

Changes to Calne Community Hub and Library

March 2016



Wiltshire Council will be carrying out a programme of work to improve the library in Calne to create the Calne Community Hub and Library.

The current Community Hub has outgrown its premises on Calne High Street - this project will enable local volunteers to continue and extend their work in closer partnership with the library and other partners.

The library and hub development is part of Wiltshire Council's health and wellbeing centre programme which will also see improvements at Beversbrook and the Leisure Centre in Calne.

The work at the library is due to start in April and will take around 10 weeks to complete.

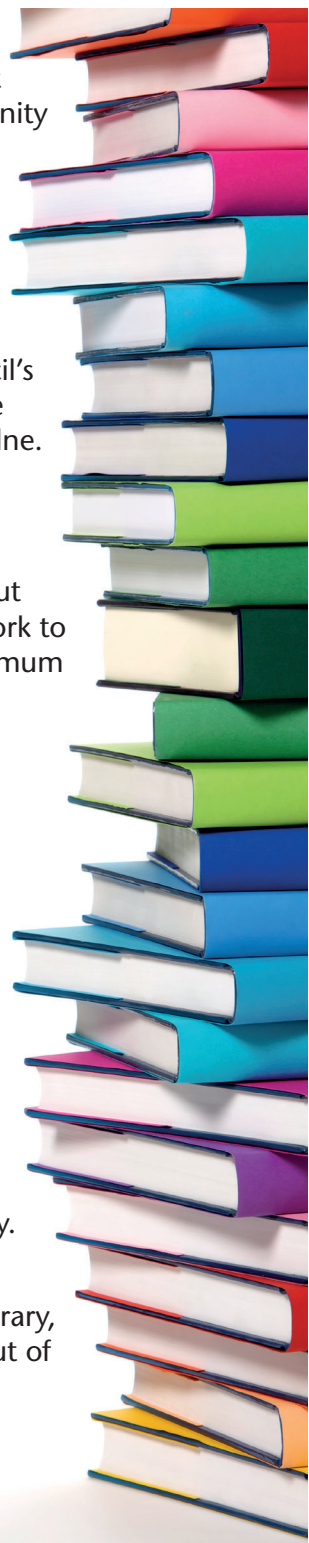
The library will remain open for the majority of this time, but there may be a need to close for a few days to allow the work to be completed. Any closure will be kept to an absolute minimum and dates will be widely advertised well in advance.

Internal alterations will see the creation of a new bookable meeting room for up to 12 people and a smaller breakout room.

The existing library will be refurbished, with a new colour scheme and carpets. Flexible shelving space will be installed which will allow the building to be used for meetings in the evenings, including the area board.

The library service will be enhanced with the installation of a new state-of-the-art system which will allow members to securely access the building and borrow or return books out of normal hours by swiping their card and entering a code number. This system is safe, easy to use, and has been successfully implemented in other parts of the country. Users will need to sign up to use the new system.

The completion of the hub will preserve and protect the library, deliver more flexible community space, and improve the out of hours offer for local residents.



Frequently asked questions

When will the library be closed and how long for?

Work is due to start in April. There may be a short period when the library will have to close, however any closure will be kept to an absolute minimum. Dates of closure will be widely advertised well in advance

How much will it cost?

Work on the library transformation is expected to cost around £200,000.

Is there a risk that books may be stolen from an unstaffed library?

This system is state-of-the-art and has been implemented in other parts of the country successfully with no significant issues relating to theft or property damage.

What if I can't get out the building out of hours?

The system will be thoroughly tested prior to going live. We do not believe it is possible for anyone to not be able to exit the building, however an emergency contact number will be clearly visible inside the building.

What if I need to speak to a member of staff after hours?

This work will enable the library to be more accessible, however staff will not be available to answer queries outside of our current opening hours. They will of course be on hand along with volunteers during normal hours to help with queries.

How do I get access to the library after hours?

Library members will be able to register to use the service and will then be able to access the library by swiping their card and entering a number.

Isn't this a reduction in the library service currently on offer?

The improvement works will allow library services to be available to registered users for longer periods of time.

Will library staff numbers be reduced?

The new system will not impact upon staff numbers, however the council is currently looking at numbers of staff working in libraries across the county

How will you stop this being used as a meeting place for young people after hours?

We do not believe this will be an issue however we will of course monitor the situation. Under 16s will not be able to access the library after hours.

What is the building going to be called?

We will be suggesting to the area board that the building is either called Calne Community Hub and Library, or Calne Library and Community Hub. We believe these names reflect what the building will offer the local community.

Will the library be opening on a Sunday?

There are currently no plans to open the library on a Sunday, however registered users will be able to access the building outside of normal hours and borrow or return books on other days of the week.

For further information, please contact

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Please contact the council by telephone on **0300 456 0100** or email customerservices@wiltshire.gov.uk

