

2025 SAXLINGHAM NETHERGATE VILLAGE HALL COMMUNITY SURVEY

The Saxlingham Nethergate Village Hall is the central hub for our village and the surrounding community. As a self-funded facility, our hall is a vital asset to our village, available for everyone.

We asked for feedback from our community to help us improve services at the Village Hall in the coming 2 years. Those insights will play a key role in strengthening our community and organising livelier, engaging events. Together, we can make a difference!

We received 122 fully completed surveys from the community. We did not use data from partial surveys.

Do you live in Saxlingham Nethergate

Yes (A001)	86.44%
No (A002)	13.56%

- Saxlingham Thorpe 3
- Foxhole 2
- Saxlingham Green 3
- Shotesham All Saints 1
- The Green 2
- Hempnall 2
- Newton Flotman 1
- Stoke Holy Cross 2

Note the ages of everyone in your household

Under 16	17.21%
16 - 24 Years	17.21%
25 - 44 Years	19.67%
45 - 64 Years	58.20%
65 Years+	43.44%

Have you or members of your family attended an event or used the village hall in the last 2 years?

Answer	Percentage
Yes	95.04%
No	4.96%

Which of the following activities have you or your family attended at the hall in the last 2 years?

Family event - wedding, party, funeral, etc.	18.26%
Saxlingham Players Plays and Shows	69.57%
Short Mat Bowls	0.87%
SNAPP Table Tennis	14.78%
Dance Classes	7.83%
Pilates	12.17%
VE Day Dinner Dance	29.57%
Exhibitions - WWI Exhibit	53.04%
Jumble Sale	20.87%
Public Meetings	63.48%
Craft Fairs or other charity events	40.00%
Child Care Groups	5.22%

If you have not attended an event or used the hall, please tell us why

Answer 8

- Nothing appeals to us 2
- Never seen any events publicised 2
- Nothing of interest happens at the hall 4

Do you agree that the village hall is a facility for bringing all members of the community together?

1. *Strongly Disagree* 2. *Disagree* 3. *Neither Agree nor Disagree* 4. *Agree* 5. *Strongly Agree*

1 (1)	1.64%
2 (2)	1.64%
3 (3)	9.02%
4 (4)	25.41%
5 (5)	61.48%

Do you agree that the hall should provide educational and health-related services for the community.

1. *Strongly Disagree* 2. *Disagree* 3. *Neither Agree nor Disagree* 4. *Agree* 5. *Strongly Agree*

1 (1)	0.82%
2 (2)	0.82%
3 (3)	7.38%
4 (4)	45.90%
5 (5)	43.44%

Do you agree that the hall should provide fun and entertaining events for all ages in the community.

1. *Strongly Disagree* 2. *Disagree* 3. *Neither Agree nor Disagree* 4. *Agree* 5. *Strongly Agree*

1 (1)	1.64%
2 (2)	0.00%
3 (3)	4.92%
4 (4)	27.87%
5 (5)	65.57%

Do you agree that the hall would benefit from a new or an enhanced modern commercial kitchen

1. *Strongly Disagree* 2. *Disagree* 3. *Neither Agree nor Disagree* 4. *Agree* 5. *Strongly Agree*

1 (1)	4.92%
2 (2)	5.74%
3 (3)	45.90%
4 (4)	23.77%
5 (5)	17.21%

Do you agree that the hall would benefit from computer-compatible presentation spaces, TV, and audiovisual equipment

1. *Strongly Disagree* 2. *Disagree* 3. *Neither Agree nor Disagree* 4. *Agree* 5. *Strongly Agree*

1 (1)	2.46%
2 (2)	4.10%
3 (3)	32.79%
4 (4)	36.07%
5 (5)	22.13%

Do you agree that the hall would benefit from updated decor and styling

1. Strongly Disagree 2. Disagree 3. Neither Agree nor Disagree 4. Agree 5. Strongly Agree

1 (1)	4.10%
2 (2)	10.66%
3 (3)	32.79%
4 (4)	28.69%
5 (5)	22.95%

Do you agree that the hall would benefit from charging stations for cars in the car park

1. Strongly Disagree 2. Disagree 3. Neither Agree nor Disagree 4. Agree 5. Strongly Agree

1 (1)	18.85%
2 (2)	20.49%
3 (3)	43.44%
4 (4)	7.38%
5 (5)	8.20%

Which of these activities would you support if they were available?

Adult Education Classes	64	54.24%
Speaker Series - expert speakers across a wide variety of topics	74	62.71%
Quiz and Chips	75	63.56%
Arts and Crafts Classes - and shows	68	57.63%
Seated Exercise Classes	18	15.25%
Health Education - Community Support Services	35	29.66%
Seniors' Quality of Life Presentations - Information Workshops	25	21.19%
Community Cafe	74	62.71%
Gardening Club - speakers, presentations & classes	52	44.07%
Young Peoples Drop In Centre - holidays	23	19.49%
Murder Mystery Events - prizes for the winning sleuth	37	31.36%
Bingo	29	24.58%
Choir and/or Music Group	29	24.58%
Theme Dances - cocktails and food	43	36.44%

Which of these possible annual events would you support if they were available?

Harvest Celebration Dinner - celebrate Autumn	42	41.18%
Guy Fawkes Laser Party - eco-friendly family alternative to fireworks	27	26.47%
Easter Egg Hunt and Spring Festival	23	22.55%
New Year Festivities - adult and children	31	30.39%
International Food Fair - food tastings/marketplace/speakers	82	80.39%
Winter wonderland Holiday Tree and Decor and fair	39	38.24%

The follow pages detail the general comments added to the survey. They are directly from the survey and not edited. Some may make sense others not, but they are exactly as provided for evaluation and discussion.

GENERAL COMMENTS FROM SURVEY

- Portrait/ life drawing classes.
- History
- Tried classes in past but interest is limited. Subjects not of sufficient interest to a large enough group to make viable
- Languages
- Wellbeing series
- Good fun events for all
- I could help with the running an event - . Jon Treby
- Exhibitions
- Anything that is available
- Breakfasts and drinks few times a week and a Saturday or Sunday
- Like to be involved have provided email
- Serving excellent coffee and food and a co-working space. The Mitre is a great example of the quality that people expect: <https://www.mitre.house/>
- Had education classes in past but interest waned
- A plant swap (spring and autumn) event when plants that residents are happy to give away for a small amount can be useful for getting engagement. We could have local plants men to speak etc on various seasonal topics.
- Insufficient numbers for many events - done in past but interest wanes and lack of volunteers in regular basis
- Saxlingham players?
- Definitely like to be involved have provided contact information
- Need dance classes. Great fun and a fantastic form of exercise
- Additional indoor sports, speakers such as authors, wildlife etc
- Events for children
- May be yoga
- An open bar at the weekend.
- Each year the Parish Council offers a meeting to introduce all the groups and facilities and report on what's going on. Strangely it is poorly attended: something that invigorated this as an event must be a good way to socialise in all sorts of ways.
- Yoga classes Hellen Hammond who runs beautifully balanced at Moulton is a good teacher
- A licenced bar, run by a manager or the parish council, with fixed opening times, that welcomes the whole community and is not based on sporting fixtures and televised football only for a select few. This could even be a cafe bar, serving light meals too.
- Literary events. Book reading and signing by local authors. Book exchange. Village book club. Regular opening hour once a week where villagers could come along for a drink and a chat

- JB church organises harvest supper in village hall not well attended perhaps refresh
- Singers and bands. Musical concerts. Themed events.
- I think the village hall would attract extra revenue if it wasn't like a typical village hall found in many villages- staging it to be a one-off place where people would choose to have their weddings and parties and being different could be a game changer-
- Musical evening. Films. Social evenings.
- Craft fair, fitness classes, learn new skills classes/adult education classes
- Citizens Advice Outreach Centre; Lunches for local retired residents; Pop-up monthly Food Truck in the car park; Music Gig for local bands/open mic sessions;
- Quizzes
- Aerobics class.
-
- Art group, book club, French speaking class, Yoga, Pilates
- Classes to help people use smart phones and computers and printers. For example: understanding cloud storage; sorting photos; setting up emails; firewalls; Facebook/Tik Toc/ X etc; problem solving
Could be set up as a club for all ages where there is a theme for each week and people can help each other - will need a teacher to lead
- Coffee Morning once a month. Youth club. Christmas Party/evening. Friends of the village hall club - consider a donation of £5 per year to support the hall.
- Talks from groups like RSPB and similar. Climate change speakers and others from UEA.

- Saxlingham Players plays/shows
- Fundraising ceilidh dancing
- Learn to crochet
- Evening Yoga & Pilates classes
- - Expert strength training sessions
- - Co-working cafe space with a bakery and fresh local produce.
- - Wine tastings
- Art classes - painting and drawing
- We have a lot of Army and Airforce bases in Norfolk. Normally they are happy to come and speak to the community about their jobs, their bases etc
- Lord Lieutenants of Norfolk often will visit to tell us about their career/role.
- Villagers who have had interesting
- Plus barn dances please – fun for whole family

Could we be associated with U3A Norwich, or form our own group? They offer a whole range on interest and activity groups. I would love it if we could have:

- Singing workshops/community choir, Dance classes, drama workshops, games afternoons ie scrabble, bridge, art history art appreciation, cycling group and afternoon classes would be lovely

- Our village needs a community shop. It would be a wonderful community hub, as well as a useful asset and a fund raiser for the hall.
- I would like to thank the organisers of this survey for their efforts. I'm not here 6 months of the year, but when I am I am happy to help with anything. I think the intensive publicity for the jumble sale and the knife sharpening will prove a big success. A combination like this is a brilliant idea.
 - * the facilities are far better, warmer and more congenial than the Saxon Club (Miaow!!)
- Monthly film shows as the ones in Hempsall were very popular with folk from Saxlingham
- Car parking bays would make it easier
- Need better parking for disabled people – gravel not easy with wheelchairs and walkers
- Slop hard for wheelchairs – need better services for wheelchair people and signage
- Film shows
- I have heard of many people not filling out this questionnaire due to the biased manner in which it forces the user to answer, and people not feeling it gives them a voice. The questions are non-neutral based i.e. - "Do you agree..." wording is very leading and suggests the proposals are beneficial. There is no consideration or space on this form to address the real issues for the established community of village hall users, who will be therefore eventually dwindle. Wasting money on new kitchens and decor when the lack of basic heating, clean floors and surfaces, soap, hand towels, tea towels and cloths, alarms, proper locks and security (with a Perspex cash box next to the door!) is focusing on entirely the wrong areas and pressuring locals into voting for shiny distractions.
- Could the village hall be used for sporting/gaming activities to bring young people together? Darts has become very popular - could darts evening be run, hiring multiple boards? Or (particularly if AV equipment is installed) how about virtual reality gaming using headsets? or gaming competitions using a projector screen
- I think you need to look at regular hires. Groups who hire the hall every week. Even if you don't charge a lot, its regular money coming in and you should provide discounts for village-based groups.
- Reasonably priced classes from Pilates, yoga, other exercise classes, art and craft classes and coffee mornings
- Book club groups - Preschool groups - Men's Shed