

## **Chinnor Branch Library**

### Summary of Suggestions from responders to Residents' Questionnaire

23.2.11

Many suggestions have been made by more than one responder. The fact that a response is not reproduced below does not mean that it has not been read.

- 1 I would be prepared to pay an annual fee of £10 to be a member.
- 2 I would like to see the Parish Precept increased to for a community library.
- 3 Why not combine the Library and Parish Council buildings.
- 4 Close the branch, sell the building, use the proceeds to fund the library and out the library in one of the many village public buildings. Place money in trust fund.
- 5 Open only three days a week
- 6 Have a small charge for loans.
- 7 Use part of the £2.2million due to the County to fund the branch
- 8 I would rather pay a precept for a Parish Warden when the PCSO in not on duty
- 9 Cuts should be across the County. We all pay council tax, this way no one library would lose out completely
- 10 I prefer option 3 but we should include a study centre to avoid at-home distractions
- 11 We should have a reduction in council tax if the branch closes
- 12 How can a library run with volunteers. It will be a charity shop
- 13 Although I am prepared to see volunteers extending library hours I cannot countenance volunteers completely replacing paid staff. A form of government-inspired “scabbing”. I am prepared to pay extra precept but presume I am already paying for a library within my council tax
- 14 I would rather pay £1 each time I go in or £10 per annum
- 15 We should reduce hours across the County. Other counties are doing this. We've already paid for a service. Do not complicate with volunteers.
- 16 Close the Parish Council office in Station Road and relocate to the library premises.
- 17 I would pay the Parish Council more if we're refunded council tax.
- 18 I would willingly pay a subscription bit on the principle that other districts will be having a full service for no extra “rates” I must say “No”. If however the cuts are made across the County then I would be happy with an increase in the Parish Precept.

- 19 Community library? No. How could we be sure that the building and land would not be sold?
- 20 Combine library with Thame and have both open on three alternating days.
- 21 There is no argument to justify keeping libraries open full time. People who “read only” can change their books in three days.
- 22 All Oxfordshire householders pay council tax – why penalise some communities and not others.
- 23 Rather than increasing the precept, I suggest that you apply a “zero-based” budgetting technique to the current precept. Why close libraries while constructing bowling greens? Why new social facilities when we can't clear snow from the pavement?
- 24 Costs should be paid from cuts in OCC admin costs
- 25 We have seen similar programmes of closure of village libraries in the past. The result was to raise money for a mobile library and for that library to be run on a volunteer basis. It worked very well. This flysheet is very suggestive that we can't do without an expensive library. We jolly well can
- 26 Would be happy to pay a small charge for hire of books but suggest children's books remain free. Late return fee should be retained
- 27 If option 3 is used I would suggest it was funded by those who use it and not by all of the village.
- 28 Sack some officers
- 29 Perhaps we need to re-think what we require in a library as so much material is now available via the computer. Should we consider the possibility of combining our Town Hall/Council Offices, provide one facility for ALL our local/preference info?
- 30 Concurrent action on 2, 3 and 4 is not incompatible. Why not issue books loaned out at a small weekly fee to support centre cover admin costs?
- 31 Membership card £30 p.a?
- 32 Subscription card scheme £10 - £15 per ticket
- 33 If we allow the library to close it will never open again
- 34 I would like to see frontline staff paid as present- as these folk do a great job. Wonder if other roles can be filled by volunteers and working groups or if a fund-raising committee of volunteers might be able to pay for the library
- 35 A reminder to OCC that Chinnor is a village in name only but is the size of a small town.
- 36 Would it be possible the Parish Office into the library? With possible savings on rent and heating costs

37 Run library with a charity sponsor like Oxfam, selling books as well as lending. There is room for both selling and lending. [This responder has also volunteered to help]

38 Thame to sell new library building and relocate to #Town Hall. Money from sale to be given back to supply libraries in South Oxon

39.1 Use building to house the autism unit

39.2 Have an internet cafe

39.3 Give everyone free broadband

39.4 Have free bus pass for people aged up to 25 to Thame library or mobile library

[All of 39 came from one respondent]

40 Reduce non-jobs at County Hall. Reduce high pay for top earners

To increase income to the library make more use of the building e.g. allow responsible groups to meet there. Rent out small rooms. Have a story-telling group which would be a paid-for activity