



If you would like to come along to the public event please drop-in at the Hermitage café on

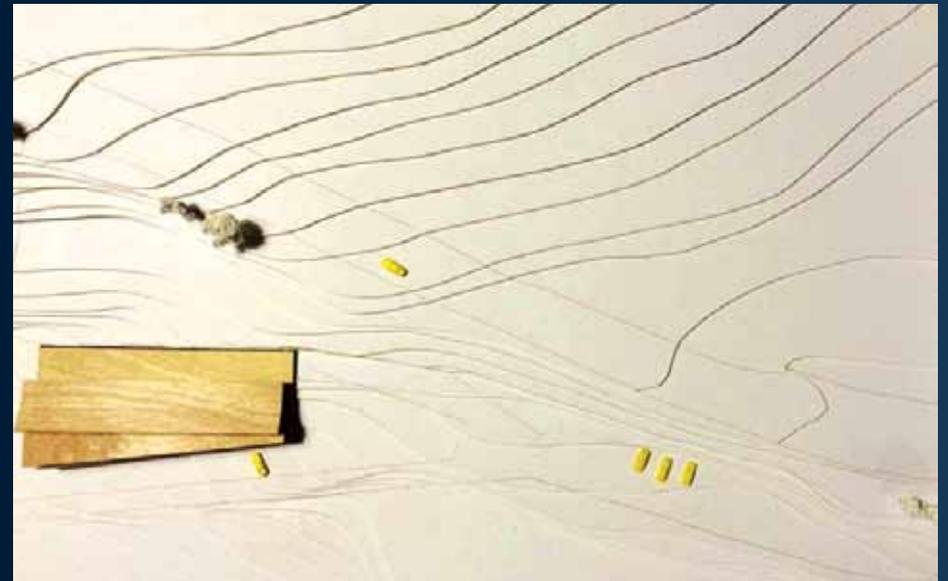
24th March 2015 from 12pm – 8pm.

Tea and coffee will be available and staff members from Autism Ventures Scotland and the project design team will be on hand to introduce and discuss the proposals.

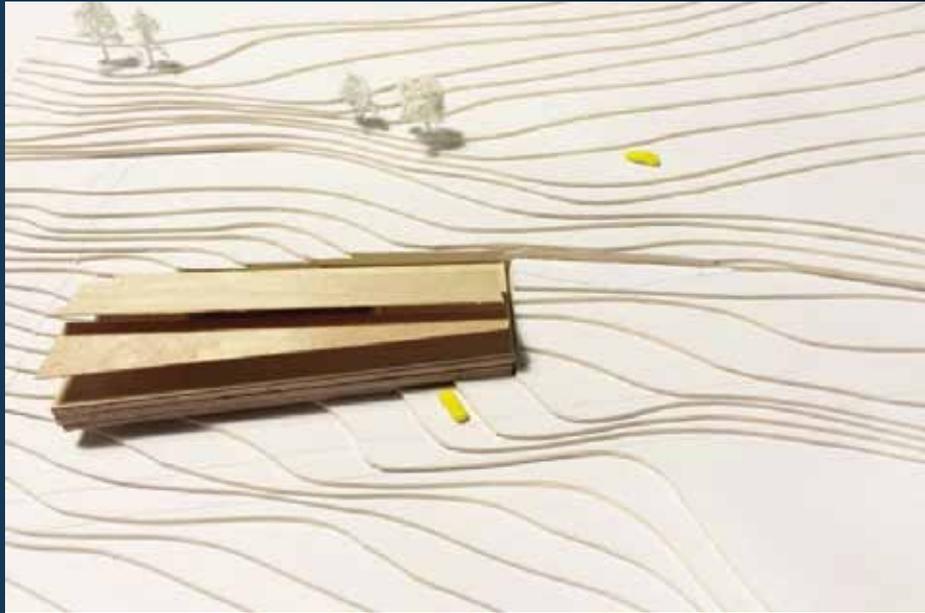
Presentations from the project architect will take place at 1.15pm and 7pm.

PUBLIC EVENT | *The Hermitage* GOLF, WALK, EAT, SHOP AND MORE...

HERMITAGE GOLF COURSE REDEVELOPMENT PUBLIC CONSULTATION



AUTISM INITIATIVES, A UK WIDE CHARITY, HAS BEEN PROVIDING DIRECT TRAINING AND SUPPORT TO PEOPLE WITH AUTISM IN SCOTLAND SINCE 2004.



Autism Ventures Scotland, part of Autism Initiatives, is committed to providing consistent, challenging and creative work and training opportunities in their local area.

The Hermitage golf course and horticultural programme is operated by Autism Ventures Scotland to provide a focus for the people the Charity supports, as well as providing useful facilities for the local community and other groups.

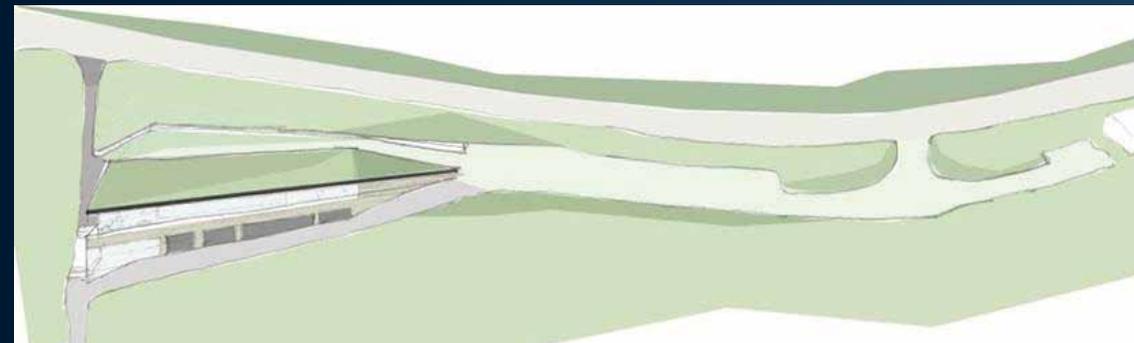
Autism Ventures Scotland are proposing to redevelop the existing golf course at Braid Hills Road to diversify the leisure offer at the site. The proposed redevelopment will aim to introduce mountain biking and disc-golf to the site as well as replacing the existing temporary clubhouse with a custom-designed, multi-purpose building. The project has already been the subject of pre-application discussions with City of Edinburgh Council and has been 'screened' by the Council to see whether the project requires Environmental Impact Assessment. The interim design for the proposals has also been reviewed by the Council's Urban Design Panel in September 2014.

The Urban Design Panel noted that the evolving design should continue to incorporate the following aspects:

- To continue to develop a design for the site which respects the landscape setting and character of the area.
- To continue to design a structure which responds to the topography and sits within the landscape.
- To continue to develop a design which will secure it and protect it against vandalism.

The Panel also suggested that the following matters be addressed as the design evolves:

- To consider a partial earth sheltering construction.
- To consider a green roof.
- To consider the results of the traffic survey but not to the detriment of the landscape character.
- The proposal offers an opportunity to strengthen and enhance the existing link to Hermitage Braids Park.
- To consider the opportunity for ecological diversification.



Autism Ventures Scotland has now submitted a Proposal of Application Notice to the City of Edinburgh Council and intends to use the time before formal submission of an application to consult with local stakeholders and seek their views of the proposal. An event will be held at the Hermitage café on 24th March to allow the public to view the current proposals. As well as offering a chance to examine plans for the building and the wider site, it will also offer a chance to experience disc-golf and see the work of the charity in the current café.