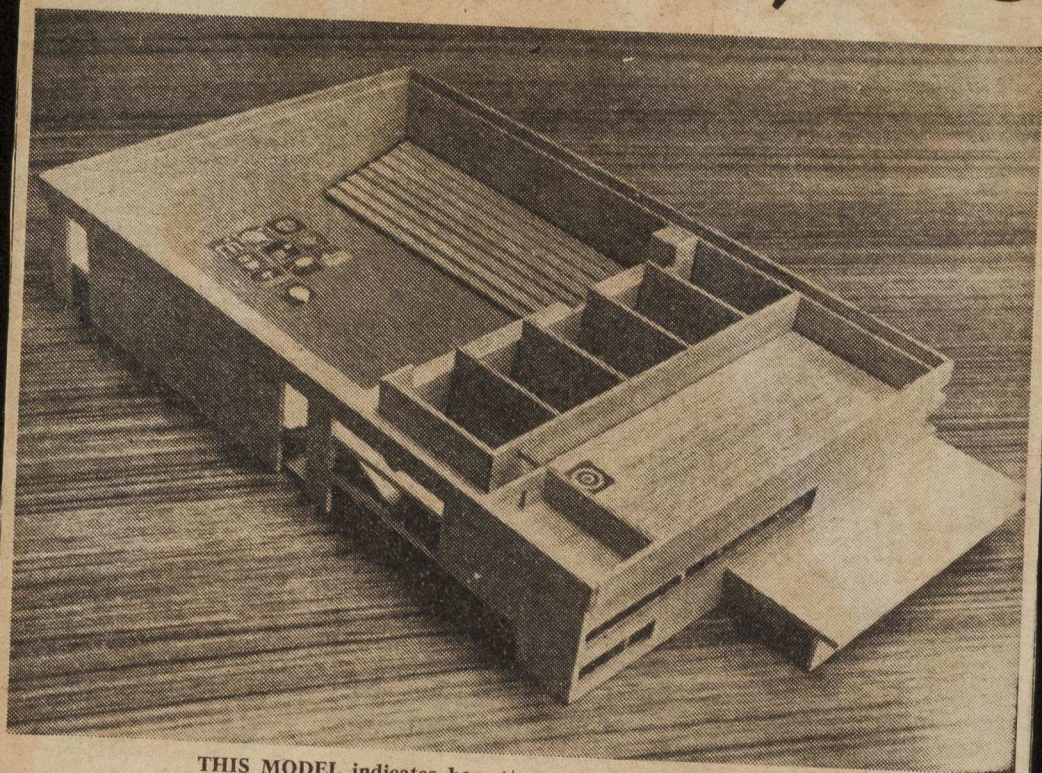
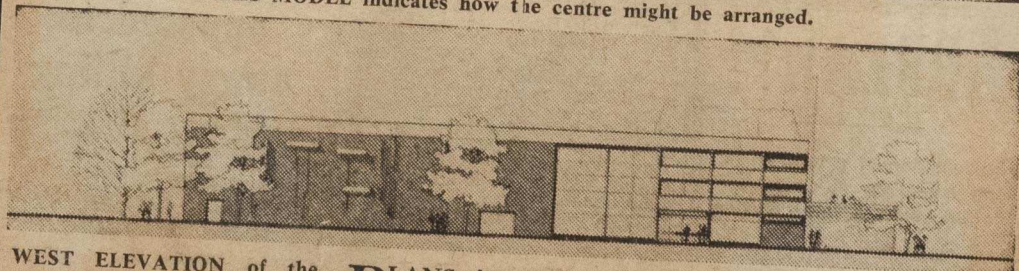


Sports centre is to cost £250,000



THIS MODEL indicates how the centre might be arranged.



WEST ELEVATION of the proposed sports centre.

PLANs for the new proposed £250,000 indoor sports centre at West Park were given unanimous approval by Worthing Town Council parade and open spaces committee on Friday. Indoor sports including squash, basketball, archery, badminton, judo and weight lifting are to be provided in the new centre.

But after the meeting, committee chairman Councillor Sidney Clinch told a Press conference, "In the light of the present economic situation it may well be some time before these proposals can be put into effect. But it is hoped that the council will authorise the necessary technical time to continue with the planning stage."

Building time is estimated at 15 months from a starting date.

The plans and estimates for the new building are to be submitted to the next meeting of the council for its approval.

These have been drawn up by the borough architect, Mr Frank Morris, and his staff, influenced by advice from the newly-formed Worthing Sports Advisory Council, the Greater London Sports Council, and other relevant organisations. Before they started work, members of the committee and officers visited a number of local authority and university sports halls.

The site is in the north-west corner of West Park, below the railway bridge.

RESEARCH

Mr Morris told the Herald that the centre had been planned after considerable research on latest development in construction of this type of building and also to ensure that the dimensions of the sports facilities to be provided met national standard requirements for each particular sport.

The building comprises a large hall, five squash courts, a practice hall, a weight training hall, a target shooting and archery range together with changing rooms, club room, cafe, bar, staff rooms, first aid room, stores and so on. In addition, a separate changing room for outdoor sports will replace the existing pavilion at West Park.

Detailing sports provisions within the main hall, Mr Morris said that the hall itself would be 120ft. by 108ft. and 30ft. high, which would accommodate a wide range of activities.

Provision would be for eight badminton courts, two tennis

courts, two basketball courts, a five-a-side football pitch, two netball courts, eight "padder" tennis courts, 22 table tennis tables, eight volleyball courts, two korfbal pitches, six boxing or wrestling rings, six judo courts, gymnastics, fencing, movement, trampolining, 10 cricket practice pitches and eight "batinton" courts.

On the outside on the west wall a rock climbing course would be incorporated in the construction.

Mr Morris said that not all the courts or facilities could be marked out at the same time, but they could be provided in combinations of, say, four badminton courts and a tennis court with an overlay of one basketball and one netball court. This marking would be done with coloured tapes, easily and quickly removable to change the permutation of use for the floor area.

Separate

Up to 180 sportsmen would be able to participate in their particular games at one time.

There would be a separate weight training hall, practice hall, squash courts and target and pistol shooting and archery.

Portable, collapsible seating would be provided for 640 spectators watching events in the main hall.

Immediately to the east of the new sports hall will be an all-weather pitch for all the year round use.

Running track

The rest of the site will be marked out with grass pitches and running track. Spectators at outdoor events will be able to buy refreshments from the cafe without entering the main building. Parking for approximately 90 cars will be provided between the new building and the approach to the bridge.

Proposals include a subway beneath the railway line with access to the High School for Boys providing a pedestrian link with the school and other sports facilities at Field Place.