## Update On The Development Of The Former School Site

Following our last update, we appreciate residents' patience whilst we work through the current issues faced in delivering the scheme. We understand the frustration of not seeing any visible progress on site but would like to reassure you that we are working hard behind the scenes to ensure the delivery of this vital project for the parish, an aim we remain entirely committed to.

We hoped to hear the results of our funding bid to the York & North Yorkshire LEP Brownfield Fund in August, but due to circumstances outside of the LEP's control this has been moved to November 2023. We were pleased to note however that our application has been well received and we will provide an update on the outcome as soon as we are able.

Thank you to those residents who provided feedback on the condition of the hedgerow to the front of the site, following cutting back of the hedgerow last month, we will continue to monitor and maintain this through the construction phase and in the long term, the hedgerow will be included in the maintenance schedule for the open space delivered as part of the scheme.

Whilst we're waiting for confirmation of the LEP funding bid, we're also re-tendering the scheme to provide us with some cost certainty given how volatile the construction market has been over the last year or so, as well as ensuring that we are obtaining the best value for money in delivering the scheme. Based on this and the results of the LEP funding, we hope to make a physical return to site in early 2024.

As previously, we will continue to update on you progress.

## **Ben Briggs**

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