

Jayne Nix

I would just like to say again how the consultation did not suggest that Culverhay would close and clearly states 'a school in the South and a school in the North. 'I have a copy of a letter from Don Foster saying 'I confess that I was surprised by the decision to recommend closing Culverhay since it was NOT included as an option in the consultation. I have a survey signed by 69 people who would send their daughters to Culverhay if given the chance and I am sure given more time we would be able to increased this number considerably.

At the Cabinet meeting we handed in a petition of 1900 signatures that had been collected. Was this looked at and taken into consideration as I feel it was just put to one side. A document was also submitted to the cabinet with comments and support for Culverhay was this looked at? You were quick enough to say about how many letters you received from Oldfield parents but not once did you acknowledge anything you received from Culverhay.

As I see it

Oldfield is built on green land Value to Banes 0

St Marks is on Church land Value to Banes 0

Culverhay Value to Banes £6-8m

Because the Building Schools for the Future fund no longer exists the only way you can get any money is by closing Culverhay.

As for you figures that only 10 pupils from Culverhay will be disadvantaged by the school closing maybe you should be taking into consideration their personal circumstance, not just if they would get their first choice of school and how far they need to travel. If you have no money it's irrelevant whether it's a 2 stop bus ride or a 20 stop ride. My son currently walks to

school which will not be an option if he has to move schools. This will have a financial impact on my family as I don't work. The figures should be based on each child's circumstances to give a true picture of who will be disadvantaged!

If St Marks stays open and federates why would people then decide to send their children there if they don't now? It's already a mixed school and what evidence do you have that this federation will increase numbers. I know of a school who federated as I was a governor there and it has now been given a 'notice of improvement' so federation does not guarantee a raise in standards.

Also where will the existing Culverhay boys go if you close the school? Tony Parker said temporary building could be put in place at Ralph Allen and Beechen Cliff to accommodate our boys. If these schools are already full surely extra pupils would have a significant effect on the Health and Safety of our children. Has this been taken into account? If a school is full how can it then suddenly have free space or is it your intention to relocate all our existing boys to St Marks as this is where the free desk places are?

I urge you to reconsider your decision and allow Culverhay to become co-ed and give this community the fairness they deserve how would you feel if your child's school was being treated like this!