

CAUNTON PARISH COUNCIL

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Pupil Place Planning
Nottinghamshire County Council
County Hall
West Bridgford
Nottinghamshire
NG2 7QP
14th November 2025

Dear Sir or Madam

Stage one Consultation- Dean Hole C of E Primary School

This response has been compiled on behalf of Caunton Parish Council which is the entity that has been a party to all Legal agreements and formal understandings with the County Council regarding all interests of the village and community of Caunton, in the School premises and grounds, since the building of the school in the 1970's to present time.

We hope that our understanding of the village/community interests set out below will assist with your consultation exercise.

When the school premises were built, the Parish Council made a funding contribution to building costs to specifically provide:

- A raised height to the hall making it suitable for adults
- A chair store
- A scullery/servery
- A Parish room

It was agreed that these 'interests' listed above would come under the control of the Parish Council. A management committee would have responsibility for running and taking decisions on the community interests and the hall would be treated as a normal Village Hall. This would all be in return for an annual charge from the Parish Council (commencing at £30.00 p.a.) to cover rates, heating, lighting, maintenance and cleaning which would be provided by the County Council and the School. The Parish Council would retain hire income from these spaces and would provide adult furniture and fit out items. The County Council would be the owner of the premises and grounds.

The school opened in July 1971.

It was agreed that the School would have the sole use of the village 'interests' in the premises during School hours up to 6.00pm, unless pre-booked for other events.

In 1974 the County Council approved the building of additional car parking and combined hard tennis and netball court on the School premises. The funding was raised by the Parish Council, again Dean Hole School would have use in school hours unless pre-booked.

The Village room was extended in 2003 (creating the Doug Rush room) with funding raised by the Parish Council. At this time the County Council confirmed it would remain the sole owner of the premises and site but would grant a renewable lease to the Parish Council for land used for the extension. The Heads of terms included that: -

- The extension would be used in conjunction with the existing village 'interest' spaces as the provision for community facilities within Caunton in accordance with a new management Agreement for the use of the combined village 'Interests'
- The County Council (Landlord) would be responsible for all maintenance and all outgoings for the building (except telephone charges) subject to an agreed fixed contribution of £500.00 p.a. from the Parish Council.
- The Parties to a joint Management Committee would be the Parish Council, the School and Caunton 2000 (which is a working group of the Parish Council comprising of representatives of all village societies and groups).

Playing fields: When the School was built, the School had use of an adjacent joint use playing field subject to a separate lease between Landowners and the Parish Council. The cricket field and tennis courts were constructed in their current locations with the mutual understanding and agreement between the County Council/School and adjacent Landowner. This was superseded in 1995 when the current village playing field was leased from Landowners to the Parish Council and including the provision for joint use by the School during normal School hours for which no charge is made. The current lease extends to 2036.

There now remains some historic boundary classes between the School land and the adjacent landowner's land affecting the cricket club field and the tennis courts. Unless the School boundaries are adjusted accordingly there could be a threat to the provision of tennis courts and cricket sports facilities in Caunton village.

It is the expectation of the Parish Council that Dean Hole School remains as a Teaching Establishment servicing the needs of the village of Caunton and surrounding area. However regardless of any changes to the School structures or other reorganisation of education provision and use of the School premises and grounds, that the village/community interests as set out above and in operation are maintained in full and the School premises, as the only provision available for Caunton village/community activity, continues as it does at the present time.

We hope that this is helpful to your consultation

Yours Sincerely
S. Routledge

Steve Routledge- Chairman of Caunton Parish Council.

Copied to:
Cllr. Bruce Laughton, Nottinghamshire County Council
Cllr. Sue Saddington, Newark and Sherwood District Council.