

## PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE

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**Date:** Monday, 30 October 2023

**Title:** West Witney Sports and Social Club Major Refurbishment

**Contact Officer:** Head of Estates & Operations

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### **Background**

Witney Town Council's Open Spaces Strategy, published in April 2021, sets out 5 themes to help deliver improvements for the people of Witney: parks, sport, leisure, infrastructure, and effectiveness.

The West Witney Recreational Grounds is one of the biggest outdoor spaces the town has to offer with many sporting events and activities that include cricket, bowls, a projectile range, football, tennis, and park runs.

The sports and social club is in need of major refurbishment to maintain the integrity of the building, prolong its life expectancy and energy efficiency, and improve the experience for users of the facility.

### **Current Situation**

The Club has a wide range of indoor and outdoor facilities allowing their sports clubs to socialise and fundraise once they have played their games. They have 2 bars, as well as a function room, where watch live sports, the games on tv, play pool, darts, aunt sally etc.

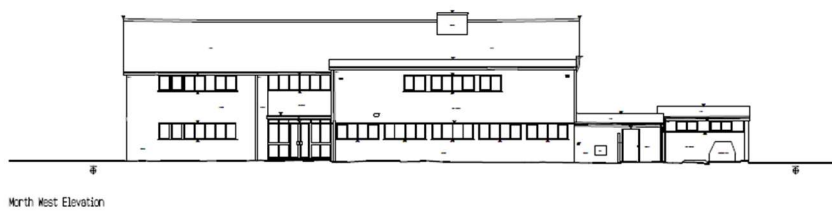
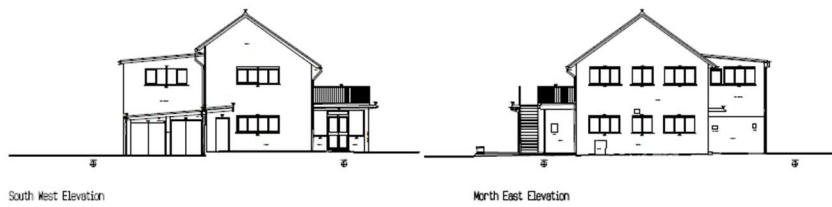
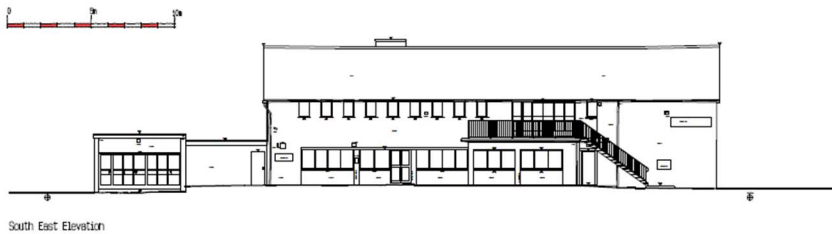
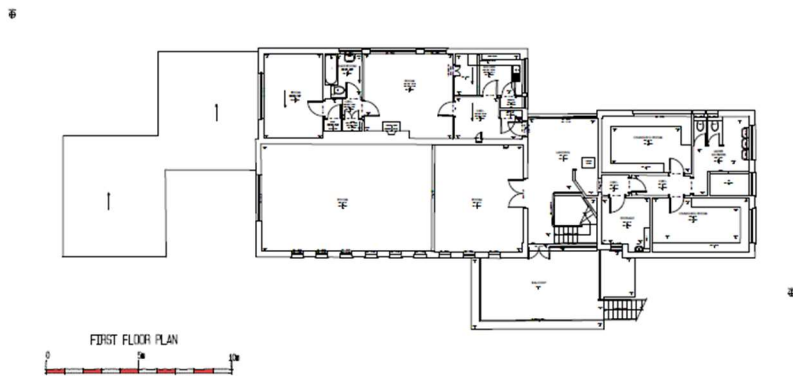
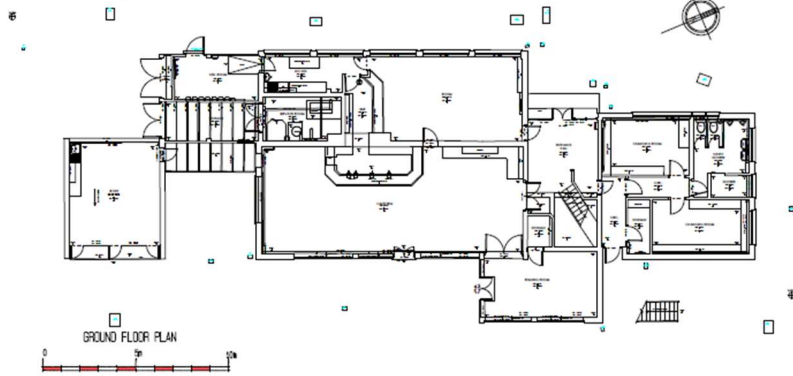
A planning application has been submitted with drawings shown on the following pages. The application was validated on 26 September 2023, and we are expecting to have a decision before Christmas.

The self-assessment of biodiversity has not identified any issues of concern and comments on the application can be monitored via the link below.

<https://publicaccess.westoxon.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?keyVal=S1JJWNRK0GL00&activeTab=summary>

# Existing Plans

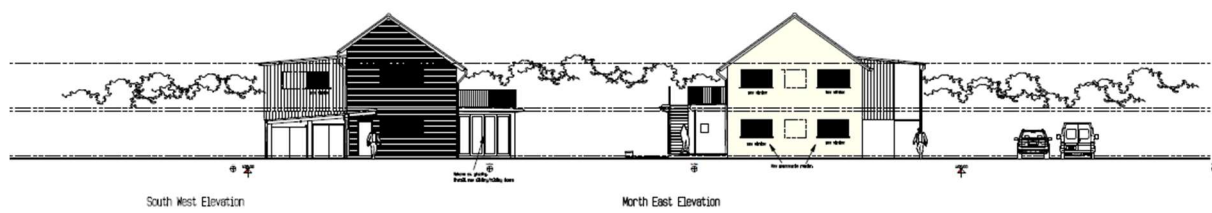
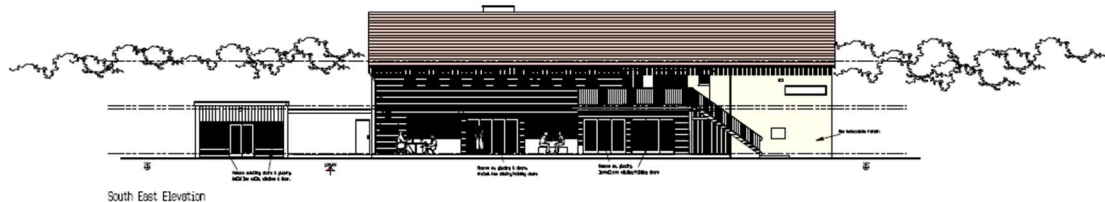
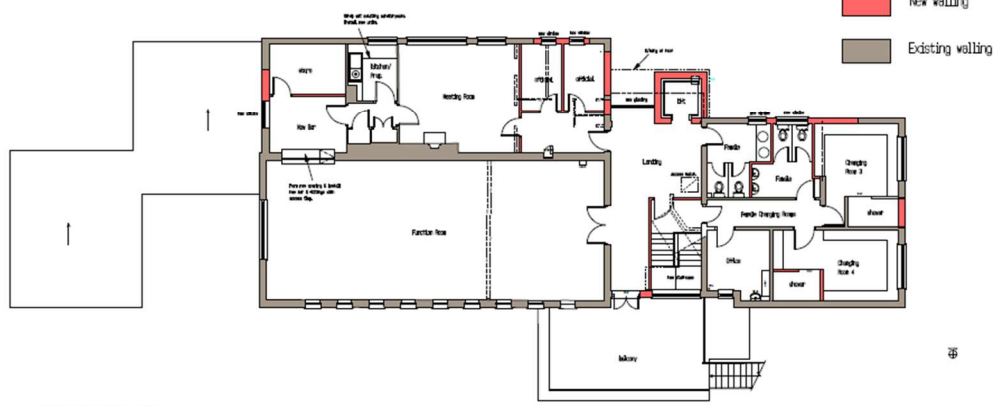
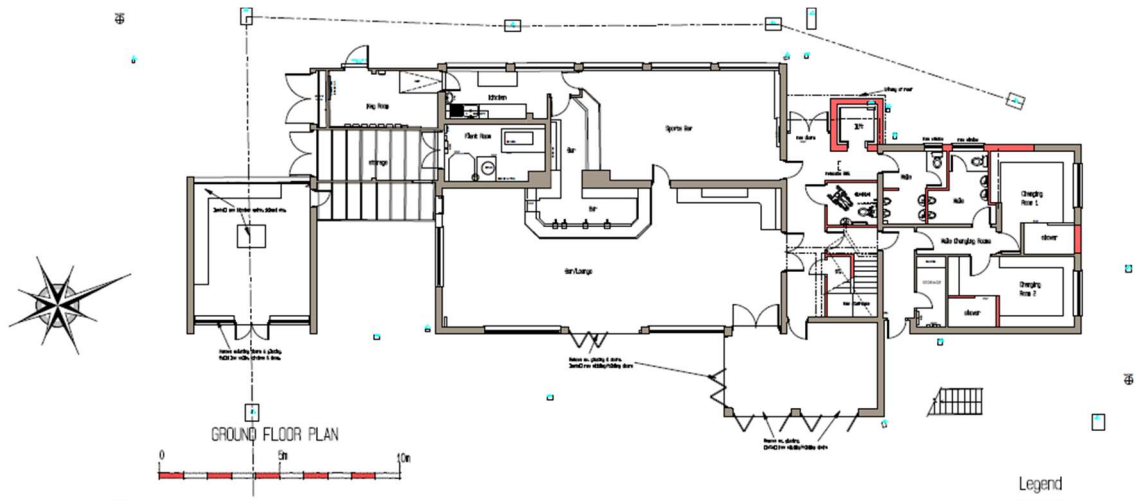
Existing Plans Scale 1:100



## Existing Views



# Proposed Plans



The anticipated timeline at this early stage is for the refurbishment to commence during the winter months at the end of 2024 and beginning of 2025.

### **Environmental impact**

Having declared a Climate Change Emergency at its Council meeting on 26 June 2019 – with this in mind Councillors should have due regard to the environmental impact of any decisions they make with regard to its facilities and services it operates.

The project specification will include energy efficiency initiatives with detail to follow as the project advances.

### **Risk**

In decision making Councillors should give consideration to any risks to the Council and any action it can take to limit or negate its liability.

This report is an update of progress with this project and risks associated with delivery will be managed by Council Officers.

### **Financial implications**

- The project costs will be made up of Section 106 funds and a WTC contribution which will be minimised by exploring funding opportunities to support.
- A new lease agreement is in the process of being produced to recover this investment and at the same time build a sinking fund for future improvements.

### **Recommendations**

This is a project update however any feedback is always appreciated.