

VILLAGE HALL SURVEY AUGUST 2018

INTRODUCTION

This report outlines the findings of a survey that was carried out by a small team as part of a process of researching possible options for the future of the Village Hall. The team will come up with a preferred recommendation for consideration by the Parish Council. The survey was conducted independently from the Village Hall Trustees to obtain the community's fresh views and opinions about our hall.

After initial difficulties with distribution, **439** copies of the survey were delivered to each house within the parish. The survey was also available online and **XX** responses were downloaded. **123** surveys were returned, some were completed by individuals, others by households.

The report has a section on the numbers of responses to each question and a section with the written comments. Appendix 1 gives details of the methodology. Appendix 2 is a copy of the survey.

APPENDIX 1 : SUMMARY OF ANSWERS PROVIDED FROM COMPLETED SURVEYS RECEIVED

Notes on the presentation of numbers of responses to each question

- Some responses did not answer all the questions, so the total number will not always equal 123 (the number of survey responses received) and percentages have been rounded
- Some respondents rewrote the questions and consequently those responses have not been included in the numbers reported.

1.0. About you and your household

What age categories are in your household? Please tick all that apply

| Under 16 | 16-24 | 25-34 | 35-44 | 45-54 | 55-64 | 65+ | total |
|----------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-----|---|
| 4 | 21 | 11 | 13 | 25 | 48 | 68 | 190 |
| 2% | 11% | 6% | 7% | 13% | 25% | 36% | Percentages of survey responses (rounded) |

2.0. Do you or members of your household use the present Village Hall?

Yes 114 No 9

If **YES**, how often? Please **circle** which apply:-

| Weekly | Monthly | Quarterly | Half-Yearly | Yearly | Events | Total |
|--------|---------|-----------|-------------|--------|--------|-------|
| 51 | 41 | 15 | 9 | 11 | 42 | 169 |

2.2 If **NO**, please tell us why you do not use the Hall and **then go to Question 4**.

(see comments section below)

3.0. What activities have you or any member of your household attended at the Village Hall in the last year? Please tick all that apply. Please insert below if there any other activities/events that would make you use the hall more often.

| Activity | No of responses | Popularity |
|-----------------------|-----------------|------------|
| “Mud Pie Cafe” | 86 | 1 |
| Village Events | 81 | 2 |
| Jumble Sales | 51 | 3 |
| Public Meetings | 50 | 4 |
| Charity Sales Events | 49 | 5 |
| Auctions | 48 | 6 = |
| Parties/Celebrations | 48 | 6 = |
| Private Parties | 47 | 8 |
| Garden Club | 45 | 9 |
| Craft Fairs | 41 | 10 |
| Catered Events | 38 | 11 |
| Church Events | 37 | 12 |
| Parish Council Events | 31 | 13 |
| Pilates | 24 | 14 |
| Keep Fit | 21 | 15 |
| Committee Meetings | 17 | 16 |

| | | |
|------------|----|----|
| Weddings | 12 | 17 |
| Bowls Club | 9 | 18 |

4.0. Do you Agree or Disagree with the following statements?

Please tick in one Column for each item.

| Column 1. Strongly Agree 2. Agree 3. Neither Agree or Disagree 4. Disagree 5. Strongly Disagree | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|---|--|----|----|----|----|----|
| <i>The Village Hall provides:-</i> | | | | | | |
| 4.1 | A facility for bringing all members of the community together | 91 | 31 | 4 | 2 | 1 |
| 4.2 | An opportunity to access and enjoy village life | 83 | 36 | 5 | 4 | 2 |
| 4.3 | A venue for the community to be more active and healthy | 71 | 39 | 13 | 4 | 1 |
| <i>The Village would benefit from a new or an enhanced Village Hall with:-</i> | | | | | | |
| 4.4 | More space and a higher roof to hold a greater variety of activities | 32 | 16 | 27 | 18 | 33 |
| 4.5 | Clean and efficient modern toilets | 50 | 34 | 26 | 11 | 23 |
| 4.6 | An efficient heating system | 29 | 29 | 34 | 12 | 17 |
| 4.7 | A modern commercial kitchen | 36 | 36 | 21 | 11 | 15 |
| 4.8 | Wi-Fi access, Computer-compatible presentation and TV/ Audio equipment | 23 | 41 | 15 | 12 | 19 |
| 4.9 | A separate meeting/committee/multi-functional room | 15 | 27 | 34 | 20 | 24 |
| 4.10 | A natural focal point/stage | 20 | 27 | 36 | 19 | 17 |
| 4.11 | Proper car parking surface and marked spaces | 21 | 21 | 27 | 13 | 31 |
| | | | | | | |
| 4.12 | The open space in the current hall is too small | 14 | 14 | 23 | 35 | 42 |
| 4.13 | The current building is not fit for purpose | 6 | 13 | 16 | 27 | 62 |
| 4.14 | A Hall needs to be energy efficient and eco friendly | 24 | 33 | 40 | 13 | 13 |

Observations

The **strongest levels of agreement** are that the village hall provides: a facility for bringing all members of the community together; an opportunity to access and enjoy village life and a venue for the community to be more active and healthy (in rank order).

Figure 1 A facility for bringing all members of the community together

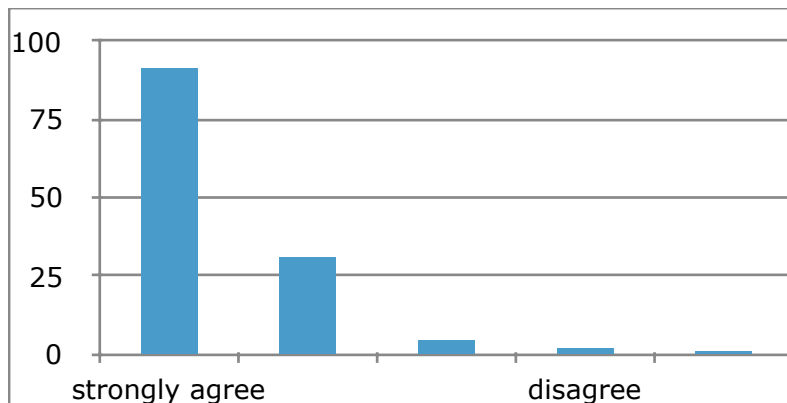


Figure 2 An opportunity to access and enjoy village life

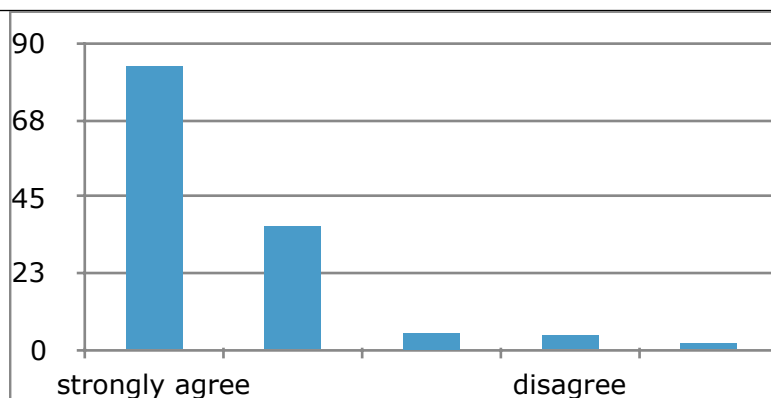
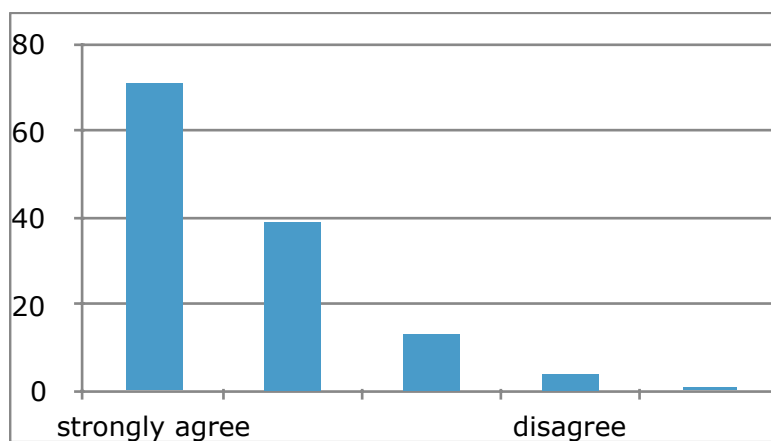


Figure 3 A venue for the community to be more active and healthy



More people agreed or strongly agreed that a modern commercial kitchen, clean and efficient modern toilets and Wi-Fi access, computer-compatible presentation and TV/ Audio equipment would be benefits, than those that disagreed or strongly disagreed.

Figure 4 A modern commercial kitchen

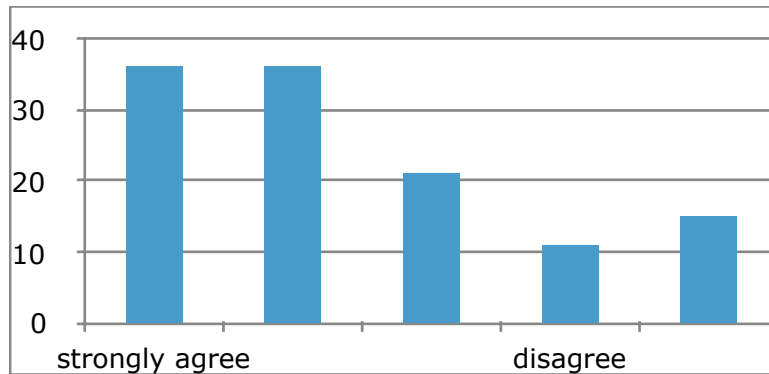


Figure 5 Clean and efficient modern toilets

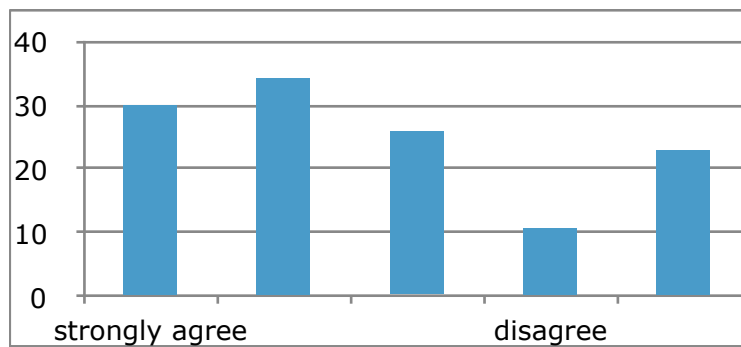
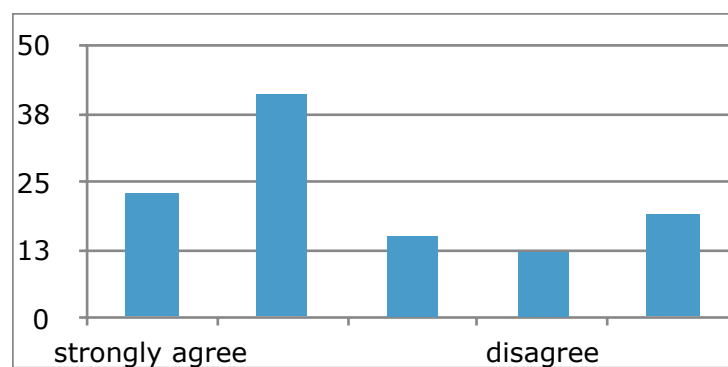
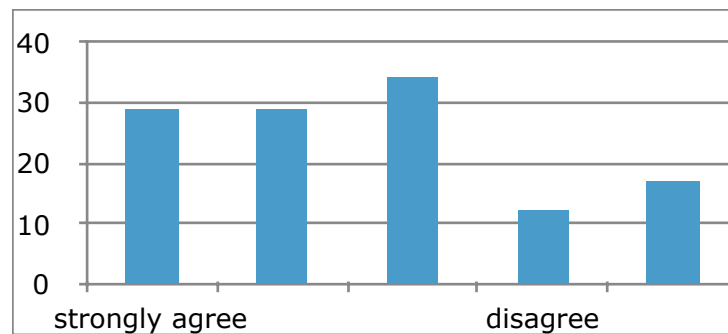


Figure 6 Wi-Fi access, Computer-compatible presentation and TV/Audio equipment



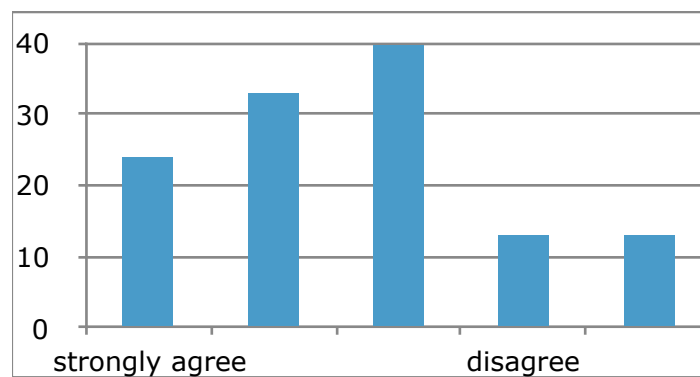
Although the largest number of responses neither agreed nor disagreed that an efficient heating system would be a benefit, more people agreed or strongly agreed than disagreed.

Figure 7 An efficient heating system



The largest number of responses neither agreed nor disagreed that a hall needs to be energy efficient and eco friendly, although there was a much higher level of agreement than disagreement.

Figure 12 A Hall needs to be energy efficient and eco friendly



The largest number of responses neither agreed nor disagreed that a natural focal point/stage or a separate meeting/committee/multi-functional room would be benefits. Overall, slightly more agreed than disagreed that a natural focal point/stage would be a benefit, and slightly more strongly disagreed than agreed with a separate meeting room.

Figure 8 A natural focal point/stage

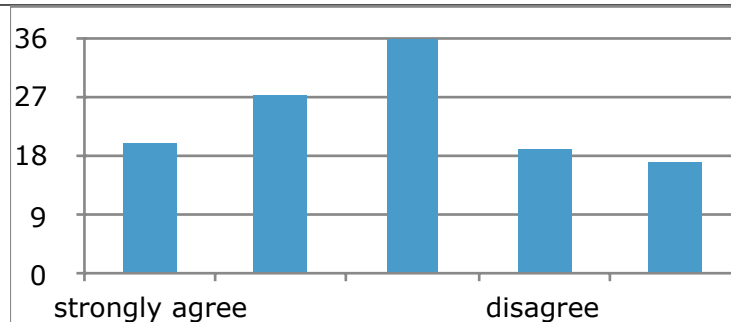
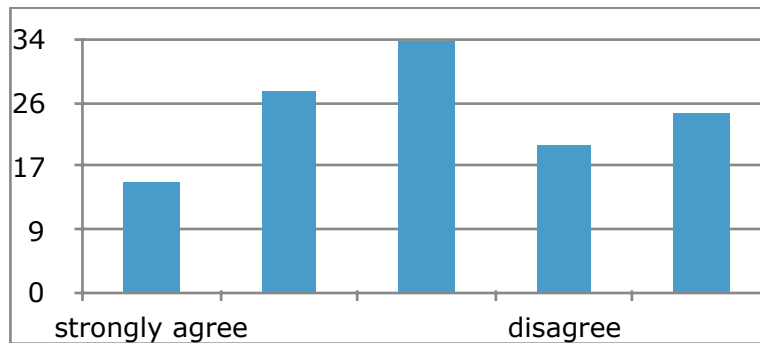
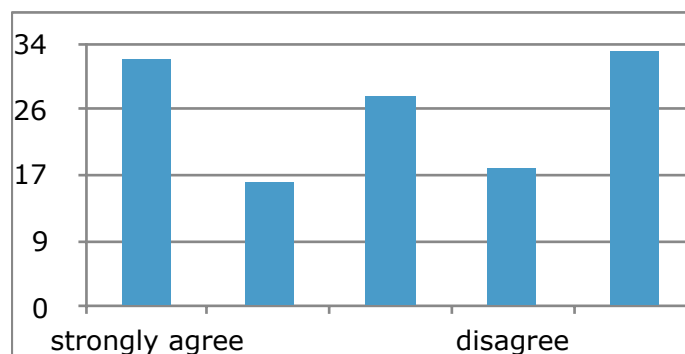


Figure 9 A separate meeting/committee/multi-functional room



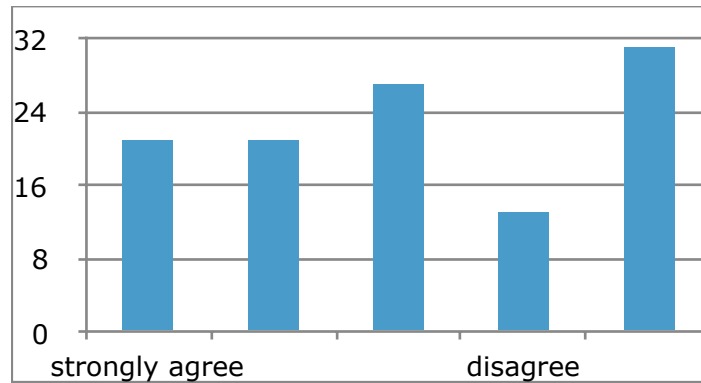
There was an overall balance of responses to the benefits of more space and a higher roof to hold a greater variety of activities with marginally more disagreeing than agreeing.

Figure 10 More space and a higher roof to hold a greater variety of activities



There was an overall balance of responses to the benefits of a proper car parking surface and marked spaces with the highest number strongly disagreeing.

Figure 11 Proper car parking surface and marked spaces



The strongest levels of disagreement were with the statements that the hall is not fit for purpose and that the open space in the current hall is too small.

Figure 13 The current building is not fit for purpose

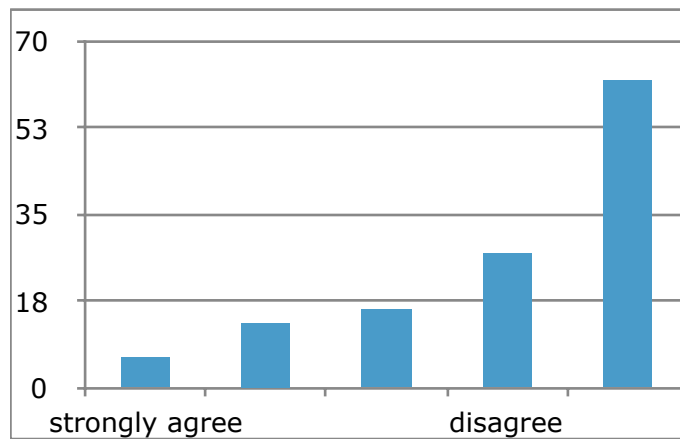
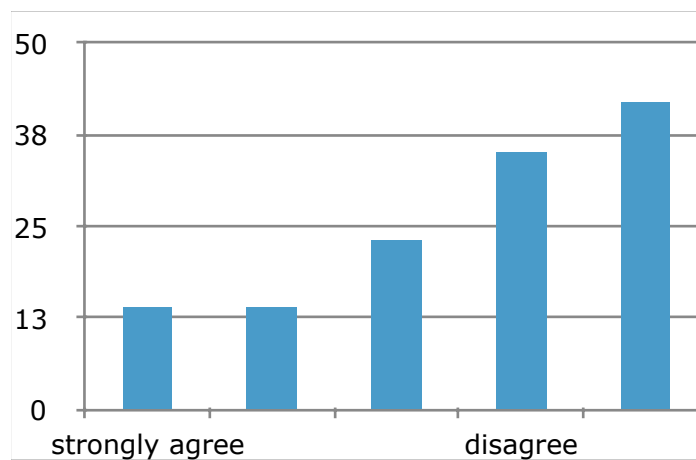


Figure 14 The open space in the current hall is too small



5.0. Which of these activities would you support if they were available – please tick all that apply?

| Activity | No of responses | Popularity |
|--|------------------------|-------------------|
| Cinema | 88 | 1 |
| Music concerts/dances | 81 | 2 |
| Fitness training | 54 | 3 |
| Adult Dance classes | 42 | 4 |
| Amateur Drama | 38 | 5 |
| Badminton or other indoor sport | 35 | 6 |
| Cubs, Scouts, Beavers, Guides Brownies etc | 23 | 7 |
| Children's Dance classes | 20 | 8 |

VILLAGE HALL SURVEY COMMENTS

Notes on the presentation of comments

- All comments are reported below although some have been précised.
- Comments have been grouped under themes. Where several themes are mentioned in a single comment, they are reported under the first theme. Any comments that are repeated under other themes appear in italics. The themes with are presented in rank order of number of mentions.
- The numbers at the end of each comment refer to the age of the respondent.

Survey questions and responses

2.0. Do you or members of your household use the present Village Hall?

2.2 If NO, please tell us why you do not use the Hall (5 responses)

As a resident of Belchalwell we have our own village hall thank you.65+

As Belchalwell residents for over 30yrs we have never felt part of Okeford and do not know why we pay a precept to them in our council tax. (65+)

[I am] not a member of an organisation using the hall; did use it in 2016 for a fete (65+)

Nothing that interests us or events are on when we are at work. (55-64)

There is nothing that interests me. 65+

I am new to the village and unaware of what and when events happen 45-54

5.1. What other things would your household or group like a hall to cater for? (36 responses)

Parties, weddings, music and events

Parties, functions 25-34

Weddings, Party/Celebrations.65+

It should be the goto venue for Wedding receptions/family celebrations etc It is currently dull and not really clean. 65+

Improved bar facilities. Better for parties/weddings 45-54.

Private functions, charity events. 65+

More bands and live groups (the ABBA night was a great success).45-54.

To facilitate concerts, plays for the local school in OF and other schools in the benefice. 65+

Auctions/Sales 55-64

*Exhibitions.*65+

Clubs, classes and presentations

Other clubs, presentations, talks.55-64.

Language classes. Art Classes. Visiting speakers. Adult education. 65+

Language lessons. Youth Club. Space for small business use. 65+.

A daytime venue opportunity to join a variety of handicraft classes/adult education would be of interest to me. Perhaps short courses rather than termly? 55-64.

Computer courses and training. 65+

Hiring out to people to run courses eg flower arranging, lectures. 65+

Maker Fairs, Maker challengers. Make do and mend sessions. Choir. 55-64.

Illustrated talks. Magic Lantern Shows. 65+

Talks from outside presenters. 35-44.

Activities for children

12-15 yr olds are invisible in this village. Consider them. Start the youth club again in the pavilion – money well spent instead of adults who can drive to Stur and Blandford – So blinkered! 35-44

Holiday Club for children 35-44.

Children's church activities – Trailblazers. 65+

Sunday School and church events. 65+

More activities for toddler/children as my daughter attends lots of groups, but I have to travel quite far for example Pimperne for ballet classes. I believe more children's classes would get used a lot more. There is also a need for updated toilets. 25-34.

Youth club/teenage drop in centre. 65+

More mother and baby activities. More fitness activities, More village events. 35-44.

Youth Club. 55-64

Sports and fitness related activities

Bring back line dancing in the evenings. 78

Outdoor boule piste. 65+

More fitness activities

Evening pilates, theatre 65=

Pet related activities

Dog training classes 65+

Visiting vets 45-54.

Parish Council related

Parish Council meetings should be held in the village hall rather than pavilion - this will encourage more people to attend. 65+

Mobile bank. A Parish Council Office open to the public. Exhibitions. Parish Council meetings should be held in the hall and not sports pavilion as it is bigger and much easier to get to on foot - would encourage more participation. 65+

Other

Voting, Political surgeries. 55-64.

Mobile bank 65+

Space for small business use.65+

Some activities to be held in the evenings as some of us work! 55-64.

A space available to all at very affordable cost. 65+

Good Will! 65+

As Belchalwell residents we are closely related to Ibberton and as far as we know so are most of this hamlet.

6.0. Please write here any further comments or suggestions you wish to make (86 responses)

Existing village hall – fitness for purpose and meeting needs

The current village hall is perfectly fit for purpose. We have held many parties and family get togethers over the years. The facilities, compared to other village halls in dorset, are superb. A new build would be a waste of money. Also the cost to hire a new build would be prohibitive for local people. 65+

I'm happy with the current state of our village hall. It's a lovely hall and holds many happy memories for myself and my family. 65+.

This village hall has served us well for decades. I think it is fine as it is. I would rather money was spent on a path from the school down to the football pitch. 55-64.

There is nothing wrong with the hall we have got. 65+

The current village hall seems perfectly adequate for a village of this size and apathy towards most events. 65+.

We like the hall as it is thank you 45-54.

My family supports the existing hall. 55-64.

All our needs are met at the village hall. 35-44

We do not need a new hall. The current hall is great, support those that work free to maintain it. 55-64

A Welsh couple stopped at the hall and told me it was the best hall they had ever been in and the cleanest. 65+

We do not need a new village hall; waste of money.35-44.

I do not want a new village hall. Spend my money on the current one please. 65+.

Serves my family well as it is now. We do not need a new hall. 35-44.

I think our village hall is adequate for all the needs our village requires. A bigger newer one still requires people to support it and a lot more money. 55-64.

The current village hall has been the centre of village life for a long time. The local people have raised money and given up their time to do building work. I do not think we need a new hall. 55-64.

Don't need a new hall. The existing one is fine for what we need. 25-34.

We think the current hall is fit for purpose. There is underused sports facilities in Stuminster and Blandford. We do not think you need change for the sake of change.45-54.

The current hall serves all that I need from it. A new hall would be a total waste of money and would end up putting the parish rates up. We do not need a new hall. The current hall serves the hole(sic) community as it is.55-64.

No point in building a new one. Our council tax is going up every year anyway; a new hall would put it up more. Parish council should give hall money to build new kitchen. 25-34.

My only concern about the existing hall is emergency access. If the Fire Service is happy that they can get to the hall quickly then there is no problem. Fitting a higher roof to the existing hall would destroy the acoustics. The questionnaire does not attempt to resolve access issues for less able people. It asks nothing about funding or operation of the current, or a new village hall. Will parishioners be expected to pay an increased precept? Should a new sports hall be found desirable this could be provided by demolishing the pavilion and building a sports hall in its place. I believe the correct group to conduct this survey is the existing village hall committee.55-64

It all sounds lovely but who is going to run and maintain this pie in the sky new hall? Do not split the village with your carefree attitude. Many good village folk have worked very hard over the years to give us the existing hall. Be realistic - be fair. 65+

The existing village hall is manageable and affordable to current users. It is kept working by a number of volunteers who put a lot of time in; maintaining, cleaning etc.

My concern is how will a much larger multi functional modern building and environs be managed when most operating groups in the village are finding it increasingly difficult to function due to poor support from the community. 65+

The hall in its present form is outdated. Not fit for purpose and badly run. Not welcoming to younger people 65+

The current hall is a mishmash of extension upon extension and does not lend itself to modern village hall requirements. A modern new facility elsewhere part funded by the existing site being transformed into small, low level homes for elderly locals would be ideal. Of more importance is the recruitment of a totally new village hall committee with vision and verve to make a facility vibrant and profitable, whilst at the same time serving the community - a drive the current committee sadly lacks. 55-64.

Existing village hall - enhancement, updating, improvement and facilities

An enlarged building would be adequate to serve the village. 65+

The present hall, though a useful and supported venue, is never the less a tired and out dated structure; and like a worn out favourite shirt, needs updating. Folding external doors to allow access to a bigger outdoor space(s) without creating noise nuisance to locals. 55-64.

Desperately needs commercial dishwasher in kitchen and better rubbish re cycling bin. 65+

A fully communal and comprehensive supply of crockery, cutlery and kitchen tools/ equipment. At present different groups have to supply a lot of their own.55-64

The hall also needs updating LED lighting and decor 45-54

There is a need for updated toilets. 25-34.

Leave it as it is. Revamp the bar/kitchen. 25-34.

Just needs to revamp the bar area and paint the kitchen cupboards. 16-24.

Any changes to the existing hall must take into account any wildlife living in it and not harm, but provide alternative homes/boxes for things like bats. 55-64.

It is unfortunate that the parish council did not follow through with the S106 money to improve the kitchen. 65+

The hall has been extended and built with the help of many villagers and to just tear it down is an insult to all their hard work. It does what it needs to do, all it really needs is a monthly deep clean and some basic modernisation. The hall and the land belongs to the village. Leave it alone. 55-64.

Villagers have raised money to extend and spent many unpaid hours extending it. It needs some modernisation and a good clean regularly. It also has decent parking. Our hall is much better than many others and it seems an awful waste of money to replace it with something that won't be much different, surely. 55-64.

The current hall is run by volunteers for free and do a good job. The hall just needs a new kitchen. Most people go to it for a couple of hours at most. Most of the time it's stood empty. Keep it as it is. 25-34.

Sensitivity and tact should be exercised where possible to the current hall committee and appreciation shown for all the work they have put in over the years. 65+

We have a (sic) excellent village hall which has catered for most of the activities (sic) on this form. We have had very little vandalism or damage done due to its location. It is a good solid building, improved with lots of love and voluntary work from residents of the village. We have a dedicated village hall committee who work tirelessly raising funds to cover the cost of the improvements, which in turn, helps to keep hire charges down.

When people come to our village hall they say it is the best for miles around. Why would anybody want to change it? 65+

Our present hall is fine - why do we feel we need to make expensive changes? Will people want to use it more than they do now as a bigger hall will probably cost a lot more to hire.65+

The current proposal to increase the size of the kitchen is ludicrous. It would be a waste of money. The bar/kitchen areas could be reversed if bigger space is necessary at far less cost.

New trustees required. 65+

Existing village hall - ehancement and location

A village hall should be the centre of village life. The current building position is ideal. Upgrading the facility and a tarmac surface to park would be beneficial. 65+

We have a fabulous village hall in a great location, amazing for a small village. It seems like plans to build a new hall are unnecessary and wasteful. Yes, a bit of updating would be good and computer compatible equipment, but rebuilding is not eco friendly. 25-34.

Although I agree that improvements could be made to the village hall my view is that a new village hall is totally unnecessary as the current hall is ideally located and fit for purpose. Public money should be spent on improvements not relocation. 65+

The existing hall needs upgrading and modernising. The position is about right as it is in the village centre, close to the shop, pub and church. It is also walkable to 90% of the village. The hall is now used by the junior church also, so should continue to be on the same sight (sic) 65+

Improved kitchen and toilets would enhance it, but would not want it to be relocated. Excellent position for its purpose, other events can be held at the Rec, but I would strongly disagree with a proposal to relocate it there - too far out of the village for many to access. 45-54

I would be against moving the hall. My view is that its current location is ideal, but it does need updating. A shopping list would include: Re configuration of internal space, decor, car park, outside area to include seating, plants, flowers etc. Update toilets, update kitchen/bar area 55-64

I don't think we need a new hall. Just upgrade. It is convenient in the position of it near the church and accessible. 65+

The village hall needs to remain where it is. To try and place the hall by the sports pavilion would be dangerous. Castle Lane is unlit and a lot of older people would not like to walk along this route.65+

The existing village hall provides an excellent facility to the community. It is accessible for wheelchairs and has an accessible toilet. It is ideally situated in the centre of the village. It is within safe walking distance for the vast majority of the residents, which reduces the impact on parking requirements, which appear adequate for the needs of the foreseeable future.

If there is money available to upgrade the village hall facility in the village it should be used to develop the existing hall. The existing facilities in the hall are quite adequate, but could easily be upgraded if it were considered necessary at any time. To contemplate building a new hall on an alternative site would be an unnecessary and irresponsible waste of public funds.

The village currently has planning applications in place for new houses. Any consideration for building a new village hall away from the traditional centre of the village and making the existing plot available for yet more housing would verge on vandalism of our village. 65+.

We note that both location and access have not been included. This presents significant difficulties if the wish list above is to be met. 65+

More space and a higher roof to hold a greater variety of activities

The only rationale for a higher roof would be to play badminton. There are clubs in Sturminster, Clayesmore and Blandford. If anyone wants to play badminton socially in the village, they should approach the school. The hall in that school is suitable and it would be an opportunity to generate income.

In terms of location and accessibility by foot it [the current hall] is in the best place. Were it to be relocated what would happen to the current site? Build more houses? Please No. This is the last thing the village needs.

The criticisms I have heard have all been to do with management issues. These should be addressed through management, not by building another hall. 55-64.

There is underused sports facilities in Sturminster and Blandford. We do not think you need change for the sake of change. 45-54.

Don't want a hall with a high ceiling as it adds to the cost of heating and the acoustics would be wrong for meetings and talks etc. That's why the village hall ceiling was lowered. There are plenty of leisure centres around for sports/games. 65+

Fitting a higher roof to the existing hall would destroy the acoustics. Should a new sports hall be found desirable this could be provided by demolishing the pavilion and building a sports hall in its place. 55-64

I don't know what is wrong with the hall. I have lived in the village for 54yrs. The hall has always been alright for us. If you need it for badminton etc. you have the sports centre in Sturminster or Blandford. You have to travel to go to evening classes etc. 65+

Questions very loaded towards a new village hall. Badminton can be in the Rec it's getting enough money from the build at New Dairy. 65+

Existing hall – parking

Any improvements to the car park should be in keeping with the rural setting - rough surface and natural space markings eg stones or wooden strips, not tarmac and white lines. Neutral decor, better quality finishes - easier to decorate to taste for private functions. 55-64.

The hall is ideally situated in the centre of the village. The car park should be left rural. This land was left to the village for community use. 65+.

The lack of car parking space is an issue, especially when the hall is perfect in every other aspect for hire for big meetings and workshops. 45-55.

The hall and car park are both too small and too tucked away although surrounded by houses. If there were ever to be a “rave” it would disturb residents. The location was previously [and perfect for] a playground.65+

Upgrading the facility and a tarmac surface to park would be beneficial. 65+

It is within safe walking distance for the vast majority of the residents, which reduces the impact on parking requirements, which appear adequate for the needs of the foreseeable future.

It [the existing village hall] also has decent parking. 55-64.

A new village hall

The village hall needs a modern multi use village hall/pavilion located at the recreation fields. 45-54

Ideally - sell the current hall to fund a significant development of the pavilion site. Second storey with glass wall and balcony overlooking field. Re configure ground floor; reception/meeting rooms/ high standard toilets etc.

Realistically - Current hall, redesign front - glass folding doors to open onto paved patio. Significant redecoration of interior and improve parking.

The pavilion development option should include safe pathway from centre of village. Both options should be capable of generating own energy. 65+

Durweston village hall is an excellent example of the perfectly equipped community centre and is used 7 days a week bringing an income and supporting a caretaker. 65+

The new village hall should be in keeping with the ancient architecture of the village. It should have a high pitched 45 degree or greater roof with leadlight fenestration. A rendered finish would be desirable. 65+

Any new hall would need better access from the centre of the village.

A new hall should not have hire charges to village clubs greater than current charges. 65+

In considering whether a new hall would be eco friendly need to think about environmental impact of disposing of current build and of building new. 65+

Building a new village hall is not eco friendly for occasional use. The building has not reached the end of its design life. This survey is wholly inadequate to aid decision making and to obtain objective feedback. 45-54.

Neutral – either a new village hall or an enhanced one

Happy either way for a new village hall or to improve the current one. It would be great to have a new hall, but only if it was used enough and events were planned to ensure enough use. 45-54

The current hall is OK but could be much better. We must take every opportunity to either enhance the hall or build a new one. 65+

Funding and costs

It will cost money - from where? Who will maintain the building? What will they charge? People can use their own internet. Why have a commercial kitchen? Are you setting up a restaurant? This looks like a power grab by incomers. 55-64.

Where are the funds coming from to pay for these expensive ideas? The hall has been updated over the past 30 years as funds became available. 65+.

The running costs must be carefully examined so that no serious burden or debt included. 65+

Higher ceiling - more expensive to heat. Who is going to pay for these expensive proposals? Idealistic on paper- expensive to execute. 65+

No mention of cost factor. We would all like benefits but at what cost? 65+

This is a vanity project by the council. They are blinded by the money on offer from developers. One has to wonder whether this influenced their attitude to the neighbourhood plan. 65+

We do not wish the existing hall to become a two storey house or building. 65+

Why waste money on the village hall a the Royal Oak and Village Shop are not well supported.65+

The aspiration to ensure the hall has 'the right facilities for future generations' will not be achieved by putting in facilities now which may be redundant in 10yrs time.

The hall needs a sinking fund so that funds are always available for whatever the future requires. 55-64.

Survey

I believe the 3 men need to stop interfering and maybe concentrate on something worthwhile and do 1 project at a time, like the church. 45-54.

I strongly disagree with, and object to, the bias of the “small team” conducting the survey, two of whom are very new to the village. They are not a representative cross section of the village. 65+

Why there no comment saying no change to hall and there nothing on line saying No to new hall or not. Waste of paper and money asking people when they already a good position hall already here. (sic) 35-44.

Questions very loaded towards a new village hall. 65+

This survey is wholly inadequate to aid decision making and to obtain objective feedback. 45-54

The questionnaire does not attempt to resolve access issues for less able people. It asks nothing about funding or operation of the current, or a new village hall. I believe the correct group to conduct this survey is the existing village hall committee. 55-64

Belchalwell residents’ comments

As Belchalwell residents for over 30yrs we have never felt part of Okeford and do not know why we pay a precept to them in our council tax.(65+)

We strongly object to paying a precept to Okeford and see no advantage to us for this payment. We have made this very clear when parish boundaries were reviewed, but it fell on deaf ears.(65+)

Other comments

I would like to see traffic calming in the village. Pinch points maybe, to walk down Castle Lane is a challenge because of the speeding traffic.65+

The village suffers with speeding traffic. 35-44.

The team are doubtless aware that part of the site is registered at HM Land Registry as Common Land. 65+

APPENDIX 2 – THE SURVEY

OKEFORD FITZPAINE VILLAGE HALL

SURVEY

Dear Resident

You may know that the Parish Council agreed at its meeting on the 6th March this year that a small team should take a fresh look at the long term suitability of the Parish Hall, to take account of the new planned housing developments which will bring an increase in the area's population.

The team will be researching a number of possible options for the Hall, and will come up with a preferred recommendation for consideration by the Parish Council - **it will be the Council's decision as to what happens next**. The team will be gathering information by visiting other village halls, speaking to developers, asking for ideas from the Hall committee and most importantly, finding out what everybody in the area thinks about improving the Parish's amenity to cater for a wide variety of events, to ensure that we have a suitable facility, which will take us through to the next century.

THIS IS YOUR OPPORTUNITY TO HAVE YOUR SAY TO ENSURE THAT WE HAVE A HALL THAT HAS THE RIGHT FACILITIES FOR PRESENT AND FUTURE GENERATIONS

Please help by completing this survey which should take no more than 10 minutes. The form is also on-line on both the Fippenny News and the official Parish Council websites.

This survey is being conducted independently from the Village Hall Trustees to obtain the community's fresh views and opinions about our hall. Your support and contribution to this survey will be very valuable and much appreciated.

The latest Blackmore Vale Magazine was not delivered to every household. We therefore decided to re-issue the Survey to ensure that everybody received one, but do apologise to those who have now received 2 copies.

Please return the completed form to the Village Shop, or submit the on-line version to ianberry@hotmail.com by the 1st August 2018.

1.0. About you and your household

What age categories are in your household? Please tick all that apply

| | | | | | | |
|----------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-----|
| Under 16 | 16-24 | 25-34 | 35-44 | 45-54 | 55-64 | 65+ |
| | | | | | | |

2.0. Do you or members of your household use the present Village Hall?

Yes No

If YES, how often? Please *circle* which apply:-

Weekly Monthly Quarterly Half-Yearly Yearly Events

2.2 If NO, please tell us why you do not use the Hall and *then go to Question 4.*

.....

.....

3.0. What activities have you or any member of your household attended at the Village Hall in the last year? Please tick all that apply. Please insert below if there any other activities/events that would make you use the hall more often.

| | | | |
|----------------------|--|-----------------------|--|
| Auctions | | Weddings | |
| Bowls Club | | Village Events | |
| Catered Events | | Craft Fairs | |
| Charity Sales Events | | Garden Club | |
| Church Events | | Jumble Sales | |
| Committee Meetings | | Keep Fit | |
| Parties/Celebrations | | “Mud Pie Cafe” | |
| Pilates | | Parish Council Events | |
| Private Parties | | Public Meetings | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |

4.0. Do you Agree or Disagree with the following statements?

Please tick in one Column for each item.

| Column 1. Strongly Agree 2. Agree 3. Neither Agree or Disagree 4. Disagree 5. Strongly Disagree | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|---|--|---|---|---|---|---|
| <i>The Village Hall provides:-</i> | | | | | | |
| 4.1 | A facility for bringing all members of the community together | | | | | |
| 4.2 | An opportunity to access and enjoy village life | | | | | |
| 4.3 | A venue for the community to be more active and healthy | | | | | |
| <i>The Village would benefit from a new or an enhanced Village Hall with:-</i> | | | | | | |
| 4.4 | More space and a higher roof to hold a greater variety of activities | | | | | |
| 4.5 | Clean and efficient modern toilets | | | | | |
| 4.6 | An efficient heating system | | | | | |
| 4.7 | A modern commercial kitchen | | | | | |
| 4.8 | Wi-Fi access, Computer-compatible presentation and TV/ Audio equipment | | | | | |
| 4.9 | A separate meeting/committee/multi-functional room | | | | | |
| 4.10 | A natural focal point/stage | | | | | |
| 4.11 | Proper car parking surface and marked spaces | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| 4.12 | The open space in the current hall is too small | | | | | |
| 4.13 | The current building is not fit for purpose | | | | | |
| 4.14 | A Hall needs to be energy efficient and eco friendly | | | | | |

5.0. Which of these activities would you support if they were available – please tick all that apply?

| | |
|--|--|
| Cinema | |
| Amateur Drama | |
| Cubs, Scouts, Beavers, Guides Brownies etc | |

| | |
|---------------------------------|--|
| Badminton or other indoor sport | |
| Music concerts/dances | |
| Children's Dance classes | |
| Adult Dance classes | |
| Fitness training | |

5.1. What other things would your household or group like a hall to cater for?

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6.0. Please write here any further comments or suggestions you wish to make.

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THANK YOU for taking the time to complete this survey.

This Survey has been approved by the Okeford Fitzpaine Parish Council, which supports the Hall project.

Any queries should be referred to Ian Berry on 01258 860656