

## **HCC Use of Nursery Building**

We have now signed the lease for use of the above until the end of the year for our Share Store. Cost to us is for utilities only. We have funding to cover the costs of the Store. We can also hire out the building should there be interest.

We are also in discussions with SCC for continuing use of the building into 2021 and beyond for youth activities. We are in the process of making a case to SCC for this use and are aware that Barnado's have expressed an interest and are prepared to pay rent. If we were successful in gaining its use we would be responsible to SCC for the cost of utilities and responsible ourselves – or with others such as 40 Degreez - for funding provision. The case for its use for youth is along the following lines:

The importance of providing support for young people is clearly recognised and is likely to be even more important in the light of COVID-19.

### **Existing Provision for Youth Activities in Upper Hale, North Farnham**

The latest statistics suggest that in Sandy Hill and Bricksbury Hill there are over 200 youngsters between 10-17 inclusive.

1. For a good number of year there has been a SCC supported detached youth facility on Sandy Hill, held in a hut which sits on the field in the middle of the estate. The hut is seen as being no longer fit for purpose with a suggestion it be used for storage only.
2. Hale Community Centre has been running and funding a weekly session for girls aged 11-14/15 years of age. Up until the lockdown in March up to 15 girls were attending weekly. Since then girls have had the opportunity to meet weekly via Zoom and about 10 have been doing this on a regular basis. It is hoped that face-to-face sessions will resume after the October half-term. We have had requests to run something similar for boys and for mix groups.

There are no recreation facilities eg skate park for the youngsters in the area apart from green and open space .

Outside of the immediate area the nearest provision is in the centre of Farnham – at 40 Degreez and at the skatepark next to the leisure centre. Transport from Upper Hale to the centre of Farnham is not necessarily easy and not ideal, particularly during the winter months.

Because of this 40 Degreez recognise that in order for the need to be met outreach or provision outside of Farnham centre is necessary. Agenda Item 4.d

### **How the Need could be met**

There are no unused or empty buildings in Upper Hale, suitable or not. Hale Community Centre does not have the capacity to expand provision sufficiently.

The Nursery building is of an ideal size and ideally placed, as it is easily accessible from both sides of the Upper Hale Road. Also there are advantages to it being close to the Centre, through its community garden and ad hoc support for young people eg planned cookery sessions.

### **Some Pro's and Cons for HCC**

#### **Pro's**

- Raise our profile
- Provide us with additional space for other uses, with opportunities for increasing income

#### **Con's**

- Increase our funding needs – budgets not yet drawn up
- Increase our responsibilities
- We over-commit

October 2020