

Widcombe Village Hall survey

Summary of survey results

In May 2017 270 surveys were distributed to all households listed within the parish – this should allow all in the parish to contribute their views.

There were a number of points in the parish where surveys could be returned to, and 78 were returned, a 29% response rate.

Existing use of the Church House

87% of respondents had used the church house in the past 12 months. Of these users 12% used more than once per week, 22% every week, 31% every month, 17% every two months, 15% every six months and 3% once per year. 71% of respondents reported having visited within the last month.

Of those reporting use of the hall, the purposes of these visits were: Local club / society = 66%, Market / sale = 56%, Other 46%, Social event = 42%, Pre school = 28%, Private party = 22%. Other typically was voting or meetings.

28% of respondents had directly hired the hall, for various private and public events with attendance between 10 and 100 people.

Existing use of other halls

83% of respondents had used other village halls over the past 12 months at various frequencies, mainly less frequently than Church House.

Views on Church House

95% of respondents expressed a view on the adequacy of the existing hall. 1% said the existing hall is wholly adequate for all the needs of the parish, 29% felt the existing hall is mainly adequate, 51% said it is mainly inadequate and 13% felt it is wholly inadequate. 5% did not express a view.

Asked whether they would support the idea of a new hall, 95% expressed an opinion. 51% strongly agreed, 38% mainly agreed, 3% mainly disagreed and 3% strongly disagreed. 5% declined to state a position.

Facilities of a new hall

Various potential facilities were proposed. The questionnaire attempted to only focus on additional facilities, since certain fundamental items such as disabled access are legally required and would be a part of any new building. Nonetheless respondents typically restated these items since these are typical complaints about the existing hall. Of these additional facilities, extra catering facilities and facilities for larger groups were most popular. Investment in acoustics and additional meeting rooms were also highly rated.

Location of a new hall

Both Hayes Field (45% of respondents expressing an opinion chose this as favourite) and the Fair Field (42% of those respondents expressing an opinion) were similarly rated in terms of location, with the Parish Field (13% of respondents expressing an opinion) being rated much more lowly.

Other comments

A wide range of useful comments were made in addition.