

## The New Village Hall

Selling the VH has been no easy task! Lots of interest and offers but obtaining a mortgage for a residential property without a bathroom has turned out to be almost impossible. Our first purchasers were extremely keen to buy the property and still are, but because of the present economic climate have been unable to sell their own property for the required price. Our second purchasers only recently had to withdraw their offer after being let down by their broker and lender. We have now found a cash buyer who therefore doesn't require a mortgage. We have accepted a slightly lower offer so that we can proceed with the build. The new purchaser will pay a deposit on exchange, the final amount on completion about 6 to 8 weeks later. He will let us remain in the building until the new hall is ready to be occupied as long as we pay the insurance and general running costs.

Our first builders Lengard, pulled out 2 months ago as a result of a review of their business policy and they felt they could not complete the build at the price they had agreed. They now only wish to undertake heritage work. After going out for more tenders we selected the most competitive and timely and we have managed to make some savings by putting in a cheaper parking area which will be similar to grasscrete and we have also made various tweaks here and there. We now have to decide whether to go for a sprung or semi-sprung floor and then I think we will be there. A letter of intent has been sent and we hope to sign the contract with the builders very shortly. The build will then commence and hopefully will be completed in 30 weeks.

We still need to fundraise for internal fittings such as library shelving the audio-visual system and lockers for the users. We would like to purchase new tables and chairs, crockery, dishwashers for both the servery and main kitchen and the appropriate mats and equipment required for indoor bowls.

Please let us know if you have any fundraising ideas or indeed would like to assist with fundraising. We would love to hear from you.

Donations however small would always be greatly appreciated!!