

# A New Village Centre for Chidham and Hambrook Information Sheet

The proposal for a New Village Centre comes from the results of the Parish Plan Questionnaire, to which 82% of households responded.

## **Action Point 14 of the Parish Plan states:**

**'The possibility of providing a new multi-purpose village hall/social centre should be pursued. It should be located on a central site, possibly associated with a village green, and sufficient for the consolidation of existing facilities. It is recommended that the Parish Council co-ordinate discussion by appropriate bodies and individuals'**

- At present the parish is served by two community halls, Chidham Village Hall and St Wilfrid's Church and Hall, but each has limitations. In February 2006 the Parish Council set up a Working Group to examine the feasibility of providing such a new Village Centre for Chidham and Hambrook. See overleaf for the membership of the Group.
- Over the past twelve months, the Group has considered several possible sites for a Village Centre, having regard to discussions with landowners, the Anglican Diocese of Chichester, the local planning authority, Chichester District Council, the highway authority, West Sussex County Council and others.
- The Group has now agreed to pursue the possibility of using the St Wilfrid's site for a new Village Centre and has decided to consult all residents. A Questionnaire and Freepost return envelope will be delivered to each household.

## **OUTLINE PROPOSAL FOR A NEW VILLAGE CENTRE FOR CHIDHAM AND HAMBROOK**

- **Sell the existing Village Hall for residential use to raise funds for a new Village Centre**
- **Build a new Village Centre on the site, slightly enlarged, of the existing St Wilfrid's Church and Hall in Broad Road.**

- The new Village Centre would be set up as a charitable trust with its own management committee. Its operation and control would be similar to that of the existing Village Hall, which is run by and for the whole village community.
- In the proposal, the sale of the existing Village Hall would provide some finance and the Church would provide leased land. The Village Hall would be replaced with a new, viable hall with modern facilities and adequate car park. The Church would lose its present St Wilfrid's Church and Hall, but would gain a chapel within the new Village Centre, have rights of use of the Centre commensurate with its present use of St Wilfrid's and would be represented on the Village Centre management committee.
- The Parish Council has allocated up to £10 000 to take forward the feasibility study of the scheme. The owner of the adjoining land, Martin Bailey, has kindly agreed to sell some land so that sufficient space would be available for a really good Village Centre. Two anonymous persons have donated a total of £1000 towards the project. If there is sufficient support for the outline proposals, a bid for Big Lottery Funding will be made.

## **PLEASE COMPLETE AND RETURN THE SURVEY QUESTIONNAIRE EITHER:**

- **Use the Freepost Envelope provided. Post by Monday, 19 March.**
- **Hand it in at the Consultation Event in St Wilfrid's Hall, Broad Road, Saturday 17 March, 10 am to 4 pm.**



## **WHY CAN'T WE JUST KEEP THE VILLAGE HALL AND ST WILFRID'S HALL?**

**Village Hall – lovely old malthouse with great history, but:**

- Inadequate carparking
- Expensive to maintain and heat
- Difficult and costly to provide access for the disabled
- Layout difficult for events and functions
- Out-of-date facilities

**St Wilfrid's Church & Hall – much loved by church congregation, but:**

- Timber framed building, with a very limited life expectancy (2005 Inspection Report)
- Expensive to heat
- Inadequate facilities

**The two Halls are in competition with each other for custom and neither meets the requirement for a multi-purpose village hall/social centre. Replacing the two halls with just one Village Centre with modern facilities will answer these drawbacks and attract additional uses required for financial viability. The Village Centre would be run by and for the whole village community, but the church would have a presence in the building and representation on the management committee.**

## **WHAT KNOCK-ON EFFECTS IS THE VILLAGE CENTRE LIKELY TO HAVE?**

- The Centre would be designed and run such as to be as neighbour-friendly as possible. Issues such as noise and light spill, visual intrusion and security would be firmly addressed.
- The District Council advises that the building of a new Village Centre on the St Wilfrid's site, slightly enlarged, would have no effect on the probability of future development on the surrounding field.
- The Centre will be as environmentally friendly as possible.

### **TWO CHANCES TO WIN A FAMILY HAMPER !! FREE RAFFLES!**

We need as many people as possible to take part in the Village Centre Survey, otherwise we will not really know what people think about the proposals.

**So, the local Co-op has kindly donated two hampers to encourage residents to -**

- **Attend the Consultation Event**
- **Complete and Return the Questionnaire**
  - **Just turn up at the Consultation Event to get free entry to Raffle One**
  - **See the Questionnaire to find out how to enter the free Raffle Two**

## **WHAT WILL THE VILLAGE CENTRE COST?**

We are only at the Feasibility Study stage of the project. Detailed costs will be worked out if residents accept the Outline Proposal. However, the total cost is likely to be about a million pounds. Most of this sum would come from the sale of the Village Hall and from the Big Lottery Fund.

## **WHO IS ON THE VILLAGE CENTRE FEASIBILITY STUDY WORKING GROUP?**

The following people were appointed to represent the organisations indicated.

Parish Council	Cliff Archer	Working Group Chairman
Parish Council	Steve Clark	
Parish Council	Sandra James	
Village Hall Committee	Rod Isted	
Village Hall Committee	Steve Tanner	
Parochial Church Council	Harry Bates	
Parochial Church Council	Canon David Pain	
Hambrook Residents' Association	Andy Collins	

**PLEASE SEND QUESTIONNAIRE BY FREEPOST OR BRING TO EVENT**

