

Notes of North Yarmouth consultation event held on 22nd June 2017 at Alderman Swindell Primary School

Present

75 members of public (staff, parents and residents)

Alison Hopley, Headteacher, Alderman Swindell Primary School

Mick Castle, County Councillor

NCC; Isabel Horner, Karen Hutchinson, Chris Hey and Caroline Money

Caroline Money welcomed everyone and explained the format of the session;

- Outline of proposal and process
- Comments from the Headteacher
- Questions about the proposal.

Caroline Money outlined the background, the proposal and the Council's reason behind the proposal.

Alison Hopley spoke about the proposal and its impact on the school. The Governors took a decision on 24th May to mount a 'save our school' campaign in the long term interests of the community. She also outlined that the County Council's proposal was full of inaccuracies and that parents needed the facts for an informed decision.

Mick Castle spoke in response to the Headteacher and was concerned about the misinformation involved in the campaign and that he felt given the state of the current buildings, a 21st century school would be good for the children now and in the future.

There were heated exchanges with the public.

Issues raised by the audience

- Re-use of Alderman Swindell building, told it would not be Special Education Needs, but now saying it could be, concerned about Special Education Needs provision at school
- Costs of new school, why not invest in current schools,
- Ofsted rating of North Denes Primary dates from 2014 and is now a coasting school, why moving to that school, why relying on an old Ofsted report.
- Unfair treatment of Alderman Swindell staff, why should they lose their jobs
- Request for an evening consultation event
- Have you visited the school, talked the staff and pupils.
- Challenge on the costings for the new build and refurbishment of the 2 schools
- Admissions; will every child go to North Denes if proposal goes ahead.

Norfolk County Council officers stayed at the end to answer individual questions, on the above issues.