

TO: THE MONITORING OFFICER (TOM CLARK, SOLICITOR TO THE COUNCIL)

RECORD OF ACTION TAKEN BY A CABINET MEMBER UNDER DELEGATED POWERS

Subject: To approve a licence and any further licence requested for the NHS to use the re-opened community building in Perrymount Road for Covid vaccinations and to publicly consult on any future proposals for the building going forward

Cabinet Member: Cllr Judy Llewellyn-Burke

Has the Cabinet Member received a report prior to taking the decision?

Yes

In the case of a key decision and where the Cabinet Member has received a report.

This is an urgent matter because mass vaccination with the various vaccines now available must move forward as soon as possible to protect the public and the NHS

Alternative options considered and rejected.

The Council could have refused the use of the building and the car park following the request from the NHS. The understanding was that this building was the most suitable for this work and therefore the Council wished to support that work.

Record of decision taken.

To approve a licence and any future licence requested for the use of the re-opened community building at Perrymount Road, Haywards Heath as a mass vaccination site for as long as that use is required and to consult on any future proposals for the building going forward.

Statement of reasons for making the decision.

It is important that the Council supports mass vaccination in the expectation that this will get both Mid Sussex and the Country free from Covid restrictions before the end of 2021 with the current position very serious.

Code of Conduct interest of the Cabinet Member

None

Date of decision:- 13 January 2021

Is the decision to be protected from call-in? If so, please state:

It is important that the mass vaccination can continue unimpeded as vaccines become available.

Yes

Signed:.

Judy Hewelllyn-Burke

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Cabinet Member, Deputy Leader

This record must be forwarded immediately to the Monitoring Officer (TC) and copied to the relevant Cabinet Member.

For Monitoring Officer

Date of publication

13 January 2021

Date decision can be implemented

13 January 2021

CLAIR HALL

REPORT OF: Head of Corporate Resources.
Contact Officers: Tom Riggs
Email: tom.riggs@midsussex.gov.uk Tel: 01444 477271
Wards Affected: Heath Ward, Haywards Heath
Key Decision: Yes
Report to: Deputy Leader, Councillor Judy Llewellyn-Burke

PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. To re-open the community building in Perrymount Road, Haywards Heath (Clair Hall) and to approve the licence to the NHS for the use of the building as an NHS vaccination site and any further licence required for this purpose.

SUMMARY

2. In September 2020, the Cabinet agreed to permanently close its facility at Perrymount Road, Hayward's Heath (Clair Hall) because it was no longer fit for purpose. This decision was subject of call in and the original decision of Cabinet was confirmed.
3. The Covid 19 pandemic has recently worsened very considerably, with further significant lockdown restrictions now in place. At the same time, a national vaccination programme is beginning for key priority groups.
4. In this context, the Council has received a request from the NHS to use the building and most of the car park as a vaccination site (see attached site plan). The Council wished to consent to this request; given the importance of this work as we face a national pandemic crisis and the requirements of the Civil Contingencies Act. The NHS is paying a nominal sum for the use of the facility.
5. It is important this vaccination work proceeds without delay and therefore it is a decision of special urgency in accordance with paragraph 16 on page 96 of the Constitution and the relevant Scrutiny Chairman has been informed.
6. Consequently, given these new circumstances, the facility has re-opened for the purposes of the NHS's vaccination programme. At the current time it is not possible to foresee how long the NHS will need the use of the facility but it is likely to run into the Summer of 2021.

RECOMMENDATION

7. The Deputy Leader is recommended to :-
 - (i) Agree that Clair Hall is re-opened for the purposes of the NHS's vaccination programme; and
 - (ii) Approve the flexible licence to the NHS for Clair Hall and most of the car park at Perrymount Road, Haywards Heath (attached site plan) for this purpose; and
 - (iii) Agree that the future of the facility be re-considered for when the NHS no longer needs the site. This will be preceded by further public consultation to add to the feedback already received through the Haywards Health Masterplan consultation and work with users of the facility.

BACKGROUND

8. The pandemic has become more severe in recent weeks. Mid Sussex (like all the Country) is now back under the highest level of restrictions. It is not known how long they will be in place.
9. Vaccines are being approved against the Covid-19 virus and the NHS is leading a national vaccination programme with a focus on 9 key priority groups. This is a national priority.
10. Over time the nature of the vaccinations and the vaccination programme may change. To optimise the NHS's ability to respond to this, it will require sole use of the building. This should afford maximum flexibility to operate the vaccination centre in the most efficient and safe way.
11. Currently it is not known if the NHS will need to make any adaptations to the building in order to facilitate its work. If any are necessary, the Council will consider these carefully.
12. It is not currently known how long the national vaccination programme will take or how long the NHS will need the building for, so a flexible licence has been prepared to facilitate this.
13. The Council will in the meantime re-consider options for the future of the Hall after the proposed NHS use comes to an end. To help to inform this, the Council will undertake consultation. It is proposed that this takes place later this year. This will add to the information the Council has already gathered (for example from the recent public consultation on the Hayward's Heath Masterplan and direct discussions with users).

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

14. The Council could have declined the request from the NHS to use the building and car park and continue to keep the building closed.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

15. The proposed licence includes a peppercorn rent. There are no other financial implications save those associated with reopening the building.

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

16. As a category one responder under the Civil Contingencies Act, it is important that the Council works closely with the NHS and with Public Health England to assist in the development of the national vaccination programme.

EQUALITY AND CUSTOMER SERVICE IMPLICATIONS

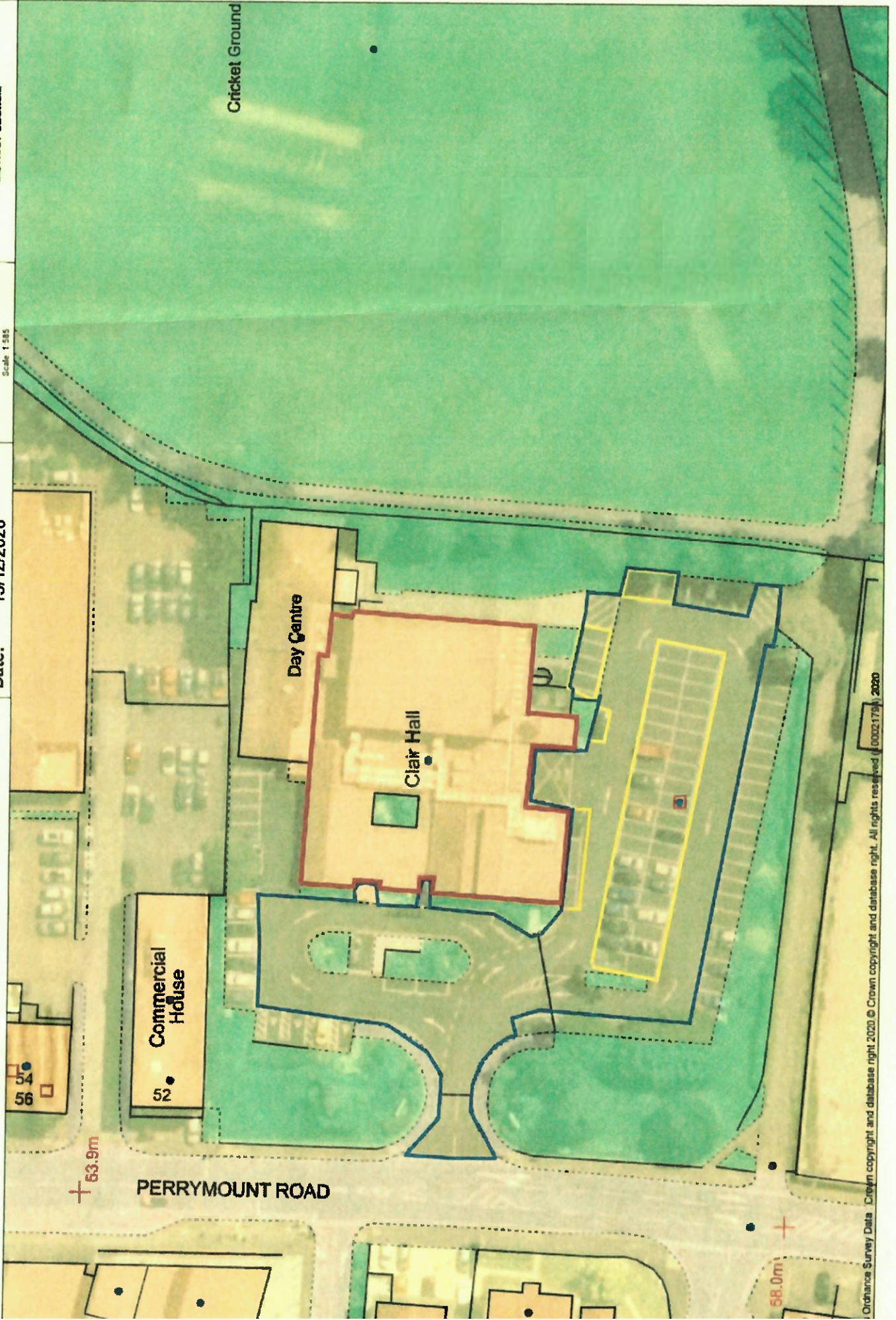
17. This mass vaccination site is likely to be used for priority groups, which will include many of the elderly and the disabled. The NHS will determine how the site is used and which groups are vaccinated. Sole use of the building should give the NHS maximum flexibility to use the building safely for all groups.

Clair Hall, Perrymount Road, HH.

Mid Sussex District Council

Author: R. Pugh

Date: 15/12/2020



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Commercial House

52

Day Centre

Clair Hall

Cricket Ground

PERRYMOUNT ROAD

+ 53.9m

+ 58.0m