

## The Heart Beats On

### Survey Results and Plans for 2016

At the beginning of the autumn we had a very important decision to make. Turning the idea of a new café, shop and green space for our local area from theory into reality is going to involve significant funding, time and creative planning. We had come so far – but was there really enough support for the project to press on?

So we decided to ask as many local people as possible for their views on The Heart of the Village project. Thank you to everyone who completed the survey and to the army of volunteers who delivered forms to as many households as possible. If you didn't get the chance to answer the questions, we would still love to hear from you.

We would particularly like to thank those who took the time to talk to us on their doorsteps. Whether you did or didn't support the the project, these conversations were informative and helpful.

Details of all the responses received by Monday 7<sup>th</sup> December are:

	Parishioners		Mathon & other		Total
	Yes	No	Yes	No	
Q1. Do you support the proposal for a Heart of The Village at Morgan's Field?	192	36	22	0	250 respondents
Q2. Would you be interested in being a volunteer to help in the shop/cafe?	86	104	7	15	93 volunteers
Q3. Would you be interested in buying shares in Heart of the Village (£10 minimum)?	158	32	17	5	175 shareholders

1. Of those responding, 86% supported a new café, shop and green space on Morgan's Field.
2. 93 people confirmed they would like to volunteer as helpers.
3. 175 people said they would buy community shares in the project.

We have been greatly encouraged by the results. Our question has been answered. There is enough support for a new Heart and we will work hard to complete the project for our community.

Herefordshire Council Planning Department has already given the project favourable pre-application planning advice and we are now commissioning a traffic survey and a flood risk assessment. If all goes well, we plan to submit a planning application during 2016.

We hope all those who are interested in a new Heart will help design the building in more detail and will let you know how you can continue to be involved through this newsletter, the website ([www.heartofthevillage.co.uk](http://www.heartofthevillage.co.uk)) and facebook. And if you would like to play a bigger part in taking the project forward, call any member of the Heart of the Village project team.

Happy New Year

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