

Appendix C – Comments

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Please explain the reasons why you agree or disagree with the new location for the library.

The library at its current place attracts people from the kingfisher, as well as creating footfall through the kingfisher, which would be reduced if the relocation was to be completed. Secondly, the county council will lose a lot of money, due to the removal of the job centre, as well as renting the large space from the borough council, something the county have stated is against their ideas

We have a purpose built well used library. There is no requirement to move it. Moving it is a waste of money. DO NOT MOVE IT.

I disagree with moving it to make way for more cafes and drinking establishments we have enough in Redditch as it is. Every time the Tory council 'suggest' 'improvements' it turns out to be a right lemon and it's the residents of Redditch end up paying for it. Redditch used to be a lovely market town - not anymore as we don't even have a market now. If the council want a square they should knock down the Town Hall as its's not fit for purpose now as most are working remotely now. As always the council will do what they please with no regards to public opinion.

Absoloutly no need in redditch Town ce tre for more coffee shops ! It will NOT increase footfall. Its a lovely building in the perfect place, we need our archives to stay in redditch too.

The new library will be part of a community hub increasing the offer

Agree as long as all the current services are still available and the space is the same or very similar.

Because it's a vanity project that only serves to benefit a small majority of our community, the majority of our community do not have the disposable income to throw at any more unwanted coffee shops and what was it? office spaces.

The library is a purpose built building which is already fully functional, relocating is a waste of tax payers money

The current building in 1970' s concrete eyesore that puts people off walking through the alleyway from the kingfisher especially when faced with tough sleepers

Enhanced facilities will be available. It doesn't matter what building a library is accommodated in.

The new location is less accessible relative to the town centre. The new location is a waste of money when there is a perfectly good enough library in the current location in a purpose built building. The benefits to relocation are to provide more bars and cafes. That is not a good enough reason.

It's in a central location in the town which is much closer to an active bus stop than the current library. The walk from the Kingfisher car parks is about the same.

the library as it stands is purpose built and with a little investment, would continue to be the perfect home for the library!

This is a bold and visionary plan for the town. The current building is not pleasant and the plans to move it will result in a modern and better offer.

Although it is only a short walk from the current location I would be less likely to use facilities as it is out of the way. When using the library I drive and park at the Kingfisher to do other shopping at the same time. The new location may be closer for those using the bus but not those who drive.

need to be fit for purpose. havinf been in the town hall recently thee is a lot of dead space..

The old building is a right eye sore. We need a more accessible place to house the library.

It will decrease in size It will be less accessable

Redditch Town Centre is desperate need for regeneration and investment. The current Library building does not allow for the vision of the Town Deal to be achieved and therefore the library needs to be relocated to the Town Hall.

A larger space means a better selection of books

It's easy to get to at present, close to the main post office and town. If it moves it will be much harder for me to get there.

People with disabilities will find it too far.

Library provision will be retained, allowing the current building to be re purposed making the town centre a more attractive area.

Because there is nothing wrong with the current building. It's easily accessible and the money used to demolish it and move the library could be put to better use.

The library does not need to be moved. It serves its community well where it is and draws more footfall than 3 more cafes ever could. It is also considerably smaller, as evidenced by the fact that Redditch Council have to leave sections out of the measurements of the current location to be able to make them even remotely comparable. The measurements in the report do not include space for computers (the entire lobby and 20 more computers upstairs with desks) and does not include any space for the business section despite the current library having a business centre.

The cost to demolition a library that has had extensive refurbishment already is horrendous. The only person gaining from this is Matt Dormer since it will be his company doing the demolition.

It doesn't need to go there It's perfectly fine where it is

The Redditch Town plan is ill thought out There is no need to keep bulldozing the Town The Town Hall has become defunct Church Green area needs the money for independents, lighting and street furniture ..leading down Alcester Street Council should encourage investment in those areas with the money creating smaller units Independents, bistros, boutiques, etc etc....nightlife like Bromsgrove and the Shambles Worcester Biggest requirement is chesp/ free evening parking at the quadrant . Perhaps sell off the Town Hall ..

Seems a lot of money to spend on books when they will clearly sadly but surely die out over time. This would need to be a state of the art futureproofing library. Can money be spent in better places and use space we already have because essentially you are moving a library into a library?

Waste of money, nothing wrong with current library, easily accessible for disabled parking

It is in a central location, easy access from Kingfisher, bus station, taxi rank and car parks, also close to disabled bay. Easier for wheelchair users too.

The new site is to far out of the centre for people to walk especially in bad weather.

The library is perfectly ok where it is , the town hall is a dreadful building and too far out of town

Central location

We do not need more cafés and commercial spaces. The kingfisher centre is full of this type of place and often they're deserted.

I love the idea of an open plaza and a café/bistro culture in the town centre on Church Green. Neither I or my family use the library but we are regular cafe and restaurant users. 21st century technology allows easy research using Google and the Internet and you can barely give books away these days. If the library moves into the Town Hall those that use the library still get their service and those that want a cultural improvement of Church Green get what they want.

I see no need for the expense.

If it is big enough to keep library services the same I don't see why it wouldn't be a good alternative.

I cannot see how the funding incurred is justified when other services are stretched. Would a refurbishment of the current premises not be a better use of money?

smaller, further, not fit for purpose

It has parking (for those who are less mobile) easy access and the old building looks like a bunker so demolishing that will help open up the space between the Victorian conservation area and the kingfisher centre

I am not against the relocation of the library; it is more the cost involved in knocking the old library building down and it being replaced. To me it is a total waste of money. There already is space behind it which is hardly used

There is no need to move the library - it was purpose built and still fulfils the needs and wants of users. Putting the library in the town hall will mean a reduction of space and access for users. The council don't appear to be listening to what people in Redditch think about moving the library.

Because it will still be in the town centre and the new plans for the town centre are worth it

Waste of money for a resource that is no longer crucial for the large majority of residents.

A fairly pointless and anachronistic service these days. Made more so by the poor collection of dated books etc that are kept there.

I saw the present library being built. It is such a cosy happy place. Please leave it where it is.

As an infrequent library user it would make little difference to me, just a minor irritation having to walk further, but I feel this extra distance might put some people off using the library, eg elderly and infirm.

The current buildings, including its bespoke, climate-controlled archive areas, are in excellent condition and location and are completely accessible due to various lifts and other amenities already in place. Spending any more money to move the library from its current location to any other location in Redditch seems very wasteful and completely unnecessary. There are many areas of Redditch currently under utilised or with empty spaces where the Redditch Town Plan could be implemented without needing to move or affect the current library at all.

It's a huge expense and the town hall is not central to the town centre or the train and bus station. For me it's the cost is outrageous

The substantial cost of relocating the library, demolishing it and then building more retail units (something the town clearly doesn't need with all the shops that are currently empty) and the sale of a vital community facility on easemore road to fund it all is clearly a ridiculous proposition especially in the current financial climate. A better use could easily be found for the funds which would provide more of a benefit for residents.

Don't move the Library; ditch the Redditch Town Plan.

The Library is a landmark in a central position. To move it will make it harder to get to. Nobody goes to Church Green because it's so run down, besides visiting the Library. There are some great little independents near to the existing Library and if the Library is moved, the footfall to these small businesses will be lost, further adding to the decline of Church Green. The archives will be taken away and moved to Worcester, making them inaccessible to many. It is a very risky scheme and a waste of money to demolish the Library and take a gamble on the new proposed restaurant units and offices due to be let out, in an area where restaurants are frequently closing down and offices can't be leased. This is a hugely important part of Redditch Town Centre and it seems madness to take it away.

We do not need a town square! We already have the covered up area where the market was supposed to go which is not being used, why is money being wasted to knock down/create an area when there are perfectly good spaces already in town!

This is an enabler for the regeneration of redditch.

The existing library building is in a key central position that could be used more effectively. The existing building is ugly and adds no visual benefit to the area. Moving to the town hall area would make use of existing space.

Because the new library will be much smarter and better for the future

Nothing wrong with its present location. And by creating an empty space in the centre of town, what will that prove, spoons closing soon, nearly all shops nearby Empty, best use money to buy empty shops and lease them out at affordable rentals.

I don't see why it needs to change. The rest of the town center is struggling anyway so more investment should be spent inside and around it and not on the one building which is still standing strong and where it has always been.

There are enough cafes in the town it's not eating premises that are needed but facilities for people of all ages to use e.g. bowling alley, bingo hall also some independent shops. At the moment the only clothes shops are for the younger person or the elderly there isn't any suitable shops for purchasing clothes for special occasions. It would also be helpful for food shops like butcher and grocers I also think it would be a waste of funds which could be used to a much better use in the town rather than knock down a perfectly good building that has been serving the townfolk well.

Cut costs/ utilise the Town Hall fully/ still accessible

It is not a purpose built facility. The arguments and proposals for the land the current library sits on are simply not viable or convincing. It is a ideological thing driven by vanity

The current location is easier to access than the town hall. There are plenty of empty shop units in the area that could accommodate the restaurants proposed. The vast majority of people visiting the area arrive by car or bus into the kingfisher shopping Center so an improved entrance is not needed. The new location is out of the way and the lesson should have been learnt from trying to relocate the market to the site between the current library site and the town hall. The pedestrian route to the town hall from the kingfisher is not flat it involves going through an underpass which puts a lot of people off or down to the theatre and up steps or ramp. For families and the elderly or disabled that extra walk, especially when the weather is bad will put them off accessing the services. As the saying goes if it isn't broke don't try to fix it.

Proposed site is further from town centre. Move costs would cause increase in domestic and business rates which cannot be justified in current climate.

As long as disabled access is available then I think it might be a good idea

Current library floor space include 2 levels which could not be accommodated in the current town hall. The current Library is perfectly positioned for easy access to the shopping centre

While it makes some sense to consolidate Redditch and Worcestershire Council services into one building, has consideration been given to demolishing the Town Hall and making greater use of the upper floors in the Library for the meeting spaces etc proposed for the Town Hall.

Depends where in town hall as use town hall to pay council tax

It makes sense to co-locate and share services across public sector. A lot of the activity that people go to the Town Hall to undertake may increase library footfall, usage and raise awareness of what other services are on offer there.

It's wrong to demolish a decent building. Enough of that had already happened.

Think it's a great idea more practical and accessible.

Relocating the library will take it out of the centre of Redditch and make it less accessible to residents.

Better use of the resources, near to town hall and job centre.

The new location is still easy to access being not that much further from current location. Although I am not a wheelchair user - the proposed location being ground floor enables easy access as opposed to using a lift. Providing the space available remains the same - I personally have no issues - particularly if the new proposed plans for the old site bring in additional people to the town centre and actually come to fruition rather than a building being left to languish and be a target for breaking into and/or refuge for homeless people.

I disagree with the proposal. It's a complete and utter waste of money. We have a good library with archive storage facilities, will these be available in the new location.? If not what would happen to these valuable resources? We do not need any more coffee shops or commercial developments. Kingfisher cannot let the empty units in the shopping area. We already have a cafe pavilion in front of the town hall and what would we use a public square for? We have no market, do not have any events that would use a square and there is already plenty of space between the church and surrounding shops which has been recently repaved. This area could be developed with the money, with cafes restaurants using existing empty premises making this area more attractive. There must be better ways of spending the £9.5 million in Redditch developing what we already have than wasting it on knocking down a purpose built library. and trying to convert a building that consists of offices and meeting rooms.

Heard the building was bad anyway so needed a new place

Away from the Kingfisher Centre

We currently have a purpose built library with excellent facilities and space, it seems unviable to relocate those facilities successfully into another building. I have concerns particularly around the archives and suitable storage, the current library has purpose built storage where would this be moved too. Archives are an extremely important to our town and history and require protection. The use of the space which would be left after demolishing the current library is not needed and would add nothing to our current town centre. This project is a waste of town centre funding avenues which could be better planned and spent without the loss to an important public building.

Why oh why is this being proposed? The current library will not gain any extra space given this proposal. The community hub being suggested could be taken to the town hall instead. Redditch is falling apart as a community and shopping hub. We can't get stores or new business into the kingfisher so why do we think something located at the library's location will be any different? This smacks of the council trying to sell off land to developers

I think it's ok where it is

If there is space in the town hall that doesn't need major alterations or expenditure I can see the worth; if the demolition and sale of old library is beneficial to council accounts I would agree.

There are far more important things that this money could be used for. Please invest it in early years, those that are going to struggle with the cost of living crisis, charities etc! I think it's fair to say that Redditch is fully equipped with a variety of cafe options already. The demolition of a building unnecessarily is quite wasteful.

Cannot see in the present economic situation the necessity for moving the library and creating more unoccupied shops and unused open spaces.

Too much footfall, smaller area

Hope it is still easily accessible in the new building

The library is in a perfect position for easy access to the people of Redditch. It has all the facilities and space required for a library. The waste of money destroying this building is vandalism. Hiding the library in the council building will not encourage people to use it.

The current building is purpose-built for the services provided. I do not feel the Town Hall is a suitable location.

The building was built for the library and the situation is ideal and seems ridiculous to spend all that money to relocate.

Moving the Library makes no sense to me for two reasons. 1. Knocking down the library and then building a new building in its place is not opening up the space when there is a large open space outside of the library and there is green space all around St Stephens Church which the library looks at from the entrance. 2. Moving the library into a building County Council does not own and paying rent to Redditch Borough council instead must be costing the library more and spending money they would otherwise be spending on service's they currently provide. I think the current building could be given a "facelift" to make it look more appealing and still get the same outcome to revitalise the centre.

Why are we considering a move with the cost of living crisis when we have a fully functioning library on a long standing location within the town

The library is what makes the kingfisher what it is it's a heritage building and fits in with rest of the town history it's part of redditch history.

The current library and its services are perfectly adequate, and I fundamentally disagree that the proposed changes will bring the benefits outlined in the proposals. In my view it will be criminal to spend an enormous amount of money to remove a perfectly good, functional, building for an ill researched plan for coffee shops etc. that will not work and will not serve Redditch. Coffee shops already exist and there is no evidence that more are required or will be utilised by residents or visitors. There are already plenty of empty buildings in Redditch as a result of failed enterprises. In a time of great financial stringency I see no merit in this project whatsoever. Spend the money to improve current services.

Is there designated space and ideal storage conditions for archived old documents, I wouldn't like to have to go to Worcester to look at papers that have not yet (and perhaps never will be) digitised.

I am not sure that it is worth demolishing the existing building just to get an open space. If there is spare space in the Town Hall, it should be used to provide accommodation for local charities.

I would rather have cafes and good restaurants

It doesn't matter what I think. Its already going to happen

Something new and fresh. Bring it up to date

Practically the same location with the same access.

I do not agree with the idea of knocking down a perfectly good, purpose built facility. It is a waste of resources and is the opposite of sustainable. I cannot see anything in the proposal which explains how the benefits have been measured quantitatively How it will 'improve outcomes' as said by Matt Dormer? All of

the plan puts a positive spin on the proposal and does not mention any negatives. There are many empty shops in the Kingfisher centre and there are already many cafe's. Having outside space at a cafe just encourages smoking. I am unclear why new offices are needed given the change in working patterns since the pandemic.

The existing library is more than adequate. The move is just an excuse for developers to get their noses into the trough of public money.

The location is not much different from where it is atm, it could be improved if it could be accessed by a free carpark, which is the reason i am more likely to use woodrow library to borrow books

The library has been in its current location for many years. The money the council spent doing the library up to accommodate the jobcentre already. Now they want to spend millions knocking it down the reposition it in the town hall which is another service our good town has lost. Not everyone is able to walk that bit further to the town hall. It's also used by many who have disabilities physical and hidden and that routine and familiarity is what they like about it. Stop wrecking our town

The new location involves a downhill / uphill walk away from the main town area. The present Library is in the perfect position, near the shops, banks and post office. Also it is a specific Library building that has many group meetings, lots of friendly people together. The town hall will also be used simultaneously for other things, and becoming digital will deter many people.

The current library location is very convenient compared to the proposed one.

I don't mind as long as it remains near the town centre

I don't understand the benefit of this proposal at all. The entrance to the centre could be more attractive, but there's no need to knock down a functional building to do this.

The existing library was built as a library with enough room for its original purpose and flexible enough to have been able to provide new services over the 40-odd years I've been using it. The Town Hall area is very much smaller so services are going to have to be reduced.

The cost to make any necessary repairs to the current location has to be far less than the cost it would be to relocate and demolish the existing building. Town Hall is also far less accessible for people with disabilities due to the distance between it and the available parking in the town center. Furthermore, Town Hall is far smaller than the existing library space. It wouldn't be possible to retain all existing services the library currently offers.

Relocating to the town hall is going to make the library much more inaccessible for everyone. The town hall is on the outskirts of the town centre, away from all the car parks. Our current library is already on the edge of the town centre, this will only make it more difficult for people to get to.

Nothing matter where the library is, £4 million to knock it down, £5 million to move the books! Who is getting rich off it?????

It will bring the town into the 21C

THIS IS CENTRE OF THE LOCATION, EASY TO REACH

Current location is convenient and purpose built

The current library is absolutely fine and suitable for its purpose. It would be better left as part of its own area than part of a building.

The library is accessible and functional. Relocating it will cost an unnecessary amount expenditure that is better spent elsewhere. It will also render the services inaccessible for a period of time . Completely unnecessary

Keep it where it is. It is a very nice example of a library

As long as services are not reduced or adversely affected, it is just a short walk. Little inconvenience. Hi

Accessible as is and brilliantly laid out

I think it is disgusting the amount of money to be spent on transferring the library Redditch has very few amenities surely the money could be used to improve services and to improve. The town centre! All Redditch does is build houses and now quite high blocks of flats on Bromsgrove road Redditch has a cinema that's it for entertainment We have a lovely library that's provides lots of services why can't it be left where it is The library should remain where it is not moved to the town hall !!!

It is prime location where it is now, I really don't feel it would be a good move as it's ideal where it is and easy to get to. I for one would not like to walk past the pubs or away from the safe areas. When it's dark and late is a higher risk, I have seen the area you have in mind and it's definitely smaller in meters of floor space and less inviting to just pop in

A waste of money to move it when money is short it's in a good place where it is

I think the library is in an excellent location where it is. It's easily accessible and provides the essential services that are needed. If Redditch council has the funds, then I'm sure there are better things it can be spent on. Such as ensuring all the lighting in Winyates Centre actually work! Also a good dose of tree pruning wouldn't go amiss.

The facilities would not be diminished

I disagree with the "proposed" move of Redditch Library to the Town Hall. A lot of venerable people use the facilities at the library whether it's using the computers or just simply to meet up with friends. It's vital it stays where it is people with mobility issues will struggle to get to the library if the moves go ahead.

Having lived in Redditch my whole life I know the library is perfect size for everything it holds. What's proposed by RBC is not the same.

There are countless unused units within the centre and surrounds already. These have clearly failed to be "cafés and meeting areas". There is no evidence I can see that the currently library location would succeed in this regard. Further, the library was purpose built with significant funding as part of the New Town programme. What proportion of the £15.6m would be provisioned for the relocation? Whilst the offer suggests same floorspace or similar, would this be as good as the purpose built space currently offered?

I have used that library since I was a child and know that so many people benefit from the library and it's current location. I strongly believe that it should stay where it is

It is a waste of money to relocate a perfectly good service that is in a central location to another location further out of the town centre. The current library building has architecture that is very of its time and should be preserved. It has solar panels, is easy to access from the town centre shops and holds lots of Redditch archives. This project seems to be similar to the 'grand plans' for the outdoor markets which are now empty the majority of the time. The proposal also mentions coffee shops. Does Redditch need any more of those? It also discusses the space being the same or 'similar' which seems like a strange choice or wording. On the whole a total waste of public resources at a time when money should be being used more effectively and efficiently.

The library is fine where it is and in a central location

I suspect that the existing library will be closed before any new location is opened - if ever - given the track record of politicians.

The library has not that long ago been refurbished so now ripping it apart and moving it seems very wasteful and not environmentally friendly. The building works well as it is. Furthermore, there is no good plan for what goes in it's place. There are plans of other spaces to create a bustling market/cafe culture within the town. The library building where it currently is does not present a barrier to this. The new location is on the periphery of the town centre which will no doubt lead to a drop in footfall. A drop in footfall will then lead to cuts within the service - cuts to services offered and staffing. I fundamentally disagree with libraries unlocked and it has been made clear that this new relocated library would make it easier to roll out

libraries unlocked at Redditch, which I think would be a terrible idea from a safeguarding and welfare perspective. I certainly would no longer view the library as a safe space for me and my child.

The out of the way location and longer/inaccessible routes to the town hall will kill the library if the opportunities are not carefully thought about. There will need to be significant investment to 'pull' people to the new space.

The library was downsized previously to fit in the Job Centre, moving everything to a new location would be detrimental to the town center as where it is now is fairly central and a decent size

Waste of public spending

Feel the current library is fit for purpose and meets our needs perfectly well plus right by the centre. I also feel in years to come we will appreciate the architecture design as retro and conserving heritage .

The library in its current position has great footfall. If it is moved to the Town Hall , footfall will drop dramatically because it will be away from the Town Centre . Plus the costs are absolutely mind boggling . For a fraction of the cost , the Job Centre could be resited in the Town Hall , the vacant space could then be used for archives to be viewed etc and perhaps a cafe in the basement . Also perhaps put in a couple of walkways instead of steps . We could then have a smaller version of Birmingham Central Library which is fantastic and so well used

We need the library more than the 3 cafes

Free up open space

Too Far out of Town The Library is the heart and soul of Redditch. If move you will never replace them £9-2m total waste of money then ask yourselves what would be the total bill in 2024. ??? Then the government's plans has a warm hub. Brilliant for our Redditch Library. The Staff are outstanding. Will they stay on or will this Council just replace them ??? I don't trust this Council or M Dormer one bit. It's not for the Residents if for Dormer and I hope this consultant proves me right . Save our Library

Have mobility issues, too far to walk from bus station, especially as it is uphill to get back to town centre.

It is not fit for purpose the current library was refurbished and is fantastic in its current location Bright cheerful and welcoming

Old building is ugly

As long as it doesn't cost the earth to relocate it

I feel the money would be better spent modernising the existing space.

Redditch library is a new, purpose built building, the town hall is old and run down inside and the library is perfectly fine where it is. Plus it will cost money to remove the current library building which is wasteful and sad. Birmingham has its own purpose built building and it does fine, our Library is fine as a standalone building too and doesn't need to mix in with other services at the town hall, I believe it is only being moved there because the town hall is empty most of the time.

It's an absolute waste of tax payer's money. The library is great as it is.

Currently the position of the library is at the heart of the community and used enormously. Also, the expense of relocating the library is not good use of funds which has been allocated to Redditch.

As long as the same services are available I don't see there is any problem, bus service is close, taxi rank across road.

I can't see the point of spending a fortune moving the library, then tearing down the old building to create a space that I can't see any benefit of. The money should be spent creating places for the young and a better evening / night entertainment. There is absolutely no nightlife in Redditch at all. Also need to encourage businesses back into the town centre

It will be smaller, it won't be conducive to reading and studying, and it is further to go.

The money spent to improve the library which is lovely would be a waste.

I believe the library is ok where it is at present, the building is modern, accessible to all, closer to the town centre, and it is really unnecessary, a waste of money that could surely be used for the benefit of the young population of Redditch, build a bowling alley, a skating rink, I know of lots of people who regularly travel to Solihull with their family. I moved here in 1976, and have seen a decline in facilities for young people, and families, Redditch is still a young town with growing families

We have a perfect space, purpose built for us

I believe that relocating the library is the wrong thing to do, the amount of books and resources in the current library can no way fit in the new proposed space, I believe a lot will be lost to other sites.

I feel like moving the library will be detrimental! It then becomes further away from the town centre, meaning elderly people may not be able to access as easy. I feel like it will not have the same amount of space as it does now and be set out as well. For my whole life the library has been where it is and it's in a prime position to encourage people in with events it holds etc and moving it means this will not happen! I don't understand why it needs to be moved at all! If you all want a canopy area or whatever it is so much, do it at the town hall! Why destroy our library?! Not many towns have them anymore and we are incredibly lucky! We don't need more food places or shops that are too expensive for the majority of Redditch people! Maybe the council should work with the owners of the town centre to rectify issues and space in there before they start taking vital services and moving them!

Not enough information supplied to me to understand the impact - the site will be used for instead and if there is a better way to spend the money particularly with the current cost of living crisis. What other proposals have been made to use this money for and what is the impact the local environment? I don't know anyone who uses a library.. surely £15.6 million could be better spent on more essential services?

I think it is a travesty to knock down a perfectly adequate library to make way for more cafes. We have enough within the town centre as it is.

I am in my seventies but think the town centre is dreadful and so outdated. It needs knocking down and rebuilding to attract businesses here. Also to keep the youngster from moving away. I won't live long enough to see it but this is for future generations.

I am in favour of the overall plans to regenerate Redditch and this is part of that scheme. The area around the church needs improvement and I feel the library building does not add anything to the immediate area. If it opens out the space allowing improvements and more efficient use can be made of the Town Hall building then I feel that is a positive move. The 60s buildings in Redditch are too much in evidence and the plans for the town will help to improve the look of the town centre.

The library as it is at present is more central for those who have problems with walking. Parking near the town hall is further for car parks. The library is accessible to all but to move it will make it less suitable, especially to those with children and older people.

I don't agree with the plan the council have put forward, the library is a central hub for people and should be central to any plans not moved out the way.

To free up much needed community space it seems only logical that the Library is relocated only a very short distance away. The services and square ground footage appear to be respected and, hopefully, other activities that are planned in the same building are going to be beneficial and supportive for my visits to the Library.

It makes sense to amalgamate council services together of there definitely no loss of library provision.

Makes no difference

This will hide the library away, will make it smaller and provide less facilities.

Llibrary should have its individual building

As long as all the present library services remain I see no reason not to agree. Also the plans for a town square sound lovely.

I don't believe the library should be moved at all however I would rather it be moved to the Town Hall or lose the facility completely. I have lived in Redditch since a young age and used the library for study through school age and College and my three children and husband are now members making use of this wonderful facility.

The library is already sited in a good location, close to the Kingfisher centre. The Town Hall is NOT located in a prime location with steep ramp access for wheelchair users to the building.. Relocation does NOT improve the experience for library users, an increase in the library catalogue would do this, many books that I wish to borrow are not in the Redditch library. Redditch could do with a toy library, NOT space for more cafes which already exist in this area. The money could be better used upgrading existing buildings with covered outdoor spaces., indoor/outdoor markets, better parking with EV charge points, pubs.

Perfectly ok where it is and the current financial climate makes it unaffordable wasteing money and we don't need more coffee outlets redditch has become the coffee mecca of the Midlands we need retail shops

Why spend millions to move a library that was purpose built to another building that wasn't. I believe in using existing property but don't think this is a sensible move. Nowhere has it been made clear as to what the cost to move the library and create whatever it is that will take its place? There is plenty of places that are vacant in the area that surely would cost less to regenerate. The failed businesses tried to draw people in to the town but failed so why does the council think they should spend loads of money it seems high risk. Has the decision already been made as some articles I've read sound like it has and this 'consultation' is a tick the box exercise.

Waste of money demolishing a popular good building and disrupting staff and community. This money could be put to much better use , producing a community hall to attract events to entice people to the centre. There is nowhere people can congregate for indoor socialising.

The town is desperately in need of revitalisation and in particular the area of the current library and the current town hall. This is also a preventative proposal to safeguard the future of the library in Redditch. Future funding cuts will inevitably impact library services and locating with other services in a community type hub is the way forward.

Better use of combined space. One place for all services

I disagree with the move that it would make an impact of the services to the library and that it would be a waste of money building a new on when they could update the current building

Some people who find it difficult to walk and get about may struggle to walk the extra distance to the town hall so may be discouraged to use it.

There is a lot of space not used in the town hall so it makes sense to use it and possibly make it bigger and use the old library space for something else

Relocating to the town hall is fine as long as the space created by knocking down the current building is used sensibly.

Harder to walk to from the car park

Move will not affect me as it is very close to existing site

Why move something that works well where it is? The floor space is going to be similar to what it already is. Use the money for a much more needed project like helping the homeless or local food banks or putting it into the Redditch museum so Redditch people can remember it for the greatness it was and not the joke it is today. Redditch does not need anymore cafes, food outlets etc.

I don't understand the need to spend over £4m on demolishing the current library to create more retail units when there are many empty spaces already in the town. Surely the money could be spent on other initiatives to encourage more shoppers.

The proposed new location is quite a distance to walk from the town centre if you have any mobility problems. The Town Hall is down Alcester Street and then upwards to the entrance to the Town Hall.

I think the money could be put to better use for Redditch town we already have a good functional library. Alcester St needs to be made more appealing to visitors we certainly don't need anymore cafes and if a big company like Weatherspoons cannot survive I cannot see much hope for any other new venture.

I can see it sounds good but it's a long way for someone with a disability so use may be less and people may end up losing a service then if not as frequently used. I can see the benefits and disadvantages seems a bit of a gamble

What is wrong with the location of the current location of the Library? It is perfectly located and fit for purpose. This town needs a Waitrose or a decent supermarket. Get the priorities right

Looks like a general improvement to the town centre.

If all that is planned it would make more sense to have it all in one place

The location will be used to build more flats.. A number of times the area has had new block work done as pavements at a cost of hundreds of thousands. It still looks old and out of date. I doubt the money would be spent correctly and no doubt the council tax payer will be ripped off by some big building firm.

We are unhappy that the library is not going to be in a separate building and it's farther than the one now

This change is unnecessary and makes no sense

There is no benefit in moving it. And do we really need another coffee shop or commercial property when there are empty shops and offices

I feel that relocating the library and then effectively demolishing what is a more than adequate reasonably modern building is a complete waste of money. I am certain the library can remain where it is and redevelopment can take place in and around the purpose built market area, which has remained unused and is yet another example of money being wasted.

The wording in the information prior to starting this survey says that the new venue will have the same floor space or SIMILAR! Unfortunately, many people have now lost trust with both their MPs and Counsellors; consequently the word similar is read as LESS space .

Since being a child it's been a staple to go to on our visits into kingfisher Town centre, and since having my own child I love taking him into there, and both enjoy the calm and quiet environment

The cost... money could be used for other important needs. It's away from the centre

Cost. Surely in the present financial climate the money spent on demolishing the current library and refurbishing the council offices could be better spent on less expensive projects. I read somewhere that the present proposal appears to be a "vanity project." Surely not. I would suggest that a rethink is called for.

Given that much the same space will be used, services maintained at current levels etc I really don't mind - it will be another 60m to walk but that is no issue!

Would be great to get some restaurants in the town centre. The current availability of places to eat and drink in Redditch is terrible

I strongly disagree with the relocation, because this space is incredibly vital to our community. It has so much to offer for all ages, and there is nothing wrong with the building. Also couldn't the New Town plan be put to use in the many vacant lots (such as where the old Tony Handyman used to be or when The Rising sun closes down, you could implement that plan into that space because that to will be another vacant plot collecting dust).

Worse location Less soace

This part of town needs rejuvenation. Hopefully these plans will help

The town hall is far more inaccessible, further from the town centre and then what will happen to the existing library? More shoddily refitted flats? Great!!

The people of Redditch can only have clarity once they are allowed to see all the information. Show exactly what your intentions are, a complete breakdown of costs, the future new facilities size comparison. Explain how the service will be better? What will the future empty space look like? How will this benefit the town? why are our so-called leaders afraid to show all the details? what are they hiding from the people of Redditch? when will we have display boards in the library showing future proposals? (Do you have one yet?) The only power of control you have on this project, is in the demolishing of this building, that's it, nothing will change, a void will appear and now you'll have 2 brass plates, 1, stating the people of Redditch can hold a market, the 2nd telling the people of Redditch what once stood in this place. We have yet to see proof that this will change the foot fall to the Kingfisher. What's being counted, (shoppers, people walking to the train station or school children, workers,) what times, days of the week, which direction? When and where, are they just using the free parking that is easily accessible from that end of town. Figure for outcomes can be relative or absolute. Sometimes the cause and effects are not easy to identify. The agenda seems to be about the footfall into the Kingfisher. Are the Taxpayers of Redditch being asked to subsidise the Kingfisher centre?

The library is ideally placed for everyone visiting whatever their age or disability. Moving it would create a void that cannot be recreated inside the Town hall. There is also no room for the library archives. Whenever I visit I also go into the town centre as it's close by!

I think it's more accessible where it is now and it's a huge benefit for the town where it is. People with Mobility issues will not be able to enjoy the library if it is moved.

Access to the library is ideal for people with disabilities

Current build is more than able to contain the Towns needs

Current location is great

Given the current economic climate, I feel it is wholly unnecessary expenditure when the current library serves the purpose perfectly well.

The library is a purpose built building with good access and in a good location for everyone to use and knocking it down won't increase foot fall as all the car parks are on the other side of town, also the council don't have a good track record of moving things just look at the market. And nearly 10 million to move it 150 meters is a total wast of public money

There is nothing wrong with the existing library building to demolish it is a crackpot ifra

Terrible place as limited access from main bus routes as most people come in from church green or the main car parks. Overly week argument about foot fall as again most people will access through bus station or carparks which link to the Kingfisher. Redditch town does not need more cafes as we already have a number of unit empty within the kingfisher

I can't see why it has to be moved at all. I'm not sure the Town Hall will have the right amount of space for books, desks, computers etc. It's right out of the way for people going into town after to shop or catch a bus particularly at night

Creating a central hub within the town hall would be greatly beneficial. Closer disabled parking, closer bus stop.

No need to mive thr location, people will not going to get used with it, and it makes it difficult for some to access it.

People with mobility issues cannot access the library easily. The other floors in the library are important for other things like meetings and activities, if the library is moved they will not be accessible.

The current site was recently modernised: money was spent on the building, it's wasteful to scrap this. I am sceptical that the 'new library' will be as well-equipped. For example, the current library has an extensive store with some rare Golden Age detective fiction (in the basement). The new site would not be able to house this. The new site, if in the Kingfisher centre, would have no natural lighting and would be in a less pleasant position. The library is a reason to visit another part of the town, if the library is in the Kingfisher centre there would be even less footfall in other parts of the town centre.

I think that the development of more cafes and commercial properties is ridiculous, half of the properties built for leisure in the square are already out of use and the number of cafes in the town are already struggling so what is the actual benefit?

There is nothing wrong with the location of the existing library. Structurally the building is sound. The location, so close to the town is accessible for all. The phenomenal cost to relocate this precious town resource for the sake of a few shops is ridiculous given the state of the current macro-environmental issues. It will leave the town budget in a severe deficit. There are more strategic ways to drive business to the town without stripping away existing assets. Is this project one that has been created to line the pockets of those in charge of the town funds? I feel they are the only ones who will benefit from these changes - not the residents.

The library is perfect where it is. Wasting 9 million to relocate it is utterly wasteful and in the current circumstances abhorrent

Agree to allow progress

I feel that money could be better spent on improving local transport services

Why knock down a building that is serving the local community. We do not need any more coffee shops etc

It's acceptable where it is and spread over many floors with lifts ect

The library in its current location is perfect for all who use it. Relocating and demolishing is a total waste of money. Use the grant in areas that's needed more, like the Alexandra hospital

Nothing wrong where it is now. If moved to where proposed very few people venture that way and may struggle to access it. Also, doubtful the library will offer all services it currently does, and does so well!

A total waste of money.

In recent years much money has been spent refurbishing and updating the library. If the library is relocated this money would be wasted.

I feel the library will not have as much space. Services would be reduced. People's mental health would suffer due to a reduction in library services which would inevitably happen.

The Town Hall is roughly double the distance from the main public transport hub (the railway station and the bus station that has been built into the Kingfisher shopping centre). This also places it a significant distance from the main shopping areas, the main areas of cafes, bars and restaurants and into an area that currently has a significantly lower footfall than the current location.

The library is a large bespoke building it's quiet and was recently renovated at great expense. It's a useful tool for everyone in Redditch I wouldn't get peace and quiet in the town hall, it's also really out of the way literally at the end of the town centre

The library does not need to move it a waste of money

Huge waste of money when the existing building and facilities are functional and popular, concern that there will be an attrition of services. Replacement building strongly likely to become a white elephant in a short space of time (saturation of coffee shops/ cafes in town centre already)

We have a purpose built library that is admired by all surrounding towns why on earth would we consider getting rid of it! The town centre is on its knees getting rid of the library would be another nail in the coffin

If it gives the library a viable future with the same size of space or more then it has now that's the important thing

The town needs a for purpose library . It was recently renovated and is a great building to go and relax in . Shoving it in the corner of the town hall is not the way forward town hall is not a suitable place for a relaxing quiet library and the job centre that goes with it

I think it's better where it is. Maybe just update it.

The building is a very distinctive so knocking it down would be a shame

Easily accessible from the Kingfisher Centre. Walking down to the Town Hall will discourage people from making the effort. The library will be isolated from the life of the centre.

The money needs to be spent on local issues and reducing the burden on ordinary people as opposed to a vanity project Reduce the council tax on working people

I am concerned that there won't be enough space in the new location for the library's archive collection - a collection of rare books and manuscripts that has to be stored at a specific temperature. I am also concerned about potential redundancies for the library staff who are always so helpful and dedicated.

The County Council has no commitment to or understanding of the importance of the library to working people.

It currently is a focal point right in the centre of town. If it were to move it would not gain the same footfall as it does currently.

This council needs to realise its costing 9 million pounds to demolish one building and relocation. WHY???

SPEND THE MONEY REDUCING RENT! intice new business into the old market place etc... I can see 9 million on investment improvements of the outside of the town centre. **SPEND OUR MONEY WISLEY** not demolish Improvements are a must £9 million quid **WOW WHAT A WASTE MR I HAVE MY OWN BUSINESS (DORMER)**

Don't mind if the Hub will reflect and make a difference to the whole of the Redditch community. Should be diverse and open too all. If a community cafe is in place it should not be overpriced like the cafes at Arrow Valley and Morton Stanley Park, should help local charity's and employ people with special needs or young people that require confidence resilience support allowing them to gain life skills and feeling valued within their community

Being in town is so easy to just pop in with the kids

A complete waste of money to move a purpose built, perfectly functional, recently refurbished and amazing library to increase footfall to the kingfisher centre. This has not been thought through by anyone local as moving the library will likely decrease footfall through the centre as people cut through the back of the centre and don't pass the shops. A complete white elephant and total waste of tax payers money. Only being pushed as its a controlling ego project driven by an ego maniac who will never back down even when he knows he is wrong

What a total waste of 9.4 million pounds. Leave it where it is.

Subject to getting a modern town centre with enough parking. Need some nightlife in Redditch.

The proposed 'advantages' are vague, facile and utterly unconvincing. The shopping centre already consists largely of eateries (often failing), card shops etc. Demolish the library for more of the same?. Our council allowed the loss of the original, thriving market square, food hall, bus station etc to be replaced with uninviting empty spaces. Have they not already inflicted enough damage without embarking on another ego trip??

The library is in a fit for purpose location. This is an offensive waste of money. Whilst this is part funded, the costs of refurbishing the town hall are unfunded. We will have to pay for this. I vehemently disagree with this foolhardy idea.

I don't see the need to relocate the library into the Town Hall. The building is fine, it also houses the archives and the job centre. I don't see how the Town Hall could facilitate all of this without losing the services that the library offers. Surely the money would better spent elsewhere

Redditch Library does not need to be relocated. Why pay a huge amount of money to move it to a different building when it works perfectly well where it is and will probably lose footfall if it is moved?

Town Hall building is almost completely redundant, love the idea of a community hub, a sensible sustainable option to spend money on rather than 2 separate half empty building with a 30 second walk of each other. Library usage has change hugely from when the existing provision was built and its important to reflect that in any change of location.

Same space same service a minute's walk away. Town Hall needs to utilise vacant spaces and the current library is an eyesore of no architectural value that is actually a minus visually.

We really don't need another cafe! It's a waste of resources when money is already stretched and could be better invested elsewhere. Why not develop some of the existing spaces which are in disrepair rather than wasting money moving the library.

The proposed location isn't too far from the current library. If the proposal reflects the actual transfer to the town hall and the access to literature and services isn't decreased in any way then I would feel okay about the change.

The current location is easy to identify and purpose built.

There is absolutely nothing wrong with the library's current location or setting. Dormer wants to demolish it to create an open space with the aim of holding events and having pop up stalls like a Parisian terrace. Not only does stuff like that already take place in the canopies, but he needs to realise that this is Redditch, and it has a totally different dynamic and climate from Paris.

The current library building works perfectly well and it isn't really that long since it was refurbished.

Absolutely ridiculous idea. The existing, purpose built building is ideal for its use. Losing space and facilities is not acceptable. Absolutely feels like a money grabbing exercise from the council

The current library is a purpose built building. It is more than suitable for what it offers. To relocate incurs unnecessary costs. Given the level of homelessness, poverty and cost of living crisis, this money could be better spent on helping those in need or investing in children's services to help keep children aged 12+ away from crime. Many parks have been taken away, sports clubs are too expensive and many cheaper groups are aimed at children under 11. Redditch is a prime spot for county lines, let's spend that money on our teenagers. Or let's help the town with their fuel or food costs. Why would we waste money on moving a fantastic library to a location that wouldn't actually better the service it already provides.

Nothing wrong with current library.it will be too far out of the way in the town hall

What's wrong with the location it is in? Why waste money? It could be used for much more valuable things.

Mobility issues. Too far away from car parks and bus stops. Disagree with demolition for a vanity and unnecessary project. Purpose made library with room for ALL Archives.

The current library is in a good position next to town and local to shops and other useful businesses. Closer to bus station for people who travel further to use library

I agree with where and why.

The library should be in a prominent, visible location rather than tucked out of the way

The Library in its current position is ideal. It seems a complete waste of money to relocate a perfectly good library to another location which seems to offer nothing new. It is, wrong on so many levels. Think about the environmental damage in demolition. Also, what are we gaining, more offices and cafes when we are surrounded by empty units. Please leave our purpose built library.

Totally unnecessary

The library has been in its current place since I was a young boy and moving it even slightly will take it that but further from the centre. Plus the town hall is that - the town hall

I strongly disagree with the move. Around 9 million pounds to demolish a building that is in a perfect position already. The money could be spent improving the town. The library doesn't need to be relocated, it has been there for many years and has been and is a great asset to the town. It is in a prime location and it currently looks inviting and welcoming and this will not be the case in the proposed position.

The building should stay where it is and as a library and hub. It is part of Redditch history, the space is well used and well accessible. I cannot see what the new plans will actually bring. The town centre is dying, and the library hub is a constant. People need the library more than the proposals

This will be moving the library further away from the main shopping centre and car parks, making it less accessible to many people. The location change also gives the impression that the library is less important than a cafe, of which there are already many in the Kingfisher centre, but only one library in the town centre. I'm also upset that the suggestion of a 'vibrant community area' doesn't include the possibility of the library being PART of that area - why not build around and INCLUDE the library rather than moving it? Finally, I'm concerned that the plans to move the library, whilst using funding already allocated, are not the best use of these funding monies.

The current library is a purpose built, centrally located facility. It has a proven footfall. I do not believe that the costs of this project will be cost neutral to the library service. In any event, the current projected cost of this project to the public purse is exorbitant. The demolition of the existing library is a vanity project promoted by the shopping centre and based on misinformation from the start. I'm fearful that the archives will be decimated as no room has been allocated. According to a previous report, the rental income from the Job Centre covers most of the costs of the existing service. If the Job Centre prefers to convert the temporary second centre in the Kingfisher to the only one in the town, then WCC will lose a substantial income. Thus, the project will not be cost neutral. If there was a substantially public supported need for relocation, then the better alternative would have been to relocate the service nearer to the transport infrastructure or, if it was so important for the Kingfisher to have the open space, the new library would be better located inside the centre, for example, in the former Debenhams over multi floors with the Redditch Museum incorporated to provide a central tourist attraction. I have yet to hear from anyone, other than ruling councillors, who think that this is a good idea for the benefit of the library service. As one person who uses the library twice a week said to me other day, 'this will spell the end of the library services in Redditch. It is nothing more than civic vandalism'.

Why waste money on a perfectly good building?

The library needs to retain its independence on its own self-contained building and thus not subject to vagaries of others in use of their own building. This is likely to be ultimately a reduction in what the library offers and the facilities it affords, given time, with little or no say in what this is. Its current location is high profile and remains an important position in its promotion of library services, particularly in respect of that external social provision that is stated is wanted to be provided and to its very likely social usage in that context. Why is it required to hide this away, when enhanced promotion, availability for promotional resources and increased usage already established within its existing context with little or no additional cost provision is absolutely there to take advantage of. This is not some back-street activity, it is an important part of our society and I regard this proposal as nothing more than a "short end of a wedge" and likely to be already a "done deal" and if that is the real case, THEN SHAME ON YOU ALL INVOLVED.

Wrong location. We have a purpose built library already and do not wish to see it demolished and moved at such great expense. This is not progress- it is profiteering. Why build more offices and retails when we can't let what is already there?

It doesn't bother me where it is

The library is in an ideal location

It's not going too far and as long as there is still a decent library I am okay with it.

Cost of project for the change. Inappropriate in current climate. There hasn't been enough work done to show that removing the library will increase footfall in town centre. Issues are more complex. Town hall building is not appropriate for library, too enclosed, tight spaces. Location for library is better suited near centre of town, could Debenhams be an option if there is a need to relocate?

The current site has everything that is needed and already exists. The proposed new site will be too small. Resources will be lost. It is at best a pointless, expensive exercise that will waste money that could be better spent elsewhere. At worst, it will mean losing some or maybe even all (if it goes badly) library services in Redditch. This move seems to be for financial gain of some parties: freeing up a coveted central location for development. It is utterly wrong!

I strongly disagree. The library is not a Town Hall. Is not political. It is a totally separate facility for the community. It has no association with the Town Hall. It is preposterous suggestion to move there. It needs to stay EXACTLY where it is.....

Moving further from the focus of the kingfisher shopping centre may reduce the footfall.

I disagree seems a waste of money there is nothing wrong with the librarys location. When the library is being demolished how will people get to the town hall surely the area will be closed for safety reasons.

Redditch library is currently housed in a purpose built building which has a significant footfall accessible for many people. The relocation of the library will limit many people from attending due to mobility issues and the redevelopment plans for the space where the library currently stands are not popular with the people of Redditch and with little Need. It is a vanity project of Matt Dormer and nothing else

The plan is outdated and doesn't take account of the changing economic circumstances. Demolishing a perfectly fine building to build new restaurants and shops etc is mad when we already have lots of empty space that can be repurposed and would support town centre viability plus we are going into a major recession - it will be an expensive white elephant. The new plaza area with seating etc will be a magnet for the drug dealing and asb that already takes place in the town centre and nobody does anything about. I don't understand why WCC is willing to lose such a significant asset of value unnecessarily. My alternative proposal would be to rehouse the library in the former Debenhams unit, this would support the town centre/footfall, take up an empty unit that is damaging the perception of the town, and still allow the library to be demolished to create the events space the council desires but with the added bonus the town hall could be sold off for housing. I also don't believe either council is genuine when it says it won't reduce services. Given the financial pressure you are under I can see the library being reduced to a shadow of its former self and crucial activities like the STEM club and reading challenge the library carries out will be lost. Other councils have proposed similar ideas and the replacement library has always been worse than what was there originally. I simply don't believe or trust you.

The library in the current location is handy for all, welcoming warm inviting building.

The library at its location at the moment is fine, I feel that the building itself is outdated, and it would benefit from a new home, hopefully having more space for everyone to use it at the same time, the younger children's section to be separated from others using the library

I understand that many of the council staff are now working from home so their premises may as well be used for the library

Disagree because your wasting a building that will be knocked down any archives they people want to view will be moved to Worcester which everyone cannot get there if they can't drive and the buses there aren't very frequent.

The town hall is out of the way compared to the library's current location.

The new location is less accessible and is a deliberate ploy to reduce library footfall so that you can close it down.

Dont relocate

The library we have is a purpose-built facility that works well, caters for so many interests other than book lending and is in an ideal place for users to access. The library DOES NOT need to be re-located into a building that is neither ready nor fit to be used as a library. The Town Hall was purpose-built as a Town Hall NOT a make shift library and any expense incurred to re-organise a move would be a complete misuse of ratepayers money. So many Redditch residents are against this foolish proposal that I am surprised this idea has not been dismissed out of hand. Shame on anyone who goes against the wishes of so many Redditch Library supporters.

No need to move it, money should be spent improving church Green East and west. Area has been neglected for too long and has a lot of potential.

The library should be a main focal point of our town centre, it should be something as a community we can be proud of! Tucking it out the way at the town hall makes it less accessible for people using public transport to get to the library, as well as the elderly and/or disabled community.

It doesn't "need" to be relocated - it is just a preference of the council.

the current library is ideally placed for disabled and elderly

All in one place no reduced service so doesn't matter where its located in the town centre

We already have a fully functioning and well designed library. Creating a new one is a complete waste of money and a total inconvenience.

The current building was purpose built and designed to do the job it does. Total waste of money to demolish. Spend the money repurposing /repairing some of the empty older units around Church Green and get the market back and more events like the Digbeth Dining club into the town. Better publicity for events.

There is absolutely no advantage over the existing library and the significant cost does not justify the end result. Someone is making a lot of money out of this fiasco.

The library is part of Redditch. Just as it is. And it recently underwent a massive revamp and it looks amazing. Just as it is!

The library does not need to be moved. I disagree with the demolition as it is a total waste of money to spend. It is possible to renegotiate the town deal project to change this. The town hall can be remodelled at a lesser cost if the library is not part of that. £9,4m to move the library to a less convenient space so we can have more cafes? Plenty of events have been held around the town centre with the library in its current position.

There is no current need to spend money on a new town hall or library. The money would be better spent encouraging new businesses to set up within our current infrastructure. A new building will not generate visitors.

The existing library is quite adequate. To move it is in my opinion a complete waste of money that could be better spent elsewhere

The library is a purpose built building accessible to all in a convenient position. I personally think that Redditch Borough Council should look at ways of encouraging more retailers and thus more footfall into the

town. We are already awash with coffee shops so do we really need a fancy square when at present there is very little to encourage people into the town. Use the Council House for what it was intended. Bring staff back into the workplace and deal with resident queries face to face.

The existing library is a purpose built. It is easily accessible, well laid out and a quiet and relaxing environment in which to browse and read. Why would we want to spend so much money just to demolish an excellent existing facility. I see no need for additional shops half the existing shops are empty now and we certainly don't need any more cafés. We have a church green which is attracting a variety of businesses right round the church green, so how would it benefit these? The council has already wasted lots of money by providing electric scooters for school children to race around on and they create a hazard for blind and partially sighted people as they are to be found strewn about on footpaths.

the town hall is not a fit library space. The library should stay where it is!

The current Library site is an excellent location. If it were to be moved it would be in a smaller location, and downgraded facilities. The existing site would then be sold for development which is disgusting.

I just think it will deter people from visiting the library, the Town Hall entrance is tucked away. It's location now is perfect.

No need to move, we do not need more shops and office space. I am sure the money could be spent more wisely.

I find the current facilities convenient and there is insufficient information to make a value judgement on the new facilities. In addition, I feel the proposals for the old Library site are unnecessary, and funds could be better spent elsewhere.

We need to regenerate our town which is declining rapidly

It would become less accessible from the proposed new location, including for those people who use it on an impulse basis

It's already in the perfect position, and is the perfect size; there is no good reason to move it, why "fix something that isn't broken" the cost of moving it could be put to far better use .

Redditch has been hacked about enough! The last lot of improvement resulted in us no longer having a market!!

As long as the amount of books available to loan out is not reduced then I do not mind the move. I have been visiting the Redditch library since the eighties and have a number of memories attached to the building. Many things have changed in the town, ranging from the bus station being completely revamped to the palm trees being removed from the Kingfisher Centre. If the changes keep things as good as they are or improve things then that is fantastic. If the move of the library is detrimental in anyway then this is obviously negative.

I strongly disagree as the existing library serves the community extremely well. There is enough empty retail space in Redditch to create cafes and entertainment. The ambiance of the library is very welcoming. In order to accommodate the library in the town hall it would be very costly and an unnecessary spend of public money.

The current library space is amazing and inviting - I'm not sure why this needs to change

Town hall too far to walk to .Space to house all the Redditch artefacts will not be adequate and if moved to the Hive in Worcester will not be seen again. There is no parking at the Town Hall and to carry books from there to the Bus depot is a long way.

Non spec but may be better for parking and council matters

This so called 'Redditch Town Plan'is all wrong! So the idea/suggestion/plan of moving the library is based on a very wrong assumption.

I use the library frequently where it is it is a good center for residents of redditch it does not need to be locate to an inferior site

The library will suffer as a result of the move and services that they offer will be reduced. Why move it from its current purpose built unit to the council offices. Also the proposed demolition cost of £4m is almost a quarter of the grant fund. The threat that the move is essential for the regeneration of the town is utter rubbish. There is no real design of what would replace the area cleared.

The facilities are well located and have undergone several changes recently. Further changes will surely diminish some of the current facilities.

This is an atrocious waste of public money. It would be a waste at the best of times. Given the current state of public finances spending the money in this way is beyond belief. The fact that the library could be housed in the Town Hall is hardly the point. There is nothing wrong with the current building. Demolishing and rebuilding is not a good use of materials and energy. Moving to the Town Hall might bring no loss of facility to the current users but why spend so much money to preserve the status quo? If archive facilities need to be improved perhaps some money could be spent on that and some of the spare space in the Town Hall could be used if space is an issue. There are plenty of empty units and space in the Kingfisher centre for cafes. With the move to home-working, I can't believe that there is a shortage of office space. If there is perhaps the spare space in the Town Hall could be used as offices.

There is nothing wrong with the current location of the library. This funding could be better spent.

I don't see knocking down a building to create an open space as a sensible use of time and resources. Particularly not to create a 'town square' so far away from the town centre.

The current location is accessible and easy to get to. The light open airy library with the high ceilings is much nicer than the town hall space . Especially if joining singing, story sessions with children. The children's area is spacious and well stocked. Being hard of hearing and relying on hearing aids I find the acoustics great in the current library. Should they not be I wouldn't be able to bring my children to the children's sessions as the noise would leave me with migraines.

The present library building is perfectly placed to allow for multi-purpose trips to the Town Centre from the car parking (both multi storey and ground level), to shopping, going to the Bank, the Doctor's Surgery, chemists and cafes and to return and borrow books. I used to work in the Town Hall and have since been an occasional visitor until a few years ago. The Town Hall has always been off-centre for combined trips like those mentioned above. Direct pedestrian access from MSCP2 to the Town Hall is awkward and dangerous unless one follows the 'official' route, through the Kingfisher Centre, from which the present Library is easily accessible. The notion that it would be a good idea to demolish a distinctive landmark building (the Library) to create open space and cafes is a complete nonsense. Redditch does not need a new public square. There are sufficient empty units in the Kingfisher Centre and the Town Centre, generally, to provide for all the commercial opportunities that the demolition of the Library is supposed to open up. I don't have a problem with Redditch Borough Council trying to raise a few pounds by renting out vacant space in the Town Hall to other organisations, but I, personally, would not be accessing any of the services provided by the proposed new users, or even those still provided by the Borough Council, which I access online like most other people these days. However, I do need to visit the Library to select books to read, for which the present building in the present location is perfectly situated. I urge the County Council to reject this proposal and maintain the Library in it's present building.

I think that if it uses up the space that would otherwise stand empty then it is a good idea and use of buildings. If it is an exercise in downgrading library services then it is a bad idea. I have nothing against progress and know that the areas outside of the library need updating but I can't see it being succesful on the whole - we all ready have areas that are unused in the Kingfisher Centre and town centre. I also think that the library has been drained of resources and new books for a long time so if this is the boost it needs to refresh the available resources for all the community then I am all for it.

The town hall would be better suited being used to merge Bromsgrove and Redditch services. The town centre has a lot of vacant units already and the population does not support or need more restaurants and cafes

Town needs urgent restructuring

There is plenty of real estate inside the Kingfisher Centre that needs using before we start wasting money on moving the library. The last thing Redditch needs is more cafes. We need more restaurants and shopping options instead and none of those need to involve moving the library. If you especially want to move the library I suggest it be moved into the Kingfisher Centre where it will be more accessible than in the town hall. The library will all but vanish if people don't know it's there.

The library should remain where it is as a key part of the town centre it wouldn't get the custom if moved.

Why does it have to be moved? Can't the Town Plan be revised?

Waste of tax payers money. It is used well as its library function. Job center based there. The job center was relocated to the library from Archers Road location by college however that building remains empty and unused. Each move costs more money than we are aware.

I believe that the current location is appropriate. The Town Hall is better used to get RBC staff back into work and provide face to face services to the people of Redditch. We don't need more cafes etc we need more shops back into the centre.

Purpose built library with great resources and well utilised space.

I'm afraid I have to disagree with moving the library to the new location, it is a beautiful purpose-built easy to get to, it will be a shame to demolish it.

The existing library is a well designed and beautiful building. Its location on a main thoroughfare makes it easy for people to just drop in. The proposed relocation will tie the library too closely to the Borough Council who have not behaved well in other planning issues. My fear is that the existing building will close but that any alternative will be years away. Losing us this valuable resource.

The purpose built library is easy to access and is central, welcoming and user friendly

I am old and walking from the present library to the new one in the town hall would take me about 5 minutes and walking back up hill would take me 15 minutes and I would have to stop often.

The library is already perfectly placed and still has room to improve. It has everything you need Why knock it down to build more coffee shops??

The impact on the Kingfisher Centre removing the library building will be negligible. Footfall dropped via this entrance when the market stalls were removed, and when Debenhams closed.

Town hall is out the way

Cost of demolition the environmental impact the money could be better spent elsewhere the town hall is not an appropriate place to relocate to

Unnecessary waste of public funds. The money would be better spent on improving the current empty shops than creating an empty area that can only be used for sitting out in the short summers we get.

I cannot see the sense in spending millions to demolish a perfectly good library, simply to replace it with a public square and restaurants, when those we have in the town have not been successful. The money would be far better spent on giving the Church Green a whole new facelift, an area which has been neglected for far too long. There are shops in that vicinity that would benefit from refurbishing which I'm sure would bring more footfall to the area, therefore, good for the town centre too. Not forgetting, the demolition planned for Community House & Gemini Ballroom, in order to use the funds towards the demolition of our library. These are two regularly used venues and many people would feel hardship at the loss of them.

Will be all new

It's in the right place now it's also purpose built I can think of no ethical reason to waste millions in moving the library at all

I am not convinced on the business model that has been proposed. Community assets sacrificed for a service already available. The cost of moving to allow private businesses to benefit seems uncomfortable to me. There are numerous coffee shops already available now. In addition the Town Centre is now accessed by people begging and hard drinkers. Not very attractive and is not mentioned within the business case. What's happening to the district council services which are even more removed from public face to face access.

Waste of our money, can not possibly be an upgrade on a building that was built to be a library. Not so accessible and will not be in the middle of the town

There is no need. It's money wasted that could go on services desperately needed instead

I fail to understand why a modern, well situated, much used and appreciated facility for all ages is to be demolished and replaced with a 'slightly' smaller building to house 3 food and beverage units. Apart from the totally unnecessary expense and inconvenience, does Redditch really need any more food & beverage units? A brief check of food & beverage amenities available throughout the town centre exceeds 30 outlets. Why can't the empty buildings be modernised and utilised - for example the retail space that was used by the BHF on Church Green. If indeed further town centre office space is a requirement, then perhaps the Town Hall with all the extra space it appears to have would be the ideal solution.

Integration of services

Ideal layout

Why does it have to cost so much to knock a building down and relocate and sell off half the town in the process. Do we really need any more cafes ect.

Think about wheel chairs and distance people travel

Nothing wrong with the old location

A town of this size needs a purpose built building. Redditch library is only one of a few places where residents can be welcomed without being charged for the service. I've utilised the library my entire life, as a child with my love for reading, studying as a student, attending the amazing baby groups and now encouraging my own children to read. I just do not believe that utilising space within the town hall would accommodate the number of resources the library currently has as well as being able to offer the local services it currently does. Instead of incorporating the library within another building, we should be investing the money this will cost, to instead update our current library, both inside and out. Follow the example of Worcester and having an amazing library that we can be proud of.

The library was built as a library why need to change something that works well

see no reason why it is necessary to demolish a perfectly good building which is only 40 years old and spend lots of money to create an outdoor area which is nearby on the church green area.. Also there are enough food areas in the Kingfisher centre. Empty shop units in the centre would benefit from lower rates.

The cost to achieve is phenomenal and money could be better spent on social housing or upgrading other run down centres. The current library is fit for purpose, proposed siting is inadequate and the town does not need more cafes

Nothing wrong with the building although a face lift on outside would be great and enhance the building which is very dated maybe a vertical garden

Nothing wrong with the existing site, economic madness given the current consumer crisis.

Because it's moving 100m down the road to make way for an open space so that the Kingfisher feel like they can be seen more It doesn't benefit the people of Redditch

Why spend money that could be used elsewhere ie community centres as sure start centres were closed

Because relocating the library is unnecessary, it is well used, offers a multiple of services. To demolish it in order to relocate it a few yards further down the street seems to be a complete waste of money, money that could be better used enhancing the town centre. A much better way to ensure increased footfall in that area would be to reinstate the market there, the current market is a joke. When the market was moved from Royal Square to Market Place, it still thrived. It was only when it was put behind the post office (a dark and draughty place) that it started to die. The shops already in Alcester Street seem to be filling up and Threadneedle House already occupies the opposite side of the road.

If it's better for the town, I'd agree, but at the same time I don't want to lose time or resources.

I agree with the library being relocated ,even though it's further to walk for those who have difficulty.

Seems like a cost effective place to put it.

It's a disgrace that they're trying to close the library. I wouldn't be surprised if there's been a back hander involved. If I know Redditch council that have destroyed this town over the years, closing or knocking down anything that is used by the people of Redditch.

We already have a fantastic purpose built library. Investment is needed in the existing town and buildings

The new location is a dump and not worthy

The present library building was built to be a library, there is nothing wrong with it. It is very convenient and close to the shopping centre. Why demolish it? If you want an open space demolish part of the Town Hall and convert the other part into accommodation, there is already an open space there to develop. Move the council offices out of town to a commercial site on Moon's Moat or Washford. The Town Hall is not used by the public now, as proved the other day when I went in mid morning, I was the only person there. It's said there will be no savings with this move, and we will get the same library services, so what is the purpose? It's present location is ideal. When raining or bad wintery weather, a half minute dash from the shopping centre. The new location is a 3 minute walk, in bad weather, and no shelter, I wouldn't go if it's raining, and certainly the young families who use the library building for the events for the pre school children will think twice about trekking down to the Town Hall. As for using the present library site as a plaza and restaurants, well there are plenty of good restaurants in Redditch, Cooks is the nearest, without the need for more. The cafe outside the Town Hall is closed, so another cafe around that area isn't viable. You say you want to "increase green and connected town centre spaces". Just take a look along Church Green East at the green space there. Overgrown, unattended rough piece of ground. It was attended and looked after a few years ago. So if the council can't be bothered to keep this small area looking tidy, why want more? Also the fountain never seems to work. If this is the best idea for the council and the £15.6 million town deal fund, to demolish a perfectly good building to create an empty space well have another think and stop wasting money. I refer you to my earlier proposal re Town Hall redevelopment.

We do not need anymore empty shops or venues in the town. Redditch Library must be one of the best used Library in England why change something for no reason. All empty spaces are full with the homeless already. We have got our community space at the Library, nothing else is required. Both my husband and I tried to sign the petition to keep the library where it is and it was an impossible task. The only way for it to be recognised was if we joined the Labour party. Why wasn't the petition at the Library many of the users are not internet users that is why they still need Library books not e books.

As long as it isn't smaller then it was before, it's fine.

It won't be as big as where it is now. It's a further walk. It will not be as nice.

The library is in a prime place within the town. It is a purpose made building. It is a criminal waste of money to knock it down & replace it with an open space & cafes. Use the money more wisely. I'm new to Redditch & it's unattractive. Tearing up the railway station & creating an open space with cafes won't change that.

The properties on Unicorn Hill & the general appearance is horrible. Run down, tired, in need of an upgrade. The alleyway leading into the Kingfisher Centre from near Santander, its vile. People gather there to smoke, I hate it. I prefer going into Bromsgrove.

I have lived in Redditch since [REDACTED] apart from seven years when I was working on [REDACTED]. The Library, along with Church Green and the immediate surrounding area have been rejigged, and then within a short space of time, the Council has wanted to change it all again on numerous occasions. In these particularly difficult times, where hospitality/eating venues are going to go into rapid decline, then I think the money the Council has received should go to improving the area by the bus/railway station and Unicorn Hill which are total eyesores and very uninviting to encourage patronage. A library within the Kingfisher Centre would be far better if you have to move it all as the Town Hall doesnt appear to have any parking next to it, other than what would probably be used for staff or people renting space there and it is cut off and set back from where most people are passing on foot. Its just completely the wrong location, too far from the transport hubs, shopping area and quite exposed if walking plus it is very lonely going through the underpass from teh shopping centre, a possible security issue for women and the disabled. Either leave it alone or move it into the Kingfisher.

Modernisation is good

Don't use the Library

It seems more cost efficient to only use one building instead of two.

The existing library can not fit into the town hall. Also many people have had negative experiences with council for one reason or another, the library in its current venue is a safe space , and you will remove that for many people

Why move what's not broken. We do not need more retail space with the town empty of any decent shops. Or move the cafe and the space into town hall

I dislike waste the library is fine as is The town centre could do without the dust and destruction

Has the town hall become available because most of Redditch council as been moved to Bromsgrove and you want use up the space left behind. That part of Town will be deserted when Wetherspoons closes and if it wasn't for the library being were it is, now there is no market it would be another big empty space whatever the new plan suggest

Can't see why money wasted in these times. Library in a lovely place where it is now.

As long as the service does not reduce I have no objection

£9m+ cost to move the library 100 yards seems nonsense? It was planned at first with no idea where the library was going to be housed. To build another building in the same spot, with the issue of renting out units etc seems ridiculous when there are other empty units around already. Sadly it comes across as a vanity project, surely there would be better uses for the money in these times (yes I know these funds are specific through the Towns Fund).

As somebody who working within Construction as a Designer this is such a bad investment in the Redditch Town centre. All of the new housing developments and lack of facilities or infrastructure to cope with this is silly! Of all the closing shops and dead atmosphere in the town centre.. an open pavilion around £4 million is not a sustainable or sufficient idea at all.

I think the money could be better spent. We have a perfectly good library.

I don't agree on the library being knocked down at a cost of £4.2m and erecting a building in it's place with 3 more cafes and office space when there is loads of empty places that can be used with out this huge cost. To move the livrary to the Town Hall at an additional cost of £5.2m through the sale of Redditch Borough Council community assest would bring the total cost to nearly £10m. We have more important things for the town that need money put into. Even after selling off council assets - it would likely not raise enough funds for the Town Hall Library Project, meaning even more valuable Community assets would

need to be sold. There is concerns that there isn't enough space for the full relocation of the archives which are priceless to the history of our town. It doesn't add up and once again feels like the council are making changes that many residents don't want.

Distance isn't far away between the old location and the proposed new location

Should not happen. The library is a purpose built building that has already cost the council money to build. It is a hub of the community and central to the town. It's an asset that needs to be kept.

Cafes and squares are not innovative and do not promote innovation and prosperity

The current location is accessible. It needs its own building. The money spent demolishing and relocating could be used on investing in the library and improving services. It's a waste of time and money. It takes away a space that people can meet in, read, sit down etc. without the expectation of spending money.

It is a complete waste of money, it's further away from the buses - OAPs can't always walk far. The current property is a good solid building.

We currently have 3 floors, a position that is accessible to many people, a position that is big enough to be able to dedicate space to study, online use, children's services etc. There are so many amazing add on events that the library regularly runs. A lot of these are aimed at children and are instrumental in getting children, some of whom do not even own one book, to explore the world of reading. It also is a safe space for many of us. Somewhere where we can be quiet, safe and relax. There are so many different ways that this library has made itself a crucial hub in the town

Would there be access to all levels for disabled visitors. Will the printing facility still be available. Will there be the same amount of books

Redditch does not need more office space that will be hard to rent nor does it need more cafes.

The library is purpose built. It should be improved but not knocked down. Total waste.

The cost involved is far greater than the benefit from this movement, we could use that money to support more shops in the kingfisher centre and a vast proportion of that money should be used towards business rates and bring M&S , and high street brands back.

Not accessible enough also not good area for older people to get there

The library was purpose built. Is fully accessible and in a suitable location. The proposed move is none of these.

The previous questions listing all the different services offered by the library say everything you need to know. Redditch Library is currently able to offer this incredible list of services in no small part due to the floorspace it has. Its prominent location on the square makes it visible and inviting to passers by. As soon as you reduce its size and tuck it away in an off-the-beaten-path building which is, let's be honest, not exactly 'inviting' the library will wither and die. Footfall will reduce, services will dwindle and it will fall into disuse. Shame on this council for even considering this course of action.

I don't like that in the current library I have to use a lift to get the pushchair to the children's books. Moving the library gives the opportunity for this to change.

It will cost us money and not be adequate to house the library and all current services

This is a purpose built building. Tucking it into another building would be a step in the wrong direction. And it smacks of more dilution of public services.

Its fine where it is Why use space in the Town Hall ? Is the Town Halk too big ?

Close to original site and parking near. Also close circular bus route.

The library is purpose built and an ideal place where it is, It's a waste of taxpayers money, They are using the town hall for other purposes to justify keeping it It is becoming an empty building so get rid of that instead

What is going to be in the space left after library has gone,nothing that's what as my wife likes to say redditch gets it wrong again

To demolish our library is a complete waste of money. It contains a huge strong room for archives and artifacts, if these were moved to Worcester I would never see them again. We do not need anymore cafes the ones we have are slowly closing down. The idea of creating a plaza, will be a white elephant. Town hall is out of the way for carrying books. To demolish our lovely library is a crime.

The current location is good. We do not need a social spac with more food outlets - ther are usually empty shops in the town centre + future energy costs / rental rates are not conducive to increasing town shops etc

The library, where it stands, is in a good location for where I need. I use the disabled parking which is situated nearby and without this, I would struggle to use the library. It is a great location, space and the layout is perfect.

I think The current library should be left in situ.

It's set in the middle of the town and the problem with our town is two many coffee shops and we haven't a decent market since you changed the town centre

Town Hall may seem a small difference but for those with mobility issues, elderly and young children and in bad weather it really isn't. The library has less and less books to borrow and actual floor space reduced. I feel that the move will be mean further cut backs.

The library is a dedicated central hub in the town for specific purposes, both digital access and face to face. There is space if there are shared facilities with Town Hall its purposes will be muddled. It's part of the towns town's heritage.

Not in centre of town . Disabled people without transport will find it difficult to get to the Library.

The reasons that I disagree is that the current library is a purpose built while the new location is not. The new location does not have the necessary conditions to store all the archive material. It is further out of the center, the current library is next to the shops.

The demolition of such a young building at a time when global emissions are high is a criminal waste of a resource. I was visiting it a couple of months ago and already it is sharing it's floor space with the job centre thus reducing the area for non fiction and research desks for visitors. There are many units in the Kingfisher Centre without tenants, there are many units in the town that are charity shops - the last stop before total disuse. What facilities are being lost in the Town Hall if the library is relocated there.

I do not feel the need for the relocation the idea it will promote footfall is pointless- if there were shops or services that the public desire they will walk that way - a good amount of people access the town via the underpass between the town hall and theatre anyway

Recently present library building been refurbished - reloc. is a waste of money

Cost v benefit

Don't think would be a good fit

Location is in ideal place where it is

The redditch library it set up in a perfect location. It is a building that is perfectly set up for its use. This should not be relocated due to astronomical cost. We have had 2 new coffee shops open up in the town centre a few meters from the library. The town doesn't not need anymore coffee shops or other useless space it needs a library which is free for all. The cost of living crisis means that more people need this library for communication and connectivity. What is the point in spend 4.5 million to move something it

does not make sense. This money could be better spent on community projects and providing additional equipment for those less fortunate during these tough times.

I disagree The library is a perfectly lovely building The town does not need any more cafe and shop, utilise the empty eyesore buildings that are already in the town The town does need the buildings that the council think they need to sell, the charities and businesses using these building can confirm this to the council if the council chose to LISTEN! Stop wasting money Please

I cannot see why a purpose built building will be emptied. I object strongly to any of Redditch historic archives being moved. The Town Hall is further away from the Kingfisher Centre which already has footfall issues. The distance may not seem much but for the elderly (biggest group of users) it is too far and slightly uphill to town.

The library is the heart of the town and the heart of the community and should stay in a central location

It seems your pushing away the library further away

I think the current location encourages more use. I and I think others may go into the town for other purposes and end up using the libraries services because I remember something I need on the way past.

I can't see what the problem is whether it stays where it is or moves a few yards way to the town hall.

Obviously a comprehensive research study has gone into this by professional people so we have to trust their judgement.

The present building was custom built as a Library and has had a lot of money spent on improving it over the years. Why waste money on demolition to satisfy some pipedream. I travel from Bromsgrove to use the Library.

Love the idea of a new hub

There is nothing wrong with the current building. This is simply a Conservative plan to make certain councillors money.

It can use unused space in the Town Hall and free up the footprint of the old building for other uses. The town centre looks like Beirut....

I don't see any advantage in demolishing and moving library anywhere. I, and my family, made good use of the library when children were young and I want the current generation to have the same opportunity as we did as a family

Where it is at the moment it is easily accessible to all, close to the town centre.

The proposed relocation is not far from its current location. The current library building occupies a prime site in the town centre which would be better used for retail / hospitality / events.

It seems a shame to demolish the existing library which is a viable building for which its carbon footprint has already been expended.

Building is out dated

A place of knowledge and peace that is useful for the community should always be placed as a priority over ANOTHER lack lustre café/restaurant/club. The town centre is dying, there are so many empty spaces and too many food places, why would you visit the town centre for those? The library gives the chance for the community to learn, to socialise, and to access resources which many are unable to in their own homes.

Waste of money. If there is space in the town hall then I suggest all staff stop working from home and return to the office where they have access to all systems

I disagree because the aims of the project (to create a cafe area and more retail space at the current library site) could be done at the town hall site instead without moving the library. More information, investment

and development of the town hall site is needed. What are the benefits for both sites? There does not seem to be enough gain. Think again and think bigger!

It's a part of history, I remember going when I was younger. It seems a waste of money to move the library when it is in a functional building.

The Town Hall is close to the library so it would still be easy to get to

It will be at the centre of the town

The investment will be wasted if we don't use it and the public hall is a better location for the library etc size wise etc

The space is not large enough to ensure that the all current services on offer are able to be kept exactly as they are at the new location. The new location is nowhere near as accessible for everyone as the current location is. Relocating is a massive waste of time and resources. The new plan for that area of the town centre is an environmental nightmare. It wastes lots of resources, will create pollution and extra emissions which will all be avoided if the town is left as it is and just cosmetic and maintenance work done to the current facilities. It is a massive waste of money and resources that could be better spent investing in services for the community. It will create disruption that will prevent many many people from using any of the library services of an extended period of time. The new location is not accessible to people with additional needs in the same way that the current location is.

I disagree that this proposed location is much further to walk and it's current location is perfect and ideal. With the library being the only thing attracting me into the town centre.

It's not for my future

In June 2021 Redditch Borough Council secured a historic investment of £15.6 million Town Deal funding which will help fund ambitious new projects for the town. If the library is being relocated away from the town centre instead of being placed more centrally it is clearly a casualty not a beneficiary of this 'investment'.

It is at the bottom of a hill and people with mobility issues will find it hard going back up the hill (especially in winter if snow/frost) the present one is handier for people traveling by bus as most terminate at the Kingfisher and only few go close to the town hall

Waste of taxpayers money. The building functions fine.

The existing location is fine! It's demolition to make way for other suggested interests to increase "footfall & Private investors" is laughable!!! Why not restructure the town hall which appears to be under used (from plans to restructure its use).. flats, meeting rooms, restaurants etc, all could be housed within the Town Hall with some thought & planning!!!!

The proposed development seems fine

the library is in an already perfect location to the shops. It is only a short walk from the indoor shopping centre. If it was in the town hall it is further to walk especially if it was pouring of rain and bad weather. Also, the services in library already meet people's needs. the library was refurbished not long ago. This would be a total waste of money relocating it when it is already in a prime position.

As long as we do not lose access or services I don't see the relocation as an issue.

Present location is convenient and have been improved in recent times. I have no doubt whatsoever that current services will become diluted if relocated, to the detriment of residents

Change needs to happen and it's a great opportunity to attract new business into Redditch. Providing that no library services are lost I'm open to the relocation.

waste of money no need to move, nothing wrong where library is currently located, money would be better spent on other things such as bringing back the outdoor market around church green.No

The library cost £550,000 under 50 years ago. This was a fortune then. The building is still viable. Knocking it down will create environmental waste. Knocking a building down when it is not worn out is financially wasteful. This is wasting taxpayers and ratepayers money. Also the library has some architectural significance, it was designed by the then well known architectural company, Madin architects. This company was associated with a number of prestigious buildings.

Inconvenient location

I don't think the library in its current position is any better than its intended relocation. I don't think the current building is particularly great to look at. A refurb is a good idea and being relocated a very short distance I do not see as an issue. I also like the thought of Redditch being revitalised and a eatery being established. We need more eateries and I agree the Church Green area is probably the best area to invest the money.

I disagree with the relocation of the library, as its present relocation is close to the main shopping area, and in a dedicated building. The proposed relocation is further from the shopping center, and if the weather is bad its relocation would not be ideal when walking in the open. The existing building while a few years old now is in excellent condition for its age, and internally the services still appear to give the required environmental requirements for a library. The costs to complete the plan could be used for better projects.

It waste money knock out library and Easy got to

It would be a waste of public money to demolish a perfectly adequate building and move library services further away from its present convenient location near the shopping centre.

In my opinion, if it isn't broken don't fix it. The Library has been there for all to use. I think it still looks a fine building and is clean and modern inside Easy to get around with plenty of space. The outside still looks quite modern with nice red brickwork, not covered with cladding. The library stands out with the lovely sign that's bright and easy to spot. Why not spend this money on pulling down the night club next to the Library { eye sore }, and the old Woolworths. And build a covered walk way from the Kingfisher Centre down to the Library entrance. Then people can come out of the centre under cover, and go to the café /bars that have replaced the nightclub { eye sore } and the old Woolworths. Maybe some thing for the younger generation, The Library is just outside the centre, the town hall isn't.

I think the amount of money it will cost to knock down and redeveloped the site a waste of tax payers money.

The current location is ideal and is close to the shops, the Town Hall is a bit out of the way, I usually use the library at Woodrow most anyway

Co-location of services is a sensible and pragmatic approach and should provide efficiencies for public sector services moving forward. This is really important during the current economic climate. Also, the opportunity presented by redeveloping the library site will ensure that the traditional town centre and the kingfisher can be better integrated.

You're selling off public assets to do it after you've just been given £15m. You're ■■■ with money and don't know what you're doing.

Waste of money which could be better spent to create space around the church green instead

The library is in a good position. I don't think we need any more cafes or restaurants. There are lots already. Could the money be used elsewhere

I don't think relocating would be a problem however from a cost point of view why move it why not develop the library as the hub of a new centre. Costs should be main criteria specially in these times of cut backs.

Who actually gives one just stop wasting money and put it towards youth clubs in society not teaching kids it's okay to have no social skills and if your scared shove your head in a book.

The location is not suitable. It's too far from the very centre of town. The current location is perfect, close to the college, public transport & the Kingfisher Shopping Centre.

The Library is a central hub for the Town Centre, people DO NOT want to walk in bad weather to the town hall. Where the Library is situated at the moment you can walk to easily while keeping within the main town centre area. Redditch DOES NOT need any more coffee shops, we have too many as it is, they are not very often full as they are also expensive

Moving the Library from the town hall is symptomatic of the decline of the town. Redditch is increasingly becoming the poorer relation in the ill conceived linkage with Bromsgrove.

I feel it is important that the library is located within the town centre. Although the proposed location is not as central as the current location it does not remove it from the town centre.

The plan will open up the town and allow for investment in other areas of the town, for everyone - not just library users. Whilst people are understandably worried by the change, to not do it and to lose £5m of investment elsewhere as a result is not a good enough reason.

The current building is in a great location and provides lots of other services within it.

All existing facilities will be included

It does not make sense to demolish a perfectly good, well used building to make way for cafes and office space. There are plenty of cafes available, mostly in the Kingfisher Centre. Building cafes outside of the centre will not necessarily entice people to the outside area. The £4.2m would be better spent in having a plan to make use of the empty buildings and office space that already exist on Church Green. There could be spaces made available to local entrepreneurs for example. There needs to be a little more imagination to these plans instead of wasting public money on a project that is not welcome and not needed in Redditch.

Pointless moving from a functioning building.

Great use of resources

The new location looks good

Total waste of the funding in the current economic climate, spend the money on producing green energy, e.g. plant some wind turbines, Redditch already has sufficient coffee shops, why would open space create more visitors to the town centre? We keep being told people are struggling to pay their way, so how can they go to restaurants and cafes. The current library is a comparatively new building, it managed to survive the last total flop created when the market square was demolished to make way for a market site which no-one would use because it acted like a wind funnel. That previous market square was completely functional and had businesses round the sides, including a food hall containing delicatessens and a gallery housing businesses. Pedestrians could move directly from the market into Marks & Spencer and other outlets. I mention these past changes to underline my thoughts that this current relocation appears to be someone's idea of aggrandizement. Perhaps the funding should be returned.

The town hall is bigger, enabling a community hub to be created which will better the residents of Redditch to have all services under one roof

concerned as what will happen to the present Redditch market

Better use of space which is now vacant at the Town Hall and the ability to release the current library space for social/leisure activities to create a town centre focus.

I would like the option of the library unlocked so that the opening hours are much more flexible to work better for me. I am also hoping that parking would be more readily available as I currently have to pay a lot of money to simply drop books off when they are due.

money could be far better spent elsewhere. we have a perfectly good library now. moving it will not provide a better library service... just cost a huge amount to have essentially the same service! silly. the space

won't be better used for anything else - the access to the kingfisher is not compromised by the library in any way. use the money to develop more grown-up facilities - such as decent restaurant or, better still, a piano bar or suchlike - try to attract a better class of visitor to the centre.

It's only down the road. I think it will allow for improvement in the town and the current library does not use all the space in the building anyway

It looks like a significant improvement to the town centre

A town library needs its own identity - not just some rooms in the town hall. Whilst the intention maybe for the space to be the same, the reality is that shared spaces can always be re-allocated according to perceived priorities. That cannot happen with a dedicated building.

The proposed site is unsuitable for a number of reasons: It is further away from the town centre for people to access - the library is currently quite central in the town centre, and should remain so. Being in it's own building allows the library to be its own entity, rather than being "tacked on" to the town hall. The library is currently incredibly popular, and the spurious reasons given for it's move are motivated by greed, money, the desire for councillors to "leave a legacy", and to remove a service that has benefited many people. The library service will suffer in its new location, and the councillors will deny any part in the loss of the library service in the future. This is removal of a service by wanton neglect.

Co location with other services is a good idea. More space would be good for events.

I feel the library is perfectly situated where it is

Redditch town centre has many empty premises, including food and drink businesses in this location that have closed leaving vacant properties. Develop the existing properties first. Fill those with thriving businesses before wasting money on building even more properties that will sit empty. If the current library needs money spent to improve it then do just that.

Agree along as its part of a stong, well thought through town plan. I am born and bred Reddirch and now in my 60's I've seen it all. The way things are going we would've been better off keeping the original town layout and as for the library, the original one is up for sale it's a beautiful building right in the centre of town with plenty of room for expansion.

I am opposed to the relocation of the library. The current site of the library acts as a central and natural hub for the town centre and the community of Redditch and I think that to demolish a perfectly good purpose-built library is not a good use of public funds. We already have more than enough cafe outlets within the vicinity of the town centre and the money should be allocated to more suitable projects to improve the appearance of the town.

There are more pressing needs for our Council to consider before spending such huge amounts of money on this move. The present location is perfectly suitable, and the move should not therefore go ahead

It is unnecessary expense as the library is well placed already, by moving it 'out of sight' to the town hall there will be less footfall and people are less likely to seek it out. It may not seem a great distance but those on foot, especially the disabled will be impacted. The plan to redevelop the existing library site for eateries etc is frankly ridiculous, there are numerous empty shops/units including the huge Debenhams store that should be utilised.

We have an excellent, well equiped library in an easily accessible position with the town. The building is in good, working condition, each section is easily identifiable. Over the years considerable amounts of funding have been used to achieve this.

The current location is more central. Why not include the library in the new plans for that area, creating a library with a community cafe that can be used to relax, read or study and enjoy a cup of tea or coffee and cake at the same time?

Have services in one location makes it easier for residents to get to the information they need.

Should make no great difference.

Not sure what the need is for the move of the library. It is currently in the central place where people can access and not hidden away when it will be moved to the town hall. Bit like when they moved the out door market to the place behind/besides the old Debenhams and no one ever used it as visitors would really need a reason to visit it. From what I hear there will be more food/coffee places where the library currently is. As good as that sounds, how many eating places do we need? The shopping centre is empty, go in for men's clothes and not many shops and lots of empty shops. There's more food places in the shopping centre area than things to shop for which is ridiculous!

There's nothing wrong with the purpose built building it is currently housed in. The proposed location is not purpose built and is in a part of town that has considerably lower footfall than the library's current location. It is further from public transport for most and further from the Kingfisher centre - I worry for those with reduced mobility who may struggle to access the services as easily and/or independently as they can now.

Redditch Borough Council continues to reduce services and lies about it. We lost Church Road Unemployment Benefit Office, Threadneedle House Unemployment Benefit Office, The Job Centre up by the ecumenical Centre, and the DHSS which occupied 4 full floors of St Stephens House. Now you want to shut the library and have us believe you can relocate the same square footage and facility in to the Town Hall. As they saying goes You can't get a Pint in a Quart Pot, so please stop lying. You have money to house illegal migrants so stop taking services away from tax payers. Close it at your peril and know that you lot will be voted OUT at the next election. You are all incompetent money grabbing [REDACTED].

unless you see something all the time (like where it library is at the moment) i think people are less likely walk all the way down the town hall, unless they park their car at that end of town and not being something all the time people will forget we have a library

As long as the proposals presented are implemented then the town will benefit. Creating a safe, sociable, green and clean space on the existing site is a good idea. I'm in favour as long as the library, auxiliary services and floor space are not diminished. Library's and library services are so important, especially to those who have very little by way of personal resources, ie computers, books and a quiet, safe space in which to study or just a calm place to be. We used the library more when our now grown up children were young, but the benefits and excitement of visiting the library and not knowing what books we'll come home with, is just as appealing today with our grandchild. In this time of technology and access to on-line books everything that can be done to maintain libraries should be explored. We have to promote using the services or sadly in time they will be lost.

The library has been specifically built to be a library. It is in a location that is not too far from public transport links. It is a lifeline for many community groups. There is no reason to move the library. If the council want to fill unused space in the town hall, perhaps they could site their plaza and cafés there?

The current library is fine - why change it? The town does not need more fast food stores or pubs. An increasingly rare example of brutalist architecture too. There are no benefits to closing it.

Current library in excellent position why spend millions when money could be spent elsewhere

The historic centre of Redditch needs revitalising. Recent events such as the food festival and Dining club demonstrate the potential but often feel squashed in. More open space would help and also open up the Kingfisher, which is very inward looking.

The proposed uses for the current site are unnecessary as similar facilities are already available in the town centre

If the same services will be available in a building only about 200 m away from the current Library that's fine.

It's fine where is is, waste of public money moving it

The library is currently ventral to the town, people won't use it if they have to go to the town hall

The library is currently in a more central location. It is one, if not the, most used library in Worcestershire. Moving the library will mean there will be less people using the library, and some of the services they currently offer will, no doubt be lost.

Already in a bright purpose built building. As funds limited I feel this decision is wrong. The move will not be without cost, there are many services that have a higher priority at this time.

The new location remains convenient. The planned developments sound progressive for the town.

It seems like the reason is to fill empty space in the town hall. It isn't environmentally friendly to demolish a building which serves its purpose adequately already. The library will be less visible to the public walking by. The town hall is more of an adult space and I don't think it is welcoming to children like the current library is.

new location involves steep hills if accessing from a bus or crossing fast moving traffic to carpark so difficult for disabled or unsteady walking or even those with pushchairs - the old location could be reached from bus at the top of Alcester Street and then level and lifts to bus station or level from college area carparks. or carpark 2. I cannot see any benefit to the move, only a complete waste of money, a serious environment impact in dismantling a perfectly good building and altering another building (the Town Hall) which could be used for other services like the displaced Easemore Rd charities, the Job Centre (which links better to council services like housing and rate reduction for made unemployed, and the Citizens Advice Bureau, or even the Tourist Information Centre which takes a great deal of finding in the theatre. Maybe some of the town hall would even make good studio apartments with drop down bed - again ideal for those needing access to the NHS services to be put in the townhall (ie homing drug users or those losing jobs and home due to ill health or new mums or just those ready to leave home but not yet earning enough to rent privately or buy. The aim would be cheap accommodation with tiny fuel bills so that people can improve themselves, save money and hop up the property ladder from their own tiny space. Being so close to the drug clinic, it should be possible to give home support to those trying to kick a habit (much better than trying to lure them to treatment when they might want to borrow a library book as Mr Dormer suggested on Hereford and Worcester radio) The idea of more offices when St Stephens is empty and Grosvenor house advertising units to let is laughable. We do not need more eating places, but if we did, there is more than adequate space using the space behind the library and the old market square, not to mention adding terraces to the eating places on Unicorn Hill. (one needs to bear in mind that Weatherspoons is closing a pub because Redditch cannot sustain two eating/drinking venues so their unit is already available for conversion. The library acts, where it is as a draw to shoppers. Take it downhill of the town and people will not bother to shop, just get a bus home from Ipsley Street or get back in their car having shopped at Lidl's. Leaving a square? Crazy - have you looked at the eyesore frontage to the Kingfisher Centre currently hiding behind the library - certainly doesn't encourage further exploration. During redevelopment, Alcester Street must become a "no go zone" which will damage trade and maybe totally kill off Edos' and the charity shop's trade

Total Waste of Council Tax payers money to demolish a building that is attractive and structurally sound

I disagree with a new location for the library, as there is no obvious reason for the library to move from its current location. The arguments I have heard for moving the library are weak, and without justification. One argument I have heard is to increase the night time economy. The plans for some new business premises is unjustified, as there are many empty units already in the area that could be repurposed to kick start a night time economy. The second argument I have heard is to create a feature entrance to the kingfisher centre. The Kingfisher centre is primarily served by the bus station and adjoining car parks. People entering the kingfisher centre will therefore be, on the whole, using those avenues rather than a pedestrian access. A third argument I have heard is trying to create a cafe culture in the area. I agree that it would be a nice feature for Redditch, and done correctly (ie offering something new and unique) could bring people into the area, but as with the first argument, there are already empty units, in the area, so why are the council not simply encouraging businesses to use what we already have? Building a few units on the site of the library has absolutely no guarantee of kick starting any shift in economic fortunes. If it hasn't been able to happen with current unused units, why would it happen with the proposed new units? And lastly, in a time when we are acutely aware of anthropogenic climate change, the building sector is "currently responsible for 39% of global energy related carbon emissions: 28% from operational emissions,

from energy needed to heat, cool and power them, and the remaining 11% from materials and construction". We should not be adding to the embodied carbon footprint of the town for a project that it not needed.

Don't think it will be the same experience

The cost

Redditch library is currently a purpose built library, there is no need to waste money redeveloping it. Invest the money in other projects and leave the library alone.

If it makes sense for the Redditch Town Plan then I think it should move as it is still equally accessible.

The building is sound. The public sector investment in the construction, maintenance and continuing use of this building is obvious. There is a case to be made for an independent and completely disinterested view of these proposals. As a former Hereford and Worcester CC employee who had an interest in the building and library services I would be more than ready to contribute to an independent and neutral review.

The library is in an ideal location for easy access especially from the Kingfisher shopping centre. The town hall would be too far for some people to walk too. The library was recently refurbished and it would seem a waste of money to knock it down.

Library should remain in its current purpose built location

I understand that the library currently rents out space in its existing building and uses that funding to support the library function. I understand that the library will lose this income when they move to a new space. Can WCC reassure residents that this income will be coming from elsewhere and that the library service will not actually be seeing a cut in funding, whether in Redditch or elsewhere across the library network. I note that councillors dodged that question when asked, stating that the library budget will not decrease. This is not the same as confirming there won't be a massive cut due to loss of external income. I presume the cost of moving the library will come from the £15.6m Town Deal, but what about the long term security of the library service?

The current location is perfect for all to use the services offered. It is centrally situated and accessible and visible for all residents to use. The building is fit for purpose and an award-winning building, being less than 50 years old. The town hall was not built to house a library and it is highly likely if this plan goes ahead less people will make use of it. I do not think that more office space is needed in the town centre as there is plenty of unused office space elsewhere in the town e.g. Church Hill, next to the Oast House, there is an empty office building. I also do not think there is a need for another cafe in the town as there are several others nearby who are struggling.

You have given me no information as to what the "Redditch Town Plan" (capital letters noted) entails and a quick internet search returns a local newspaper article about the railway station, a Young Conservative Facebook screed about Mappleborough Wood, some 15 year old PDFs and a load of obvious spam. Based on this I can have no opinion either way.

It's not in the centre of the town. Not as easy access. Doesn't believe town hall is big enough for all services that operate in the current library.

Out of the way, bottom of a hill. Doesn't see reason for knocking purpose built building down.

It's easy and near safe open good Location..

Access for senior citizens is difficult. Not convenient and no comparison with present site.

The unnecessary cost. A perfectly good building close to the centre is better than a costly change to a more out of the way location.

It is an inconvenient location. From my limited knowledge of the Town Hall, I do not believe at all that it can COMFORTABLY accommodate ALL of the present attributes of the current library location. The current

location is excellent, and much easier to get to from the centre. The current building is also excellent, and should be protected and retained.

I am personally not against the library being relocated as it does not involve the facility being removed from its town centre location. However, for library users who have disabilities access may be more difficult. At the current location there are disabled parking spaces close by which enable some users to access the library more easily. They would need to walk a longer distance from these spaces to the library were it to be relocated to the proposed site. This may prove extremely difficult for some users and potentially prevent them continuing to use the facility.

The council cannot even produce timely effective financial results and I have no confidence that they will keep their promise to ensure that the relocated will be equal to or greater in "footprint" than existing. Does the Town need a piazza? Existing footfalls can't even make Wetherspoons financially viable!!!! More fast food / coffee shops ???unsustainable surely

The library is fine where it is in a very central position it is very accessible to all. With the current financial position the town is in the money could be put to better use. We do not need any more cafes there are plenty of empty units that could be converted to make the area opposite the church more inviting.

The proposed site is not a short walk away and the building is not designed as a library. The present location is a very short walk from the covered shopping centre and covered car parks. The proposed building has only the virtue of being under used. It is not part of town centre hub.

The current library site is too big and never busy when I walk past it most days and would be better used as a supermarket. Moving it to the town hall is an excellent idea

I cannot see why you taking down such a lovely building

There is no logical reason to demolish this purpose built building to create space. There is plenty of space that is only being used to walk through to get from A to B

It's an absolutely crazy idea. Leave the library where it is, and extend it. It is only the most recent Town Plan that proposes moving the library. Spend the money far more wisely. And IF the library does get moved - then it'll be another waste of money to demolish the building.

This is not a good use of money which is much needed for other support services in Redditch. We have a perfectly good library in a good location already. I cannot see any benefits to this proposal. Use the empty offices in the Town Hall to house support services, e.g. CAB. Provide us with a reception area for the initial contact to signpost the public to the services provided by the Council.

Accessibility, easy to reach, in its current location/

I believe the library should be left where it is as its a separate entity to the council offices. The space is important. Community should come over profit

this question is not quite right. the library does not need to be relocated to allow for the redditch town plan to be realised. You should not be putting loaded questions in here that are not exactly true. the plan can be realised in a number of ways without moving the library and wasting millions of pounds of tax payers money and creating a massive and unnecessary carbon footprint. the paving around the library was only done last year at an immense cost and this will be destroyed and the library itself was only redone internally 4/5 years ago again at a great cost - what a waste of our hard earned money!

I think it's a complete waste of money to change the library, as it has been perfect to use and is still perfect now. If it's not broken, don't mend it, please.

The proposed location is not central in the town. This is likely to discourage people from using the library, in particular those who are less readily mobile than most others.

I am a [REDACTED] homeowner who lives about [REDACTED] walking distance west of the current library building. I've visited the current library building several times. Unfortunately, it is a pitiful, outdated eyesore

that does not serve the community in Redditch as it should and exacerbates the severance issues between the closed-off Kingfisher Centre and the open air of the high street / church area. Therefore, it makes complete sense to relocate the building to the Town Hall. I completely, wholeheartedly agree with the proposals. Please ensure that as part of this consultation you capture the views of younger people and give them an appropriate weighting in your considerations. Otherwise, as is typical, there will be disproportionate representation of older people who are opposed to any change just on principle alone and refuse to acknowledge that this development is logical and would be of clear benefit to the town centre and residents of Redditch.

Don't fix what isn't broken! The library is in a great position. Easy access, can see it from a distance. Close to other amenities. Putting it in Town Hall will make it invisible and nobody will go!

library is ok where it is, make the plaza in stranz square, open up to the old market square.

I think it's a waste of money.

to knock down a perfectly good building makes no sense, we have enough empty property in and around the main high street as it is, could these not be converted for cafes, entertainment etc

The existing location is perfect

If there is no reduction in the services, or the size and choice of the reading material. A modernization of the library would be a welcome change

Redditch library and its building are a cornerstone of Redditch town centre. It is a purposefully designated building for all the services it provides and its location is far more immediately accessible from the town centre and the bus station, particularly of importance to people who mobility and access and within walking distance.

My principle objections are: Financial - in a time of severe financial constraint, the cost of library re-location & demolition is simply not warranted. There are far more pressing needs in the town that require investment. Environmental - demolition of a perfectly sound building, which is fit for purpose, is not a sustainable approach to the provision of this public service. Strategic - against the background of the two previous points, there is no strategic advantage to be gained by the demolition of the existing library, and the creation of the proposed 'piazza'. If RBC is seeking to improve the links between the Kingfisher Centre & Church Green, this could be achieved by improvements to the short section of Evesham Street leading from Church Green to the Kingfisher, and to the link from Market Place, west of the Library, to the Kingfisher Centre entrance.

The town hall isn't a very aesthetically pleasing building and a lot of people don't want to step foot in the town hall if they can help it

The town center does need work to make it a nicer place.

Library is a purpose build building, only a few years older than town hall with very easy access to disabled parking. Town hall is not suitable for a lot of people, including myself to walk to, complete waste of money to demolish it & move it to less suitable place

Several reasons! A large majority of residents opposing this, The benefit to cllr Matt Dormer and his plant hire company, The political agenda, The environmental affects, The unnecessary costs, The potential downsizing, The records in the basement, The upset to residents routine, The busy-ness that would be in the new library, The area for proposed café- doesn't make sense, we have cafe spaces, all seems a money grabbing idea, The beautiful, vintage library building, The list goes on

New plans are not suitable for Redditch, Waste of money, you need to spend money for the homeless and vulnerable, there's more and more on the streets who do not have a shelter

I don't use the library

The town hall isn't the right placw

There is nothing wrong with the purpose built library. I do not agree that facilities would be improved by the move.

I work full time and already struggle to get to the library as often as myself and m6 daughter would like. Moving it would increase this difficulty as it would be even more out of our way. I believe this is a complete waste of mone6 and resources as the library is sufficient where it is.

Complete waste of money no need to destroy a perfectly good building and we do not not need more empty shops. Crackpot idea

The Library is a purpose built building, with the town archives in the basement. The town hall does not have the correct facilities or space to house the archives so these will be lost to Worcester. The proposal intends to replace the Library with an empty space, there is plenty of space in the town centre, we do not need more.

I think if the service is improved in the moving to the town hall then it's a good idea

too far away from other amenities, Library is more welcoming, than the town hall

We have a purpose built library in an excellent location. It is important to the community to maximise the opportunity for learning in what can be considered a deprived area. The market was moved and was not supported by the council. It looks like the same will happen with the library. The Alex has lost vital services. None of this reflects well on the council.

It's just not needed and we will lose half the archive to Kidderminster

It would appear that the Town Hall is not used to its fullest extent and although there may have been a case made for the demolition of the Library I fear it is a red herring. As Bromsgrove & Redditch are working together in the Council the best option would be to move Bromsgrove Council to be with Redditch that is if there is not too much objections from Bromsgrove because I fear there would be.

There is nothing wrong with the present library. The Town Hall will be too far for people with disabilities (like myself) to walk to. Relocating and knocking down the library is a total waste of public money.

I only agree if this include free disabled parking

A complete waste of money, Just to appease the kingfisher cente owners

As long as the services remain the same it doesn't matter which building it's in

Didabled donr want walk extra distance. Its out of town centre area. We dont need anymore cafes bars that redditch cant support. We are not as affluent such ad Solihull. Several premises nearby keep failing closing.

Redditch is a purposed built library, that is in a position. I fear it will lose a lot of custom if it moves. It is wrong to demolish a perfectly good building. There are of plenty of cafes and bars already in Redditch.

nothing wrong with presant location

It's better where it is

The library is in a great location and to knock it down and move/rebuild it is a total waste of taxpayers money when it can be spent on more important projects

We have a fabulous space now why ruin it. Why are you intent on ruining this town even more

Why waste money on a public square. Redevelopment of town centre shopping area should be a priority. Lowering rents to encourage further traders and visitors to the centre. Empty buildings around the centre should be further developed into eateries community and social areas.

No archive in proposal

Waste of money library is amazing and fine where it is

The council want to turn library building into flats

There is no justification to spend obscene amounts of money altering worthless, contemporary buildings. There are a lot of historic, original buildings along there and these should be protected before encouraging more pubs and cafes. Turn the town hall into the pubs and cafe plaza and protect the church green.

I can't see where the council have the space to put the library into the Town Hall.

Well start off by looking at making shop fronts look better moving a library isn't gonna do that but suppose MATT DORMER only cares about filling his pockets while lying to people. You don't care about people's thoughts only your own.

The library is fine where it is .what is the point of knocking it down and more empty space.there is plenty of dead space when they knocked all the shops down for the kingfisher. After that the market which was one of the best went down gill rather fast.

Further for people to walk ie disabled people, mother's with prams. Further to walk with heavy library books to the bus station or car parks, meaning the residents will stop borrowing books and people falling behind on their literature. It's a very quiet part of Redditch town and can be lonely and not welcoming.

The council building is not welcoming. The library & the promotion of reading, community, love of books to children, can only happen in a library. A building solely for the purpose of being a library. We are a growing town, not a shrinking village.

It's near to me so that I can use the service. Also much easier parking facilities will be available.

We have a perfectly good library. We can use the money better elsewhere. We do not need more units when the kingfisher is already empty

What's the point moving it down road to council what a waste of money my flats full of damp I'm a Tennant fix your council property's before doing something nobody wants the council to do everybody I spoke to say leave it where it is. I have attended computer course and Iso mental health one as I suffer mental health. Let redditch library stay where it is no reason to move it council's wants more bars up town but isn't up to people of town to make that choice

This town has limited spaces ie limited amount of residential properties limited resources limited residents with ever increasing limited resources I cannot see how creating a new hub for socialising and spending can address the fact that the residents that will ultimately use these new facilities will have any more spending power than they physically can have given the current economic crisis of inflation so yes the funding has been allocated all good and well will it create a town on par with international spending power of course not it's a town not a city if we look at ons we can see the statistics in the local plan 2020 to 2025 the eastern gateway ie the Amazon site yielded 187 million was it a success yes for Big corp ... did the buck stop there yes it coulda been worth over a billion correctly managed .. look at the real estate that could have been built !! But all that precious green belt yet again destroyed for a delivery company called amazing or Amazon or something nothing amazing about that was is created during lock down and now in full fledge our public services are limited in Redditch we should not go down a route of creating a ghost economy when the demand is not really there just like ghost projects everywhere naming China and Middle East real estate projects building shells and think for a miracle all in the name of real estate market Redditch police will be taxed so will NHS services like ambulances accidents and emergency services fire services for more issues related to them all for a projected rental income for this new floor space with new hustle and bustle sounds like a ghost project seeing is believing let's see seems like it's a pocket lining exercise I would love to see which company has the demolition rights and which company has the planning rights building rights and ownership rights will these be available also seeing that Redditch council has its intention to serve its residents in creating this amazing new mega entertainment Center of sorts

The library is fit for purpose

The cost! The position of the proposed new library site, it is farther away. The library is fine as it is, all that money could be spent on things that residents really need. The council never listen to what we need or want.

Less accessible Less visible to passers by Loss of status Free services will be provided The revenue from current library site will be repurposed elsewhere not back into the library Depletion of library catalogue

The library is fine where it is, it has always been there and has so much resources that cater to the towns needs.

Disgraceful waste of money, to provide unnecessary resources.

What is the purpose for moving it? What will be done with the land/current building. The Town Hall doesn't have the same feel as the library and is a newer building. If the plan is to knock it down and build there what are we losing as a town because of this?

The cost of demolishing the library and relocating it is a waste of money. The library is perfect where it is.

Utilizes spare space in Town Hall and opens up a redundant area for social amenities.

It is not central to the town centre and is harder to get to for those with limited mobility

The current venue is purpose built

I think it needs to stay in the center of town a To be seen, and accessed by passing trade

Should stay where it is .the council will only make it into flats? if it happens why not undercover market

Stop destroying the library when it is fine where it is. That town hall could be used as a separate study centre/resource centre but why waste money trying to relocate it when ur works where it is. Redditch has not progressed to its potential and that's a dire shame. Leave the library alone!!!!

Whilst I'm not against the library move as such I don't believe knocking it down to create more units for leisure is a good idea. There are already far too many empty units in that area that have not had tenants for years so why create more units there when the current ones can't be let?

The library is limited as it is. Moving it is only going to make it worse

the library building is pupas built to look after the books unlike the town hall . Why spend a vast sums of money destroying a building and ,disposing of the waste to create an empty space. Use the money to create something new and useful .

I disagree with the move of the library, it is in an accessible place right next to the Kingfisher Centre and is a building of its own. It does not need to be moved, there are plenty of other things the council can do to improve the town without wasting taxpayers money on something that doesn't need to be done.

I see no reason to move it. It's easily accessible and has been fine where it is since it's been established.

Decreased accessibility - it is easy whilst in town to drop into the library - the town hall is some distance with no parking facilities.

waste of money

I believe that by relocating the library, it will allow for the current building to be demolished, creating a more open space that will be visually appealing and a more attractive open place as per the proposals.

Waste of Money, the money could be used to enhance the whole of Church Green, with empty retail units going to wrack & ruin. The Library needs to stay where it is with its own independent identity.

What is wrong with where it is...why do we need more commercial development when the kingfisher shopping centre Inuits aren't fully occupied...do we really need more coffee shops?

Because there is nothing wrong with where it is.

The amount of space in the library is fantastic and probably under utilised- it's a safe space for people that is familiar. We really don't need more restaurants that no one is going to visit - there just isn't that much spare cash around for most people at the moment. Get a social enterprise cafe up & running in the library, I have seen loads of these in other libraries that are so popular- have a library shop and encourage more meetings & activities in the the current building. Let's have a well-being area with resources, plants, mindfulness classes. I went into the library when I was out of work due to ill health and I got amazing help and advice with updating my CV and how to improve my confidence and make job applications- I owe the library service a debt of gratitude.

The library is absolutely fine where it is. The Canopies is beginning to serve its purpose - the entire space does not need to be opened up. Bring the market back outside, people will use it. Leave the library which is much loved & used alone. This whole 'project' is the brain child of people who do not have the true interests of residents at heart and sought election for their own gain.

The library is easily accessible in the area it is in now. It makes me feel safer for it to be in its current area, close to my car and nearer to the main shopping centre so there are plenty of people around. I don't like the idea of it being at the town hall - that makes me feel unsafe, and it would also make my family feel unsafe.

Why does the library need to be moved? (Rhetorical question! Because there's no answer that makes sense). There's less footfall towards that area of the town, the library being nearer the shopping centre encourages more people (of all ages, not just the older generation) to use it and with it being closer to the shops it makes it more accessible. Also, the library is known for its placement in our town, moving it would be confusing and less people will care to go if they don't know the placement.

The library is a central location that is easily accessible to all of the people of Redditch. It is a positive focal point in the otherwise failing town centre. When the market existed in Redditch together with the library created a buzz that the town now sadly lacks. If the library moves it may disappear in the cob webbed town hall. In a recent visit to the town hall shocked me as there was no sign of human life it seems like a vast cavern of past prosperity. I see no reason for it to move into a soulless building that is tucked away out of sight. It seems like a waste of tax payers money to demolish a perfectly good building. Please listen to the people of Redditch and understand that a library should stand alone giving it the pride and importance that it deserves.

Blatant waste of tax payers money

It's fine as it is and an absolute waste of money

This is just a vanity project for Councillor Dormer, he should focus on the financial mis management of the Council under his watch. The library is in a purpose built building close proximity to the town no need to relocate it.

I disagree with moving the library at all.

I disagree with the proposal for a new location. The proposed location for the resited library is smaller than the existing building. There will inevitably be a reduction of resources. The Town Hall is quite a bit further away from public transport than the library is now and crucially it is downhill meaning that people with restricted mobility have to climb a hill to get back to their bus. I hope that the decision makers will put themselves into the shoes of someone with a mobility or visual impairment and carry out a site visit

My recollection is that the Library was quite unwieldy previously, with lots of stairs and lifts that didn't always work well. The new location would be a great opportunity for a fresh start.

To move a perfectly good library about 200 metres is a complete waste of money. Spend it on improving other services that redditch people don't have or aspects of the town centre.

Redditch library has been there all my life, it's a fantastic service and moving it to the town hall will be its downfall. It will inevitably get smaller and services will be lost. It's already a disgrace that the library has been taken over by the job centre. The library should be protected.

I would prefer to use a purpose built facility, rather than amend the use of the town hall

waste of money

[REDACTED]

Whilst the town hall May offer enough space (just about), the current library space is ideal - why change something that does not need changing? It's accessible enough inside and on reaching it from the bus stops too for those with mobility challenges. The town hall should be kept separate for town hall events and not mix up the two things. A town's library is so important and deserves to be prioritised- it's far too "out of the way" at the town hall and I feel sure that they would have far fewer people visiting down there.

As long as the existing facilities remain available and the space for books is maintained, it makes sense to combine the library with other community services.

The proposed new site will not serve the community as well as the current location in terms of size and location/convenience.

There is no need to spend the money to move a perfectly functioning library.

I think the library's building is just perfect for this function and it is plenty of money to move it somewhere else. It is also possible that the library will be lose some of it's members specially from the lower educated ones who really need an inspiring environment. I suggest to use the old market place area to build something new as that pretty large space not really used recently. And I also think it would be cheaper too.

The redditch library has always been such an iconic building for the town centre so it will be such a sad event to see it getting demolished. However redditch town centre has been slowly dying a death over the past years with empty shops and units round every corner. so personally I think the centre needed a massive rethinking and restructuring to be able to survive and bring new life into the town

Further away from main centre not as convenient

redditch need modernising and investment

less and less usage so move to a redesigned, fit for purpose smaller location.

I think it is not the right time to be spending tax payers money especially in this economic climate. The use of the library is sufficient for our town.

The convenience of being next to the Kingfisher shopping centre will inconvenience a lot of old people who come for help with the digital champion

I disagree because we have seen so many services cut, and it is central to the town.

The main point is that the multi million pound spend has not been justified by either added services at a new library or new replacement feature. No benefit/improvement to library and location is further away from town centre...Spending a large amount to keep services similar is not sensible. There would be less passing traffic as library less obvious than now. I can see there might be an initial improvement in visitor numbers as any change might temporarily create curiosity (And theory says any change can improve performance in a business setting) but the risk is then a drop off as it would be further away from the centre. I can see how it would reduce costs overall, as town hall utilisation increased. The case for some Cafe/external square proposed in its place has not been made. The idea seems insufficient to attract new visitors to Redditch, or to get existing visitors to spend more. There are a lot of Coffee shops, cafes, fast food outlets now (though few independent like "Aroma", "Rileys"), I know there is a risk that the £10M earmarked would be lost but I would rather that money was not wasted and spent elsewhere: a summary
STRENGTHS: Chance to create a new feature?(unproven), Less costs as one less building to maintain, no reduction in library services/floorspace. WEAKNESSES: New position further from centre (less passing 'traffic'), No improvements to library, Disruption, Cost of move, new Cafes - case not proven (may take business from existing outlets) , missed opportunity to create new attraction-eg improve library (Books, magazines, lectures) something to increase visitors to Redditch....I go to Birmingham primarily to access its Library to access investment magazines/papers and spend money when I'm there...Redditch does not have such items (or Worcester) now, no financial times or quality newspapers....

I was there when QEII opened this purpose-built building. It has been refurbished over the years and is just perfect. Its location is perfect for me, I now use a blue parking badge and can park 10 metres from the entrance. We have been told lies about the building's condition. It is NOT falling down as Mr Dormer states. I have been told by a trustworthy source that there is a leaky window somewhere. So one has to wonder why this proposal? MD owns a construction vehicle company. He would no doubt be profiting personally if this proposal went ahead. The conservative-led council is already in trouble with financial mismanagement- section 24 is it? We do not need an empty space there- a conservative councillor told me they were trying to create an area like Centenary Square in Birmingham. How ridiculous. The town hall is really out-of-the-way. Most people visiting the town centre park in the kingfisher car parks I expect. A lot of them will be put off walking an extra 200m(there and back) to go to the library in all weathers. People LOVE this library, every time I go in it is buzzing with activity. It was purpose-built by a renowned architect. These Conservatives will be out at the next election - they are trying to get while the getting's good. This is the only explanation. Please re-consider

The library is currently in an excellent position for everyone to use. Some people will be put off going into the town hall. In the cost of living crisis why should the council waste millions of pounds when this money should be going to local people who really need it and not this useless and unnecessary and unwanted waste of money project.

Because it's an investment on the town and future

It will increase the footfall at a part of Redditch which is currently not very popular and hopefully breathe life into the unused area.

The library is an eyesore where it is

Much better situated and more fit for purpose ,current library is outdated

I think it's a great idea to realised to fund further development

Anything to improve the town is important to me

Good to keep the library an asset for the town and the next generation of learners

I recently rediscovered the library, love taking my grandson to choose books. The proposal is forward thinking, we need change to encourage people into the centre and make better use of public buildings.

Disagree moving would dilute the facilities of the library

It will give the area a new lease of life, and will allow the provision of quality entertainment - hospitality spaces.

As long as the resources remain in the Town Centre I don't see an issue in moving it.

It's very close to existing site. Facilities will be concentrated in one place and there will be no change to the services provided.

Uses empty/unused space in the town hall which then frees the current library for another use to benefit the town

It's not too far away

It won't be far from the old library site and will have better Access for disabled people as it sounds like it will all be on one level.

It is a profoundly crazy idea. Leave the library where it is. In fact remove the JobCentrePlus and other stuff and increase the area inside for library use and provide PRIVATE study facilities like it used to have.

This proposal is silly, stupid, and a total waste of money.

New location not so central . There are enough empty shops in the centre already , we don't need more . The atmosphere in the library is great , a buzz of activities for all ages . If it ain't broke , it don't need fixing . Leave well alone , or the people of Redditch will live to regret it

I feel it would bring more service users down towards the palace theatre meaning this area would benefit. The current library is ugly and narrow the alcester steet area. I'd like to see a more open space as proposed

I support the wider regeneration of the town centre and understand the relocation of the library can help to facilitate this.

The location of the library is perfectly placed already. Was that location not promised forever by someone that it would always remain where it is? We don't need more empty shops coffee clothing

I do not see any tangible benefit to the proposals. The library's current position encourages footfall and easy access. The high street already has empty units which are needing to be filled, which could be repurposed for other uses.

The library is an important building and provision for the people of Redditch, moving it into the town hall will diminish it and it will lose its cultural importance.

It is not easily accessible it's currently nt location is also good for parents going tio shop to leave children in safe environment. It is a complete waste of tax payers money when it could be spent on empty shops etc what is the point of even more units competitions with struggling business s !!! Do not think all the facilities will be retained this is a Mr Dormer ego trip !!!

Unnecessary.....it be replaced by something not needed

The library building is the heritage of Redditch and represents a recognised landmark which should be preserved and valued. Not to be bulldozed to a space which represents no value to the town or its residents.

The proposed cost of relocation

I don't think it would be a good idea to move the library

It's in the perfect location right next to the shopping precinct.

Leave it where it is. Waste of money moving it

I wish to express my severe objection not just to the proposals to relocate the Library service to the Town Hall but also the proposal that the existing Library should be demolished. I believe very strongly that the current Library should remain and contend that there is no justified benefit to the community to it being demolished to create a new plaza and Kingfisher entrance. My objections are based upon the following. The existing library service is functioning very well where it is, it's well used, partly because of its central location in the town and partly to the staff & facilities in the current building. Moving the service to the town hall will move it from a central location and make it harder to reach, particularly for older residents and those traveling into town on public transport. The services in the current building have been "honed" over the years to the excellent facilities available today and moving would disrupt them. The building itself is purpose built as a library being designed by a renowned international architect, John Madin. The building was built as part of the New Town development in the 1970s. It is representative as a building "of its age" and indeed was recently included as such in a survey by Historic England of significant twentieth century architecture in Worcestershire. That listing being part of a survey carried out by Worcestershire's own Archive and Archaeology Service. The existing Library building is now part of Redditch History and Heritage. Several generations have been brought up using its services and these services have over the years contributed significantly to preserving Redditch History and Heritage. Its archive contain a vast array of artifacts representing Redditch history including some unique collections such as the "Redditch in Day" photographs and collection of Royal Enfield related data. This historic data should remain in Redditch and be easily accessible by Redditch residents. The proposals made for accommodating the Library and its facilities in the Town Hall indicated that the Archive space available will be less than half that in the existing building. The conclusion is therefore that only half of the archives can be retained, a clear downgrading of services compared with today. As the Archives are an integral part of the service offered by the existing Library, it is important that the plans for the archive facility in the proposed new site are clear and agreed before any decision is made. The questions that need to be asked are.

- Do we have a full inventory of what archives are held by the Library so that valued assessments can be made on any changes to the proposed archive content?
- What proportion of the current archives are to be transferred to the new facility?
- What proportion of the current archives will be transferred to the County Archives at the Hive?
- What will happen to any archives not retained or not transferred to the Hive?

Moving archives to the County Archives at the Hive will also mean they are less accessible to Redditch residents. I have worked as a volunteer with the county archives and know how their system operate. Accessing archives there is difficult because of the procedures in place, opening hours, transport to get there and the backlog of indexing archives they already have. They are only now looking to index Redditch New Town records deposited there over forty years ago. Any new archives moved from Redditch to the Hive will not be indexed, and therefore easily accessible, for many years. The Hives policy of what they accept is also very rigid. There will be many items which they will not accept and no plans have been published as to what will happen to these. There are three archive facilities in Redditch, The Redditch Library, Forge Mill Needle Museum and the Redditch Local History Museum. Currently each of these archives work independently of the others. Making a change to one of the facilities would appear to offer an ideal opportunity to establish a town-wide policy on Historic data, its storage and its availability for public consumption. When the New town was built, one of the biggest complaints about that process was the lack of consultation with the public resulting in many historic sites being demolished. The actions of the current RBC in wishing to demolish the Library shows that the lessons from the New Town development have not been learned and again we are faced with destruction of an historic site on purely economic grounds. The case for demolishing the Library being proposed, is based upon one possible solution to perceived problems with the town in general and that location in particular. The case for a public plaza to hold activities and events is very weak. There is an area in the front of the town hall which could be used for this purpose, as could the existing area around Church Green and the band stand. For over eighty years carnivals have been held in the town with huge funfairs in the existing streets. More recently music events have been held around Church Green without any capacity problems. There is no demand for news restaurants and offices, Alcester Street and

Church Green Streets already has many empty sites which already have no takers. Spending Town Fund monies to regenerate these areas would be much more beneficial to the town. This was proposed in the council's plans for regeneration of this conservation area a few years ago when there was no call for a new plaza. Experience has shown that the proposed Plaza will be underutilized just like the undercover market that out-of-town planners designed to replace the much loved Royal Square Market eighteen years ago. That sat unused for years as it was also located away from natural footfall. Redditch already has space on Church Green which has been holding carnivals, fairs and other events there for over eighty years without any space issues. More recently events staged by Redditch BID have worked very well with existing facilities. There is a space of equivalent size to the proposed plaza between the Town Hall and Alcester Street which could be used for such events. This area also contains a cafe which, despite several owners, has not been profitable or popular and is now closed. This will be the fate of the new food outlets proposed for the new Plaza. The demand for a new open area is not needed. There is also no case for more office space in the town center, Redditch has already converted Threadneedle House into residential properties as the office space could not be let and the same fate is also falling on St. Stephen's House, on the other side of Church Green, which is also being converted from offices to residential properties. Not in the town center, but Highfield house is also changing from offices to residential properties. Additional office space is also not needed. There are also other, workable and cheaper alternatives to addressing the area to the side and rear of the Library which are deemed prone to vandalism and anti-social behaviors. Simply connecting these to the Kingfisher Centre with two new malls would achieve this. Knocking down the existing building where such anti-social behavior is reported and building another nearby will surely just move such behavior to behind the proposed new building? The case for needing a "grand" entrance to the Kingfisher Centre is also flawed. The bigger issue is encouraging visitors out of the center to use other parts of the town not into the center. We know this is the case from past activities on Church Green. These can be poorly attended whilst the Kingfisher center is packed with visitors. The layout of the town is also such that visitors approach the Kingfisher Centre from this side. The main car parks, and public transport hubs where visitors arrive are on the other side of the Kingfisher Centre. This is already recognized in recently published plans to redevelop the railway station and its precinct to improve this area for arriving visitors. Lastly, as someone who has spent the last twelve years supporting and promoting Redditch local history and heritage I know through working with both the Local History Society and more recently, the Redditch Local History Museum, how important local history is to residents. There is also widespread strong feelings against the destruction of historic sites. Redditch history did not end when the new town was built, we have had fifty more years of local history since then and the currently Library is one of the sites at the center of that recent history. It is also very disappointing that the elected Borough Council's only support of all of the town's history is focused upon the Forge Mill site. There is no portfolio holder for local history, its only part of the much wider Leisure portfolio. Similarly, the Town Fund board consistently failed to include the town's history and heritage as one of its drivers for regeneration despite the Art Council reporting that Redditch was one of the top three councils in the country for failing to exploit its History and Heritage. I am also concerned that the proposals put forward, and approved by Redditch Borough Council have been made without a consultation process similar to that stressed by WCC at the town hall meeting. Using the excuse of Covid, only an online survey was carried out, excluding many residents without internet access from participating. The question asked in that survey were also flawed in that nowhere did it mention demolition of the library. So in summary we do not need to spend £9m+ to fix something that is not broken. It is well loved, well

A complete waste of public money when we have a well used, purpose built and recently renovated library which has suitable archive storage areas. The proposed £9.5 million would be better spent renovating existing properties around the church area. The area has recently been resurfaced at great cost. There is no need for a new public square with associated cafe culture. The space around St Stephens church is more than adequate for events as shown recently when the festivals of light was held. The area behind the library is also suitable for events as shown by the successful Digbeth Dining events. The proposed £ 9.5 million would be better spent enhancing Church Green the buildings which are already there.

1. No nearby public transport 2. Accessibility problems 3. Cost of refurbishment is paid for by tax payers the council selling our land to pay for relocation of a county asset

Happy with the current location

The library needs to be in a central location.

New site too far to walk from precinct and from disabled parking. New site will not offer as much room as existing library. There is no need for more building for leisure - we have unused empty buildings already and previous restaurants have given up and closed. This is unnecessary waste of money when we are all facing money worries. Also the money recently spent on resurfacing or repaving area outside library will be completely wasted as it will all be destroyed again

Everyone in Redditch knows where the library is. Its in a good location.

The library is a purpose built building. Redditch residents rely on its services. The new plan is a waste of money, at a time of hardship for most people.

I struggle with mobility, walking down to the town hall would be too far for me to walk. So my safe place would disappear as I couldn't access it.

Due to increasing obesity and diabetes we don't need more eating/drinking venues put our money into a better shopping centre worth visiting

As long as the same area is provided for bookstock, and plenty of computers are available. There is no reason why the library should not move.

There is no major problem with its current location that I know of. It's a complete waste of public money to rearrange the Town Hall into a "Hub"

No need for it to be moved ! Total waste of money

The Library is ideally situated, to move it out of sight out of mind, is as close to society vandalism as I could imagine, and to replace it with eateries is frankly baffling as if there aren't all ready too many coffee shops and the like, the lack of shop variety is what's missing from Redditch no more of the same.

The money could be used for other things to bring people into the town.

Location isn't an issue so long as we have a library

Waste of money to relocate

Not needed. Extremely wasteful in terms of money, negative impact on the environment, the plans are not thought through.

It sounds like it's going to be shrunk and stuck in a basement as an afterthought a library should be every town jewel 💎

The library has been there for many years it's part of redditch history and doesn't need to spend money to knock it down.

My previous visits to the town hall have left me with an impression of a dark and uninviting place. It lacks light and has little appeal. In terms of its location, the approach is uninviting and feels too hidden away due to the placement of Threadneedle House.

It is further away and will be much smaller. I am disabled making it more difficult for me to walk there.

It is further out of the town centre and this us an issue for those of us with limited mobility

We need this redevelopment for Redditch as a town to move forward.

I think will ne bigger and it will attract more attention

Having spoken to Councillor Dormer, I can see moving the library is more than just moving books but adding more facilities into a fresh modern library for all ages.

I strongly disagree with the funding allocation and proposed plans. The library was renovated less than 10 years ago and had £1m+ investment. It is fit for purpose and is a life line for the entire community. The library offers space and resources for everyone. The town's history is in the basement and it's not fair for this to be moved to Worcester where we have no direct links of public transport. The library is in the heart of Redditch town centre and needs to stay where it is.

Completely and utter waste of money to destroy a purpose built building

It shouldn't be moved to the town hall it's going to cost £9million to knock it down why can't you just update it and leave it where it is.

The current library is an excellent resource centre making it smaller will not help redditch residents

I myself never used the library if the new buildings make more work for redditch people then that's good also the town hall is plenty bigger enough for a library

The environmental issues and financial reasons. Seems suspect that the leader of RBC has a plant hire company. Who does this benefit?

Spend the money on hospital and leave town alone.

Just been in one location. 5 generations know where your talking about .

Waste of money,leave it alone

It is a colossal waste of money to destroy a purpose built library and move it into a building not designed for it. The environmental cost is also huge. The money could be spent so much better and the library building will be conserved for future generations. Frankly I'm staggered the plan has gotten this far given the huge levels of negativity towards it. The borough council seem happy to ignore all negative comments, a huge number of people signing a petition against it and even taking a thumping in the last local elections and the by-election. I hope the county council will listen and stop this proposal.

I believe it will result in a downgrading of services

The library is perfectly fine where it is, we don't need to waste millions of pounds knocking it down and relocating it. Plus the carbon footprint of demolishing a perfectly good building.

An unnecessary plan that is of no benefit or advantage to Redditch

I question whether this is the most environmentally friendly way forwards plus the best use of the councils money when there are so many other more important issues such as lack of affordable council housing

.....

Unnecesarh expense

The current library is a purpose-built building designed for the purpose. It does not fully fill the site and there is room for expansion if services are expanded when the financial situation improves. Redditch Town Hall is unsuitable.

It's difficult to understand the reasoning as to why you want to move from a purpose built building into what appears to be a 'Put me up' Library service in the Town Hall. As it stands you say that the current Library is second only to The Hive in Worcester. So surely that alone warrants it's preservation as it is. If it's not broken why fix it. Redditch has deteriorated enough over the years. Instead of taking things away to the detriment of folks that live in the town. These things should be treasured more. And made the most of. I agree that money needs to be spent wisely but how is moving the books and facilities into the Town Hall knocking the Library down to make way for what looks like more picnic tables. Redditch centre now looks like it's a boom town for coffee shops only. So maybe we need all the picnic tables we can get! Church Green could and should be gem if it only got the attention it deserves. Have you seen the state of the fountain and the bandstand just seems a place to smoke drugs and for anti social behaviour. How would anyone want to sit out and enjoy a coffee in the space left where we used to have a Library. I know for a fact that a lot of folks used to come to the Kingfisher for the great shops and plenty of parking. And the fact that they wouldn't get wet if it

rained. They don't bother to come the distance now. And who would blame them. Come on Redditch get a grip. Start to see the value and not the cost! Keep the Library in the Library.

Why not move the services from the town hall to new/cheaper location elsewhere in Redditch. These services do not need to be on prime land. Then the town hall and offices could be sold for development meaning the library can stay where it is at a central town location, there are plenty of empty retail units that could be converted to bars or restaurants. You could even use the ground floor of the town hall as the night life hub next to the theatre?

The library is a landmark place for any city or town, Redditch does need developing but revisit your plan draw up a case, create your hub in the town hall, but library needs to be exactly where it is

If there is surplus space that can be utilised and this positively effects the overall finances, then an argument against the relocation is difficult.

It isn't necessary and money can be better spent elsewhere.

The library is central to the town. Easy to access. Cannot see what changing the location will do for the town. Most people coming into Redditch will use the car parks, and walk round to the building.. Not many will want to walk from the town centre down to the Town Hall.. It will be a waste of funds, to knock down the existing library to build another building on the site. Plus locating the library in the Town Hall will also cost a considerable amount of money.

I think that it is a really good idea to pull all of the services together into one building which can be accessed by all.

The existing library is well located and provides sufficient facilities for existing needs. The cost of relocating the library could be better spent on other more pressing projects in the town centre. There is no evidence that relocating the library would improve services, or access to services, or that there is public demand for any proposals to redevelop the existing library location.

The current building is an eyesore, its entrance has always been an issue for easy access and safety; no longer fit for purpose. Moving the service into a shared space will allow for appropriate development of the existing site. Shared facility would also benefit from a shared responsibility for building, staff, and service user security; reduce overheads and facilitate improved services.

It is in a marginalised position within town . It cannot provide the same space while also keeping the same facilities, there's simply not the floorspace.

No need to relocate it's an important part of the centre

Everything in the same place

I agree for a newer and better town.

Redditch town centre desperately needs regenerating to bring fresh life and compete with other local towns.

We need a designated building for our library, not for it to be conveniently squeezed in to the town hall where clearly space will be limited. The library is already in an ideal spot in the centre of town, perfectly situated for people who want to pop in whilst using the kingfisher shopping centre or going to the bank, it is especially the elderly/less abled that will be at a disadvantage if services are moved to the town hall that is on the outskirts of the town. It may not seem far to walk but it is definitely not a convenient location, set back and out of the way from the town centre.

I am deeply concerned about the loss of the archive facility . Having been fortunate to visit the archive recently I was amazed at the size of the place . The archives contain a rich history of Redditch which I fear will be lost at the new location . I cannot see how the new location will be able to match the size of the current facility . This means one of 2 things . Either valuable documents will be lost or destroyed or i will have to travel elsewhere to access the material

Do not want Libraries unlocked want real staff. Extra distance to proposed new site for disabled parking. For once will the council listen to the library users who do not want this to happen or is this just going through the motions. It will be interesting to see the reaction when the press find out what's going on here. At least 3 Other counties have tried to implement this and deemed it a failure and removed. Learn from this and don't waste public money.

Because it will be too far away from the main town centre and public transport.

Complete waste of money. Why not build houses in the centre for social rent?

The library is a purpose built resource, a well know centre to draw people in. There is no evidence that the money invested in knocking it down and building commercial premises will bring value to Redditch, and will come at a huge expense (as well as having questionable environmental impact). Better the invest in improving the existing environment - this feels like a way of the Borough Council finding a way of paying for the cost of their building rather than designed to help customers

The current library was purpose built as a library. The Town Hall was not. The proposed redevelopment is not needed, and the money proposed for the redevelopment could be far better spent on enhancing the area to make it usable all the year round, without getting wet. e.g. covered walkways on pedestrian areas.

I think it is madness to squander public money on a vanity project!! The library is perfect as it is - in a purpose built/designed building. It is far from following the green agenda to demolish buildings and release CO2 into the atmosphere when it is not absolutely necessary!! We do not need yet more cafes and eating places - we cannot support what we already have. To think we live in a country with suitable weather to eat outside is delusional - this is not the Med!!

All services under one roof

Existing Library is relatively new building with excellent facilities and services. Demolition seems an extreme proposal, to facilitate property development - more coffee bars? Can promises about future arrangements be trusted? I will monitor this process, and could be persuaded if alternative is definitely a suitable alternative to present service.

There is no need to demolish a perfectly good building that is already in place providing public services

The library is in a purpose built building, which also stores local records some of which some of which will be moved Worcester making them inaccessible to some people. Also it would be a waste of money.

A complete waste of an iconic existing building that is a symbol of Redditch town centre. The money could be better spent on so many more useful projects to renew the town centre.

I feel that the idea of a community hub sounds great. However, I fear that it will be treated as poorly as the children centres.

The town centre council building is ideal to move the library into,

Just do

I agree with the move as long as we have a library it doesn't matter in which building.

It's sad to lose the library building but I feel it's a good plan that takes us forward and will go a long way to revitalize the town and bring more business and places to go.

Instead of moving the library for cafes which Redditch already has enough of, just improve the library we already have

to spend a stupid amount of money knocking down a good building and replacing it with square is plain silly. the proposed replacement claims to be the same size but if it cant hold all the Redditch Records held in the basement and strong room as well as the rear book collection held at the library i cant be. Plans on show in the Library does not show room measurements and there appears to be a passage way through the library section reducing usable space,

Will be more difficult to get there being disabled

It is corruption proposed from a councillor who has a financial interest in the demolition and construction of the project. It had a costly refurb less than 6 years ago and will be a utter waste of money that could be allocated elsewhere e.g. an improved bus service.

The existing building is not that old, the basic structure is fine, although i understand that the roof needs repairing, the cost of this is small compared with the cost of demolishing the building and the relocation costs. I find it strange that one of the arguments used for the justification of this project is that it will draw people away from the shopping centre, the whole purpose of the governments grants is to ensure that town centres sustain the existing shopping facilities not draw people away so that more shops close due to reduced footfall. Whilst i support the other proposals i.e the re-siting of the police station, the new rail station etc. The plan to demolish the library and create a plaza with fountains, Bars etc is wasteful of both money and natural resources, and i feel that in the long term an area like this will become a blight on the town centre rather than an asset.

The current site of the Library is central and convenient. The proposal to move to the Town Hall is simply to use up redundant space in the Town Hall and suggestions for a public square and pavilion cafe are tokenistic as these facilities already exist outside the Town Hall. The proposal to run the Library alongside other services will lead to confusion.

Out of the way and worried that I will no longer be able to get to the Library

Redditch town plan is such a waste of money why get rid of such a good building

The library is currently a quiet, accessible, central and effectively utilised public building. I use it for the computers, for the printer and for scanning stuff, and occasionally browse through the books. The job centre upstairs is entirely separate and does not disturb the library environment. By moving the library into the Council Offices it would not be an undisturbed environment and it would not have means to be effective. I used to live in Bromsgrove where they closed the old library. The old library could accommodate groups and also people to read and study. The old was a dedicated library building, the new one has no quiet spaces because of all the people needing other services enter close to the library door and the layout is poor. Having a library in the same space as a job centre and offices is a terrible idea when these things already exist in their own separate spaces. Needless to say I do not consider whatever money is spent removing this service good value for the council tax I pay to you, Worcester or wherever it's coming from. Invest it elsewhere on improving, not removing the services Redditch taxpayers use and value.

Offers better solution and allows town to evolve.

Seems so sensible

Much more effective use of public estate. Excited by new plans for town square

The existing building was built as a library and is fit for purpose. It is right next to the shopping centre which is important particularly when the weather is bad. It is also on the level, the proposed new location requires a walk down the hill and then back up again carrying a number of books the walk

If the town hall is able to incorporate the new library why not

I strongly disagree with the new location as it would be harder for the elderly and physically impaired to get to.

The current building is purpose built as a Library. Although it has been degraded over the years it is still an important asset to the community. In particular, the Redditch History archives, including original copies of the Redditch Indicator, are stored in the basement. There is no plan to relocate these important assets to anywhere in the town.

Been there for a long time

Because the library is better where it is

building recently refurbished a great cost, is great as it is and were it is no need to move it, very convenient to town centre present location

Do not think it will be used as much not as it is not as conveniently placed as current library!

We cannot see the point in relocating the library a few hundred yards down the road, it seems pointless. The council can't justify spending this money when it's not that long since they spent a lot of time and money redoing the library to what it is now :(There are many other things they could and should be spending money on to improve the town centre.

Minimal changes for current users due to it being so close, providing the service remain.

This proposal is ONLY in the most recent plan for the Town Centre. It is a crazy idea to move the library. It is absolutely stupid to demolish the building.

The Town Hall should be used for the intention it is there (more face to face interaction is needed - not WFH). If the Library goes into the Town Hall less space for intended services and staff will decline. No doubt more services will then be moved to Worcester - I totally DISAGREE with this idea as Redditch is a growing town and needs more LOCAL services - that understands a TOWN and not city needs!

Disagree. It will not be accessible as it will be further away from public transport. For people with physical disabilities, the elderly, children as well as parents with children in pushchairs that extra few metres does make it difficult. Therefore, it puts people with protected characteristics under the Equality Act at a disadvantage and creates inequality. The proposed location will reduce the likelihood of all members of the community visiting, especially when a considerable distance from the shopping centre and bus station. Bringing the train station closer as part of the government funding will not alleviate the issue as library visitors are local. There are already bar style restaurants near the Town Hall, this raises the important issue of safeguarding our vulnerable and young as well, especially in the evenings and winter days with shorter daylight. It also does not make it conducive or welcoming for people to visit the library and feels intimidating at times. I would not send a 12 year old unaccompanied to the Town hall. The current location is also very near to the college which makes it easy to access by ESOL learners and the wider community. At the moment, being next to the shopping centre is a perfect location for all of society. The library location fosters good relations with the community and provides social equity through all its services; for those who are experiencing digital poverty, the library is a social mobility champion and is the community hub not the Redditch Town Hall. It has been reported that the government's Towns fund will not be used on the library- will this be funded from raising our Council Tax again? The proposal on the Redditch Borough Council and Worcestershire County Council do not have a floor plan and is vague in its specifics. Exactly how many computers and study spaces will be available? I do not relocating the library where it is out of sight will mean any better service. Out of sight and out of mind; the library will be visited less as a result of relocation and just like libraries up and down the country, this will be used to justify axing library facilities and services. It will impact the whole community, from those with digital poverty not having access to internet; the elderly to meet others and it's many more services that boost the wellbeing and growth of the town. I have seen the map that has been put up in the library- it is not to scale and does not provide sufficient information on the facilities. It is lacking in detail and assurances for example there are shared spaces labelled third party. The below reasons state further add why I disagree. In the proposed location what will stop the council from relocating library staff to do other jobs in the council? or reducing the size, quality and number of services? Spokespeople for the council have suggested in the media about initially consulting the public and communicating with the library staff who work there. How diverse and representative of Redditch was the public panel? With Redditch's growing population the council could not even save the full services of the Alex hospital, what hope is there for full library services and space or more to be sustained at the new location. I am not convinced once the current library is bulldozed the new plaza will boost the economy by putting an open space for music festivals, bars and restaurants. People prefer to go into Birmingham City Centre not Redditch. When the Advertiser had reported the library relocation, the library staff were not fully informed on details and kept in the dark. (I asked a few of the staff if they knew what was going on). Understandably we the public do not TRUST the council that has little transparency. It appears the £4m

from the Town Investment Plan will be used for the plaza an open space for socialising and music festivals. I do not think residents near the current library would appreciate the noise pollution and drinking culture near a library, a potentially less family feel it will create so the premise for relocating the library is weak. If you want to create an open space for music festivals consider the Town Gazebo and fountain, one is used by drug users and the other costs money to maintain. We have Arrow Valley Park and Morton Stanley Park as potentials for big festivals to improve footfall. Local press the government finding will bring the train station to Church Green West, this will have little impact; train services have been reduced. Unicorn hill and Bates Hill, despite the CCTV cannot even handle the drink and disorderly behaviour, so why would you put a music festival type location in place of a current library near a residential area? The current council has funded the affluent areas of Redditch with parks, the local ethnically diverse community does not want to rock the boat to ask for recreational amenities in the town centre area, at least let us keep our educational and community hub in an accessible place, rather than add it to the town hall. The shops and restaurants near the train station will be forced to move when the train station moves, the ethnic diversity of those businesses is noted. Will the new location be even adequately staffed if it is spread out? The library is the last community hub in the town centre area after demolishing the market for a now vacant department store. The council plans to sell the Redditch Easemore Road community house, perhaps to make raise funds available for bulldozing the library? A double whammy for the local and less affluent of our community. It is a waste of taxpayers money to relocate a library which in the last two years has had a refurbishment on it's doorstep. It is education that is the social leveller and in turn a prosperous and happy town. There is evidence to link a better education to happiness not restaurants and bars I don't believe the plaza will improve towns happy rating .The local bus services are failing people get to work on time. The deterioration of basics a reliable bus service, reduced hospital services and a rail service that leaves twice an hour only when not striking. I am not a supporter of any of the political parties and so I have kept an open mind; I do not feel the new location is suitable and lacks details on the proposals. I am not convinced by the plaza being able to benefit all of Redditch. "Just moving the library down the road" and replacing it with bars will not benefit working class Redditch class. Whilst I support creating job opportunities in the town I feel this could be better spent by acquiring the empty spaces which are privately owned: the charity row opposite the Church, the former Debenhams site could become a food plaza as well as the large space behind it that was once used as a reduced market.

The library would be part of the new Community Hub, which is being delivered in the Town Hall. This is will be a one-stop-shop for residents to access services in one location rather than multiple locations.

What a waste if money. There is NOTHING wrong with this Library regardless of Mr Dorner's lies and propping up scaffolding to make it look bad.

Complete waste of public funds

I'm not against the library moving as such as long as it is moved to a like for like space that includes everything it has now including the archives staying here in redditch plus more.... what I am against is the knocking the currently library down to create more restaurants and offices and a splash pad. There are so many empty shops and offices around that area there is no need to add a new building to create more empty units in the town.

The current site has easy access with parking near by for the disabled. It has only recently been refurbished .

Will open up the town centre be a much nicer place

Smaller venue and less resources

It has always been in the same place moving the location just doesn't feel right, the library has stood in the same location for many years there isn't any necessary need for a movement.

The cost involved seems ridiculous, why move it?

Because the library is perfect to where it is so no point in moving it

Why change it to satisfy the Kingfisher No one else wants it moved. It's a Tory vanity project for the Kingfisher!

One hub for all makes sense.

Cost is too high

Need to understand what the cost benefit of this exercise is to the tax payer

Library put redditch history and waste of money to move it

It is already in a prime location.

The library is in a perfect location nothing wrong with the building. I don't understand how many more coffee shops do we need in redditch. There is nothing left here our kids have no where to go apart from cinema and very young children can't even go there. Redditch library is where I can take my children to have a little outing.

It would be for the town to still have a Libary wven if it means being relocated

Location

The current building is a purpose built library and suits all my needs where it is currently located.the money can be better spent on other areas of the town centre causing much less inconvenience to Redditch residents

This building is a far more beneficial position than the town hall. the Business Case for a new public space does not make vale for money as the material gain is not sufficient. The space is likely to encourage anti social behaviour, not create not employment or jobs which the towns need. This is an unnecessary spend.

Its in a purpose built amazing building, why would you want to kill it by squeezing it into a smaller space

We have a perfectly functional library, well equipped for many people to use the various departments, within easy reach of the town centre, on foot, via bus routes and car parks.

The library in its current location is a convenient distance away from the Kingfisher, meaning myself and other visitors to the library would have to walk a further distance to reach it. Redditch has also been recently named in a recent poll of most unhappy places to live, and as a cornerstone of the town's community the library is much more accessible where it is. It is also easy to find for tourists who may have a casual interest in Redditch's history. If the proposed funding were to be invested in the space around the current location, it has potential to be a larger communal hub.

There is no reasonable excuse for relocation, other than for Redditch's council leader, to offer for tender, plant hire for the works. We have a functioning Library, that people use, and yet we are given various different excuses for its relocation. As a Student at the College, its ideally located, and moving it is unnecessary. If the Town Hall is being under utilised, perhaps the Town Hall should be the building to face works.

Waste of money

I do not see the need for this change everything proposed can be done with out moving the library.

Cost - there are so many areas/buildings which need improving in Redditch but the library is not a priority. The library is perfectly functional and vibrant where it is.

It's a waste of money to move it and it serves well as it is

Waste of public money. Just for an open space that will probably never fully realised. They library is a purpose built building. Just by moving the library a matter on a few minutes walk away from the current location next to the Kingfisher I suspect the usage by people will decrease.

The library is central to the town, which has loads of vacant buildings that need to be used first. It also has a square already where the outdoor market should have been located. The library should be kept central to all of this. Waste of tax payers money which could be better used.

Moving the library from a purpose built building, just to demolish it and relocate to a part of town with little to no footfall is a poorly thought out project and waste of funds.

It's unnecessary & costly. Just leave it alone.

Huge unnecessary expense to demolish existing building. Environmental impact of demolition. Re-use of area where library is unrealistic and is not what Redditch needs (plaza). New proposed building not big enough or fit for purpose. A lot of additional expense for no gain.

There is nothing wrong with its present location. To knock it down and use the space for what seems to me useless amenities. We have enough coffee shops, which a lot of people can't afford anymore, and why do we need a water fountain.

I disagree Redditch library should be demolished. Redditch library is a solid building. There is nothing wrong with the structure at all. It doesn't make sense to knock it down its a perfectly solid safe building.

It simply doesn't need to be moved!! Having grown up in the town, it is a part of our history and culture. Easily accessible for all, visible and providing valuable services to all members of the local and surrounding community. Moving it out of sight and out of mind is one step away from closing it altogether and removing much needed services. This planned relocation is about greed and money, not what the residents actually want!!

I grew up with the current library and I believe shoving it into a few poxy rooms will take away that community feeling and people won't use it like they do now. It will also cost a lot more to knock it down when it would be cheaper to modernise it. Putting a few fountains and yet more coffee shops in its space won't make Redditch a destination. An award winning library, the best in Worcestershire however, could! Improve don't move!

It is a waste of money. Also I understand some of the archives will need to be relocated. I strongly feel that the archives should remain in Redditch in the right environment to be preserved while making access to local material easy for local people. Worcester is too far to travel and they don't have the space for our archives.

It is a complete waste of money Also all our heritage will no longer be in Redditch

We don't need more cafe's or outdoor squares

It is extremely wasteful to relocate and to demolish a very good purpose built building. Environmentally it would be a very bad decision. It seems to be a vanity project that will waste resources and not provide anything that Redditch needs

Our library does not need to change and the amount of money to move it when it doesn't need moving is ridiculous. There are plenty of empty buildings in town that can be used for the other parts of the plan which would be much cheaper.

Just read the thousands of comments from Voters

The plan for Redditch library to be demolished and relocated is absurd, there would not be enough space in the town hall for everything the library has and offers. Also the plans for the new space are ridiculous, Redditch already has a large number of cafes and do not need anymore. It is also not warm enough for splash pads and they will only be used for a small amount of time per year. Splash pads would be beneficial somewhere like Arrow Valley Lake. I agree something needs to be done to smarten up Redditch town centre and it needs to be attractive to shops not just more cafes.

There is nothing wrong with the building, it's a waste of money

What's wrong with it

I disagree with knocking a perfectly good building down. Especially just to open up the way into the Kingfisher Centre which is full of empty shops anyway.

Library facilities will be a lot smaller than they are now. I.e books I can borrow. Seems like a waste of money.

I don't believe there's any issue with the current location. From my understanding, the cost to fix any supposed issues are far less than the cost to tear down and move the building it's in. Redditch's town center is notoriously inaccessible in terms of parking especially after the close of car park 7. With more vulnerable and disabled persons having to travel further (closest accessible parking to the library is either the parking lot near HoW College or the Long Sun). Ultimately though, it's in a central location and easy to get to for everyone. The building is great, and has the space to offer all the important services it already does. It wouldn't serve any good to move it to a smaller location.

Why move the library when a refurb if required could be done and the money saved could go to other projects like regenerating the towns market

No need to spend a ridiculous amount of money moving it out of its current location

Concerned about druggies from Cranstouns sharing the building.

Waste of public money.

The current location of the library is already on the edge of the town centre. I think moving it further out of this area wouldn't increase it's usage.

I believe the town hall facilities and the library facilities should remain separate to avoid confusion and overcrowding. I also believe the town hall is simply not big enough to keep the library a similar size to what it is currently, as stated.

Current location is better accessible. The current building is spacious and I am not sure there will be sufficient room if the Library was moved to the Town Hall for the Library to maintain its services.

Explained in your proposal a plus to combine other services within the building

It's ONLY in the most recent Plan that the (crazy) idea of moving the library has been suggested. In 2009 there was a special Town Centre Strategy Report produced and there was nothing at all about getting rid of the library.

It's the bottom of town out the way. The current library was purpose built and has nothing wrong with it. If they are running out of space then remove the job centre and put that in the town hall. Much more cost effective than trying to move the library.

I believe that paying good money to demolish a very good library is a total waste of money . A replacement building will have to be built ,and will it serve the purpose as well ? Who knows .

I feel that the library itself is an asset to the town, particularly in relation to the brutalist architecture, the space and the history it holds. It is purpose built perfectly and it seems wasteful and unnecessary to relocate when it is / has been functioning well since it opened. I would rather public money be spent on something more useful for the town itself such as encouraging independent/ small business opportunities.

It's in the heart is the centre there is no need to move it. Waste of our money

I love the idea of a community hub, all services under one roof

Not convinced that relocating will improve or even retain the existing facilities or accessibility of resources. Waste of public money as building substantially upgraded when DWP moved in.

Access to the Town Hall is easier for disabled, modernisation of the library is needed

The library in its location, is currently an established, well-known and well recognised central community resource. An opportunity will be lost in removing such a multi-faceted resource with yet future potential,

and at significant cost for removal, from its already central and recognised location to an area of the town which is less visited by the public and during the hours the library is largely open, has a noticeably lower day time footfall which in my personal experience has been the case for the 20 years that I have lived in Redditch. In recent years the area has become less well used again with the loss of the bingo venue to a storage facility and more recently the Rising Sun pub being suggested for sale by Wetherspoons which creates further uncertainty about this less used area of the town. Currently the Library as a community resource is located near to a much busier and more accessible area with higher footfall, not to mention other town community venues such as the central St. Stephens Church, the Ecumenical Centre community hub space, the Redditch History Museum and the Acts of Kindness No 24 Foodbank resource to name a few. All of which include elements of community support and engagement for those who perhaps need access to it most and are potentially more isolated, significant issues in the current Redditch community, and not dissimilar to many of the services currently offered through the library. The days of it being just about books are gone. This image of our town having social needs may not necessarily fit the council's current ideas and thinking but it is realistic. In addition, the current library location is also most conveniently located for access from the existing free council provided disabled parking provisions, which are almost exclusively in the vicinity of the Libraries current location rather than the suggested one. The proposed Town Hall location is more poorly served for access and especially for those most in need who use the towns free disabled parking provision etc. The alternative being the expensive multi-storey car parks which are not as viable an option for some. In addition, all this costly work is to produce a very pretty but somewhat questionable central amenity space in the town, amidst the pre-existing surrounding brick and concrete, at a time when most current thinking around improving positive mental health and wellbeing for the population is about encouraging regular access to greener and far more open spaces to promote improved exercise and exposure for improved personal and community health and wellbeing. Redditch as with other towns and cities already has identified population issues around obesity and mental health and wellbeing. Money would certainly be better spent in the town centre on areas that would prevent or tackle these already existing life impacting issues and demonstrably improve the populations health and wellbeing. Or alternatively perhaps simply providing transport access via a town centre shuttle bus perhaps, to the already existing amazing green spaces and parks we have in Redditch, to encourage and support use of both in and out of town areas. In my opinion there are already enough coffee shops and casual food and drink based meeting venues in Redditch town centre, this project will only be likely to further remove business opportunities from those already based in the Kingfisher Centre and outside areas. Redditch is fortunate to have multiple green open spaces for the community to use but access is restricted to some degree through transport issues for those people and families on lower incomes, without cars etc. This project seems from the start to have been more like a council legacy opportunity or a political brawl in the making for those on the politically opposite side of the debate. In my opinion everything possible should have been done to enhance the existing library space and bring the community to it through innovative thought and design. The available money should have been used to modernise the existing library provision and include to further attractions into the design rather than sideline the library in the hope it will fade into obscurity and produce in its place a showpiece area simply because money was available to do it. Surely effective town planning and regeneration relies on taking what works well and enhancing it not replacing it. The library works well already, it could easily be enhanced further as a community hub venue and community leisure and social space, (even with fountains if it's really necessary), and it should not in my opinion be replaced or side-lined to another location which is in my view, as a fairly long-standing Redditch resident with professional engagement in the community aspects of the town, considerably less suitable.

The building has a historic significance - even recent history can be significant.

The proposals provide for the same services, if not better just a few yards down the road, meaning users are not really effected. The improvements to the town centre can only be a good thing, improving the area to create more footfall, employment etc.

It is a lovely building, in a good state of repair and in a very convenient situation. Plus the spend to demolish it and relocate at this current time is needless when so many other areas of Redditch could do with money being spent

It's a ridiculous amount of taxpayers money to spend on something that will bring negligible benefit. Removes a public good for no good reason. I could demolish it for you for only £9 million?

The current location is ideal. The service should not be interrupted and the cost is punitive. Spend the money on new books in the current library.

To allow for more public open social space is a good idea. Redditch is lacking particularly in a decent restaurant for families and couples to celebrate special family events. Aston fields in Bromsgrove is proof in the pudding that excellent restaurants bring money into the local economy.

Current library is purpose built and ideally placed for access.

There is no need to stop using the existing library - it works. Money could be used better.

lokalizacja w centrum jest bardzo dogodna do korzystania z biblioteki (the location in the center is very convenient for using the library)

The library is in the perfect place for people to access and it's totally unnecessary to knock it down. We do not need extra open space and the money could be used more usefully elsewhere

The new location will not be as user friendly as the current site. The money could be used on other centre projects.

There is nothing wrong with the existing location of the library being centrally located. For the elderly, the climb up from the Town Hall to the Town Centre bus stops would prevent many people from using the library. The Redditch Town plan is just pie in the sky thinking, providing even more coffee shops in addition to those we have presently which are only partially used.

Useful to have the library in the heart of the town close proximity to shops

OPENING STATEMENT OF THE PROPOSALSAYS "TO INCREASE GREEN SPACE IN THE TOWN CENTRE" after this statement there is no further mention of "green space", just the hope that some white elephant development may be a commercial success but no guarantees. The market died because no profit was being made, another cafe we do not need, the kingfisher centre cannot let all the units at the moment. The proposal states that another target of moving the library is to remove footfall from the kingfisher centre and bring it outside thus making the centre even less attractive, to potential customers from outside of the Redditch catchment area, than it is already.

There is no rational reason to knock down a purpose-built building a great expense to replace it with a 'plaza' and a cafe. These plans do not represent value for money - £15m could be better spent to the benefit of Redditch residents.

I see no reason to relocate the library at all. A huge amount of money will be spent on demolishing a building to replace it with an open space and shops and cafes. These will be competing with the Kingfisher centre which has many empty units itself. there is no benefit to us, the community. The jobs it will generate will be short term (demolishing and landscaping) with only a handful of long term jobs. I use the archive which appears to be leaving Redditch altogether. Nothing I have read leads me to see a single positive.

The building is not fit for purpose. The new plan isn't necessary. The area could still be improved without moving it. There is no need to spend the money on the move, use it for something better like tackling the poor quality of roads in and around Redditch.

No need to waste money on something that's working perfectly well as it is. Also the location is in a great place now.

There is no need...

This is an ill-conceived concept regarding the plaza replacement; there are already plenty of coffee shops in the town centre and a constant stream of food outlets such as cafes and restaurants which have opened both inside and outside the Kingfisher Centre, close to this location which are not sustainable and subsequently close. The 'plaza' would be a bleak, windswept barren space just as the ill-conceived public

space close-by behind the closed Debenhams store has already become. The library has already been refurbished and redesigned and is a pleasant and welcoming space not in need of expenditure or moving. This is a vanity project which appears to ignore the real make-up and needs of the Redditch population.

It's completely pointless and a colossal waste of money. When times are hard for so many.

Vanity project. Waste of funding that could be put to better use. Consultation delayed until "allegedly" it will be too late for an alternative! We already have plenty of coffee shops. There's limited footfall through this location to the shopping centre. I believe most people would rather have a decent bus service that could be relied on or possibly subsidised parking than an unnecessary "white elephant" .(Another "Boris Bridge" !!)

I am concerned that services will be lost as a result of relocation. I know that the library is a lifeline for many people, as observed on my recent visits to Baby, Bounce and Rhyme.

Our towns library is fundamental people. It offers clubs, drop ins, a quiet place to relax, computers for people who don't have access to one. These people along with the rest of redditch do not need more expensive cafes/bars/ eateries. In a time of economic crisis I would think our council could find better things to use the money for. Maybe put solar panels on council houses or invest in bringing back a thriving market. The Debenhams site is empty and has enough space for cafes bars and an indoor market spread across 2 floors. Why has this not been looked at as an option.

The library is in great condition and is in a great location and doesn't need to be moved. The county is in a crisis and spending this amount of money to move the library is morally wrong.

The current building is an eyesore will be glad to see it demolished

The library is fine as it is. The money could be used elsewhere.

The library is amazing and I used it so many times when my children were younger and up to a few months ago but I have now moved to Worcester and continue going to the hive. Redditch library is a great community space and would be criminal to demolish a great building to squeeze it into the Town Hal which isn't for gif purpose. I find the Town Hall quite an intimidating space but not the library. This whole process has been floored nd badly managed from the start with very little regard for the community

Can't see why it should be move , it's easer and closer to the town centre.

A MASSIVE DISGRACE TO USE TAXPAYERS VALUABLE MONEY TO FUND DEMOLITION

There is absolutely nothing wrong with the library as it is.and despite reading that it would still be the same floor space I cannot see how his could be? The location is perfect and I feel the money envolved should be spent on improving other things, The library is fine as it is....

Its a complete waste of money knocking down a building that's housed our towns library for years just to qualify for a cut of the government funds

I dunno

The redditch town hall is bigger which means more books and as a result more books to sniff

Perfectly suited where it is now

Leave it where it is.

Bad for community

Leave it where it is. Always been fine there.

Leave it where it is

I really feel we have enough eating places & coffee shoes. Why change what is working well!! I

To far to walk from town centre to far from the bus station

The current location is easy for all age groups to get to and near to the shopping centre.

It is too small

The town hall was built on a graveyard. Where my ancestors are buried. Moving the library to the town hall would disturb their usual day to day activities.

Current library was refurbished not long ago and is purpose built. Moving it will make it less easy to walk to from the town centre. Parking will be further away so if carrying books or pushing buggy / walking children it will be more difficult. Why relocate ? Filling an empty building (town hall) is not a good enough reason to spend tax payers money unnecessarily and spoil a really successful part of the town... 1000 use it every day.

I think the current library is well used, whereas the current town hall is underused, with many of its staff working from home- even the front desk is now closed! Therefore it makes more sense to keep the current library where it is, and to convert the offices in the town hall into much needed dwellings. You could maintain the ground floor , and maybe the first floor too, for council meetings and some offices.

The town hall is not in as prominent a location, and is not fit for purpose as a library.

Alot of the town hall is empty so there is plenty of space for it to move there.

I disagree because if the Library relocates to town hall, not everyone will want to go to visit..If won't feel the same as where it is now .It's so easy to pop into and feels part of the Church Green area..

The library was purpose built. To replace it would mean starting from scratch with bigger and better. The town hall isn't a suitable building for relocation. The library is a listed building, and iconic in it's design. It is perfectly well used where it is. It is a vanity project for the Conservatives to open up the shopping centre. There are no important shops in there any more. No department stores, and no iconic and important shops in the dump of a shopping centre. It used to be the envy of the Midlands. It serves no purpose now. The plaza they propose instead is a waste of anyone's money. We don't need any more coffee shops and restaurants. We need investment in decent value-for-money shops. The cafes here don't sell much traditional food, and none sell

also. The better shops aren't even in the shopping centre such as Vintage Threads clothes shop and Vintage Tracks record shop. Local shops run by locals that need supporting, not Corporate cafes that are everywhere in the country/world. The only really interesting shops in the centre are the charity shops, and bare essential shops such as Boots chemist and H and B. If you want cheap rubbish clothes shops then Redditch has them. I know where I buy mine. More people will buy online if no improvement arrives in this town! Mark my words.

I will be using the library even more from September when I start university which is out of this area and will be too far to travel to on study days. It is ideal it is left where it is. It's visible for all to use and I find it easy to get to as I am disabled. Moving it will be harder to get to and to park next to.

The current location is ideally situated and was purpose built. It is easily accessed from the Kingfisher centre, whereas the town hall is a bit of a trek and would be unpleasant in bad weather. This would be particularly off-putting for disabled people and those who have trouble walking. Demolishing the present library would be very disruptive and cause considerable problems for pedestrians. The proposed open space is unnecessary and looks bleak. There is already a very pleasant open space round the church, with plenty of benches for people to relax and enjoy the view.

Why move something that is perfectly situated

The current building was purpose built as a Library, with access to store artifacts, documents etc relevant to the history etc of Redditch. The proposal and the astronomical cost to demolish the present Library and move it to the Town Hall, and be replaced by Fountains & Cafes etc is ludicrous.

The location is fine. There is no need to disrupt services

There is absolutely no need in sense to knock down a building that is perfect for families to visit and use

I do not think the building should or needs to be demolished to improve the town centre. The cost of demolishing the building is high and could be used for other town centre improvements. Even if this goes ahead the buildings adjacent along Church Green will still look a complete mess.

The library in its present location is easy to access from the shopping centre, bus station and car parks. The proposed relocation to the town hall would make access more difficult for the elderly, disabled and parents with young children. It's further to walk for the above mentioned, and people would be discouraged in bad weather.

Unnecessary expense

Why demolish the library? why not utilise this building? you claim the new site will regenerate and revitalise the town centre? you refer to this as a hub? a plaza? creating new bars, cafe, restaurants. what planet are you guys on? Step out of the library, look right, look left what do you see? empty premises! Failed bars failed cafes failed restaurants. even witherspoons is pulling out! You need to have the courage to be dynamic and bold. subsidise transport one pound bus fares, one pound parking. At the moment I know a lot of people who park at lidle enjoy a meal in spoons with free parking for two hours and then drive out of town to do their shopping. It's a no brainer, for which I think you would be well qualified.

There no need to move it. I disagree with the demolition as it's a waste of money. The library won't be on such a good position at the bottom of town.

The library needs to remain close to the shopping centre and be at the heart of the town. Many elderly people visit and children go to study there so it needs to be easily accessible. If the library is moved further away it will not be used and will eventually be phased out altogether. Some families rely on borrowing books and utilising the activities.

The current Library works well in its current location. I don't see how the new proposed location offers any benefit, but there will be a definite disruption to services, a potential long term reduction of services for a huge cost.

We have a purpose built library which serves the community of Redditch. Wasting money to downsize and demolish such an asset makes no sense. Please re-think this ridiculous plan.

Wasted space and quite possibly on the current library is one of the ugliest buildings!

The town hall is under utilised and it makes sense to use the library building to expand the offer of our current town.

Don't see an issue

I am in my 80's. I walk to the existing Library in 3 minutes. I can walk to the Town Hall in 6 minutes and, being uphill, it takes me 15 minutes to get back as I have leg problems. Also I believe that the archives are being moved to Worcester. There is not a bus there to their library.

The current building cost a lot and is designed to be a library. It's location is accessible to all

From the proposals you have promised to maintain the library services, keep the floor space the same and keep all staff jobs. Therefore I have no reason to oppose this decision. I agree that an increase in footfall to the old town centre is needed and hopefully this would support in making this happen. Investment will be needed from business as well. If done properly it will also create more footfall to the canopy area.

Redditch is one of the largest towns in the county, and also has a large number of under privileged residents... it deserves and needs a purpose built library ..not a library shoehorned in to the town hall

The space is unsuitable and out of the way - too distant from the kingfisher to encourage people passing by to drop in. Surely everything possible should be done to make it easy for people to access the wealth of services the library provides and not put obstacles in their way. The community deserved better than this. Borrowing library books is such a precious resource and experience to be learned as a child and carried

through into later years. Buying discounted paperbacks in cheap shops then piling them up at home before offloading at charity shops. They must be groaning under the weight of our lockdown books delivered by Amazon. What a waste of earth's resources to create mountains of books then seek to dispose of them.

This space doesn't help with accessibility. It's very difficult to understand how the new space will get anywhere near as much footfall. A space that is not visible will become invisible

I disagree with spending a lot of money on knocking down a serviceable building which is valuable to the community. It's wasteful of money and it's wasteful of resources. I also disagree that the proposed plans for the square have much merit - the people of Redditch don't have the disposable income to make such a scheme work. The development money would be much better spent on other ways to improve the town.

I think it is a better location for a library. It will be more communal and having it there may encourage other people to use it as well.

I live in the town centre and think that making appropriate use of the partially unoccupied building by charging rent from service users, is a more effective way to manage public spending. Also, having it located in a more communal area may encourage more people to use. As was the case for Bromsgrove.

Unnecessary move that threatens the quality and number of services currently provided, limits the capacity to expand these services when economic circumstances improve/allow, makes access to services unnecessarily more difficult, confuses the nature of the services as being such that they belong in a so called "one stop shop", dilutes the service, adds nothing to the service, makes assumptions that have not been evidenced regarding footfall and channeling this from the kingfisher centre out into the rest of the town centre - this makes no sense geographically and appears to be a complete fabrication - unsubstantiated

There has been no convincing argument as to why spending upwards of £4 million pound will improve the town centre and make the library facility more useful than it already is.

The town needs an uplift and make way for a modern new look, which the proposed Palmer will do. The library building blocks the entrance to the kingfisher and therefore doesn't link the shopping centre to the town very well. More footfall will move between the 2 areas better. It's frustrating the people of Redditch want everything to stay the same and not move forward and grow. Despite which political party you favour - it's turning into a political campaign rather than what's good for the town.

The Library is already a Hub and a destination within town, its well placed and convenient, Purpose built and friendly. It is far more useful than more coffee bars and eating places of which there are many within town. A Plaza would still be located where anti social people lurk. I would move to more online access if this happened.

To bring the town into the 21st century..., this town always seemed to be behind the times! It will be nice to have new public areas with social meeting places in the centre of town.

The new plan of a plaza is ridiculous in that it will not bring more footfall to Redditch and that the issue is the rent is too high for businesses and there are too many cafes and not enough larger shops. The plaza is poorly designed and does not provide something that is going to be beneficial to Redditch. The current library is a decent building and is used.

Let's revitalise Redditch!

The current location is excellent, easily accessible. The building is purpose built and appears well maintained. Knocking it down to create a plaza is madness, there is also plenty of empty eating venues. The only person to want the move, Matt Dormer, will financially benefit, so it feels like a vanity project and conflict of interest rather than for benefit of library users and the people of Redditch.

I disagree with the new location due to there being nothing wrong with the current location. An absolute waste of money when the library we have is perfect in every way. There are so many empty units in Church Green, yet they want to knock the perfect library down to create, what will become empty units especially with the current cost of living, many businesses closing.

The library is in a really easy to reach location at the moment, it's very safe to get to for my 3 year old and isn't too far for her to walk.

We don't need it to be that big. This space can be used in more adequate purposes.

The proposed new site is too far away when travelling by public transport. The current site is perfectly adequate as it is

The new location is simply not as good as the existing therefore compromising its use. In addition a large amount of embodied carbon will be wasted by demolishing a perfectly usable building. Appreciate town plan is reliant upon library being removed but suggest the town plan concept is flawed and should look again at solutions.

To far for me to walk as I am elderly the slope is terrible

I do not use library so do not care where it is and is a good opportunity to attract more pubs and restaurants.

Current library is good. Does not need to be knocked down

The new location provides a focal point for a wider range of services. The plans to develop the, library area are exciting and will be a positive asset to the community, while offering the possibility of attracting people from outside, the, area of Redditch

Further to walk , cannot manage incline walking . Why pull down a perfectly good building , a waste of money .

The area around the exit from the Kingfisher Centre is ugly and outdated and need to be made more attractive to visitors.

The current library is absolutely fit for purpose and I believe the suggested project to replace the library is not going to do anything to solve the dwindling town centres. If rates and rent was more competitive and appropriate incentive programs in place only then could we encourage new businesses into the town centre.

Old building is dated and nothing special. Not good disabled access. New facility looks modern, bright and easy access.

New modern purpose built site. Allowing development on site of old library

The town hall is further away, and will make it more difficult to access for the elderly and disabled. Plus the existing library is perfectly placed in the town centre. Removing the iconic building would be an utter waste of money, when we have a perfectly suitable Library.

Town centre needs modernisation, particularly in the area between the library and town hall.

The Library is in the perfect place at present so why go to all that trouble to move it? In fact, why don't you improve the site and include a cafe so that we can relax. meet up with others or sit and read a book. I am certain that the money that will be made from the proposed development of the site will not be spent on the providing services for the people of Redditch

New development of old library area will benefit the town and make it more attractive to visit

The library is a classic example of Brutalist architecture in the West Midlands and needs to be kept up and preserved as much as possible, so that the unique character of the region is retained.

We need a library in our centre where it is accessible

Redditch Library has been a key landmark public building since 1976 and is a piece of iconic architecture which belongs to the residents of Redditch, not the Council. It provides a truly unique social environment and visiting place, public facilities and an enormous range of valuable community services that many

people depend on and which would be impossible to provide under the Council's proposal. The library is one of the town's main assets and is part and parcel of the town's history which must be preserved.

Why knock down a purpose built library, move it further away from the centre, to make way for "bars and restaurants" in a centre that already has many empty units it can't fill? I'm no Carol Vorderman but the maths ain't there. Look at the purpose built market behind the old Debenhams.

A ridiculous waste of money.

Such a move will involve the destruction of a perfectly good, purpose built library, simply to provide another 'open space.' There is already plenty of open space in Market Place and Church Green East which could be repurposed. The cost of relocating the library in the Town Hall is not included in the available funds. It has not been properly calculated and apparently will involve the sale of Council assets, such as the Community House, which will make several charities homeless

less accessible. less book space, reduces trade to the kingfisher centre, reduces public income as we will have put the library in a space which could be rented to commercial bodies or charities or housing units (bonkers) we do not need more cafes or offices, and if we did, we put these in the market square at a cost of only £500,000. This is a serious waste of public money which only reduces future potential income and gains us nothing - 3 years of disruption will pretty much kill the town centre

I strongly disagree with the proposal for a myriad of reasons - RBC's dire financial position is already well known, with a provisional £369K overspend for the current council tax year, and the Town Deal bid - if the library relocation is approved - places "all commercial risks resting with RBC". The entire argument that this will 'increase footfall' and 'encourage investment' is unsupported by any objective evidence whatsoever. Where is the Monitoring & Evaluation data around the key metrics e.g. footfall, vacancy rates etc. and the outcome of research for demand from the local business community for the 2 floors of co-working spaces proposed? What is happening to address the lack of late-night transport highlighted in the business case that would surely be essential to 'revitalise the night-time economy'? What is the economic rationale for the obscene amount of ratepayers' money having been spent within the last 18 months on repaving the area immediately outside the walkway past the library towards the top of Alcester Street - which will presumably be removed as part of the demolition of the library? In essence, the whole proposal is ill-thought out, cannot be justified without objective, data-driven models that underpin the outcomes of increased footfall and inward investment, and if neither materialise as forecast, then it will be the poor council tax payers who yet again have to pick up the slack for this unnecessary project. The existing library is ideally located, especially for users with mobility challenges, where it is and its demolition will do nothing to enhance the 'cultural and leisure' appeal of the town centre.

Town hall is too small, too dark and will be hard to access for vulnerable users

This question is irrelevant, I neither agree or disagree

Not enough room for everything

If the same service or enhanced service was offered from the Town Hall then I would have no objections. If you downgrade the library then I don't agree.

Like the library being in a separate building, away from the proposed site. Always find it well used and busy by different groups. Seems like a complete waste of money and unnecessary.

The current site is perfect. It has recently been modernised. It has a cosy, friendly feel. I don't think the new site will be able to house the large (and unique) store of old crime novels that are in the basement. Not sure about the multi-function idea. Does it dilute the message of what the library is there for? I know the current site also has the Job Centre, but the new proposal seems to pack even more into the site

It seems an awful expense and a waste of a good, warm existing space

As long as the available floor space remains the same I think it is a good investment for Redditch. Bromsgrove has something similar and it works really well.

To bring new life into Redditch. Attract growth and ensure local residents can come into town and enjoy other facilities such as independent shops and restaurants. Make Redditch a place that is safe and where people want to go to for an evening out.

The library is situated correctly for the people of Redditch. It is a complete waste of our and government money to destroy a perfectly serviceable building to give an inferior service. The council should listen to the residents of Redditch and spend this money on something that will benefit Redditch.

A vast amount of money has been spent in updating the library. This expenditure would be wasted if the library was relocated. Also the present location is central to the town and familiar to all.

Further from the Town Centre and bus station therefore further for elderly to walk.

The current library feels very safe and relaxing, it's an enjoyable atmosphere.

I see no reason to remove a perfectly functional building to create a plaza that does nothing to address the underlying issues the town centre faces. That there is some instance that for one this is the only way to spend the money from the grant and that said money now has to be spent on this obscene project is ludicrous.

I disagree to this proposal for relocation due to the current location is in easy access for public

It is as convenient to walk to and will have resources on the ground floor. Services are not to be reduced - hopefully this promise will not be retracted! If the area is redeveloped as outlined it can only improve what is currently a miserable uninviting centre and to the town.

The library is well located and prominent so current users and new users can access it easily. It is vital that readers of all ages are encouraged to read and especially children. Keeping it where it is showcases the importance of library activities to the town. people are invited to drop in when shopping or paying bills etc. This must be a good thing for the town and its residents.

If this will bring more income to the borough so other services like public parks and playgrounds can be refurbished or to make available free public courses and sport sessions for the residents, I'm for it.

It's perfect where it is. Why spend money we haven't got to downsize and downgrade the services

Providing the same or an improved service is available I have no concerns with the move.

The present library building is not old or in poor condition, in fact it is not long since a large amount of money was spent on its refurbishment

If the old building isn't working then move to one that is suitable.

Services and meeting spaces should be kept at the same, or similar provision to current offering.

It is currently well positioned in the town centre, near bus stops and the hub of shoppers and other users. To move to Town Hall would be away from this hub.

Too far from centre and buses for elderly, people with mobility problems, parents with young children. Current library is fine where it is. We don't need a square filled with people doing nothing but smoking and drinking and we already have enough cafes in the town.

It's will be located very near to the existing building. It will still be central for the public to access

To demolish a purpose built library to make way for more shops when so many are already empty in the area seems ridiculous

Seems sensible use of building with little effect on the service being offered.

Given the proximity of the Town Hall it really makes no difference. The provision should however be the same, similar or better.

Its wasteful to repurpose this buolding.

Our library was purpose built over three floors I can't see how the floor space in the town hall will accommodate the current floor space so something will have to give, and the thought that another cafe would open on the derelict library that's the last thing we want.

the present set up works and is in a location which is prominent and easily accessed. It would be a waste of money to relocate.

The Town Hall is not in the centre of town but a difficult walk for the elderly or disabled. Our current library is a vibrant hub - jamming it into a building that has other uses and priorities is a shameful betrayal of Redditch residents. We deserve better.

Over time the library resource has reduced, this will not increase the offering or enhance the service as this hub will make it more busy and more stressful to visit. The location itself is less accessible than the current offering.

If the service is not diminished the actual building where the library sits is not that important. It's also close to the current library. Also that part of town does need a face lift

Have not yet seen any specific plans regarding the library. Concerned it may lead to a reduction in what is available in the library.

I like to borrow books and we don't need any more coffee shops

The present library is closer to the town centre, so some people are more likely to visit the library when they pass it. I don't think more cafes and restaurants will prosper. Years before Covid an Italian restaurant opposite the library closed down from lack of custom, and that was before the present austere times. I'm not sure the Worcester Archives would want the old, significant documents, especially if they are short of space. Nor am I sure the remaining documents would be stored in the appropriate conditions.

Initially I thought this was a waste of money when the current site works perfectly well. I've been a library member for about 15 years and I regularly use the library. After thinking about it, the proposal does make sense and ensuring there is a continuous library for all is key. Does the existing site really need to be demolished or can it be refurbished?

Nothing.

The current library is fit for purpose, why spend unnecessary money that could be used to support other community causes.

The present library building was purpose built within recent memory. The Town Hall was similarly built for town hall purposes. It does not make sense to eliminate the library building and combine the two. If space has become available in the Town Hall, then this space should be used for external agencies such as DWP etc. The library has suffered over the years from lack of funding and a big reduction in resources (books etc). The non-fiction area in particular has very few resources updated for many years. We would like to see the library building itself used for more resources and local group activities. The Town Hall is not available 6 days a week and late into the evening and therefore would not be available for those who wish to use those facilities. Children and young people who lack facilities at home would not be able to use the library for research. People working full-time would also find difficulty using library facilities. This plan is excluding a significant proportion of the population from accessing library facilities.

Plans look exciting - just what Redditch needs.

As long as the service remains the same, the location is not a problem for me.

Depends if it has as many or more diverse meeting rooms. Depends on it being better at its primary purpose of being the educational centre for workers and unemployed. Better selection of physical books. Good selection of OU course books

Not too far. Sounds like a central hub.

The town hall will have more facilities

The Town Hall is almost out of the town and people will not necessarily want to walk down that far from the centre.

It will be a new look

Because redditch desperately needs regeneration

plans as described

I think it's what is needed to get the town centre moving. It's awful as it is. Something needs to change. Or in 10 years time it'll still be ugly & drab.

It's a great idea

This area of the Town Centre needs to be redeveloped.

a stupid idea when a good library exists with easy access

Because the plan sounds like it will benefit the town, also means that any residents that need to speak to the council can do this at the same time as visiting the library. All in all it is a win-win situation and only a short distance from where it is at the moment

Make the town hall more of a hub for the town we do not need two huge buildings it makes economic sense

As long as the library provides the services I require I do not have any problem where it is located as long as it is still in Redditch and easily accessible and preferably not far from a bus route

To free up the space for development and have a bigger library

More efficient use of space within the town hall with the added ability to regenerate the town centre in the process.

The library is in a prime location that everyone can access. To put it in the town hall would mean further to walk for those with mobility issues and mothers with young children and prams. It would also mean you would have no one just popping in whilst going in and out of the town, which is what I often do.

It seems like an unnecessary expense. The library building is fairly new. There are already dozens of cafes and the like in the town centre and Kingfisher centre. Citizens will not drink more coffee or eat more buns just because there are more places to do that. Wouldn't money be better spent on care for handicapped and elderly people? That would free-up hospital beds.

The existing library is a great accessible building with lots of space for the many different groups / clubs / organisations to use.

The money could be used to refurbish the library and offer more services which is of more value to the town than more coffee shops. The move is unnecessary and a waste of money.

Current building is an eyesore.

The library is a purpose built building which has had a huge recent investment. Moving these facilities is nothing more than money grabbing and will not improve the area

The current building is excellent, is in a spot with good footfall, and has been refurbished more than once! There is a great children's library and for many members of the community, access to computers is important. I am also worried that demolishing the library will have a very big carbon footprint. We already have loads of coffee shops and the number of shops is declining, so I can't see what you would put on that site. It seems that it is spending money just for the sake of it. Surely there must be a better use for this cash.

The library is not only a prime location but a fantastic building. The size for the amount of books and other information it holds is ample and supports the local community well. I can not envisage the council having the space that reflects this. Concluding that the council will have to reduce what the original library space

can offer. Meaning a reduction of books and services. The people themselves who use the library, from buggies to wheelchairs are met with accessibility. How will the council handle all the extra traffic and keep great accessibility? It has taken lots of time and effort for the library to be as successful as it is. The council has no welcoming features nor atmosphere from the beginning of reception to even using the toilet. It's not just a miserable place either no one wants to go there.

The current library is perfect as it is. Don't fix it what is not broken!

Be better for the town as a whole

The present area around the library lacks soul and is dreary.

I disagree with new location as I see nothing wrong with the current one. The current one could be brightened up with outside art. The plans to replace the library are a waste of money, there are enough coffee shops within that area.

The library will lose alot of its books and services if its moved to the town hall, alot of people will miss out using the vital services the library offers, including elderly and vulnerable people, so it makes perfect sense to keep it where it is.

Town needs investment

The town needs to grow and the town plan and library move will make the town better

The library is still a fairly new building, it is clean and immaculate....to demolish it would be a total waste of money and time

Makes good sense

Town needs refreshing, the space could be used it a much better way

We need the excellent regeneration plan for our town This should be above party politics and the council's plan should be supported

To far out of the way, the library should be in the heart of the town centre

As long as the library services remain as good as they are now and there is no loss of staff, the new location would be permissible

Redditch Library is a purpose built building . It would be a backward move to transfer it to the Town Hall and couldn't possibly be as convenient. No guarantee that Redditch residents would use the new hub!

Better use of resources

The location is not visible enough, the library needs "passing trade" or it's use will decline.the additional distance from the town centre would deter me and I'm sure others from visiting

At the moment, the library is the focal point of the town. It's accessible and visible. Moving it to the town hall, people are less likely to use the services as it won't be as obvious that the library is there. Is there space for the archives? It's my understanding that the library has a purpose built archive room. It would be a shame if these records were moved to Worcester where less local people could access them. Would community groups still be able to happen? The social groups are often people's life line.

The library as it is has an ideal spot for the more mature members to access . It is perfectly fit for purpose. It is airy and spacious for those wishing to avoid catching covid .

We have a perfectly lovely well used Library where it is.. Money could be used for other more important things. Town empty shops, rubbish everywhere etc etc.. why move the library when its ideal where it is..And been there for years.... Leave it where it is..👍 -

Town needs investment

A hub with all support services will be so much better for people

No need to demolish a purpose built building so Kingfisher center has a bigger space in front of the entrances and the entrance looks nice.

The library building, should remain where it is, the building belongs and is run by the county and not Redditch borough council, this building must not be sacrificed, to pursue a vanity project by the Borough councillors, in order to spend, the regeneration grant.

I consider it sacrilege to demolish the existing building, it is central to Redditch town and a new site in the Town Hall may well provide problems for people with mobility problems. Do we really need yet more coffee shops in the town - definitely not.

The building is ugly and there will be more services in the town hall

It's described as a short walk between the current and proposed library, which is fine if you're in good health and can get about easily. The "short walk" back to the town centre is an incline and would be difficult for some (including me). People make the trip to town to carry out multiple errands in one visit, to make best use of the car parking charge. For the proposed library to be accessible to all, minimum requirements would be easy (flat) access to it and to the nearest multi storey car park, including payment facilities. For those who just want to pop to the library, the car park should have a cheaper option for 1 hour's parking.

Its only few yards away from the current location, therefore i have got no objections.

Too far from Town Centre and Carpark 1, particularly for the elderly! The Library can be accessed easily via The Shopping Centre under cover, apart from a very short walk in the open before entering the current Library. I see no reason to change the location - we certainly do not need another cafe, as the town will soon have more cafes than shops!!!!!!

The town needs to be better balanced and more connected. The only opportunity to achieve both rebalancing the towns footfall and better connect the 'old town' and 'new town' elements is to have an active nucleus of the whole town, not a busy retail and leisure space and quiet external green, fresh air space. The historic town planning has failed in integrating the town centre spaces and encouraging visitors to navigate the four corners of the town, Redditch doesn't have the four corner model and as a result visitors have no need to move across town which in turn would activate the pathways between those anchor sites. The new hub proposal provides a new anchor to Alcester St, Kingfisher Anchors the Evesham Street corner. Church Green East/West needs an anchor use to optimise town centre performance. The proposed piazza would become the nucleus with Market Place, Church Green and Alcester Street the prime navigation routes reaching out from it.

The current location makes it part of the town centre and central to the community. Moving risks it being less visible.

We have a bespoke library which has been refurbished fairly recently and there is no real need for it to be demolished to make way for a square hardly anyone wants. The part of the town hall given over to the library will be considerably smaller so there will be reduced space for resources of all kinds. It may be "in the way" in Mr Dormer's opinion but for most of us it is a valued and much used resource.

It will make the library smaller and less accessible to those who use it.

A more suitable location which is still accessible and is centralised with other services

Libraries are a thing of the past. Technology has moved on so the need for the facility is not as great as it used to be.

Time to invest

I think the proposed plans would a, keep the library at the town hall and b, the space where the library is now clearing that space would make a amazing event space.

It brings people down towards the theatre opening up this end of town whilst ensuring the town hall is utilised

Still local and accessible, and promise of no reduced facilities

Town centre is very inward and needs to be opened up

Library service will not be reduced but the town will greatly benefit from the move

A modern new area with more services in one place

Moving to the Town Hall will be a more relaxing and clean space which is accessible being ground floor. I don't like the disabled lift in current library.

It's a good use of available space

Same the town expenses, hopefully that Archives department can be arranged in a better position (in the way to maintenance the Artifacts in a better ways.

To bring new life to an outside space in the town

Hopefully it will improve the services and make that part of the town centre safer

Good location.

It is in need of modernisation anyway, the space can be better used for the community that will enable more residents to gain benefit from our town.

Better location and easily accessible. Disabled toilets.

It will help make Redditch Town Centre a much more attractive place.

I think the pros from the open space that would be created would definitely benefit the town centre and enable a much needed open space feel to Redditch town centre.

The town hall has capacity and should be the coordinating hub for the community

Proposal states that that this will create green space arguably a large area of pavinv is not an environmentally green space. Most visitors to Redditch Town Centre enter via the bus station and car parks. This is where they form their impression of the centre. It is therefore non-sensical to create an entrance of what is really a side entrance to the centre. An expansive area in and of itself does not have any direct impact on the economy, the link here is tenuous at best. Redditch provides very few larger name stores to attract visitors and already consists of far more coffee shops than any other type. The jobs created are minimal waged, zero hours and therefore not adding anything economically. Increasing night life is all well and good but only benefits a small demographic of the community. The current building, despite the older aesthetic of the outside, inside has had recent refurbishment and is bright, warm, welcoming and well laid out. It is already fit for purpose. It is therefore a waste of public money on something that does not need to be changed.

Agree as long as the library remains in Redditch even if in alternative location.

I think it will create a "hole" in the middle of the town.

As long as it is accessible from the new location, there will be no difference to the available resources available. Modernisation is needed and the old location is in need of an update to it 70's origins.

Redditch is a wonderful town and anything that can make it a destination point for people and maybe encourage bigger shops to come back to the town can't be a bad thing.

The library should be a stand alone institution, not a sub back office in the Town Hall.

Spending money to knock a well used facility down to create a probably unused open space seems ridiculous

I feel that our town Centre is completely out of touch with our younger to middle age group of people. If we don't move forward we are moving backwards. Using the town hall as a hub will bring many facets of the town together

The town hall is a ridiculous place further out of centre not big enough and it a total waste of time. Why not move town hall services into an extension of the library. We do NOT need any extra coffee/bistro/wine bar areas being built when we have plenty of unused areas around church green already

We have a perfect purpose built library

There is no need for it to move. Complete waste of money when the building it is in is suitable, closer to the centre entrance.

What a stupid place to put the library it needs to stay in the place it is now

Saves money

It allows for regeneration of the town and church green area. Also allowing for a community hub to be created.

There is more than enough room in the town hall for the library to be housed there freeing up the library to be rented out for office space etc. This would bring footfall into the town.

The important thing the services supplied to groups who need them rather than the building per say

Still a central location and allows for much needed development of the existing site

The library currently is perfectly adequate for purpose, the money could be spent in a better way. An open space won't bring people into town

The building at the moment is in the way. It is a really old building and if we move the library, there will be more space to create a central area where people can meet, sit, and enjoy themselves.

I would like our town to keep some historic buildings, I think adding new spaces for shops/cafes isn't necessary as we have lots in town that aren't currently filled

Ridiculous amount of money for something that doesn't need doing!

Redditch library in a central location and easy access for all.

Nothing wrong with present building and positioning

The justification for moving seems incredibly weak and it is not clear what the costs will be and what benefit this will have to the wider community. The library is so much more than "floor space" and do not think it is a fair metric to solely assess suitability of town hall. Given the importance of the library as a resource and to the community this proposal feels like a step back

The whole place needs updating. Also with the relocation into the town hall, the council should save money, everything is concentrated in one building. It is time to modernise the town centre again.

It is fine where it is. Having it as a separate place is a good thing. Waste of money relocating it

The library should be left where it is, nothing wrong with the building and perfect location. Just seems to be money wasting to get rid of it

I strongly agree because I believe it would regenerate the public use of the town, simply because it would have more to offer. By clearing the amount of space that the currently library takes, I believe it would create several reasons for the public to use the town rather than keeping it as it is and remaining quiet.

Great use if available space

So long as the library remains open and somewhere near the town centre, I am not concerned about which building it is in.

I have no strong views on relocation as I am an infrequent user.

more sustainable to stay where it is and don't agree with additional costs to tax payer for relocation

why knock down a perfectly good purpose built library

There is no reason whatsoever to do this other than to line the pockets of the rich. The poorer people of Redditch will not benefit in the slightest and it will not attract others to the town to generate jobs, community etc.

Because the new library looks great from the pictures the conservative Councillors showed us at the Roadshow

Need the space for new area

1) Less accessible location. 2) Fundamentally, this proposal sees the town taking over the responsibility for housing a County Council activity and actually paying for the privilege of so doing by reimbursing the County Council for the capital value of its asset! This makes no financial sense. In fact in the current financial environment - with Weatherspoons announcing that it is selling off the Rising Sun pub - the overall proposal looks ill-founded and financially reckless. Surely, the town centre area can be enhanced and improved without removing the library and also without the council having to underwrite any future ongoing commercial activities e.g. as a landlord (many investors in commercial property are now seeing drastic reductions in their revenue streams).

There is no need to move our perfectly well functioning facility. The money could be much better spent on something else.

We have a perfectly good library which functions well in its current position. I am sure the money spent on demolition of the current building and the expenditure of creating a new library in a building designed for an alternative use, could be much better spent. Please develop Church Green West instead, if there is money to be spent. Church Green should be the jewel in Redditch not the run down area it has become.

It is better where it is. It is well used and central to the town centre. The groups that use it are wide and varied and it is the perfect space for all these groups. It is a friendly space and I think it cannot be replicated in the town hall. I would guess that many of these groups/activities would be lost in the move. The town hall is the wrong space in the wrong place.

Total waste of money and the location will not be as convenient. We are only doing this to please the owners of the kingfisher center certain not to please the Redditch people

Redditch needs a new fresh look to encourage further investment

To make way for new developments of the town

Utilise the space better

Current library in a purpose built building that is clean warm and has a very friendly welcoming atmosphere and is in an ideal location next to the kingfisher centre, transport and Church Green, the library is not on an incline as the Town Hall is therefore all people with walking difficulties, wheelchair users and people with young children and pushchairs do not have to negotiate the extra distance on an incline.

The current library is purpose-built and has many years of life left in it. It seems wasteful and environmentally poor practice to demolish it. It has a discrete, vibrant identity which seems unlikely to be replicated in a multi-use building. It is in a much more central position than the Town Hall. For residents arriving in the town centre by bus, either to Church Green or to the bus station, and particularly elderly people or those with limited mobility, it is a much further, discouraging walk.

The library has just had an enormous amount of money spent on refurbishment. Why would you just dismiss that? Is money that easy to come by? It is a purpose built stand alone library. Perfect! as it is. There is no need to waste more money on a service already perfect.

The library is better located where it is. It is more accessible to more people.

I can't wait for something new!! The currently library is so unwelcoming

The present building is well designed, attractive inside and out, and totally fit for purpose. To demolish it would be a pointless waste of the available funds. Any suggestion that visitors would be attracted to Redditch by the prospect of a piazza with coffee shops is laughable, and the Council must be aware that catering outlets are closing all over the country through lack of use and difficulty in finding staff. The whole project is so obviously preposterous that I am led to wonder if any of our Councillors or their friends and families have a financial interest in building companies who might apply for the contracts.

It is totally unnecessary to waste money when the present library is more than adequate. We need to concentrate on replacing some of the lost amenities such as the excellent outdoor market which we valued plus encourage traders into the empty shops and units. It's an absolute disgrace that our town is being subjected to these idiotic ideas from folks who think they know what is best for us when it is clearly not so!

The town needs to go ahead with the new plans, they look great. The library being in a different location is no problem.

There is absolutely no need to relocate the library, everyone knows exactly where it is in a very easily accessed location in a building fit for purpose. Money should be spent elsewhere on improving shop fronts and attracting new varied retailers, around the Church Green at reasonable rents. For instance the old 'Tony's Handyman' premises could make a very inviting place for a bar/coffee/snacks/restaurant with outside eating in the spring/summer.

The current building is well organised and does not need to be moved. I can see no reason why the Library should have to be moved and presumably the building demolished and replaced by.....what exactly, another coffee shop? The town's infrastructure has more pressing needs than this.

We have a purpose built fantastic library which is very well used offers great selection of services for a variety of members and all ages of the public and has recently had a refurb. Why change and waste public money in a time when council tax is spiralling out of cost to change something that is not broken?

Location, per se, not a major issue due to its proximity to existing building

Redditch Library has been there for years and shouldn't be in line to change to another location.

The relocation will cost Redditch tax payers. The location of the new library is a backward move as it is away from the Kingfisher centre.

The present library fulfils the requirements for library services and is an integral part of the town centre. To destroy it is a shameful waste of resources, and harmful to the environment. The proposed 'improvements' to the town centre can be achieved without removing the existing library; cafés, bars and restaurants and attractive features can be situated in the existing areas around the library.

It is a waste of Taxpayers money and I do not accept that it will help the decline of Redditch Town Centre.

The town hall is the administrative centre for the town, and so library services will always be a secondary consideration when inevitable considerations of space and resources are discussed. There will be a great danger of space and facilities being removed from the library, making it a less attractive place to visit. This will mean that it is less likely to be protected when following exercises in resource allocation occur, to the point that the library will be withdrawn and cancelled when it is too small and poor in resources to attract visitors. The current library is a spacious and pleasant place to visit, and it is dedicated to library facilities and learning. It is well used and well maintained by dedicated and enthusiastic staff. The current proposal to develop the site into (essentially) retail space for rent fails to take into account the number of empty retail sites available already in the Kingfisher Centre and the Church Green. This would make the redevelopment look abandoned and semi-derelict from the moment it opened.

It is a purpose built space and a waste of money demolishing it

The new space cannot provide the same level of service that the current library building provides. There will be less books, less computers, less staff and less capacity to help.

It would be inconvenient for me to get to the Town Hall. I don't drive and the library is currently right next to the shops and other amenities. I am often carrying books, work bags or shopping bags and would struggle to get down the hill and back up again with everything. And in the cold or wet weather this would be horrible. I also don't want to see any of the archives moved to Worcester as I can't get there as a non-driver.

This library is in a central position why put it in town hall just to make this building affordable and usable because most staff work from home which has failed to centralise local government which was the idea of a town hall in the first place.

Waste of money

Strongly disagree because it is a complete waste of money. The building the library currently in is designed for the purpose of a being a library, the town hall is not.

Disagree with new location as of now it's the right size, familiar building to people, it's own space and sanctuary. Important to have a library which is its own building

It seems a better use of public space and money

It'd cost a pot of money for no benefit what so ever

If is going to be so close where it is located now why not leave it as it is? It's so convenient right now. Please don't move it.

Although it is not too far from the existing library, it is too far from the Kingfisher for me and my company (VIP Support) to take our clients with a learning disability and autism. They love the library. It has taken a lot of hard work to get them to the library. Such a change will have a huge impact on some of them, as they find changes so difficult to comprehend.

Redditch Library is a purpose built library. It is well organised and fulfils its purpose admirably. Although I use it less now, when my children were younger we went weekly to the library to seek out information and borrow books and the children all attended Storytime sessions. It seems to me a shocking waste of taxpayers' money to knock down this perfectly serviceable building, particularly in the current economic climate. The scheme proposed by Redditch Borough Council to use the Town Deal Funding seems to me ill-thought-out and wasteful. More retail and food outlets are not the answer and I would be interested to see any market research which shows that the new plaza would be economically viable. If anything, more green space and pleasant areas to sit outside the Kingfisher Shopping Centre, without having to spend money at a cafe, would be better for the residents of the town, particularly those who live in the town centre, where there are limited outdoor spaces. A children's play area would also be an attractive addition. More green space would also be good for the biodiversity of the town.

I understand that the space will be much smaller and we will lose much of the town archive

Lack of space to far a to dark

Existing facility is excellent. Cost of moving will be expensive and I do not believe the new facility will be as good.

Waste of time and money. Nobody asked for this so why move it. This is an opportunity to downgrade the town center for the purpose of lining Matt Dormers pockets.

I see no reason to demolish a thriving, purpose built library. To do so would be an absolute disgrace. It would be utterly shameful. A library is a cornerstone of a civilised society. You should be embarrassed to even be entertaining this crass proposal. Inclusivity. Life chances. Social cohesion. Life long learning. You should RESPECT the library, and all that it delivers. This would be sheer vandalism. Credibility is hard earned, and easily lost. YOUR`S is on the line.

There is no need to relocate the library it works perfectly where it is! The town does not need more coffee or food outlets! It is a complete waste of money what could be better spent sorting out the lack of housing!

Existing building is recently refurbished, welcoming and located by the entrance to the Kingfisher Centre; visits are linked, both shopping and library. Town Hall location is too far from the retail centre, away from Kingfisher access route. Development plan is based on a "cafe society" that Redditch cannot support. (the underused Kingfisher Food Hub is too far from the peak footfall) The plan has no commitment from catering/ leisure outlets; it is speculative. Take up is open to question and yet it is key to success. The dated "eyesore" is the Club opposite the library, not the library . The Council has no designated budget for Town Hall refurbishment (£5.2 million ?) and knocking the library down conveniently solves the problem, with money coming from the transfer of services. The "cafe model" is a dated concept. Church Green needs an integrated plan to increase public service footfall , a model with Library, NHS, advice, employment etc. all in the core area, not yet more cafes. Wetherspoons Rising Sun is scheduled for closure and that is located in the Town Hall library relocation zone ; out of the core, a recognition of poor footfall. The Local Studies reference material will be transferred from where it belongs in Redditch library, accessible to Redditch people, to Worcester.

I think that services and times will be reduced

The current location suits me however if the library were to be relocated to the Town Hall that would be suitable and accessible for me too.

One of the town's assets, a purpose built facility for library use and individual computer and study use, and area for community use. It is easily accessible from shopping centre, bus routes, the college, and trains. It should not be sacrificed for yet more coffee shops, there are many in the shopping centre. The current outside space in the town centre by the church tends to attract people who have drunk too much, and groups of men.

Current dedicated building could obviously remain so, whereas town hall accommodation would inevitably be adjusted/eroded etc. over time. Current building is closer to town centre

A lot of the archives will be moved to Worcester and the money to make the move would have to be paid by us

The existing library was purpose built and recently refurbished. It was described by Pevsner & Brooks (2007) as the best 20th Century building in the town. By contrast, the Town Hall's layout is unsuited to a public library: there is limited space on the ground floor and access to 1st floor and above is via lifts and staircases currently reserved for Council employees. Demolishing the existing building and converting part of the Town Hall would be a staggering waste of money and a vanity project.

The library is apart of redditchs history. I know where everything easy accesable

Everyone I know including myself are happy with the current library and location. We do not see any reason why it needs to move and cause so much mess, upset to library members and the staff working there. The staff also don't want to move and an ex staf worker confirms this strongly!

In Redditch we have a wonderful library at the centre of our community, a resource which many other towns would envy. It shows the commitment of our town to serving the community, putting learning and betterment at its heart. We don't need any more coffee shops etc. Cllr Dormer's rationale regarding the library restricting flow is completely implausible and, yes, as a tax payer I would rather the money be sent back to central government than be wasted on this obvious 'vanity project'. Further, I contend that Redditch's funding bid was factually incorrect in so many dimensions: public support for the project, the current state of the town, the architectural value of the current building etc have all been misrepresented to the point where I allege that such town funds have been received fraudulently. In addition, there is no way that this project complies with the relevant government guidance "Managing Public Money". Box 1.1: outlines standards expected of all public services: honesty, impartiality, openness, accountability, accuracy, fairness, integrity, transparency, objectivity, reliability...carried out in the spirit of, as well as to the letter of, the law, in the public interest, to high ethical standards achieving value for money. I see few if any of these

criteria being met by this project, something I am personally committed to bringing to the attention of those auditing the utilisation of the grant. The whole project is a disgrace and those responsible for forcing this onto the good people of Redditch should be ashamed of their conduct.

There is no point in moving it. No increase in service. Location is fine where it is. Waste of money

This is a central location that brings people to town.

Library is better located in the town ctr encourages more people use services and other events. Town Hall is out of the way!

Makes no difference where it is

Library is out dated

It would be great to create a more youthful vibrant town centre and change the image of Redditch

It needs updating

If it still offers the same services and is easily accessible then I would still continue to use the library

Location : what provision is there for older people to get to the town hall. Further away from the town centre location. Cost of movement of the facility to the town hall Initial work on removing the building as the area outside has only been completed Disruption to footfall in the area Councils objective to do as it feels in redditch without the residents involvement (Matt dormer)

It's right in the corner so people won't find it as easily and it will be too vast of a space which can feel overwhelming

It's too far away from town. Town hall would be better utilised as the hub. We don't need a demolition contract putting people off entering the kingfisher. Some great ideas out there. We could be given the option and vote

Less accessible, not central, won't be visible to users. At the moment you can just pop in quickly whereas it'll be further away and people won't visit as often. Ideal location where it is now.

Town hall is a dark horrible place

It is not a good and easy place to reach

I think it will make way for new things that the town needs

I do not visit the library.

There is nothing wrong with the existing library location. The move makes no sense at all. Well except as an excuse to build a vanity project named after a certain councillor.

It is more accessible where it is and so it should remain in its current location.

Terrible waste of money

Redditch does not need any more coffee shops, in needs investment in business, upskilling and high skilled jobs. The library book collection for non fiction/sheet music has shrunk over the years. The library also needs more floor space for books please.

Library should remain central focus of church green area, developed and improved.

I feel that a library is better suited to its own premises, and the Redditch Library is a perfect building for such a library. It would be a shame to get rid of the building when it is so suitable for its current function.

The library is better where it is

It would be all in one space

I agree because it has the potential to form a hub for many activities, not just the library. This is likely to increase the library use because people will be in the Town Hall for other reasons. The current library building is quite forbidding from the outside. The Town Hall is a bit more inviting.

The demolition of the purpose built library is a waste of money. Labour's alternative plans are much better way to spend the money

The public library is one of our town's main assets and its location paramount.

Do not understand why the library needs relocating - it has not been that long since lots of money was spent renovating it - what a waste of money if we simply demolish it now!

I disagree with new location. it is purpose built and in keeping with the town centre surrounding buildings as designed by RDC. it works perfectly well for its purpose. the public needed to be consulted prior to the funding. the gov guidelines are the grant being given for benefit, personally speaking the demolishing money could be better spent. The grant was about all the town of Redditch not all about Redditch town centre.

I strongly believe it's not a great plan to relocate by spending lots of money it could be better used.

It would be better

There's no need to fix something that isn't broken. The library as it is, is lovely. It would be better if shops were able to remain open in the kingfisher shopping centre, currently lots of independent shops don't last long due to high rent costs there's many empty shops that need filling not another cafe!

The floorplans demonstrated there will be less floor space, it will be less accessible and less of a focal point. It will be a huge waste of taxpayers' money, as the existing building is perfectly located - it just needs a renovation, which would be much more cost effective

It is too far away from the bus station and car parks and would invoke a lot of extra walking which is difficult for the elderly and disabled especially in winter as there is no covered walkway. I also worry about provision of library services whilst the relocation is happening.

The library works perfectly fine where it is. It has always been there. It is accessible for everyone and right in the centre

Smaller space

I had a market stall outside the library for 5 years lots of my customers were library visitors which helped trade around market place and church green! The kingfisher boss came out poaching stall holders to go inside including myself which is when he told me we want to get rid of the market and library and open it up so you can see the kingfisher entrance this was way before any plans were put forward then next thing now paths that didn't need doing outside the library which if they wanted to knock it down was a waste of money our money they closed our market and that was that 25 businesses gone only 5 offered a space in the indoor market which all traders have had a hard time and didn't want to go in! Anyway the debenhams monstrosity behind our beautiful library just wanted to be opened up for the kingfisher's benefit not ours there was never plans for cafes etc they been added on to try and sway people to go along with it! How they can make a sloped area flat without some kind of steep drop and steps which will isolate the undercover market which again was a waste of money and an attack on small businesses so the kingfisher got all the trade! Kingfisher's bosses and certain councillors who have plenty of mates in the building and property business seem to be in cahoots and someones profiting! And let's not forget the government's digitalisation of everything how do we know as they are trying with the archives that they turn our library to an online one where you order books so you can't go in there cus that's what the government have planned it's not just our library on attack this is around the UK so there is a bigger agenda also at play! All I know we do not want it no one I know wants it and if this goes thru it shows how corrupt our council and government are!

Library is perfect where it is and I feel town will be less inviting to customers if the demolition and relocation goes ahead

Why would you knock down a purpose built library and move it in to a purpose built Town Hall absolutely absurd ! Keep the library where it is and incorporate the Redditch museum!

I think it's money wasted

I think money could be better spent on other projects in the town. Housing, safety ie cctv, police presence. Bowling alley, ice rink. Something for young people to take part in.

Much needed update for the town

I want to keep the Library where it is as it already is in the centre of town and accessible to my needs as a disabled person and I meet lots of friends there. We weren't asked if we wanted the Library demolished before it was already approved by Redditch Council and it had been sent to the Government to achieve the funding [without any plan for the ongoing service] or any statutory consultation had been performed by Worcestershire County Council. The consultation in that respect is unfair and flawed.

It has been there since I can remember going as a little girl, and this is where it should stay. Going to cost money to relocate.

I think the grant could be better spent on several projects that need more urgent work in Redditch as there is nothing wrong with the Library building apart from one or two minor issues. The empty offices at the Town Hall, which I expect is a result of not so many people working from the offices as they are working from home, should not be a reason to waste money. What would happen if the offices needed to be used by Council staff in the future? The public should be guaranteed that the Library space would not be taken over and services reduced in size. The land where the Library is situated at the moment should not just be turned into a street cafe as has been suggested. We have plenty of Coffee shops and eateries in Redditch already as whenever a shop closes down, it becomes a cafe. We do not need an outdoor eating area as has been proposed as we do not have a same weather conditions as on the continent. That would be a complete waste of funds. If the Council are at a loss of what to do to spend the grant on, I'm sure they are aware of all the lovely old buildings which need restoring in Redditch. It is nice to keep historical buildings going.

It makes sense to me that the Library is associated with the local government of the town/borough. It may also help increase the accessibility/use of library services by people who might not otherwise do so.

The library location is great where it is for everyone to access easily from the kingfisher, the facilities inside are excellent and great environment to visit and doesn't need replacing in a new location the process would be a waste of money to move it to the town hall.

Totally ridiculous idea, our library is loved by residents. Waste of funds, use the money to improve the church Green area. More independent traders a regular market

1. I understand that the town hall is large enough, potentially. But in order to make sure that the relocated library is the same size as the current one, we first need accurate measurements of what we have now. These have not been provided. The cabinet report says library floor space is around 500msq. These figures only include meeting rooms, fiction and children's. They miss the business support centre, study spaces and computers. The library is clearly more than this 500msq, a fact that I can prove with just a tape measure and a calculator. Until correct figures have been published in the public domain, I could not support relocation. Accurate figures hold all parties to account and guarantee no reduction in floor space now or in the future. 2. I believe the consolidation of three library meeting rooms and two council meetings rooms into three shared meeting rooms represents a degradation to the library service. 3. Other services are going to be moved into the town hall, and yet there is no reception desk. This means that library staff will be the point of contact for people who wish to access other services. This means they will spend less time on library tasks. This is a further deterioration of library service. 4. I disagree with your equality screening assessment. The town hall is further from the bus station, train station and majority of car parks. Furthermore, it is at the bottom of a hill and there are steps and ramps immediately in front of it. I believe that this has the potential to have a detrimental impact on people with disabilities or older people. However, your screening tool does not consider these and so a full impact assessment has not been done.

5. Your environmental impact assessment fails to consider the enormous environmental cost of demolishing a healthy and suitable building. The majority of greenhouse gases that are produced from buildings come not from occupation, but from manufacture of building materials and construction. The concept of improving environmental sustainability by moving to a more efficient building while demolishing the old one is a folly. Furthermore you have not included the environmental impact of remodelling the town hall. I believe that demolishing and rebuilding the library contravenes the council's environmental pledge.

6. While I welcome the fact that you are using this consultation to engage with library users on how they think services can be supplemented, you should be aware that if these improvements can be made at the current site, then they cannot be used as a justification for relocating the library. Keeping the library in situ and making changes there represents a more efficient use of public money.

7. I believe this change will cost library users money they wouldn't otherwise have to spend. If archives are moved to the hive then Redditch residents will either have to pay travel costs, or to pay a remote enquiry or digitisation charge plus admin fees.

8. All change carries risk. Things may get better or may get worse. I am sure project managers have a special language and method to define and quantify this concept, but for me it comes down to this: There is nothing wrong with the current library. I am more than happy with the service it provides. So, while there is even the smallest risk of a detrimental impact, I cannot consent to relocation. More colloquially, if it isn't broken, don't fix it.

9. You don't include an option to keep things as they are, but I want to make it clear that is my preference.

It uses wasted space in the Town Hall while freeing up space to allow an increased flow of traffic in and out of the kingfisher. Plus the new plans look great!

The part of the town where the library is located is in desperate need of redevelopment, footfall is low and there are no appealing shops or areas to draw people, the town council plans for the area if the library moves are great and much needed for the town and younger / future generations. If the library was closing I would strongly disagree but the proposal is to move it to another building with a range of other services in order to create some much needed creativity in that part of the town

the town centre needs a revamp

The library is perfectly located. The interior is warm and welcoming and the staff knowledgeable and helpful. If this criminal demolition is sanctioned the information provided proposes site is to be used to build more café / dining facilities etc. Redditch town centre already has in excess of 35 snack bars, coffee shops, fish & chip, pizza, McDonalds, Indian, Chinese take away facilities plus numerous restaurants. We do not need any more !!

There is no advantage to demolishing a perfectly good building that people want and need to make way for a vanity project and more empty space in Redditch town centre. If anything, the services at the existing site could be improved. Once the decision to demolish the building is taken and it's gone there will be no going back, the building would never be rebuilt.

i am unable to attend the town hall due to my limited walking from the college car park

I disagree with this decision because of the fact there is limited parking limited space and walking is a going to be an issue for local residents I myself have issues with walking I feel it should be left where it is as this is why the redditch people want and I do myself it doesn't need more cafes and a flat group with more water to not be used

The library on the green is in the perfect location and does not need to relocate The building is bright inviting and is fit for purpose A community hub already exists within the library walls with wonderful inviting staff who provide endless activities Add to this wonderful resource maybe build to the rear incorporate the mayors chambers make this the community hub

The Library is situated in the correct place in the heart of Redditch near to the Kingfisher shopping centre where the footfall is. It is easy to get to, in comparison I find the town hall is inconvenient and out of the way. The Library in its present location fits in with my daily business as I can conveniently pop in there and then into town as I need it afterwards. Some local councillors have been very dismissive and rude when I have expressed this point of view with comments such as "its only 50 yards down the road" but that detour

is extra time and if I am honest moving the Library makes me less likely to come into Redditch town centre and spend money. It makes a Library and town visit inconvenient having to make the detour to town hall. So in essence the big plan of "increasing footfall" to the Kingfisher centre fails as without a Library in a convenient and central location I am unlikely to use either facility. Equally the argument about creating a square with Cafe's when the town centre is already full of them is absolute folly along with empty units that if so desired additional cafe's could move in tomorrow without the expense of demolishing a perfectly good building with public money wasted.

I'm positively sure that it could never be as well designed and useable as the existing library.

How can we really give an informed view when many questions about services to be relocated and space available for them are still under review? It is unreasonable to ask for people to agree to something which isn't yet defined or decided. Regardless of this I do not believe the currently library building should be demolished and space for no services should be reduced, as is suggested might be the case on this website. I am not satisfied that this consultation has been either open, or publicised as it should have been.

The present location meets the needs of Redditch residents ideally. Non of the proposed space are necessary are an improvement for residents. Particularly a cafe pavilion and public space. Demolition of the library building will reveal the back [ugly]rears of other buildings. There is sufficient space to return the Market to this area which would be more beneficial to the town than the proposed new use.

The current Library is well located at the heart of the old town area of Redditch town centre, and is easily accessible from the Kingfisher Centre, the HOW College, and the bus stops along Church Green West. It is also closer than the Town Hall to the Bus Station and Railway Station. The Library does help to draw people out of the Kingfisher Centre onto the Church Green/Alcester Street area - to relocate it would negatively impact the footfall in this area.

With a little tlc to bring the building up to 'spec' there is absolutely no reason to close it. The last thing needed is another cafe space there. Use the money to re think the potentially great area around Church Green. There already several cafes on or near the Green. Get rid of the take aways and sort the parking to make the area more pleasant.

It's too far to walk and nobody will know it's there. When you look at other places, there main libraries undergo a big redevelopment - like in Birmingham. This proposal would put it in with the council (not popular!).

The present building was purpose built at great expense. It is adjacent to Kingfisher Shopping Centre and nearer to public transport than new location. Cafes in library buildings are often inferior to privately run cafes and coffee shops (eg paper cups used and limited menu).

I'm all for any proposals for regeneration of Redditch town centre. The library as a service is key for any town and as the services are not lost and merely relocated I cannot understand the issue from any form of rejection to the idea.

Library has been there for years people know it's there and a meeting place for people who also need help

We must reduce carbon emissions and demolishing a perfectly good building is simply not a sensible decision for sustainability or cost grounds. The new library location is also less optimal for me. There are other options available for achieving aims of the centre redevelopment and these should be thoroughly explored before a decision is made. Looking through your consultants report there is very little detail of alternatives and it appears the report was written to support a decision not to arrive at an unbiased view.

Totally unnecessary. A total waste of money. People do not visit for aesthetics but for the shops. With the kingfisher charging such high rents, you could pave the roads with gold, it still won't increase the footfall.

i object to being told that this is a good idea with very little information regarding the length of closer time whilst one building is made good for another The current library is in a brilliant location with a vibrant

atmosphere with in a hub that works amazingly The services offered are inc-readable with staff available to chat and support as you become a regular

I hate the thought of loosing this beautiful building, it's so bright and fresh, the staff are lovely very welcoming and helpful

I think our library is in a good place where it is accessible to all and big enough for its users. Why waste public money moving it and creating a plaza it would be better to smarten the shops in Alcester St.

There is no reason to move it other than the vanity project dreamt up by the council with no chance given to the people if they want 10 Mill wasted on a fountain and cafes when there are already empty shops in the area.

There's nothing wrong with the current building, valuable local archives remain in Redditch, an exterior facelift would modernise the appearance, I remain unconvinced that the new proposal will have the stated benefit (footfall, hub creation and library in the town hall), the council will have to borrow money to complete the proposed changes, it's a waste of our money.

Redditch does not need more open space but for current outdoor space to be used more effectively. Library is a great resource in a great location. Should not be hidden away. Council has had to be forced to be transparent about their plans instead of involving community from the start Disruption of moving the library could result in loss of people using it.

There is no need to move the library. It will be reduced in size if it's moved. Listen to the people and leave the library where it is!

I like the library being in the centre of the town, close to the bus stops, post office and shops.

I won't be able to get there when I go to the shops. I can't walk very far and definitely wouldn't be able to carry my books down and up the hill from the Kingfisher Centre. I also think it's a waste of money and resources when we have a brilliant library already!

I know that the town hall will not have the space to offer the same level of services that Redditch Library currently offers. There is no room for archive materials which we should keep accessible IN Redditch, not in Worcester. If the proposed idea of having a "community hub" with a variety of service offers such as police, nhs etc. goes ahead, this leaves the library with even less space and does not fulfil the promise which has been made to provide the same or similar amount of space for the library as the current library. I also believe that the proposed relocation restricts many library users both new and existing, the town hall is at the bottom of a hill and while parking is available many library users park inside of the town centre and pop into the library because it is also at the centre, not downhill.

This appears to be a totally un-necessary move which is also a complete waste of taxpayer's money. It is also very unfriendly to the environment as demolition of existing buildings is one of the most damaging things it is possible to do for the environment. The harm that this proposal would do to the environment does not appear to have been considered at all. The existing library is purpose built, perfectly functional, right next to the Kingfisher Shopping Centre & easily accessible.to users. The proposed move will involve massive inconvenience, for no good reason & in fact for no reason at all. The proposal will result in the library being further away from the town centre & not as conveniently situated as it is at present. ,

The town needs vibrancy and, while we can be nostalgic, we must change with the times. The Town Hall is an existing site that in still in town and can accommodate the library. Therefore it remains in a suitable town centre location with minimal cost for relocation. There is no new building or rent to a private 3rd party to be paid.

Utter waste of time and money. This proposal is nothing more than a glamorous walkway to the shopping centre that nobody has asked for.

It needs to be more accessible and a purpose (not repurposed) space Easy access

Physical loxation Proposed layout for library area is unsuitable

Since the consultation site has moved I am filling this out a second time in case my first comments have been lost. *Redditch Library is a bespoke Library building designed to be an efficient Library *Money spent on demolishing the Library could be better used to support the regeneration of Church Green. * We have enough cafes in Redditch and people do not want to sit outside in an empty square in the cold wet English weather. Fountains will have detergent poured in them and will get switched off. *The water in the fountain on Church Green is already off after only a few months of being repaired.these new fountains will suffer the same fate. *Redditch Library is on a hill. To flatten the ground adequately to place a piazza and fountains there, it will cost a huge amount of money before brick is laid above ground. * People don't want an open space. Currently we have those... and people use them to drink and take drugs in. We want our beautifully run Library. *Redditch Library is the second busiest Library in the County. Why fix what isn't broken.?

*Redditch Library has only recently had an expensive refurbishment, both inside and also the paths outside. That money will be for nothing if the Library is demolished. The Council will be wasting tax payer's money. *Disabled people will not be able to access the library as easily from car parks on the other side of the town. The Town Hall is further away. *I am strongly opposed to the removal of artifacts from the Library archives. Many were donated by Redditch people to be kept in the town they are relevant to, and were not donated to be shunted off to a basement in Worcester never to be seen again.

The library does not need to be moved, it's perfectly fine where it is, it will definitely cause a lot of problems if it is moved. Less people are likely to use the library if moved!

Less people will access it, car parking in the town centre does not easily encourage foot fall to the town hall. Some people who need the library services are less likely to engage with the services at the town hall due to the perceived official status of the town hall.

The existing facility is perfectly adequate and accessible. The relocation has been stated by the Leader of the Council as being to facilitate creation of an appealing cafe based piazza to attract visitors; this is a false premise that will not benefit Library users or justify unnecessary expenditure.The actual building is adaptable to any need for future change, and its retention would avoid costs, and change for changes sake.

If the Library is resited in the Town Hall , it will be away from any meaningful footfall . Where it is currently , pupils from the College and High School walk past the Library on their way into the King fisher Centre . On their way they go into the Library . Even where the car parks are situated , and disabled spaces , the Library can be seen and the majority of people walk past it as there is no alternative . The main reason why it is such a well used Library is because of its current position . Plus , I do dispute the fact that the space will be the same in the Town Hall ... where are they going to put all of the computers and meeting rooms that are so well used and proving to be an essential part of the current Library . Also , the Archives must be considered ... Archives and history of the area is increasing dramatically . There will be no room for the Archives in the Town Hall and , even if there was space below , HOW ON EARTH COULD MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ACTUALLY GET ACCESS TO THESE RECORDS . AN EXAMPLE WOULD BE BIRMINGHAM CENTRAL LIBRARY ..ARCHIVES TAKE UP ALL OF ONE FLOOR , WITH RECORDS DATING BACK TO 1825 being readily accessible . ONE VERY GOOD SOLUTION IS TO PUT THE JOB CENTER INTO THE TOWN HALL ..THE UNEMPLOYED HAVE TO GO TO THE JOB CENTRE ON A REGULAR BASIS..THE SPACE CREATED BY MOVING THE JOB CENTRE , COULD THEN BE USED BY PUTTING THE ARCHIVES INTO PUBLIC ACCESS . AND THEN THE SPACE IN THE BASEMENT WHICH IS VERY DRY (I HAVE BEEN THERE) Could be used to provide a small cafe area , so that people can read , have a coffee and snack and relax with fellow users ..ALL THIS COULD BE DONE AT A FRACTION OF THE PROPOSED COST .

I completely disagree, the library is a valuable resource for many people and it would cause hardship for those who rely on it if it were taken away. All for a pizza place? Ludicrous!

How does relocating the library boost the economy of the town? It seems like there is excess money (after the back handers) of £15.6 million to be spent. It does not give a one stop venue as the old library is only a 30 second walk from the town hall. Just spend the money renovating the old library with the historic investment.

I feel libraries should be on neutral ground to escape from everyday problems. I feel libraries are important asset as a source of information and important for democracy and should be at the centre of the community , where better than next to the main shopping centre. I feel the library building is in a better condition than the town hall. If the town wanted more cafes and relaxing areas there are empty units surrounding Church Green and near by , for example the old Debenhams store and British Heart Foundation shop. There is the area between the rear of Debenhams store and Post Office that could be put to better use. There are several apparently empty office blocks near by , Grosvenour House and Osprey House down Prospect Hill than new business could possibly use. I feel the council has been given this money and is just spending because it available.

There is nothing wrong with the current building apart from some maintenance and cosmetic tweaking. Pushing out what should be a central part of town. We do not need yet more cafes or a square. Spend the money on improving the area around Church Green. Link it more thoughtfully to the Centre. Remove the take aways that cause such congestion around what could be a really attractive part of town. If it is to be moved any where then move it into the Kingfisher eg the old Debenhams unit.

If the town centre is to be improved as a result of the Library being moved I'm all for it.

As long as Services are not cut and the square footage is the same then I have no issue with the new location although this wouldn't be as convenient for me to get to. My concern is with the demolition of the existing building. Where will all the waste go to I.e. concrete and building materials? It's a big environmental impact.

I'm not against the library being relocated in the Town Hall to make the best use of the space in there. I'm unsure why the library building has had so much money spent on it recently, to add the Job Centre etc, which now seems to be a waste as further money needs to be spent to relocate all these services. I don't think, however, that more retail and cafe units are needed in Redditch at present. I understand the desire to 'gentrify' St Stephen's square and to provide a focal point for the town, but I am concerned that there is likely to be a lack of people wishing to rent the new retail and leisure units, and in Redditch, many people are poor and do not have the funds to spend in cafes and eateries. At night, the town centre feels unsafe to me, so I and my family - who can afford to use bars and restaurants - are unlikely to go out there. I can't see how the policing of anti-social behaviour in the town centre will improve to make the proposed outdoor plaza area feel nice and safe enough to use.

The building is currently too large and under utilised

There isn't enough space in the Town Hall (or is the next phase relocating the services from that?) Also, an open space that'll attract vandals and more empty retail units / coffee shops is of no benefit to anyone

The Library is in a idea position. To move it to the Town Hall I will not use it - it's too far for me to walk too

There is nothing wrong with our library, we do not need it to be relocated

It doesn't need to be moved. Everything is for profit.

It is unnecessary and likely to reduce the facilities that the library are able to offer. Also by placing it within the Town Hall building further from the centre of the town, it obscures it from easy access and visibility

The present library building is an attractive modern effective building. The building and the staff serve the town very effectively and has a vibrant and welcoming atmosphere. To demolish the building, I believe, is a gross waste of public resources. I also believe that to resite the building within the council offices is an unnecessary and costly mistake. The vague plans to for the future use of the site are totally unconvincing, given the large number of empty properties around the town centre. I fully understand that if the plans are abandoned, then the funding will be lost to the town, however this is not a reason to continue with such a wasteful vanity project promoted by I believe some of the local misguided politicians.

There is nothing wrong with current building, why include it in the plans to redevelop the town centre?

Demolishing the library and relocating it to the Town Hall is a waste of millions of pounds of public money on a vanity project. The existing library is a purpose-built building and is in a good condition, well used and popular. There is no need to relocate the services, and the brickwork paving recently laid through the town centre and around the library will have to be ripped up. I object to any removal of Redditch's archives from the town; these are our archives and should be accessible to all residents. Redditch is where they belong. As some of the proposed space is shared with other services, this means there will be less space for the library.

The new location is further away from the bus station, train station, all of the multi-storey car parks and the kingfisher shopping centre meaning it is less easily (and less conveniently) accessible - especially for disabled people and those with mobility issues. We have been told there will be disabled parking spaces, but this assumes all disabled people have, or have access to, a car. I'm relatively young and in quite good health and I'd find the new location off-putting to get to, especially with my two young children in tow (getting anywhere with a 2 year old is a struggle!), so I really am worried about those less able accessing services they really rely on. I also think having a library in a stand alone building is an asset - years ago when I was renting a council property and had problems paying my rent, I used the library regularly (for the computers and just for a place to go where I felt welcome) - if the library had been in the same building as council services I wouldn't have felt confident to go in.

i have lived and worked in this town all my life. we have a perfectly good library. why do we need to move it? we dont!

It is illogical to move from current site

Demolishing the library to create a new large property when there are already a number available along Church Green and Alcester (such as the former British Heart Foundation / Tony's Handyman) so as to attract people on to the "high street" external to the Kingfisher Center seems backward thinking. As most of the major cafe franchises already have properties in the Kingfisher Centre, where is the operator for this new cafe in the library's replacement to come from? Is one of the existing cafes to move, only to create a one more empty property within the Centre? If the plan is create areas available for shared working then Redditch surely already has multi-storey space available in the former Debenhams, which moneys could be used to convert a space that has now been closed for some two years. The idea of the plaza occupying much of the former library space is borrowed from Bromsgrove's Birdbox. But that was an idea deployed to use up abandoned territory in Bromsgrove had been failed to be suitable for numerous previous plans and had never had any takers. Quite the opposite for Redditch which now proposes to remove a used and valued property. Furthermore, while the Birdbox has won an award (and under this civic circumstances what scheme hasn't?), scrutiny of the last years' facebook and news entries for the Birdbox indicate its offerings have amounted to little that couldn't already be offered in the spaces exterior to the Kingfisher. AS resident have been requesting for a long time, reinstatement of the market along the high street from Church Green to Alcester Street would create reasons for the public come into Redditch and offer opportunities to small businesses. As costing for the redevelopment scheme is almost identical to the government grant, and experience of these types of projects indicates that it is almost inevitable it will run over time and over cost - particularly given current financial forecasts and stresses - where will additional sums be obtained? Or will it incur further inevitable debt before it is completed because of irretrievable sunk costs in an otherwise uncompletable project? To close one purpose-built council building (the library) to transfer its facilities to another purpose-built building (the town hall) and have this transfer paid by the sale of yet a third council asset (Community House) is to deliberately deprive Redditch of future resources and spare capacity in what is still an expanding town. To say that that there may be equivalent space in the town is to fail to recognise that different pertinent spaces may be required: archives, offices for staff, for the preparation of materials, for privacy. There remains much concern about the Redditch Historical Archives of longstanding, and there then remains the fiction archive (potentially 20,000 books that predate computerisation and ISBN, that were to be held for the county and country, many of which constitute rare remaining copies of novels of the 20th century outside of the British Library). Just because an ill-considered idea gets money, it is perfectly reasonable and justifiable to reject the money and the idea.

Historic building. Fine where it is.

The purposal move for the library is to move into the town hall is downsizing and downgrading the library. The purposal shows that the space is not anywhere near what we currently have as a library, especially for a town with a bustling college, where I am a tutor. Also the children's area of the library is well used and loved by me and lots of other moms, especially single parents, in the area, where it can be difficult to meet others, especially with the cost of living rises and Libraries being one of the one free areas we can safely take our children, and where our children can lost into worlds of wonder within pages of books.

It will be smaller/ there will be cuts

I do not see a valid reason for spending this amount of money on it, there are more important things. The present building is fit for purpose and we don't need more coffee shops - I don't use them.

The library building seems entirely fit for purpose, as it is a nice bright and welcoming space that seems to be thriving. It is in an excellent, central location that is easy for anyone in the town centre to find. I am sure that the new investment could be better used that to demolish a perfectly sound building. I understand that there have been minor issues with the building but have not understood why expensive scaffolding has surrounded the untouched building for so long. I am most definitely in favour of the progression and modernisation of the town centre which is currently rather depressing for visitors, but the library is a clear plus point for the town. Could funds not be used to develop the area around the back of the library or to make access to the Kingfisher centre more attractive or why not create a new Royal Enfield museum which would surely attract lots of visitors? What Redditch town centre does not need is more cafés and empty properties where businesses cannot afford to pay the rent!

Don't trust the council or politicians, when anything like this occurs the result is always a reduced service immediately or later when changes to the original proposal that significantly reduce service are "added". We agree to one thing and what results is less than prommised. Any move should increase and improve on available ameneties.

It is a waste of money; money which could be used by the County Council on many other projects - to improve Redditch.

I think it's important for the king fisher

Il disagree that the library should be moved

The people of redditch have waited a long time to get a decent library and a decent building which is accessible to all including the disabled we are being forced to move by one councillor's dream which is our nightmare and one person should not be allowed to dictate how normal people of redditch get their library left alone.

The 'plans' show a downgrade of library facilities and include its removal from the centre of appropriate footfall. It reduces the possibility of ever improving or extending the library facilities.

I don't feel it is needed. The Town Hall is a place people go when they have to. The existing Library is a community hub that is used by people by choice and I have volunteered, looked for information, conducted research and borrowed books for myself and with/for my children throughout the years. I do not visit the Town Hall. There is no need to increase footfall into the town at this point. It already exists. The movement of the town's existing historical research to Worcester; an inaccessible venue to the town is frankly inappropriate and insulting. The Library plays a significant role for young people particularly given the downgrading of school library services. We are awash with coffee shops and short of shops and the market. Previous decisions which have not taken account of the communities view have left it with a privately owned shopping centre charging high rents, the loss of independent ones and have had a detrimental impact on the town. Recent relief at not getting £19 million to regenerate Matchborough and Winyates is very telling. I have watched the public consultation with interest. I am proud and agree with the public including a six year old's opinions on the matter. I could not help but notice the blond Council lady's non verbal disapproval of some of the arguments. Shouldn't she be professional and unbiased? I am not anti change for the Town just anti change developed without really taken account of residents opinions.

Sounds a good plan

It is not central to the town and a long walk to get to the new location. For disabled users and those with walking problems the bus stops make it much further away and also disabled parking areas which is close to the existing library make it easier to access.

I am an old age pensioner of 81 and have difficulty walking with my bad back. What this council is doing is a total waste of money. Knock down the useless town hall. We have many eateries in the King Fisher which are already struggling. Improve the bus service ie Worcester bus/Birmingham bus.

The new location is not purposely built. The current library was purposely built with an interesting architecture that is less common nowadays. It is spacious, airy and welcoming. As a disabled person who uses a wheelchair/frame, I so appreciate the lovely lift. It is roomy enough that I am not a nuisance to others. There is enough space between rows of books for my wheelchair. There is plenty of space to sit and relax in peace. No thresholds to go over with my wheelchair. The new location will not be offering this level of access for disabled people. I also feel that moving to the new hub will ultimately cost us on services. We already lost vital floor space to the job centre. Books were sold. The new hub doesn't have the same space, so how will they maintain the current services and add anymore? What about the local archives? I can't go to Worcester to consult them. Ideally, we should have more computer stations, books and activities added, and that won't happen in a smaller space. Ultimately, I think it is an awful use of money and is detrimental to the environment. Why demolishing a totally competent and purpose built building, and settling for a lesser one? The council always talk about the green agenda and climate change, but see no problem in wasting the energy and CO2 that it did cost building the library, and contributing even more CO2 and energy to climate change by demolishing it and building something else - and that does not include some refurbishment for the hub. The town of Redditch has more pressing matters to take care of, than some pointless new entrance to the mall. The mall has been struggling for a long time, and not because of where the library is situated. Rents are too high, people prefer internet shopping, too many shops selling the same stuff, no local flavour, expensive parking, etc. A new entrance won't change that. If anything else, the foot traffic to the library is a good thing for the mall. Spend the money on sprucing up what we already have. Invest in local people and businesses. Fight poverty and homelessness. Invest in schools and community centres. Redditch needs much more than a new mall entrance. To me, it all looks like a vanity project, made to make money in contracts to the people involved and their contacts. I guess there are no money to be made by the conservative council with social services. Once the library building is gone there is no certainty that any promises about services will be kept. This council just want to make money on the back of Redditch assets and its people, and in ten years, it will be a ghost town with no assets left, or community - just a pointless hub.

Many people, including me, will struggle to get down to the Town Hall. The plans also include services for drug addiction/mental health etc to be located in the Town Hall with the library. Whilst I completely support the need for these services, I don't want to them sharing a building with the library. I wouldn't feel safe letting my children roam in the library if these services were offered in the same building. Whilst I'm sure most people accessing these services would be fine, there are likely to be some people accessing them who may pose a danger to children, or, at the very least, use bad language around them etc. I would not feel safe in the same way I do in the current building. I also don't think it's fair on the excellent library staff.

The current library is well used and has many purposes, also it close to town centre and is easy for people to pop in when in town. The town hall is further away and people would be less like to want to go the additional distance in order to use its facilities. Also as the Town Hall is already earmarked as a hub for various services, I am not convinced that there would be sufficient room left to accommodate the library in its current form leading to a smaller library with no spare capacity for expansion. Finally is cost why waste money demolishing the library building, when that money would be better spent improving the town centre, the Parade opposite the church being just one area that might benefit.

feel the current library is not fit for modern purpose so should be redeveloped, but making it part of the town development will make it more suitable for the future. In a new building it could be more a social hub, in the town hall it would be cut off.

The town hall is the wrong place for the Library to be. It is easy to get to where it is and ideal to go into when using the Kingfisher Centre, if the two were further apart it would make me less likely to use the

Kingfisher Centre or the Library. Plus the whole proposal is a waste of public money, this could be better invested elsewhere.

The demolition of a perfectly good building is an environmental disaster. The current building is very well suited to the purpose of being a library. It is also a great waste of money to demolish a bespoke library with no other alternative identified. Building a new dedicated library will be costly. I can't see where or how this is included in the current plan drawing. There is a written commitment but nothing in the plan itself. The cost of converting offices to the sort of open areas required for a library to work well will be very expensive.

The library we have is purpose built, trying to adapt an alternate building into a library would be to sacrifice a great efficient space for an inadequate adjusted one. The town hall plans measure the space they'll commit to library use but include the corridors and pathways, which cannot be used by the library for storage of books (fire hazard) but are counted in the comparison table. The comparison table also does not show the business centre at all, or include the library lobby which houses 40 public use computers, how is that a fair comparison? Worst of all is the thought of losing yet more of Redditch history by sacrificing half our archive.

Less accessible location and pointless exercise, putting at risk one of the best used library resources in the county. Can't see the rationale for demolition of the existing library - a costly vanity exercise that will do nothing to regenerate the town centre while so many units are vacant. The money could do so much more if redirected toward acquiring properties around the green for development.

THE PRESENT LIBRARY LOCATION PROVIDES ALL MY NEEDS AND IS LOCALLY ADJACENT TO THE SHOPPING PRECINCT AND ALL FACILITIES WITHIN EASY WALKING DISTANCE

Best use of the money. Very poor decision.

Everyone knows that the library is where it is and why would it need to move into a less central location.

I believe the library is in the right place where it is and fully meets the needs of the community. I believe it is a massive waste of £15m of public money to demolish a perfectly good library and move it to an inferior location.

No room to grow.. Harder to get to if disabled. Too expensive to move. Cost of losing Community Centres and Green belt land

I think it is a waste of money. You have spent money on paving stones and now you are going to demolish a purpose built library. Just for more people to come to Redditch to eat and drink in a cold square, all to reveal a pair of doors into the Kingfisher

I simply can't understand the rationale behind demolishing an award winning building that is part of the town's heritage, just to provide a "Plaza". (This was tried in Oxford decades ago and it was a total disaster) Squashing the library into a smaller overall space, taking into account corridors etc. in the process. A dreadful use of precious resources.

I personally do not understand why a purpose built building must, all costs, be demolished and removed to the Town Hall, to make way for cafes,, restaurants, bars etc, and to improve Redditch's night-life

The present library does a fantastic job and fulfills the needs. The move is a waste of money and will cause unnecessary upheaval. We have plenty of cafes and have trouble filling the commercial spaces in the centre. Why waste money creating more. The council needs to use public money with more care and thought.

Our Library is easily accessible from the Shopping Centre, the Church and the bus route. It is a very warm and welcoming place and a delight to be in when the children and baby sessions are on. I use it a lot and always have done.

The current library is central and much more accessible - especially for older people - than the Town Hall
Town Hall is out of the way, Why change when it is okay where it is

If Library at back of town not easily accessible. Also outside right by pubs invites drunks so will avoid.

NO

Unnecessary to make changes not needed. Cost to council for change, not capacity in Town Hall

I like the library in the place it is now and feel many people use it. It is better being a library than a Plaza into the Kingfisher Centre.

I strongly disagree because it is taking the library out of a central position and putting it on the outskirts of the town centre, taking away access for elderly people to use the library. Where it is now is easier to get to through the Kingfisher Centre which also increases the footfall in the centre which must be beneficial.

The Town Hall is just enough out of the way to lower its status and make it less prominent and usable. Redditch has a history of getting things wrong (the market, the bus station...) I predict this will be another one Stop now. Don't do it!

No need for more cafes, shops etc Not an old building Town Hall not big enough

Not necessary. Enough shops and cafes in Redditch already

I strongly disagree because it is taking the library out of a central position and placing it on the outskirts of the Town Centre making it a longer distance to walk to. The Town Hall would not be a suitable or convenient position. The library at present is within easy access to the Kingfisher Centre.

I think the library should stay where it is as it has been here for many years as part of a community. I do not think it should be moved as it has grown up with a lot of people around the town

In the current position is ideal for all ages and disability.

Complete waste of money as this is the perfect location as it is - why waste time and money moving the library when a lot of money was spent refurbishing it not long ago

I think that relocating the library to the Town Hall is a total waste of money. The last thing Redditch needs are more eating places, just look at the Town Centre!

The new location would mean a much further walk and the place where it is now is ideal and I see no reason to change it

It is not so accessible. It (the Town Hall) is situated further away and therefore in bad weather people, especially older people, will be more exposed to the elements. The library was purpose built for its use, and is used

I have been coming here for over 30 years

Why have a library built and then a few years later knock it down to build another place

Library is purpose built for Redditch people and groups. Do not trust current politicians not to cut library services after relocation. Legacy for MP Maclean. Money - public money - being spent - cafes will not survive in present climate. This is a major financial RISK.

It is a well known, well loved institution and staffed by cheerful and helpful librarians This could all disappear or be diluted

I personally disagree because a good library should not be demolished. Everyone can get to our library easily from the shops. The Town Hall is too far for older people or disabled people. The hill is too steep for the elderly.

A waste of money

It doesn't need moving

The present library is perfect, it cannot be improved. The building cannot be improved. Why change it. Surely the money should be spent on providing facilities for the young people of Redditch to use skating rink, bowling alley etc. We already have too many cafes

Waste of money Will damage trade during work No benefit - we have enough eating places

Because we do not need more coffee shops, restaurants

I disagree with disposing of a dedicated library building. Redditch is a growing town and such public provision should grow with the population. The ample building we have is perfect for such improvements. The culture, education and wellbeing of our town is more important than economic improvements. The "Town Deal" focus on enterprise and business at the expense of a lively cultural and learning environment is a mistake and will speed any perceived decline of the town far quicker. Redditch library is an asset that many would love to have in their town. Those who undervalue this resource lack the imagination and capacity to consider the benefits it could bring us if optimised. It will be a big mistake to throw away such an important asset that will never be replaced

On three occasions over the last 9 months around 1000 people attended events at Redditch Library. The events were open to all ages and all age groups were represented amongst those attending. Such large, lively, and beneficial events cannot be replicated in the proposed Town Hall Hub without having a negative impact on other services and agencies and their users. "The offer" of library services as they stand in Redditch cannot be replicated or improved in the proposed new plan in the Town Hall The fact that Redditch is the 2nd most popular library in the county is because of the generous space provided by the dedicated library building itself. The spacious library affords us such a wide range of activities, events and resources. This cannot be replicated in Town Hall. The library offers so much more than books or computers, so much more than advice and digital tech support, so much more than a place to go to meet people or attend a club or group or event. Malala Yousafzai, opening the £188m Birmingham library in 2013 said "a city without a library is like a graveyard". If our town is dying, without a dedicated public library building with the capacity to grow with the population, will only speed decline Once we have lost this building we will never have a dedicated library again The learning, cultural and interactive events that take place at the library add value to the town in measurable ways in terms of wellbeing, improved life opportunities, and public health that cannot be met in the proposed new location. This detrimental effect far out-ranks any commercial gains made by short-lived business enterprises. The current library could easily accommodate a café, therefore bringing together the desires of the council and library users. Six months ago I visited such a café in the town public library in Hangersund, Norway. It was a delightful, very busy and popular place buzzing with people of all ages. Pur library, already the cultural heart of Redditch, could become such a thriving place every day - with a footfall of 1000 a day most days (not just 3 days as noted above) - given a little entrepreneurial thought and the right vision.

There is nothing wrong with the current location. It is a waste of money to move it.

Some people don't know where the library is now - the Town Hall is out of the way. We don't need a plaza - the town centre is full of cafes and places to eat. New location is less central

The present library is purpose built. Extended at considerable cost a few years ago. The staff are pleasant and helpful and it is easy to access books

Too far to walk, especially if you are disabled/partially sighted

Why leave a purpose built, relatively new, comfortable, centrally situated, pleasant location. The proposed demolition would be a waste of money and do nothing to improve the town centre. I do not consider it would promote footfall to the centre Presumably someone is out to make money

Downsizing will mean the library loses it's essential clubs and capacity to hold vital books / cds/ videos. People use the library as an essential community hub and is great for mothers etc.

Present location more suitable and accessible to all, a more welcoming space than the Town Hall which I found rather depressing when I went there.

The old library is a cozy, inviting place to be with a huge range of activities along with a good selection of books, wifi, jigsaws etc

Impact to Environment for no benefit. Poor accessibility. The new main entrance is 5 ft above ground level. No room to expand as population grows. Waste of tax payers money.

Complete and utter waste of public money! Crass decision!

Will the new location be as large and have the same facilities as the present site?

UNLESS YOU ARE GOING TO MAKE A MUCH LARGER LIBRARY WHY MOVE? WASTE OF TIME AND MONEY.

What's going to happen to the 36 groups who use the library or are based at the library when it's demolished? Why build a custom built building then spend thousands demolishing it? Then thousands building another lot of buildings. We don't need another square.

Disagree - the library is a modern, purpose built facility, recently refurbished. Many millions of our money spent on it - perfect.

You refer to the Redditch plan - it is ONLY the latest (current) plan which requires the library to be moved. All the other consultant reports during the last 10 years about improving the town centre have NOT at all, proposed moving it!

Appropriate location in one place

Things need to improve, better facilities

We have a perfectly good library which functions well for all. Trying to cramp 3 floors with all the space will drive people away

Can't climb steps

Why spend £9.4million on expanding the 1/2 empty Town Hall and demolish a perfectly good and well used library? Access will not be as good and archive space will be lost. Raising over 50% of the cost involves selling off other community assets. It is a criminally irresponsible and largely pointless plan.

It's so much further away from the Kingfisher entrance/exit. Older people will have to walk in all weathers - coming back with heavy books

The library is extremely important to the community and is a lovely building easy to find and access

To relocate the library to the Town Hall is too far for a lot of elderly people to walk. Where it is at the moment it is a short walk, and if the weather is bad it takes a couple of minutes. The Town Hall is a long walk and there is no cover

I am 87 years old and have trouble walking far and would find it too far to get to the Town Hall and back into town

The library is perfectly ok where it is, and the money needed for this project would be better used on more funding for people of Redditch

There is no guarantee that the size of the library space in the proposed location will equal that of the existing library

Still not enough information. What will happen to the Post Office and housing block between the library and Town Hall? Not enough information about other groups moving in. I'm wary about other bars/restaurants - quality or more 'burger style'? Commercial developments - such as? - retail/offices? Kingfisher centre has disused areas.

1) we have already got a perfectly good, purpose-built library here in Redditch which can never be replicated. in the Town Hall, which was built for offices and other municipal functions and not as a library 2)

Nowhere does it appear that the environmental consequences of destroying the library have been considered 3) No doubt the Redditch Borough Council and County Council will have conducted a feasibility study, to establish the benefits and drawbacks of the proposed move, but this has never been made public, if indeed this was done 4) Neither have the full financial figures been made available to the public. The sum of £4million has been put forward as the cost of destroying the present library and creating a 'plaza' but nowhere has the cost of converting the Town Hall been mentioned, which is a cost which will be borne by the people of Redditch 5) I understand that various Redditch assets such as Community House will have to be sold to provide the funds to convert the Town Hall. We have had no details of how much it is estimated that this will provide and what other Redditch assets will have to be sold to find the balance. 6) No time scale has been mentioned anywhere. If Redditch owned properties such as Community House have to have their current tenants rehoused, are then knocked down and the sites sold, this takes time. By then, costs will have doubtless have escalated considerably. Has this been taken into account? 7) I believe that a major driver behind this plan is to fill an under used Town Hall, and to get rent from the County Council for the space used there by the library. Surely this will mean the County Council loses out, unless they take a large chunk of the £4million to compensate for the loss of the freehold site on which the current library stands. How much will they receive of this sum? 8) Reference was made at the meeting at the library on the 9th February to the Gunning principles, which I have since looked into. I see they provide that consultation must be made at a time when proposals are still at a formative stage and adequate time must be given for consideration and response. Without the information asked for above, I do not consider the public have sufficient information to properly consider and respond to these proposals

The money could be used somewhere else. There's no need for more cafes We can't fill the shops we've got now

I'm concerned about the proposed relocation of Redditch library in that present services WILL remain open and accessible with NO reduction in facilities. Retention of historic maps and documentation in the town where they belong

"If it ain't broke, don't fix it"! It's a waste of money to move it. It is ideally situated in a building designed to be a library and close to the shopping centre and bus station

It is further away from the town. The library is purpose built and should not be moved

The Town Hall is more difficult to get in to as there are more things going on in the Town Hall and will be more difficult. I can't see how the peaceful atmosphere can be maintained

The road/approach to the Council Offices building - too much of a slope for elderly. Not enough meeting rooms/ will be available to groups/classes in council building. Waste of good present library building

The proposed move is a waste of money, the planned square will be filled with fast food outlets (we already have enough of those in Redditch!) I prefer the library where it is!

Because it is easy access for people with disabilities

You are proposing to take the library out of the centre of Redditch to a location that is some distance away for a pedestrian or a disabled person on the pretence that we require a plaza

The library is a lovely building. It is a warm and friendly place to spend time in. The Town Hall is a cold and very unfriendly place. Also what happens to your staff?

Waste of money. Why knock down a purpose built building for a vanity project

entrance to shopping centre is in an awkward place and takes longer to get into centre also further away from bus stop

Look forward to modernising

UNAFFORDABLE!! The library at present is easily accessible for old and young people.

It is perverse to destroy and then relocate a very splendid set of resources, involving the demolition of a purpose built, modern building which is perfectly serviceable and suitable.

The existing site is excellent in its layout. It is a modern and comfortable place to visit. The Town Hall is detached from the centre and benefits from being near the main shopping centre.

Further away from shopping centre, will not attract more people as stated Absolutely nothing wrong with current library - why destroy it.

I like the present location because it is on the way to the Kingfisher Centre from the college direction which has plenty of parking spaces.

Moving library is totally unnecessary to facilitate more eatery's, we have already lost market stalls.

The library is a pleasant, purpose-built building in a very convenient area of the town. The Town Hall may not be so much further away but for senior citizens, parents with children in pushchairs and physically handicapped, it could be a step too far. It is also UPHILL on the way back to the Centre (Kingfisher).

No reason to demolish a perfect building and its in a perfect location To walk to town hall have to go round table chairs and street food kiosk Plus it could be difficult to push a wheelchair and its uphill back to centre

Not central to the town centre and is away from the shopping centre, banks and bus stops

I disagree to moving the library. Young told it is easy access for all. Library as it is, it is in a good location and easy to reach. The library is in a good location and near to shops. Most of the library is on the level and where not there are lifts. Therefore all people can use the library as it is.

The Library we have, it's location is more than adequate - multi purpose activities of varying size/needs - not open plan hub. The Scheme proposed is based totally on reasons other than library reasons. The scheme is devised without/sidelining/excluding the vast majority of Redditch residents.

To keep the library where it is, we are lucky to have a library.

The proposed location is no where near large enough to serve the massive use of the library from all ages!

The library should be in the center of town where it is easily accessible for everyone not on the outskirts. It is right next to the precinct so you are under cover to the entrance.

It's close and convenient

Out of the way for Patrons already visiting town center with limited availability

Out of the way for Patrons already visiting town center with limited availability

The current library was thoughtfully designed for a specific purpose by an eminent architect, to fit in with the Conservation Area of the Town Centre (literally inches away) with which it harmonises. The existing library works well and to move it – and demolish the building!! – is madness, wasteful and an abhorrent idea.

[Would anything prevent you from using the library at the suggested new location? Please explain.](#)

Too far from kingfisher

It's out of the way and not well known as the library. I go to the council to pay bills and complain not to use library facilities. Keep the library Knock down the Town Hall.

Yes moving it to the Town Hall

Yes I will no longer use it, simple as that.

If some facilities no longer available e.g childrens groups

Literally everything, the fact that the town hall is no where near the centre of the town, the library actually brings people in to town as there is no desirable shops in the town centre, that end of town is poorly patrolled and there is constantly unpleasant individuals taking drugs and loitering around that area. The area in which the town hall is located is dying, if they cant even manage to keep a Wetherspoons open then what does that say about the borough council ability to keep anything open. Even though it's stated that the building will be accessible, that is an incredibly ablest point of view because I see nowhere has there been a consultation of those who are truly affected by a move like this; those with no or limited mobility, those who suffer from degenerative diseases and so on. It really doesn't take a genius to figure out that the county council are being convinced to help pay for the borough council pipe dream that should never be.

No

No, it's only 100 metres or so from current site.

Yes, it will be too far away from where I park the car as a Blue Badge holder and there is never enough disabled parking at the town hall.

No

Nothing at all.

As above

NO

No as the new library would still be in the town centre, just a few more metres down the road from where it is now.

Distance from car parks.

Lack of parking

No

No

I often call in whilst passing to use the charity shops and bank nearby. If it moves it won't be en route to anywhere.

Massively reduced book selection. Reduced computer numbers. An absolutely massive dislike of the Town Hall after its councillors have bullied through this plan with a terrible survey that doesn't even ask me if I want the library to move in the first place.

The fact that book collections are on a different floor to children's area. The library is perfect howitzer is and if it is moved, the children's area will be too small to accommodate the amount of people who attend the toddler groups already.

Too far and inconvenient

Too many other services in the mix Library services disjointed Nothing else anywhere near the Town Hall It's a carbuncle since allowing everyone to work from home and this is a quick fix idea ..including requirement to knock down community service buildings in Easemore Road

Difficulty walking to town hall from current disabled parking

The Walk from the town centre. Not everyone can walk well or far.

If there was no parking I wouldn't use the new site as to far from centre .

Yes too far out of town

Only parking, could be an issue

Too far from the car parks just to pop in for books or return them whilst in kingfisher centre. The current library is ideally placed and only involves a short exposure to any bad weather.

Nothing would stop me using the Town Hall!

If access was limited, unsafe or dimly lit. At the moment it feels safe to walk to the library from inside the shopping centre. I hope this remains so and that the walk to the town hall is not too quiet or isolated. This would concern me. It needs to be open, safe and easy to walk the route without quiet corners or covered areas.

there will be less content and room.

No

Yes - it is not as accessible.

no

Yes. The waste of resources and money.

Not really. I seldom use the library (for reasons above) and it should save Redditch Council on accommodation costs. But will it?

No but it would not have the same atmosphere. People may not want to go into the town hall.

See above

No.

I would resent the costs. And wouldn't be passing by town hall as sometimes just pop in as near by center to say hello. My daughter does know librarian's by names. They have worked hard to create a community hub. I would hate to see this lost.

The general principal of the shocking waste of public funds by relocating the library unnecessarily.

Antisocial behaviour in the area in town near the Town Hall. It's further away and harder to get to. Different for people with mobility issues.

As an able bodied person who drives I will be fine. However my elderly grandparents will find the extra distance from the bus stop to the library a real challenge. It will be particularly difficult for wheel chair users as the hill back up towards the town centre/bus station is particularly steep!

No.

No

no

The town hall is more intimidating and not as open or inviting as the library's current position. Not to mention I'm a redditch resident who doesn't know where the town hall is.

The only reason I wouldn't use the library at the town hall would be the reduction of the number of books, as it was stated previously that the library in space would be considerably less.

No

If the services are diminished in any way

Further away from the shops and area of town I use.

Less likely to visit.

Disabled access as wife is disabled and can't do stairs

I don't believe there would be the same floor space which would mean placing the book shelves closer together making it an oppressive atmosphere

Not at present, but for an ageing population, it is further from the bus station and car parks for those with decreasing mobility.

If no disabled access

No

Steps. Distance.

No seems perfect better than the old library having to wait for lifts then they break down.

It's new location would be out of my normal visiting range to Redditch Centre.

Lack of parking nearby

Not personally no.

I believe by moving the library to the town hall you are limiting access. It is further from the shops and car parks which would make people more reluctant to visit the library especially in inclement weather. The present library is about as far as people will go from the shopping area. The extra distance would I believe possibly prevent or make more difficult the elderly and young families using the library. The area around the Town Hall has little appeal to people with empty premises etc and is too far out of the shopping area.

If it was too far for me to get too

no

I don't believe that the current library can be successfully rehoused to facilitate the same usage. So I would not be using it.

The stupidity of such a move!

Yeah moving it it's ok where it is

No

The building works for an unnecessary coffee shop hub...

No as it is virtually next door.

Car parking Further away from the bus stop for some people to access

Position and suitability of new location.

Too far away from the centre of town / Kingfisher Centre

No but it is inconvenient

Getting to the town hall is not as easy to get to as its current location. It might be "a short walk" down an hill but there is no direct access to it from the Kingfisher shopping centre where most people park their car when going into town. To get to the town hall everyone would have to leave the Kingfisher Centre, walk past the current location down the hill. When it is wet, cold, windy people will not do the 5 minute down and up the hill.

I know where the current location is? I am partially sighted so would struggle with a new location

Yes it will it is also away from general public traffic I feel it won't be utilised.

If this nonsense does go ahead then of course I will use the library in the new venue, but under protest.

Yes It's not the library

No - I probably would use it more if in the TH

No

There is nothing which would physically prevent me from using the Town Hall. However even though I have lived in Redditch for over 30 years I have hardly ever been inside it. All of my dealings with the council are online. Currently the library is near to the shops and easy to 'pop' into. The Town Hall would necessitate a specific journey. It is also further from the bus station for those people who use buses.

No

No although if a free carpark were available i would use it more often

Yes the fact its further out of town its not central to everything else we do and use

Yes, the position of it, and the fact it will not be the same as having an iconic dedicated building in a geed central location.

Feels more of a faff. The library being close to the centre kills 2 birds with one stone

There's no reason for me to go to a new small library in Redditch. I already use Bromsgrove library - there's enough there to satisfy my everyday needs. Why should I go to what will be a similar or smaller library in Redditch? Parking and access are very much better in Bromsgrove.

Lack of accessible parking would be the biggest one for me, but the downgrade of services offered would be a huge blow as well.

Yes, the time and distance away from the rest of the town and car parking.

Yes, be crammed in there, won't be big enough!

NO

I guess it would be busier therefore much more noise being part of a building offering other services

Further to walk from centre of town Further away from banks Further away from public transport Too close to pubs for the childrens clubs

No

No.

Town hall staff are unfriendly and building is not as accessible

Yes it would !!!

Location is not good to close to pubs and away from town

If all the current services are still available, then probably not. But I may choose to boycott it after such a complete waste of money. If someone thinks more bars and restaurants are the answer to 'unlocking Redditch', I think they are somewhat deluded.

It is further to walk from the bus station and further to walk from public carparks.

It's central it's fine where it is.

Will still use for books. Less likely to use for kids stuff if it is as cramped as I believe it will be

Although it is only a few minutes walk from current location, it is not located right in the town centre which may be prohibitive for those with mobility needs to access.

It is less of a central meeting point. Is further away from public transport routes to get to the library and further away from shops. Not great for people with physical needs

I struggle going to new places

96

Further from the true town centre.

It would possibly make it much more attractive to just use Woodrow Library instead, as it is convenient to get to and offers all of the same services (bounce and rhyme, lego clubs, etc). There is parking there and I wouldn't have to go all through the centre of Redditch to get to the town hall site.

It is difficult to access especially with disabled people or young children.

Reduced services

Don't want to walk that far down from the town and it will be isolated.

Yes , it is away from the centre for just a " pop in service " . If I wanted to do research then it would not stop me using the library .

It is dark and depressing

No

I would boycott it like it's Residents you see.

Distance from town centre. I have mobility issues.

To far down it sounds unworkable with there not being enough space

No

no

I feel the move is unnecessary.

Yes, it's further away and I don't believe it will look as inviting as it currently does, I am aware of lots of upset library staff too.

It's not as obvious where it is. Still would have to pay to park to use, which reduces how accessible it is to me as it is costly to park in Redditch, just to change a book.

Positioning and difficulty of getting access. Also, it is not at the heart of the town and would be hidden away.

No

No

It is further to go. It will be smaller. There's unlikely to be so many study spaces free.

Yes because its a waste of money moving it.

The town hall is not as convenient to all the car parks, and being elevated is not as easily accessed for elderly people with walking difficulties.

I don't think it's the right choice for the town, someone will obviously be making money off the move, what other reason is there to keep pushing a relocation, when the money could be spent elsewhere and leave the library as it is

No, because I will ensure I support our library come what May! However I know my Nan will not use it as she is unable to walk that far!

no because I don't use it now.

Stairs and no lift

Only if it is not made welcoming and comfortable for the public. It needs to be a welcoming, spacious venue that is fitted out well and well lit, so it is not dreary!

Yes, it is not as accessible.

Yes, principles

No, not at all.

No - it's not far from the current location.

Nothing

I like to pop into the library on my way to town, the location proposed would reduce the likelihood of doing that. I'm also concerned that it would lead to an overall fall in footfall to the library.

Yes

No

No as its still close to its original location but baffles me why the need to move it in the first place as its perfectly located currently.

Parking at the quadrant means I have to know how long I will be in town, so if I am delayed at the shops, I will not use the library due to time restraints. If the weather is bad, the existing location is close to the shops. Pushing an adult in a manual wheelchair makes the distance feel twice as long especially when pushing up ramps and inclines to get to the Town Hall.

Yes

Yes it is that bit further for us and in an area I don't feel comfortable with. The area where the council house is has felt abandoned for years.

It would be a case of out of sight out of mind Our library needs to be where it is ,to attract and educate people, by providing easy and visible access to passers by.

No, I'd be more likely to use it given other services would be accessible on a single location.

No

I feel the services would be limited

No it's easily accessible at the town hall

No.

As above

No

I wouldn't use just out of principle that there is no need to move it.

As my mobility deteriorates it is going to be harder to get to the new location. I have no reason to go in the direction of the Town Hall otherwise.

No

Mobility and distance to the new site

If it is scaled down to a corner in the Town Hall, I will join a Library elsewhere

No

I'm Sure there is a second plan that the public don't know about... the area will be developed to make the council money like more rubbish flats

I have difficulty with walking but am Not classed as disabled just osteoarthritis I'm Both knees

I wont visit it because for 30 years I have visited the current library where I hold many childhood memories

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Further from the town centre

No

Yes, if it was smaller, more crowded and noisier. And housing fewer books

Is it going to be easy to gain access into, easy to find within the townhall

No, but the location is very good. It feels Part of the community.

Probably not.

Some of the groups and resources that I personally use will not be available in the new location.

no

Yes, access is awful

Knowing that with difficult times ahead for the people of Redditch, our Council leader are prepared to waste and even put further strain on the finances and spend taxpayer's money carelessly. If something is misleading it is deception, if something is deceptive it will make someone believe something is not true. If something is not true then its false, if something false, it is not real but is made to look real. "Resistance is created through a lack of clarity"

No, but I'm less likely to pop in to see what activities are available.

Yes, it's too far from the centre

No

No but it would be a waste of public money. Better spent on investing in new books both print and online editions.

Yes the location is not good with poor access for disabled and elderly

It would be harder to get to by people with a mobility problem such as myself I go on the bus to the bus station and walk to the library on my way back I stop and have a coffee and a snack do a bit of shopping and get the bus home I can walk most of the way unless if it is moved I will not go I will not be shopping in the center

Greatly depends on the level of resources available but my children have easy access from bus route in current location.

No

No. Absolute no brainer to move it to the town hall

Bit too far from the main shops

It is too far away from the centre

Not really, but the current site is easier to get to. I believe in libraries that strongly that I would use it wherever, but the current location would be much preferable.

Beggars can't be choosers

Putting the Library in the Town Hall makes everything disjointed. There is an undeniable cohesion in the existing placement of the current library location. Mothers with babies and children, elderly, school children and disabled - can all access the library easily with little effort and without having to walk far. Moving the library further away adds an element of risk, especially in the winter months when it is dark and the weather is bad. I certainly wouldn't want my children walking the extra distance alone through Redditch - have you considered the risk this adds for the most vulnerable in our community? I feel not.

Yes because I would be chained to the old library or in jail for protesting

No

Parking charges

If there were no lifts shorter opening times if no access to printer or pcs

Just my strong principles

Yes, access. Unclear what impact knocking its current location will have on access to new location.

Not as accessible

No, but the present location is known by everyone and is in the centre of Redditch.

I would have to use it but I would prefer it not to relocate at all.

I would be likely to use the library less frequently in its new location as it would be less readily accessible from other areas I already use in the Town Centre.

It's further away from where I live it's very cold in the town hall

Much smaller area and less central to the town and heart of the community

With less and less reason for going to the town centre I probably wouldn't bother if the library went as well

It's too out of the way and inconvenient

Not really but what about elderly and those with disabilities that can't walk far ect. I get you have to update things to make the town better. But what about local businesses too some shops have closed or are closing down.

No, no problem

Well, so far I am reasonably mobile but at my age who knows what will happen next. Getting back from the Town Hall is uphill. Not so easy to walk if you have, say at heart problem.

This is a leading question. It's not the location it's the finances being used when 1000s are struggling.

Not really- It will be sad if some of the collection has to be relocated or destroyed.

It's not a library it will be the town hall with books.

The fear of been caught up in any disagreement stemmed from a housing tenant and any issues arising from their property. The town hall to me is somewhere to go with issues to see someone face to face.

Yes everything that a waste of £9 million pound brings total lack of respect.

No

Further away from town so not as easy to pop in

Probably not as I am able bodied and drive, lots of others are not so lucky.

Yes principal and distance, parking

Council to provide parking for library members.

Unknown since promises are vague (and cheap?)

Yes. It would be out of service for a considerable amount of time for the work to take place. The current location is much handier for other in town facilities. In inclement weather the extra walk would be a factor which may prevent usage. The current library can be accessed almost exclusively under cover.

The lack of services

It's not as close to the town centre. You have to go outside in the rain and walk for a few minutes to get to the Town Hall. The library is right next to the centre. People with disabilities might be put off.

Nope it's quite literally 30 seconds difference if that from the old location.

No

At present the library entrance is only meters away from the kingfisher centre so that even in the rain you can dash quickly to the library. The town halls is more awkward to get to and being out of the way, is less likely to have people visiting.

No

It would be more difficult to find the library if it is set in another building

Perhaps the fact that there would have been no reason to demolish the pre-existing library, and money that funded it came from selling other community assets like Community House.

Reduced space due to poor alternative location

Only the fact that I don't agree for it to move. Using it would feel like I m approving

No but it will be in the wrong place for most people

Sounds like it will be ridiculously small and cramped. And unnecessary.

Yes mobility

Council office being closed

No

I believe the library will seem a little further out to some people. The position of the library now is that it benefits from passing footfall. This would be more limited when it has moved. I'm worried about our archive storage.

Should the proposed move go ahead, then I would have no choice to still use our library in its new location!!

Not specifically but comments as above

I would not want to use the library in the new position, it is uninviting and unwelcoming. Alot of serious matters happen in the town hall and to me, its not somewhere I would like to relax or research/improve myself.

Unfriendly building, end of an era, would lose the atmosphere

Personally, no, although it might mean I go less often.

I am an occasional user of the library services however my voice counts as a resident. The new location is further from the centre of Town. It may be only 200 metres away but the natural footfall coming through the centre via the internal car parks will be lost. There is no parking on the town hall site. I wouldn't bother to make the extra journey as I go into the Kingfisher to shop and pop into the library on my way to the post office and enjoy coffee on Church Green. I will not be diverting to the Town Hall. I'm sorry that the library service has been forced into this position by an organisation that is unrepresentative of the Redditch Community.

Travel distance/costs.

This in itself would not prevent me using the proposed facility. However I can consider this clever question to be out of context and offered just as a "crutch" to support the proposal without any overall effect on other aspects, some of which I have touched upon. In essence it IS NOT BROKE, so save yourself and us use of some of public monies involved. If you want an example of what previously has badly affected the variety and public use of this area, you only have to have to look at the denigration caused by the ousting of the

market traders, before of which was an active, well used and buoyant area and quite successful and effectively "killed off". Great decision that and this proposal is definitely in that vain.

Principle- it is wholly wrong to spend this huge sum of public money when we already have a purpose built library.

It will be more out of the way

No.

I have good knowledge of the town and area - and I don't agree that it is as accessible as where the library is currently located

Yes - don't support the new siting

Yes. I would not go there. I would prefer to drive to Bromsgrove !!!

Nothing.

It won't be a level walk further for me to go, which is a pity because I look forward to my visits and have used the library for years I have mobility problems and I can't be the only one it seems councillor Cater hasn't given this much thought.

Accessing the new location. With the library being close to the town centre it is easier to access. The building is practical and purpose built

If as I suspect, despite what you say, it is a reduced service then I won't use it on principle.

The library in the current location is handy to pop to when in town. Close to car parks to do a quick visit to return or collect books

No, it's not far away from where it is now, if it was moved out of town then it would be an issue for me.

no

If there's no historical stuff to look at eg. archives microfilms etc..

If the library was difficult to navigate around due to being in a shared space. The plans sound good, but what guarantees are there that the service would remain the same? Redditch library is a fantastic resource and should be protected.

Location

Town Hall is not appropriate need access to local archive

The Library is in an ideal position for users to get to easily from Redditch shopping centre. Town Hall is further away from the Town Centre and is not so accessible for residents with mobility problems or with small children in tow.

Would still use it but no need to move it.

With limited mobility, I would find it difficult to get to the library at its new proposed location.

Principal.

Hardly use the library in its current location

The Town Hall is further away from the town - away from all other community projects.

The new library appears to be less well equipped than the existing one. I'm not sure if I will bother.

Its out of the way.

I would only go past the library if I entered the town from the subway by Hughes. I often pop in when I am visiting the kingfisher. My visits would be reduced as I would be going out of my way. I do not use the bus

but the town hall is also further from the bus and train station. It is also further from the multi storey car parks.

It depends on the access times and availability of the new location.

No

Probably not but would it be the same peaceful environment with these other services sharing the space?

I think it will take so much money to demolish the old library and relocate to the town hall. Also are we going to be without library services whilst it is all going on?

Yes it will not be so convenient

The details are not sufficiently explained to make a value decision possible. I would wonder who actually benefits from these changes.

No

Point of principle

The new location

I have limited mobility. Although only a short distance away the ground slopes and any incline is difficult for me

No, as luckily I have good mobility and can access it.

The building is quite intimidating when you enter. Although not far from the current site, the existing library is so much nearer to pop out of the Kingfisher and pay a visit. The cost of the refurbishment could be much better spent elsewhere. Comments made about residents resisting change are insulting as it could be said Councillors want change for changes sake..

It is further away from the town centre

Yes the distance from the centre

No

This is the type of question that is essentially not applicable. Why on earth isn't the library going to be improved in the present building? Spend the money on improving the current building - there is plenty of space at the back before reaching the Kingfisher Shopping centre. This would be an ideal way of increasing 'Dormer's Footfall Dream' - using this space far more wisely.

To many other agencies there. Too much going on at the other agencies such as the council payment centre etc

If the facility was reduced then clearly it would not be a reliable place to plan attendance.

No

Under cover access from parking facilities to that location is an issue when wanting to visit with small children in bad weather.

It's down the back alleys and underpasses where the drug users and alcoholics congregate. That's not somewhere I want to take a child on a regular basis.

If the ceilings were lower and the acoustics worse I wouldn't come to use childrens sessions as the noise would be too much with my hearing aids.

In the absence of any of the Government funding, which the Borough Council appears to have secured, it will cost the County Council money to implement this proposal. Doing it on the cheap would downgrade the Library-going experience for me and others which, coupled with the poor location in relation to other parts of the Town Centre, might well affect my attitude towards using the Library, as I get older and less mobile.

No I wonder if it makes access a little more difficult for people who won't wander too far from the shopping centre. It may also put people off if they have to walk through a 'leisure' area of pubs and restaurants to get to the library. It would put me off to be honest but then I only go and 'stock up' and don't visit every day.

Yes, I would not embrace a space that is not a dedicated site for learning, I would feel shoe horned into a common space. Disruption is necessary

It's the furthest away from all other frequently used areas of the town centre, and so is less accessible.

It moving wouldn't feel the same so I wouldn't be comfortable going to the new library

Because I don't like the venue

Leading question. Sadly any consultation is ignored. If job centre moves there will have no choice once again..

I don't believe is the right location.

Out of the way from the current location

Access to the new location is not feasible and won't attract the foot flow that the present location has to offer.

No central, not part of the town center

The walking time and difficulty in going back up hill to the Kingfisher and the Bus Station

It doesn't seem right to be in the town hall. Feel like they will close that down and turn it in to flats. Town Hall would be too small and feel less relaxed

No

I'm Disabled

No

Too far away from the kingfisher where people go to shop and park.

I have no idea as to whether anything would prevent me from using a new location, until it was there and experienced the place!

No

Mobility , the town hall is not purpose built to be a Library, therefore I know there will be difficulty's about lack of space for different groups and for the heritage information housed in the library

No but again it's more to do with the waste of public money . I can access it now, why move it for "small beer" reasons.

Not so convenient, longer walk, I don't go down to that part of town.

Yes out of protest

I am and will remain totally opposed to the demolition of the Library. I like the easy access of the location and enjoy 'dropping in' when passing the door on my way home. Although the relocation facility about a five minute or so walk away it would be out of my way, so I wouldn't anticipate continuing with my library membership.

No

No

Yes knowing that it cost so much in the first place.

My disability anxiety

The current library is easy to get to and easy to navigate.

Further to walk as a blue badge holder

No

Half of the archives would be moved to Kidderminster which I can't get to

Not a welcoming place, brown dull just horrible. Library is in central area too

If there were no other choice, then we would have to use it. But it is further to walk from the centre, an added inconvenience, some people would just not bother, just another service dying on its feet.

Parking facilities would be most useful as they are few and far between especially for blue badge holders

Car parking

na

The principle!

I was once abused by a drunk outside the town hall. I wont go back there again.

Yes. Rain, snow & cold.

No but why should we this should not be allowed we already had a move of Library we do not need another move. Have a fresh petition at the Library you will soon see why it should be left open.

No

No

I wouldn't be prevented, I just think the whole project is a waste of money.

I am able to walk to the Town Hall from the bus station and car parks at the King Fisher but I have a shoulder injury from my time as a Police Officer and carrying books can be troublesome. I actually enjoy going to a library and selecting books, I dont want to be stuck at home using a computer to access them so yes it would put me off using it. I would feel vulnerable going to the Town Hall for the reasons above too.

[REDACTED]

No

No

No.

Yes. As above

Futher to walk but no

I would difficulty in accessing archives

access and distance from carpark one and the bus terminal. Were it is now is just about the right distance.

Just a little fatter to walk

Not for me

Yes the principle of this stupid idea to demolish the building

No, but I feel no-one is listening. It is a waste of money when it could be used for better things. Bus Station improvements for instance.

Yes if its moved.

No

Don't like the building. Very unfriendly. Nothing around the building. It is standalone. Too away from the main town. People won't use it as much.

Lack of parking

I wouldn't use the library at the new location because I am disabled and the current location is far more accessible to me. It might seem like it's only moving a short distance but for me that distance is enough to make it not worth the effort.

It's just that bit further away. Parking already costs a lot in the centre, so I tend to only go when I am running other errands up there

It's smaller, less suitable and very very unlikely to have all the same services. I believe moving it here will lead to many people not bothering to go any more, which will then lead to an argument for its closure all together

As long as it's open for the same hours as library currently is I would have no issues

Yes location not user friendly and has no character or history.

Depends on its usability.

It will be very cramped

As above

Not personally but accessibility will be an issue for others

No, but my own usage is as a borrower. I'm more concerned for those who use it as a social space.

If it's raining, I probably wouldn't go from the shopping centre down to the town hall.

In protest to this massive waste of time and money

The centre of Redditch have suffered over the last few years, along with many similar location throughout the UK. Spending money to replicate other business opportunities that are already struggling is a false economy. To demolish the library for what would offer limited advantage is wrong. You have to ask who's benefiting from this scheme.

Yes it's fine where it is

No don't think so

Yes it's further into the part of town which is rough

We won't have a choice but to use it if library has gone

I would definitely not use the library at the town hall, it's absolutely ridiculous when we have a purpose built library already.

no

It will be too far to walk down to from where I park. It will get forgotten about as passing people will not see it. Me and my kids love using this library and I will be devastated if it moves.

Out of place as usual the town council doesn't bother as long as they get there way

Distance to walk, possibly less stock and more crowded re amount of services being proposed to be housed in town hall.

Yes lack of transport

Probably not but I do not believe the same square metres will be allocated.

No I just do not believe that it needs to move

No

New building needed not older

Would not like new location as ideal to get too

It's away from the centre so not as easy to just pop in. That part of town is a ghost town.

Yes A Principal

I would not be able to walk the extra distance.

Yes it's really out the way and a really dull oppressive building

Distance

With the new location I think I would be less likely to use it unless specifically going into town for that purpose

No

No

Very unlikely that the same facilities and book stock could be housed anywhere else

No

The current library is in a central location, and altho not too far away it out of the way and not in a passing location.

poor parking

Location it's out back and out of the way

I would be happy to continue to use the library in its new location

I have not used it for many years - I tend not to go into Redditch as I don't want to pay the car park charges.

No

It shouldn't have to move in the first place!

No

I wish the council would listen to the peoples voice.

Not really

No

No

I do not wish to enter the town hall to use services that are already very available and accessible to the correct place already. The town hall is much less accessible than the current library building. I would struggle considerably to get in there compared to what we already have.

It is too far me to walk as I use a mobility aid.

No

No

it is a long walk from the kingfisher down a hill and out in the open where as the library is only just out of the shelter of the kingfisher

I would boycott it

That is questionable, why not leave the library in its current location & enhance its frontage & the surrounding area, depicting (with metal sculptures/ shaped & cut plates showing Redditch manufacturing history (Needles, Springs, Fishing Tackle) all synonymous with Redditch with worldwide names like Herbert Terry, Abel Morrels, Needle Industries, Henry Millward, Samuel Allcock and William Bartlett etc, these should be immortalised for all from Redditch & visitors to Redditch to see... this I believe would be an enhancement.. After all from Redditch Development Corp back in the 70s/80s "Redditch is the hub of these industries & was advertised as such"

No

yes, being further to walk especially in the dark evenings.

No

It would not affect my usage however I know of others it would affect. Elderley, those with mobility issues. Many have said they won't use it.

No. Will there be disabled parking for library users in the town hall site?

No

Too much on one site which would equal too many people

No

If the relocation goes ahead , it would restrict me and my wife from visiting in wet , or snowy weather.

I wont use it .I will get my books from a charity shop

No it would but will the idea work.

I doubt I would go to the Town Hall site for the library, I would go to Woodrow instead.

No. It's in close proximity to the current offer and would allow for sharing of services and providing a one stop shop for all.

No disabled parking. The fact that you might not be able to pay for it.

Yes less space. Further from town centre

No but again I think if a Green area is created in its place this will attract homeless people and alcoholics as can be seen near the bandstand and other outside areas in the centre

No not really.

Yes, the location. It's not easily accessible & I rarely go to that part of the town.

Yes the difficulty in getting there especially for the disabled. The Town hall is out of the main indoor town centre

No. But I would be sad as it illustrates the fact that Redditch is no longer recognised as a stand alone town.

No. If anything it is more accessible.

No

No

Pointless moving from a functioning building.

No

No

If there was no alternative I would have to, but I would feel like sitting on the steps of the present library when the demolition people moved in.

No

no

No

No

No

No

No

The town hall is a miserable depressing building, tucked away in a dead area of town. The current library is in the be perfect position it's bright and welcoming. You walk out onto the beautiful area around the church.

No

Not sure.

It would depend on how easy it is to access the new location on foot from the town center and also the availability of parking at the Town Hall.

Nothing would prevent me but the Town Hall is less central and too out of the way. I would not pass it when in town, therefore I believe it will be less well used.

No

No

Don't think it will but like mentioned it's just out the way, as currently it's visible so you may pop in by chance but when moved to the town hall the number of people using it will reduce

Not personally, but not everyone is in the same position. I am lucky enough to be a car owner and not suffer from any mobility issues.

I'll be too busy campaigning against all of you for reducing our services, and I'll be making sure you all lose your jobs at the next election. Over the past 20 years you have continually shut down services and merged smaller sessions of these services into one location. With each cut you wreck this country.

from where i park the car it would be further for me to walk to, and without it being in its current place i would be less likely to use its when i walk into and from the redditch kingfisher shopping centre the entrance i use is that i walk straight past the library, so its much easier to just pop in

No

The new location is further from the public transport links, it is also downhill from said links, meaning an up hill trek on the return journey. The town hall was not built to be a library, I worry about services/archives being lost or damaged.

The pointless waste of money better spent elsewhere.

Not really

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No

No.

Out of anger at the move

Not visible

No

As it is in a multi use building may be confusing for elderly to find.

I'm less likely as the new library will be hidden from view and I'm unlikely to walk in on spec. Currently when I walk through town I see the library I'm prompted to pop in for a browse.

Not yet, but it is further from the bus access I would use in future years and involve uphill walking to get home so in future years, I might not bother

More difficult access and totally unnecessary

Not really

No

The principle of you wasting £9m on a development that doesn't need to happen.

No I don't think so.

There is no reason why the public bodies of Redditch and WCC should entertain the financially disastrous prospect of demolishing a building.

Too far to walk. May not feel a community hub as other facilities in the town hall

I would still use library in new location, but consider it such a huge waste of money relocating it

No. As a new location this would be adequate if the space and facilities are broadly similar and the budget/resourcing is not cut.

It is likely that I would not use the new library. It would depend on how it looked and how welcoming it was.

Again, without knowing where and how the library will actually be sat in a public building that is already in use, rather than, for example a purpose built structure where it's been for my entire lifetime, I cannot say.

Wouldn't be encouraged to use it as it is more inaccessible to me. Feel it is too out of the way and at bottom of the hill.

as above, out the way harder to get to.

Yes, harder to get to. Too out of the way for people with mobility issues.

Presently I walk past the door on my walk into the centre and so just drop in. I never go to the town hall location and would have make a conscious decision to go over there.

None

I would need to see more details, but I have read Cllr Dormer's comments that the library should go 'more digital'. I require access to actual books, and I am totally averse to any reduction in quantity in this respect.

Not at present.

Difficult in accessing

Long unsheltered.

No, in fact it would encourage me to use the town hall more

No

Why would I support this new location - it is further from the town centre.

I would not be visiting a purpose built open plan library where I would easily mix with other library users and staff. The library facilities would be unavailable during the relocation.

Yea I like to think I'm going to a library not a business centre

It would not prevent me, however it may well prevent others as its 200 yards further down the hill which is a long walk for the more infirm and if you have a pushchair and kids in the rain. The move also does not make sense with regards to the so called 'movement of traffi'c (people) through the centre. People in vehicles will not park in car park 2 and then walk all the way through the kingfisher centre and then down to the library. They will park in car park 2 then nip out the back - which means a lift or stairs unless they can park on the lower level - so harder for some - and then come across into the library and back again, thereby bypassing all of the shops. So moving the library - which has been said is to increase traffic through the centre - will more than likely have the opposite effect. Its a complete farce.

Further to walk.

It would be too far from the central area of the town, in particular from the bus and rail stations.

No, none at all it is clearly a very short distance from the existing building and as you've stated it will be accessible (ground floor), well advertised and signposted. I can't even fathom any reason why anybody would be deterred from using the building in its new location, even those with disabilities / mobility issues, and can only conclude that people would be opposed just because they are inherently afraid of change - which is no basis to refuse development / progress.

It's out of the way. Out of sight, out of mind. It's a pointless plan. Leave the library where it is!

No.

no

No

It is further out of the way for me and as an Autistic member of the community I would find the through flow of other pedestrian traffic within the Town Hall, accessing other services there, far too overwhelming to be able to deal with.

No, but this really isn't the main issue.

I dont like being around the council workers or being in their space. Feels judgemental. Especially for the poorer people on benefits

No.

Problem walking from disabled parking close to banks

Yes, it's only a little further away but it's just that bit more out of the way to put me off going. With my disabilities and aches and pains it would be too much. I would also hate walking past the pubs to get there. I would also feel much more anxious within the new library and amongst all of the other services and people there. Its less sociable being so far from town and less accessible.

Na

Yes. I have negative memory of the town hall when I was homeless.

No, if I had to because there was no other option.

Increased difficulty of getting to the library as this would be more out of the way (in a pretty dead end/unused end of town) where I feel there is reduced footfall to the current library building.

To far to walk from the bus station

Yes the fact that millions of pounds are being spent to make an empty space, instead of regeneration for our great town.

No

mobility issues, car parking arrangements too far to walk.

It is not a purpose built facility. It is not in a central location. Will be forgotten.

Yes I would not wish to go to the Town Hall for the library as there is insufficient disabled parking close to Town Hall as most of the disabled parking is too far away for safe walking.

Too far away. It is not the centre of Redditch.

no free disabled parking

It's further to get too and we need to preserve our archives and there's not enough room for every y thing you want to put in there This is not what the people of Redditch want Every thing is being sold off because the cost of the move will be higher. Before any money is spent the audits need to be crystal clear and signed off

Nothing would stop me using it at the new location

Walking distance as disabled. Lack of parking. Not in the immediate hub centre of town where it can be seen.

I will still use it but fear other people won't.

on principal.money wasted on demolishing library should have been spent on buying empty shops and leasing out at reasonable rates,that would revitalise town centre

Won't be big enough

N/A

Yes lack of archive and ability to research local built form

Too far to walk

The town does not feel clean and safe enough to walk through already, and the town hall couldn't be more unwelcoming. It is right beside an intimidating tunnel and void of a space since the previous, overpriced rebuild. Spend money on deterring anti-social behaviours.

Yeah the place it will be in.....

I Don't go that end of town as there is nothing to go down there for anymore. You can't even use the cashiers as they have gone .

Too far to walk, not a nice part of Redditch to walk down to quiet and lonely and I don't feel safe.

Yes. It fundamentally is a council building, an ugly looking one, that isn't the library. I'd be very cross if this went ahead. My parents, grandparents & great-grandparents are from Redditch. Keep history please.

It doesn't need a new location. Also the new location will be further from town

Going to council il should have council workers in not at home when u phone repairs or tenacy team they at home most of time. so many times I've been council nobody there to help with damp in every room. In my flat .makes redditch a joke all this just look what you have dis to town in day time its rubbish

Yes

It's dark and depressing

Too far away for me. I wouldn't find the town hall building a relaxing, enjoyable place to visit. We need to keep the purpose built library as it is.

Yes

I wouldn't be happy, why would you move a library that is already built to the town hall? It doesn't make any sense.

Yes, out of the way location.

I wouldn't visit it at all as it's a long walk and back up hill

No

No

Yes- don't touch it. It works where it is.

If it goes ahead please consider allowing the use of the carpark for guests and customers as well as staff use and make it free to use IF using the library services. It should be on a first come first served basis but that is one advantage to the move as currently there is no carpark for the library facilities.

the loss of the open environment that is the current library.

Yes. Not as central, not a building of its own.

Not as easily accessible or recognisable as opposed to the standalone building it is currently located

Please see above.

space on offer is not big enough and less services like microfilm

No - it wouldn't make any difference.

I don't like the idea of the Library being in a shared space with everything else. It needs to be independent.

The library where it is, is very accessible.

I do not like the layout of the town Hall and if the services are upstairs then I will find that hard.

If its services are reduced in any way at all

Yes It does not need to be relocated. The Town Hall building will not accommodate what we need in a library. It's a waste of funds.

It isn't as safe - there are companies around the suggested new location that are notoriously "dodgy" and have not got good reputations. This doesn't make me want to go there, or even take my family there for community activities (e.g baby bounce)

Personally if the library was moved, as much as it upsets me, I would still use the facilities because I would want to continue to support it and continue to use it. However, a lot less people will use it for the reasons I stated above.

The town hall where the library is planned to be located is not appropriate it lacks any atmosphere and the library could disappear in its vastness. It is not personable and lacks any community feeling.

Yes it's a soulless building won't have the same atmosphere or capacity as the existing purpose built one

The general location is not appropriate,

Fewer services and books. Promises to bit downgrade are based on false reporting of current floorspace and this whole thing has been designed by Tory councillors who don't use libraries so they don't have a clue

Distance from flat, level access from the bus stop

With the new location being further away from the Kingfisher Centre, in bad weather this would make it harder for people with mobility issues to walk down to the council building. It would be nice to have a covered walkway but that would probably use most of the budget!

It would feel morally wrong to use the facility when money could be used elsewhere.

Hidden location. The library should stay where it is. It's a lifeline for so many people. Without it people may be stuck without heat, lonely and without access to books or other things that they can only access via the library. For some people the library is all they have.

I would choose to go to another town, and use their library

It's not a new habit I want to get used to!

No. The town hall is only a short distance further down the road.

I would be put off by having to go into the council building. The building is not inviting to visitors and is too set back to "pop in" when walking about the centre.

I will be fine but as I mentioned above many people won't go to the new location because it is already hard to invite a few of them into the building. I think the time as soon as the library moving and also to use to the new place is more than enough for them to be away from the library.

Not as convenient when out shopping. More difficult for the elderly to access books.

no

loads of 'other' activities happening in the quiet space for reading/readers. have talking groups and child care elsewhere. keep libraries for reading, quiet, contemplation.

No not really. I don't see the need to reallocate the library.

Yes if the visitors to the Digital Champion number goes down as I suspect it will

I dont use it

I would not be prevented from using the Library if it moved but I would use it less as currently its presence near an entrance to the main shopping centre means I am reminded, as I pass, to go and see if there are any new books on display of interest, or any older books. Its convenience matters...I could be convinced that the spend is justified if the new library was significantly improved and if the new features to replace it was sufficient to attract significant new visitors to Redditch.

I cannot walk that far from town centre disabled parking. Maybe there will be disabled parking spaces nearby, don't know, but there are a lot of steps to negotiate. At the moment I can park outside the library and access all the town centre facilities I need - bank, chemist, PO, doctor.

Because it is a complete waste of money and the town centre does not need more cafes and office space. Keep the redditch library where it is.

No

No

No

No

Nothing

NO

Feel the concept has been lost

No

114

No

Nothing would prevent me from using the new location.

None at all

Just work/family commitments

This absolute deplorable RBC/WCC decision which is only based on the most recent 'Town Plan'. All the other expensively produced consultant reports about improving/changing the Town Centre have not mentioned moving the library.

No comment here.

Too far to walk for a lot of people , . Not easy just to pop in while in town doing other things .=if you move it further away

No

No, not at all. I'd be more likely to engage even more as it's in the new hub.

Yes out of the way not a convenient location

No, but I am concerned that the new location could make the library more difficult to find for new users.

Would make it difficult to attend the new site

Yes. The new location is further away to walk to and is isolated from the town shopping centre.

It depends on where the location is as I am disabled

I would feel it's not open to all being housed inside the town hall and not welcome.

Possibly on principle

Yes, not having the archive accessible at this location, particularly if some of them are relocated out of Redditch.

The proposed move to the Town Hall is too far from transport links and the shopping centre for the elderly and young families, both who are big users of the services provided you the library.

No where to park long walk from bus station poor lighting

my mobility

Distance from shops and car parks.

Too far to walk from town or from disabled or ordinary parking

Might not be as many services

The new position of the library is not the issue, the money spent moving it is!

Yes as mentioned above it is not easily accessible for me and for alot of my friends

Leave our library alone

Just a complete waste of money

I expect a Library to be a library not an after thought !

Yes, it's not centrally located now, having younger children where the location is now is ideal

Nothing

Princip

Not as accessible or known as the established location.

Opening hours

Yes there won't be enough resources and it's not inviting to go to new location

I would still use it as I'm not going to cut off my nose to spite my face. However I would like to see the council use this money to assess how other areas of the town centre could be improved rather than demolishing the library, building the new complex and still having empty, unattractive buildings occupying the town centre.

Yes it's further away and is going to be much smaller than our current library

Too far to walk

No

No

Yes, further out of the town centre not being included in the new plans. We don't need more cafes that will close down we need a strong community pillar to stay where it is. Use the money to instead invest in other areas of Redditch abbeydale / Woodrow / greenlands. Or if allowed the Alex for nhs services

Not really but I think for the elderly and disabled they may struggle.

No but why waste millions on this project

No

My disabilities -the move will make it harder/unavailable for many health reasons.

It will be hidden inside another building so will stop people from popping in who had no intention of doing so. A huge number of people use it now as they enter and exit the kingfisher centre. All of that passing trade will be lost. I often go in having gone to town for another reason yet very rarely find myself passing the town hall.

Nothing

Won't know until its built, by which time it will be too late

No. But am not expecting it to as pleasant an experience. And there is nothing preventing me from using the library at its current location.

No

No

It is much further from the bus station and, as it will be reduced in size it will have less facilities.

The Town Hall is the Town Hall. The Library is the Library.Nothing physically would stop me from using it. But that doesn't make it right.I'm glad that it's still a "suggested" location.What about leaving the Library in the Library.That's a novel suggestion.

Yes, it would be out of the way, the wrong side of town

This is not about me, but I can see many that would not feel comfortable attending, not all have a good relationship with Redditch Town Hall, the library is a safe place a welcoming place you cannot replicate it in the town hall.

If current service levels were reduced. i.e less stick or activities. The physical building it self would not prevent me from accessing the services. This said it would be a shame if the environment was not as welcoming as the current library building.

Out of town centre position. Also believe 'new library' will be in a smaller space at Town Hall. Feel strongly that wasting large amounts of council and tax payers money on a new library is not what the Redditch town centre requires.

Nothing

It is a further distance from the main town car parks and I have a toddler and small baby. Putting it in the town hall means a longer outside walk so I am less likely to go in bad weather.

The fact that that conservatives don't listen to what the people of Redditch want, instead they line their own pockets and I don't want to encourage this behaviour.

No

No I wouldn't I think it would b amazing.

Makes no difference.

Yes, looking at the plans, i don't think i would walk through the plaza to get to the library as i don't like open spaces, i get anxiety, and it's even more out the way to go the other route. i will probably use it less often and look at using the local woodrow library facilities.

Yes - the loss of the archive

Yes disabled parking.

No

Yes, would not use it on principle as it is a waste of money in the current economic climate. It is little more than a vanity project by people who do not understand what the people of Redditch need.

The building is not suitable for a library and would just end up a hotch potch make do affair. Public facilities are so lacking do not take what little we have away! I am hoping to hire a small study room in the present library for a U3A special interest group on poetry! This has to be affordable and convenient can you guarantee this will be the case. I have my doubts. Many local groups use the library for meeting space and you have no RIGHT to take this away from people who dutifully pay for it through their council taxes etc.

No - it's a two minute walk from the existing building

Probably not, subject to decent access arrangements e.g. opening times.

My principles

No.

No

No

No

No

One of the main concerns I've heard is footfall and the new library being too out of the way. I think doing as much as possible to increase foot traffic to the new library is important. And making sure access, and information about what's on is made very clear. Perhaps there could be something in the new square, an information board, or something that let's everyone know where the new library is, and let's them know what's on. Perhaps some fun book patterns could be put into the pathways that lead to the town hall. All I'm concerned about it's the library is not just pushed away and forgotten. And it would be nice to see efforts put in place in further designs that would inform people of it's new location and make efforts to attract people to it.

Yes, town hall is not a nicer location

the fact it would be trek at the bottom of Alcester street and not quick pop in while trying to shop could make a difference.

Disabled parking close by

It's a [REDACTED] stupid idea with no substance of practicality, outside of lining a council members pockets.

Not Relevant.

An inconvenient site.

Steep slope

Not very public friendly location

Yes, the new library will not be a quiet undisturbed space. I will not be able to read there due to the disturbance.

No. Potential to access other services at the same time is a positive. As is the ability to deliver regeneration within the wider town centre.

of course not

No

The walk up and down the hill carrying books particularly in bad weather

No

It would stop me from using the library because it would be too far from the main centre.

It would be a reduced service. I would not be interested,

I don't use it

Yes it to small in there

I would still use it but. Also not such a welcoming building.

The location is further from the car park for us and we're not convinced all the groups/clubs will keep going in the Town Hall.

No, just as convenient

No comment here.

I refer to above statement. I would not use as a principle.

It will not be accessible as it will be further away from public transport. and shopping centre.

No.

Yes, disability. It's further to walk.

Principals

it is out of the way in a cold drafty site .

No

Yes because it is in an ideal location and quick access to get to it at the moment

Stupid question. Nothing preventing me using this library.

Absolutely not.

Parking,traffic cost to the tax payer

No

No

Nothing would prevent me from using new library If we have no choice as no one has a say in redditch people do as they want to do.

No

No

Will it have enough space??? and quiet areas across the multi needs of the site

yews, I have no idea where the town hall is and I visit the Library when I visit the Kingfisher

The new location will be less easily reached by many people, situated at the bottom of a hill, which in itself makes it far more difficult for disabled and elderly people to access and right next to a busy dual carriageway, not an ideal place for children to be able to access the library I would have thought! Who on earth could think that this is an ideal place for a town library is surely misguided!

Nothing preventing, but it is less ideal location. Also it will take time to get used to the layout, something as a pushed Student I don't wish to do.

Yes principal and the distance

Yes, it is more than a short walk and less accessible

Increased walking distance.

Yes accessibility

Mainly because it won't feel that it's part of the town centre . Feel like it has been pushed to the margins.

Yes. It's out the way of parking and access. It just does feel like a safe location when there is nothing else there. At this time of year it would be dark and with nothing else open folk would most probably feel very vulnerable

The inevitable reduced services would prevent me from using the library at a new location.

Yes. It's too far out of the way.

If the library did not have as much on offer as previous location. Also not as accessible as existing library.

For me yes. I find walking difficult at times, and the townhall is further away.

My argument is demolishing a large solid structure which is the Redditch Library. Knocking down the Building would prevent me from going to the new location . An horrendous waste of public money .

I rarely go to that part of town, needs to be visible and accessible. It is fit for purpose now, so why move it!!

Will probably stop using it and go to the big one in Birmingham instead. That one is amazing! The council should look at the Birmingham library for inspiration to make the Redditch library awesome instead of knocking it down for yet more coffee shops and fountains that will only be used in the summer months.

Archives not being there. It is also farther to walk for me.

To far out Not enough room

To out the way

I would not go to the new location. I have a grandchild and would like to encourage her to use the library but I cannot support moving it and demolishing an existing building for no good reason

No but it is totally unnecessary to move it

Yes

Yes, the town hall is hard to navigate and doesn't have the space to offer what the current library offers now.

No

Yes hardly ever walk over that way.

Moving to a smaller space has the unfortunate and inevitable downside of not being able to offer everything the library currently does. I know the go to line to this is "actually it'll be the same or better" but there's really just no evidence for that. It's very much further out of the way for vulnerable or disabled persons - but at the heart of it, the new location really just doesn't make sense. You're putting a library in with a bunch of other stuff when a library itself should be a standalone location.

Too close to the Tory [REDACTED] in the council building

Concerned about [REDACTED] from [REDACTED] sharing the building.

From the bus station it would be quite a walk. If some car parking provision were made then I would use the library in its new location.

No, but I would have to see what facilities would be available.

No

It is perfectly good where it is.

Wouldn't use it on principle. Will find alternative ways to get what I need.

Yes, it is not purpose built for this reason and I would not use it out of principle for the facts stated above.

Yes it's out the way

No, actually more likely to use it as there are other services to access

Unfamiliar with TH. Not a specific library facility so would lose current ambience created by function of building and focus of staff.

No, the new location is only a matter of yards away.

Access due to the additional walk and my far less regular use of this area of the town. Some people have prior negative associations with the building as council offices and do not necessarily view it favourably. This is not going to encourage use due to potential unconscious bias for some members of the community. Generally, it is a less suitable and less welcoming building aesthetically, in my opinion it would take quite some renovation and time for this to become settled in its new role and widely accessed as a venue for the library. The building is clearly a municipal centre and creates a certain image which can be off-putting for some members of the community. This part of town feels more isolated and less well populated by people who are generally just around and using the space this definitely impacts on my view of this area, as I am not a shy or retiring person in any way, I am sure this will be the same for others too. Lack of free disabled parking nearby would be off-putting for me and for others. For me, this part of the town is a place where I generally don't go regularly as there is really very little there of interest to me and I note that it is generally quieter and more likely to have people just passing through to somewhere else. Visiting the library here would require greater motivation and would likely reduce my visiting and use due to increased inconvenience.

Yes - I use the library along with other services in proximity

No

My principles

More difficult to access. No benefit to moving the library at an extortionate cost.

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No. Not at all. I think it can only be a positive thing for Redditch. We are not losing anything only gaining.

Depends very much on how the facilities matched the existing ones.

Principle. This project appears to be built on political ego.

I don't think there would be as much space and services would be lost

Further to travel .

Currently, I am fit enough to climb the slope. That may not be the case in a few years.

Distance to centre of town because of mobility

At the moment no, but being 71 years of age, I may not be as mobile as I am in the near future.

There is no reason for me not to use the library. However, currently the library is at the heart of the town centre. This says a lot about what is important to Redditch. Once relocated to the Town Hall, the library will be on the outskirts of the town centre, further away from the railway station. This will inevitably reduce footfall and passers by .

Carrying books further so yes.

No. It just doesn't need to be moved.

Too far to go to.

It is further from the shopping centre and less likely to invite spontaneous visits in passing. I have no information to allow me to know how welcoming or not the environment would be

Technically, there is nothing that would PREVENT me using the new location, but I would feel less inclined to do so. It would feel more isolated.

Yes. The town hall does not have the space the current library has. And knowing our council they will find a reason to do away with it all together once it's in the building

To far from centre.

If I was still in Redditch I wouldn't go to the Town Hall

Yes it's further away from the town centre , down hill.

I wouldn't use it and would go elsewhere if it's moved. A library should be a library not squashed into a building not fit for purpose....

No

No, I see no problem with and sounds like an excellent proposal

Greed.

Can't get there easily

Leave it where it is

Too far out the way

It depends on what it offers, especially for young families. What is promised in aid to gain support is not always the end result!! Redditch has been spoilt already, don't make things worse. Listen to what the people who live here want!!

With my mobility problem it is too far to walk I like to research the archive if they are moved to Worcester I can't get there without a long bus ride and a long walk

If gets problems with mobility and health problems

I don't like change. The town hall isn't big enough and it's got bad feng shui

Seeing my ancestors on a regular basis.

Extra walk from buses and train. Parking difficult unless you use dark underpass. Walking with children extra distance not helpful.

Irritation that you didn't listen to the people of your town who are overwhelmingly not in favour of this proposal, and that you still decided to knock down a decent building in favour of a building that is underused and could be converted into apartments.

No

Yes to far to walk for me, with a mobility problem.

Everything is wrong and unacceptable in the proposed library relocation.

It will be out of the way and harder to get to. I will use it if it stays where it is. It won't be visible to new people and there will not be passing trade.

The inconvenience of trekking a long way from the town centre, especially in bad weather. I normally combine a trip to the library with shopping in the town centre, where there is plenty of parking space.

It is so much more out of the way

It is such a waste of money and a perfectly good building perfectly suited to its purpose including storing its archives. It is accessible for people who don't drive in Redditch

No

Yes, it's further to walk from the shopping centre, with no convenient parking.

No

No

I won't go past it when I am in town. I don't go to the town hall area.

It would be a lot less convenient as we often drop in while shopping.

It's out of the way and it's a smaller location that's not built for the purpose. Reduction to facilities, particularly for the kids would be devastating to the town.

I cannot see myself using the library if it is relocated.. The new location does not seem fit for purpose.

No

No.

No

Being in my 80's, don't drive, and having leg problems I can walk to the Town Hall but getting back takes me a long time as it is uphill and I can't walk from there without pausing often.

Further from central area (not far but with small children it makes a difference)

Lack of services and environmental feel

Of course it would. No-one will be just passing by and popping in as part of a shopping trip. The library is convenient and welcoming it can't be turned into a major expedition.

The only think is that whilst in town it's easy to pop into the current central space.

No, I am lucky to be fully mobile.

No, it is going a few feet from where it is currently.

No, it's new location will be 100 yards away from its current location and as such, literally nothing will change it's accessibility.

The dilution of services, the distance from the centre, the muddle of absorbing the provision into a one-stop-shop, the changing of the nature of the provision which is currently based around a very particular and valuable environment conducive to quiet, reflective study/reflection/reading etc...

I use the archives for local history study. If they were to move to Worcester this would remove a considerable use of the library for me

No - it's only a few 100 yards difference. Whilst people say it's further to walk = what about the people coming from the other end of town.. it will be nearer for them!

The distance from the centre, I have ALWAYS found the Library a hostile and unattractive building that would need work done to attract people. It would put off the very people that need it the most. The bus stop is nearer the other entrance to the centre so why would people walk past multiple charity shops, Drunken and drugged people shouting and swearing and closed buildings with cigarette strewn nightclub doorways to access it? there would be no flow, The carpark's location is no where near to this 'new' plaza either. while these works where happening I would personally use other towns nearby and as such probably not use Redditch so much any more. There are so many other areas of the town that need work than the Library.

The move is as broad as it's long to me

Yes sounds too smaller space as current library is a good space and roomy

No, I would still use it along with other libraries in Worctershire So if it was not as good as it is currently is would be forced to drive to Droitwich or The Hive more often

Nothing will stop me using it at the new location as a library is an essential service to me.

Further away, not as easy to access.

Not at all.

The distance and the unappealing aesthetic of the Town Hall. Also, the absolute waste of money from taking away a vital service from it's current location

Yes - not as accessible.

Location to far when wet and cold

No

No

I would still use it , perhaps not so often .

No

We would use a library however the fact is it would now be further away for us and by default less accessible.

No - easier and can go to other council services.

No

It would be a walk downhill / uphill further away from parking facilities, and further away from the shops etc. I am older and would find that would put me off.

Better parking needed

I would not visit the proposed new location as it is too out of the central hub and too far to walk.

No

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Too far

Everything. It just wouldn't be the same experience or environment. It's not just about books. Visiting Redditch Library is a unique experience in itself. Even people from outside Redditch I've taken there say the same and love the library building.

Yes. Everything about this move will stop me using it. Access. Distance.

Possibly parking will not be so easy

INot immediately, but in ten years time, I will probably not be able to manage the slopes to any of the entrances - steep subway to 58 bus, long walk uphill to top of the hill bus services. likewise, to the bus station.

It's not the new location that is the issue for me as a user - it's the wider principle of an expensive, (financially) high-risk and unwanted project that does nothing to address the bigger issues about the town centre.

As above

No

Yes, parking.

No

Parking more difficult for people with mobility issues. I would probably still use the library.

Probably not. I will use the library come what may. I am able bodied and work full-time so can't take advantage of the other activities on offer, but the current site seems to work very well.

No

I don't think so

No

It is out of the way and in my opinion the space provided will gradually be eroded. Looks like a preface to getting rid of library services.

No

Yes, further away

I don't believe that mixing up customers/clients for the various different services to be accessed from the Town Hall would feel safe for the difference client groups that make use of the library. I wouldn't go to the library if it was relocated as per the plans.

Spite.

It becomes an after thought or somewhere stumbled upon by it being tucked away. Library use is declining in this country and this trend needs to be reversed hiding the library away will do nothing to help. This proposal needs to be forgotten about.

No, nothing. Just please try to maximise natural light to enter the new premises - I find the current location pleasing as regards windows and architecture.

New location is further out and all uphill on the way back. No good for elderly and less able

No

No but why move it when there is nothing wrong with the present site

No

Distance to get there

Yes, it is too far for me to walk.

No, this no reason for me not to use the library in the suggested new location.

I would use another library as a way of expressing my disgust at badly spent, hard come by money / budgets by the local government

No.

Nothing

I don't think the access will be the same I could imagine it would be very cramped and crowded you can't fit a pint in a half pint pot.

No because I love reading and the reference facility.

The Town Hall is a dour, uninviting space. I should not use any "library" located there.

How busy the venue will get

I'm not sure I would walk the extra distance, as I have arthritis in my legs.

Nothing

No.

I would imagine the Town Hall gets very congested with people as it is

I note from the displayed plans in the current library that the proposal is to situate the childrens' area adjacent to the research and study area! It is great to have a dedicated childrens area, it is not the best environment for people who wish to study or research, this requires a quiet area with desk spaces etc.

No.

No.

New location is harder to access. Not so centrally located.

No

No

No as long as it's has easy access

No

changes to opening times

Nope.

No. The new Library will only be metres down the road.

Too far to walk from any car park

Not at all. More likely to use it in the new location

It's as easy as current site

No

No

No

I don't like the idea of it being hidden from view. As I am usually in a hurry and just pop in while passing I probably would not have the time to go all the way to the town hall. While I am still quite active at the moment, I may not be able to access due to location later in life.

No

It would depend on the services offered.

No.

It is even further from the centre which will deter me as a disabled person as it is too far to get to

No, I would still use the library.

The library is not only a prime location but a fantastic building. The size for the amount of books and other information it holds is ample and supports the local community well. I can not envisage the council having the space that reflects this. Concluding that the council will have to reduce what the original library space can offer. Meaning a reduction of books and services. The people themselves who use the library, from buggies to wheelchairs are met with accessibility. How will the council handle all the extra traffic and keep great accessibility? It has taken lots of time and effort for the library to be as successful as it is. The council has no welcoming features nor atmosphere from the beginning of reception to even using the toilet. It's not just a miserable place either no one wants to go there.

I can't see how relocating the library would improve the town centre. There are plenty of empty shops and houses. Also in my opinion there is no need for more cafes. I like the library where it is.

No

No

Location.

Yes, if any of the services were to be removed from the library because of its relocation, and the lack of books its going to have, it won't be appealing for people to carry on using or for new members to join.

No

No I don't think so

Probably no, but the original library building should be used and not demolished

Nothing

No, the location would be perfect

Too far. Too many steps. Inconvenient.

No

The additional distance from the town centre would deter me and I'm sure others from visiting it.

I would personally find it daunting to visit the town hall. The library is a relaxing atmosphere where I feel safe and I'm worried that will be lost if the library were to move to a shared space.

Too far out of the town . More risk of catching covid due to its size.

Yes.. All that money would of been better spent 😞 -

No

No

The town hall is further away from the town centre and unfortunately has an unsavory crowd outside the approach to the front entrance.

As someone who worked at the proposed new location for eighteen years, until fairly recently, I know that this building is entirely unsuitable to house the current library.

No

Yes, my inability to walk far, especially on an incline.

No

As an elderly resident, I wouldn't be so keen to use the Library!!! However, I know from past experience, having lived in the Redditch area for many years and experienced surveys, consultations, new building plans, meetings, discussions and the like, the Redditch Town Planners will go ahead and build what suits them!!!!

Absolutely not. If anything a new facility is likely to attract me, as the accommodation in the existing building has a depressing environment with low natural light, overdetailed internal features, depressing decoration and finishes. This change is an opportunity to provide a bright new facility with capability to expand if required as it sits within a much bigger building.

No

No, but, that is not the point. If the new library were in a cramped shop in Batchley some of us would still use it. The issue is, the plan proposes to spend a considerable sum of money on demolishing a purpose built library and replacing it with a less suitable one in pursuit, frankly, of a vanity project of the incumbent, and transitory, council. I am normally a Conservative supporter so I am far from having a political axe to grind in this matter, indeed, I find it slightly embarrassing that Labour has better proposals.

Fewer people will visit the library if it moves away from the kingfisher centre and transport links.

no

No

No it would be nice to have a theme eg woodland in the children's area, I love the under the sea theme before but in my opinion the children's area feels clinical.

No

No

No

No

Why would it?

Don't think so.

No

Not at all.

No.

No

No

The only thing I would suggest is that special events ie. Book signings and the like, should they happen at the library, once relocated, could be held somewhere much more appropriate like the Canopies etc.

None at all, I would probably make better use of the amenity

The new location is too far from the town centre.

No

Yes, they'll be fewer books

Opening hours is the biggest issue. I often go past the old library and find that it is closed. Also there needs to be a better adoption of technology in the library. Tired old computers and a dusty printer is not good enough these days.

No

Doesn't feel exclusive, the library is the library, not some sub-office in the town hall

N/A

Definitely not.

In appropriate place for the library

Bad weather as its further to walk. Won't use it when it goes dark due to its location and lack of lighting.

Yeah it would be too cramped

No

Nothing would stop me if I needed to use the library from going to the town hall

No

No.

No

No close parking, as a disabled person it's important

No

I don't think we need the library moving, leave as is

Further to walk to as have problems at times with my mobility

Out of the way and feel it will not be as much space of the current library.

Principle

Definitely not, proper even better, would use it even more.

Further from town centre. I like it as it is.

It wouldn't be appealing to walk further down to the town hall where that should be used to talk to the council face to face

No. It would still be just as easily accessible

Nope

No

No

No, I'm more likely to use it.

The Town Hall site is quite remote from the town centre, so many library users will inevitably look to access it by car. Even if there are sufficient parking facilities to make this feasible for those with a car, many older non-driver residents will be disadvantaged (Equality Act implications?). In any case, library trips are often combined with shopping activities, so separation of the library from the town would inevitably impact usage levels.

The trek down there would put me off, being partially disabled.

Principle!

Yes, I don't think it is the right choice for the above reasons.

It's not so convenient not so good for disabled people

No

No

No

All of the above

No, as I am lucky enough to be fit and well.

It's further to walk from the town centre especially for older people.

No, but that really isn't the point here, is it?

No it'll be easier with my chair

Why would I want to walk further and go inside the Town Hall - completely unnecessary.

The distance from the town centre

Probably not but I would not be happy about having to do this.

Further away from its current central location and difficult to carry books to a car park near by.

Unlikely

Yes. Location would prevent me using the library in the new location

I would find it totally abhorrent to use a replacement library which had been rehoused in such a morally shabby and reprehensible fashion, and at such a high environmental cost.

The current town hall site is set back from the main thoroughfare and it was not designed with the thought of attracting visitors in mind. This makes it altogether less attractive. In addition, it is unlikely that the "library" facilities suggested would be on the ground floor, so making a visit to the library even more off-putting. The town hall is a place of business. The library is a place of education and pleasure. These two purposes are incompatible.

No

I am autistic and I struggle with change and processing information. I have been coming to the library since 1984 and I know it. I would struggle with using a totally different space.

Yes. Please see above. If the library moved to the Town Hall I would have to use it far less than I do now. This would be HUGELY DETRIMENTAL to my life. I currently visit the library almost every day BECAUSE of its excellent location next to the Kingfisher Centre.

Its too far for me to walk from where i park and nothing is down here to draw me or anybody else which common sense says leave it alone. You do not maintain it anyway you just want it to fail and justify a FALSE PLAN AND WASTE MONEY. IT WOULD MAKE MORE SENSE TO BUILD 50 COUNCIL HOUSES INSTED AT LEAST YOU WOULD GET REVENUE FROM THEM NOT LIKE THIS FOOLHARDY ERROR OF A PLAN.

Yes location. Will be too small and within another building which I wouldn't feel comfortable going to.

No

Not necessarily but I di t agree with moving it, ji5hing wrong with where it is now

I mainly use the library to take my clients with learning disabilities to read books. They get really distress if things change

Yes, our clients, as people with severe autism can find changes like this too much to handle. Our clients need stability and after persevering with the challenges of lockdown during covid, this will cause a great deal of upset.

Probably not. My objections are that the scheme is a waste of money.

Well yes obviously if a service I required was no longer readily available because of the downsizing

To far away To in inviting

I don't trust that it will have the same facilities.

Absolute waste of time. Convert the thwn hall to flats and move the council chamber to the library. You all work from home anyway and the town hall hasn't been used since covid. Why uproot loads of charity's to downgrade their services to a smaller place that is not central to the town center. Absolutely brain dead move. Its not going to work for the peoe that rely on the services for the sake of flats that are overpriced and awfully constructed.

THE ABOVE.

It's lack of easy access!

Less easy to combine the library with visiting the Kingfisher Centre to access retail and catering.

Yes, when my time is short I need to be able to visit library/bank/shops in as little time as possible without stress and a walk uphill to shopping centre where I park.

It would definitely be further out from the town. Enter and, thus, less inviting/convenient.

The fact that I don't want to support a pointless move which has been paid for by us, it seems a waste of money to me

Access to the Town Hall via public transport is worse than the existing library. The Town Hall is further from high footfall locations like the Kingfisher Centre and Church Green.

No need for it to move

We will all be affected with the disruption this change will make. Autistic people also do not take well to change nor do it's members who see no reason for it. Less people may go to the library as its on the corner now next to town ppl are more likely to visit regularly. Worse for people with disabilities, even a little extra walking makes a difference

Regrettably not, other than, by then, I would have been voluntarily crushed under the bulldozers demolishing the existing library.

Prefer the existing location.

Yes. I go shopping as well to the library and post office.

Parking and walking from bus stato

No

No

No

If there were reduced services or if it was too cramped/noisy (sensory processing difficulties) then I wouldn't be able to access it any more

Location :- to far away from town enter Lack of transport facility's to town hall No
thought for the elderly to get there Hill from town centre to town hall to get back to the town
centre transport links. No parking in the area No direct access from nearest car park
Cost of parking

The fact that the layout will be all different and will be in a ginormous building riiiight in the corner tucked away almost, will feel odd and not as welcoming

I'd forget it was there

Less accessible, further from the shops.

Location not inviting to far from the bus

Yes I would not use it

Nothing

Parking, opening hours

The name

Yes the location, The people of Redditch need to be listened to do leave it where it is.

Ease of access, parking.

No, but I feel like it is more suited to the current building

Yes it's way to small in the twon hall

no

Nothing would prevent me using the new location but I will hate it

Less likely, the further it is from the centre

yes it will be too crowded with people attending the other proposed uses.

The new plan does not look good and I fear a lots of reduction in the services

I would still use it because I enjoy taking my daughter but I prefer where it is now.

The Town Hall is dark, uninviting and not very pleasant. It's tucked out of the way, whereas the existing library building catches much higher footfall. I don't like the idea of the library being split across three floors

See above.

No, but I'd forget it's there and wouldn't have the off the cuff visits because I'm walking past

Too small

Too far from parking and out the way of other places id pop into it needs to stay central!

Nothing.

No

I'd rather it stays where it is, a complete library, not absorbed in the town hall. I probably wouldn't bother going in as town hall a bit intimidating

No

As a disabled person travelling to the new location would be difficult as I park in the Kingfisher - the Library is near The Car Park at the Town Hall is inaccessible and dangerous when using my electric wheelchair. Uneven surfaces, slippery surfaces and a steep slope to get in to the building that my chair can't handle going up and has slid down and tipped up while going down. It's difficult to access if the new location would

suit my needs in the plan as there isn't as such any information for those with disabilities or in line with the equalities act.

No

Not really, but I would be very annoyed if the size of the new Library kept being reduced for other projects in the future, especially with Council Tax going up most years and services reduced.

I currently attend the Monday Baby music/rhyme/bounce +stay & play session. it is a fantastic service and feels very welcoming and safe. If the new library location felt at all unwelcoming, unsafe or cramped, this would certainly put me off. When I move to Redditch I will become a library member and use it at different times but I would still want it to feel welcoming and safe.

Not being able to park close having to walk in the rain or bad weather away from the kingfisher to new location that is not better than the current location will have not enough archive storage and not enough divided space for groups to meet. The new location would need to have a big list of benefits over the current location and it doesn't so spending all this money cannot be justified.

Further away, claustrophobic building

1. The town hall is further away from the place I park (car park 1). In addition to having to walk further, more of the route is uncovered or outside. These facts mean that I will use the library less often, especially in bad weather. 2. The current library is in a very convenient location. Currently, if I am shopping in the town centre I will often quickly pop into the library to look at the book return trolley (because that is where the most popular books are found!). If the library is further from the shops I will be less likely to do this.

No, it's only a little further down

No nothing, plans and proposals look good

more likely to drop in if other organisations are in the same building

There is very little to attract library users to this part of the town centre as once past the post office and the new supermarket there's virtually no retail outlets. The current location is so close to the main shops and church green it's no effort to call in.

No, but that is not the point. It could be relocated to the Kingfisher Centre, or to Smallwood Hospital, or to Tesco, or anywhere but just because it could it doesn't make it right.

yes because i have limited mobility

All of it walking down there it would be a waste of time money and effort The fact there mental health clinics and it nhs services to be put in there .I feel like that not private for anyone and it's just not worth it

Location an uninviting building ,poor access when weather is horrible

Yes, it is downright inconvenient, there is a reason people do not go to townhall at the present time, it is out of the way and a total white elephant!

Yes I would strongly resent the demolition of a wonderful building that my taxes helped pay for.

Yes very possibly. Going to a town hall is not the same as going to a library. I town hall is simply not as welcoming, and for some people will be intimidating. I think this point is being completely ignored

The new location is much less accessible for me.Even though the Town Hall is only 350 yards from the current library, the walk up Alcester Street means contending with an uphill slope (gradient unknown). Not an issue if you are physically fit but for those of all ages with mobility problems or breathing difficulties this does present a real challenge - especially when carrying heavy books. And parents/grandparents with young children and pushchairs would also be inconvenienced. It is my understanding that there will be no parking provision at the Town Hall for Library users at all.

Too far from parking. Disconnected from the Kingfisher.

I pop in and work there, use the wifi, and chat to the library staff mainly. I doubt I'll go down there if it's moved, and will probably go and work in coffee shops.

The existing site is nearer to public transport links, shops and independent cafes. I would like to use the existing library occasionally and travel by bus from Wythall. If a new location was further away from other services and amenities I would not want to spend a day in Redditch.

No

Location is not as optimal for me.

No

No but why would I go? You are significantly reducing its size and therefore reducing its resources. I'd rather travel elsewhere. Redditch Borough Council do not care unless it's lining their pockets.

Poor location i feel people would not use it and there fore in time it would have to close Just make the current library larger at the back giving space to incorporate the outside agencies within this excellent service

Terrible dark place not inviting I would not like to walk down there on dark winter afternoons after school Where the library is I am in the safety of getting off the school bus walking through the precinct and just leave around the corner and I'm there The town hall area is poorly lite with the underpass near by

I would be very disappointed to see it relocated but I would still use the library.

Yes it's away from the centre an no parking or near where I do my shopping in the kingfisher centre. The council needs to spend the money doing up the shops and we need a market back. The sooner Mr Dormer goes the better and I'm a Conservative voter or was.

No archives for historical reference, longer walk from the Kingfisher, the new premises will be busy/crowded with other non-library related activities.

Less accessible to someone disabled but who does not have a blue badge

I would not use it on principle if it moves.

Yes. It's a long walk to the town hall. The Walk back up to the town and bus station is steep. Its away from all the car parks, disabled bays.

Yes, I can't walk to the Town Hall from the shops, especially carrying books. I currently use the library all the time. It's a big part of my life. Moving it would take the daily joy I get from going there out of my life. I can't believe this is even being considered.

The town hall is too far away from the bus station, I do not drive so I need to get the bus into town when I want to use the library. However it is too far from the station if I were to walk there. The town hall does not offer the same potential for library service offers as the current purpose built library does. If the library does not offer the same opening hours for study purposes or the same services for social connection purposes then I will not use the library.

The Town Hall is not such a convenient location to get to, which would probably mean I would be reluctant to visit there.

Only the lack of other services or shops close to the town hall. It might be out of the way.

No but that isn't the issue. The issue is the waste of time and money involved in this proposal.

Parking/ difficulty to get there Unfamiliar

The current welcome, safe location, safe layout cannot be replicated at town hall

A reduced service will make the Library less attractive and cut down footfall to it. The floorspace has been measured. The area use able will be reduced. A greater distance from the town will cut down footfall to it. I will always use the Library but other people will be put off by it becoming less accessible.

Lack of easy parking access, I wouldn't pass by and pop in any longer. I'd be less likely to spend more time there.

The proposed location would be less desirable for me because of the Town Halls greater overall footfall traffic, which would deter me from visiting in event of social distancing needs increasing.

Yes , the LOCATION . SEEING A BUILDING IN FRONT OF YOU , MAKES YOU THINK , “ How can i use this facility “ . IF THE LIBRARY IS MOVED INTO THE TOWN HALL , IT IS PERFECTLY OBVIOUS THAT THE USEAGE WILL BE LESS ..CAN ANYBODY IN THEIR RIGHT MIND ACTUALLY SEE PARENTS AND GRANDPARENTS WITH YOUNG CHILDREN AND BABIES CRYING... WALKING THE EXTRA 200 YARDS TO THE NEW LIBRARY .

It's fine where it is, it doesn't need to be loved frankly.

Nothing would prevent me from using the new library location.

Too far from car parking and bus and train stations . It would no longer be a hub in the true centre of town.

I personally never go to the library.

It's further from the shopping centre which may put me off. Also if navigation within the town hall isn't clear that would also put me off.

No - will the Town Hall car park be available for library users as parking is actually an issue in any of the possible town centre library locations.

Lack of availability of records, for one

To far out of town And I don't want an internet Library.

Yes if its moved I will not return

I would be extremely angry at having to use the new site. However I, with great resentment, would continue to use the service.

The Town Hall is less accessible via public transport than the existing library site.

See comments above.

yes

Access

Would rather it stayed where it is.

It would not be as easily accessible for not only me but other service users. I am very familiar with the townhall building, as my parents were both councillors, and the space is not suitable or large enough to sustain the library.

No

Parking issues.

Longer walk from parking

A refusal to comply with Councillor Dormer's aim to demolish the perfectly good building.

Little access such as car access only

not really

This proposed new location is one step too far especially disabled access at old town hall is too restricted. The only reason town hall is used is to justify a vacant building because all staff work from home and building is wasteful.

My personal use depends entirely on the facilities made available because it is used by others. My concern has to be that others find it difficult to access or know about facilities. It is inevitable that the move will reduce the options available to me.

It being in the Town Hall. I would only go to support the Library staff.

No

I am disabled and need to use a manual wheelchair and helper and the proposed new location means an uphill slope to get back to the town centre for shopping etc.

Access issues and a bad back.

As a disabled person, I'm afraid the new library and hub will not be perfectly accessible like the current library is.

Yes - I always go to the library when I'm going to the shops in the Kingfisher. I won't want the hassle of going down the hill, especially with children (and books!) in tow. And particularly if the weather is cold or wet, or it is dark. The library's current location (and building) is perfect.

Please see above.

little too out of the way and it does seem quite a uninviting space

It is too far out of the way and not convenient for me to use when I am in town. I rarely use town hall as things are and when I do it is a hassle to get there, I used to use town hall counter services and often thought it would be much more helpful if the counters were in one of the vacant units in the kingfisher or church green..... The place where the footfall ACTUALLY IS!! So that fact alone says the Library should remain where it is!

Call me sceptical but I suspect that once the old library is gone it will become, not unsurprisingly, too expensive to replace. I don't believe a new library will ever open for me to use.

As half the archive would be missing there wouldn't be such a call to. It's a much further walk from the centre. I fit library things in around shopping and fit shopping in and around library time. So I'd either be doing one or the other not both on the same trip, as I can now.

I know many folks who use the current library that would struggle to go much further due to mobility issues.

THE NEW LOCATION SUGGESTED BY THE COUNCIL MEMBER IS NOT IN A LOCATION TO BE ABLE TO ENTER THE SHOPPING FACILITIES

Yes. The complete lack of planning on where to invest money.

No, but the library is in an easier location already

Yes. I am disabled and use public transport to go to the town centre. Moving the library to the Town Hall is a longer journey from the nearest bus stop. What equalities impact assessment has been undertaken with regard to the proposed move?

It won't stop me getting to the library. But the elderly people will find it hard getting up the steep slope on Alcester Street

Not me personally but I know people with limited mobility, who don't quite qualify for a blue badge, who would be unable to navigate the slopes and steps, and distance from bus stops etc to get to it.

No, however accessibility for other people may be difficult

The walk down the hill and then back up again carrying books, especially in the bad weather. It's not close to anywhere else I would want to go to. I've been to meetings there in the past and I found it a cold, depressing place. Not somewhere I want to spend time in again!

Increasing age and mobility issues

It is out of the way

If Library at back of town not easily accessible. Also outside right by pubs invites drunks so will avoid.

NO

Yes, why spend money when not broke do not fix

No, but many people with mobility issues won't walk that far down.

Yes the extra distance to walk, as I'm not as fit as I used to be and there must be a lot of people like me who don't wish to walk at their time of life.

When I'm in Redditch shopping (less attractive with the loss of M&S and Debenhams) it is so easy to call in at the library, I actually pass it! I think it will be the one stop I miss if I am short of time and it is moved out of the centre.

Yes the extra distance to walk as I get older, and especially during winter months. The library at present is so convenient to use and then to access the Kingfisher Centre.

I strongly object to the council wasting money on something that is not necessary

Not willing to walk all the way to the Town Hall and it's uphill on the way back

NO

Having had a replacement hip recently sometimes it can be painful so this would be a problem

Further to walk and uphill coming back to the shopping centre. It will impact on older peoples health.

Not really, but why move?! (We use Bromsgrove library as well)

For no benefit!!

Probably not, but people hate change so do I and would just prefer it as it is here. Too much change in the world!

no

not sure

accessibility

The present library is so convenient to us as a family, nearby parking

Cant walk on slopes Live alone so cant use wheelchair

Disabled. And keep archives in the space. Getting to the Town Hall would not like going down there of an evening with hill, the pubs

I would be prevented from attending the sort of events and archives I most benefit from in the current building. I would be prevented from accessing the resources I need

More difficult access

No. Satisfied with what there is

I am housebound so I have the delivery service

Yes will not be able to access full services, even if promised services will be diminished in reality.

The new plan looks good but also somewhat soul-less. The present location is handy for the Town Centre and I wonder whether the new location will fit the foot fall of the old one.

In ten years - the slopes are too steep.

Not the same

As you are asking us to prioritise suggests loss of services. Public Transport at that end of town access.

Nothing would prevent me from using new location. Thing is a building that has cost millions and is fine would be destroyed.

Political reasons - because of the extremely foolish decisions made by Councillor Dormer and his colleagues both in the Borough council and County Council. The principle that this money provided by the Nat Gov should not/must not be spent on this extremely pointless exercise

no

It doesn't need to move. It's out of most peoples view and would probably just walk past

I don't think I will get into the Town up stairs

It is an inconvenient location and further away from the town centre. Parking is limited and access is generally poor

The distance - probably still use but not as often. If the weather is bad probably not bother

Anxiety and not a fan of government buildings

Yes, too far out. I have difficulty walking and it would just be too much effort, plus it is up hill coming back

As above

Very reluctantly no

no

Possibly not. Reservations about bars and open areas

nothing

It would be further for me to walk from the bus station if I come in by bus, and from where I park my car and from where I do my shopping. I have a heart condition so carrying books and shopping back up the slope would be difficult.

It may not be allocated the same space. Room sizes and opening time changes

I would be more reluctant to visit the new location as it's further away and there seems to be tight space at the moment without a library being put into the Town Hall - I wouldn't feel comfortable

I will still use the library in the new location

I'd still use it in the new location

Its distance away

As a disabled person I would find it difficult to walk down the hill to its new location. Walking back up the hill would be almost impossible.

if this one mad plan goes ahead we won't have much choice if we want to borrow books and have out knit and natter group

no

Yes, not as convenient!

It isn't just about "me". At present I am not disabled, nor do I have small children or pushchairs to consider. Its an unattractive place to go to and leaves me with the clear impression that it will be used by less footfall. It is less convenient.

It is further away from the centre - difficult for older people to go that extra distance. The layout of the current location is ideal. The Town Hall will need a lot of restructure. There is less space. And we need to keep the archives in Redditch.

Only if parking facilities were no good.

Distance extra to walk with disabled spouse

Its not just about "ME". I think libraries are a wonderful resource for the whole community, and should be accessible.

Too far to walk with limited mobility

Part of Hub and not a building built for purpose as the library is now. Not as easy as it is not to just pop in. I would have to make a special effort to visit.

Further to walk. MORE STEPS TO CLIMB NOT SUCH A PLEASANT PLACE

As my mobility (Walking) gets more difficult/less able/wanting to walk, so wanted to go less often - present location is good for proximity to Town Centre Shopping, Church Green Amenity, church college event.

No

Other than enough room for all the activity's!

Distance from precinct

Too Far

Redditch Town Hall is a vast, impersonal building built for commercial efficiency, and probably the nastiest building in the town centre. It is not suitable and not the right place for the library and archive function for this town - instead it could house the business related functions it suits. Too far to walk to and around – not necessary!!

[Are there any additional community services you would like to see in Redditch library? Please describe below.](#)

Youth groups and activities, for example revision sessions run by volunteer teachers

No It's doing fine without Council intervention.

I find the comment that a relocated library will have the same space "or similar" worrying. It either will be the same or it won't. If it won't why won't it be and what will the difference be. It is too vague. Later on I can see the space allocated to the library being far less than it is now but the claim will be that people didn't have a problem with this in the survey.

I think the library at present does more than enough. The staff are amazing

WRS, DWP, Podiatry, diabetes drop in,

Sexual health clinic

Move the town hall cash desk into the current library and do it all the other way around

more integrated public services such as NHS, DWP and charities marking it a genuine community hub.

What you have outlined sounds a good plan.

Guest authors More community events

More Author talks and community events

The library already provides a fantastic community service where it is

IT courses, Coding for kids, NFT, Crypto classes and things children will use in the future..

Would like to use the cinema clubs and knit and natter, the library do a good job supporting the poeple of Redditch.

No it's perfect as it is

Voluntary Organisations

Give blood. I don't know where to donate these days, since the Church closed in Winyates

Book clubs

more events and activities for young people who are in school, not just toddlers

Help with relocation now that Community House is closing.

More mental wellness provision, maybe working with a charity like mind. Love that they do a walking group

I would just like them to be advertised more

Knit and chat, men shed/ cooking/gardening/DIY club house, keep the art exhibitions

No, a library should be a library!

Citizens advice office - someone to talk to face to face instead of an email.

Citizen's Advice Bureau

Over 65 call in for coffee and chat - or book club with a specific book of the month chosen to read and discuss ?

Citizens advice, health and wellbeing center,

Maybe CAB services

Yes access to a Citizens Advice Bureau

Consider how NHS services can support community services

Being a warm space for the winter would be great.

Perhaps a Redditch Museum as part of the town hall hub.

I think the Library as it stands now, is a hub of community services. Something for everybody with room for more!

A community maker space. We saw one in Christchurch library and it'd be wonderful to have knitting machines and 3D printers available in the library here. The existing building is flexible and could accomodate new facilities. No chance in the Town Hall.

Meet up for over 50s who want chats.

If the library is in the Town Hall as many as there is room for covering a whole range of activities

More opportunities for younger people/teens

N/a .. it's perfect as it is

I would only volunteer the library remains where it is

Yes community groups/centres, they are mostly in different locations

An advisor on how to survive during the Cost of Living crisis.

CAB access, council consultations, MP surgeries.

Make the services more advertised- that way more people can take part

Currently offers a great service, so leave it alone!!

Mental health drop in support groups

I like what is already there as a community resource

Access to all archives and historical maps of Redditch

Let's vote on it 👉👉. Has for Volunteering is this another idea of our Council saving on wages 🧑 and getting rid of some of the staff ???👉 -

Free parking. I don't visit often as parking costs add up.

Health Visitor consultation

I personally wouldn't use it more anyway because of the parking costs to use the library in the first place.

Dementia services

Space for the arts, exhibition space would be great

Anything that will support it and help it, in its CURRENT location.

Warm places for those who need a place to go during the cold months and cool in summer. It is a community facility where parents and children can come to share books, stories and encourage learning and reading.

I didn't realise that there was so many services on offer, we just turn up and read the children's books.

Support for refugees and providing a warm place venue etc.

Yes an extensive toy library either charity ran or commercial, credit union based there, CAB, even a drop in advice centre (sofa + a human + a drink) for people who need help. There is room to have a cafe in the library.

Our present library is ideal as it is, and best left alone

Registration services. Children and adult social care services. More council services generally.

More adult groups and services to help people

Sell no longer needed cds and books

More children's clubs would be useful.

I think our existing library serves the town very well.

All community events are good to help keeping library services. It is vital to keep providing community services in there I believe and a place for a community hub where people can meet all the week is good it could help bring people there rather than away because of the distance to go from main centre

Citizens advice bureau mental health drop in centre

How about we clean up the area by getting rid of the drunks and rubbish night clubs that cause nothing but trouble

Food bank for the poorer families Toy swop clothes bank

Use the money to make the existing library better rather than shifting it to the dull town hall

More books

Sensory sessions for children with additional Needs.

I would like to see more Activities for my age range (25 to 40+ years) such as film nights, games nights and book/writing clubs for the evening which could go down well if the advertising for these events are done right.

ESOL CLASSES

with the difficult times ahead the library, will become hub for the people of Redditch. CAB, citizens advice bureau. health and wellbeing advice. more adult learning courses. bring back Ty chi sessions.

Just keep the library where it is good access for all

No it has everything we need already and my children frequent it regularly

More adult learning courses where people can sit exams. Free children's activities

The library could do so much more. I have spent hours and hours in the library myself with my two children over the years, attended award ceremonies, and loaned countless books. Both the service and the facility has the potential to offer so much more, but I feel requires better management and more investment to allow it to thrive.

This is where people will be able to keep warm if they can not afford to heat their homes

There are numerous community services that would benefit from the funding. I think this is a money making project to demolish the library and relocate, it's corrupt in my opinion.

Family zones, where pods could perhaps be used to allow parents to read to their children or for children to chill in while reading. Warm areas - in this current economic climate it would be good to offer safe and warm area for those that need to can access, for all ages.

I would be interested in seeing displays of archive materials showing the history of Redditch. A collaboration with the Redditch Local History Museum, which is very close to the current library location, would also be very interesting.

Don't think so- redditch library currently offers alot.

Mental health support Finance advice

Yes get save the alex team in there also keep community house too as its vital to those who attend play groups and dance groups ect. Why get rid of those.

I can't think of any but then I do not what might be needed in Redditch. The world being what it is today with inadequate care for the citizens of this country there's bound to be something.

From the list given in this consultation questionnaire I didn't realise there was so much on offer. I certainly believe that the library is a vibrant hub providing a community resource that would be difficult to replace.

Somewhere the elderly generation could meet up to encourage them out the house and to meet people. Been in the centre of town would make this more accessible.

Get the young off the streets, house the homeless that hang around the town. Invest more for new business

More local community projects and information

A cafe with reasonably priced drinks

I think Redditch library is great as it is. As a teacher I love it that children can learn about our town by accessing the archives. Redditch children can't navigate their way to the Hive in Worcester to do that. They need the archives to be where they can get to them.

Meeting rooms that are free for community use such as in Milton Keynes community hub which I use for business.

Promote it as a warm space in the winter.

Crochet group, breastfeeding support.

I would like to see more awareness in schools about the library and the services it has to offer. For employees or volunteers to have a presence in the school community on a regular basis. In addition to this, a bus or an area where books can be dropped off and collected would make the library accessible to many more.

Spaces for the public to rent out

Events for certain genres of books and inviting authors to come along to talk would be very good, and it could be used as a venue for residents to come and discuss council issues or even have a surgery with the MP.

A socialising group for older people

Groups aimed at groups age 12+ Knife crime seminars

I think the library as it is supports fantastic community services. Expansion of community learning would be good.

I love the get togethers the library does I would love to see more workshops.

Evening groups/access (not just the 'key open' system) to allow use for people working in the daytime. To answer the question about volunteering, I work during the daytime, so cannot offer my time at present, but would consider this if I did not have work.

None that I can think of. Just leave it where it is. Why should WCC be subsidising RBC.

What about the Redditch local history premises which is in a separate premises currently, just a few yards away! Arts and craft activities. Anything that is culture based, historical heritage and educationally biased, be it separate commercial, such as Palace Theatre promotion, mini plays / presentations perhaps and general promotion, which is pseudo council anyway.

How about using the town hall to provide council services? The place is a ghost ship after getting rid of so many services and sending what staff are left to work from home. What about the people who are unable to access services on line or phone? The elderly, people with disabilities or no English?

A dedicated coffee area for people to sit and relax and meet up (quietly)..... A bigger central desk area for staff to be able to sit down. It's unnatural to have a small standing only miniature desk area.... Everyone has to stand up !! WHY????

Move repair cafe here

No, keep the library where it is with the services it runs..if it isn't broke don't fix it.

Maybe more groups for adults on an evening or weekend maybe.

More microfilm viewers.

I think there should be a CAB rep located in there at least once a week

There will plenty of room for community services such as charities in a hub without a library. The library is currently offering a fantastic service and does not need to be messed with. Nothing is broken so nothing needs to be fixed.

DWP, WRS, podiatry, diabetes,

Warm space option during winter months

From what I see and read I think you are doing a grand job in there

Free events and services for toddlers as I have a young son.

Age UK to have a space there for information and help.

All should be made available at sometimes

Again a somewhat misleading question. The next question about volunteering is not relevant to this crazy plan!

No, good wide range exists

This might already be planned for but if not providing somewhere warm for those in need of it this winter.

MP surgeries and access to councillors.

I would like to see even more activities for children. And I'd love there to be some reading support for children too. With covid coming when it did it has left a lot of children in my daughters class behind. If there were a supported book club to help with reading where my daughter could meet friends that would be lovely.

It would be good to have more activities for children and young people. The library in Redditch already does a lot to welcome young people but maybe they could have safe zones or relax areas etc.

Drop in for mental health and signposting

Support groups for people with interest... making new friends etc Library already does a bit

More teaching children crafts

This will be via internet so can do this at home. You are losing your contact with your voters, residents etc.

Used to do story time for young children twice a week. Other community type events.

It could be used for many services instead of moving it.

Meeting rooms for local clubs and groups

More activities for teenagers and ages 12 to 17. Kids have nothing to do in parts of redditch

don't know

Meeting groups for deaf

Bring back the market placed next to the library and church green

Advice center.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]. I would use the library more if this wasn't the case and would be interested in volunteering.

Safe space domestic abuse survivor

Information Centre

I am not involved with any at present but have used the library for community services in the past.

Citizens advice - very important now.

Company promotions, job fairs, made in Redditch fairs not many people know the angle poise lamp (as seen at the start of pixar movies) came from Redditchfrom Redditch

A market

There are so many already. I think that we need to regularly revisit these to see if needs Have changed but I feel the number is just right

Business workshops.

Old people should be offered a slot to help them with winter

Increased adult education services

Information centre on local and midland events.

Yes day centres community centres advice centers

Food bank

Anything to do with the old Redditch

Arts centre

Not if on new site. Where would they go?

More Adult community events

No I feel enough services ie job centre and bus pass renewal should be at the town hall which would encourage the footfall that end of town

Keeping the services we already have

More childrens clubs. More social clubs. Guest speakers on areas of interest.

A community cafe

Most that i want need are already there.

Community cafe

The Hive in Worcester should provide a good template for what's required for people of the town. (In my opinion)

Why can't the Post Office be moved into the Town Hall too

The library would be better located outside the Town Centre where car parking could be free and access by public transport be made available.

More NHS clinics such as vaccination centres.

I would like to say that this consultation is not fit for purpose as it does not ask the simple question. Do Redditch residents actually want this change to take place. I think if you asked that the overwhelming response would be NO. use the money to invest in general community services. STOP this vanity project NOW.

No particularly

A much improved children's area similar to the hive

No it runs perfectly well as it is. It doesn't need changes. It is an excellent service.

The library is a focal point of our town , so I am sure other community services could make use of it , with good parking local .

Yes a camera club group to help young people get involved with photography

More the better. Reducing the public sector estate and achieving efficiency savings is something to be supported. Opportunities for shared services delivery should also be explored to their fullest.

It's fine as it is.

Meeting rooms for clubs for older people who get forgotten

No I think the service is excellent . Staff very helpful book offerings very high no real issues or recommendations for extra services

Skype would be a great idea especially for job interviews where employers require this. Also it would be handy for people without a computer at home to communicate also with other family members that may be abroad are living some distance away.

Library unlocked. I would like to see the library accessible in the evenings (eg. until 8 / 9pm) as a meeting place. As a volunteer in the community I think this could make it a good way to meet small groups of other volunteers in an informal situation.

Citizens advice bureau would be ideal to see

More opportunities to meet people - I love that there are community groups for the young and elderly and I think there should be something similar for professionals who often work long hours and don't get the opportunity to socialise.

Job centre Charities Food banks

Activities/talks etc that would regularly engage the retired/elderly (maybe coffee and a movie). Activities for adults with learning disabilities/special needs. A Warm Hub.

Safe meet up space for teenagers

Why not include the library in the new plans for that area, creating a library with a community cafe that can be used to relax, read or study and enjoy a cup of tea or coffee and cake at the same time?

Citizens advice

Not entirely sure what currently happens in the current redditch library as not seen it advertised or anything.

I'd like to see Redditch Library in Redditch Library. I'd like to see all the other services presently lumped in there removed and moved back out into locations of their own as they used to be. What on earth are you wasting our council tax on????

Drop in medical centre

I would like to see the return of the floor now used by the Job Centre for library use as the choice of books on history and biography has been seriously reduced. I also preferred having the top floor as computers (although difficult for disabled users) because listening to children's sing song is quite distracting when trying to concentrate. I would like to be able to sort a disabled badge and bus pass in the Town Hall as part of the council services. I would like to be able to talk to someone face to face (I am developing hearing difficulties so talking on the phone is difficult and I like to lip read as I listen) when I have a council related problem - preferably on the ground floor as lifts also become more difficult as people get older. I note the new library will still be on 3 floors and it appears more of it will be only lift accessible to those who can't easily manage stairs or have prams/pushchairs. I hope, to reduce energy use, any new layout would put only services/books for the fit and healthy on the second floor. So,,,,,no I don't want additional community services in the library, I want the council services in the town hal land the library services where they are now but with more books as there used to be

Warm spaces

I strongly feel it should be part of the community and provide as much as possible, I thoroughly enjoyed bringing the grandchildren to rhythm and rhyme and story time and now I enjoy bringing them to choose books.

I would be happy to be contacted in my capacity as a former H&WCC officer [REDACTED] [REDACTED] who is a resident of Redditch and who holds strong civic views as to the responsibilities of elected members and serving officers.

Evening social groups

The library provides for my needs.

It would be good to have a large meeting room for the community to use, at a reasonable price to hire.

Adult learning for use of some technology, e.g. using iPad. (especially for over 70s)

Adult learning for digital items, e.g. ipad/computer help.

more events for the archives.

I would like more advertisement of leisure and hobbies around Redditch advertised. I am currently looking for a DIY course but don't know where to look, not everything is advertised on the internet and I am a new resident to Redditch.

Repair cafe Volunteers for medical transportation to hospitals etc and all appropriate others that the council is foreclosing in Easemore Road

The abolishment of [REDACTED] from politics

It has enough services for my use

This question is in my opinion is not relevant to this survey/consultation. AND the question below about volunteering is not applicable (or relevant) to this survey/consultation.

Small adult education classes encouraging people to develop a hobby or langue skills. Provide evening activities for people who do not want to sit in the pubs.

It would be lovely to have a community coffee shop, perhaps run by volunteers with proceeds going into the library.

No, the building is perfect to me.

Printing. Many people do not own a printer and it is useful to be able to visit the library to occasionally print documents. You could also consider flexible / bookable study areas for students. You could also reach out to Universities in the region e.g. Worcester, Birmingham, to see if they could help library services or join some sort of partnership / outreach programme particularly for disadvantaged youth who might not consider going to University.

A warm place in today's climate.

disability social support groups

More courses

Unsure

The library needs to be promoted. Currently it is not valued as it should be. Needs to be a higher priority at a time when families are struggling to provide educational opportunities for their children. Need trained staff not volunteers.

A community cafe

Now that the Community House has been sold to a developer (or will be) what happens to all the services that have been provided up to now. I cannot see that the Town Hall could accommodate these things easily.

Yes a day centre run by volunteers somewhere for the elderly they can be fed cheaply

The longer hours thing they are doing at some of the other libraries would be very useful

History group

Adult craft workshops???

Maybe our MP or councillors could actually meet residents and hear their opinions rather than just decide on new libraries and new burial grounds!

Just a few more courses maybe a few first aid ones and the computer course for beginners really helped me a lot

Toy library.

Redditch library has lots of activities for all groups.

a wider range of books ,unlimited digital book loans

The library already offers a very comprehensive range of excellent services.

more microfilm computers

If it keeps the same facilities as the current one, that should be fine for all.

Anything to do with Old Redditch and Family History.

Just leave the Library alone, demolish the old job centre and building around that. What about giving us a free car park that might make people shop in Redditch. Lower the rates and rent you might get some decent shops into the centre .

As previously mentioned- would love to see a social enterprise cafe. Maybe a mindfulness hub, or yoga classes. A big obvious noticeboard with local events. Promote parkrun which is a free weekly event.

Redditch library as it is, is a fantastic community resource which should be left alone.

It would be lovely to see a wider range of clubs. I know there are already clubs in place, but I think adding a wider variety for a different range of abilities, age and peoples interests would attract much more people.

The library works extremely hard to meet the needs of the Redditch community.

In this fuel crisis a warm hub would be appropriate

Leave it as it is

I think the best option would be to relocate and settle before looking at what else could/ might be accommodated. My experience of Droitwich was that it became very cramped with having what seemed to be every local public service shoehorned into a popular space that was already too small for the community.

Meeting groups for different ages. Hobby groups. Crafts etc.

older peoples forum

I love what they already offer.

I would like to see a similar approach to that of Orkney Library, where they have social and community events in the library, including talks by guest authors, reading clubs and craft sessions.

Some more baby groups would be lovely

no. have the info/signposting but have other services elsewhere. the library could easily be in a small space then.

More ethnic communities getting involved and finding out about our heritage, customs and tradition.

I dont know what is there now

Guest lectures on subjects of interest used to be held when large room was available. I recall one astronomy related. This is more than the adult education, language classes. Semi academic. Could be local lecturers, or papers from at least degree level students. Of interest to me would be science, investing, psychology, well being. Maybe even regular Tai Chi or Meditation but that is less library oriented. I would like to see quality papers/magazines (Investors Chronicle, New Scientist for me). These could be online if not actual print, but current online offering does not have them. The previous bookable small rooms were useful, when free. I sometimes coach others and mentor (for free) and it would be useful to have free places available for private discussions. This was possible a few years ago in the library.

Early learning kids clubs. Warm centre. Community advice centre. Food bank

Vending machines

Access to council teams who can resolve issues such as nuisance neighbours, lighting & highways maintenance.

I have been told there will be support for addictions which I think is excellent.

Not relevant/ Not applicable. It is NOT a doctors' surgery. It is not (or should not be) a job centre. Leave it as a library!

No, I am already impressed by the range of community services currently available.

no, I want it to continue functioning as it does

The library is perfect how it is .

Yes. More community based activity representing the BAME representation of the town. More community surgeries and information facility for new businesses and institutions which are there to improve the town.

I would like to see the historic archive held by Redditch Library expanded, not reduced, and more facilities made available to access those archives in the current library building.

U3A

No the facilities that exist are wonderful. Moving the services puts them at risk of being lost.

Better shopping

Someone to help people fill in online forms if they are unused to computers

A cafe selling hot drinks and some food would be nice.

Coffee mornings Fund raising Childrens study area

Advice services. Libraries are trusted neutral places. Housing or money advice would be good services to offer.

Update everything push for a centre of knowledge have classes there for improving the towns educational ability with how college

Youth Services. The town desperately needs to focus on engaging with and providing opportunities for young people. There is not enough for them to do and the town is becoming an intimidating place to be at times (bus and train station, around the Church Green, Unicorn Hill and the pedestrian areas).

Seems an appealing waste of 15 million demolishing a public resource to provide more shops when empty shops litter the town

Some kind of youth club, maybe with old gaming machines, a pool table etc for somewhere for teenagers to go.

Yes nhs services like mental health issues. People struggling with their children who have additional needs Those struggling with loss of family members or babies/children. Help with young people finding accommodation and supporting them through their time of need Citizens advice bureau There's so many to mention.

I think the current library staff are excellent at providing community services and things I would like to have seen, such as the dungeons and dragons sessions for beginners, have already been implemented.

I believe that many people would say yes to this but personally no.

A community meeting room suitable for groups of 40 plus. This was removed with the latest redesign of the library which forced the Redditch History Society to move elsewhere.

More desks just like there used to be.

Town Hall payment counter and help line.

I think its a vanity project to knock down a purpose built library, to make way plazas and cafes. Revisit your plan, Redditch is not a wealthy town you can never create what moseley village has, also we cannot create Stratford upon Avon here as we are not a tourist town. I want to see Redditch gtow, improve your shop facility, improve the market,

A space/venue for other groups or clubs to meet throughout the day. For example an art group, or study groups for teenagers with input from local schools. Sessions about local apprenticeships etc A cafe and social meeting space.

Wedding ceremonies / registry office as they are placed away from this building and it would be great to have everything in one location.

I think they already do a great job of this - I see the health visitors here.

Cafe, gaming area for youngsters

I saw that somebody had the idea of the local history museum being incorporated there, that makes perfect sense as long as our historical archives remain in their rightful place.

Information centre for such things as dementia and other illnesses that severely impact everyday life.

Bring back the history society home to its rightful place.

More new books

The services currently on offer are good. More non fiction of a quality similar to that available in the Hive would be good.

Possible enterprise little units for start up businesses lower rents etc

Redditch Library was a community hub. It had young mothers' groups, reading groups, story time groups for children, poetry groups, and many other activities. This has all been axed due to staff cuts, there is no reason to believe that WCC would put in the investment necessary.

Library should stay where it is

There seem to be vast amount of things available to join into. Perhaps more creative/art type things but very happy with how the library is run by the very helpful staff who are always happy to help out

More support for youngsters in the town and for parents and young children

NO, NO, and NO! Forget trying it turn it into a children's centre - an idea that eventually was dropped many years ago. Get rid of the JobCentrePlus. And the question below about volunteering is not relevant.

There are doing a fantastic job going over and beyond.

Why you looking for volunteers. Pay staff to work.

We have a satisfactory library. Or is this question designed to show the current purpose build library is not meeting demand. Which it does!

Yes more food places in town and upmarket

Mental health services and support groups

How about selling off the town hall and moving its services to the library, and move the offices that are used to another location. A purpose built office, at 1/4 of the cost elsewhere outside of the town centre. The town hall could then be sold for housing

Advice sessions - CAB, money advice,

There are already a good range of services and groups who access the library, as local need demands this should be evolved.

I think all council desks should be in there. If you have a problem with the roads, fly tipping etc you should be able to go and speak to a person not just email (which can mysteriously be lost)

I think the library has an excellent set of community services.

Evening meets Small chat cafe

Clubs for the elderly.

More quiet study spaces, potentially as separate cubicles

Get rid of JobCentrePlus - and have the entire floor dedicated to local history.

No, a library is, first and foremost - a library.

No I think it is a fantastic hub

Citizens advice bureau

No, excellent wide ranging service already.

more access to NHS support networks, access to library for local groups and charities.

If the library were to remain in its current more useable location, YES. I would like to see everything from Citizens advice style advice opportunities and face to face community wellbeing and welfare signposting engagement through to further increased careers, training and employment support and more opportunities for already existing Redditch community wellbeing and social support hubs and organisations, particularly from the voluntary and community sector to showcase their current engagements and offer an town centre provision. It would be great to promote its use as a venue to aspiring and developing in-community groups, (Redditch has 3 heavily engaged Asset Based Community Development (ABCD) Workers who are working with specific community groups and fostering in-community growth). The one major barrier that community groups face is cost and particularly venue cost. In this area the library could play a vital part in being even more of a community hub venue than it already is.

more support for the Old People's Forum.

Możliwość druku dokumentów (Ability to print documents)

As I'm approaching retirement I expected to use the library more for connecting with community activities socially and educationally eg Adult education etc

Lets have a community "warm" space. Allowing Redditch residents somewhere to go for a cup of coffee, tea etc. and perhaps cake or biscuit, costed to cover expenses only. This would enable the said residents

could be warm and meet other residents, hopefully from different areas of Redditch, to discuss any issues that they feel needs addressing and local topical events and news.

Youth facilities. Welcome warm space. Adult education

What Redditch needs is more than a desk with a person in the town hall telling you a phone number to ring. I volunteer with an organisation that deals with RBC and it is very difficult.

Money needs to be spent on new investments in the town, like leisure facilities for families and youngsters.

Taught leisure activities similar to those offered at the MAC in Birmingham such as painting, drawing, sewing, textiles

Warm hub and cafe

Bigger pop up book section and a karaoke night

Central location

Tai chi, pop up art

Sky sports.

No , they already provide an extremely broad range of services for a broad range of library users.. a really valuable resource for the town.

Help desk for paying bills etc, (there may be one that I'm unaware of).

Yes how about a little coffee/tea drink machine area wher ppl can sit and enjoy a cuppa, whilst reading ?

More exhibitions by artists in the gallery, like they used to have.

Exhibitions, art, cultural engagement

More book clubs

Maybe a coffee shop?

Not qualified to comment

I think it is a fantastic resource as it is. The library staff are fantastic.

Technical Lectures/ evening classes would be great. The College has cut back drastically.

Keep the Archives there

An affordable holiday club / childcare would be an excellent thing to provide.

Might be worth dumping the job Centre in there too. Not for me, I work for living but for those that use it.

More attempts to promote cultural capital and literacy by working in conjunction with commercial organisations, publishers, educational institutions, and book shops; lectures, author talks, film clubs, play reading/writing groups, etc...

Youth clubs

Citizens advice

It would be interesting to see if a youth hun could be included for socialising as well as study For those youngsters who are not so confident as their peers somewhere safe and monitored Perhaps with drink facilities available.

Youth services Older people services

Adult learning evening classes

Evening get togethers as I work during the day.

Elderly group

A council access hub such as the one in Solihull library

Just a lot of people are moaning for no good reason.

CAB

The provide an excellent information centre already but it could include a tourist type service.

The library already provides a tremendous range of community services. However there's always the potential to use the library space for more things the library could offer. For example arts and crafts evenings for budding artists and craftsmakers. Arts and crafts fair weeks and months. More IT related services and groups, for example those interested in learning new skills such as website and applications development or programming languages. More volunteer groups and fundraising out-reach programs. Historical groups for those interested in researching and preserving the towns history.

the library already provides many community services

no - I like my library to have books.....lots of books! (I was happily wading my way through the biographies , broadening my outlook on ,life until you replaced them with the DWP. I recently needed a book on James I, and hoped to get books on Henry VIII's queens - ho! Ho! Ho! - two books - not a balanced view of the period! Thank goodness I am not doing A-Levels when I read about ten books on Disraeli and Gladstone in order to get my grade A and go on to get my degree.

There is a good range of services already on offer (including opportunities for both children and adults to learn) and I know of many people locally who also value having the DWP service available within it. I understand they have a long-term lease arrangement but the Town Fund site is currently unable to provide any information about where that particular community service is to be housed.

Where to access s.e.n support for parents

Coffee shop

Children's groups are always well supported Enjoyed bringing my grandchildren.

Any other services that can help the residents of Redditch eg. Charities, U3a, Homestart, Citizens Advice. Anything that would appeal to Residents where meetings can take place.

Anything to encourage broader use of the facility for the betterment of the community (provided the library can support it) would always be welcome.

More activities for kids during holidays

More reading related events especially with authors attending

No, just more books: my kids never find all books from certain books series.

Recycle swap shop

Additional groups for mums and babies. Additional clubs for children throughout school holidays.

Archive material on display, and more open days on history of redditch

No that I can think of.

No. It's a library! What should be improved and added is access to more digitised, web based resources. So much more could be made available which would attract more people to use the library - there are some open access already available but there are loads more.

You won't fir in the services you have now.

More leisure facilities for youth

All the earlier social groups that were moved out of the library in the past should find a home back in it. The central library should be a hub for the whole community to use and should include group activities for people of all ages. The childrens group activities seem to be well catered for but where are the groups for young people to meet and opportunities for older people?

Proper Union Learn Centre, town needs one. WEA COURSE CENTRE Sub libraries in each estate with meeting rooms and homework clubs

Quiet spaces or bookable quiet rooms

Well being classes like yoga. Relevant talks on relaxation etc.

Cab would be really important to have.

I heard maybe mental health help could be there.

zoom facilities

Monthly meetings with local councillors

Not sure about a community service, but a small cafe would be a great idea. I remember going to visit my gran up north when I was a child and the library there had a cafe. I'd look at the books while my mum and gran had a cuppa. It was fab.

Drop-in advice centre to replace Citizens Advice.

Short courses such as career guidance, life skills, fun courses for children such as how to care for your pet things like that all these can be coupled with taking out books to read on the subject.

No

arts classes and community gallery

Yes communication for all. Free sign language, braille and to celebrate disability not hide it or forget it

No

i believe it would be a fantastic idea to use it for a heritage center , the local history museum needs more space so to incorporate it together with the library's historical archives would make sense ..a coffee shop too for folk to reminisce, research and socialize.and.a permanent cinema to show old local films.

No

No

I am sure there are services currently provided at the town hall that could be moved to the current library location.

It would be amazing if there was a group for adults with autism/ADHD. There's so little support for people when they agree out of children's services, it would be amazing if the library could support this community. The current location is quiet and not too overstimulating. It's in an easily accessible location.

Tai chi classes

No they provide a good service

I would like to see people able to access county council services from the library like reporting potholes

If it were accessible to all there could be many additional uses - voluntary groups, charities etc

Yes, Community Meeting rooms for groups. Strong cellular network access points. Study rooms. Enclosed Work stations with Video conferencing capability- Work Pods.

Personally no but the DWP has a new office in the Kingfisher centre so presumably the part of Redditch library devoted to that will be free if a need is perceived for additional community services. Which may be the case now Redditch Council is closing the Community House on Easemore Road.

JobCentre

Local job fairs

More event space

Careers advise

A citizens advice information point would be good that you can speak to someone face to face. An area to sit and able to get a coffee whilst waiting to be seen. Maybe a nice area for small children to have story reading with bean bags and sensory items.

██████████ to oversee the Library. ██████████ and members of our work colleagues. ██████████

██████████ For us the new venue is less than 5 minutes walk away, should be any issues for us and would be better parking location than the current. ██████████

██████████. We explain ██████████ that we are not involved in politics. It good to have a nice warm Library as long as remain in town Centre. New place would help to reduce homeless people sitting around begging for money. Hopefully new arrangements would bring the town become more modern up to current world and bring the town centre back to life.

Services for youth and young graduates to keep the young talent from moving to Birmingham or Worcester

Citizens advice person Council Tax and Rent to continue being in situ there.

Yes I would like to see some more 'up market' social ammenities such as bars, restaurants, coffee shop and entertainment space for the young professional. The sort of people that will spend money in the town.

Comfortable chairs somewhere to sit and relax and read, separate areas. Hopefully it will be spacious and not compromised.

I would like to see a much greater emphasis on education, and as an extension of the school system

Evening book club

Better adoption of technology. The old library seemed to be very reluctant to keep up with the digital age. Create a young persons committee, perhaps a young librarians steering group and find ways to bring a bit of fun into the realm of books. Interactive media. Have a green screen display where people can come and take selfies and get a younger demographic in. Embrace video games, have a gaming room people can hire for birthdays. Technology helpdesk, where residents can ask for technology advice. AI assistant booths, where you can ask digital assistants for information, such as book suggestions. Not everyone has Alexa/Siri/Google or is comfortable using them in their home.

Blood doning

None if the library is moved to the town hall, as many services will all be in one place anyway.

Maybe a little more consideration given to autistic users

Citizens advice bureau would benefit the town

No

Not really, can't think of anything right now.

Fitness club.coffee bar.

Redditch community centre on easemore Road should be left. Home start is such a valuable charity for women

No

No

Further Education courses.

When my mobility improves, I would like to explore more fully the community services based in the library- in its current position.

See below - I already volunteer

Can't think of any. Or maybe CAB could be located there.

Cab

No, I think it provides a good range already.

More information about cultural events in the town, and promotion of these.

It depends on the space available, but community outreach "clinics" for the vulnerable members of society. Scout and youth groups Youth and community music making and appreciation groups

no

I think the library (and its staff) are doing an excellent job. I do not want to see the library moved or the purpose-built building demolished. Please fill the Town Hall with something else!

SPACE FOR CHILDREN TO RUN AROUND AND MAKE NOISE AND LET OFF STEAM REDDITCH COUNCIL HAVE TAKEN AWAY ALL THERE GREEN SPACES.

Family history classes

No

More tables and chairs to read

Sensory rooms for people with autism would be amazing. At present, people with a learning disability have to travel to St John's in Worcester, which costs them a minimum of 3 hours support and the cost of hiring the sensory room at Snoezelen.

A cafe area with live music would be amazing

Small cafe

Make it a community hub and leave it where it is.

It serves the community VERY WELL.

No

I would like to see more books in the library especially in more European languages.

Arts and crafts activities. Adult education. Support for refugees and asylum seekers.

More variety of books and books for young children.

No thank you. It is perfectly adequate as it is.

Non specific

Mental wellbeing

Food bank and benefit clinic support as well as a social services drop in clinic

No

Homeschooling help. Help and support for children and young people with autism.

Correct use of the building Introduce new clubs into the building, not shut existing building to suit council requirements Improve the entrance, spend a little money.

Careers chats with young people who are unsure what career path they want to do (free meetings where people can chat with a qualified careers advisor to discuss careers in more depth)

Redditch library currently provides fantastic services. We need to shout about them and share them more but it's a wonderful facility and fascinating building

Cafe more evening events

Disability/ support groups available around working commuting.hours. I.e. After 8pm In person Book groups after 8pm

Redditch library works hard to provide clubs for the community. I would like Redditch Library to be able to expand this work.

Better refreshments cafe area, improved access. Current level of service is excellent. As a service user and volunteer j can give testimony to the impact this makes.

No the library is fine where it is and how it is

I would love room to be devoted to music ...either a choir or musical instrument tuition or musical appreciation sessions.

No

tourist information centre refreshments

More groups activities

Redditch museum.

Youth clubs

As there isn't a list to tell you what is included - it's difficult to say what I'd like to see. I want to keep everything that is already in the existing Library including the archives in Redditch Library and am totally against this being a loss of services for our library in moving it out of the borough to the Hive which would be inaccessible to me and most of Redditch people

An proper information office - there used to be one but it was moved into the Theatre, so that the place could be turned into a cafe, which has now closed down.

Not sure

I think the library should stand alone from other services and it's space and facilities be accessible for library use and it's groups, if other services move in then it will take up library space. Other community services should be based at the town hall.

None that could not be provided at the current location.

Registration services as that is the other end of the town currently, even compared to the existing library site, other county council services would be good, job centre, DVLA - a range of good public and community services in 1 building! Also a cafe as there are none at the town hall end of the town

A meeting hub for the elderly/lonely; help for struggling families ; warm space for people struggling with keeping their homes warm ; advice centre for the homeless and those about to be made homeless ; safe meeting place for teenagers ; craft centre ; museum for Redditch (giving space for the existing museum in the town centre)

A space for charity's children clinics cafe Councillor citizens advice

Citizens advice once a week maybe Clients with councils local etc? More baby classes and child Charity's once a week to go in and promote them self local ones maybe To help local residents find out more of what's available in there's community's More adult groups like an ancestry group etc

Small cafe Invite more outside agencies Local charities and groups to advertise their information

Redditch Library provides a fantastic range of services already and I cannot think of any additional ones that might be required

In the current library: a Visitor Information Centre combined with a local information centre. This would be a central point for information on the town eg. a brief history of the town, its trades and people which could signpost those wanting more information to the Local History Museum on Market place; what's on in and around the area, where to stay info, etc.

I'd like to see more creative activities going on at the library.

This question is more relevant to Redditch residents.

I'm aware there are a number of key services already offered by Redditch library. Any service accessible to the community is most welcome although I can't think of any specific new services at present.

No

Small cafe would be inviting as I come from school A chat club for teenagers I already use the areas for my homework The staff are so helpful and will assist with areas to look for answers to my homework

They already do a great job in offering something for people of all ages

Everything staying where it is!

The Redditch museum

Redditch Library is already excellent. It just needs to be left alone!

Archives and archeology. The history of this town is important and engages lots of local people, it would be lovely to see the archives remaining in Redditch and possibly historians/museum workers put together something for the community.

cafe

Redditch library should have the allocation of funding to increase what they provide for the community and to replenish and renew their spaces.

Could you expand opening hours

Basic skills courses for adults

I would like to see the current Library building retained but working in partnership with Redditch museum to build a comprehensive heritage centre housing our archives and artifacts for future generations to use. There are so many great clubs and activities in our library at the moment and I am concerned we will lose these.

Redditch Library and library staff run a fantastic service that is so beneficial, and beneficial to lots of people who would not engage with this survey. Please don't disenfranchise people in need in our community, moving the library will do this.

This question is unfair BECAUSE THE COMMUNITY SERVICES PROVIDED ARE ADEQUATE AS THEY ARE .. WITH THE SPACE PROPOSED IN THE TOWN HALL ... THERE CATEGORICALLY WOULD NOT BE ENOUGH ROOM TO PROVIDE EVEN THE EXISTING ONES .

Probably make senses to centralise alot of services together in the same building.

It makes sense to make the library a hub for as many community services as possible. Do we have a Citizens Advice Bureau in Redditch? If not, this would be a good service to base there, as well as other advisory and support organisations. Maybe the MP community office?

Mental health support might be a good one to offer, especially in a place like a library

The number of books within the library seems to have reduced. There also seems to be a long waiting list to obtain some e-books. Investment, or protection from cuts, would be a useful focus for the future..

I think the library already provides fantastic community services.

Parents tea/coffee morning, maybe after the rhyme sessions.

hosting more for teenagers who aren't into sports. Redditch more than has that covered

More links to the college but only if the library stays where it is.

As mentioned in the proposal, space for community groups to meet and some reception/ urgent help for homeless people.

no

Any advisory or voluntary unit but move job centre to town hall and sublet spaces for retail use make it earn its keep

I would like to see the library fully connected to the footfall to and from the Kingfisher Centre with an enclosed exhibition area available for use by local artists, community and hobby groups, individuals, and library staff to promote learning, history, reading, social events, knowledge generally, and the place of Redditch in our lives and through history.

Language groups to learn modern languages ... adult education groups

What is already available for my needs is adequate . AN EXCELLENT LIBRARY - SECOND MOST USED IN THE COUNTRY.

More workshops for arts and crafts - music appreciation / capitalise on Redditch historic place in needle making by partnering up with [REDACTED] needles to create workshops in quilting, embroidery, mending and historical sewing / basic drawing / watercolour

No, it's already brilliant!

I would like to see Redditch archives kept in Redditch , as many people are interested in its past. Citizens Advice would be easier to access if situated in the current building.

Used to go to a baby group at the library, i do hope these are still in place.

Redditch Library already provides a great range of services, I can't think of any additional ones it needs.

The Job Centres should move to the Council building, making more room for books and computers. The police will be needing quite a lot of space until their new building is completed. Even after that, a Front Counter and offices for Community Support Officers will be needed. They should be going into the council building. Actually having some council services would be nice, as there's none at present.

I'd like to see peppercorn rentable space for small non profit groups.

Climbing wall at Ashleigh Works building. Crazy golf in the old Debenhams building.

No

No, I believe the library provides great services for the community.

Evening book clubs for grown ups Knitting/crochet for kids

More space for books. As an author I can't complain that people are buying more books because they can't get hold of them at the library. But as an author I very much doubt that I would be in this profession without access to the library throughout my childhood and beyond. I would love to see provision of books improve eventually.

Adult evening book club

Contact by phone

Age Concern more accessible.

NO

More updated information about things available to the public, the council do not want people to know, like who benefits pocket wise from changes

No

Neighbourhood Watch meetings

There are a lot of activities available at the library. Better advertising would ensure more use.

More for children definitely

No. The list seems exhaustive enough

no

An evening book club for adults A reading group for children ("Chatterbooks" doesn't follow a book together over time)

Continue services provided and add additional services. Special services adapted to those with special needs.

All together very happy with the services provided.

I just want our books back - all the biographics and non fiction for adults are down to one book choices - useless.

NO

Newspapers / photocopying / art exhibition space / magazines to read / history department / photo club digital / better publicity of what's on i.e. in local papers

The only reason this is being done is so a small number of people will make a lot of money, at the people of Redditch's expense. It used to be called FRAUD - look them up that's the answer.

Not relevant Not applicable More library staff and have it open on Sundays e.g. 10-4

Tax revenue Citizens Advice Bureau

No thank you. They can't do the jobs now

It functions perfectly well as it is. Please leave well alone

It has been rumoured that the community centre on Easlmere road is closing so it would be good if the activities there went to the council house

All of them bar the library project

An information board, kept up to date, of activities in the library, Redditch and surrounding area. Adult education/U3A etc meetings. Local groups encouraged to have targeted exhibitions

Everything already provided

no

Warm friendly venue. Warm welcoming space

More classes, eg, art, foreign languages (French and Italian) eg, water colour painting, history of art, writing workshops and French language conversation groups (during daytime and not in evening)

I'd like more foreign language books

not use

No. I would be interested in volunteering at the library in its present location

citizens advice

none

No, it is excellent as it is and a really nice place to visit.

Redditch History Society

More Police presence in and around library curb cyclist / electric scooters from roaming free around, including beggars

Is already on programme but further on local issues including Anti Social/violence (including Domestic) - Physical and emotional wellbeing- Global issues such as climate crisis, food availability, migration related to every day in Redditch Life

Citizen Advice

[Have Your Say. Are there any further comments you would like to make?](#)

Waste of taxpayers money. No single person wants it mved except the Conservative Councillors who refuse to listen to the public.

Leave it alone and stop messing with things that do not need fixing ! It's a lovely building, well set out, convenient to get too by all, well attended. Knocking down a building for no good reason is a tragedy, footfall will not increase because the kingfisher centre has nothing to offer at all, maybe sort that problem out before creating more by demolishing our library. Listen to the public for a change !

The town centre needs investment and this move makes that regeneration possible.

Just an utter disgrace.

I support the resiting of the library so that the present, unremarkable, building can be removed to allow a versatile public open space to be created.

Do not move the library. This idea is not supported by the public of Redditch who want their library to stay right where it is. We the people feel the library is good enough for us in the current location.

To me, The library should be the heart of the community and Redditch library offers a wide variety of services for all ages which is fantastic! I have taken my son to many groups over the last year and everytime we are welcomed, We regularly borrow books to take home and read together but on days we just need to het out the house for a little bit can spend time exploring new stories on site! For this we really are grateful, Thank you to everyone who makes the library such a great space!

Apologies I don't have time to volunteer but would if I could.

No. Happy with the proposals.

The Library is perfect where it is and to move it is a total waste of money.

The way this proposal has been handled by Redditch Borough Council and its councillors is despicable. They have done nothing but lie about the service and the building for a year. Let me list the lies: 1) no one uses the library any more - [REDACTED] 2) No one reads books any more - [REDACTED] 3) the building is unsafe - [REDACTED] 4) the basement is flooded - [REDACTED] 5) the basement is riddled with damp - [REDACTED] 6) the library only uses 40% of its floor space - [REDACTED] 7) the archive doesn't contain anything about Redditch in it - [REDACTED] And now you present reports which misrepresent the current floor space in the new building and you offer a survey that does not ask the primary question people want to give their opinion on (should the library be moved at all?). This is awful research, awful politics, and a borderline criminal way to treat your community. If the plan was any good, you wouldn't have had to lie about it for a year or, as [REDACTED] does in his recent Redditch Standard interview, threaten its future if it is not moved into the town hall. Oh, and you also didn't inform the public that they could speak at the overview meetings. That lots managed, because it was advertised by Labour, and every one of them objected to these plans and you still plough on says it all. Everyone knows it'll happen. Nobody wants it to outside of Conservative councillors. You should all be thoroughly ashamed of yourselves for taking this library back to 1975.

Don't move the library.

As said the area that needs this funding was identified in the improving Town plan Unicorn Hill Church Green and Alcester Street Stop bulldozing Redditch ... £800,000 was wasted on Alcester Street resurfacing ...stop wasting money We don't need more units..we need to fill the ones we have

15.6 million is lot of money and i think could be used better in so many places other than a library because we already have a library

Cannot understand why so much money is planning to be spent on something which is not necessary

The building is purpose built, central, easy access with all the books and history under one roof. I do not want our archives to be moved to Worcester. It's ok for Worcester to have a purpose built library in The Hive but not Redditch?

To move the library from the site it is on already is a big waste of Redditch tax payers money , as the site it is on at present suits all people who want to use the library and close to centre so we want get to wet and cold in bad weather.

The conservatives need stopping We don't need any more resturants cafes too many already And the library doesn't need knocking down

I don't know anyone that uses the Library but the people I know would more likely use the new cafés and bars. I wouldn't want to lose the library as I'm sure the odd person might want to use it. The vast majority of people have the Internet. Gone are the days when I'd have to go to the library to find a book for an essay. I don't think the library building will be missed.

dormer is builde by trade, hece he just wants to demolish and rebuild, not good for us or the enviroment. there was some statement about lack of maitnence, well, are they not responsibles for this, or worc cc. they should be held to task.

Focus on what we already have before we start knocking down buildings. We do not want the area rebuilt and just left empty like other parts of the town. It needs to be affordable to businesses.

This money could be dedicated to more crucial service for the town.

Please use the funds being allocated to move the library for some other purpose to benefit the whole of Redditch. The library does not need to be moved - so many more useful ways to use that money are already evident.

Please really consider the voice of the general public in this consultantion. The cost is huge for very little security moving the library would bring funds to Redditch, we don't need more cafes and eatery's

Looks like it is the Redditch Town Plan which may be the problem.

Please leave our Library alone. We love it so much. The Library has solar panels which generate 1 month's worth of power to the building every 12 months. It's really not "green" to demolish a perfectly good building and lose that asset too. Better to invest in car chargers that we've been promised for over a year but haven't seen yet than demolish our Library and move the books to the Town Hall.

I am pleased that the library will remain. The new proposed site is still accessible and offers the same level of service.

I value the opportunity to provide feedback, and value the services that the council provide - thank you :-)

There are areas of Redditch town center that need a lot more attention than the library. The library is beautiful and strong and where it's meant to be.

Fond memories of when I did use the library and my relatives live in Redditch so still relevant for them

I would prefer to see the library stay where it is. We do not need another square or retail / restaurant units which will be empty. Redditch doesn't work like other towns in the county. The vast majority of people drive into the car parks use the Center and leave only venturing out to visit the library or banks. Barclays Bank relocated from just outside the town hall into the Center because their customers felt it was too out of the way, learn the lessons of the past. The only relocation I think would actually improve the library would be to relocate it into the old Debenhams unit in the Kingfisher.

I feel this is just property people...builders out to make money.

Seems a good idea about time we updated library services building it's cold and unwelcoming.

The centre is suffering enough as it is. Moving the library will mean it will be less likely to people to visit the centre after going to the library or visit the library whilst in the centre. Surely having facilities and shops located close together will be better for elderly and disabled to have access to all facilities easily.

I hope that the new location would not result in anyone losing their current position and all current clubs that you do run continue - plus with the expense of energy the new site would be able to still offer a bit of a refuge for those desperately looking to have somewhere to keep warm as advertised by some of your other branches - this is not for myself but others less fortunate.

This is an ill thought out proposal. Wasting money on the demolition of a purpose built library to fill an empty space in the Town Hall. Surely there can be better use of the space than having to spend millions on knocking down one building to fill another. It does not make sense. To then build more commercial properties when there are so many empty premises in the town does not seem to make commercial sense either. Also there is plenty of space outside Kingfisher Centre to develop into social space. The money could be spent here.

I can't volunteer because of my job but the place is ok where it is but if they're gonna move it they will because Redditch council are a law unto they're selves plus they are a rubbish council

Please consider the use of the money for something more valuable. The town needs some serious reinvestment to bring the night economy back to life, a bus service that can provide a fit for purpose service to ALL in Redditch. The list is endless. But please don't be wasteful in knocking down a building.

Hope that money goes to Facilities in Redditch, for Redditch residents and is not diverted into propping up lack of funding in other areas or enhancing facilities for councillors and administrative rolls.

We must stop this extraordinary waste of money. The library is correctly located and there is no need to change anything. Councillors should note that going forward with this may well mean their loss of office in future polling years.

There is nothing wrong with the current library. I feel the reasons behind the move are not valid & not a good use of the money available.

I find it very strange the council wishes to move a vital service to a part of the town centre where no one goes. The town hall is on its own away from the shops, banks and cafes which are outside the Kingfisher

centre and has no direct access to the shopping centre from the town hall. Where would disabled people park if it was moved? Currently they can park on the flat 200 yard from the entrance to the library. Would the service the library offer have to be reduced because of the cost of rent for the building? If more buildings are needed why not build a shop unit between the back of the library and the Kingfisher you could then bring the entrance to the kingfisher between the library and the night club pop world giving an entrance inline with the shop fronts onto Mercia square.

Ask anyone what landmarks make redditch they will say the library as that's the only thing still there. It's also in prime location to catch all public the new site will not be.

It seems ecologically odd to knock down what seems to be a perfectly servicable, and purpose built building to make an open space. There are empty buildings in Alcester Street, Wetherspoons are due to close the Rising Sun I hear, will there be any demand for this new space?

Don't do it

Move to the TH

This is a vanity project and has already come to the notice of the satirical magazine Private Eye. There is already considerable opposition to the plan. It will be interesting to see if the public are actually listened to.

Carparking charges add to the cost of using the town centre library, plus it is quite a way to walk carrying heavy books from the nearest carpark. This discourages me from using it in preference to the smaller out of centre libraries such as woodrow where i can park free of charge near to the library

The government and council are too happy to waste money on things they think we need. For instance allowing 10 million to do up a railway station to entice people to Redditch? What would they want to come here for? Your wrecking our town by trying to demolish a library that has served many for many years and now because its not in your plans you get rid of the services in the town hall to put the library in there!!!! Please just for once listen to the people of the town. The people who know what we want and need. Fix things that are broken in Redditch before demolishing a perfectly good and well used library

The present Library building is an iconic building, purpose built, and used by many. It was designed by a well respected architect, and is well positioned for use by all. To demolish this building would be a huge mistake, and not to mention a massive waste of funds. Particularly when there are many places in Redditch that require 'updating'. As for 'open spaces' there are plenty of them....Church Green being one. Not that the spaces we have are used to encourage people to visit....no market anymore! Maybe we could have 'craft markets', 'Christmas Markets' etc without charging sellers huge rents so that prices of items to buy are reasonable! The open space proposed, that is to house cafe etc does not make sense when a cheap Pub / Bar Restaurant with outside seating is selling up. Redditch has more cafes etc than is needed already. The Digbeth Dining club was great, under cover, well lit with plenty of seating. Why more empty spaces???

I recognize that in order for progress to be made, extraordinary changes must take place. But the library is an essential public service that many use in a wide range of capacities. This plan is a wholly irresponsible use of taxpayer money that could be put to better use (hospital and mental health services, better parking in the town center, investment in small businesses so the town center isn't full of empty shops). An alternative suggestion (though I know it won't be seriously considered) would be a youth community center. There's no spaces for young people to get together for activities like there used to be decades back.

Leave the Library alone!

The development of the town needs to go ahead as soon as possible

Leave it where it is and spend the money on plenty of other things in need. There's a saying 'if it isn't broke, don't fix it' there's a lot of sense in it. Leave well alone and stop the unnecessary spending and disruption. Too many people with too much time on their hands trying to change things that aren't necessary. Typical Redditch borough council !

It is fine where it is.

This will put people off using a valuable service. You have taken too many other things away from in the community and now you're going for our library 📖 -

I don't object to the library relocation provided that the facilities are maintained.

There's nothing wrong with the library as it is. To knock it down for reasons given are ridiculous in current climate considering how empty the town is at the moment. The look of the outside could be improved at far less cost

Please listen to reason and leave the library alone.

Surely Redditch Borough Council can think of better ways to spend masses of money during a cost of living crisis?

After refurbishing, putting in a nice new lift for people that struggle with stairs, and new terminals for checking out and returning books etc. Wasting even more money on moving the library is a joke. The money would be better spent on new books and keeping our existing library updated.

The resiting of the library is a scandalous waste of public money and the building of cafes etc has not been thought out properly . IF A BIG CHAIN LIKE WETHERSPOONS CANNOT MAKE A GO OF IT WHERE THEY ARE , HOW AON EARTH DOES THE COUNCIL THINK 3 MORE CAFES CAN !!!! if the library is moved to the Town Hall , before long they will want to shut it down due to lack of customers .

It's a bad idea that will not increase the footfall into town it won't improve and night life we already have another pub closing its doors we need better shopping and those empty shops brought back to life a better market Redditch is already full of places to eat has anyone counted them people are struggling how are coffee shops and maybe a Pizza Hut going to help

Save Redditch Library and save yours selfs. £9-2m

Waste of money, nothing wrong with current location. Money could be better spent on improving current site. We do not need more cafes, when we already have plenty plus empty shops.

What a waste of public money The saying goes don't fix what is not broken The library is a hub of the community offering so many wonderful services Lack of space will disadvantage so many no room for groups All that's changing is the current location will have a cafe and office space Just put a welcome cafe in the current Library open the front as a plaza Put activities outside that the library hold make it a welcoming front for all No need for thousands to be spent to offer nothing Move the council chambers into the library have it open in the evening Then sell off the town hall for homes

Using the current library for bars and restaurants will not succeed. Look at the success (or lack thereof) of the Hub. Improve our current facilities first before removing them.

When I was a teenager I used the library to create my first ever CV and apply for jobs, I became a young mum and taking my daughter to baby groups at the library gave me the courage and confidence to not be isolated and alone, I think the library is an amazing and important thing and one of the only main community centres that is absolutely thriving after so many cuts to things like youth clubs, health centres etc. I find it so sad that you would remove a building that we are all proud of.

The town centre needs to attract more people from all over, to visit, not just local people being attracted to a new library. Use the money to reduce rents for shop owners so the shopping centre offers more. It's a ghost town!

Waste of monetary resources which have been allocated to the town.

I think the current library business is ugly, have never liked it and would love to see a transformation to this area.

Please ensure there is decent and staffed computer spaces, at least as many as at present in the Library. With so many things online, we exclude those without computers and related skills.

No except with the current living crisis its a waste of time and money and the money could be spent on better resources housing elderly services nhs ect. New bus service company as diamond are useless.

Redditch library has been a part of my life for the whole of my life! I'm 54

Please don't move the library

Leave the library alone!

There are better uses for £15.6 million.. just watch the news if you need further proof.

I think the money made available should be used to regenerate some of the existing shops, try and get some decent business back into the town. Also bring back a decent market.

The best two things about Redditch is the efficiency of the library. Order books on line and they are delivered within days even during lock down. Thank you . The other thing is Palace Theatre. Very lucky to have it.

I appreciate the work that is being done to improve Redditch and feel that we should not be held back by staying with what is familiar, just because that is more comfortable. While it will cost a considerable amount to make the changes, it will open up other possibilities to improve Redditch.

The council in Redditch have effectively closed the market and market place down which was a boost to the town. People came to the market from many outside areas. It would be good to make the town centre a place of community encouraging people to respect the town.

The money could be spent on better things than relocating a library. There are so many empty buildings, or the market area that is hardly ever used could become the councils new plaything. It's a vanity project with no facts and figures behind it, an area to entice people out of the Kingfisher is not a good excuse to spend so much money to relocate. You have got to remember that places like the gemini dance, talking newspapers etc have to relocate so that property can be sold. You could modernise the outside of the library to house coffee shops or restaurants and keep the library building intact. A roof could be placed over the pathways around the side/back of the library? There is a whole square around the church that could be looked at and made into a centre for people to meet, drink and socialise. Why does cllr Dormer want this square so much? It can't be as simple as he wants the council to own this land. There is something we are not being told,

I am 100% against the move of the existing library, and highly doubt any of the benefits currently shared about a move in the library offering a better service to residents. The library is an essential resource for residents, having it separate to government authorities gives confidence to residents who are in need of advice and support.

The idea to improve this area is a good one. There is an unloved and shabby look to a number of retail frontages. There seems to be fewer people using this area. It used to be quite busy when the market was sited so something needs to be done but not relocating the library. The potential for learning should not be hidden away, but in a prominent, stand alone building to allow growth for future users. (Birmingham Library) The money should be used wisely, there are already existing cafes, step free access and better doors to all buildings would increase footfall, with the increase in cost of living, the first squeeze is on eating out, and leisure activities.

I think the money could be better spent on the towns infrastructure for the residents. More help needs to be offered to the homeless and the drug and alcohol users who are around the town. It puts people off going up there as they don't feel safe. I think Redditch has improved a lot over the years and with the 1000's of new residents and with more houses being built we need to make our town centre more appealing. Moving a library at a huge cost to build more buildings at a huge cost when you have spaces to use for alfresco dining and things just doesn't make sense it seems its being done almost with an ulterior motive in the agenda.

I am saddened that it is under discussion that yet another Redditch iconic building is destined to be destroyed. I am also sure that whatever objection is made ,will not make any difference

I feel it would be a shame to knock down the building and waste 10 plus million pounds in moving it to a small option not only that I don't feel like the plans are what is needed for Redditch ie more cafes etc

The library needs to be kept central and the money spent on providing better shops and entertainment places instead of food eaterys all the time

We have to trust our town planners are doing things for the best reasons and this seems to make perfect sense to me

It's quite a dramatic decision to knock down buildings. I wonder whether the row of buildings from the library to the 3 Cooks shop could be knocked down instead and those businesses relocated. There are empty units along the row. The units on the opposite side of Alcester st need to be filled too. No point having a shiny new square surrounded by empty shops.

Use the money to make Redditch great again! Let us remember Redditch how it used to be. We used to be well known for the industries of the past but now we look more like a joke. We do not need anymore food outlets or coffee shops soon we'll be known as the town with the fattest people.

I feel that given we are in a cost of living crisis and the local authority are struggling financially, it shows that this decision is purely a political decision with no thought to the residents of the town.

I worked at the Library from when it opened in 1976 until I retired in 2008 and saw many changes there and a great deal of money spent on it. I consider that it would be a waste of money to relocate the library when the current building is an adequate size and can be used flexibly. New furniture has been purchased in recent years and it can be moved around. There is no need in the town for either more open space as there is plenty around St Stephen's Church or for a café pavilion. I think that the Borough Council went ahead with considering what to do with the money it was awarded without considering that the Library Service is actually run by Worcestershire County Council. What a total nonsense to consider demolition of a perfectly good building and relocation of the Library Service to a building which is much less convenient for most members of the public. Redditch Library is highly valued in its present location by many members of the public, serves the second largest catchment area in the County, which will remain the same, and is the second busiest library in the County which I cannot see necessarily remaining.

I love the fact that you listen to ordinary people's views on this process

I would prefer the library to remain where it is

I do not believe the management at the council have the ability to spend this money correctly and provide us with a new fancy up and coming town centre space. It'll be new blockwork for pavements (again) a bit of paint and a massive bill. The whole culture of the town needs to change. I doubt this will happen.

I feel there are enough cafe type shops in Redditch. Centre and we really don't need another one It seems a backwards turn as we used to have a market square with lovely individual shops years ago which were demolished for the new centre which is now very poorly supported by retailers to say we are an Expanding town with all the new housing developments planned On the outskirts of town

Stop making stupid changes that do not benefit the public in any manner

It's totally unnecessary. The library is fine where it is . Who is going to profit from this?

Take time to think things through more objectively. With a view to making best use of the money available.

The library was purpose built and is in good repair . Any money allocated to Redditch by the government could be put to much better use in these austere times

I feel this move is unnecessary in the current climate. The money could be used to support other areas of the community where the need is greater. Food banks could be an area that make a huge difference

I have relied on the Library at times as my only access to the internet, so the computers and/or the WiFi were near essential to life as we know it. Having a computer/tablet/phone isn't enough if you can't afford data, so the Library has been my only way to contact friends and family at times. I would go so far as to say

'contact other humans', other than shop workers saying "that'll be x £ please". It gives access to social media The staff have proven to be a mine of info and have surprised me a few times with local advice and ways to do things/get help/info

We already have over Ten Coffee Shops and plenty of vacant spaces to use for the New Town Plan. Our Library is just fine where is, let's use that money to improve the library and not tear it down to build another vacant space with coffee shop number 12. Thank You.

I think this is a terrible idea designed to line the pockets of a greedy tory council You should all be ashamed of yourselves

Hands off the people's library.

Moving the library would be heartbreaking. I have been visiting for some 34 years! Why waste money upgrading it only to knock it down? It's a great asset to Redditch where it is! The suggestion that opening some hub/coffee shop outside the Kingfisher shopping centre will raise the footfall is nonsense. There are already many closures of these types of facilities. This is likely to be an expensive failure. Anyone disabled will struggle from any parking area to get into the Town hall. We are currently in the worst recession in living memory. This means the Council will be wasting unnecessary money knocking down a perfectly good library for something which won't fulfill the Council's objective!

To build a new Library would be a complete waste of money

Leave out library where it is

The train station I can actively see how this will hopefully attract more people to Redditch and therefore I would like to actually see how this will benefit Redditch by an impartial 3rd party and not this council.

The misinformation being spread about by the labour party has contributed to a lot of upset in redditch People want to see the town get its well deserved upgrade. It is absolutely vital that the towns bid money is used to enhance the town and the relocation of the library will bring much needed regeneration to a town that at the moment is pretty much on its knees Please - you must allow this project to be undertaken for the sake of safeguarding our town for generations to come

Pleas ask the staff what they feel about the move. The strong impression I get is that they don't want to see the move.

I realise my comments will not change anything but in my conversations with many friends I have yet to meet anyone who thinks moving the library is a good idea.

Don't make this mistake. Don't spend taxpayers money moving the library. Be more intuitive and strategic - there are other ways to develop the town without stripping the library out and relocating it. You need to listen to the community!

I also think plans to redevelop the train station in Redditch are completely unnecessary as the trains can only travel backwards and forwards between Redditch and Birmingham. It would be of benefit to the local population to develop a tram system similar to that in greater Manchester which is a superb system linking towns and villages within a very wide area and is consequently well utilised and extremely popular

Can we not put this money to better use i.e bringing our services back to the hospital.

Keep the library where it is for the sake of Redditch folk, use the funds where it's more desperately needed.

There is no need to move the library from its current location

The proposal is ridiculous. How much would the relocation cost in addition to the waste of money in recent refurbishment?

Relocating the library is a terrible idea. Just more cuts to public services.

The proposal to move the library seems like a vast waste of public money to make more commercial units when there is currently no shortage of empty commercial units in the Town Centre.

If anything they should be looking at moving the council out of the town hall it's no longer utilised properly, expensive to keep open

Matt dormer does not need his pockets lining by fleecing the redditch community any further than he already has

I really do hope that the thoughts and opinions of the townspeople are listened to. The library is a valuable asset to the town, and should be preserved and looked after in its current location.

I would like to ask the Conservative council members proposing this urban vandalism to think again and consider whether they have already done enough damage to our country and our town

Whatever happens with the location, please keep the library and all the activities that currently happen there. It is a fantastic community facility!

Keep the library where it is as it's ideal there. Why knock it down when it costs so much it's cheaper to update it. Also bring back the staff at the town hall so we can actually speak to someone face to face.

Don't move it!

You have an excellent library service running in Redditch. There is a good range of services and a friendly and helpful staff. Everyone knows where it is. I doubt if you will increase the useage and membership if you move it down to the Town Hall, rather the reverse I should think. I'm sorry to be cynical, but that is that the running down of the library the ultimate goal of this idea?

Please ensure that the valuable archive collection is maintained if not at the new location then at a local one. Please ensure that the dedicated staff in the library are able to retain their valued jobs.

I am so tired of being 'consulted' about decisions that have already been made.

The current position of the library could actually enhance that area. By using the money to add to the unused areas around the library you could actually increase footfall to the library and encourage people to use the outside areas with food and drink outlets along the front where the unused British heart foundation shop is.

Redditch has sadly declined very much over the 40 years I have been here. Was once a lovely town and town centre, to many jobs worth Councillor's handing out money to friends and known associates that has seen this town in total dismay and its UGLY.

Don't mind the library being moved, my concerns are the whole purpose of a Hub, is it for all from the local community or worries me if may be for the select few,

DON'T WASTE MY TAX MONEY MOVING THE LIBRARY TO SATISFY MAT DORMERS EGO. [REDACTED] OBJECT TO THE PROPOSALS. IT WOULD BE A DISJOINTED HUB, A BIT LIKE BROMSGROVE HUB WHERE EACH SERVICE DOESN'T SPEAK TO EACH OTHER. LEAVE OUR AMAZING, BUSY AND WELCOMING LIBRARY WHERE IT IS. INVEST IN MAKING IT EVEN BETTER AND SAVE MILLIONS AS A RESULT.

Tell the Conservatives to leave it alone and stop wasting money

I support the demolition of the existing library building only if there will be a modern town centre to be built with enough parking.

The current conservative council and councillors are not, in my estimation trustworthy in any respect and I express myself as diplomatically as possible!

This idea is ridiculous. Why spend millions to knock down a fit for purpose and recently refurbished building to spend many more millions to refurbish a building which is currently not fit for the intended purpose?! The Redditch library is a great resource in the heart of the town. Moving it makes absolutely no sense at all. A total waste of time and money at a time people are having to choose between eating and heating. Those proposing it should be ashamed of themselves.

We love our library. We like it where it is and we don't want it to move. The money to be spent on this project could be used so much better improving other parts of the town centre. Why can't we keep our library AND have those improvements? Don't say the money can't be redeployed... it can. Moving the library into the Town Hall is a waste of money and completely against what people in this town want.

Protect the library respirse but ny all means make it more sustainable, modern and cost effective.

The current library is an eyesore that dominates that part of the space outside the kingfisher centre. There is already a great space under the canopies and extending this with modern cafe/restaurants sounds good.

The library is wonderful. Staff are incredibly friendly and the activities they run for children during the holidays are fantastic. It would be a shame to loose that.

Any new builds should consider eco friendly power options, such as solar panels

Yes, please scrap this entire project and use the money for improving our library, reinstating the outdoor market and holding events in the town centre.

Absolutely ridiculous idea to move it from its current location which I will strongly oppose

Leave our library alone

what are you replacing the library with? More flats that won't sell? You have a shopping centre that's becoming more and more empty. Why not gentrify what you have? Why waste money moving services? Redditch is become a ghost town. I'd rather go elsewhere!

This proposal is the worst of all worlds. Please do not go against the wishes of Redditch residents. Thank you.

Please, please think carefully. I worked at the old library and new library and remember moving all the stock to our new library in the 1970s. We were so proud of the service and over the decades we built and developed a service Redditch could be proud of. It is in an ideal position with a large footfall and I believe one of the highest libraries in the county for borrowing. What is the point of wasting money just for offices and more cafes. It is an iconic building please leave it alone.

I really hope you consider why it would be a waste of money and time to relocate the library. Please spend the funds improving the town and making more spaces for everyone of all ages or saving the shops in the shopping centre.

Please consider expanding or exploring the idea of a community area around/including the library - not making the library move !

I think I have said enough for the moment at least.

I suppose it will be a done deal that this will happen. I have no confidence or trust that this Tory council will listen to what people think.

Think carefully about people who currently use the library and why they like it. What do people genuinely gain from this change? Will the new library incorporate some of the features like Worcester's hive?

The lack of transparency in development of this project has been concerning. The plans are only now being made available. Consultation should have been carried out in early stages of the project and an open dialogue would have been better for the town. I hope this is a true consultation rather than a formality where opinions will be ignored.

I think the whole idea should be scrapped. It's ridiculous.

No. DONT MOVE !!! * * * * *

Better to refurb existing library - concerned that moving a little further away and into a building people are not used to will affect footfall. Also in response to FAQ question on "no loss of staff", I thought the front of house staff were contractors rather than "staff" so I hope they will not be reduced in number.

Originally Councillor Cater wanted the library demolished to make a market square now he wants cafes and other outlets. There are plenty inside the centre so what's the point all a waste of money as I said before Redditch needs more council housing surely this would be money well spent.

I think the relocation of the library is a welcome distraction from why the council is being mis-managed by the incumbent Council. The plans submitted are atrocious there is no need for a public square. Church Green east is not a pleasurable place to go, the council should focus on the anti social behaviour, drug taking, the homeless people sleeping rough, the empty shops. Focus on that rather than demolishing a perfectly good building with a highly functional library

I know you are going to plough ahead with this idea because this is a phoney consultation the same as all your consultations. But for what it is worth I would urge you to consider the alternative options. Putting the library in the kingfisher will be more accessible, allow the space to create a proper replacement library and support the viability of the town centre. It will also be cheaper. Please don't build anymore shops or restaurants - we have too many vacant units already. If the kingfisher can't fill their units with all their marketing clout why is RBC and WCC so arrogant that you think you can do better? You haven't tried to take people with you on this journey. You have been secretive and combative throughout in some of the comments made to the media and treated people with complete contempt.

As a single parent the library was a lovely welcoming environment for me and my son to visit to spend time together and also know I would be able to staff if I needed a chat. Now my son has gone to middle school and enjoying reading books the library has been amazing. The staff have been amazing. We've done weekly if not twice a wk visits to return books or collect books we've transferred to the library. I've noticed how many others have been using the library too and it's such a positive for children use it. It's also a lovely place to explain to my son that it was his mums library too when she was little.

Redditch library is an integral part of the town, and the staff /volunteers are great. The services it provides are essential to the community, and I hope that the move will be beneficial to all.

My opinion is that the whole idea of moving a purpose-built library into an entirely unsuitable building has been a foolish idea right from the start. Many different and contradictory reasons for this proposal have been put forward (mainly from Cllr. Matt Dormer) that it seems to me as if someone, somewhere along the line, is desperately trying to get this proposal through at any cost whether or not it is in the best interest of the residents of Redditch. The costs which would be incurred are eye-watering and, in my opinion, totally obscene in this day and age, when so many people are struggling to make ends meet. There are many other ways to encourage foot-fall into the Town Centre and it will take more than knocking down a library and getting 3 more cafes put up instead to improve things. Why not employ someone with experience to come up with some innovative ideas? We don't need more cafes which would surely be competition for the ones we already have? Nothing about this idea makes sense on any level to me or to many other Redditch residents for that matter. Why try and take away a perfectly well used facility that is a hub for so many groups, is easily accessible and is a vital part of so many local children's introduction into the wonderful world of books? A decent explanation of how this move would be an improvement to the existing situation would be very welcome because I can't see one.

If the Library has to relocate, I would love to see the Library move into the currently unoccupied storefront in the Kingfisher Centre, where Debenhams used to be situated. It would be a short relocation, and would keep it as accessible for people to use as it currently is.

It seems this plan is being pushed onto us by a few councillors whether we like it or not

As long as residents get the same service doesn't really matter if it relocates

Please use this money in a better way. Removing a purpose built well established and used service from a very central point is a total waste of public money. In this age of conservation and economic difficulties it is morally wrong to spend money this way when there are other areas of the town that could and should be repurposed.

Leave the library alone. You can't fix what's not broke

Everyone I speak to thinks demolishing the library is a ridiculous idea. At first they said the library was in the way but now they want to build cafes there instead. The library should be in the centre of town not tucked at the bottom with nhs clinics. The public are not happy because they are not being listened to.

Do not take the library away.

Where is the evidence that this will be a benefit? Can it be categorically stated that this project will NOT cause a rise in council tax?

As per usual, Redditch BC is committed to removing the facilities for the residents of progress, to allow developments to take place e.g. selling off the Foxlydiate Public House for housing, closing the Gemini dance studio etc etc, which is disgusting

The Redditch Council states that they want to increase footfall into the town centre and provide restaurants/wine bars and leisure facilities and more shops. There are many vacant units in the town centre, and whilst I know that is not managed by the council, where is the point of putting more shops in the same area. What is the time scale for this to be completed? I am 74 now and very fit for my age I don't think years of disruption will encourage library users. It is currently a vibrant place. I love the exhibitions and talks about old Redditch, the walking group go to areas they haven't seen for years and I just feel it will be too much.

Leave the Library where it is, improve access to it. Add eateries to the Town Hall if you think them essential but remember that we are in recession for a few years to come, which removes residents' ability to eat out but may increase their desire to borrow books and see films for free.

I think the money and resources would be much better used to improve other aspects of the town centre

The town needs food shops. I and others I know have difficulty getting to the out of town supermarkets. I feel that what Redditch needs is not money wanted in pretty spaces. We don't bother to go in to town because you can't shop unless you want a greeting card or mobile phone. Put the money into making the town better not prettier

Hopefully the changes that the council make to the town will improve it for the local and visiting people. The people of the area need the town to develop in a positive way.

Please listen to your electorate. Leave Our Library where it is and redevelop those areas which are in need of investment. In these times of austerity Redditch Council/Worcestershire County Council will need to spend every penny at its most cost effectiveness.

If space is needed in the area by the library why not open up the old market square and Debenhams building which are both unused. Leave the Library where it is

The library is essential for the schools and colleges as well as the elderly either position is acceptable as it's still in the centre. Coffee machines need to be available with a quiet area. With policing the area.

This is a very poorly constructed survey. If the back wall of the current library fails to inspire Councillor Dormer, then don't waste money on demolishing the building - the following are serious suggestions: (i) Commission Banksy to improve the appearance of this wall. (ii) Fit dormer type windows - false ones if necessary. (iii) Extend the current building and link it to the Kingfisher Shopping Centre. +=+= ENSURE ALL, yes all, COMMENTS are published in the final report.

leave the library alone it ain't broke and doesn't need fixing

Let's not change for change's sake. If the Town Hall has so much spare capacity why was the library refitted to move Job seekers upstairs instead of going there ??

In conclusion this appears to be a very expensive project to provide library facilities that already exist; and to provide office space and cafes where those could be accommodated in the Kingfisher and Town Hall. There is already a reasonable amount of open space around the church and along Alcester Street. Now the project to build a new railway station is another matter. That is decades over-due.

Why are you planning a town square so far away from the town centre? Why not relocate the church and demolish that for a town square?

I love the current library as do my children and I'll be really disappointed to see it move. I have been into the town hall over the years. It's dark, and the vibe is of something not well looked after. How do we expect children to be excited about learning to read when the space is uninviting. The library needs to be light airy and inviting to all. In the heart of the centre not the outskirts to encourage more people to go in and make it a convenient place to pop in when you're in town.

Don't do it. It is a rubbish idea.

To summarise if we are talking progress and an improved service I would not object to the library moving. If it is a way of downgrading and hiding the library away then I am most certainly not accepting of the changes.

Just because we have money doesn't mean it has to be wasted on a project like this. The new digbeth dining club is working well in its current location and the empty units currently available should be repurposed first rather than knocking down a piece of Redditch history

Town needs investment in terms of infrastructure within the middle of the town center.

Please no more cafés. Don't waste the money moving the library, and focus on bringing more retail and dining out options to the town.

Leave well alone or demonstrate how the move is going to save cash. No more coffee shops/charity shops/restaurants Sell property that is council owned that has stood empty for years . Nothing is going to improve footfall. It will just be an excuse to spend money on upgrading council offices.. Respect the public purse.

Waste of public money relocating the library. buildong is fit for purpose and has great amount of books and space

I strongly oppose the library moving to new location

I understand that there are proposals to turn the area around the existing library into a "night-time economy" area. This will seriously detract from the peaceful and pleasant environment which stretches from the Palace Theatre up to the church green. The existing library is an intergral part of this corridor making it very accessible even for people who may not usually visit libraries.

Why bring down a perfectly usable site to move yo a less usable site at a great cost. Senseless

I also think that the replacement buildings are the wrong sort for the area.

Why knock down a purposely built library to knock it down and turn it in to more coffee shops?? We have enough!

The architecture of the library building may be one of the few remaining by this architect.

Leave then Liberty where it is

There are many issues around our town where the money could be put to much better use. The current site of the library is the best place for it demolition of it is just mindless vandalism.

The council has obviously made its mind up so I think this exercise is useless. If we had been asked properly before then nearly 10 million could have been better spent. If you ignore the results of this survey, I will be complaining to a higher level.

The people who have no objection to the Library being demolished are definitely in a minority, and often not of the Town, and not forgetting, they do not use the Library or care for those that do and feel so strongly about its planned destruction!

I would like to know who thought this was a viable option and why , the nonsense of increasing footfall to the shopping centre is not going to be believed by anybody as there are six other entrances to the shopping mall, only open interesting shops will attract more people

I don't believe the consultation will be reflected in any decision. Having watched the live feed of the meeting I was concerned about the lack of interest from the panel to what was being said by the residents.

It's a ridiculous idea to demolish a building and move into a poorer replacement that won't be fit for purpose and will require monet being spent on it. Its one the mist stupid ideas for spending what is a gift. Money should be spent on market place and church green.

Who's getting the contracts for the knocking down of the library?

This council is already in a dire financial situation. Please put the needs of the residents of Redditch first before wasting any money on a project that just isn't a priority.

I think its a crazy idea to get rid of the library building

It is time the people who dreamt up this scheme actually listened to what the residents want

This is a vanity project by RBC and offers no use to the general public. We will see a loss in service and millions spent when it should be spent elsewhere RBC is selling off public land for this. There is definitely something very corrupt about this whole proposal

Stupid if re located n knocked down. Listen to what Redditch people are saying but you probably won't as you never do!!!!

Just for once it would be lovely if the council actually listened to what the people of Redditch want. It is fine to hold public meetings but not our opinions are just ignored. The removal of services from the Alex just one case in point. We campaigned so hard for that hospital only to have to go to Worcester for many of the services it used to provide. Surprise, Worcester cannot cope with the extra work. Will the library be yet another case of opinions being ignored.

I do not see how knocking down and relocating will have any benefit. Investment is needed in the existing town. There are numerous empty shops/units. Why do you need to build more space to be left empty at the expense of the rest of the town

Do not relocate this library

Both me and my husband are both Redditch born enough has been done nothing else needs to be done except running the kingfisher centre properly.

Just move it into the King Fisher Centre, safer, warmer, better access, promote what shops are actually left and encourage people to meet up as its a nice environment. It makes sense.

The disruption when the library building is being demolished will have an adverse effect on retailing in the Kingfisher centre as footfall will be drastically compromised. Will businesses be compensated financially?

I can see no problem with relocating the library as long as all facilities are still available and the opening times are either the same or longer. There is disabled access and as long as people with disabilities can still park close as I have heard people complain about it being further away for them to walk.

What does it feel like to rip a town apart ? This town is my home and I didn't vote for you to dismantle this town. Cafe culture and pubs are not the answer to a vibrant town. Community and cultural groups are. Leave it alone.

Shameful waste of money when considering what would actually be useful

can this survey only be done on line, because if so a lot of people wont be able to take part. The towns people should be made aware that it can be accessed at the library, via the free press available in the town.

A ridiculously handled vanity project - it seems it's aim is to provide a use for the Town Hall building, following the County aim of introducing "Hubs" across the county, rather than being the best idea for the library, or the best use of funds at this time.

You should really rethink this development, the proposal to demolish this building and leave an open square is ridiculous. Have you thought about refurbishing the building? Converting the building into something else? Imposing a change of use? So many more possibilities than just bull dozing the building for the sake of it?

Why are you wanting to waste this money? There are so many areas of Redditch that need improving and the library isn't one of them. So many friends and neighbours are horrified by your narrow sighted plans.

I feel the decision has been made this consultation is just the council following procedures not that they care or what people want and will be ignored.

Redditch library is good for the local community

Demolishing such a large building as the library is a waste of money. The council could use this money much better.

Instead of moving the library move the Hughes store, most peoples first view of Redditch centre is the backside of an appliance store...not even the front of it.

Stop wasting taxpayers money. Subsidise rent or carparking instead, so we have decent shops and restaurants in the Kingfisher Centre

This town has many people on the poverty line. To have a free and safe space in which to learn and grow as a person, to identify that there is a big world out there that they are an active part of. To introduce them study aids, support groups, social growth, and the world's of fiction is utterly invaluable. I'm not being patronising - I was one of those kids living in poverty and books(which we could Not afford) gave me a life. They comforted me, taught me gave me confidence and Choices. They gave me a safe place to study and to be quiet and to grow.

I totally understand that if there is room elsewhere then the council could redevelop the current site. However given the downturn of the financial situation I cannot see that more shops are required and sadly I can see more units will become vacant in the next 12 months

Matt dormer and his [REDACTED] are only interested in themselves and lining their own pockets.... The proposal would be a downsized internet cafe .The town will loose an important facility .The library has central location where many people walk past to access other shops .This will be lost if it moves to the Town hall.

The costs are outrageous!

The cost is unjustified in relocation, we need to utilise that money in bringing back shops by allocating that money towards business rates , and more nightlife in redditch -

Should be left were it is now

The entire community of Redditch is against these proposals even if they don't say so.

Keep it where it is. Redditch doesn't need more coffee shops. Office space can be provided by renovation of the surrounding buildings which are largely empty and a bit of an eyesore.

Station will be a waste of millions It will not be a reason for coming to Redditch It's what's in the town people will come for nit the station

I have made myself clear The council must listen to the people I was born in Redditch, ran a good business for 50 years and I worked for various charities and still do and I respect the people of Redditch

What is going on in this town it used to be lovely town centre is a waste of time for shopping and nights out

I wish Redditch Library to stay as it is. The building isn't that old it was purposely built to replace the old one on the corner of Church Road.

I certainly would not like to see Redditch Library being run by Volunteers. The council should pay trained staff to do these jobs

The library is great where it is. It's accessible to all. The parking is close by. The layout is good.

Stop decimating our services

I strongly disagree with the move from two well used premises into town hall. There will be a loss of services and facilities to achieve the move from good facilities to inadequate. If you need a five bedroom house would you sell two three bed properties to buy a run down bungalow with limited options to extend? Cost to refurb and move may look attractive to the Councillors but is the opposite to residents in value for money.

It's a total waste of money to move the Library. It's in a great central spot at the moment.

The whole project is a total waste of £4.2million and there is nothing wrong with the current library

I suspect that what people say they want and what they will actually use will be very different. What the town centre needs is food shopping and free parking. With virtually all supermarkets now in out of centre locations and no food shops in the Kingfisher a big incentive to shop has been removed. High priced parking is always a killer for shopping areas and especially for a location like Kingfisher.

Please listen to the residents of Redditch they do not agree with these proposals for the library or the proposal to knock down Community House. As for the train station the real need is for earlier and later trains not a fancy building - if you go to Birmingham you have to leave the show or night out so early to get the last train!

I feel it is not necessary for it to move, ideal location. What will they do with this empty space.

Rent out the empty space at the Town Hall to commercial business Extra revenue for the council without extravagant overspending, upset and upheaval to the people of this lovely town. Mr Dormer and your [REDACTED] resign please

Why would Worcester County Council want to move such a well used facility to the dreary Town Hall which will cost County more money.

Instead of moving it I think I would be in the better interest of our town to upgrade and expand the existing building making it open to more community events Moving it will be the end of it and it is much needed when Redditch has lost so much already

Redditch needs a library never get rid

Can't think of anything

This could be a fantastic opportunity for all age groups to use this facility if the planning And design are thoroughly thought through in the early stages.

The lack of real consultation has been very noticeable. There has certainly not been any public demand for this misguided scheme.

Outside of the Kingfisher Centre the the town centre has many empty delapidated shops, and offers little. It doesn't look good and is frequented by rough sleepers, drinkers and drug users and doesn't appear to be policed in any way. Why would further retail or office units change this situation?

I support the relocation of the library and the proposed redevelopment of the site.

If the car parks in the town centre were free then more money would be spent there and better shops would appear but if people, like me, don't venture into the town centre because of the car parking arrangements and spend money our money instead then businesses will continue to fail or leave Redditch.

It's about time redditch saw investment

Money would be better spent developing the existing shops and buildings outside of the kingfisher centre . Encourage more cafes or restaurants where people can socialise without loud music and this may improve the local economy as older people are travelling to birmingham or bromsgrove to meet. Also use local contractors to carry out the redevelopment work, we regularly see large out of area contractors carrying out work on behalf of the council. They should be using local so the money is being put back into the local economy .

I would like transparent communication and information regarding this project. If the results of this consultation are negative will you adapt or reconsider your plans?

I don't go to the library so I don't know what the quality of the library is but I'd say just make sure there's plenty of ways to get things done. Plenty of computers, plenty of books etc.

It's a worthwhile investment which Redditch needs and to not utilise it would be a mistake.

STOP this vanity project now. Invest in community services we already have. We do NOT need more retail space in the town. The space we already have is massively under occupied, There is no justification for increasing retail space as it is not needed. We can all see how corrupt this project is as the leader of the council runs a construction related firm and has many friends and associates that he will ensure any contacts get given to. These plans will make life for the residents of Redditch significantly worse in the long run, not better. STOP this now

I feel that there is vested interests that play into this decision and ultimately are affecting residents of Redditch because of greed.

"A public library is the most democratic thing in the world. What can be found there has undone dictators and tyrants: demagogues can persecute writers and tell them what to write as much as they like, but they cannot vanish what has been written in the past, though they try often enough...People who love literature have at least part of their minds immune from indoctrination. If you read, you can learn to think for yourself."

there is no parking close to the town hall yes the multistory looks close but you still have to go into the kingfisher

This redevelopment plan is ridiculous with half the town standing empty already. Why not use the money to reduce retail rentals, fill those empty shops?

I have recently completed another survey suggesting what Redditch would improvements could be made, Better diverse retail facilities in precinct, Farmers Markets (Moseley prime example) so much more, my previous survey explains more..

Leave well alone.

moving the library to the town hall site will give the chance for a cafe pavilion area. As mentioned in the plans. I would be less intrested in large retail chains using that space. I would like to see small local ethical businesses trading in that area. Maybe with some cooperative community based ventures. Such as a community lead bakery perhaps with the opertunity of on-site learning/ baking skills courses. Also the chance to extend the market area and perhaps have a monthly farmers market.

Spending £9.4 million pounds on something we dont need is totally ridiculous.

The cost of the proposal involves money that could be better spent elsewhere.

Redditch does not need any more food or drink places within the town centre. To move the library to make way for more is a complete waste of money especially when we have plenty of empty shop space within the centre

I am excited to see what the Council can do to provide a more attractive, inviting, innovative place to visit. I personally dont like spending time in Redditch and prefer to travel to Birmingham. I would much rather

invest my money in my local town and not have to travel so far. I did actually visit the Kingfisher with my husband last weekend for the first time in a while. We were both pleasantly surprised with how fresh and clean it was looking. The Christmas decorations were very tastefully done, the area around Starbucks looks good too. Redditch town centre really does need a nice place to have cocktails/eateries (ie All Bar One). Rily's has stood the test of time so other restaurants can do it. I do hope Edo can make it too, my daughter loves visiting there but says it's always so quiet !!

As a retired chartered engineer with 50 years experience of building projects, it would be a shame to demolish such a good quality building, if the internal/external needs upgrading, it could be done for less than the costs published.

Please stop ruining our town centre, bring back the market

It's great to see investment being proposed in Redditch following years of missing out on central government funding opportunities. We should be embracing these opportunities as they don't come about very often. This will also provide some investment outside of the footprint of the Kingfisher and should allow for better integration between the shopping centre and the traditional town centre and this can only be a positive move. I think that careful consideration as to how the new town hall looks and is configured should be key to the proposals, as it is an asset that also requires investment.

Looking forward to seeing the Tories voted out in May. Self-serving shower.

Pedestrianise around church green allowing it to be developed for cafes and restaurants

No comments already noted in previous questions.

Sort out the local council to actually do something for youths in society... libraries are so outdated and it's not what we need for the future.

The relocation of Redditch library is a very hot topic. As a town our library is very popular & nobody can say it's not used. The idea of knocking it down & relocating it is just awful. The current library was purpose built & is more than fit for purpose. The location is easily accessible to all, is close to the college, public transport links & the shopping centre. Moving it to the town hall will see a decline in footfall & will put people off from using it.

TAKE NOTE OF WHAT THE GENERAL PUBLIC WANT I.E THE PETITION VOTING AGAINST THIS MOVE

Please help take our town to the next level.

Cost, need value for the money being spent, could the money be put to better use ie cycle friendly Redditch roads, secure cycle storage for visiting the lib and shopping centre

Please don't do this. To complete the plans put forward by the council means the demolition of community buildings. Is community not important to this council?

Pointless moving from a functioning building. Very wasteful and an environmental own goal.

I fail to see how an open space will bring people to Redditch. It's pie in the sky.

I can't wait to see the library moved to create a more open and welcoming town. As it is the ugly old building creates dark corridors at night which I can only see as unsafe

please don't push ahead with this plan regardless. there is significant public opposition. where people are silent on the matter it is generally through apathy not because they agree with the plans. money is SO hard to come by in the current climate - it seems obscene to spend such amounts to arrive at a situation comparable to what we have already!

Library users should enjoy free car parking.

The whole area can still be redeveloped - it needs it - but a new library space needs to be part of it.

The whole "town plan" slaps of Conservative councillors disregarding the needs of the people of Redditch, and dressing up their desire to generate fame and a legacy for themselves as a way to so-called "level-up" the town - ways that the people of Redditch do not want, nor need. Invest available money in roads, public services, and public infrastructure, rather than the removal of a beloved service, and the creation of a massive white elephant - probably to be dubbed "Matt Dormer Place" - in Mercian Square, increasing an already windswept area with more of the same. The town does not need more cafes, nor for itself to compete with the Kingfisher Centre. It needs investment to improve what already exists, rather than to tear down and create something overpriced, under-used, and plain wasteful.

I have heard so many people express sadness at the prospect of moving the current library. I haven't heard anyone, other than councillors and politicians, say anything positive about the move. I have teenage children, they and their friends say they will no longer use the library if it moves to the town hall. Please please please, listen to the public not those with ulterior motives.

PLEASE RULE OUT THIS MOVE

Please reconsider this proposal, with the amount of funding that is available, real good could be done within the town. The reduced need for desk space in the Town Hall is not a reason to relocate a perfectly good existing service.

The proposed plan of developing the existing library area into a plaza featuring cafes etc. seems to me a waste of good money. The economic situation is not good, and it may be many years before it fully recovers! Also with due respect to the inhabitants of Redditch, the town does not lend itself to the "cafe culture". The current library is a welcoming, warm environment for in which people can come together, or browse books, use the facilities and gain pleasure. Any money available to spend could be put to better use in schools of services for the elderly?housebound.

Just wish there were more things to do in the town centre other than just eat!

From reading comments in local press, social media and hearing statements from library users and Redditch residents read at the scrutiny committee meeting there is clearly very little public support for the library services to be moved to the Town Hall (or at all). I think both the Borough and County Councils will be doing a huge disservice to their residents if they go ahead with these proposals, especially when you take into account the interior of the building was only refurbished a few years ago at a considerable cost to the taxpayer. The current library might not be the prettiest building, but it is perfectly laid out to house the amazing services it provides our town. The plans for the proposed space don't even mention any archive storage, which there is currently an entire basement of - a large portion of which are items that have specifically been bequeathed to Redditch Library or The People of Redditch, so therefore ought to be kept in the town. This feels like a project pushed through by borough council leaders under pressure to fill an almost empty building in the new post Covid landscape of unneeded office space!

You continue to fail us. Look around this country and feel ashamed that you have helped bring it to its knees. A once proud country has been trashed by successive governments and useless incompetent local councillors. Congratulations. I'd better let you get back to concreting over more of Redditch green spaces and filling up local hotels with foreign criminals and freeloaders who have never paid a penny into this country.

Leave our library alone! In your opening statement, you have said that Redditch has secured £15 million in investment, so why are the council planning to sell off several council assets to pay for this? I am concerned about a conflict of interest with certain councillors that could potentially make a lot of money from this venture. The real issue is how to fill the town hall. If you want to increase footfall in the town centre, provide reasonably priced car parking.

Moving the library is stupid and pointless

I do feel the plans to move are already in motion

I think the current Library does a good job within the limitations imposed on them, eg funding. The staff are always helpful.

You'll be spending money to knock down the building, to build more buildings when there's plenty of empty spaces. We also have top many coffee shops and the like, we don't need more.

I think this will be a mistake for our town! The library is an important resource for our town, and shud not be sidelined to make way for other developments!

Will a mobile library be available?

I believe the money proposed to be spent on this project could be used to enhance the existing services and area, not reduce it.

Libraries are an essential service, any cut back would be detrimental to residents well-being, mental and social.

I am very pleased that the new planned library will remain similar to the existing one as having a good library is really important. My children love visiting the library and choosing books to borrow and enjoyed going to toddler groups there when they were younger. If children didn't have the opportunity to visit a library many wouldn't know such a thing existed so would really miss out.

This is a waste of money and bad for the environment. Focus on improving the rail station area and better links into the bus station (covered) and shopping centre and better drop off and pick up facilities at the station.

volunteering is for the future. Life is still a little busy and chaotic just now. I so hope Redditch council will find a sensible use for their £15 million. Such a waste to lose 10 of it for no improvement at all. Suggestions? I have already mad ethem many times but.....a two storey redevelopment of the old market square - energy creating gym/ice skating/roller skating/ night club accessible from the Town Hall entrance and a rising balcony access tot he higher floor from the WH Smiths and Debenham back entrance which can be your restaurants if you really think we need more - glass in the area from level with the library to the night club and put up a welcome to the Kingfisher Centre sign here. By raising the floor level in the market square and removing the roof covers that make the space dark, it would be a light and airy place to be. If not eating, this could be the market square again which used to buzz .A Further floor could bring in a green energy museum that generates electricity for the whole town centre (lots of knobs and levers to entertain the children, lots of running tracks and dynamo bicycles to challenge people to generate "x" amount of electricity, plus hydro from a wtaer tower and, of course solar and wind from high above. I envisage a roof like the college development so there is little need for artificial light. Put the restaurant up high and give people views over the town and adjoining countryside (we could actually use the top floors of the car parks for this kind of restaurant if glassed in) The other area for development is the dark, gloomy, draughty, cold bus station which could be used for a refill foodhall (let's get modern and plasticfree) where everyone brings their old containers or is served using paper bags.The bus station could then be added to the train station for a transport hub with again, glass roofed bus waiting area running around two sides of the car park and a ticket office that serves bus and train and all travel information - maybe even a travel agents! I would like to reopen the subway access to the present bus station so that there s easy ramp access to wheelchairs and unsteady walkes who must quake in their boots when faced with the slope p fom the station, the narrow pavement, tand the steep steps up to the shops (where is the signposting to the ramp and lifts?) and, of course, Unicorn Hill is the first thing visitors see on arrivail and inviting it is not!!!!

It is time RBC moved away from its New Town image of demolition towards retention of existing buildings and refurbishment

This is a vanity project with no substance. Not only does it require the government grant money (which should in my opinion either be used in a different way to kickstart the local economy, or if that is not feasible, be handed back, rather than sticking with a project that is not wanted), but it also requires the destruction of community assets such as community house, in order to pay for the work to convert the town hall into a new library. It feels as if the whole thing has been very poorly thought through, and the council simply came up with a vanity project in order to get funding from the government. I am also concerned that due diligence was not carried out in the granting of the money. I implore the county council to see sense and refuse the proposals for the library site. I want the library to stay where it is, and other attempts made

to improve the economic fortunes of the town centre by other means, and using the resources and infrastructure that we already have.

I lived in Redditch for 44 years and was a frequent user of the library, I also hope the next generation of my family use it too. I saw many mistakes made in Redditch such as the closure of the food hall and the new market behind the library. The redditch schools review was also a huge mistake and the removal of services from the Alex Hospital is a disaster waiting to happen. Leave the library alone and invest much less money in improving the current library instead of £9m on something nobody really wants.

Yes. I would like RBC and WCC to take a mature and responsible view on these proposals. I have been a resident of Redditch for over half a century. I worked, as a young land surveyor on the New Town. I love my town and as a former employee of H&WCC designing and managing various projects on the Library I feel an affinity with the building and the service

It would be a shame to loose a valuable asset separate from the council services

Only to re-iterate my concern about the long term sustainability of the library service without the income secured from renting out space to external users.

I believe that the majority of Redditch residents are against this scheme, and that many believe this money could be put to much better use. Many people like the Redditch Library and use it regularly. It is convenient for students from the college to use, and it is accessible to all being so centrally situated.

Beware of the leopard.

The staff at Redditch library are exceptional. Keep all staff that work for the library.

Staff are superb. Always helpful, always pleasant. Keep all current staff.

Please reconsider proposals. If it's not broke don't fix it.

We do not need more cafes nor eateries in the centre nor a large outdoor community space as we have plenty. What would be useful would be food shops and more independent shops. To bring people in from outer areas free parking would help. If I cannot walk to an event in Redditch I am unlikely to attend because of parking costs.

I have no allegiance to any particular political party at all. However, the current controlling party on Redditch Borough Council have, in my view, been trying to force this issue through without public consultation, until now. Residents are only now able to give input because The County Council's rules insist on this. I am not aware of any of my friends and /or contacts in the area being in favour of the library moving.

I do not consider more eating establishments to be a useful use of the space should the library be demolished. Redditch currently has plenty of cafes and take away establishments for its residents and visitors to choose from. Improved leisure facilities would be more welcome such as a bowling alley that could be used by all ages.

I've read the MPs note about challenging Touchwood with the piazza plans REALLY!! Fanciful would be a gross understatement

The town has a location where evening activity is centred, close to car parks and the cinema. A second location would further dilute the activity. The proposal is for a facility which is not needed, will be a white elephant and will remove a very nice centrally located library which is well used and much appreciated. Who came up with this silly idea?

The proposed move to the town hall is an excellent one and MUST BE DONE! the current library is way too big, nowhere near as good as was and would serve the town better if converted into a supermarket such as tesco as this would increase the footfall in our centre

I strongly disagree that we should have our library moved into the council house

There are already more cafés and eating places in the town centre that I feel sure are not making much profit without adding more. Our market town no longer has a market which used to attract people into Redditch. So I feel to demolish the town library would be a complete waste of funds.

To repeat - it's a crazy idea to relocate the library. And the additional idea of demolishing the building is foolish.

The staff are the heart of the library and are in constant interaction with the members of the public who require information and support which make the visit to the library a good experience. People accessing the library without staff is not giving the service the tax payer deserves. It is a cost cutting exercise. The proposed move will require the closure of the library, which will take away a much needed facility for a length of time not disclosed by the Council. The Supporters of this proposal have stated the benefits of moving the library but for the public to experience true consultation some of the concerns raised by opponents could have been made available for consideration. This is not genuine consultation if the survey is not widely publicised and the easiest access is online. The paper copies should have been made available at the Library. Why should non on line users have to go on line to access a paper copy of the Survey, this is not equal rights.

Don't be part of wasting nearly £10,000,000 on a white elephant - as it says in the many letters sent to the papers the move is not necessary, it would be better to put the council officers in the library and convert the town hall into much needed accommodation with cafe/bars and trendy shops below.

Please ensure that you appropriately and proportionately capture the views of young people as part of this consultation. I am a [REDACTED] homeowner who lives [REDACTED] away from the current library building and I wholeheartedly support this scheme.

the plaza used to be in the kingfisher centre, how is regeneration of an already existing square outside going to improve the footfall inside?

I hear your selling off a well used building on Easemore Rd to pay for this, has anyone on the decision making committee ever been and used this building? Do not let the people of Redditch down on some vanity idea which will cost millions, and destroy two perfectly good buildings in the process

Redditch library has been a constant throughout my life, from my own childhood visits with parents through to carrying on that tradition with my own children when they were young. It has instilled in me a love of reading and research which I have been able to pass on to the next generation and I hope my children in turn get a chance to do the same with their own children one day. As a support worker of people with learning difficulties and Autism, and being autistic myself, this library, its building, services and above all its staff have been a vital place in the lives of the people I help and in helping me at varying points throughout my own life. I have read and researched here, came to this space to work on my degree when I studied at University, held meetings with service users and professionals here, as well as helping them indulge their wide ranging interests. This library has felt like a safe haven to them all and was always a treasured goal for a positive afternoon spent. This building is in itself the history of Redditch, its diverse communities and a place of learning, safety, sharing, helping and enabling all walks of life to feel they have a place to come for whatever they need. To redesignate our library service to an add on within another building will lose the libraries presence, its accessibility and its sense of welcome.

I suspect this proposal may have been inspired by the wishes of the current owners of the Kingfisher Centre. However, with ownership about to change hands, and the General Manager - [REDACTED] - leaving Redditch, it is not clear what the current rationale is for pursuing this completely senseless proposal.

Please leave our library where it is

Please do not demolish Redditch library. It's an excessive waste of money and terrible for the environment. We have plenty cafés. We love Redditch history and that building is part of our culture. Clad it if you must, improve what we already have, but don't benefit our wealthy Council leader and his plant hire. We have

cafés, we have space for events, we all know where the Kingfisher Centre is, we have a beautiful, loved library, please keep it as it is.

New Redditch development scheme will not bring in new businesses the rates are far too high and rent.. Birmingham city is far better and easy to commute to, why would anyone from our skirts want to shop in Redditch? Redditch needs to work for its local community

Volunteers and not trained and paid staff is NOT acceptable.

The amount of money could be much better spent.

The Council that have decided to move the Library purely as part of a vanity project, are not exactly known for being great custodians of public funds, they have received notice for overspending again this year, yet the county council seem happy to trust them with millions to demolish chunks of the town. Where is the oversight from the MP and the county.

There's nothing wrong with the position of the library as it is. its becoming a Icon if the towns features. You've only to look up and down that side and its all a shambles n no thought of improving those empty units to make it look more attractive. Leave the Library Alone!!

Matt Dormer's arguments for the demolition are laughable. Apparently it will improve traffic flow of pedestrians. It doesn't block the flow of pedestrians now. He said the new plans will improve nightlife around the center, this has no basis in fact. There are no nightlife plans being put forward. Do we have tenants ready to take up new premises? How much are the Kingfisher putting toward the cost as they are major supporter of the idea. We all know through speaking to the staff that the centre management want the library gone.

It appears that the Councillors are riding roughshod in order to get their way and will push this through because they think it is right. To knock down a beautiful building that has just had money spent on it is tantamount to vandalism. If [REDACTED] wants a better entrance to the Kingfisher why not knock down the monstrosity of the Night Club and resite that. It is not the Library that gives a bad impression of the Kingfisher but the old buildings on the right hand side facing the Church, both sides of the road.

Redditch Library has served the people well since it was built. It should not be moved on the whim of the people who want it to be moved on their political gain. Redditch does not need any more coffee shops or office spaces, which I believe is going to replace the Library at present.

This is a persistent idea being pushed by the council against the will of local residents. We have been asked before when a petition was raised against the closure of the library by local residents. It appears the council keep asking until they get the answer they want, not what local residents want. Such as allowing a local market.

no expect decision already made

Their better ways to improve Redditch and not waste the money like they are doing by knocking down the library

Please don't do it not everything is about making more money. The library is at the heart of the town.

Waste of money moving a perfectly good and well used library

It will cost money to knock down the building & rebuild another one. If the current building is fit for purpose building wise (can't remember seeing anything to say it wasn't), why not use the money for other projects / services.

Get rid of Matt Dormer asap

Redditch library should be left where it is, moving it will have a detrimental effect on residents especially disabled people who can't walk the extra distance. We do not need more coffee shops or eateries make use of the facilities we have.

Please don't close / relocate our library

It should not go ahead. Waste of money!

Just leave our library where it is why move it it's OK where it is, what a waste of money when council should be fixing their repairs making peoples health get worse

Why spend money destroying a well used building when there are so many empty buildings that are an eyesore I don't see how this will improve the footfall in the town when shop after shop are closing down The town seems to be full of coffee shops and places to eat

Just stop using money for projects which are not needed and will not benefit the town as you would like us to believe. This town has been ruined by people in charge who only seem interested in using bull dozens to knock everything down. Why don't you use this money to replace lost parking by GP surgeries?

The council should listen to the residents on this matter. The library should stay where it is.

I am concerned that moving the library will affect the services and activities on offer at the current library as the space in the town hall will be smaller. The suggested cost of this proposed demolition and move is a waste of money and the cost will be much more due to rising prices.

Just get on with it

The whole redevelopment plan and "unlocking redditch" has been run really badly with lack of communication and lack of information quickly enough which has caused most of the upset and rumor mill to spread causing more objection to the plan than it probably deserves. Had the project team been more open and given the information at the start and held consultations earlier then I doubt there would have been so much bad press on it.

I would have thought the conservative administration of Redditch would have come up with a constructive plan for Redditch rather than a destructive .

The Conservative party and Redditch council need to listen to what their people want and many many people don't want this move. A government and council is there to serve its people, not to line its own pockets or think about their own wants or what they think is appropriate. There needs to be more partnership with the people of Redditch.

This proposal seems to be a huge waste of public money. The library has already undergone several refurbishments, now only to be demolished? Makes no sense at all.

sort out a better bus service to Worcester to get to the library at decent times so you can spend longer time there

Think its great that creativity and finance are being spent in Redditch.

I believe the Library should stay where it is currently located, there is no need to pull it down in order to build cafe, and retail units, there are plenty of cafe's within the centre. There are already a lot of empty units within the Kingfisher and around Church Green along with the undercover empty market with empty retail units (located at the back of the Post Office). Do something with those units, including the huge empty space that was Debenhams. Build a bowling alley, and spend the money improving what you already have. We are heading into a Recession, what on earth makes you think people have money to spend in more cafe's and eateries, when they can't afford to feed their families, and heat their homes. Pubs closing down. Shops closing down, People will be looking for community spaces for free like the Library for warm spaces. Makes me so angry, wasting money. Plus the library and people of Redditch will lose its Archives to The Hive if relocated. Another problem for me I don't drive so can't get to Worcester because the bus Service is shocking. I could go on and on.

Find another building to attack.

Please don't move it. Enhance all the wonderful space we have.

It's about time the current council leaders started really listening to the people. No-one really wants to see the library go - there's no benefit or purpose to it. It will die & dwindle if forced into an inadequate space in the dingy old Town Hall building. Knock that eyesore down instead!

Don't move the library - it's perfectly fine where it is. It works for everybody, and it makes everyone feel safe. It would be a stupid move to get rid of it.

Overall, I think leaving our library in its current place and situation would save a lot of hassle and uproar within our community. Our library is widely used and loved by many, by moving it you will cause discomfort and unfamiliarity. Having a child and using the libraries facilities has helped me appreciate and realise how lucky we are to have such a big and resourceful library in our town. I sincerely hope the plans for the library don't go forward.

I feel very uneasy about the judgement of the Conservative majority Council, they have big ideas that are not necessarily needed. They plan to build cafes and restaurants on the site on the library I'm not sure that they are aware that Redditch is quite deprived area and I would question whether we really need anymore eateries and cafes. I have no faith in the decisions made by this present council and they do not represent the ordinary people who live in Redditch. A market would give more of a buzz and is a more realistic plan for the area. Ironically it is called Market Place! There are empty buildings in market place that would be perfect for eateries and cafes are there any plans for these eyesores? There was a lovely Turkish restaurant along market place could not survive so how do they think that purpose built eateries will survive. There is also an area that has recently been used for Street Food events that have been successful in this area there are also empty shops that would be a perfect place for the council's plans for more eateries. Leave the library alone and spend the money wisely especially under the financial crisis that has been created by this Conservative government. Redditch is a town that has redeveloped to much especially when you compare it to its neighbour Bromsgrove that has kept its charm. Please listen and understand Redditch needs its library in the heart of the town.

Stop wasting money

No doubt Matt Dormer has already agreed the move with this pretend consultation

Keep the library where it is, the relocation plan is just a distraction from the public taking notice of Councilor Dormer's atrocious management of the council. The recent debacle about the community house says enough. The Kingfisher centre needs the library as I am sure the library increases the footfall to the centre and vice versa. Also the council should be looking at what they need to do to improve church green and all the drug users and homeless people around it and utilise all the vacant shops

Redditch council is financially irresponsible, completely amateurish, and cannot be trusted to house such a vital community resource. They're selling them off left right and centre and Matt Dormer's bullying tactics threatening the future of the library if it doesn't move is totally scummy. Worcestershire should see right through it. That you refuse to say a lot about your own priorities.

The library is a much loved and well used resource. I don't see why it needs to be moved. I think that the plan to develop the Town Hall into a community hub is absolutely brilliant and deserves to be supported and successful - but moving the library to achieve this is unnecessary

I note references to purchasing new fixtures and fittings. Redditch has had a couple of refurbishments in recent years and in order to maximise resources I would rather see furniture etc reused where it's practical to do so. Also, please ensure the new location is light and bright - as much natural light as possible and light that's comfortable for reading and leisure activities otherwise. I see too many libraries with dark furniture that seem gloomy - please make this space as welcoming and friendly as possible so it complements the staff who were always a pleasure to chat with (I'm sure this is true of whoever is working there now). Not to mention plenty of decent loo's and cheap refreshments - there was a good coffee machine when I used to visit.

This feels like a vanity project for the current council and nothing more. In a time when money is tight for people do they really want to waste money on moving a service yards away.

The library should be protected. It is a lifeline for so many people.

I believe in a democratic approach. Always ask the people first.

"Don't you think she looks tired"

Please, please think about the needs of the townspeople including those with young children, prams, disability/access needs including those who are partially sighted or blind - people have gitbusee to the library and all its many important services in the location it's in now and has been in for a very long time. Please put people's needs first before aesthetics and long-term profits; it's possible to have both eventually, but without changing what we already have!

Please leave library alone. No one will use redeveloped square anyway as outside of Kingfisher is full of dodgy types anyway unsafe for decent people and families.

its great to see investment in the town

as long as its in town centre, therefore accessible and available to all, it could be smaller and more appropriately used. allow other services to be located in other suitable places ensuring the library retains its purpose as a location to read. this would enable the promotion of reading to all ages

In my opinion the library is an iconic building and I see no reason for it move ... as services will still be the same. So, save taxpayers money.

Redditch library has the friendly staff members and I would hate this to be disrupted if visitor numbers dropped!

For me personally, I dont use the library and haven't done since I was a child, I am against it moving because we all know that it will cost more to move it then run it, and if it does move all that will happen is we get some more rubbish in its place, when the town need renovating and more facilities for families, friends, kids, and places to go that is safe for people to socialise and have fun.

I am sceptical that this survey will influence matters. However, based on the information presented I have not seen a good enough justification to move the library. In essence the proposal could be seen as a plan to spend several million pound of taxpayers money to knock down a relatively modern building, which was designed as a Library. And keep the services much the same as now...ie no benefit If you were able say we plan to spend £10M (or whatever the sum is) to improve the facilities by adding x,y,z services and making the library a destination for book lovers. The best in Worcestershire? (Birmingham Library attracts visitors to Birmingham) and at the same time to add to Redditch eg a new outdoor market?, food outlet, store. even a stand out water feature, art gallery.....ie the vision or case for the spend has not been made (in my eyes). Will a spend of £10m generate an extra £1M income for Redditch...is there a genuine financial model I have not seen.

I HATE wasting money - especially in these trying times. Send the money back - hopefully someone else can make better use of it. There are a lot of migrants needing help for instance.

Do not move the library.

Over the last decade the number of books in the library have been drastically reduced to make way for computers and seating areas. If the goal is to turn Redditch Library into a community hub then stop pretending it is a library.

Bringing everything together under one roof makes sense,looking forward to the changes ahead

I think it is a good idea overall. Being perfectly honest I find it frustrating to pay for a new library that I will never set foot in.

In my opinion Libraries remain a valuable public service. And Schools/ Colleges should be encouraged to use them

I have seen the pictures and I think the town square will enhance the town centre.

Councillor Matt Dormer wants more footfall in the area behind the library building and the doors to the Kingfisher Shopping Centre. He also does not like the brick wall at the rear of our library. Instead of wasting money on: (i) moving the library to the Town Hall; (ii) demolishing the building ... Councillor Dormer should commission a talented artist to design something meaningful for that brick wall. Another serious suggestion is to arrange for Banksy to create a suitable image/design on that brick wall. With that brick wall improved/changed that would certainly bring visitors to that area - thus increasing footfall etc. etc. +=+= AT THE END OF THE CONSULTATION PERIOD - it's hoped the public will be able to read all the comments/suggestions - and not just a WCC/RBC summary.

This comment is about the scaffolding which has been up outside the library building for many many months. Why is it still up? What jobs are taking so long to do? The library staff have been asked about it - but no specific answers have been provided. HAS THE SCAFFOLDING BEEN LEFT UP DELIBERATELY DURING THIS 'CONSULTATION' PERIOD TO GIVE MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC IMPRESSIONS LIKE: 'THE BUILDING IS FALLING DOWN', 'IT IS IN A POOR STATE OF REPAIR'; 'THE BUILDING NEEDS TO BE DEMOLISHED' etc. ?????

The relocation will help to transform the town centre.

Please fill and develop the existing capacity before demolishing a fully functional library. Given that a "square" style space is available behind the kingfisher I still don't see how these proposals provide anything that isn't already in place and underutilized.

It is disgraceful that the tortes have made this a vendetta due to being pushed by their leader Cllr dormer to vote for it !!!! Absolute waste of money , quite clearly from the towns outcry you can see the public wish the library to staybut the local councillors are not listening - remember people vote with their feet !!!!!

The library building represents a complete sense of history for me and Redditch Town. It is a place where various generations of my family have used the facility and provides me with comfort that I too continue to use the exact facility as my parents and grandparents did. I want my children to carry on the sense of belonging to this community and carry on using the facility in the same location as their generations before them.

Just seems a great expense to make to move the library to rebuild a cafe area. The library is perfect where it is currently.

It's fine as it is

I believe that Redditch Borough Council have failed in it duties to consult Redditch residents as to what projects should be included in the Towns Fund project. It has put forward proposals to demolish the current library and replace it with facilities which are not wanted by Redditch residents. It appears to pushing forward with these plans despite considerable objections from Redditch residents based upon erroneous reports about the state of the current Library building, an unproven need for a "Grand" entrance to the Kingfisher Centre and a promise of an improved library service at the Town Hall which is in a less convenient location and a building requiring millions of pounds to convert to house . I also believe that there will be a significant reduction of services from proposals to reduce the size of the historic archives held in the new library. I urge Worcestershire County Council to reject these plans.

I really object to Redditch Borough council relocating a county asset into the town hall most galling is local residents are having town assets sold to pay for this move. The library building could remain where it is there's nothing stopping the bid to include it into regeneration just because we regenerate it's not open season to get rid of every outdated building

This is a vanity project and we have many more urgent matters to deal with requiring funding

The money saved by not moving the library could be used to benifit redditch people better, such as helping the homeless, those on low incomes, by improving the accessibility to education, and many more good ideas. Rather than this vanity project.

The money for this project would benefit helping the Redditch Alex hospital services. Childrens services need bringing back . Gyno services need bringing back . Cut A&E times More wards . Hospital not big enough . We need more beds and staff

Yes listened to the people !!!

Yes please leave it where it is and use the money to help the younger community, giving them somewhere to go/do

Regeneration is long overdue

Council wasting money

The replacement plans for the library space are ridiculous - more cafes when we already have food court areas and plenty of others dotted around the centre does not stack up when there are empty spaces in the shopping centre; a water park that will barely be used is not what is needed to regenerate the town. It will just Become a space for skaters at night that will intimidate others. Put the money and effort into the shopping centre which is in slow decline - attract some bigger name shops as well as encouraging more independents.

The whole redevelopment plan is a bad idea it feels like we are a becoming a computer belt for London

The library does not need to be moved

Water splash pads - what will be the maintenance plan for this. Will this be a white elephant and be left in a state of disrepair after a year? What plans does the council/LA have to improve safety around the town (bus/train station). What incentives can the council offer to attract businesses into empty units outside of the Kingfisher Centre.

The proposed new ideas are not ideal. There will be splash pads meaning mothers have wet children in the town centre, creating slippy surfaces for everyone! Those are hazards for people like me who walk with walking sticks. The proposed area is not under cover so won't be used for many months of the year. Splash pads should be housed at parks and not a town centre. The proposed area shows many more restaurants and coffee shops that the current area is too small to currently house. We also already have many coffee shops both outside of the centre and inside. How will they fair when even more coffee shops are introduced to the area!

The worst idea I have seen in a long time. Were you to move it inside the kingfisher centre then i could see some sense I'm it but as it stands Moving the resource away from the town centre is just senseless.

Redditch as a town needs this redevelopment to bring people from outside Redditch to continue to come and visit the town centre and for the people of Redditch aswell to still want to use the town centre.

I am encouraged by the proposed changes to the library but the work should not end there, let's get church road rubble car park area re developed.

The money should be spent on new community centres for young people or homeless,we don't need any more eateries or cafes especially with the financial climate at the moment,the money could be used to improve services at the Gemini centre instead of demolishing it to build more houses when Redditch hasn't got the medical infrastructure to cope with more people

Please keep the library where it is. We understand that things need changing and I'm all up for regeneration but wouldn't it be better to keep the library where it is as it's central to the town.

Complete waste of money that area has seen restaurants and pubs open only to fail The rising sun being the next closure. Dint waste our mo ey

Redditch needs new shops bring people into our town

Please, keep our library in the building it is in now. We should improve what we already have. Lots of space for events already, lots of empty shops for cafes etc

Please please listen to the negativity there is in the town towards the demolition of our purpose built library. The town people do not want this to happen. Voters do not want this to happen. For goodness sake the Conservative council lost headless cross at the by-election. Surely that should show how much the feeling is and the biggest local issue that is controlled by the borough council is the library. I do not understand why the council are so hell bent on forcing this upon the town. I desperately hope sense will prevail in the county council offices and that it will be stopped. I don't object to a hub in the town hall. Just leave the library alone. And as for the artist rendition of what will go there? Well the 3 cafes and offices will be tiny if that is anything to go by. About three meters in length if they stop where the window to poundstretcher starts. Are the council seriously suggesting these 3 tiny units will be as big a draw as the library? We will spend a fortune of tax payers money and end up with so much less. Nobody is going to vote for that.

Although the proposal does not affect me personally, I know that a great many people are against the library move so I believe that the Council should take note of this

Moving the library from its current purpose built building is a waste of time, money and resources. It is also ignoring the will of the majority of Redditch residents whom the council are in owing those they are paid to act in the interests of. The plans for how the space will be used show no benefit to knocking it down. We already have numerous empty units that could house cafes, restaurants etc. We already have an open space for markets and events on church Green, and the canopies, so don't need to waste millions creating a new one.

The current library is perfect for the community groups. I cannot see how the new plan will give equal opportunities to these people. The new plan will revert the library back to an old fashioned lending service. Also environmentally, it is an appalling plan.

The existing library building is an iconic design by the John Madin Group, the most important Midland design group in the second half of the 20th Century. It would be cultural vandalism to demolish it for no demonstrably good reason.

Restore Redditch! Whatever happened to the proper Palm Trees? And the imagination of the folks in charge.

The library should be the central hub of the town and money should/could be used to modernise the external building. The undercover market place at the rear could be utilised more as a central plaza if the leader of the council is so adamant that the town needs this. There is no clear evidence that the central plaza would work and there are no facts and figures to back this up. **SAVV OUR MONEY, AND SAVE OUR LIBRARY**

As much as anyone else I want Redditch to be a town that is lively and creating opportunities, you will not get that by relocating the library, it is just to appease the kingfisher group that have failed the town miserably. Debenham building needs to have smaller shops instead of one large unit, break it down

The library is vibrant and popular in its present spot, it already brings hundreds of people a day out of the Kingfisher and onto the high street. Will a fountain do the same? It was the first place I visited as a new resident for info, and being central and obvious helped this. It is used all the time by vulnerable people who was struggle to walk the further distance, which is much further from the bus station and central car parks. I am very much against this proposal.

No I think it's an amazing idea

Listen to the people of Redditch, of course we welcome the investment in our town but we should have a day and be heard, we care about our town and know what's at the heart of it, it's more than frustrating to be told this is it - like it or lump it! Where is the democracy in that. Look what happened to our vibrant market place and now they want to throw more money at it and demolish our library because they think it will be more attractive, regardless of what clearly the majority of residents think. So much could be done with the area with our existing library kept at the heart of it. I have been following the FB posts from councillors, our mp and Matt Dormer and the conservative party members seem to be the majority of those in favour of these plans and any objection just falls on deaf ears - i'm really shocked at their responses.

I do not believe the current archive basement is damp and fail to understand why this is being stated. Having been disillusioned with the Bridley Moor consultation 20 years ago I realise the move will go ahead regardless of public opinion . Firstly I would implore you to retain the current archive in a central redditch location . Secondly I would question why Redditch needs more coffee shops and bars . We have enough already . Our wonderful library is being moved for no sound reasons

They could use the money for a much more worthy cause, there is nothing wrong with the library we have.

This is just a way for the conservatives to buy votes.

Please do not waste money on replacing something that is perfectly adequate for purpose. Think of other things that Redditch does not already have that would enhance the lives of residents and visitors to the town. We already have more than enough coffee shops and a new one is proposed for the new railway station. Do not let this issue become another HS2!

HANDS OFF OUR LIBRARY!!!

The funds used to demolish the library could be put to better use in this town. Regeneration of the council properties, we need a fully working hospital, we need things for families to do, bowling or an ice rink, I would like to know how the general public will be protected from the asbestos that will be released during the libraries demolition too.

The town needs regeneration and this is a great step forward

leave the library where it is its served the town well for nearly 50 years and it should continue to do so were it is now

Difficulty parking for the disabled in the proposed site!

Stop wasting money on white elephants that are entirely egotistical in application and actually help your community.

I think that the council should be acting more responsibly regarding the environment. What ever the business positives in these proposals the disruption to the entire town centre during these works and the damage to the environment cannot be justified at a time when the number one issue in their minds should be the effects on global warming.

I hope this is a real consultation and that the wishes of the majority of respondents are acted upon.

Our current library is in the perfect place.

Pointless consultation, plans have already been made and public response wont change that

Do you actually read this survey? I get the impression the only thing that matters is the £15.6million and not whether the plans are the best use of this amazing funding. Redditch could spend this money so well if only the focus was on the right projects, but I doubt my voice will be heard.

redditch deserves a library and combining the buildings always make sense. please keep the library service, i will use where ever it is

Why demolish a perfectly good building to make a space for a Plaza which given the uk weather will have limited use .

The council need to be clear of the gains from demolishing the old library we do not need more open space in that area of town. A buzz needs to be created to make that end of town more appealing. Please no more expensive block paving areas with no use this is a massive opportunity for the town to finally make something of that area. The theatre retail units bars its all there just needs to be interconnected with the main centre

The proposed relocation is a complete waste of public money.

I worked in Redditch Library from [REDACTED] when I left because I could not tolerate the cuts which were being made to the service. I am a fully qualified Librarian, and it was tragic to see how the service has been degraded, To destroy the iconic Redditch Library building would be corporate vandalism.

Its been there for a long time and support the library

Library should stay where it is save our library

would love the library to stay where it is. It is ideally placed for the shopping centre and therefore must attract passing members of the public to venture in . Do not think this would happen if this facility was moved tto the rather cavenous relocation planned at the town hall.

We don't see the future plans for the current library site working. Couldn't the council focus on making the most of what's already in the town? There are empty shop units around St Stephens and homeless people sleeping and begging in doorways. All of which put us off visiting the town center, especially once it gets dark. Redditch has a lot to offer it just needs some TLC not demolition.

A Lot of the objections to the plan is due to the demolition of the library. It is hard to find information on the relocation of the library. There needs to be clear information made available and a statement made of the plans to use the town hall.

1.If the library is eventually moved to the Town Hall, THE ARCHIVES MUST NOT LEAVE OUR TOWN!
2.DO NOT SEND THE ARCHIVES TO WORCESTER. Does The Hive really have sufficient space for them? Does The Hive have enough fully qualified, and experienced archivists to deal promptly with current enquiries from members of the public? +=+= 3.It is foolish to demolish the building. Worcs. County Council should give the building to Redditch Local History Museum. If WCC is unable or unwilling to give RLHM the building, then it should simply ask for a 'pepper-corn rent' for example £1 per year and a lease for 99 years, plus WCC should continue to pay for maintenance of the building. This would be a very good gesture of goodwill on the part of Worcs. County Council. It would also ensure that the ARCHIVES are not moved out of our town. *****We look forward to seeing these and ALL the other consultation comments IN FULL when the results are published. Thank you.

Please support the library with their printing facilities. There have bee at least 3 occasions where the printer has been out of order in the last 12 months. This form ask age, gender and disability. Have the other protected characteristics intentionally been left out?

These are excellent proposals which will make Redditch Town Centre more attractive for residents, businesses and visitors. The proposals will increase footfall and strengthen town centre's viability and vitality.

Move the Library and whichever party supports the move will lose at local elections. Dont say you weren't warned. I will support any party who supports to keep the library in its current location.

Moving the library is a complete waste of money, money that could be better spent improving other areas we have no decent shops the town of full Of chain coffee shops all as awful as each other and rubbish cheap shops which is prob about right for the people that use the town centre what decent people want to come and spend money in a place blighted by alcoholics and drug addicts injecting in broad daylight or smoking crack pipes ! I hate walking through town my mother in law is scared to go into town as are the bank staff and hair dresser when it's dark, need to readdress the town's priorities!!!!

Money should be invested to help local businesses not knock down the current library and replace it with more empty restaurants and offices.

there are btter ways to spend the money.

SAVE THE LIBRARY

Keep the library where it is. If you don't like the extetior, invest in a modern frontage. It does not need moving a 150meters down the road to save the unused empty Town Hall. Additionally the Town Hall

cannot hold the current contents including all the Archives. Which are we kept here! All this at a minimum cost of £9.4Million which will spiral out of control due to rising inflation costs.

Keep it as it is

Ensure that Redditch attracts more people during day and night so figure solutions for all stakeholders and potential stakeholders . Eg Lata make Redditch the GO TO place... not just the same open , junk market , more restaurants, and anything else that it could be more attractive . Appoint agents to promote restaurant, cafés , and more unique propositions that are working elsewhere ... eg Moseley

I could not be volunteering as I'm too elderly and disabled. I'm truly horrified that this Council should be even thinking of implementing such a ridiculous scheme.

Redditch's Kingfisher Shopping Centre already has a healthy population of coffee shops and restaurants to the point that more obscure brands like Tinseltown, The Real China and Ed's Easy Diner have all been unable to compete with Costa, Muffin Break and Coffee #1 and closed down. Meanwhile, other shops like Hallowood Furniture, Lovely Things and Trespass are also joining a growing number of empty shops in the shopping centre, and it makes for a depressing sight. If the funding for proposed communal spaces could be transferred to the Kingfisher instead, those empty spaces could be repurposed. Events such as Echo Base Live and the recent opening of a Ping-Pong Parlour in Redditch, for example, have proven that creativity and community can co-exist and thrive with the business the shops bring.

I do not believe we are being given the full picture on why there is a need to relocate the library from its current premises.

The project is a colossal waste of money for Redditch to end up having reduced services. Archives which should be kept in Redditch because they are Redditch's history should not be moved to Worcester or culled.

I can't see why a perfectly useful building needs to make way for what I believe will be another under used open area like the canopies area. I suppose the beggars/homeless in that area will have more space.

Why could we not be consulted, as townfolk, on how we would have liked the money to be spent and not have this forced onto us. This is the problem with this current sitting council, they think they know best.

The town does not need this project. It needs a competent council who can entice business back to the town. Creating more jobs, which will in turn create greater investment from third parties into the town. This so called open space will only serve the countless homeless and drug addicts with a new location to beg. Perhaps this money could be used to home and rehabilitate these people instead.

This is a wasteful and disruptive proposal to demolish and move the library. The reuse of the area is badly thought through and does not add any real economic regeneration to the town centre. I completely oppose this.

Please don't demolish the building . Convert it but don't knock it down .

Start putting the needs and wishes of the towns residents at the heart of decisions instead of greed and money!!

Please reconsider this. Invite residents of Redditch to submit their ideas for redevelopment especially people who have grown up in Redditch moved away and returned. Redditch is ideally located geographically. Road and rail links are great, so it should be a destination, not a town people are looking to escape from! The future of Redditch should not be decided by just a small group of people. It's a lot of money so it needs to be spent wisely and carefully.

I feel this proposal is being railroaded through and that redditch council feel there's have made a decision without properly considering the alternatives. Community house is being sold to fund these changes and tenants kicked out without proper consultation too. I disagree with this as alternatives were not found and preemptive action taken without consultation. Services should not be sacrificed in order to fund the town hall.

Leave it alone we do not need a plaza six months of the year it's cold and wet

Typical council wasting money

The project isn't wanted by most of Redditch. The money could be much better used elsewhere

Every aspect has already been explained. listen or loose your jobs

Don't knock down the library.

It's a great library. My kids like it. Nothing wrong with it.

The last thing we need is more coffee shops, especially in that area were it's always cold even in the summer. I know that Redditch is an expanding town but I'm afraid that the people who move here do not shop in the Kingfisher Centre. They prefer Solihull or Stratford etc.

Volunteers at the library seems line a way of reducing paid library staff. Also, in the current economic climate will "ordinary" people in Redditch be able to afford to eat in upmarket eateries in the proposed plaza. The food at the Digbeth Dininig Club looks very nice, it's also very expensive.

It's a shame that the public is only getting a say at this stage in the process. I've heard multiple times how "the public supports this plan" but I have not talked to a single person who agrees with it. A bit of background on myself: I moved to Redditch from [REDACTED] (I'm a full citizen) because every time I've come here, it's felt more like home than any other home I lived in. I really love this town, and I want it to be the best it can. I chose to make this place my home, and I contribute to it in every way possible. But I'm finding that my vote and my voice in this town are ultimately pointless as plans continue forward without any input of the taxpayers of this town, such as myself. In future, please make an actual, concerted effort to consult with the public when making grand changes to the public services we pay for.

Get labour in to sort the town out after the Tories broke it

Can understand having restaurants and bars but not more cafes. Already established outside cafes and too many in the centre. Do you not think detrimental to other struggling cafes watering down even further their business. Spare some thought for these existing businesses. Otherwise more empty units to further degrade the current surroundings.

When the current library was opened, an entire floor was used for local history. Over the years, the shelves and area for Local History has been reduced significantly. In the Town Hall plan (for the library) there isn't a large enough area assigned for local history. This appalling situation is made worse by the plan to move the Redditch archives out of our town and sent to The Hive in Worcester.

There are plenty of coffee bars already in the centre, also plenty of empty see shops.

Please listen to the towns people, we do not want it moved it is a ridiculous amount of money to waste when it is doing perfectly fine where it is. Use the money to modernise the frontage not move

The proposals are exciting and I fully support them

I am not convinced that the proposed changes will improve the town centre which already has too many coffee shops. Making the old market area more attractive to business and as a seating destination would seem a much better use of funds. I do not trust promises that the library size and facilities will remain as is and the loss of a building specifically designed for a library will change its character and usage- potentially to the detriment of the many families and individuals who currently use the facility it offers. I strongly oppose the proposed changes.

This is a great plan and having seen the graphics of the new library I am excited about the future of the relocation

Just to be very clear that the proposed new venue is in my opinion likely to see a reduction in footfall to a vital service at a time of increased community need. The current venue may not be within the specific aesthetic vision for the town council, but could be improved if necessary, and to include elements of the

proposed ideas for the space to a certain degree without relocation of the Library. This seems like a large amount of money to spend, particularly at the current time, to remove a perfectly functional resource, put it at unpredictable potential risk of underuse for the future and replace it with something possibly aesthetically pleasing but not really necessary or that well supported by council tax payers in the town. I also believe most importantly that all Redditch residents should be made blatantly aware of the proposals, by having details delivered to them directly or other such clear means and the final costs, including those around organisations who will benefit financially and those who will receive any payments as a result of the project outcomes should it proceed. This should include any proposed sale cost beneficiaries regarding the current library building and any beneficiaries from the future contract leasing as incurred for the proposed new library location. I do not believe that the under published and limited attempts to date to bring this matter to the public attention have been sufficient to convey the message considering the impact of the end decision on the face and future of Redditch town centre and specifically its library provision. The money, as has been muted in comments, may be central government provided and may well need to be spent within a specified timeframe and on a specific style of project or forfeited, but that does not mean that public funds from tax payers pockets nationally should be spent on poor quality local decisions just to fit a timeframe. How many people in the context of the whole Redditch population of approximately 86,000 people have given a view? How much deliberate consultation has taken place in known varying demographic sections of the population and how much has been for convenience and limited by the method used and resources? Given that this will be a futures style project, how much consultation has taken place with the people who will be the towns future in terms of what they want and how much has been opportunistic in terms of people finding a link and choosing to respond. Just because time is short is not a reason to rush this, it should be done properly. The outcome of this decision will be viewed, used and appraised by generations to come and should have clear public support invested in every part of it, whatever the decision is in the end. Without being able to demonstrate that the decision on this huge opportunity was made by the town and for the town, it will have failed.

If this goes ahead when so many Redditch residents are against it , I know that many people are stating they will never vote for a Conservative council again.

Demolishing a perfectly good public library building for an astronomical amount of money is not a good use of taxpayer money. Other county council libraries are being used as warm hubs with additional funding! Think money could be used for far better purposes.

Redditch needs something in the town centre to attract people for a night out. We have the Palace but have very few non curry / fast food outlets to say maybe go for a nice meal before the Palace or after. The Palace has some fabulous shows. I attend very often. We need to support the little theatres and draw more people to town and stay longer to eat /socialise. All in all the library plan can only be a good thing going forward.

Redditch Library public consultation Redditch library is currently surrounded by acres of virtually unused spaces which could be developed without necessitating the need to demolish the existing library. Just admit it Matt Dormer, it's all about giving the Kingfisher a great big flashy facade to lure in more customers, rather than the current pedestrian approaches which virtually conceal it. The section "What are the plans for the existing library site once the library has relocated?" contains the words..."helping drive footfall from the Kingfisher Centre and improving connectivity with the historic town centre". This is the key driver and the biggest source of deceit behind this radical proposal. The Kingfisher Centre is probably the largest and most important source of retail, business tax income to Redditch council. The line should read "Helping drive footfall TO the Kingfisher Centre". I cannot help but think that this multi million pounds redevelopment is being driven by Kingfisher Centre pressures on the council, offering both parties a win win financial gain which unfortunately swims against the tide of common sense. Money talks. The problem with Kingfisher is there are too many "one trip shops", ones shoppers would probably only visit once or twice a year. It needs a greater variety of different, more useful shops in order to provide a better shopping experience. The single, biggest thing Redditch and the Kingfisher can do to improve footfall is to make their car parking better value. Did you know it's actually cheaper to pay for parking in Worcester than Redditch? And what a shopping experience that city is! Kingfisher has acres of car parking which could easily be reduced in cost. It's the usual shopping centre problem, greed. Another part of the Kingfisher equation is the Vue cinema

and its adjacent dining venues. I would love to use it more but the mix of films is just appalling. I'm lucky enough to receive free tickets for Vue but in the last year there hasn't been even 1 film I've wanted to see. An innovative covered, all weather market, selling a good variety of goods, not just vegetables and Hoover bags, would be a real shopper magnet. Councillors would do well to look at Limerick market where they have a fascinating mix of vendors, food and drinks stalls and even buskers providing music, you can literally bathe in the atmosphere. But I suspect Kingfisher would not condone alternative shopping outside of its environs. If the council wants to attract more people to Redditch, not just Kingfisher, they would do better to spend levelling up money on a purpose built Royal Enfield visitor centre. This would not only attract people from far and wide but help make Redditch actually famous for something and put it on the map. If you cast your eyes around the town centre, there are very few good looking buildings worth preserving. The library happens to be one of them. It's also extremely useful and actually needs expanding to keep up with Redditch house building programmes, not shoe horned into available spare office space. I really cannot see the sense in spending millions of pounds demolishing a perfectly good, functional building. It beggars belief that the council is even considering this and cannot explore more creative ways of improving the town centre, ones which would incorporate the existing library. But I guess that wouldn't delight the Kingfisher owners, C&R and Capital Management. We have just been to visit the Regeneration Road Show at Crabbs Cross. It was advertised as being there today from 10 to 2. We arrived at 1 and it had already gone. Yes, the road show was a no show. But what do you care about wasting our time? This council is worthy of an award for misinformation and simply can no longer be trusted with the way it spends public money. The question the decision makers have to ask themselves is; Are they elected to serve the people of Redditch or to help line the pockets of the Kingfisher management companies?

the existing asset works. The money is needed elsewhere in the Borough.

A total waste of money to knock down a perfectly adequate and well used building

Government funds would be used for the demolition but the council would have to sell assets/borrow funds for the completion. Not a good idea as the return in value would not warrant a milestone around the neck of TAXPAYERS.

I just think it is a totally unnecessary move and a waste of money

There seem to be lots of empty spaces within Redditch town centre I don't understand why those spaces aren't utilised it seems an unnecessary expense on what was already established purpose built space. Spend the money on attracting shops to the centre only when footfall and provision increases there should you consider this development. Make what we have thrive first!

If a successful business, like Weatherspoons cannot realise enough profit to remain in this area of Redditch centre, then who does the present Redditch council think will? Leave the library where it is, spend the money wisely to benefit all of Redditch residents. A postal referendum on this proposal would be fairer for all Redditch residents, not just those who have access to online technology, and those who are not computer literate.

Worcestershire county council should reconsider this decision very carefully. Residents of Redditch do not support this plan and we feel that it is a foregone conclusion imposed on us. Can you provide a link to the equality impact assessment?

A sketch of the proposal and a video is not enough information. I see no attraction in it. What I object to is such a huge amount of money being spent for little benefit.

Make sure councillors do what the public want, not what they want

Please reconsider this appalling idea.

Why does WCC have to be located in such an expensive place? How about improving the Council service responses rather than wasting money demolishing a perfectly serviceable building?

Why waste money council money, to relocate a library that is in a convenient place, just to have more coffee shops and bars. It's a waste of money.

TAXPAYERS MONEY SHOULD NOT BE USED TO DESTROY VALUABLE COMMUNITY ASSETS.

If it works leave it alone...

This demonstrates that people in position of power choose to ignore the concerns of the residents of Redditch

I wouldn't have it at the town hall

Leave it where it is!

It's a shame to spend money when it could be used on the hospital

Leave it where it is!

Leave it where it is

I think I have said enough. Thank you.

I think the proposals are a complete waste of money when it can be better spent on alternatives. I do not want to see the present library demolished

Leave it where it is!!

Leave the Library where it is. Please don't disturb my ancestors.

Love this library and the building it is in. It may not be Victorian but is a building of its time and should be maintained at the heart of the town... not stuck at the end of the high st beside the ring road.

Please listen to what the people are telling you!

Yes , keep the Library where it is .it's handy for the older generation who like to pop in whilst at the back of the shops. For some ppl it's like a life line being so close. Where the Library is now is part of the community. It has history, it's next to local shops..I wouldn't bother anymore if it was relocated and I'm sure a lot more ppl wouldn't either..and that would be a shame..

Reduce the rents for the shopping centre, to make it easier for new businesses and those starting up or local businesses. Improve the town hall, for those that use it, but leave the library for the good people who need and use it. It`s perfect.

It is fine where it is. Don't disrupt it as it is hard enough to get people to use a library as it is. Moving will destroy it.

The proposed plan for the relocation of the library is obviously a vanity project for certain councillors, and is of no advantage to the people of Redditch. It is a complete waste of money. There are many things this money could be spent on to improve life for town residents, such as facilities for young people. I strongly object to this plan.

Leave our library alone

Complete waste of public money and resources.

The proposals for the library relocation are a complete waste of money. The venue currently is more than adequate, and to replace it with cafes and splash fountains it ridiculous. The current plan puts far too much emphasis on creating a sense of arrival to the Kingfisher - which can only serve to increase disappointment at the number and range of shops inside. Church Green is already lovely and this money would go much further there to create a safer and more aesthetically pleasing environment, that enhances the businesses already located there.

Why knock down a perfectly good building which is perfectly for its function. The cost of demolition would be phenomenal and for what? A few coffee shops etc? We would lose the archives to Worcester which doesn't have the storage space either Total waste of money in my opinion.!!!

Come up with a better plan to improve the town centre which doesn't include demolishing the library building.

Where to begin? It seems ridiculous in this economic climate to spend millions knocking down a perfectly good well used library, and moving it further away to inconvenience customers. This plan is going to take years as money to move the library has to be raised by selling 'assets' (another bone of contention) like community house, which is home to various community activities. We don't need a plaza with water features or any more coffee shops or empty units. Rethink the plans please!

I am new to the area. The library building looks pretty new to me it seems such a waste to knock it for non essential facilities

Please don't waste taxpayers money!

This proposal does not stand up to scrutiny. The cost is huge, the benefit is unclear, the risks are huge and obvious. This plan needs shelving.

Just to make you aware that there are false rumours being spread by Labour councillors regarding this proposal. I had a Labour councillor knock my door and say that the library was being closed by conservatives and I should vote Labour to keep the library from being shut. I'm annoyed that it isn't even true

I have been using the library since I have been Redditch (40 years) and love the atmosphere and the superb staff and the events taking place there. If it is moved to the Town Hall it will be smaller, no archives and probably new staff. It has been said that the Library is in bad shape. It is younger than the Town Hall and more accessible.

The library is a fantastic resource. As a parent I have found it vital in exciting my children about reading and being creative. They've been involved in the science club and baby bounce and rhyme. Services like this should not be taken for granted.

Redditch Library is one of the best used libraries in the county... the people of Redditch need this facility as it is not cramped in to the town hall to support a Conservative vanity project

I think moving the library makes business sense, the open plan courtyard looks good and will probably boost traffic into town from coffee drinkers and evenings revellers. I'd like to see parking in this area of town for town centre residents. We have no parking anywhere near town and I imagine I've probably kept a few people in jobs due to the parking fines I've received over the last 5 years living here.

The consultation process has not made it clear to supplicants how the outcome will be decided - what must the nature of the opposition be in order for the current plan to not go ahead?

Let's move with the times and bring life into Redditch!

The destruction of the Library and Ipsley Meadow together has caused me much upset to the point of me considering moving from the Town. To enact such destruction would worry me about the future.

It would be good to have a change And hopefully everything will be on one level too - as a wheelchair user Waiting for lifts is very time consuming!

No I don't agree with removing the current library and replacing it with a plaza

The library service is excellent and a much needed resource. Changes must be evidenced to provide an improvement to library services not a idealistic vision of plaza / cafe culture that does not work in the British climate most of the year

I feel that Redditch Town does need some development/money spending on it but knocking the library down to create a new space when existing areas could be revitalised, is such a waste of money! Church Green needs a refresh and bring back the decent market we once had.

The library is busy every day of the week, the children's library is perfect and easy to access and for children to use. It has always been a very welcoming place.

Hopefully Matt Dormer's own company will not be involved in the plans to demolish the library and he is not going to personally benefit financially from this scheme

The move is being described as a must have for the town deal money. This may be the case but what alternatives were explored by the designers before they arrived at, and presumably the council selected, the current option. There must have been options reports and these should be presented to justify the move not simply stating if it does not move the money is gone which is not the case. We really must ensure there are no alternative options before demolishing the building and compromising library service.

Please leave it as it is located near shops and in the dry for getting back on the bus

If there was a good enough variety of bars and restaurants in the pedestrianised area people would visit, does not need library knocking down for this to happen

Redditch has become very poor for shopping now. No. Marks and Spencer, Debenhams. What makes you think an area for cafes etc would be good. We have plenty already. The eateries by cinema aren't used much and a waste of space.

Redditch town centre is blighted by the 1960's architecture that dominates Redditch. Improvements to the look of the area are much needed and resistance to the change will hold Redditch back.

This whole project seems to be a lever to access funds and doesn't really solve any issues outlined by the council. We should be driving people into libraries not driving libraries out of the center it's as simple as that.

I would like to keep the Library exactly where it is. The building is enjoyed by many people of all ages. I don't think many people are enthusiastic about traipsing down to the Town Hall. There are conflicting views on the size offered in the Town Hall most people think it will be smaller space than we have now. As for making a pedestrian space and eating places....we already have plenty of space in the centre (not that it is used for anything people would like!) we have plenty of eating / drinking places....most of these are under used. The council should listen to what people want and not decide themselves on some expensive total waste of money....a government grant could be used in so many other ways to improve Redditch town centre!

The resiting of the Library would be just an excuse to close it altogether. I am not a 'political' person but this project is so obviously politically motivated by the the Conservative party, who appear to want to get rid of all public services.

I think the library should be moved to make way for the proposed changes. This would really improve Redditch town centre.

If the Council genuinely wants to consult the residents of Redditch in a totally fair and transparent way on its proposal over the future of Redditch Library it should do the following: 1) Explain clearly a compelling argument why the Council thinks the Redditch Library needs to be demolished and moved to the Town Hall. 2) Demonstrate convincingly beyond any doubt that the Council could offer the same environment (or an even better one) with the same level of community services at the Town Hall, and how relocation would be more beneficial to town residents to compensate for the loss of the iconic library building. 3) After putting forward a compelling case, given the magnitude of this decision and the impact it will have on many town residents and their lives, the Council should put the proposal to a transparent open and fair vote for the public to decide yes or no. Redditch Library is a public building owned by the residents of Redditch. And the Redditch Council is fully accountable to the people of Redditch. Many people I speak to are strongly opposed to the demolition of the library and any Council attempt to relocate library services to the Redditch Town Hall but feel they don't have a voice and the Council is not conducting a fair public consultation which gives them a proper say in the issue. Therefore people are now starting to organise petitions and planning protests. There is discussion among locals about even bringing legal action against the Council (ie a Court

Injunction) against demolishing a much loved historic public building that provides so many valuable community services, which so many people are opposed to losing.

I think this whole thing is a sham. How can the councillors say that funding is dependant on the library moving? Who made that a qualification of the funding. An FOI might provide further insight into that.

I feel this alleged 'consultation' is nothing of the kind. The Redditch Borough Council and the Worcestershire County Council appear to have made a decision without any input from the people of Redditch. We are now just being asked what facilities we would like to see in the relocated library, which just emphasises that this is a 'done deal'.

this is a waste of time proposal that damages the environment with massive carbon release. The "improvement" scheme is flawed and excessively expensive. The government already had a debt impossible to repay and escalating. It is irresponsible to add to that debt for no benefit. I am disappointed in the deceit in claiming the new library is bigger. the meeting rooms already existed so are not library space and will not provide a library income, being council space. Yes, Please move the DWP but then extend our library back into the space it used to occupy. You are losing potential future income - there are just another 15,000 potential covid deaths (those not immune once immunised estimated at 195,000 using pfizer and astra, reduced to 95,000 from 2022 of which 45000 have died in 2022. Once the deaths reduce people will be more ready to return to work or to socialise and the space we would need to use will have been demolished - there will be no going back. We will be wasting an income of £225000 pa (the space used in the council that could have been commercially rented. Please, instead, glass in the area behind the library and the market square WHICH IMPROVES OUR RESILIENCE TO CLIMATE CHANGE - THROUGH NO HEAT EXCHANGE THROUGH THE LIBRARY WALLS AND LINKAGE OF THE KINGFISHER AND LIBRARY UNDERCOVER. DEMOLITION IS A CLIMATE DISASTER WITH NO BENEFITS TO OUTWEIGH THE DAMAGE DONE

I hope that this is a genuine consultation and that the County Council will listen to, and respond appropriately, to the strength of feeling that exists within, and across Redditch, in not wanting the library relocation to go ahead. Thank you for giving us the opportunity to share our views.

Outside cafes are not needed or used, that space was supposed to be for outdoor market space that we were promised but never delivered when you knocked down the old indoor market place..remember. plus the expense of the newly laid paving area going to waste and needle erections that were again a waste of money, your proposing this to promote more footfall without accomodating the parking need to match, if you want more footfall, bring back the full time market and provide better, wider variety of shops in the centre with better parking facilities for people!

Waste of £4 million to knock it down and further £5 million to move the books, what by donkey! Half [REDACTED] idea and someone is getting rich by it!

The reasons given by Council don't seem to explain why the changes are necessary apart from them being successful in bidding for a grant to cover costs. However, like the proposed cemetery at Ipsley, closing the building where Gemini dance meets and moving the library, it seems that this Council does not listen to the views of Redditch people.

Has thought been given to what will happen to the books in the Store?

£15 Million and the best use of that money you could think of was to demolish a building and move its services a few 100 meters down the road? What an insult to the people of this town that you lack the imagination and drive to find better uses for this grant that could have drastically changed the town for the better. Instead, it appears to be being used (at best) as a misguided attempt to address issues outside the scope of the project or (at worst) as a cynical ploy to try to sell off council assets. Instead of trying to utilise the open space already within the area or attempting to help deal with the climate crisis, this proposal is instead going to take from the area and replace it with something that is both unneeded and unwanted.

What's the point? I think the decision has been made and public consultation is done just to tick a box

I value the library particularly as a service to instil a love of reading for children. As a teacher I think opportunities for school to visit the library would also be of benefit to the local community. Maybe a starting school/ join the library initiative.

I would like to know who is set to gain by moving the library to another site when there is absolutely nothing wrong with our present building

Hopefully the [REDACTED] wanting this move will be voted out in May.

A library isn't just a building. The staff make it part of a community. Sticking the library in an inaccessible part of the town for many people will isolate it. This will considerably lessen its value as part of the Redditch community. I haven't spoken to a single person who thinks this plan is a good idea for Redditch people.

I would like to see Redditch centre updated and have a better community feel to it. By relocating this library and updating the area it is currently in is a start. Redditch needs to be inviting for people to use otherwise it will become a run down ghost town.

Some of the IT/computers are old and a rolling investment to update should be considered.

I'm doubtful about the plaza! Lonking the backside of the Kingfisher with Whetherspoons doesnt really appeal! We already have an amazing Church Green!

I sure there are better ways of spending the money,perhaps we should have another six card shops and another six phone shops.

I realise that the demolition of the library is tied to a government grant to supposedly improve the town centre. Why would we accept a grant to destroy the heart of our community? I was a teacher in Redditch high schools and know how vital it is for our children. As a senior citizen now I know what it means for the elderly. Please don't take the money! Celebrate instead our wonderful library and preserve it for future generations.

Stop wasting money on non essential matters

We have seen the gradual decline of the library services on the present site and have filled in questionnaires making our feelings known. Everyone we spoke to had had the same opinion. This planned move is not popular and it appears to ignore the previous research that was done on this matter.. Research has shown that Redditch Central Library is one of the best in Hereford and Worcestershire, and it seems a nonsense to move the facility wholesale. The real questions are, if there had been no Government Grant to Redditch, would this move be considered at all, and if this move is going ahead despite public concern, who is going to financially benefit?

Cut funding to schools and double funding to libraries. Schools with national curriculum too about producing good obedient proles. Libraries should be progressive and radical in the resoutces they have. Scrap wages for councillors and spend that on library staff. The councillors didn't used to be paid let politicians be volunteers not library staff

It would be good to have a fresh approach to public services.

To not move this library would be detrimental ti the future of Redditch Town center.

Well done RBC for attempting to make some great changes

I want a nice new modern library

what a waste of money when it could be spent on better things. Bring back the market place to attract foot fall. Bring better shops and supermarkets to the Kingfisher, NOT coffee shops or Charity shops

I do think a supermarket would be better than the proposed coffee shops/cafes. But other than that I fully agree with the plans to move the library and the sooner the better

I am not emotional about a library building. It is the library 'facility' that Redditch needs so if it is relocated to the Town Hall, as long as there is no loss of function, I have no problems with that happening.

Please keep the library where it is. The location and building are fantastic. I have lived in the Redditch area all my life. During my college and university years I spent many an hour researching and working on projects in the library. I still pop in for books. Whilst I feel the library could be improved on in it's current location, i.e. a new frontage and possibly the addition of a cafe/coffee shop, it does not need moving and a plaza being put in its place. The money would be better spent on regenerating Church Green and the old shop frontages. Please leave Redditch library where it is, which is the best place for the people of Redditch.

I have a feeling that this project will go ahead whatever the citizens say because the money HAS to be spent on this or a similar development.

What would happen to the existing building? Will it be left empty for years like so many of the buildings in Redditch Town Centre?

My mother took me to the library as a young girl and now I take my daughter, it's of such value to the community and is used enough to remain as it is and deserves a refurbishment. The message this sends to young people is that coffee is more important than learning and community activities.

The area in question does not need more buildings, or coffee shops or office space. There are plenty of empty buildings not only in the town centre but in the outlying areas. Regeneration needs to start with the indoor facilities, we need to look at why there is a lack of diversity amongst retailers and how we can encourage growth within our existing spaces

The proposed improvements to the town centre would be an asset to the town and Redditch residents

Use any remaining funds, saved from NOT demolishing and moving the library....towards the Church Green / Market Place area to smarten up shop fronts in keeping with the age of the original buildings, covered seating and the return of the market and a covered walk-way through to the Canopies and Kingfisher centre

Just make it happen !

There is no need to knock a perfectly good building down to replace for coffee shops that are surplus to requirements. Moving it will most certainly decrease footfall therefore having the opposite of effect that is desired to attract well known hospitality chains to invest into our town

It is a lovely building with lovely staff and very well used. It could not be as good as the Town Hall.

I believe it would make more sense to move the charities from community house into the town hall than the library. Having lots of charities grouped together where they can easily refer people between services and help them directly with council services, would be an amazing asset for a community hub. We already have many empty units around the town. Most notably, the old British heart Foundation furniture shop and Debenhams. To make the town more attractive, it would make more sense to fill the empty units that already exist rather than make more. This town has a lot of coffee shops already in the town centre. There are already at least seven, so what would be the attraction for other businesses to move into those units? Would Redditch just be left with even more empty units? Has there been any potential interest from future tenants to the plans? The town has already experimented with having open space around the centre. The covered market was a massive failure. It's only just being utilised now occasionally years after it was built. Why will this open space do better? If the town really wants to have a square. Surely it would make more sense to demolish the empty cafe in front of the town hall and put the fountains and seating around there? It would cost significantly less and there's a chance then that you could draw people into the covered market and really utilise that dead space. I personally fail to see how adding three more cafes or bars would draw people into Redditch. We already have those and people aren't visiting, so why would adding more help? We need more shops. More local, independent shops. Build up a reputation as a quirky, market town. A place where you can get one of a kind pieces and experiences that you couldn't get in just any shopping centre anywhere. There are already empty units that could be used for those shops. As to moving the library, I worry we would lose the specialised services such as the archives. That the library would end up being downgraded as there is likely to be less foot fall off people can't see where it is easily and so the use of services would drop. Why move the library from a purpose built building to one where you

will inevitably have to compromise? Overall, it feels like the plan hasn't really thought about what Redditch needs. Revamp or rebuild the library. Heck, move it back to the old building that's stood there empty. It makes zero sense to move it to the town hall from it's purpose built building that has been heavily invested in not all that long ago.

It's about time

We have plenty of coffee shops in Redditch and do not ,need anymore. We have had a fortune spent on the new pavement from the Palace theatre all the way up church Green, if this goes ahead this will have been wasted money as the pavement will break-up with all the heavy equipment. It would be better to move the town hall into Debenhams as each time I ring up to speak to someone they are either answering the phone sat in Bromsgrove or it goes to answer phone and then wait for a call back whe are working from home. Then change the Town Hall into flats.

Yes. I think it's a total waste of money to knock the current library down. The building isn't old or in disrepair. It should be incorporated into the new plaza.

The new piazza should have built in facilities to optimise vibrant use by commercial and cultural initiatives. Plan for stages, sound systems, power supplies, floor anchor points. The heritage industries should be celebrated in the space.....incorporate the needles sculptures , or build on the Jon Bonham memorial and build in public drumming artworks.

Redditch is not necessarily blessed with a plethora of useful and efficient places to find information. The library is a source of this and the staff are first rate. I, and many others, are baffled that (these figures are from memory but they are about right) £4.2 million of the £15.6 million awarded is to be spent on demolishing a bespoke library and replacing it with something likely to be less suitable. The borough administration does strange things, such as putting up scaffolding which was not needed, then fencing to stop children climbing the scaffolding, all of which has to be paid for, solely to give the impression the library is in a worse state of repair that is really the case. How much has this cost? How much was spent on consultancy fees to support Mr Dormer's vanity project? The Kingfisher shopping centre seems to have fewer shops every time I visit yet the whole idea of the new plaza is to attract footfall from a manifestly declining Kingfisher centre. Assuming the coffee shops so vaunted for the new plaza materialise they will mainly come from the Kingfisher centre accelerating its decline.

Sometimes things need doing to make the town a success. It might not necessarily work but it's worth trying surely...? All the people moaning are the same people that would be moaning if nothing happened at all you can't win either way.

Close the [REDACTED] building and move to the future.

It would be great to have a bigger event space. The canopies would have a better entrance so it would attract people to that area. I feel that the water feature would be a waste of money it would make it, slippery when going into town. I would have to take spare clothes for my child if I wanted to visit that area. Our climate doesn't lend it self to such a water feature and would probably be turned off so what the point of wasting resources. The landscape goes down by the palace theatre this flood the area. I feel the area needs better lighting to make it safer. People under the Influence of alcohol need to stop drinking around town area by the church etc events can sell if there is a ten licence is in Place and extra security is in place/ police made aware for events.

Personally feel that running more community events in town hall area will be great for the town.

Redditch desperately needs the boost it will receive from this move. Redditch town centre is in decline. We cannot stand still as that will continue its decay. This move is one significant step in the right direction

I think it's about time Redditch library was knocked down. I've grown up in this town and the Library looks outdated, grim and unwelcoming. A new location with up to date facilities would be appealing.

[REDACTED]

██████████. For us the new venue is less than 5 minutes walk away, should be any issues for us and would be better parking location than the current. ██████████

██████████ We explain to her that we are not involved in politics. It good to have a nice warm Library as long as remain in town Centre. New place would help to reduce homeless people sitting around begging for money. Hopefully new arrangements would bring the town become more modern up to current world and bring the town centre back to life. Safe space for Redditch Artifacts to remain in Redditch. We don't mind where, as long as in town Centre and safe place and well looked after in a well maintained good condition.

Current library is grotesque and dull. I welcome the library moving to the Town Hall I may use it again then. About time. Old building.

There is a huge amount of backlash and criticism when it comes to the library, a lot of it is from misinformation and people either not being informed properly or just being ignorant, many of those opposing the relocation of the library either fail to realise it's a relocation, not a loss, or fear that there will be less provisions when it has been relocated. I think the main thing here, which we should all agree on, is the library as is needs some serious attention, it's an old, antiquated building which does not fit with the future of Redditch which leaves two options, either relocation, which is cost and time effective, and I'm guessing will have the least amount of disruption to those who frequent the library, or secondly a costly renovation of the building, the latter of course not at all answering the need for a more open space which I do believe the town could benefit from, Redditch used to be a new town which set the example for others to follow, that's the Redditch we need, that's just my thoughts anyway.

The library and associated buildings are a relic of the New Town project of the seventies. I strongly welcome the proposals.

Get people out of the stigma of a library being for books. It needs to be a centre of information. Make it look like one. Make good use of sound insulation and have an area where it's okay to chat and socialise. Not just the kids area, even adults like bean bags and laughter. Get rid of the old-people feel and make it cater to all kinds.

Change for the greater good will always upset someone, don't allow this to happen. I moved into Redditch from Birmingham as I felt it was a better place for my family and I'm proud to say that I live here and have for the last 22yrs. I'm excited to see the new plans and things happening in the Town, Digbeth Dinning for one , keep doing what you're doing - well done!

The money could be spent more wisely in other areas desperately requiring improvement. The library is not in disrepair so why the issue? Move it when the current building is too costly to repair.

More things need fixing in the town rather than the library make the centre more attractive to visitors. Bring a market back outside. Who is going to sit in a plaza when there's nothing to go into town for, waste of money

Town Centres all over the country are changing, and we will need to change if we want people to visit the town, because it's not all about shopping any more.

Please listen to the people of redditch most of whom do NOT want the library to be moved and don't agree to the exuberant amount of money that will be wasted

LEAVE OUR LIBRARY ALONE.

Very few people in Redditch want the library to move. Why not try listening to the people who live here/use the facilities instead of councillors on the payroll who personally "benefit".

My issue with the proposed development/relocation does not depend upon the use of the current library building. The issue is that the work would have little/no benefit without a guarantee that the owners of the Kingfisher Centre are willing and able to remodel the area exposed by the work.

The town hall has been closed and closed until now all you can do is talk to someone on the phone, it's a complete eye sore and it's awful. Get all our services out back in there!

I think the plan to knock down the library is a waste of money we have a purpose built library. I think that money can be spent on improving the look of the town centre not just knocking down a building to put up another and recovering surplus cost by selling community assets.

Instead of wasting money knocking down a good building spend the money buying back some of the empty shops and lease them out at sensible rentals, that would rejuvenate the town

We should be investing more into our libraries not less. This proposal feels like a cynical attempt to reduce funding and resourcing. Any proposal must have a clear rationale, state the benefits to the wider community and outline the costs and potential disruptions. This proposal does none of these things

No, need to get cracking. One point, with the demolition of the old library building and reconstruction of a new commercial space, it would be good to have not another empty shops or even building afterwards. Unfortunately there are already quiet a lot. Something needs to be done with the empty buildings next to the old library. Like the old diy store, it can't be that homeless people now spoil the whole area. Redditch is a great town, a very convenient place, so more need to be done to improve the general outlook.

I would spend my time and resources on developing he empty British Heart foundation building near to Library which is an eyesore and waste of useful space.

Leave it...

I approve of the project

It makes absolute sense I used to visit the library every week but with the rise of the internet I can read on my phone. I would keep the library but make it smaller and turn the existing building into a more useful space

For me the real issue is the removal of a community asset from a built for purpose facility and shoe horning it into another building just because it is available.

Start listening!! I'm sure you'll do it anyway

I do not believe there is a particular need for an open space with more bars and coffee shops in Redditch. We have plenty of those amenities already.

Old documents and archives must continue to stay in Redditch and be accessible. On reflection, why was the original library deemed unsuitable if the building to replace it, is within a relatively short time, now considered unsuitable? Due to recent family circumstances, we haven't been able to use the library as frequently as we did when our children were younger. We hope to encourage our next generation family members to use this valuable Redditch resource in its current position.

Please don't move our library. It is fine where it is. If it's being moved to make more space for eating and drinking venues, then I definitely don't think it's right to move it. Redditch has enough cafes and restaurants as it is. Perhaps the old Debenhams Store would be a better choice for perhaps a food hall or eating space. It has been done in London very successfully where there is an unused space. It would make a perfect place to meet and eat. No need to knock down our library.

I would think it's a bad idea the town hall is empty demolish that if it's not used threedneedle house is empty makes sense

Surely the council should be more proactive in working with the Kingfisher Centre management to fill all the vacant shops and cafes within the centre and outside in the old market area under the flyover BEFORE thinking of knocking down a building that was purpose built as a library only 47 years ago that has excellent access to/from the shopping centre, transport and is and always has done provided a brilliant service to the public.

It seems to me that the consultation on the current plan should have taken place long before the original bid was submitted. It appears that the winners in the proposed plan are to be mostly commercial interests, rather than the people of the town. There appears to be widespread and fierce opposition to the current plan from large numbers of Redditch residents of all persuasions. I'm not sure implementing such a manifestly unpopular plan is a good way to further the interests of Redditch people, or increase public confidence in the local democratic process.

No. Just leave the library alone, it's perfect as it is, and easily accessible for all.

Moving the library is a ridiculous waste of money. It is unnecessary, it is not needed, and based on views at the face-to-face consultation, it is NOT wanted by residents. "Well we've got the money, we may as well use it" is an absolutely pathetic argument.

I can't wait for the plan to happen

Anyone who protests against the new plans is absolutely bonkers. The old library is a horrible ugly building that needs to go. Redditch is really behind compared to other towns and needs to be brought up to standard. Will be nice to not have to travel to Stratford or Worcester for a more pleasant experience.

Listen to the regular library users, please.

This idea of demolishing a purpose built building costing millions is ridiculous. I have not yet met anyone who agrees with it. And what for? More coffee shops when we already have plenty and more open space and benches for drug addicts beggars and drunks to use. This area already is a problem and does not need more open space to encourage public disorder. Wake up Redditch Conservatives and do what the residents of Redditch want not your own self vented ideas Matt Dormer.

The useable floor space in any new library for browsing and selecting books and other borrowable material should not be any less than the current location and preferably greater.

Please do not move the library. It will result in a loss of services and the location is not convenient.

Redditch town centre will not be enhanced by the removal of the existing library. The area around the current building can easily be made attractive to visitors by installing planters containing flowers, shrubs and trees, benefitting both local people and visitors in an age of climate change and increasingly hot temperatures. The town should also promote the beautiful nearby and recently restored Palace theatre and encourage greater use of its excellent facilities.

The proposal as outlined has no prospect of success in the real world, and it would rob the town of one of its better facilities

I have had a mental health nurse for the last year, coming into my house every week to help me. This has now been stopped because of funding cuts in Mental Health care. There are much better things to spend this money on, that would really help people out, instead of spending it on knocking down a building and moving the library. I feel safe and comfortable here at the library, I can come here when I need to and know I'll be ok. I won't feel like that about the new library and have concerns about the other services that will be in the same building.

Please leave Redditch Library where it is.

Dont knock down a purpose built library.

KEEP REDDITCH LIBRARY WHERE IT IS.

It looks like a great idea and will make better use of the Town Hall

I intend on using the library for my child's educational needs in the very near future. I do not want to see it moved especially at the cost of redditch tax payers

Please don't relocate the library. It is very convenient for all of us where it is located now.

Please listen to the people of Redditch and not use this survey, like so many others, as a tick box exercise to meet government requirements. People matter.

I would like to know who is making money from this proposal.

Don't reduce our library size or facilities. At a time when people need help and education so desperately, to do this would be unconscionable.

Waste of money Built for purpose

Stop Wasting out money on things nobody wants. You were voted in by Feckenham and not the residents of Redditch anyway

Go ahead with this, and your credibility will be shot. It's an appalling proposal.

Listen to the people. We do not want the library relocated! It is a purpose built building so leave it be! There is a massive shortage of houses try fixing that what people do want and need.

The council's plan is not just about the library. The buildings opposite the library are currently a mishmash of small shops, charity shops, estate agents, banks. No cohesion and not an attractive site. They will also need to be demolished to meet the council's overall concept of a utopian community centre for Redditch. I fear the demolition of the library would be in vain if the other buildings are to remain.

In terms of resources and ecology, such a move would appear to be a big waste of the perfectly good existing building

The proposed building and plaza to replace the existing library are poor replacements for a purpose-built, widely used and much loved building. Redditch has no shortage of cafes, coffee shops, office space and "hard" public space in the Town Centre. The Levelling Up bid did not undertake adequate consultation to justify the proposal to demolish the existing library and has settled on this idea to "save" the Town Hall. I would rather see the bid fail then proceed with this staggeringly wasteful course of action in which the only beneficiaries will be property consultants and the demolition & construction companies.

I don't like the staff tables being right in the middle of the rooms and spaces I think it's nicer on the sides of the rooms and why can't staff sit down at the tables. And the coffee area is quite open can't sparate quiet area for that. Some of the keyboard stands are broken.

Please see my earlier comments which I will not repeat. However, let me clarify that my deep objection to the demolition of the existing library has no political motivation. In fact as a long-term Conservative voter, I am utterly ashamed to have any form of association with the actions and motives of the current majority of RBC. If this situation persists then I will be shifting my allegiance to both councillors and MPs who share my objections to the disgraceful and misguided initiative.

Please keep the library where it is!

Town centre encourages better use of town ctr shopping a move could reduce spur of the moment library visits.

Please keep the library accessible to all and not finish the service already available. If anything, you should offer more services during school hours to encourage students who are unable to attend school to go and get help and support in an alternative learning environment

A) as a resident improve the general area. Improve shop fronts to a better standard (ex Woolworth's shop) Improve the gardens in church green area B) after completing the walking area (block paving) the council now wish to remove a section by the proposed workk# Do we need a neW PLAZA, TH3 COUNCIL ARE NOT CAPABLE OF LOOKING AFTER WHAT THEY HAVE. Apperantley the size of the proposed PLAZA will not locate in the area according to plans. Do we need more coffee shops, the council appears to think so.

I think this has been a shoddy exercise. Give redditch people the right to chose between 2 options. Stop making it political and make it about what's best for people. You only know what's best if you actually

bother to consult. You didn't. I think this would be a terrible mistake. Leave it where it is. You can still make a great entrance to the kingfisher.

Please do not relocate the library. The cost of relocating will be high

Please due to my disability do not move the library It's light airy and very welcoming

I dont agree with change for change sake. The Library is in the right place. Dont move it just to put even more cafe shops in its place. Stop wasting public money.

The town centre is tired and needs a refresh but local businesses must be supported to be sustainable even if the area is updated. Parking needs to be available to make new restaurants appealing and convenient.

Drop the self importance.

The Library should be about community clubs, connecting people without spending, investing in your skills and most of all having a selection of books to enjoy for fun and help new interests and skills. Coffee shops do not supply this and more coffee shops would take away from other businesses that are already available in the Kingfisher. Instead Redditch needs investment in up skilling, infrastructure and invest in jobs which bring high skill level with them. Also, it is difficult to find places to learn new skills generally. There is always the need for 'Hobby' skills for mental health through to business skills. Redditch also has plenty of retail space unused and reusing this space would be better than relocating the library. Keeping the library next to the Kingfisher helps keep it convenient and close to other consumers needs. This drives footfall for both the library and local businesses. Invest also in the clubs and people helps create a happier community. Finally, can Redditch library actually invest in books please?

Costings outlined do not balance. In current climate regeneration is preferable to demolition. Current proposals of office space and coffee shops are not needed. The whole area of needs regeneration, reestablish market and outside community events as well as more effective support for homeless who currently live there.

I would not completely oppose relocation if it retained certain pivotal aspects of a library, yet the move is more symbolically impactful as a continued war upon libraries by an austere establishment. The library is an important place of education for the populus, and should not be denied that function.

Leave the library where it is

I think a community hub, incorporating the library, would give Redditch Town Centre a focal point it has not got at present.

Moving the library is not an improvement. There are no extra benefits to library users. It makes more economic sense to leave the library where it is and spend the money on doing up existing buildings around Church Green and Unicorn Hill.

The present location is and always has been a significant part of the identity of Redditch. Please please don't allow commercial considerations to hold sway.

Library service should be respected and upheld in the purpose building of its own status, not pushed in with other services. It will be a backward move and what for, a fountain in a concrete square. Much money has already been spent on paving, there is room for this fountain etc on the way down to the palace theatre. The idea to increase footfall? ? try as you will car will remain king, has parking problems been investigated ? the congestion around the church needs traffic survey? people wont come to town centre unless they can park securely, easily and free of charge or reasonable. invest in a mural on the wall of library and add on some glass but don't waste the governments bonus on the demolition of a perfectly serviceable building that lends itself perfectly to the library service status.

The staff at redditch library are lovely and do a fantastic job! Names I can think of are [REDACTED] [REDACTED] :)

Redditch residents are overwhelmingly opposed to the demolition and move. We feel we are not being listened to and that RBC and WCC have jointly made a decision that is not in our best interests and are steamrolling ahead with it anyway.

I don't feel spending all that money to demolish a building and relocate it, is money well spent. We need to attract people to our town and I feel you need to do that by investing on what we already have there. What's the point on having more coffee shops and pretty fountains if you're walking through a dead town with lots of empty shops. Support the centre to get the empty units filled. Bring back a proper market. Make our town centre worth travelling to.

Councillors need to start being more transparent about plans and its discrimination assuming everyone has a mobile phone and can use the internet since local papers stopped a large section of our community has no idea what's going on and still doesn't know it's wrong!

Me and many friends feel like the council and government have got a plan in their heads and will push ahead whatever the residents and primary users say, everyone I know shares the same views and the government are just pushing ahead with it anyway

Yes that Matt Dormer needs to go!!!

Is this the best for the town, could the town hall have its space used more effectively rather than leaving another building

Youth clubs. Leisure opportunities for children and young people. Bowling alley and ice rink

In fact the information is so lacking that it's unfair to ask residents to choose. Even the cafe/square idea has no architect's plan and an Artist's impression being used on Redditch Council website is so out of perspective that it makes the space appear much much larger than it actually will be. I believe this is a deliberate attempt to influence the decision making. I understand this isn't your jurisdiction - however given it is a linchpin of the whole proposal of the Library being moved to the town hall - it is grossly unfair to expect residents to be able to make a proper and informed decision. In that respect the consultation and project plan is unsafe and flawed.

I would like to see better Leisure facilities in the centre of Redditch to encourage more people into the town. One suggestion is to make the area in the Kingfisher Shopping Centre where the old B&M store used to be near to the Bus Station, into a Ten Pin Bowling Alley. This would be a very good location and would bring income and jobs to the town.

The consultation should have been led by an independent non-biased 3rd party to be done fairly, this would have been a quality insurance. There has been no proof of concept for the outdoor plaza. The project does not offer value for money for tax payers' money. No alternative plans have been developed or looked into. Everyone I know I have talked to in Redditch don't support the proposal. So an alternative needs to be found to spend the money on that will benefit the town people.

Crazy councillors coming up with this vanity project, need a referendum, can't imagine anyone voting in favour

Please do not move Redditch library to the town hall and use the funds to improve alternative areas in the town.

The bid for improvements for the town centre should have been better thought out and the people of Redditch properly consulted on its use before going down the demolition route. The fact that it's "demolish the library or lose the money" is sad for the town and sad for the people of Redditch who will lose out either way.

Listen to the locals on what they want there who help run the town with money and attending services etc and I really feel it wouldn't last if moved it will be a failure of a project. I really hope it stays where it is and this is a fair consultation for the Redditch community

Redditch town hall should be sold off for development or used for rentals to refund Redditch council Better signage from the town centre to signpost visitors to the church and the outside area Spend money planters and revamping area around the church outside the library Moving drunks and anti social people on Screen off shop fronts that are vacant and falling into disrepair or a vice with notice Have more farmers markets craft markets and events along and around the church green

This plan is a total waste of public money and amounts to a vanity project. It does not enhance the "main" entrance to the Kingfisher which is the one by the traffic lights! The way it is sold by some councillors is that the wonderful new town square will make people flock to the entrance of the Kingfisher which really is fantasy as it is a secondary entrance! Town squares should be in the centre of a town, this will not be a central square so really is futile. If the proposed square were to be by the main entrance of the centre I could see some logic but as it is this is not possible in that location. The Library must remain in the centre of town where the footfall is or myself like many other people will cease to use the facility. In these strained financial times there is no justification for what is proposed. Please think again but sadly it feels like the decision has already been made, the Library demolished to "fix" the town hall. The town hall could be demolished tomorrow and the town would not miss it. There are plenty of empty spaces like St. Stephens house that could fit a debating chamber and the other services that are still in that building, then the Town hall could either be sold off for development into offices or flats or totally demolished. A much better outcome!

Everything about this proposals feels very wrong. Let's have some honesty about exactly what is being proposed in detail and why.

The saying "if it ain't broke, don't fix it" is so true in this case. The current building was specifically designed and built to house a library, and is in generally very good repair. It stands in a very good location in the town centre, accessible to all. The proposal to knock it down, relocate the service to the Town Hall, and redevelop the library site into a plaza area at a cost of £9.2m (at time of proposal) to basically (a) provide a new gateway into the Kingfisher Centre and (b)fill a void in the Town Hall and generate income for Redditch Borough Council. The Council's claim that the proposed redevelopment will lead to an increase in footfall around the Church Green/Alcester Street has not been independently substantiated - I would like to read the Consultant's report and review the footfall model used to reach this conclusion. Furthermore, I strongly object to the dividing up of the Archives and moving a large amount to Worcester (The Hive?), making it far less accessible to Redditch people, students, researchers & local history enthusiasts of which we have many in this town. the Archive must be kept together -if split there is a real danger that the items in Worcester would be lost over time. Finally, I have serious concerns about the decision making process used by the Town Deal Board - no minutes of the Board's meetings have been made available for public view. I and many others would like to know (a) what the specific issues are surrounding the library that need to be addressed (b)what other options were considered to address the issues, and (c) what value based analysis was carried out by the Board and/or their advisors. There are other options and opportunities available to improve the town centre - it is disappointing that Redditch people weren't included in the process. As a town business owner, I particularly disappointed that there was no engagement with businesses which could have easily been carried out through our BID organisation. As far as I am aware, there was no town centre business representation on the Town Deal Board - a gross oversight in my opinion! I would like to make clear that I DO support the other elements of the Town Improvement Plan - just not this one. It is NOT the answer.

Please rethink it through. Listen to the community. Consider alternatives to using the funding.

I am very opposed to the proposals to move the library. The building is historic, and it should be treasured - not knocked down. Redditch doesn't value its history - and the brutalist buildings should be celebrated not knocked down.

I visited Redditch Library on 31 January 2023 to view advertised film about Redditch in 1957. I arrived by bus and visited a cafe on Church Green. I spent most of the day in the Library and borrowed a local history book. I look on Church Green as being the centre of Redditch. I was disappointed to learn the present library building may be demolished. I would not welcome walking down another hill to go to the Town Hall. I am a Wythall resident and Worcestershire Library member. I was thinking of having a day out in Redditch

from time to time and incorporating time in the Library. PLEASE consider spending money on the existing library building rather than demolishing it.

Our surrounding towns have market squares, new developments in retail and leisure. How can Redditch compete with the likes of Stratford upon Avon, Worcester city, even touchwood Solihull without regeneration. We have Redditch residents complain about the state of Redditch town centre having empty shops and being a bit bland and desolate while some of the the same residents are also against regeneration and moving the library. It's a contradiction and we need this investment so desperately.

Look at what happened when the council moved the market? A thriving market died. Don't do this to library services. Redditch has gone down hill. This move will not stop anti social behaviour, I fear it will make it worse.

The area around the library as it stands could be redeveloped without moving it. Make it more welcoming move the doors to the kingfisher further down between the building bringing the buildings together. Better signage to advertise St Stephens church and Palace theatre maybe a trail with places of interest to follow Offer farmers markets craft event outdoor theatre which all worked for the lantern parade and the funfair for the carnival Make this a hive of activity if only Saturdays bank holidays, bring Saturday concerts back to the bandstand

Please don't move this excellent facility

Stop this demolition now and look at the other ideas being put up by people who care for our library

The proposals that include demolishing a perfectly good building will not provide the benefits we (people of Redditch) are being they will bring, the cost is horrendous and will be beyond the allocated £5.2m awarded, the council will create more debt and the return in the investment is highly questionable. I strongly believe that the same results can be obtained by modernising the existing library, improving access/visual appearances of the entrance to the Kingfisher center and surrounding area and achieve the same effect as the current proposition within the awarded amount of £5.2m without having to borrow millions more creating even more debt for the borough council.

Yes. Scrap these ridiculous plans and leave the library where it is.

I am concerned that our archives of Redditch will be moved from Redditch to Worcester. This makes life difficult for those who want to research. It goes against the idea of 15 minute towns.

Please don't move our wonderful library! Send the £4m levelling up money back to the government, do the rest of the town regeneration, but leave Redditch Library where it is please.

I think that this consultation is very important and the issue at hand has garnered a lot of public attention, so it would be great if our opinions and thoughts were actually heard and taken in consideration. This feels like a done deal but I hope I'm wrong and that this consultation isn't just a thing you have to do but don't have to listen to.

I would like to see a full environmental assessment carried out on this move, which in my humble opinion is: 1. Totally un-necessary. 2. A complete waste of taxpayer's money, & I am a taxpayer. 3. Very environmentally damaging.

Many issues have been recognised in the Redditch Town Deal investment plan. I have fond memories of the library, but times change and we must change with them. As a result I support the moving of the library so long as the service and materials available do not deteriorate. It is not acceptable to say that certain services may not be immediately available. You should look at ways to accommodate those. I support the creation of a creative quarter with quality bar and dining facilities. I also note the plans for the railway station. However, there are other issues which have not been recognised in the plan, but certainly need to be considered and dealt with. 1. Lack of quality shops : This is a major issue as aesthetics alone (the first impression at the railway station) cannot attract regular visitors to the town. Regular visitors are vital to attract businesses/retailers to invest, which in turn will help the area thrive. You also need to bring back the market in a spot surrounded by shops. 2. Disabled access : Much is noted about transport and

connectivity, but I could not see anything mentioned about easier travel and access for those with disabilities. The current access to Kingfisher Centre from the railway is very poor. The steps make it inaccessible unless you use one of the bus station entrances. 3. General accessibility : Since the demolition of Bridley Moor High School and the introduction of gates near Birchensale Middle School, access via walking to the town has become more difficult. The council should consider re-opening access through Pulman Close and over part of the field to get to the path near the Terry's Fields, and football stadium. 4. Employer siting : We need offices or other employers to be based near to the town centre, but not any in the place of library, to attract people into the town centre at lunch times and post work times. Also, with many people now working from home, there should be some building where entrepreneurs can rent office space on a licence basis or a hot desk basis, with other services available for further fee. 5. Entertainment : This needs to be more than just the usual form of restaurants and bars. There are now activity based bars which we would want to attract. It provides both a place to meet and also entertainment and attracts those of all ages. Furthermore, we require quality bars and restaurants. Chain restaurants would be welcome. We have only 2! However, we need to refrain from adding to the array of pizza and Indian takeaways that we already have. The dining choice should be of multiple cuisines. 6. Education : We want to attract those with more disposable income – potentially from wider area. However, we need to improve the education of residents and the employment opportunities in the area to allow existing residents to also achieve that. For this, we need to attract big businesses or up and coming businesses potentially in technology (the innovation centre is noted as a start). 7. Shopping experience : There are too many discount stores. Many recognised and quality shops (River Island, M&S) have gone from the Kingfisher Centre and have been replaced with former market traders to avoid yet more empty units. This isn't what one wants in a shopping centre. Boutique shops are best suited to high streets and the area around Church Green would better accommodate those. In the 1980's the Kingfisher Centre, market, and Unicorn Hill were thriving. The current layout has, with the removal of the market in particular, destroyed what we had. The younger generation and those with more disposable income want to be able to shop in the more upmarket shops as well as those such as Primark and Deichman. We literally have no shoe shops that are not regarded as a discount store. If we are going to attract people to the town generally, the success of the Kingfisher Centre is vital. The council needs to work with Kingfisher Centre owners and management to seek ways to improve both the quality and quantity of tenants. 8. Bandstand : More use of this. Perhaps for use as a mini classic Ibiza type of 'concert'. 9. Housing : Currently the right to buy for council tenants is a barrier to successfully retaining people with higher incomes in the area. Under right to buy, houses are purposefully being bought at discounted prices and then sold at high profits. There are certain sectors of the community that appear to know how to 'work' the system. Yet houses on new developments remain unaffordable for many in town. The council should instead consider discounts to all existing residents that have lived in the area for at least 10 years. This would promote loyalty to the area and is far fairer. Currently, I myself am considering moving away from Redditch due to the lack of 'energy' in the town centre. There is nothing to do and, as a single professional, I am discriminated against when it comes to housing. Most properties in the area I wish to live in are ex-council properties. As a result, I will have to pay market rate, but the majority of those sellers will have purchased at heavily discounted rates. They will then wait 5 years (during which time they often let the property to a 3rd party) and then sell the property at a large profits to people like myself. The council will not see that profit and therefore it will not benefit the community. It is grossly unfair that those that are not able to get a council property, simply because they have never been high priority and wait on the list endlessly for years, end up paying market rate. This needs to change and this should be a matter Rachel Maclean needs to take to Parliament.

No. The issue is clear. The "new town plan" should be renamed to "waste tax payers money". Put the time, money and energy into delivering assets that residents of the town actually need that enrich them culturally and practically. No more coffee shops and designer outlets.

Use more money on educations, and cultural spaces like libraries Art and literature matter ENCOURAGE people to be members to volunteer to BELONG

The plan to demolish a stand alone library is a backward step for the town. The plan to develop a square by with eateries etc will only be used by those who csn afford to be eat out and those whose social

circumstances enable it. The library should be a major pride for the town and offers a safe convenient space for everyone

The people of Redditch are strongly opposed to having our Library demolished and moved. We do not believe this expensive and unnecessary move will increase footfall to the town; in fact we believe that it will decrease people visiting the town. We do not want to have to walk further to get to our library which is situated in the perfect spot. We are angry that there has been scaffolding up on the Library since last June to make it look bad. We, the people, are angry that we are not being listened to and fear that this consultation is merely a box ticking exercise with an already decided outcome. Please. Nobody wants this. Leave our Library where it is.

I'm very concerned that this library move proposal is based on a flawed idea of improvements to Redditch town centre. Move the library inside the town centre if you want to encourage more people to visit not further away.

I don't believe the proposed re-location is driven with intention of improving a Library users experience, rather, it is one man's vanity project.

THE LIBRARY ISSUE HAS BEEN TURNED INTO A POLITICAL ISSUE BY THE CONSERVATIVE PARTY ...ALL OF THE OPPOSITION IS FOR THE BENEFIT OF REDDITCH AD A COMMUNITY . THE PROPOSED PLANS ARE A FOLLY ... HOW CAN BUILDING NEW CAFES WITH WATER FEATURES GET MORE PEOPLE TO COME INTO REDDITCH , WHEN EXISTING CAFES ARE STRUGGLING . AS A MARKET TOWN , REDDITCH NEEDS A MARKET . THE TWO ISSUES ARE SO CLOSELY LINKED TO GET MORE PEOPLE TO COME TO REDDITCH CENTRE . MOVING THE LIBRARY TO THE TOWN HALL WILL DRIVE MORE PEOPLE AWAY FROM REDDITCH AND EVENTUALLY LEAD TO THE REMOVAL OF LIBRARY FACILITIES FROM THE TOWN HALL BECAUSE OF UNDER USE , SOMEONE HAS TO FACE UP TO REALITY AND TAKE BIRMINGHAM LIBRARY AS A AHINING EXAMPLE .BIRMINGHAM LIBRARY IS USED SO MUCH BECAUSE THE PUBLIC WANT TO GO THERE..SCHOOL TRIPS ARE ALWAYS AT BIRMINGHAM CENTRAL ... MAKE REDDITCH THE SAME , ONLY SMALLER

Do not sell the library to developers and turn it into more flats.

I have a feeling it has already been decided to relocate the library to the town hall regardless of what the public thinks. I feel the consultation is just to be seen to go through the process. It is usual for a council to change plans after a public consultation.

Make the centre of town a more attractive place - not by adding a square that will not draw people out. There is already the area behind Debenhams that is like a secret place! We've got so much potential which just needs a little imagination. Ask us what we want. Lets be more considered. Listen to the peoples wishes, not a small group of people 'in power'.

The town centre proposals look great but rent costs need to be massively reduced to invite independant shop owners to rent the space in the first place. The centre is turning into a Ghost Town

I'm not convinced that putting a courtyard of bars and benches would be a bonus to redditch Town centre. And with the economy the way it is, its likely that units would sit empty like they do in the shopping center.

The Redditch library service and staff are really great - I just hope that whatever happens, this doesn't change. Redditch people need more support services, not fewer in my experience.

Is there any point in saying anything? I assume that the decision has been made, and the brown envelope passed over, a long time ago and this is just a box ticking exercise

It's a criminal what the Council are doing. A perfect library being demolish by a business man. Who has no interest in our library and I heard he's never has use a library in his life. Total waste of tax payers money. . Save Our Library

How about looking into making the town centre a better place, fill the empty spaces such as Debenhams, get more jobs into the centre, build à bowling alley or more entertainment for families. Stop lining the fat

cats pockets and taking back handers, the council are so corrupt!! Our library doesn't need moving or investment!

Please make this a positive project. Please retain all the services that this library provides. It is a very important part of the community.

I am very concerned that, should the demolition go ahead, construction costs will be higher than anticipated and there won't be enough to complete the project. I am also concerned about the environmental impact of demolishing the library as we should all be reducing our carbon footprints as we aim to reach net zero. Has this been assessed?

I think the library in Redditch is a fantastic resource, and I worry that this proposed move will be the beginning of the end for it. The leader of Redditch Borough Council has said he sees the library as a carrot to bring people to the other hub services that will be in the building, and for me that's not a justification to move. The hub can still exist in the Town Hall without the library. The library has such a great, prominent, central location at the moment. On paper, the Town Hall isn't that much further away, but in real terms it's not somewhere I'd just pop to like I do with the current library, which I pass the door of on my way from the shops to the bank. I'm sure many others feel the same - life is busy, and the sad reality is that if something isn't convenient then it doesn't really get used. I understand that the move will probably go ahead anyway, the leader of Redditch Borough Council has told several people it's a done deal, but I hope you'll really take the thoughts of residents and library users in to close consideration.

Demolishing the library to create a new large property when there are already a number available along Church Green and Alcester (such as the former British Heart Foundation / Tony's Handyman) so as to attract people on to the "high street" external to the Kingfisher Center seems backward thinking. As most of the major cafe franchises already have properties in the Kingfisher Centre, where is the operator for this new cafe in the library's replacement to come from? Is one of the existing cafes to move, only to create a one more empty property within the Centre? If the plan is create areas available for shared working then Redditch surely already has multi-storey space available in the former Debenhams, which moneys could be used to convert a space that has now been closed for some two years. The idea of the plaza occupying much of the former library space is borrowed from Bromsgrove's Birdbox. But that was an idea deployed to use up abandoned territory in Bromsgrove had been failed to be suitable for numerous previous plans and had never had any takers. Quite the opposite for Redditch which now proposes to remove a used and valued property. Furthermore, while the Birdbox has won an award (and under this civic circumstances what scheme hasn't?), scrutiny of the last years' facebook and news entries for the Birdbox indicate its offerings have amounted to little that couldn't already be offered in the spaces exterior to the Kingfisher. AS resident have been requesting for a long time, reinstallation of the market along the high street from Church Green to Alcester Street would create reasons for the public come into Redditch and offer opportunities to small businesses. As costing for the redevelopment scheme is almost identical to the government grant, and experience of these types of projects indicates that it is almost inevitable it will run over time and over cost - particularly given current financial forecasts and stresses - where will additional sums be obtained? Or will it incur further inevitable debt before it is completed because of irretrievable sunk costs in an otherwise uncompletable project? To close one purpose-built council building (the library) to transfer its facilities to another purpose-built building (the town hall) and have this transfer paid by the sale of yet a third council asset (Community House) is to deliberately deprive Redditch of future resources and spare capacity in what is still an expanding town. To say that that there may be equivalent space in the town is to fail to recognise that different pertinent spaces may be required: archives, offices for staff, for the preparation of materials, for privacy. There remains much concern about the Redditch Historical Archives of longstanding, and there then remains the fiction archive (potentially 20,000 books that predate computerisation and ISBN, that were to be held for the county and country, many of which constitute rare remaining copies of novels of the 20th century outside of the British Library). Just because an ill-considered idea gets money, it is perfectly reasonable and justifiable to reject the money and the idea.

I want to know exactly how much Dormer Demolition stands to make from the Library being knocked down, and I find it very suspect that the Tory council, which Matt Dormer is heavily involved in, are spending millions to knock down a building that doesn't need to be, to make way for things that the town

does not need, when we have empty shops inside the town centre. It almost feels like tax payers money in Redditch is going to profit one man's company.

The proposed work to the station is also a waste. Having a new building there would not increase numbers of visitors to Redditch; people just walk through it.

When the consultation was launched it was available in ENGLISH, POLISH, and URDU. After the consultation period ends, Councillor Marcus Hart has said that all comments/feedback WILL BE AVAILABLE for members of the public to see. ALL comments which have been submitted in English, ALL comments submitted in Polish, and ALL comments submitted in Urdu, MUST therefore be available for the public to see - and THIS MUST BE IN PLENTY OF TIME - well BEFORE there are any further County Council MEETINGS to consider re-locating the library to the Town Hall.

Leave it where it is do not waste public money on a dream of one man.

It's difficult to properly comment as the proposals and claims for a need to demolish the present library have changed over time. The changes 'we need an open space' to 'we need to build something else' indicate a worrying mendacity about the whole project. Spending large sums of money to downgrade a library is, at best, utter folly. It is also against the wishes of everyone I have heard comment on the matter.

Will demolishing the Library and creating a plaza and more coffee shops improve the Kingfisher Centre. Money would be better spent on improving the Church Green area empty shops and keeping the Library with perhaps removing the scaffolding by doing any repairs needed and updating the Library entrance.

██████████ ! THE TORIES WILL LOSE MY VOTE AND MY FAMILIES IF THEY GO THROUGH WITH THIS PROPOSAL.

Please, help support what is already here with that money. Local people and businesses needs help. What is the point of this new hub when people are struggling to feed and clothe their family and themselves. When current business people need investment. When schools need better amenities. The current library already is popular and has a heart - why jeopardise this?

I am disappointed that the consultation doesn't include the question: 'Do you agree that Redditch Library needs relocating?' as the answer to this would be a resounding 'NO!' Filling space in the Town Hall is not a good enough reason to move a perfectly functioning, stand-alone service. Leave it where it is!

I have already attended a meeting in the town hall regarding the proposed move of the library, where I along with many others expressed our views regarding this, Will the Council take any notice of this or is it already a done deal, and asking peoples opinions just window dressing making this survey pointless.

The Library is excellent and a fantastic service in its present location, please don't destroy a good library just to fill up the town hall which is an inconvenient waste of space, if a building needs to be demolished it is the Town Hall, not our Library!

This is the sort of I'll conceived plan that brings local government into disrepute. Wasteful, disruptive, destructive and inefficient. Blind to the community's needs and damaging to the environment. What are you thinking!

I object to being told that this aspect of the consultation is only to discuss the proposed moving of the library not the cost or consequences of the entire project which shows a staggering lack of imagination and proper planning. It's particularly galling when the posters with these ideas are on the walls during our 'consultation'. They show the hope of replacing our wonderful library with more empty office space (we have plenty already) and coffee shops (we have plenty of those too) and a water display on a slope (no one told the designer this is a valley) so we can come shopping and take wet kids home. I would be avoiding the area! The cost of these changes are astronomical, climbing every day and damaging not just fiscally. Our library is the most popular in the district (the Hive is multi-functional and a cafe etc; so it's claim of top billing is not fair) so to contemplate the destruction of the best library in the county is obscene. Especially as it is only to 'big-up' the towns back door! You arrive in Redditch by car, train or bus and have to walk around to that side of town. If you are a pedestrian in that area you're probably visiting the library, it is, as

demonstrated by its popularity, a huge draw.. so moving it would lose footfall not gain in. It's not 'if-it-ain't-broke-don't-fix-it' it's more like 'If it's the best in the county - protect it! - build on its popularity - enjoy it!'

The proposed plan is an ill-conceived vanity project. Ask yourselves how this will draw more people into the town centre. What incentive is there? Acquiring properties is a much better use for the money, then offer them at discounted rates to folks looking to start businesses. Develop a nighttime economy that is accessible to families. Look at areas such as Kings Heath and Stirchley that are currently thriving.

IF THE LIBRARY IS RELOCATED TO THE COUNCIL MEMBERS ONGOING PERSISTENCE OF THE TOWN HALL, I FEEL THAT IS A WRONG DECISION AS THE PRESENT LOCATION IS MORE THAN ADEQUATE FOR THE TOWN FOLK. THE COUNCIL MEMBER/S SHOULD NOT CONTINUE WITH THEIR APPLICATION AND SHOULD LISTEN TO THE GENERAL REDDITCH PUBLIC - THEY SHOULD REMEMBER THAT THE MAJORITY OF THE REDDITCH TOWN'S PUBLIC REJECT THE COUNCIL MEMBERS APPLICATION AND ALSO KNOW THAT THEY SERVE THE PUBLIC AND NOT THEMSELVES

Please don't go ahead, this proposal is to the detriment of the people of Redditch.

The consultation I have just attended was poorly advertised, inadequately housed, and should have been allowed more time. It needed a much bigger room. Also, I feel it should have been recorded so people who couldn't attend or missed it, would be able to watch the proceedings.

Over the last 18 months I have spoken to councillors, met with the mayor of Redditch, Councillor Ann Isherwood, visited Worcester Archives at the Hive, seen the Redditch archives, attended two council meetings and spoken at the public consultation. I did all this to learn about the real reason for the relocation. After all I have heard I still don't agree it's a good idea. Please start listening to us.

I think it's scandalous to even suggest wasting millions of tax payers money moving our lovely library, which is totally fit for purpose. It was refurbished only a few years ago and we don't need a plaza when there is the lovely area around the Church. Our library is great, please leave it alone and let the Town Hall be used for something else.

Demolishing a relatively new, purpose built building is an act of sheer vandalism!

You do not need to move the library, you are going to waste money

A library needs to be in the heart of the community. The Redditch Archives should be in Redditch as being moved to Worcester.

When making decisions you have to think about what is human behaviour. You can't MAKE them do the things you want. However much you rationalise it, people will use the library less if you move it. It's not too long since the library had a major refurb. This would be such a waste!

Why do we need a green space and another coffee shop. We already have a lovely green space on Church Green. The money would be better used investing in Redditch and encouraging new shops, and doing up the scruffy area where Woolworths used to be and Unicorn Hill

Redditch is a very poor Town, just look at our Shopping Centre, all of the big stores have left. There is nothing in the Town for young people, we don't need more eating and drinking places. Improve the library that we have. The choice of foreign language books etc is woeful.

why move

The Town Hall is an older building and is not suitable for Library use. Why not knock down the Town Hall and leave the library as it is. Council payments could be done in one of the empty buildings in the shopping centre. It could be moved to the Debenhams site which would make it more accessible to everyone. Most council staff work from home so it would be a minimal disruption. Stop the reliance on electronic communication. People need to see councillors instead of the faceless interaction

Financial collapse of this country - this money MUST be better spent - try again!!

waste of money unnecessary

I use services at community house. Dial a ride take me to the door. Please don't close community house

If you have to pull anything down pull the Town Hall down and leave the library where it is for transport and other amenities

It does a good job. Why mess about with the library?

I have seen an artists impression of the new plaza. I didn't look closely enough - I sincerely hope it would not mean cutting down those beautiful old trees

Much is made of the Local Plan, which seems to be written in stone! When was this proposal published in either the Local Plan or election manifestos? The Redditch road system is too convoluted, there is little chance of hordes of tourists coming to visit a plaza, there are already plenty of coffee shops and empty retail premises

Why don't they leave things as they are and don't waste money. We are in a recession

The idea of increased green space, a public square, café pavilion and commercial developments is "pie in the sky". Redditch already has a plethora of cafes - people are supposed to be hard up so how can they afford coffee at £3 a cup?

Redditch doesn't need anymore coffee shops in the Town Centre, retail has disappeared and there's not much reason to come into town

The old library is a much loved building at the heart of the Town. We really don't need more cafes / bars. Repair building, have a food outdoor market (even one day a week). Decent shops in Centre, attractive outdoor space. Make Redditch ATTRACTIVE to visit.

Fountains will block access to Kingfisher Centre. The library is not a hub service. Move the DWP and give us our space back. We can gain a better commercial impact from redeveloping the market square at a cost of 500,000. Footfall to library 1200 p/a - all likely to use Kingfisher Centre. All lost if moved to the Town Hall.

Whoever thought this decision up needs to take a long hard look at themselves. Not a good idea at all.

I can;t see how 36 or more services or events can be catered for in one building. The disruption of the demolition will not be good for present trade, what will happen to library staff when this is going on? The cost of demolition and rebuilding is prohibitive. Without the library in it's present position the few shops in the area will die! The Rising Sun is up for sale already!!

This is being done so a small number of people can make a vast amount of money from the exercise. NOTHING ELSE. It used to be called FRAUD.

Use the land at the back of the library (Market Walk) and at the end (Alcester Walk) to extend the current building - certainly do not demolish it

It would be great to have activities for young people/children in the Easter/Summer holidays Events

keep the library where it is

One bad move. Leave the Redditch train station. Do not need a make over at this time. It's bad news for LMS trains today. Put the money where we need it now, not later

Yes: The proposal is universally unpopular. It is misconceived and a gross waste of public money. The real purpose is likely to be to enhance access to the Kingfisher centre. It has no tangible benefit to library users and will disadvantage the disabled. The financing is uncertain as the Town Deal covers less than 50% of the total cost.

In my opinion if repairs were done to buildings and they were looked after there would be no need to knock buildings down - I feel they are letting people down

I think it is a waste of resources to move a perfectly functioning building when shops inside the centre are shutting, the money should be spent helping local businesses

The library has had thousands of pounds spent on it, updating etc. To knock it down is a complete waste of money (taxpayers money), it's disgraceful. Redditch is a growing community and instead of investing money to attract people, the council is wasting money knocking down a perfectly good building which has served this community very well over the years

I don't feel enough detail has been made available - costings, timescales, fine detail

The library has just been re-carpeted

Disagree with the demolition of a purpose built structure and possibly the last surviving building designed by the John Madin Architectural Practice. Surely better to demolish the Town Hall to make better use of a sprawling site! Do we really need a cafe/pavillion set up - wet days, cold weather and dark nights not conducive to sitting outside for light refreshments!

We already have a public square - several in fact. One by Redditch Town Hall, one by the church and Worcester square in the shopping centre and we have plenty of cafes. We don't need this new development where the library now is. If you are aiming to provide 'green spaces' why are you building on the green space we already have?!

I feel the council are rail-roading the towns people for their own benefit

I feel that the library will become like the market when it was moved, and it is not well supported at all

I enjoy the art and local history exhibitions. Longer lending periods for books would be better

You walk around Redditch and one of the things you notice is all the empty shops and commercial premises. We do not need more shops but more attention needs to be paid to finding businesses to fill the empty premises. To knock down a building that has nothing wrong with it to build more shops is a total waste of money. There are many other more important things to spend money on

I can't see the point, as it's a lovely building and we don't need any more cafes or restaurants and who wants to sit outside in Alcester street? I take it you will take the walkway up AGAIN, more waste of money. If you want more cafes use [REDACTED] building or if you want a gym for recreation although one closed down in alcester street and a restaurant

If you want to increase footfall give people something to come to the centre for eg a supermarket. Will yet more cafes and a water feature (which probably be the first to go when there are cuts) really improve footfall?

The library in its current place is easy to access the Kingfisher Centre going by the Town Hall into the centre means going through a tunnel, up steps or going through a car park to get a working lift then going through a long corridor to get to main shops. Awkward when carrying bags of shopping when you just need to pop to the library

No point demolishing a building at the cost of millions without a definite plan/proof that what replaces it is beneficial to the town - not more empty units and half full cafes

Large amounts of energy and materials were used to construct the library. We certainly should not throw all that away, and consume huge additional resources to create a new building. Do not make climate crisis worse.

Cannot think of any reason why the plan makes sense.

I would like to see more books available to borrow on the shelves. Would the new library provide this?

Try and help the homeless sleeping rough outside the library Community newsletter / standard or advertiser notifying of upcoming events in Redditch as well as library

It seems extremely wasteful and disruptive, both materially and in the use of our time and energies, to destroy a building which is functioning well - not to mention our responsibilities to reduce our carbon footprint for the sake of global warming!

More information on access to services in Redditch More computer courses for the elderly A 'What's on' leaflet Eatery's don't bring people to a market town, places of interest and things to do and see do!

Why demolish a library that is part of Redditch and is much loved for coffee shops and plaza. The cost far outweighs the benefits as I see it and a grand entrance for the Kingfisher centre for empty shop units! Councillors ego trip!! Develop ChurchGreen area and make it a place to enjoy - also remove the scaffolding from the library and develop a coffee shop within

Leave the library as it is. DO NOT MOVE THE LIBRARY

There has been minimal resident participation in a scheme/ process designed simply for the outcome wanted. The County Council's [REDACTED] is fulsome, the review they conducted assured complete transfer of library services from one location to another. Councillor Hart said this will be the deciding factor when decision is made. Councillor Hart said it is from the the experts, already submitted sums of tax payers money devoted to consultants fees, scale models, visual aid, color palate designs. non available assessments, millions to be wasted demolishing a fine community asset. This waste for an open space, more coffee franchises and more competition for those already in and around the shopping center - contradicting the scheme aim. The scheme has no basis in fact as the Economic, financial and Commercial cases are based on speculation. As for the community hub in the town hall, the present library already does that as the long standing, national award winning community house in Easemore Road - a service Redditch Council wish to destroy to pay for the demolition of the library - more than extraordinary - Mott Macdonald, no doubt highly remunerated as the council's full business case states the library design is "old fashioned and unpopular with many of those consulted" In actual fact most people agree with the library is airy, with a fresh yet functional feel to it. It has a lot of bare brick walls and the ceiling has a sort of rough case honey comb look. There has been no involvement of existing businesses around Church Green in the scheme or other potential use and improvement. The scheme will cause more social problems, more costs to public resources. Councillor Rob Holland, chairman of Worcestershire County Council Libraries museums and sub committees opened Redditch Library on January 24th 1976. The development was then for Library reasons, designed to provide an increasing range of services for the expanding new town. In 2023 will Councillor Hart sign off the demolition of Redditch's most notable features a public facility serving our town for over 47 years and will be able to do so for the years to come. Never in the field of British Local Government has such a derisory, ill judged and wasteful scheme been devised by so few long term detriment of so many.

As a resident of Redditch for most of my life and seen the transformation of the old town, there are many things in hindsight is said to be wise! Being directed from the Town Hall to the Library to renew my bus pass. Upon entry it was dealt with quickly by a very efficient person who entered all of the relevant detail into the computer. Whilst this was being done I was amazed to see what looked like a well organised community hub working on it's own! The computer set ins were busy, OAPs were sat and stood chatting and a lot of pre-school children were sat well behaved looking at books. There was a bus of conversation throughout and everyone was smiling and getting on with what they had come to do. To spend millions moving this is pointless! If it works don't change it. I took the time to look at the proposed changes shown clearly pinned on the walls. Even to me you could see there is no way that the space would be enough to move the library into it! And why should we have to lose something else to be at Worcester! Our archives, to be stored in the Hive! Get a grip! Hands off! Let the people have their wish to continue in this successful way that has been proved to work, one of the best used Librarys certainly in the County!

Now working from home is the normal do we need a Town Hall? Do we need a plaza? The precinct has plenty of cafes and coffee shops, do we need anymore? Enough is enough.

So many comments! Firstly why?? I am a native of this town and my family have lived here for many generations. I am a historian and have a love of Redditch that cannot be quantified by surveys, statistics and seemingly "good deals" of millions of pounds of Towns Fund money. So there are at least two issues at

stake here – that Redditch Library and its complete existing archives should stay intact and in situ, and that for numerous reasons the current library building should not be demolished for an “unapproved” scheme. To be paid to demolish a perfectly sound building seems immoral at best and would be the "last straw" and final insult to those of us who witnessed the wholesale destruction of Redditch Town Centre - so many familiar buildings and the landscape of many lives and memories - in the early 1970s. Many town centres change over the years but not many are virtually annihilated like ours, so we are protective of any decent buildings still standing. The existing Redditch Town Centre, as a fusion of the old and the new, was obviously designed in great detail over many years, with much discussion and consideration, by Town Planners at the Redditch Development Corporation. Who has decided that the Library building - literally inches away from the Conservation Area and designed to virtually blend in with and complement it - is now not "fit for purpose" and that it should be demolished? To be replaced by a "public square, a café pavilion and further commercial developments"? The people of Redditch were never given the opportunity to vote for this extreme and bizarre idea and it is apparent that very few residents are in favour of its implementation. The current Library is a good building, well-designed and well used. It is part of the "spirit of the place" and part of the cohesion of the Church Green area. A "public square" (what for?) effectively already exists in front of the Town Hall, complete with its own public art and "café pavilion" - both of which could be further enhanced with some of the Towns Fund money. There is also the old market space behind the Post Office, and Alcester Street itself is wider than most boulevards and could surely be embellished with trees and flowers and seating? A few years ago there was a plan within the Council to turn the area around the old Tourist Information Centre into an "Amphitheatre" space for concerts and outdoor events - this could still be done without demolishing the Library. The "further commercial developments" could be housed either in the Town Hall or in the plethora of existing empty buildings both in the Conservation Area around Church Green and inside the Kingfisher Centre. We do not need vast expanses of paved areas and more anodyne new buildings. The architecture of the buildings (including the Library) that we already have - its shape, colour, and scale - has defined Redditch since the nineteenth century and it is this nucleus which makes our town unique to us. Surely the empty shops around St Stephens could be repurposed for new enterprises and start-ups, as food outlets and interesting, individual shops or whatever else was planned for the "public square" (which incidentally none of the other towns in Worcestershire have felt a need to create). Further interest, trade and footfall would be generated in the town centre if the Market was reinstated in Market Place, as per the charter which goes back centuries. The Market is much-missed by residents and visitors (and apparently by the stallholders, who are currently and unhappily squeezed into a shop unit in the Kingfisher Centre), and to put it back outside where it belongs would be a move welcomed by all. Somebody - hopefully a new Council - needs to think laterally and to be visionary in repurposing the existing buildings and spaces rather than demolish the Library in a retrograde and frankly wanton act of destruction. Use the Towns Fund money to repair or rebuild Community House, perhaps? Or consider using the old Debenhams building as a Food Market along the lines of the Time Out Food Market in Lisbon - a covered hall with food and drink outlets (from fine dining to street food, local breweries, vineyards and cider makers) around the perimeter and a common refectory-style seating area in the centre (I have been to the one in Lisbon and it is buzzing). We need an all-weather, covered area like that for our residents and visitors, it would be popular with everybody and a great use of a large empty building (in fact I believe exactly this model is being employed in the empty Debenhams building in the centre of Worcester). Please do not demolish Redditch Library. As a postscript to my comments, after writing this, I had sight of the alternative plan for regenerating the Church Green area without demolishing the Library which is proposed by the local Labour Party. It is very much along the lines of my own thinking and would like to share it here. Incidentally, I have never been overtly political but this issue has galvanized me and many more like me. They suggest: Revamp and modernize the Library incorporating a coffee shop in a new glass frontage of the Library Continue regeneration of the Town Hall, but use it for a centre for the Police, the NHS and face to face Council services to listen to and help residents. Bring back a regular market using foldable wooden street stalls in Market Place and Alcester Street. Modernise the shop frontages in Church Green and help support local businesses to fill those that are empty. Modernise and revitalize the walk up to the town from the railway station so that Unicorn Hill is attractive and inviting. New drop-off area that makes the town more accessible to people who want to get a lift into town