

02 June 2023

Resources Directorate  
1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
County Hall  
Bythesea Road  
Trowbridge  
Wiltshire  
BA14 8JN

Via email:  
[clerk@melkshamtown.co.uk](mailto:clerk@melkshamtown.co.uk)

Dear Linda

## Re: Melksham House

I am writing to formally respond to the receipt of the Town Councils offer, received in April 2023, to acquire the renovated Melksham House building for £2m, subject to a RICS valuation, as I will shortly be finalising a record of officer decision to confirm the Councils final decision with respect to the site.

I can confirm that following a period of due diligence and subject to any required amendments to existing planning consents and building regulations, the council will be progressing with utilising the site for a Social, Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH) school provision for primary aged pupils and alternative provision for secondary aged pupils. There is a significant demand and need for these types of places across the County and the Council has a statutory duty to provide sufficient places for Special Educational Needs & Disability (SEND).

Not only will this proposal bring the site back into use for a key social need, but the business case estimated that there will be significant annual revenue savings, whereas the offer from the Town Council would generate a one-off capital receipt. The decision report will therefore formally reject the Town Councils formal offer and proceed with the SEMH proposal, with additional funds being invested to amend the building into the school provision, this is on top of the £4m being invested into the refurbishment of the site as part of the £20m investment into the Melksham Community Campus.

Whilst this now finalises the future of this site, I do wish to open constructive dialogue with you to discuss the future ownership of the old Blue Pool site which adjoins the Assembly Rooms site and your offices and I look forward to hearing from you in due course on this matter.

Yours sincerely,



**Andy Brown**

Corporate Director Resources & Deputy Chief Executive (S151 Officer)

Direct line: 01225 713070

Email: [andy.brown@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:andy.brown@wiltshire.gov.uk)