

**CHESTER INTEGRATED RETIREMENT COMMUNITY
COMMUNITY LIAISON GROUP
23 MARCH 2023
MINUTES**

Attendees:

Lucy Black – Retirement Villages Group (LB)
 Simone Dhanjal – Retirement Villages Group (SD)
 Alastair Strauss – Retirement Villages Group (AS)
 Lee De Souza – Retirement Villages Group (LDS)
 Rebecca Eatwell – Font Communications (RE) - Chair
 Olenka Dane – Medicine Man (OD)
 Philippe Gayton – Medicine Man (PG)
 Eddie Campion – Elliott Group (EC)
 Glen Deacon - Elliott Group (GD)
 Cllr Steve Collings - Cheshire West & Chester Council (SC)
 John Beckitt - Christleton Parish Council (JB)
 Amanda Miller - Great Boughton Parish Council (AM)
 Philip Hearfield - Local resident (PH)
 Gillian Harrand - Local resident (GH)
 Hannah McCabe – Local business (HM)

Apologies:

None

Item	Action
<p>1. Welcome and introductions RE asked all attendees to introduce themselves.</p>	
<p>2. Terms of reference RE ran through the draft Terms of Reference for the group which had been circulated in advance of the meeting and invited comments. All attendees were happy with the Terms of Reference which were agreed as a final version.</p>	
<p>3. Overview of the project and history LDS provided a brief summary of the project including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Original planning consent secured in 2021. Variation application consented in late 2022. • 155 apartments set over six villas, with community amenities. Landscaped open spaces, public square and walking and cycling routes. • Local community amenities, including a new restaurant, café and wellness area, with a fitness studio and treatment rooms. 	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whole of life net zero carbon. Sustainable transport hub with cycle hire and electric vehicle charging points. • £39m boost to the local economy, creating more than 300 jobs through the construction process. Increase spending in the local area by £1.5 million every year and create 30 full time jobs. • Elliott Group appointed as the main contractor. <p>AM asked whether any apprentices were employed at the site. EC explained that it was still very early in the process but that Elliott Group has a strong track record of employing apprentices and that they will be reaching out to the local community around this. It was suggested that members of the group could assist with providing local contacts for apprenticeships. SC/AM agreed to send over relevant details.</p>	<p>SC/AM to send apprenticeship details</p>
<p>4. Introduction to Thrive Living</p> <p>LB explained that the Chester development is going to sit under the soon to be launched Thrive Living collection by Retirement Villages Group. Thrive Living is a new concept for the UK retirement living sector designed to promote active, independent, connected lifestyles rooted in community.</p>	
<p>5. Development name options</p> <p>PG explained that the team have been researching and considering what to call the Chester community and presented a shortlist of three options: Wyldewoods; Wyldewood Place and Hathaway Place. The group had a brief discussion with AM stating that her preference was not to use the word place.</p> <p>SC asked why Beechmoor (the name of the former garden centre at the site) hadn't been considered. PG explained that the website URL wasn't available and it was felt important to distinguish the community from a care home, which are often named after trees. JB asked what it should be called if not a care home. LB said the preference was integrated retirement community.</p> <p>GH said that a name that relates to the area would be preferred and suggested Heathbank (a mixture of Christleton Bank and Boughton Heath) or Abbots Well. PG explained that the challenge with using locational names was the availability of the website URL and that it could easily lead to confusion, including for local emergency services.</p> <p>RE said that the slides will be circulated after the meeting with the information on the shortlisted names and requested that attendees provide feedback on the names within 2 weeks.</p>	<p>All to feedback on names</p>

<p>JB suggested speaking to a local historian, David Cummings, who may be able to provide other suggestions.</p>	<p>JB to provide contact details</p>
<p>6. Construction update</p> <p>GD provided an update on construction, explaining that the site has been established, with substructure and piling work due to commence in April and structural works due to start in June 2023. Construction is due to complete in the first quarter of 2025.</p> <p>He explained that Elliott Group are registered on the Considerate Constructors Scheme and will stay connected with neighbours through a Community Notice Board which will be placed at the entrance to the site. Contact details were also provided for local residents to get in touch should any issues during construction arise.</p> <p>To reduce impact on the local area as much as possible, modularised methods of construction are being used including precast concrete structures, precast concrete piles and pre-fabricated roof trusses.</p> <p>GD also ran through the access arrangements for the site and how construction traffic will enter and exit the site. Discussions are ongoing with the adjacent Park & Ride regarding access for deliveries. AM asked whether it was intended that visitors to the retirement community would use the Park & Ride to park. SC said that this wouldn't be possible as people parking at the Park & Ride have to get their ticket stamped on the bus.</p> <p>RE explained that the issue of parking had been discussed with officers at Cheshire West & Chester Council during the planning process and that the full details of parking arrangements would be circulated to the group.</p>	<p>RE to circulate parking details</p>
<p>7. Community Engagement</p> <p>RE ran through plans to engage the local community around the development including a ground breaking ceremony with a time capsule involving local school children; and plans for a quarterly community newsletter. GD explained that Elliott Group would also be writing to addresses very local to the site to ensure they have details of how to get in touch. Elliott Group has also reached out to local schools regarding an Easter Egg competition.</p> <p>AS showed the group the plans for temporary hoardings around the site and explained that it was intended to hold an art competition for a section of hoardings.</p> <p>LB said that RVG are looking for local people to feature in photoshoots and local partnerships and projects to support in the</p>	

<p>community. She asked that the group send over ideas of local people, groups, charities and businesses that RVG could work with. Initial suggestions included: getting involved in the annual competition at the local allotment; supporting the local scout and community centre; and speaking to Story House.</p>	<p>All to send ideas</p>
<p>8. Topics for future meetings</p> <p>The following topics were suggested for future meetings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parking and connectivity • Involving the local community – partnerships and sponsorships <p>The next meeting will be held in June and it was preferred to keep this an in person meeting. RE to circulate meeting date.</p>	<p>RE to circulate meeting date</p>
<p>9. AOB</p> <p>None.</p>	