

HEDLEY on the HILL Village Meeting on 10th October 2016

This meeting was held in response to the possibilities being raised of providing a Community Hall for the village. Those present included the Parish Council, the County Councillor, the Parish Clerk and approximately 22 members of the public. (Some drifted in late).

The Chairman of the Council addressed the above point and stated that the Council would be willing to facilitate any efforts the village community wished to make but it must be a village decision – hence the discussion. He laid out 4 main areas to consider initially after measuring the level of commitment from the village:

- a) IS a Village Hall wanted;
- b) Funding – a minimum of £250,000 would be needed in the worst instance which could be found from a mixture of grants, public loans; activities in the Village Hall etc.;
- c) A suitable location needs to be found, with room for parking of at least 50 sq.metres;
- d) The responsibility for progressing matters will lie with a Management Committee which needs to produce a Business plan to take it forward. The Council could only facilitate.

The Chairman opened the meeting for discussion and questions. There was a parallel request for a play area but dissenting voices argued against this. Following some half hour of discussion, the matter was going in circles. It was agreed, after a show of hands indicating approximately a 50:50 split for or against continuing that a small group of interested residents would get together and start to consider the above points in more detail prior to preparing a further discussion paper to present to a future parish council meeting. Cllr Watkins and the Clerk, Monica Anderton agreed to help where practicable and to attend the first meeting of the group when it was arranged.