

VILLAGE HALL MUSINGS

Great news - we've won a grant from The Big Lottery!!! Yes, £10,000 for the village hall heating but the bad news is the quote is £13,500! So we have to find another £3,500 to enable us to install the whole system in one go. Many thanks to Daphne Emptage for diligently pursuing the long and tortuous application process.

Refurbishment. Progress continues with this marathon! Thanks to a great bunch of helpers, including new villagers, we've repainted the main hall and hung the new roman blinds (to match the new stage curtains, installed new ceiling lighting (thanks to Russell - again - and his table tennis colleague Spence Fabian, an electrician, donating his time free) and we're planning to install wall lights to improve the evening ambience. Next is the stage area - repainting it and re-sanding etc the stage floor. Is there someone who could repair some rot in the wooden door frame of the fire exit please?? In the Post Office room, venetian blinds have been fitted - curtains and flooring (both matching the meeting room) will follow with the disused sink unit to be removed. The project plan includes adding loft insulation above the main hall (any volunteers please?), more sound insulation panels in the main hall and meeting room, new air extractors, redecoration of the three toilets etc etc.

Fundraising. We've received a wonderful donation of £100 from a village couple (as they can't help physically with the refurbishment), £800 from DCC Councillor Andrew Cattaway (from his annual "good causes" allowance), £461 from the Plant Sale (many thanks to Penny and Julia - this was hard work!) and £400 from Moviola (special thanks to Julia, Penny and helpers. *Please support the forthcoming events - the Sponsored Walk in August, the Vintage Tea Party in October and the Cabaret Evening in December - and/or consider whether you can make a donation towards the cost of our hall improvements and the heating system.*

Annual General Meeting. The committee were re-elected en bloc (no new faces to fill the couple of vacancies) and Phil Jacques was elected to fill the Trustee vacancy. Rosanne Jacques, our Treasurer, presented the audited accounts. Hiring income was up by £500 and, with similar costs to last year, this left our funds at £5,076 (being the total funds of £13,224 less unspent Refurbishment funds of £2,148 and the £6,000 reserve for the flat roof replacement). Sheila Squire reported on the wide range of hirings that continue, and referred to the new hiring regulations (*note: these are available on the village website*). The Chairman thanked the officers and all who helped with running and improving the hall, and asked again for volunteers to help with the refurbishment - now the main hall is done, it's getting easier!

Management Committee

- A Caretaker is needed, to do checks between non regular hirings
- The organisers of Fast Feet Football will have access to the hall toilets during Wednesdays in school holidays
- A new microwave oven has been installed
- Thanks to First Class Coffee for donating another new electric kettle.

David Little
Chairman
July 2016