



Grant Working Party 7 December 2010

Stansfield Village Hall Management Committee

1. Background

- 1.1 At the last meeting of the Grant Panel on 7 September 2010, Members queried why the work detailed in their original grant application dated 19 August 2008 had not been completed in Phase 1 of the development. (Minute 15 refers)
- 1.2 The Community Funding Officer has revisited the village hall and met the chairman of the committee to discuss the issues.

2. Current Situation

- 2.1 Whilst it was anticipated that the main hall was the prime consideration to update first, their architect carried out a thorough inspection of the whole building and found that the old bar area and meeting room was in more need of attention.
- 2.2 The north wall and floor were damp and the west wall, located at the end of the building, had almost no insulation and generally was the direction of the cold wind. In addition, dead rats were beneath the floor and in the roof space. This problem had to be dealt with as a matter of urgency. The steps from the veranda which is an emergency exit also needed to be replaced.
- 2.3 The planned reorganisation of the building layout was not practical or feasible to carry out the work on the main hall in isolation whereas the work on the bar area caused minimal disruption and a major impact upon completion.
- 2.4 The new bar and meeting room has had great benefit to the community in that it is now well insulated and warm, this has had an effect on the heating of the whole building. The room is a practical size and now well used for meetings and by user groups.
- 2.5 It is perhaps misleading to describe the floors in the building as dangerous when wet; they are made of painted chipboard and can become slippery. The committee has purchased a number of large mats which are placed at each entrance to ensure as much precipitation is kept outside the hall as possible.
- 2.6 To replace the main hall floor involves re-configuring the lay out of all the remaining areas of the building and until substantial funding is raised in a later phase, the committee carefully monitors any Health and Safety issues.

- 2.7 Whilst the Council's grant funding was awarded for Phase 1 as a proportion of the total £100,000 project and was not completed in accordance with the initial application, the result is a far most sensible user-friendly and practical solution which has benefited the community and helped contain heating costs.
- 2.8 It is confirmed that the cost of the bar area and meeting room in relation to the £10,000 grant approved by the Council met the matched funding criteria.

3. Recommendation

- 3.1 The Working Party is requested to **NOTE** the content of the report.

For further information, please contact:-
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