

New Village Hall
Update for Hall AGM – May 2018

The last 12 months:

- A straw poll (almost 100 people) at the Village Fete showed good support for new activities in a new hall.
- Lottery funding was bid for and won in September. The funding has been applied to the two community gatherings and will also be available to support other consultative and research activity.
- The “gatherings” came up with many new ideas and showed there is very positive community support for the New Hall concept.
- The Neighbourhood Plan has been fully approved (only the second one in the county) confirming that there are two acceptable sites for a New Hall.
- Representatives of the Parish Council have met with the owners/agents of both sites together with North Dorset District Council planning officials. These meetings have confirmed both the basic viability of and the likely key planning considerations for each site/scheme.
- North Dorset planning officials have also confirmed that they are looking to the Parish Council to come forward with a preferred site/scheme.

Next Steps:

- The Parish Council will shortly be discussing how it will come to a decision between the sites.
- The NVH project team and Trustees need to draw up a statement about the differing impact that each site/scheme is likely to have on the New Hall and provide support to the Parish Council in its next actions.
- With an eye to achieving considerable progress over the next twelve months on the basis of having a selected site, there will be a focus on detailed planning, on fund raising and accessing grants/other support
- There will also need to be a start on putting flesh on the bones of the ideas for future activities and on developing the business management (systems, marketing etc) of the new hall.