

Dear Ian Jackson,

I was unable to attend the consultative meeting of 16th April 2024 in Duror Hall but I have read the minutes of said meeting.

I would like to stress two main points. Firstly the school has and is functioning perfectly well in its present form, providing a rounded, balanced education for all of its pupils – past and present. This, despite not having shiny new facilities, a big car park or a discrete entrance away from the pupils....

Secondly, the damage to the village of the removal of the school would be serious and would discourage young couples from settling here. At the moment there are only a few prospective pupils in the population but demographic change is cyclical and in a few years the demand will almost certainly grow again. Closure now would be the worst type of short-termism.

Finally I'd like to express my personal commitment to the school where my three children had an idyllic and fondly remembered education. They still talk about the "extended family" atmosphere, the trips to Cuil Bay which they enjoyed together and the solid foundation for a secondary education that they received there.

I hope that you will ensure that the school stays open, for the benefit of present and future pupils and the inhabitants of the village.

Yours sincerely

Flora V. Macneil

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