

14th March 2017

Bishopsteignton Parish Council
Community Centre
Shute Hill
Bishopsteignton
Devon
TQ14 9QL

Dear Parish Council Clerk,

Proposed 1st Bishopsteignton Scout Hut on the Lawns
Lease Terms

We refer to your letter attached to an e-mail of 17th February 2017 sent to David Price, Jeanne Langridge and Anne Barry.

We initially requested support from Bishopsteignton Parish Council in early September 2015; agreement in principle, to locate a new S&G hut on the Lawns, was reached in March 2016. To progress the project, we suggested the formation of a working group in April 2016 and this met in late August 2016. The Scout and Guides (S&G) group responded to the issues raised during the August meeting on the 3rd November 2016 after the issue of the meeting notes and BPC's formal response in mid October 2016. Your letter of 17th February 2017 addresses some of the issues in our November response.

It has become evident throughout this process that the relocation of a S&G hut to the Lawns lacks the full, whole hearted, support of all council members.

It is essential that we determine whether agreeable lease terms can be achieved before embarking on a substantial programme of survey, design and planning work which will cost several thousand pounds. We have explained that a lease term well in excess of 25 years and the ability to use the building for some community purposes (with the prior agreement of the Parish Council) are very important donor criteria against which they assess projects for the release of funds. We have already been notified by one potential donor that they will be unable to support our funding application based on your proposed terms.

We have also explained that we are seeking new premises due to the limited remaining life of our existing post war reinforced concrete 70-year-old hut. The condition of the present hut is such that we are no longer able to obtain insurance for the premises. Therefore, we have been forced to stop using our present facilities and are now seeking alternative temporary accommodation.

Therefore, in light of the terms offered, in particular the short lease term and restriction on community use, we believe it will not make best use of our limited resources to continue pursuit of an alternative facility on the Lawns.

We would welcome any support the Council could provide for Scouts and Girlguiding in finding a new permanent venue

Yours sincerely

Elaine Cawthraw, Chair of Bishopsteignton Scout Group
David Price, District Chairman Teignbridge Scouts
Jeanne Langridge, Teignbridge Girlguiding Division Commissioner

cc. Cllr T Golder
Cllr C Clarence