

Not an Excuse for Houses

There has been a persistent rumour that the plan to build a new village hall would lead to housing development alongside it. We asked the Planning Department for their view. The following is a direct quote. (The CRtBO referred to is the Community Right to Build Order process that we are proposing using as you will have seen in the July Update.)

Quote from Wiltshire Council Planning Department :-

“You can never say that a site will never be developed but the development of a village hall on the blue site will not make it any more likely that the yellow site will be developed for housing. Refer to policies 1 and 2 of the Core Strategy – Cherhill is



designated as a ‘small village’ and it is expected that only a limited amount of development would come forward as infill sites; infill is described in the Core Strategy as the filling of a small gap within the village that is only large enough for not more than a few dwellings, generally only one dwelling. The yellow site could not be described as infill development and therefore would not be in accordance with the Core Strategy.

Exceptions to this approach would be considered if they came via the neighbourhood plan process and if you wanted to, you could authorise small scale housing development for community benefit via the CRtBO route. However, if your proposal for the CRtBO is a new village hall only, this would not lead to housing development on adjoining land as it would not be in accordance with the Core Strategy.”

Hopefully this makes the situation clear. **Housing development would not be allowed on that site unless we as a community want it.** It is certainly not part of the plan for a new village hall and will not be.