

# TALK OF THE TOWN

THE NEWSLETTER OF HONITON TOWN COUNCIL

MARCH 2013

## WORK STARTS ON THE BEEHIVE



**30 years after it was first called for, campaigners are celebrating the start of the build of the Beehive Community Complex Centre which will provide community facilities for Honiton and the surrounding area.**

It was in 1983 that the then Town Mayor, Peter Blake, chaired a packed public meeting which called for a new community centre for the people of Honiton. After many ups and downs in the subsequent years, the community of Honiton is about to get the facilities it desperately needs.



The first turf being cut

Speaking at a small ceremony to mark the start of the build, Honiton's current Mayor, Councillor David Foster, said: "This is a great day for our town. It is a tribute to all those people who have worked so very hard over many years to bring this project to fruition and I believe it will play a huge role in bringing our community together both now and in the future".

Amongst those who gathered afterwards to celebrate the start of the build over tea and biscuits, were some of the campaigners who were there at the start of the project 30 years ago. Cllr Vivienne Ash who was one of those original campaigners said, "It has been a hard slog but it is fantastic to at last see the contractors on site. There is no doubt that we owe a great debt to the many people who have worked so hard to keep the project going over all these years. We are looking forward to inviting them all to the opening in December 2013"

## Midas announced as contractor

Midas Construction have been announced by Honiton Town Council as the contractor for the Beehive Community Complex to be built in Dowell Street Honiton. Midas were selected after a rigorous procurement process.

Steering group chair Nick Cornwell, said, "We are very pleased that Midas has been selected. They are a West Country company with a good reputation and are a team we can work with. They have a good reputation of engaging with the local community during builds and also looking to support local employment".

Ian Pitman, Divisional Director of Midas Construction said: "We are delighted and honoured to be associated with this landmark project. Because of its central location, we will be drawing on our long experience of being considerate contractors to ensure that we are good neighbours throughout the construction phase of the project. We are very proud to be the local contractor employing local people for the benefit of the local community and economy".

Jeremy Mears, from Bailey Partnership Construction Consultants and lead consultant for the Project team said, "I am delighted that the project has reached construction stage and we will work closely with the Town Council to provide a facility to serve the whole community of Honiton for years to come".



Photo - left to right Ian Pitman, Divisional Director Midas Construction. Jeremy Mears of Bailey Partnership Architects, Honiton Town Mayor Cllr David Foster.

## Friends of Beehive fundraising hits £30,000!



Fund-raising for the new Beehive Community Centre in Honiton has reached £30,000. Friends of the Beehive have been busy fund-raising for the £2million project since March 2012.

The chairman of Friends of the Beehive, Michael Teare, said: "It feels wonderful to hit such a milestone in our fund-raising and how fitting an ethical local business rooted in the local community has helped us reach this figure".

"We're having great conversations with future users of the centre who are helping us with our ongoing fund-raising activities and they will be delighted we have reached this amount and the builders are moving in soon. Here's to the next £30,000!"

The extra funds are needed to ensure the building is fit for purpose and donations will be used to equip the building with screens for the town's community cinema and a sound system for community groups and choirs.

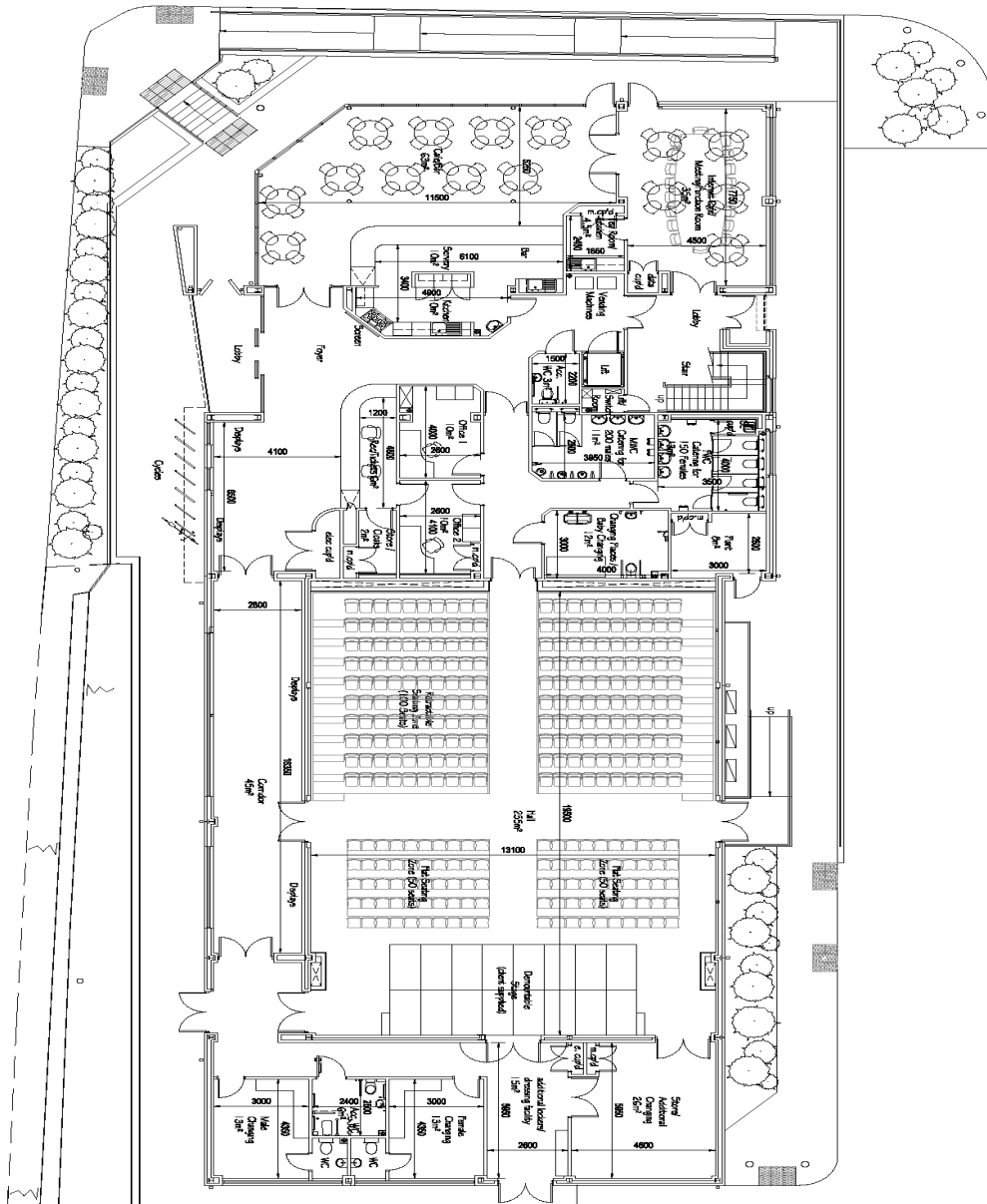
Anyone wishing to be involved in the fundraising or wanting to become a member of the Friends of the Beehive should contact the Secretary John Burgess on 01404 42341 or email him on: [wjohnburgess@gmail.com](mailto:wjohnburgess@gmail.com). Alternatively visit the website: [www.friendsofthebeehive.org](http://www.friendsofthebeehive.org)

# What will the Beehive provide

The Beehive will deliver modern facilities for local groups and organisations, arts culture and business and include:

- Main Auditorium with seating capacity of 300.
- Large Multipurpose room with seating capacity of 100.
- Cafe/bar with seating capacity of 100.
- Meeting Room with seating capacity of 40.
- Meeting Room with seating capacity of 20.

## Ground floor layout



**ballpartnership**  
 construction and services specialists  
 www.ballpartnership.co.uk

**The Horizon Community Complex**  
 Donald Street  
 Haverhill

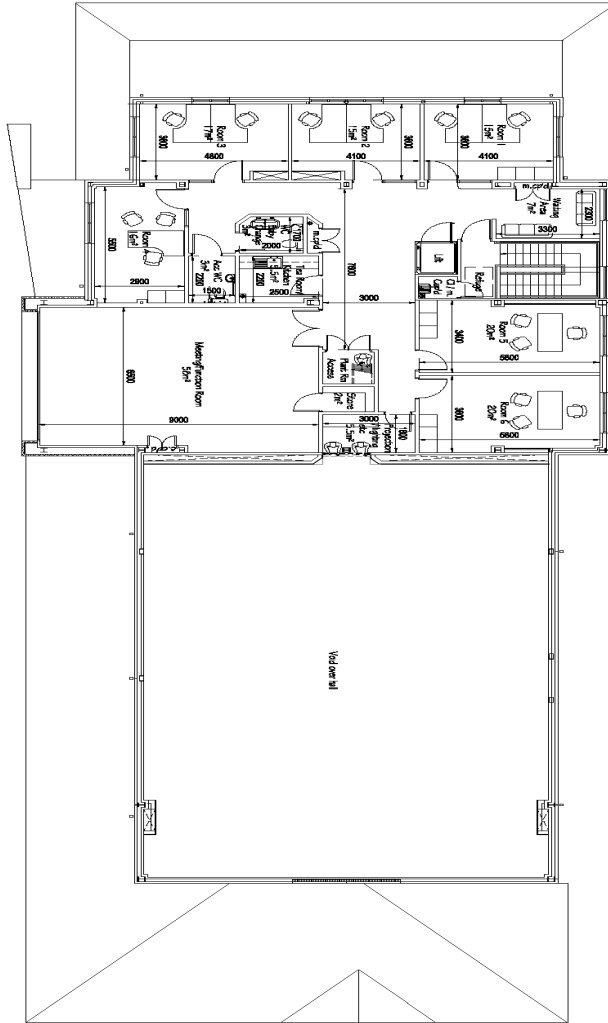
Prepared Ground Floor Plan

Haverhill Town Council

DATE	DESCRIPTION
02/11/15	ISSUED FOR TENDERS
02/11/15	ISSUED FOR TENDERS
02/11/15	ISSUED FOR TENDERS

2115 ROOM DINING

# Top floor layout



Drawn using AutoCAD 2010 by [unreadable]

Room	Area (sqm)	Area (sqft)
Valover Hall	1000	1076
Workshop room	500	538
Room 1	4100	4390
Room 2	3800	4090
Room 3	4800	5160
Room 4	3500	3750
Room 5	2000	2150
Room 6	2000	2150

**ballerpartnership**  
 PARTNERSHIP  
 2115 Rowing Centre  
 Honiton, Devon, EX14 3JG

**The Honiton Community Complex**  
 Dowel Street  
 Honiton

**Proposed Part Floor Plan**

**Honiton Town Council**

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# How to book the Beehive

Expressions of interest are being taken from groups and organisations wishing to use the centre. Provisional hire costs have been set to be competitive with other local venues. For more information and hire costs please contact Honiton Town Council on 01404 42957 or alternatively visit the website [www.honiton.gov.uk](http://www.honiton.gov.uk) for latest information on the Beehive.