

Your help and views are needed NOW to save your Village Hall and Sports Pavilion



The Parish Council and Action4Acomb have been working on your behalf to identify how to improve our community facilities



In 2014 Acomb residents told us that you:

- want more village-based activities
- feel there are no suitable buildings
- perceive neglect and a lack of maintenance of our buildings
- want more modern facilities e.g. kitchen, electrical sockets, storage

In response to your views we arranged a feasibility study that looked at the state of our community buildings and presented a number of options for consideration.

A detailed summary of this report is attached but you may have some other ideas of what is needed, and we are ready to listen to you.

What can you do?

We're asking every household in Acomb to let us know what you want your community buildings to look like and how you wish them to be looked after in the future.

Please take a little time to look at the options, and at the end of this information sheet we ask you to indicate your view on the best way forward. Someone will come to your home to collect the attached questionnaire and answer any questions you may have.

What else do I need to consider?

As always, nothing is ever quite as straightforward as it first seems! There are some issues that will influence what can be achieved, and what is sensible and realistic:

Ownership of the land: The Village Hall sits on land that has around 31 years remaining on its lease. A longer lease would help us to be successful in gaining grant funding for projects related to the Hall. We can't assume the lease can be extended into the future and no progress has been made with the land owners who don't wish to explore this further at this time.

Access to the playing fields: Access is too limited and we have been advised that in order to develop any buildings on the playing fields wider vehicular access is needed, especially for emergency vehicles. Our assumptions for future development of the playing fields does, however, assume we can overcome this issue.

Funding: Any consideration of funding needs to take account of an additional 20% VAT and fund-raising targets need to be sensible and realistic. This may mean looking at both short and long term options.



Where's the money going to come from?

A small Communities Buildings budget already exists, but this may have to be used on urgent work that cannot wait. The Parish Council has been slowly growing this pot of money but any large project will need much more than this. That is why it's important for us to seek grant funding. Most recently the Parish Council and A4A jointly have been successful in applying for grant funding to develop the Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA) on the Playing Fields where nearly £60,000 has been raised through Sports England and Section 106 Sports Funding.

Not everything needs to be done at once. Projects can be broken down into smaller areas of work that can be done at different times as funds become available. Any really big venture will need the whole community to pull together and get involved, including helping to raise funds. In any event, the way ahead needs to be identified so that any changes or developments can be properly planned and managed.

As a member of Acomb community, please let us know what you want to happen, and better still please tell us if you're willing to work with us.

As time moves on, the fabric of the Village Hall and the Playing Fields Pavilion continue to deteriorate. If either, or both, of these can be saved then decisions about their future must be made NOW.

What are the Options and how much does each cost?

Option 1:

Urgent repairs and the provision of a new kitchen and toilets in the village hall:

Estimate: £150,000 - £275,000

Improvements can be made in stages depending on their urgency and the availability of funding. The Parish Council already has a small pot of money they can use to start some of the work needed, and further funds can be created over time for additional projects.



Option 2:

Full refurbishment of the Village Hall: Estimate: £550,000

This plan includes the incorporation of *Little Oaks Nursery and provides office space, disability access and a meeting room that could be hired out to generate income.



Option 3: Full re-build of the Village Hall: Estimate: £886,000

A full re-building of the Village Hall

based on the footprint of the current building, and small amount of extra parking



e. g. the new Village Hall at Bardon Mill

Option 4: Plus Little Oaks Nursery: Estimate: £1,110,000

New Village Hall with integrated space for *Little Oaks Nursery.

Option 5: Purpose built multi-use community and sports facility

Estimate: £1,632,000 - £1,939,000

This option entails building a new facility on the Playing Field incorporates community facilities such as meeting rooms and office(s), large space for village activities and sports changing and hosting spaces. The specific design and facilities

would be determined by public consultation. The most ambitious option within this also includes provision for *Little Oaks Nursery.

Option 6: Full Refurbishment of the sports pavilion: Estimate: £112,560

*When the feasibility study was prepared we were seeking to help Little Oaks Nursery find a new home in Acomb. This is why it is included in some of the options above. The Nursery circumstances have since changed.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT AND HOW CAN YOU HELP?

Please think about the information provided, including the more detailed summary report attached. The options provided are examples of what could be taken forward but there may be other suggestions you wish to put forward on the size of and facilities in the building(s). In other words, we do not need to go with the suggestions provided, we can tailor make options to best suit what is needed in Acomb.

Consider what might be sensible, achievable and realistic for our community.

We also appeal for your help and involvement in taking things forward in the future. As a member of Acomb community, please let us know what you want to happen, and better still please tell us if you're willing to work with us. If you'd like to help, please let us know in what way you could be involved, along with sharing your contact details.

On the attached sheet please indicate how strongly you feel about each of the options. If you have any different ideas, please also describe them.

There will be public open events in the Village Hall on Thursday 20th June between 11:00 am and 2:00 pm (to coincide with the monthly Pop-up café) and between 6:00 pm and 7:30 pm. Please come along and meet some of your Parish Councillors and Action4Acomb (A4A) Committee members and tell us your thoughts face to face.

If you have any queries, please contact: 07711 334521

For further information about this and the work of your Parish Council and A4A, please visit the following websites:

Acomb Parish Council: www.acomb.ukpc.net

Action4Acomb: www.action4acomb.co.uk

or try our Facebook page at: www.facebook.com/Action4Acomb

Questionnaire

Community Buildings, Your Preferred Options

*Based on each of the options described above, please indicate how much you like or dislike each one by circling **only one** of the numbers against each of them.
Remember, you should consider what is sensible, realistic and achievable.*

	I really don't like	I'm not too keen	I'm unsure	I quite like	I really like
Option 1 Urgent repairs to village hall, new kitchen & toilets Est: £150,000 - £275,000	1	2	3	4	5
Option 2 Full refurbishment of Village Hall Est: £550,000	1	2	3	4	5
Option 3 Full re-build of Village Hall Est: £886,000	1	2	3	4	5
Option 4 Plus Little Oaks Nursery Est: £1,110,000	1	2	3	4	5
Option 5 Purpose built multi-use community & sports facility Est: £1,632,00 - £1,939,000	1	2	3	4	5
Option 6 Full refurbishment of the sports pavilion Est: £112,560	1	2	3	4	5

What other ideas do you have about the future of the Village Hall and Sports Pavilion?

Do you have any time or skills you would be willing to share for the benefit of maintaining and developing our village facilities? *For example: leaflet distribution, attendance at public meetings, helping with refreshments, support with fund-raising, knowledge of building trade, quantity surveying, architecture, engineering, project management skills or anything else that would be helpful.* If so, please describe them and provide us with your contact details below.

Name:

Telephone Number:

Email Address:

Description of how you may be able to contribute:

The information you have provided will be collected anonymously and fed back to you at a public meeting and through the Parish Council Newsletter and other medium in the near future. ***Please detach this questionnaire from this booklet and complete.***

One of our village volunteers will come to take receipt of your questionnaire sometime in the next couple of weeks

THANK YOU!