

**District Councillors Report to September  
2017 Parish Council Meeting.**

**Shevington Community Primary School.**

We worked with and stood alongside residents and local groups in a fight to try and save the school from closure, unfortunately we were unsuccessful due to severe financial constraints within the school budget due to low numbers of pupils predicted to attend the school.

We made it clear that whilst the consultation was underway, we would not allow any discussions on any plans or proposals for the future of the site as our priority was to ensure that the needs of the children mattered most during this difficult transition period. It is with great regret that we have lost one of our amazing schools and we would like to thank all of the children, staff and members of the community who have worked together to help ensure the best possible outcome for all involved during these difficult circumstances.

We now feel is the time to look at the future of the site and have put our demand to officers and the council to evaluate the possibility of utilising the site for services for vulnerable adults with provision to incorporate other complimentary services that will ensure we both exploit local amenities and meet local needs.

We have held meetings with officers and portfolio holder Cllr Keith Cunliffe to discuss the future of the site on Miles Lane Shevington following the closure of Shevington Community Primary School.

We have taken on board the feedback received from residents and local groups during the recent consultations prior to the decision to close the school. We have highlighted our ageing population, which was one of the reasons given for closing the school, as the most clear evidence that additional provision provided for meeting the needs of vulnerable adults especially where specialist care is needed for issues such as dementia etc which present growing challenges for members of our community and we want the best possible care to be provided for our residents.

We have a vibrant community and we believe that this site is perfectly situated to ensure that any care residents remain connected to their community and excellent local services due to being close to Shevington surgery, bus routes and other local amenities.

We believe that there should be a combination of accommodation to meet the special needs of vulnerable adults, which should include sheltered housing and state of the art facilities for specialist care for residents with cognitive, sensory and mobility needs, whilst at the same time incorporating supporting activities across the site to enrich the quality of life the residents. Heritage should also be a factor in any proposals and the history of the school and the site should be incorporated in the design and the facilities.

We are hoping to begin discussions with officers to outline a path forward for the site at the earliest opportunity and are demanding that it is feedback from the local community that should shape the future of the site and will provide feedback to the community following any discussions about any future proposals.