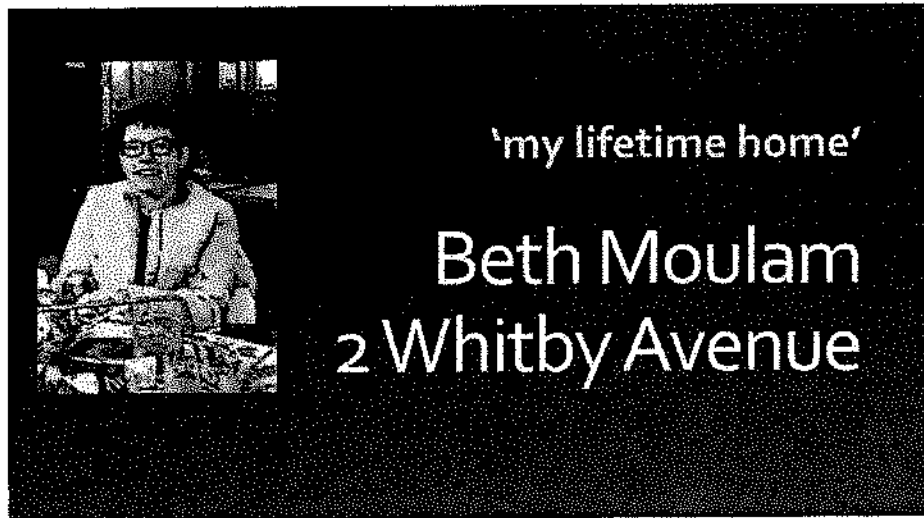


CIRCULATED AT MEETING

Slide 1



Can everyone hear me OK? Thank you for allowing me to make this statement.

Slide 2

My dream

- Independence
- A home of my own, that meets my lifelong needs
- Accessible using large powered chair
- Social space
- Space for my own family (eventually)
- To work from home
- Large enough for my support team (24 hours a day)
- Never to have to move

I have always dreamed, of my own home. I might be in an electric wheelchair, rely on technology, and have around the clock support, but my aspirations to have a career, live independently, and have a family, are the same as my peers. I came to the University of York, 3 years ago. I live independently, and employ a team of assistants, who work under my direction, 24 hours a day.

Slide 3



My current rented flat does not meet my basic needs, I have equipment stored at my parent's house, which means I often visit. But, much as I love my parents, I do not intend to move back in with them. We searched for 2 years for a suitable property, that will meet my needs, not just for today, but for the next sixty years, or more. This is a once in a lifetime home, I will only build once, so have to get it right.

Slide 4

Lifetime home requirements (1) The location:

- Within easy reach of city centre and university
- Part of a strong community – network of support
- Close to good schools – for own children
- Good transport links - Staff to get to work
- Access to shops with good accessible parking
- Close to extended family

My shopping list for my home, included location, good public transport access, being part of a community, good local schools for my future family, and close to my extended family. I would like a home that faces the street, with level access to the street, my parking and the garden. I want the exterior to be virtually maintenance free, and where possible, we considered green and sustainable options.

Slide 5

Lifetime home requirements (2) Building:

- 2 year search
- New build
 - not large enough
 - access issues
 - inability to adapt (sustainable build or construction method)
- Existing buildings – little with potential to adapt
- Prepared to convert – developers and £
- Purchase land and self build – first and only suitable site

I had high hopes of the Joseph Rowntree life time properties. I was very disappointed, when I could not get my power chair around. We found most existing, and new build houses, have a small foot print, over 3 floors, making them difficult to adapt. In 2015, we found 4 Whitby Avenue, with the only plot, we were able to buy, before developers got in first.

Slide 6

Lifetime home requirements (3) The interior physical space:

- Large enough/access space for a powered wheelchair
 - Wide openings and open space
 - Turning space
 - Room for transfers
 - Space for staff to work around me
- Wheelchair storage (4 chairs!!, backup, sport, travel and shower)
- High level of technology and environmental controls in every room

Before briefing my architect, I consulted experts, on space, and technology requirements. The rooms need to be generous, with wide openings, space to turn in my chair, for my equipment, and for staff to work around me. Besides providing staff accommodation, I need private space, for when I want to be alone, I also want to be able to provide, for my own, future, family. From the outset we knew I needed a 2 storey house.

Slide 7

Employment


- Degree (6 years full time due to requirement for 100% extra time)
- Intend to run own business
- Want to go out to work but not travel to work
 - Travel is tiring and takes much longer
 - Work – life balance important
- Office has to be specific to my physical needs
 - Layout/space
 - Equipment
 - Access (physical)
 - High use of specific IT

I would like my own business. Daily travel is tiring, I want to go out to work, but not travel. Even a home office needs to be adapted for access, with space for me and an assistant, specialist desks, environmental controls and equipment.

Slide 8

Health

- Keeping fit essential for my quality of life – lifelong
- Played boccia for England and aim to be in Tokyo 2020
- Train daily
 - In home
 - Gym

The image shows a logo for 'POLSKA BOCCIA'. At the top is a stylized soccer ball. Below it, the text 'POLSKA BOCCIA' is written in a bold, sans-serif font. Underneath the text is a black and white photograph of two athletes in wheelchairs, one of whom appears to be holding a boccia ball. The entire logo is set against a dark, textured background.

My health is important. Being in a power wheelchair I need to exercise as much possible, to remain fit for life. I am a keen athlete, I have represented England in my sport. I hope to represent GB in 2020. I train daily, so the guest bedroom will double as a therapy/training room.

Slide 9



I hope you can consider my application favourably. Thank you.

