

# WEYBRIDGE COMMUNITY HUB



## WHAT'S THE BIG IDEA? . . . IT'S A WRAP!

Since the 2017 fire that destroyed our local Health Centre (the site with GP practices and old hospital), **Weybridge Society** has been working on a big idea.

It's a vision for the future of our town centre called **WRAP**, the **Weybridge Rebuild and Advance Project**. WRAP aims to build a **new community hub** – a hive of activity for residents, open to all.

We envision this hub to include various **community** activities, and at the same time, bring together into one place the many **medical, social and well-being services** now spread out across different buildings and run by different authorities.

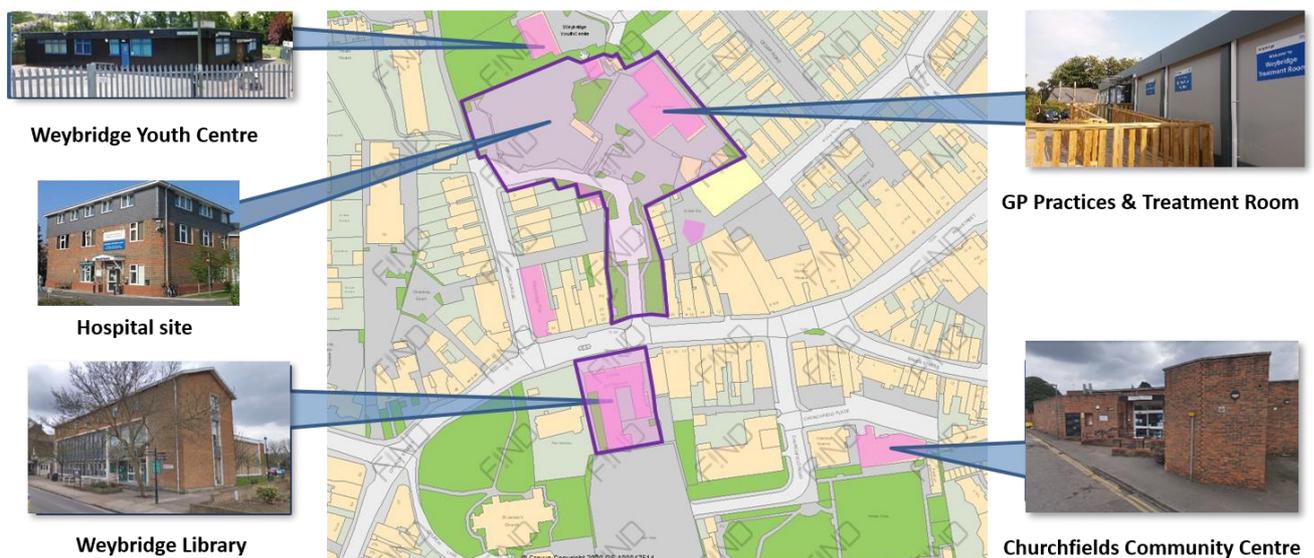
So **WRAP** is not just about **joined-up care** and **greater opportunities** for health improvement, or just dispensing services by **NHS, Surrey (SCC) and Elmbridge (EBC)** – like our GP practices, outpatient services, physio, library, meals/exercise classes for elderly, etc. **WRAP** is also about creating an **inspired space** that builds a **sense of belonging** in Weybridge through a place of **meeting** and **group activity**.

In a nutshell, **WRAP** focuses on building a **centre of community** that offers residents a place to **improve health and enhance wellness** through access to care, services and various activities, as well as a place to meet, work, increase skills and enjoy free time.

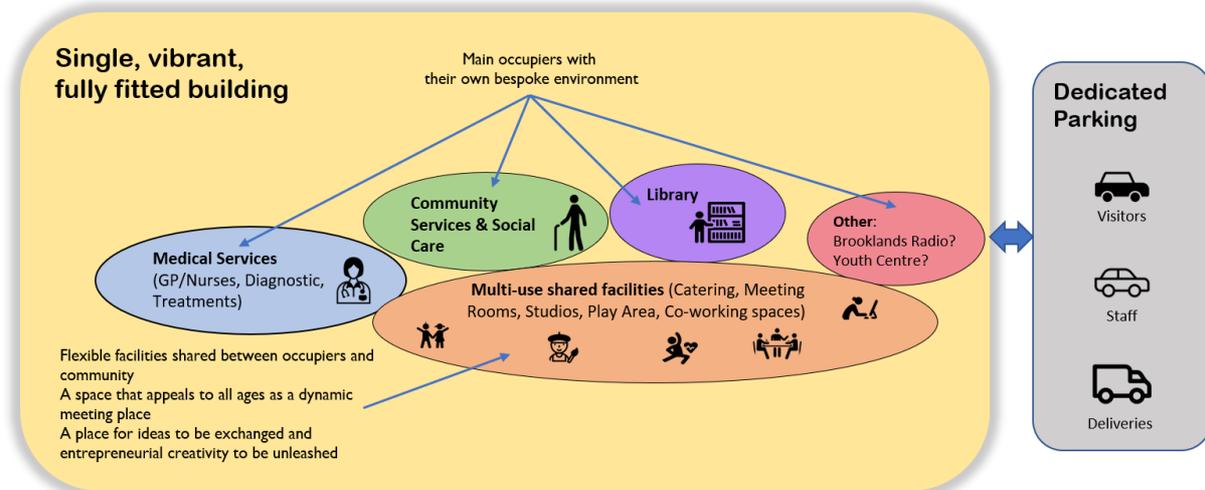
This is a **once-in-a-lifetime opportunity** for authorities to re-provide and extend our medical and community services by **putting them back on a single site in a new way**.

## INSTEAD OF THIS . . .

### Existing Health and Community Assets in Weybridge



## WHAT IF WE COULD HAVE SOMETHING THAT WORKS LIKE THIS . . .

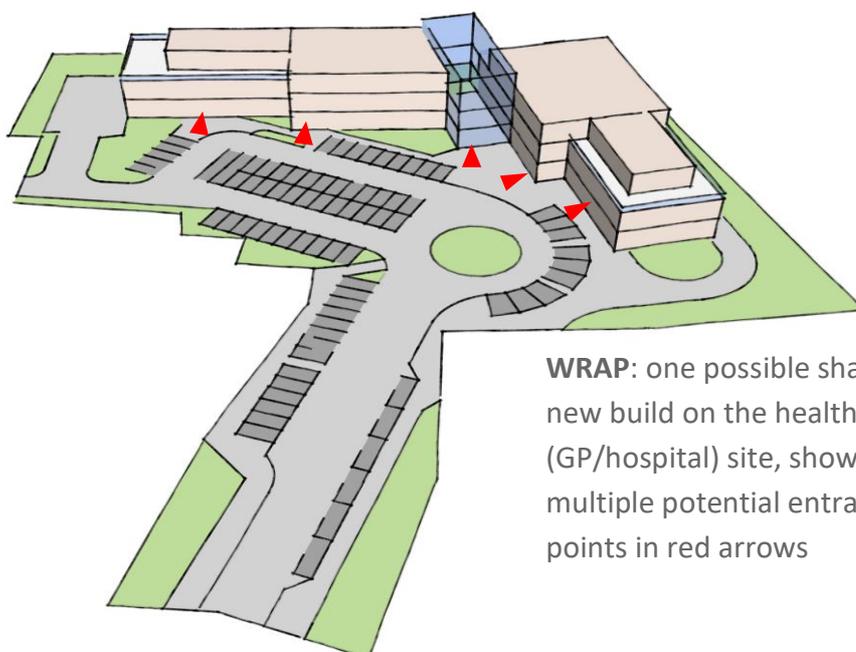


## A VISION OF HOW THIS MIGHT BE DONE . . .

Below and on the next page, we've sketched a draft of a possible hub building. You'll see we imagine **medical services** on the left, with **social and other community services** and **rentable rooms** spread around the building. They're joined via a glass atrium main **entrance/communal space in the middle** (shown in blue). A top floor **library** could have a study/computer area, coffee bar and terrace for outdoor reading, and our local radio station could help operate a podcast and recording room useable by the public.

Our health centre site is large enough for this project. There's enough space that one floor might be purpose-built for a much needed **town-meeting sized hall**, comprised of a few **multi-use rooms** that could be joined together or used apart, on short or long term leases, and rented out by individuals, organisations or businesses to help keep the building running.

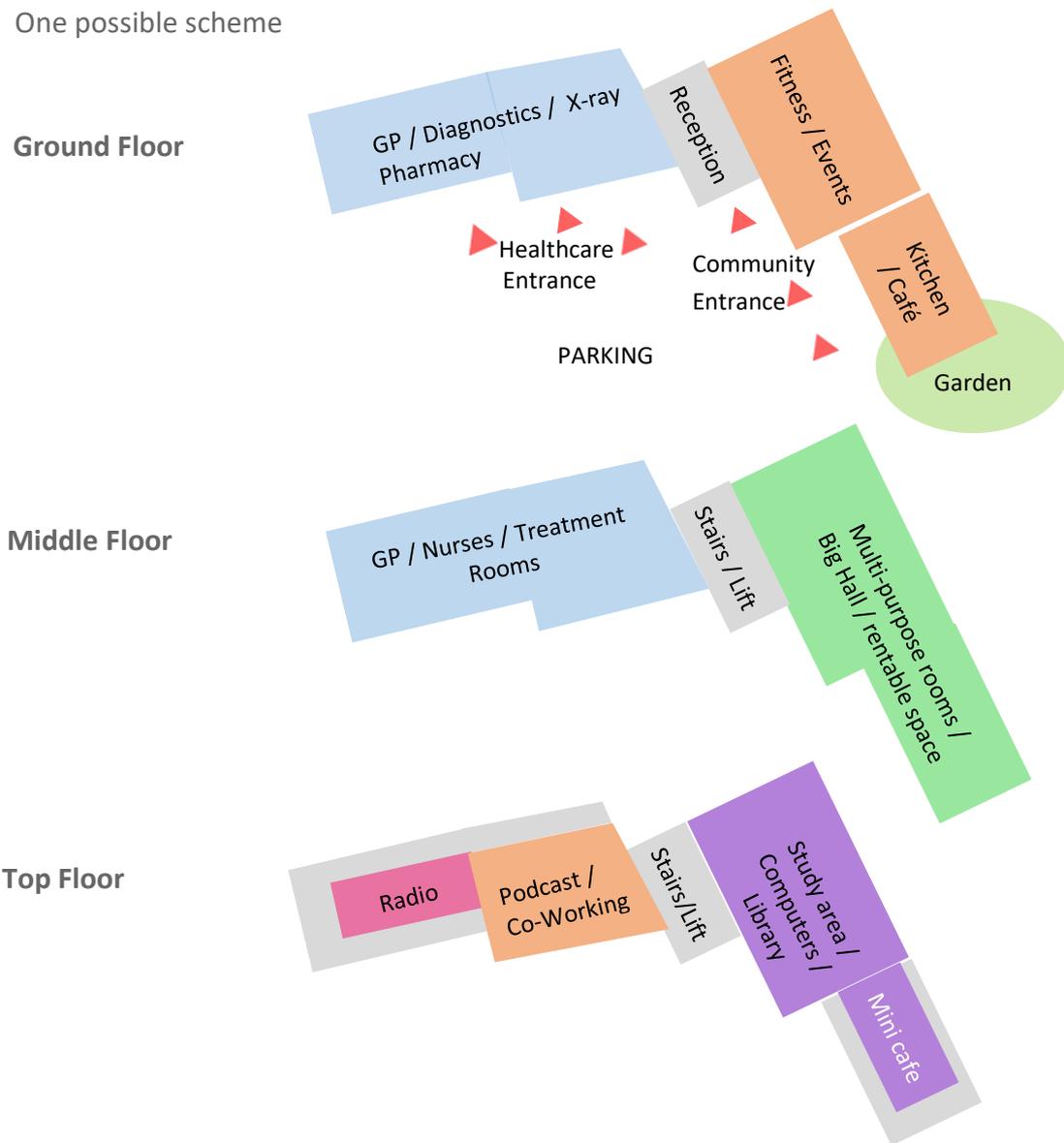
What's key is that this space also allows for **multiple entrances** (a bit of pandemic proofing), and this site could be made **carbon neutral** with a ground source heat pump and rooftop solar energy.



**WRAP:** one possible shape of a new build on the health centre (GP/hospital) site, showing multiple potential entrance points in red arrows

# TAKE A LOOK INSIDE . . .

One possible scheme



# IMAGINE AN INSPIRED SPACE . . .



## WHAT DO YOU THINK . . .

### Of a new community hub – that can be so much more than just a building . . .

- new **focus for town centre** – welcoming, distinctive, functional design— light, airy space that **appeals to all ages** – family, child and adult friendly
- place to **promote wellness rather than just treat illness** – harness synergies of social prescribing and outpatient services with shared studio space/community activity (mental health, mindfulness, yoga/exercise/skills improvement classes)
- **opportunity for initiatives** as people come together for study, work & recreation, exchanges of ideas, entrepreneurial creativity unleashed, loneliness reduced
- substantial **draw for new activities and businesses** – dynamic town meeting place, flexible space, rooms for hire, co-working for home-workers and entrepreneurs, podcast studio shared with local radio station
- new **study and activity space for local students** with attractive library, reading and study areas, rooftop space, use of podcast studio and recording room
- a space **designed for Weybridge** to highlight its unique attributes (history, location, rivers/parks, historic role in aviation & motorsport) **increasing tourism**
- critical chance to address **local impacts of global issues** like climate change with focus on **heat/efficiency** and **COVID-aware solutions** with **multiple entrances**
- deal with problems like **traffic and parking**, with new access/transport schemes
- **futureproof** addition to our high street with **adaptable design** that can be re-configured **as demand, technology and healthcare requirements develop**
- site can be designed and built with **phased construction to minimise disruptions**
- **operational benefits** for authorities by housing multiple services under one roof
- address **shortage of rentable space** and lack of town hall with **multi-use rooms**
- **redevelopment opportunity** for Churchfields Community Centre and Library sites if their activities/functions move into hub

The **Weybridge Society** has generated these ideas based on input from members, residents and the employees and users of the library, Churchfields Community Centre and Brooklands Radio (now located in the library building). We've presented these ideas to **local authorities** but still need widespread input, as well as a public debate that's open to all residents, councillors, organisations and businesses. This vision is only a **first step in a long development process** being directed and decided by NHS, SCC and EBC.

What's critical is that any new build integrates the authorities' need to provide **essential services cost-effectively** with the goal of bringing people together and promoting wellbeing – lifting local pride and **regenerating Weybridge** for the future. We all have the **opportunity now to work together** to create a brand new, exciting space that we can all share and enjoy.

Weybridge Society is always working on behalf of residents and always wants to hear from you – now especially if you can envision yourself or your company or organisation in the hub. **Contact us and have your say – help shape the vision and the future of your town!** Write us with your views and ideas at [hubfeedback@weybridgesociety.org.uk](mailto:hubfeedback@weybridgesociety.org.uk)