

## Public consultation 0.5

You said:	We listened and:
The current consented scheme shows the community centre hidden at the back of the site.	We listened and moved the community centre to the north west corner of the site (junction between B2026 and B2027) which was what tenants and prospective tenants wanted in order to ensure maximum use of their services. Moving the centre will also improve the quality of life for the new residential development, while the landscaping to the front of the community centre will help minimise any impact on current dwellings.
Why are you changing the layout of the community centre?	The new community centre needed to move away from sport provision which is already being provided for by the local leisure centre. Instead of competing against each other, the two buildings now complement each other. Users also asked for changes to be made which led to the eventual re-design.
Why do we need the housing?	The housing is needed as an enabling development for the community centre. The housing numbers will remain the same as the previous planning application which was forty. There will be a mix of two, three and four bedroom family homes.
Why are you looking to move the CAB and the library?	<p>The CAB are an independent organisation who have faithfully served the Edenbridge community for many years. Like all grant funded organisations suffering in the current down turn, they need to consider their options to ensure they can continue to serve your community. Their decision to move or not, will be made by them, to benefit you. We have offered to help them where we can and giving them space in the centre is a potential solution.</p> <p>In terms of the library, KCC is committed to providing high quality services in Edenbridge and we aim to meet the needs of the people who live and work in the area. As part of this we regularly explore opportunities to partner and co-locate with other service providers to improve our offer to local people. Some discussions have been taking place to assess the potential opportunities of moving the library in Edenbridge and if these discussions do result in proposals to develop the library service, we will ensure that the local community are involved in taking those proposals forward.</p>
Who have you been speaking to about the centre and which tenants will be in it?	We are still working on the final tenants for the centre but there are a few we can guarantee a place for. These are the Youth Service, Evolve, Mencap, Family Action, the Eden Baptist Church, Stangrove Area Community Action Group, the Respiratory group, Connexions, Astor Senior Citizens, The Healthy Lifestyle Group, Edenara and Edenbridge Quilters along with a few other occasional users. Those that we are currently speaking with about coming in to the centre are the CAB, YMCA, Library, West kent housing Association and Gateway. In addition to all of these we have also spoken with many other potential tenants including the GP surgery,

	Dentists, the Police, the Town Council, West Kent College, Voluntary Action West Kent, a local nursery and the children centre amongst others. The Air Training Corps is also present on the site and they will continue to benefit from their current facilities.
What will happen to the Library building if you decide to move and how will this impact on the town centre?	Should the library be modernised and move to the new centre we would look to minimise any impact on the Town Centre and we believe that given the nature of the building, there will be considerable interest in finding an appropriate use for it.
The community centre should be easily accessible to all.	The community centre will have improved access from a new informal crossing going in mid way between the railway bridge and the Four Elms, Station road junction. There will be new pedestrian routes for walkers, cycle racks for bickers, fifty car parking spaces for cars and minibuses and the building will be fully DDA compliant with additional specialist equipment for disabled users. There will be two access points to the community centre, one from the car park and the other from Station road.
What will happen to the junior football pitches?	Currently the two football pitches will be put in as they are part of a linked planning application. However following discussions there are concerns that there is little demand for junior pitches in the immediate and surrounding area. There is also concern locally at the location of the pitches, including distance to car parking facilities, quality of the ground given that it is in a flood zone and the possible loss of the managed nature area. Subject to ongoing consultations a possible solution maybe that a commuted sum should be put aside to ensure that in future, when there is demand for further pitches, the moneys and fields would be readily available to the local community.
What will happen to the rest of the space?	The remainder of the site including that covered by the old school, will be grassed over and used for the local community to enjoy.
The community centre should be environmentally friendly.	The new community centre will have rain water harvesting and we are working towards including, photovoltaic, air source heat pumps and other eco friendly measures. This will help the community by lowering long term running costs to users and ensuring we minimise our carbon footprint.
Is the centre too big for Edenbridge?	The size of the centre was set in collaboration with a number of local stakeholders. In moving forward with any such project, there is always a degree of flexibility that is built into the system and going forward we have been working hard to ensure that the right mix of users are in the facility and we strongly believe that the revised scheme will meet the needs of the local community groups and the charities who will use it.
Current planning application shows that the back of community centre has poor security.	The new location is well overlooked and this will minimise the chance of any vandalism which in turn will reduce the likelihood of flood lights and CCTV needing to be installed.