

Sir Martin Taylor  
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You and your colleagues at the College will no doubt have recently received a number of letters and emails from residents of Tur Langton in my constituency about the future of the village hall but, somewhat surprisingly, none, so far as I am aware, has received an acknowledgement, still less a substantive reply. I fear this reinforces the feeling in the village that following receipt of the draft 10 year lease last October the Parish Council has felt its efforts over the past five years have not been taken seriously by the College and that if nothing is done, eventually the village will give up and the College can get on and do what it wants even though there is a strong case for the village hall to continue on a long term basis where it is as a community asset. I have seen the email of 3 March sent you by the County Councillor for Tur Langton, Dr Kevin Feltham, which succinctly makes that case but he too has not received a reply.

There is plenty of support for and good sense in a continuation of the lease for a longer term than that currently proposed by the College. On the assumption that the final decision is in the remit of the Finance Committee, the Parish Council feels that the matter can only be resolved by face to face dialogue with the Chairman of that committee. Equally, and without the District Council pre-judging a fully argued application from the College for planning permission to develop the site, having discussed the matter with the Planning Officers at the Council it is highly unlikely that permission would be granted to demolish the village hall and to replace it with a number of houses on this site.

I appreciate that as Warden you do not descend into the minutiae of planning applications on College land many miles away from Oxford but may I ask you to use your influence with your management team to play a constructive role in sorting out over the medium to long term the future of this valuable asset in Tur Langton. Your tenants in the village see a real benefit and genuine betterment of tenant-landlord relations in extending the lease for the village hall and there is no obvious benefit in shortening it when the chances of getting planning permission are so slight.

**Edward Garnier**