

The Village – Sovereign Community Infrastructure

Members-only communities on infrastructure they own — your record, your rules, your AI.

What it is. Almost every business platform now works the same way: an organisation’s records sit on Microsoft, Google or Amazon’s US-owned cloud, and the AI wired in to read them — Copilot, Gemini, Meta AI — belongs to those same vendors, on their terms, reachable under the US CLOUD Act; the hundreds of apps built on top inherit it by default. The Village is the **sovereign alternative to the whole stack**: the community owns its record, the record lives on sovereign ground, and the AI that reads it answers to the community’s own constitution, not a vendor. The difference is not features; it is *who owns the record, where it lives, and whose AI reads it*.

Three capabilities the big stacks structurally can’t offer

Each of these is something the dominant stacks — Microsoft 365 with Copilot, Google Workspace with Gemini, Meta’s platforms — and the business apps built on them cannot match: not by choice, but because of the cloud they run on and the model they wire in.

- **The sovereign record.** Every community owns its data outright — member-held, sealed off from every other community, hosted only on New Zealand / EU sovereign infrastructure, with cryptographic deletion so that “deleted” means cryptographically erased, not merely hidden. *Why others can’t: your records are their cloud business — held on US-owned infrastructure the CLOUD Act reaches wherever you are.*
- **Federation.** Villages interconnect on **consented, governed, audited** terms — each side shares only what it agrees to — so communities collaborate without merging, surrendering their data, or being absorbed. (Live today: neighbouring towns running a shared carpool, each controlling its own records, federation connecting them.) *Why others can’t: their value rests on your dependence on a single vendor’s ecosystem — federation that lets each side keep and control its own data dissolves the lock-in.*
- **Situated Language Models — the real answer to AI capture.** The world is right to move to small models: it proves you no longer need a hyperscaler’s giant cloud model to get real AI. But *small* is only about size. The Village’s AI is **situated** — an **open-source model (Qwen 14B today), fine-tuned** on the platform’s governance and domain knowledge and run under each community’s own **written constitution**, so it answers within the community’s rules, logs every step, and leaves the decision to a human. The weights are **open — auditable, and yours to host** — running sovereignly on a single GPU on New Zealand ground, not a black-box cloud model. *Why others can’t: their AI is the vendor’s closed model — Copilot, Gemini — on the vendor’s cloud, under the vendor’s terms and US jurisdiction; it answers to the vendor, not your constitution. One that answers to yours cannot exist on that stack.*

Why hasn’t a hyperscaler simply added sovereignty? Because it can’t, without abandoning its own business — its profit is your data’s residency and your lock-in, the very things the Village hands back to the community. Sovereignty isn’t a feature they are missing; it is the model they would have to dismantle. That is the Village’s moat — and why a position built on it is durable, not a window that closes the moment Big Tech notices.

Nor is it a frozen stack. Owning the platform and running open models lets us continuously adopt the best the field offers — models, tools, infrastructure — at the balance of capability, cost and sovereignty that serves communities best, rather than moving at one vendor’s pace and price.

What a Village delivers

A members-only space with **governance built in** (roles, a written constitution, decision records), **communications**, the **sovereign record, federation** on agreed terms, and the **Situated Language Model** — working within the community’s rules and, only with its consent, learning from its own content, which never leaves sovereign ground or feeds anyone else’s model. No advertising, no surveillance, no US-owned cloud anywhere — by architecture, not by promise.

The bottom line. Sovereignty here is not a setting or a promise — it is the architecture. A community owns its record, connects with others on its own terms, and runs an AI that answers to its own constitution. That is what no reseller of someone else’s cloud can offer.