

Written Comments from Portslade Community Forum Public Meeting

Monday 24th February at Portslade Village Centre

(Concerning proposals for PCC to become an Academy and the effect on Community Services such as Portslade Village Centre, Portslade Sports Centre, Adult Education, Library and the Pavilion Playgroup)

Cllr Les Hamilton, South Portslade

The continuation of the community facilities is essential if the Academy is to receive community support. BHCC MUST put in the necessary funding to maintain all the community facilities. Without them the Academy will not be accepted.

Robin Hurst, Portslade Community Forum

It is essential that both the Aldridge Foundation and Brighton and Hove Council come to an agreement as to continuing community use of buildings and funding.

Jo Fuller, North Portslade Community Newsletter Editor

The Village Centre is essential to Portslade and after tonight's meeting I feel it is more under threat than I thought! I also feel that tonight threw up more questions for me than it answered. So Many 'maybes' and 'unable to say at present'!

Cllr Bob Carden, North Portslade

The complete Community College set up must remain as it is which is to benefit the community.

Sonia Bowrah, Resident

I am unable to attend tonight's meeting but have heard that youth facilities have been stopped at the Village Centre. I do not know if this is true but have heard a friend's grandson can no longer attend one evening a week. I would like to support any move to reinstate the youth facilities should this be so and am deeply concerned should there not be any youth meetings/activities for youngsters. I look forward to hearing from you in due course.

Unnamed Comments

Hopefully the Youth Review recognises the value of the Village Centre

It would be a disgrace to lose all of the facilities a whole **COMMUNITY HAS BUILT**. For the sake of moving towards something which will be shown to be a 'Pig in a poke' in the future.

What will happen to the 6th Form site if the academy goes ahead? Is it true that Falmer and PCC 6th Forms are to be amalgamated?

Concerned that all community activity in Portslade and supported by the Village Centre continue if PCC becomes an academy.

It is extremely worrying that that Village Centre Services are seriously under threat. Our Community **NEEDS** the village centre and we are prepared to fight for it!

Very concerned about the future of community services. As a local resident with 2 children these are an invaluable community resource and **MUST NOT GO**. I came to this meeting to find out about the impact of academisation on services but very early on both council rep and Aldridge Foundation said that those decisions were part of wider decisions that they had little power/influence over.

All that I have heard this evening has – sadly- failed to reassure me. I am concerned at the lack of a requirement for significant, meaningful consultation and Governor involvement of parents and local residents. Representatives of the Aldridge Foundation offered every reassurance they were able to yet they have nearly absolute authority and what is to stop them changing these policies weeks, months, years down the line? Where is the constitutional commitment to this involvement?

Me and my friends have been coming to the Village Centre for years and if it is shut us and other children will have nowhere to go.