

A New Village Hall/Community Centre for Great Hockham

Consultation – 2026

Hockham Village Hall (The Edinburgh Hall)

The current Village Hall, built 70 years ago, is managed by a group of trustees (Village Hall Management Committee) and operates as a registered charity (independent from Hockham Parish Council).

It has been located on its present site since the 1950s, providing an invaluable facility for residents of the village and surrounding areas. It continues to serve as a cornerstone of village life.

The village hall has been used for a wide range of events over the years, music, theatre, sports, arts and well-being activities to name a few. However, it is increasingly clear that the building is outdated and no longer fully meets the needs of our growing community or standards that are expected.

Playing Fields

Hockham Playing Field (5.6 acres approx.) was first leased from Hockham Estate by the Playing Field Association in the 1960's. In 2001 the lease was transferred to Hockham Parish Council and the current Pavilion (which replaced a much smaller cricket pavilion) was built in 2002.

The current Pavilion has been used for a wide range of events over the years, including live music concerts, open-air cinema, and the annual fireworks display. It has also hosted the village Playgroup and provided changing facilities for both the village Cricket and Football teams.

While the current Pavilion served the community well for 20 years, modern day sports requirements & regulations have resulted in the current Pavilion falling into disuse.

The Woodsford Charity

The Woodsford Charity was set up and registered in 2023 following the death of Christine Woodsford. The charity is managed by three trustees, - village residents - Chris Garrod, Chris Wiltshire & Aaron Lambert.

The charity is embarking on an exciting vision for the future, exploring opportunities to create a vibrant new community facility. We are investigating the potential for a modern, inclusive facility that will bring people together through sport, creativity, wellbeing, and shared experiences. By exploring what is needed and what is possible, the project aims to create a legacy that enriches lives and strengthens the community for years to come.

Please return your Consultation form to The Eagle public house

Consultation Survey

Your views are important. The Woodsford Charity would love to hear your thoughts. This survey is an opportunity for everyone in the community to share ideas, aspirations, and needs.

Whether you already use local facilities or would like to see new opportunities available, your feedback will help ensure that any future community venue reflects the needs and aspirations of residents.

Your feedback will help guide future plans and ensure it is shaped by the people who know and care about the village most to create a sustainable and welcoming community centre.

The consultation survey will close **mid-November 2026**.

Your Data Protection Rights

In accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), we are committed to protecting your personal data and ensuring transparency about how it is used.

Purpose of the Survey

This survey is being conducted to gather feedback on the redevelopment project and your responses will help us better understand community needs.

Data Collected

We are collecting demographic information and opinions. Participation is voluntary, and you may choose to skip any questions. You may choose to provide additional data such as name and email address in relation to certain questions.

How Your Data Will Be Used

Your responses will be used solely for research and analysis purposes related to the Hockham Village Hall Redevelopment project. Data will be anonymized wherever possible and will not be shared with third parties without your consent.

Data Retention

Your data will be stored securely and retained for no longer than necessary to fulfil the purposes described above, and in accordance with our data retention policy.

Your Rights

Under GDPR, you have the right to:

Access your data

Request correction or deletion of your data

Withdraw your consent at any time

Lodge a complaint with a data protection authority

By continuing with this survey, you confirm that you understand how your data will be used and consent to participate under these terms.

Thank you for taking the time to participate in our community consultation.



The Woodsford Charity

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DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

1) Do you live in Great Hockham?

2) Which of the following age categories applies to you?

Under 12	12-16	17-24
25-39	40-54	55-64
65-74	Over 75	

3) What is your gender?

Male	Female	Non-binary
Other	Prefer not to say	

4) Please tell us the number of people living in your home in each of the following age groups.

Under 12	12-16	17-24
25-39	40-54	55-64
65-74	Over 75	

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Your Experience of the Village Hall and Current Facilities

1) How often do you use the Village Hall?

Daily	Weekly	Monthly
Quarterly	Half Yearly	Annually
Never		

If you answered 'never' to this question, please tell us why

[illegible]

2) To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements:

Hockham needs a new and reconfigured Village Hall, to better suit the needs of the community
Strongly Agree
Agree
Neither Agree nor Disagree
Disagree
The Village Hall provides a facility to bring all members of the community together in different ways.
Strongly Agree
Agree
Neither Agree nor Disagree
Disagree
The Village Hall provides an opportunity to access and enjoy village life.
Strongly Agree
Agree
Neither Agree nor Disagree
Disagree
The Village Hall provides a venue for the community, to be more active and healthier.
Strongly Agree
Agree
Neither Agree nor Disagree
Disagree

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3) What events or activities have you, or a member of your household, attended at the Village Hall in the last 12 months?

Tick all that apply

Parish Council Meeting		Summer Fair	
Annual Village Meeting		Tai Kwon Do	
Christmas Fayre /Twilight Market		Gardening Club	
Yoga		Coffee, Cake & Chat	
Children's Party		Theatre Performance	
Private Function		Carpet Bowls	
Village Craft & Produce Show		Dog Training	
Art Class		Sound Bath	

If you have attended another event/activity not listed above, please write here.

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4) What features of the current village hall do you like?

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5) What features of the current village hall do you dislike?

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6) What prevents you currently from using the village hall more?

Please rank the following in order of importance (**1 being the most important and 12 being the least important**) when considering barriers that prevent you from being able to or wanting to use the village hall.

Lack of Disabled access/facilities
Hall already in use (inability to have concurrent bookings)
General condition of the hall
Hall not energy efficient. Does not use green technologies
Layout/design is incompatible with needs
Poor car parking
Ease of booking
Kitchen space
Lavatories poor
Lack of modern IT
Lack of sporting activities
Lack of creative activities
Other

Please add any additional comment below:

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Vision for a New Village Hall and Community Centre

The Village Hall Charity Trustees and the Parish Council both agree that a purpose-built, modern Village Hall and Community Centre would be a major asset for the village. A new facility would provide a versatile and accessible space capable of hosting a wider range of events, supporting more clubs and activities for people of all ages, improving health and wellbeing, and serving as a vibrant hub for community life for decades to come.

Developing a new hall on the Playing Field would not only replace the ageing Village Hall and the disused Pavilion but would also provide space for larger community events and help to re-establish local sports and creative and performing arts activities. It would meet the needs of the whole village and support future generations.

1) Having seen the proposed designs for a new village hall/community centre, which features you like most and why?

2) Are there any design elements you feel should be removed, added or are unnecessary?

Children's Play Area and Outdoor Recreation

Providing high-quality play facilities is an important part of creating a welcoming and vibrant community space for children, young people, and families. In addition to the existing play equipment, we are exploring opportunities to upgrade and enhance the play area to better meet the needs of local residents.

We would like to understand what types of play equipment, outdoor activities, and recreational features would be most valued by children and families in the community. Your feedback will help us identify priorities for future improvements and ensure that the play area provides engaging, inclusive, and enjoyable opportunities for people of all ages.

We already have some play equipment in place, but we're keen to hear your suggestions for future improvements.

- 1) What events, sports or activities would you, or a member of your household, like to take part in on the playing field?**

List below anything you think might be appropriate:

- 2) When would you be most likely to use or hire the village hall/community centre?**

	Mon-Fri	Weekends
Mornings		
Afternoons		
Evenings		

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- 3) **Do you think the proposed new village hall/community centre will meet the growing and changing needs of the Hockham community?** What facilities, activities or features would you like to see in a future village hall/community centre? What types of activities, events, clubs, classes, or services would you or members of your household be interested in attending or participating in at a new village hall and community centre?

Accessibility and Inclusion

A new community centre should be welcoming and accessible to everyone. We would like to understand any access requirements or improvements that would help people make full use of the facility.

What features would make the new community centre more accessible and welcoming for people of all ages and abilities?

How important are the following accessibility features to you?

Please rank the following in order of importance (**1 being the most important and 8 being the least important**)

Step-Free Access	
Accessible Parking	
Accessible Toilets and changing facilities	
Hearing Loop Systems	
Good Lighting and Signage	
Automatic doors	
Accessible outdoor space	
Quiet Room or sensory space	

Do you have any additional comments or suggestions?

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Businesses/Community Groups/Home Workers

We are keen to understand how the new facility could support local businesses, home workers, organisations, and community groups.

Would you or a group you are involved with be interested in using the new village hall and community centre? If so, please comment below.

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We welcome any additional comments. If there is anything else you would like to tell us about the proposed new village hall and community centre, or any additional ideas you would like us to consider, please add them below.

Community Involvement as the Project Develops.

This project can only succeed with the support, ideas, and involvement of our community. As plans progress, there may be opportunities for residents to contribute their time, skills, experience, local knowledge, professional expertise, or practical support.

Whether you can offer a few hours of volunteering, help with fundraising, share specialist skills, or support events and activities, every contribution can make a real difference.

We would love to hear from anyone interested in helping to shape the future of this exciting community project.

Are there any skills, expertise, resources, or time that you could offer to help? Tick those that apply

Grant Funding Applications		Building Maintenance	
Door to Door Flyer Distribution		Helping at fundraising events	
Volunteer to help with the project		Social Media / IT	
Free legal Advice		Run a regular activity, club or society	
Financial Support/Donation		Participate and received future presentations and give feedback	
Marketing the Project		Other	

If you answered 'other' please state below:

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If you would like to be involved in the next stages of the project, please provide your contact details below and we will be in touch.

Name	
Email	
Telephone	

What Happens Next?

Thank you for taking the time to share your views. Your feedback will play a vital role in helping us understand the needs and aspirations of our community.

The Woodsford Charity will carefully review and analyse all survey responses before preparing a report to share with residents and the Parish Council. The findings will help inform the next stages of the project and ensure that future plans reflect the priorities of the community.

If you know someone who was unable to attend today or if you would like to revisit the information and designs on display, we will be making the presentation and survey available online. Details will be shared via the Redevelopment Blog on our website, the village Facebook page, and the next edition of the Village Newsletter.

We are committed to making the survey accessible to everyone. If you require a printed copy or a large-print version, please do get in touch and we will be happy to help.

Contact Us

If you have any questions, please contact us at:
mail@TheWoodsfordCharity.org



The Woodsford Charity

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