

RESPONSE TO SCHOOL CONSULTATION GROUP'S NEWSLETTER

1. The proposal is for a three class primary school. This is not a LARGE school in fact it is classed as a small rural primary and is a primary school without a nursery school attached. The playgroup is a different issue (**highlighted in 1st paragraph**).
2. There has been consultation over the amalgamation of the two schools and there was no objection to this proposal from either Caynhan or Ashford Carbonel. This consultation took the form of two public meetings, one in each village, and then further opportunities for comment via the Shropshire County Council website. (**2nd paragraph**).
3. The Chair of Governors of Ashford Carbonel has not been consulted by the Group, which I think would have been the most sensible thing to do before writing this newsletter. (**Aims of School Consultation Group**).
4. The education in both schools is at present of a high standard. (**See recent OfSTED reports (Position 1)**).
5. On (**Position 2**) I cannot comment as I was away on holiday at the time.
6. The School Consultation Group ought to be aware that schools are not governed by Parish boundaries but by school catchment areas. The projection made by the LEA is that there will be significantly more pupils from the catchment area in the next few years.
7. The reason for locating the school in this village is that it is almost central to the catchment area and as stated above pupil numbers are projected to increase.
8. NO the Eco Park has not been considered as it is not in either school's catchment area and most importantly as both of these schools are Church of England schools, it is very important that the new school is within easy walking distance of a church.
9. The points regarding traffic engineering are ridiculous and really don't need my comments, suffice to say that the LEA have no intention of removing the hedges. All the building etc. will take place behind the hedge and if possible the access will be off the Caynham road. In any case the parking, turning space etc. will all be in the grounds of the new school. The LEA have not got the money to put all these "over the top" suggestions in place. What the village might gain is better visibility when exiting onto the Caynham road. (Not before time).
10. The design of the new school will have a great deal of input from the children, staff, governors, parents and residents of both villages. It will be a flagship school and will not be '*ultra-modern*'. It will be a single storey building and will be in keeping with the rest of the village, not as implied by the large imposing photograph at the top of the Newsletter!!!!!! The security lighting will be no more than what is there at present.
11. I cannot think how this school is going to negatively impact on the amenities of the residents, especially of those close to the school. In fact I would have thought that these residents, in particular, would benefit as the school will move further away from their houses and will not be directly in their view.
12. The village will decide what, if any, community facilities are provided and how and who uses them.
13. **The final paragraph.** As far as I can make out planning permission for a new school is considerably easier to obtain than one for housing so I cannot see why this would affect the future use of the field.

G. Hall

Chair of Governors, Ashford Carbonel Church of England Primary School.

29.06.08