

RADLEY PARISH COUNCIL

NEW VILLAGE HALL PROPOSAL

REPORT ON PUBLIC MEETING HELD ON FRIDAY, 11 JULY 2008, AT 7.30 PM

PRESENT: Cr J Standen (in the Chair)
Crs Crowley, Davies, Johnston (for part), Rogers, D Standen, Wilson
Mr G Collett and Mrs V Hicks
Mr Richard Beauchamp
Approximately 100 members of the public

The Chairman thanked members of the public for attending.

There were statements by Councillors Bob Johnston and Guy Rogers and Mr Richard Beauchamp, Bursar of Radley College, on the proposal which had been developed by Radley College following an approach by residents of Radley and discussion with Chairmen of previous Parish Council.

During recent discussions between the Parish Council, members of the Village Hall Committee and Radley College it had been agreed in principle that it should be possible to structure a deal which, if residential development could be achieved on the Village Hall site, would allow the parties to share in the proceeds, including a new freehold Village Hall and Playing Fields for the Parish Council.

A plan of the current site of the village hall and playing field showed that the land, although in the Green Belt, fell within the village envelope. A plan of the land next to the Radley Primary School was shown as a possible site for the new development.

As both sites were in the Green Belt, it would be necessary to obtain dispensation from the Secretary of State in order for any development on them to take place. For this to happen, strong support for the project by the people of Radley would need to be demonstrated.

The members of the public were asked for initial views to the proposals and there followed a lively, and at times, heated discussion period. Opinion was divided – people from the vicinity of the present village hall were strongly opposed to the proposals whereas many saw merit in them. A show of hands indicated a 50/50 split.

The Chairman thanked the public for their participation and indicated that the Parish Council would be discussing this matter further.