

THE FUTURE OF DUNCHURCH LIBRARY

CURRENT SITUATION & CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

The consultation is over and Dunchurch protested very strongly about the threat to close our library. The future of all 16 libraries in Warwickshire selected for closure will be decided at a meeting of the County Council's Cabinet on 14 July. It is believed that their proposals will not be rescinded.

As well as protesting, your Parish Council has been working extremely hard to formulate a plan to save the library. Business plans were requested by WCC from community groups that wished to keep their local libraries open and Dunchurch has submitted its plan to run the library using volunteers.

That sounds easy but it isn't; it is going to require a great deal of work and effort from many people to run a viable volunteer-led library. The plan is to diversify the use of the library building for all manner of gatherings and club meetings. The aim is to make the building, alongside its library service, a village centre hub that is a valued asset and widely used. This will generate funds that will offset some of the costs of running our library almost all of which WCC wish to be rid of.

It is believed that we have a good plan which will be widely supported by library users and the village as a whole, but there is lots to do. Improvements to the building are needed, in particular better toilet facilities are required. Lots of practical help will be needed to run this library and substantial sums of money need to be raised. All avenues of funds raising will be explored. There are many sources of grant aid to fund capital needs but our own local efforts will be required to meet the everyday costs of running the library.

Above all volunteers are needed so that the long term financing and manning of the library can be assured. Volunteers working in the library itself will all be trained in the various skills that will be required- but there are other, equally valued, tasks for volunteers.

If you feel you would like to help and save this valuable community asset let us know either by contacting the Parish Clerk in person at the office or via telephone or email.

Dunchurch Parish Council, 6 The Green, Dunchurch, CV22 6NX

Tel.: 01788 817550

Email: clerk@dunchurchpc.org

Alternatively there will be a stall at this year's Village Fete on Saturday 25th June at the Village Hall and Sports Field where you can indicate your willingness to help