

# STOTFOLD TOWN COUNCIL

Stotfold Town Council, The Greenacre Centre, Valerian Way, Stotfold, Hitchin, Herts, SG5 4HG

Telephone: 01462 730064

enquiries@stotfoldtowncouncil.gov.uk | www.stotfoldtowncouncil.gov.uk

#### **PRESS RELEASE**

#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### Stotfold Town Council Announces Decision on the Simpson Centre

Stotfold Town Council would like to thank the 269 residents who took part in the recent consultation on the future of the Simpson Centre. The Council is grateful for the high level of engagement, with responses received both online and via the Stotfold News questionnaire.

## **Key Findings from the Consultation**

- When asked about the best use of the Simpson Centre, responses were evenly split.
- If the site were to be sold, the majority of respondents considered community benefit from the sale proceeds as the most important factor (51% ranked this as their top priority).
- The type of development following a sale was also important, with 34% ranking it as their first choice.
- If proceeds were reinvested in the Memorial Hall, modernisation of facilities was the top priority for 70% of respondents.

The consultation revealed a clear split in community opinion, with results showing a 50/50 divide between those wishing to keep the Simpson Centre and those supporting its sale to invest in other areas of the town. At a meeting of the Town Council held on 3 September 2025, the decision was taken to sell the site for over 55 housing.

Cllr Danny Matthews, Chair of the Building Management Committee said, "This has been a difficult decision, and we want to thank residents for the time they took to respond to the consultation. In the end, members felt we could not justify placing an additional financial burden on council taxpayers for a building of uncertain viability. By choosing to sell the site, we will be able to fund the refurbishment of other Town Council assets like the Memorial Hall which would create a facility that can serve the whole community for decades to come."

#### **Next Steps**

The Council will now be taking advice about the sale and development of the site, including ensuring that the best possible price is obtained for the site so that it can be reinvested into other assets in the town.

For further information, please contact: Stotfold Town Council Greenacre Centre, Valerian Way, Stotfold, SG5 4HG

Tel: 01462 730064

Email: enquiries@stotfoldtowncouncil.gov.uk

Office hours: Monday – Friday 09.00 – 17.00 (answerphone outside office hours) VAT Reg. No: 198 4684 96