

Tuesday, June 17, 2025

Agenda Item #9.4 - Nobleton Community Hall Update

Deputation from Nancy Broad

Good evening Mayor, Council Members and Staff

I would like to comment on the report concerning Nobleton Community Hall Update received on June 12, 2025 from Chris Fasciano - Director of Community Services.

Thank you for the opportunity to speak. Mr. Fasciano indicates in his memo that this could be “considered an opportunity for the municipality to advance key initiatives such as the Neighbourhood Plans”. At this time, there are many concerns that need to be well thought out with regard to the heritage designation of the Nobleton Community Hall, and other issues.

1. The interior of the Nobleton Community Hall is quite unique with its wooden floors, wooden wainscoting, wooden ceiling, old fashion light fixtures, etc. Would these historic elements be preserved? The prospective tenant might decide to paint or remove or alter these elements. Who would be responsible for ensuring the heritage atmosphere of this building is maintained?
2. If the lease holder decides to step away from the lease agreement and renovations are only partially completed, who assumes the responsibility for a half finished project, with possibly some historic elements having been compromised?
3. Who is the prospective lease holder? Has the township investigated this “numbered company” to see if they have the expertise in the restaurant business to complete such an expensive and challenging adventure? Is their interest in fact solely to do with a new restaurant?

4. Often restaurants/pubs in small towns are not viable. Has the company provided a business plan that supports their ability to make this venture workable? I am not a business person, but paying for a million dollar renovation, high rental fees, and ongoing maintenance does not sound like a profitable venture to me. That's a lot of fish and chips. The latest restaurant undertaking in Nobleton, south of the four corners, ended up being burnt to the ground, unfortunately with a tragic loss of life. In Schomberg, it seems like every year a new restaurant is opening and an existing one closing because of low customer support. Why would this venture be any different?

5. Traffic and parking in this area of the Old King Road, with the Arena, Park, and Ambulance service needs to be considered. A restaurant that needs to generate the funds to support this project would require a large customer base resulting in increased need for parking spaces.

6. The Nobleton Lions Club has been an integral part of the Nobleton Community for generations. Their volunteerism is outstanding! Their leadership in fundraising has enabled many projects to flourish in Nobleton! Their home for bi-weekly meetings is the basement of the Nobleton Community Hall. Will the Nobleton Lions Club be given a comparable venue as their new home?

7. We very much appreciate the efforts being made by the township to come up with a workable plan to support the preservation of the Old Nobleton Town Hall. At this point, I feel COM-2025-001 raises more questions than it provides answers and would strongly urge Council to vote AGAINST this recommendation.

Thank you for your consideration.

Nancy Broad