

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [CouncilMembers](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: The Old Schoolhouse  
**Date:** Wednesday, January 6, 2021 3:08:38 PM

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Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Sandra McKee [REDACTED]  
**Date:** January 6, 2021 at 1:44:27 PM EST  
**To:** County Council <councilmembers@essex.com>  
**Cc:** Carol Quick [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Fwd: The Old Schoolhouse

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Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Sandra McKee [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** The Old Schoolhouse

As a resident and tax payer of Colchester Centre , my main concerns are the possible demolition of the historic Colchester Schoolhouse, and disruption of residential zones. Three generations of my family attended this school, and the interior and exterior has, remarkably, been relatively preserved or restored to remain as it was 100 years ago. There are many area families whose ancestors were also students. The focus of restoring and saving this historic building has moved to other areas of the village as council members were replaced at election time over the years. New ideas emerged, possibly for the betterment of some areas of the village, but not for the school property. All of the Old Victorian homes and businesses in the main area of the village ie. Jackson St and County Road 50, are long gone to make parks and parking for tourists and fishermen. A very extensive study and expensive booklet was put together as a plan for the village.... Where is it now????

Also, in the event other plans were being considered for this property, the issue

should have been raised initially to gather community input,opposed to the appearance that this was being determined. “ behind closed doors”.

Having a proposal presented at council by a developer for a property not publicly discussed ,seems like a secondary step that progressed without appropriate vetting by the public.The first step should have been understanding what the community supported ,discussing all of the issues and concerns, with full transparency, in advance of any prospects to sell.

Much of the controversy might have been averted with a different approach.

This is our chance to save this historic building and green space, and to preserve this residential area for property owners in the near vicinity.

Sandra McKee...325 Prado Ave. 

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