or sells 'Real Care Babies' which are actually dolls. To demonstrate a baby's halfday routine. Also use some ordinary low cost dolls to demonstrate basics. Extra Toy corner for toddler dolls -- to illustrate appropriate stimulus & equipment for that age. 2 cots & 2 playmats & babybath & bouncer seat will be available.

Christian courses like Alpha / Christian campaigns / church leadership training.

Help for immigrants struggling with English, in our seaport area -- using free online help from Learn Direct ; courses endorsed by City & Guilds. Also - ESOL courses through St.Vincent.

3. HERITAGE -- history of Bethel seaman's mission and Cook's ragged schools /(in lobby area) history EXHIBITION by Watersiders -- as origins of the site. GOSPORT HERITAGE DAYS INVOLVEMENT -- support from English Heritage. Our site during 1st world war & second world war, for future add-on exhibitions as well.
4. RECREATIONAL - assistance with main hall facilities (no fee or low fee) :- bowls/ table tennis /film club / art & craft / keep fit to music / STAGE AREA - theatre skills, (technology for sound & lighting desk), musical instruments, karaoke etc. / (Building basement -- for a possible gym, especially useful to ex-navy personnel in our military locality -- who have been medically retired.)
5. HEALTH & WELLBEING -- free or low cost health & beauty treatments / stress management courses / free meditation guidance in chillout zone (mezzanine floor overlooking library) / possible small spa (especially helpful to relieve autism spectrum conditions)/ counselling for emotional problems / health talks from War Memorial hospital .
6. CULTURAL -- music concerts / or short 45 min theatrical shows or presentations in main hall -- mostly Saturdays (matinee & eve.) / Special interest groups eg. Photography.
7. SPIRITUAL -- main hall -- Christian church services / alpha club / worship nights / street pastors resource & training centre / 'healing on the streets' centre / pre-marriage courses / 'Healing Listener' courses .
8. COMMUNITY ADVICE SERVICES -- legal signposting / Social Services signposting / money signposting advice -- including help for some with a language barrier/ counselling on emotional problems , with referrals onto specialist agencies , if needed. (Problems such as bereavement or domestic abuse or unplanned pregnancies) /health support group meetings , especially post - rehab groups / First Aid instructions / Self-defence course instructions.
9. COMMUNITY CARE SERVICES -- CRECHE / friendship club over 55's / foodbanks / free-of-charge coffee mornings with opportunity to socialise & unburden if necessary / Recycling swap shops for exchanging items when no money to buy new things / possible low fee 'after school club' / possible free parenting guidance (once

monthly.) / evening café hub , especially for teenagers (6pm-8pm) / street and school pastors support.

10. ENVIRONMENTAL - short garden projects & garden maintenance / include edible & herb plants to source kitchens. (Setting up small wildlife habitats.) Roof garden possibility.

Waterside centre questionnaire : Answer any or all of the following , and thank you for your time. State your name and contact phone number, if willing to do so. (If you need someone to read out questions and write your answers we would be happy to assist.)

NAME-----, TEL. NUMBER-----

1. Identify which group(s) you belong to in the use of the Waterside hall.
2. What aspects of current facilities are you content with?
3. What facilities could be improved in your opinion? How?
4. What further facilities would benefit your specific group –if building and equipment extensions were made?
5. In general –how often do you use the hall? Might this increase with extended facilities?
6. Would your group be willing to assist us in trying to raise funds for some future improvements?
7. What ideas for fund-raising can you suggest?
8. Do you have any voluntary skills you could contribute to the expansion project? We need people who could help run, for example: catering facilities, foodbanks, basic educational & money advice support, basic accommodation maintenance, basic cleaning services, cultural events, basic technology support, health and wellbeing support /musical and artistic activities etc.
9. Do you have a Christian faith? If yes - can you suggest innovative ways to help others come to faith in Christ - through the expansion of waterside? We do so value your opinion.
10. Can you suggest any offshoot group from your existing main group - who could potentially benefit from an expansion of waterside?
11. In the local surrounding area - can you think of any gaps in existing community services? It is important to us that the widest needs are met and particularly for the most disadvantaged in our society.
12. In your family or group of friends, are there people needing easier access to training for jobs? How could we improve this with your help?
13. Would you welcome help to improve your life skills? What do you struggle with?
14. How could we help you to achieve a better urban environment in this immediate area of Gosport, which people are better able to access and enjoy? Would you maybe get involved with garden projects run by us, for example?

15. To improve overall health and well-being , are there particular activities you would like to see promoted at a new Waterside centre ? (Health management discussion programs for example. Or health and beauty facilities , dance club etc.)
16. For Christians Against Poverty (CAP) money advice – would you welcome a new drop-in centre? You don't have to be a Christian to use this service and there is no fee charged. *No longer available.*
17. Would you welcome an easy access to Social Services through a direct and free telephone link based on our site, providing just basic advice ? Would you also welcome a direct email computer link to Social Services from our new centre ?
18. What would make you feel you have more ownership of your local community ? Do you feel you have a voice on important issues ?
19. We are committed to encouraging more active citizenship, with people working together in order to tackle problems. Would you welcome crime reduction talks by the police & support from a basic community legal service once a week or month ?
20. We are committed to equal opportunities , and we have experience in helping people with mental health issues and learning disadvantages . Would you have skills to assist? (Any helper would have to be assessed under safeguarding strategy to protect the vulnerable.)
21. Would you welcome day care facilities for the elderly or disabled in this part of town?
22. Would you like a peaceful haven to rest in and meditate , as part of our new building plans ?
23. Would you welcome crèche facilities , whilst you make use of other activities in our extended premises ?
24. Might you be interested in learning about the Christian faith through free-of-charge courses on our site ?
25. Are you a teenager, or are there teenagers in your household , or amongst your friends - who would benefit from new youth club facilities ?

Survey – waterside development project (Phoenix). Current hall users or local residents :

Please tick your age box , then circle other answer options.

1. What age category do you fall into :

Under 15	15-25	26-39	40-55	56-70	Over 70	
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2 Are you married / in a civil partnership / cohabiting with partner / single.

3 Are you unemployed / student / part-time worker / full-time worker/ retired.

4 Are you a homeowner / a private rental tenant / a council tenant / in temporary lodgings / homeless ?

5. Are you a single parent with children or in a couple with children ?

6 Do you receive these benefits ? Disability / housing/ tax credits / Jobseeker / income support?

7. Do you have educational qualifications ? GCSE's / A levels / NVQ's/ degree / other.

8. Do you have a diagnosed mental health disability ? Yes or no.

9. Do you have a significant physical disability ? Yes or no.

10. Are you from an ethnic minority ? Yes or no .

11. Are you a carer for somebody in your family ? Yes or no.

12. Have you got debts ? yes or no. Other money worries ? Yes or no.

13. Do you want more community involvement ? yes or no.

PROOF OF ST VINCENT LIAISON.
(PINNED TO OUR NOTICE BOARD AT REGULAR INTERVALS.)

JOB TRAINING courses – who is interested? Sign your name with the number of the training you'd prefer to do. (up to 3 courses per person). These are FREE OF CHARGE.

1. Health & Social care (if you want to do daycare assistance) - or work with an over 55's friendship club.
Also : Introduction to sociology .
Introduction to social work.
2. Childcare. If you want to do crèche assistance.
Also : Introduction to child psychology.
3. Office skills . If you want to help run reception.
4. Customer service skills. If you want to help run shop shelves or thrift shop.
5. First Aid. If you want to learn basic medical support.
6. Gardening . If you want to work outside.
7. Spanish for beginners. If you want to understand basics in another language, helping foreign visitors. Also help Waterside's new language support system.
8. Back to basics for maths & English . To assist in new learning centre. Or to improve your CV for future jobs.
9. Counselling skills. If you want to be a healing listener. To help those in emotional pain.
10. Introduction to bookkeeping. If you like working with numbers and organising account sheets. (Intro to accountancy too.)

11. Cake decorating or jewellery – making .
If you like making things to use, sell or donate.
(Small charge towards materials.)
12. Hairdressing for fun.
Aromatherapy massage.
Nails & manicure for fun. (To work in
H&B treatment room.)
13. Beginners Sewing – to make best
clothes last longer & give simple presents
for Birthdays.
14. drawing – for an exhibition. (Beginners)
15. Painting -- for an exhibition.(Beginners)
16. Guitar - for musical worship.(Beginners)
17. Criminology & forensics ^(etc)INTRO. If you
are interested in matters of police work.
18. Patchwork course. If you are interested
in a community effort – representing
Waterside in patterns/pictures on a quilted
banner.
19. Photography – digital.(seeking assistant
job in a photographic studio) or just
developing a hobby.
20. All kinds of computer program courses.
To develop your CV or assist IT learning at
new Waterside.
21. ESOL – learning about materials used
for teaching English to Speakers of Other
Languages.
Confidence - training to improve your self-
esteem generally. (Counteracting anxiety).

NATURAL CONCERNS THE COUNCIL MAY HAVE , REGARDING THE FACT THAT A PARTICULAR RELIGION WILL HAVE ANY LEADERSHIP ROLE FOR A NEW CENTRE BUILDING.

1. Our first assurance is that in true Christianity - all men are equal in the sight of God and that Christ himself rejected every form of human judgementalism. We have to live and die by that rationality, in order to avoid hypocrisy. Moreover, we recognise very much that other faiths are to be thoroughly respected & equally valued in their own right. It's not our job to be making any form of comparison.
2. We have people in our church from the LGBT community, including some with HIV. It is irrelevant for us to worry about anybody's chosen lifestyle. That's none of our business, and has nothing to do with searching for faith or promoting faith. We love and accept all who approach us as individuals on an even playing field. We know that a majority of people who would use the new centre will not be Christians or become Christians. There will be absolutely no bible-bashing. EVER. Our church activity will be confined to the Sunday/ Tuesday/ Wednesday sessions that are currently in place for our existing building.
3. We have some people with severe mental illnesses who are stigmatised (even by some other churches sadly) - many with Aspergers, many with bipolar depression, some with Schizophrenia, some with clinical depression, and a few with early dementia. Also Epilepsy is quite common. It has been our privilege to work at keeping a support system going for those individuals. They are often very high achievers in their own unique way. Inspirational. Why else would I bother to give the Council all this information ? Why would I even care about Waterside's future ?
4. We do have a little evidence to show that there may be some value in having a Christian pastoral team and a few Christian activities in place : See Daily Mail newspaper (Monday September 18th, 2017).

A report published by the Religious Education Council & the National Association of teachers of RE say that - many children may be missing out on religious education at school. One in four secondaries in UK are struggling to meet their legal obligation to teach pupils about major religions & belief systems. A quarter of the schools polled for the report said they do not offer the subject to all students at GCSE level. There are suggestions that some schools are not teaching RE at all. Deborah Weston (National Union Teachers of RE) says that the statistics "highlight serious problems that have implications for cohesion and inclusivity in our society By developing knowledge and understanding about different religions and world views in the security of a classroom, young people have the opportunity to engage with complex, diverse and constantly evolving subject matter."