



# RAUNDS TOWN COUNCIL

Report to: Full Council

**Summary: To receive information submitted to Raunds Town Council from Raunds Community Library Trust**

## Appendices

- 1) Vision for Raunds-Responses to Library Questions
- 2) Raunds Community Library Trust: Cost of Operating Raunds Library
- 3) Raunds Community Library Trust: Breakdown of Property Costs
- 4) Raunds Community Library Trust: Notes to costs
- 5) Raunds Community Library Trust: Revised Business Plan (Coronavirus)

### 1.0 Raunds Library-Background

Northamptonshire County Council (NCC) intend to cease operation of Raunds Library as part of their statutory provision.

Raunds Library would therefore either close or become a community managed library.

Raunds Community Library Trust (Registered Charity) intend to operate the building with financial support, including covering the cost of leasing the building being provided by Raunds Town Council.

As part of their due diligence Raunds Town Council have been in discussion with NCC regarding the lease, which has been scrutinised by the Town Council's solicitor. In addition, the Town Council has held discussions with RCLT to understand the level of financial support required to run the library.

In addition, the Town Council now has the results of their Vision for Raunds questionnaire and these are shown in appendix 1

### 2.0 Costs of Running Raunds Library

The lease for the library building is £12,300 per annum, in addition to this the Town Council would need to provide financial support to RCLT and retain responsibility for the building.

RCLT have provided their updated operating costs, which are shown in appendices 2-4.

### 3.0 Coronavirus

Naturally, the current coronavirus pandemic has impacted Library services across the county and RCLT were asked how they might manage the impact of coronavirus. See below for email from the Town Clerk to the Library Trust.

30<sup>th</sup> June 2020

In RCLT'S recent statement the group stated that "The safety of our volunteers and Library users is of utmost importance and the Trustees are investigating how Raunds Library could re-open in some manner without the support of full-time NCC staff " the Town Council await further feedback from the group as to support volunteers are able to give the library in these ongoing and difficult times.

The Town Council would also like to see your updated business plan (not just the financial forecast) to reflect how Coronavirus has affected both your financial planning, and the range of services and activities that are able to be offered.

<p><b>4.0 Recommendation</b></p>	<p>Whilst the Town Council could not of course benefit from income raised it could affect any contribution that the Town Council make and so should be displayed in the “library running costs for RTC”</p> <p>Please do contact me if I can be of any assistance to you.</p> <p>In response to this email RCLT supplied their revised business plan as shown in appendix 5.</p> <p>To consider the revised financial information supplied by RCLT and the revised business plan.</p>	
<p><b>Implications:</b></p>		
<p>Council objectives:</p>	<p>To provide high standard sustainable facilities</p>	<p>x</p>
<p>Equalities &amp; Human Rights</p>	<p>There are no equalities and human rights issues</p>	<p>x</p>
<p>Crime and Disorder</p>	<p>Crime and disorder have been considered</p>	<p>x</p>
<p>Biodiversity</p>	<p>There may be bio-diversity implications</p>	
<p>Financial</p>	<p>There are no financial implications at this stage</p>	
	<p>There will be financial implications</p>	<p>x</p>
	<p>There is provision within the budget (money has been earmarked within the budget for library services and the purchase of the library building-subject to all due diligence)</p>	
	<p>Decisions may give rise to additional expenditure</p>	<p>x</p>
<p>Legal</p>	<p>Power: General Power of Competence.</p>	<p>x</p>
	<p>Other considerations: None</p>	
<p>Risk Management</p>	<p>Material risks exist and these are currently being assessed.</p>	<p>x</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Inherent risk score:</li> <li>- Residual risk score:</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Person originating this report:</b> Kate Houlihan: Town Clerk</p>		
<p><b>Date:</b> 8 July 2020</p>		