

EAST STOUR VILLAGE HALL

OCCASIONAL NEWSLETTER - Nov 15

Primarily, this is a call to come to the half yearly Parish Meeting on Thursday 19 November (7.30pm at the Hall) to support funding requests for several village projects, including the Village Hall.

I've submitted a report to our Parish Councillors making a funding request that I believe is fully affordable. I am aware of several other funding requests for excellent schemes to improve village amenities also being submitted. All of these can, in my opinion, be met by the "normal" precept of recent years (except for last year when the precept was halved because no acceptable funding requests were made). The Parish has adequate balances to more than cover our more routine expenses. A big advantage of the Hall receiving Parish funding is that ALL council tax payers in the village make a very small contribution to the refurbishment of THEIR hall.

My report to the Meeting contains a summary of our fundraising events this year that, including the £3,000 starter contribution from the Hall's own account, amounts to £7,600 - wonderful! Costs to date are £5,000 so £2,600 remains. Grant applications so far have been unsuccessful, though a couple are pending (many thanks to Daphne E and Ruth for many hours spent preparing and submitting these). But £2,600 does not go very far, with items in the main hall such as heating, lighting, window curtains, stage curtains, ventilation, dehumidifier etc. The patio doors and patio on the far side of the main hall remain a rather distant dream. After the main hall has been redecorated, the plan is to do the toilets and, last, the kitchen.

We are making only slow progress with the hall refurbishment, due to only two of us painting in recent months. **Please support us by attending events, making donations** (either general or for specific items) or yes **volunteering your help** in any way!!

The next fund raising events are **Christmas Bingo** on Tuesday 24 November at 7.30pm, the **Stour Villages Market** on Sunday 29 November from noon to 3pm - and look out for Moviola, possible from January! A significant anonymous donation has been received to pay for the acoustic panels, another for the second notice board, and other smaller donations have all been gratefully received. If you can't attend a function, or it's not for you, please consider donating a few pounds instead.

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