

OLD VILLAGE HALL QUESTIONNAIRE - MARCH 2006

SUMMARY OF RESPONSES

Option 1	Demolish the Old Village Hall building and use the whole site as a village green.
Option 2	Pursue the de-registration process for the car park area and then sell the whole site in its current state, using the proceeds for the benefit of the village i.e. Capital Projects
Option 3	Place the building, in its current state, on the market for sale and pursue the de-registration of the car park area
Option 4	Any other suggestions - please give details

Questionnaire REF No	Option Selected	COMMENTS
OVH001	None	Restore the building to former state (apply for grant to do this) and use whole building for benefit of village. DO NOT DEMOLISH a part of village history
OVH002	None	I would ask why the hall has been allowed to fall into such disrepair. I understand that it was sold to the Parish Council at a knock down price on the understanding that it would be used as a village facility. What happened? Why was this allowed to happen? Can we trust any future developments? Questions need to be asked.
OVH003	None	Restore the Old Village Hall and park. There is a need for toilet and kitchen facilities backing up events at the Church and on the Village Green. If the Church is to survive it must be used for concerts etc.
OVH004	None	What is the point in having the village green and the village hall in two separate places? Who will use the extended village green? What is the difference between option 2 and 3? What is the current market value of the whole site? More information is needed prior to a decision being made.
OVH005	None	Keep it and use it.
OVH006	1 & 4	No.1 is ticked though economically may not be profitable. It would be a great mistake to allow control of the site to pass from the Council authority. Development in the heart of the village needs to be tasteful and suitable to fit in with surrounding buildings. The Council must watch that desire for money now doesn't affect future management of the site.
OVH007	1	Option 1 allows (negotiated) vehicular access for terraced cottages (to rear) on the inside of the bend; and removal of highway parking facilitates rehabilitation of function area, presently an eye sore.
OVH008	1	To pursue options 2 and 3 would mean the permanent loss of an opportunity to extend the village green. If the green were extended it would create a worthwhile and attractive centre to the village.
OVH009	1	No comment made
OVH010	1	No comment made
OVH011	1	If option 1 was carried out there would be a prime spot (I.e. passing traffic) for any fetes, stalls etc for fundraising.
OVH012	1	When I came to this village as a 13 year old, it was a village green. I'm now 90.

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OVH013	1	No comment made
OVH014	1	No comment made
OVH015	1	No comment made
OVH016	1	No comment made
OVH017	1	No comment made
OVH018	1	If option 1 is adopted and £7,000 is recovered, that money could be used to open up the area as a proper village green with seats, tubs of flowers, trees etc. - and I am sure that certain parts of the local community would undertake to look after it as a village amenity. This part of the green could be designed as an adult area and the other half would retain swings etc. If it is de-registered (a shame when so many villages are fighting to keep village greens) rather than sell it off why not make it into a proper car park to help with parking for the Church.
OVH019	1	We choose this option reluctantly after listening to the varied interest groups within the village. Our main concern with option 2 is that there is no guarantee that any buyer would be constrained to consider the sensitivity of the site and the visual impact of any development. Option 3 - the building with no land is unlikely to attract buyers willing to restore and develop it sympathetically. Option 4 - possible compromise - pursue de-registration with the firm promise to retain the Hall, selling it with enough land to make it viable (& a more attractive proposition) making a land to the cottages with parking at the back.
OVH020	1	No comment made
OVH021	2	No comment made
OVH022	2	No comment made
OVH023	2	No comment made
OVH024	2	No comment made
OVH025	2	No comment made
OVH026	2	No comment made
OVH027	2	No comment made
OVH028	2	This site could be used to provide affordable housing development
OVH029	2	No comment made
OVH030	2	The car park is liable to flooding on a regular basis. Drainage will be a priority for any developer. The Church was very badly treated over the sale of the OVH and some recompense in the light of its re-valuation. I believe planning permission was denied as a result of P.C. objections!!

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OVH031	2	The money raised from the sale should be used for the benefit of Swanton Morley's young children - a play group building - church lighting / heating. It <u>should not</u> be pulled down as it would spoil the historic character of the village centre.
OVH032	2	No comment made
OVH033	2	No comment made
OVH034	2	No comment made
OVH035	2	No comment made
OVH036	2	No comment made
OVH037	2	No comment made
OVH038	2	As 2 but use the site for the erection of affordable homes.
OVH039	2	No comment made
OVH040	2	No comment made. Option 3 selected as a second choice.
OVH041	2	Similar to (2) above, but sell it for affordable housing development. Residents would have a good selection of local facilities around them.
OVH042	2	As the children of our village are our future, I suggest that the Old Village Hall is demolished/ sold so that a purpose built playgroup can be set up in the village, especially now the mobile has been destroyed. It really depends on how generous the village is willing to be. Certainly capital projects should include providing premises for the village playgroup. Thank you for allowing us to voice our opinions.
OVH043	2	Perhaps it would be possible to sell the building for development into a quality residence - As this building is in a prime area of swanton morley it would be a shame to pull the building down and end up with a larger village green!
OVH044	2	Ensure all parishioners are fully enlightened on any "capital project" and thoroughly discussed at Parish meetings. Not someone's personal project.
OVH045	2	No comment made
OVH046	2	No comment made
OVH047	2	No comment made
OVH048	2	No comment made
OVH049	2	No comment made
OVH050	2	No comment made

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OVH051	2	Option 2 would seem to provide the most economic solution , however this would very much depend upon the timescale for completion of the de-registration of the car park. Perhaps an alternative may be to evaluate the option of using the building as a doctors surgery - the car park would then remain as it currently is. There would of course need to be some form of traffic calming either side of the car park entrance.
OVH052	2	No comment made
OVH053	2	Or demolish and use site for affordable housing
OVH054	2	No comment made
OVH055	2	No comment made
OVH056	2	I personally think no.2 is the only sound proposition; anything to benefit the village in a prosperous situation must surely be the best option
OVH057	2	No comment made
OVH058	2	Soon as possible. It's a terrible site
OVH059	2	No comment made
OVH060	2	Capital Project - e.g. would like to see the New Village Hall more attractively accessible i.e. driveway and proper car park and general tidy up to make it more welcoming to everyone, At the moment it's a disgrace to what could be a very attractive village hall. We have got to be proud of it.
OVH061	2	Having secured de-registration, take professional advice as regards best value and obtain outline planning consent before placing on market
OVH062	2	Proceeds of sale to support village hall and church
OVH063	2	Money to be used for well planned, costed viable projects. Money not to be given out adhoc.
OVH064	2	No comment made
OVH065	2	No Comment made
OVH066	2	I suggest that the site is sold to provide sheltered housing for elderly people of the village. This would fit in with the village green and would not generate vast amounts of traffic. Also, it would hopefully free up some Housing Association properties for younger families - also of the village
OVH067	2	Subsequent available land must, I would imagine, be linked with the increasing traffic flow at the junction (3 way) adjoining with the shops? To prevent possible congestion.
OVH068	2	No comment made
OVH069	2	No comment made
OVH070	2	No comment made

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OVH071	2	No comment made
OVH072	2	No comment made
OVH073	2	I suggest that the site may be best used for affordable housing for local people following de-registration of the car park
OVH074	2	With the proviso that the building cannot be demolished because of its historical connections i.e. village school
OVH075	2	Proceeds to be returned to Council reserves to reduce future precept.
OVH076	3	Old village hall should never have been purchased from church. Sell building quickly as possible and use money towards lowering council rates!!
OVH077	3	Although I believe the sale should go to assist with social housing in swanton morley i.e. sell to a developer for this purpose.
OVH078	3	No comment made
OVH079	3	No comment made
OVH080	3	You had a mandate to get rid of that eyesore years ago! Get rid of it now
OVH081	3	No comment made
OVH082	3	No comment made
OVH083	3	Option 3 - The sale of the site to a property developer who would provide affordable dwellings for young local families to buy
OVH084	3	Why was it bought in the first place!! Would playgroup like it as a gift from the parish if they could afford renovations?
OVH085	3	No comment made
OVH086	3	No comment made
OVH087	3	No comment made
OVH088	3	No comment made
OVH089	3	No comment made
OVH090	4	Why don't you do something for the children of swanton morley and futures 'ones'. Give it to the swanton morley playgroup. It's a shame you have just left it to rot!! It belongs to the village and should be used for the young people in the village
OVH091	4	Restore the village hall, use it for nursery school and facilities for events on the village green, and for the church and apply for grants
OVH092	4	Renovate the Old Village Hall to make available toilets and kitchens for events at Church or Village Green, or in the Old Village Hall

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OVH093	4	Retain the building. Reverse eight years of wilful neglect, refurbish the toilets and use the Village Green for Church and Village events. The Old Village Hall would serve as Parish address and office, relieving the present pressure on Hunters Hall. Don't waste any more money on de-registration of the Village Green
OVH094	4	Cyber café for use of Swanton Morley and making available for use by surrounding villages
OVH095	4	No 3 - except 'de-registration'. P.C. to retain car park area as a Village Green
OVH096	4	Demolish the old village hall and use the site for sheltered housing for the elderly of the village or low cost co-ownership housing for local people.
OVH097	2	No Comment made
OVH098	2	No comment made
Additional letter received		Your statement of the 'present situation' is incorrect. 1. You CAN permit the residents of the cottages vehicle access across the village green. I am sure you have a moral obligation to do so. 2. You can legally sanction temporary parking on the village green, for an event. It is your right. 3. It is not a prime site. It is a damp little dell which enjoys being overlooked by an elevated roadway and footpath. Then there would be the covenant allowing perpetual access for the inhabitants of the cottages. Isn't it a wonderful piece of luck that we are able to give our fellow villagers this opportunity. It is what community spirit is all about.