



TOWN COUNCIL NEWSLETTER – JANUARY 2012

COMMUNITY CENTRE REFURBISHMENT

At its meeting on 17th January the Town Council approved the following proposals for the project:

- a) A simplified layout with retention of the kitchen and bar in their present locations, but with upgrading of the bar.
- b) Double glazing of the windows on the side of the main hall (without enlargement), the fire doors and the gable end window
- c) Removal of the present horizontal ceiling in the main hall and its replacement with a new horizontal ceiling 2.9 metres higher.
- d) Upgrading of the heating system with a new, powerful boiler capable of heating the ground floor (and at a subsequent date when funds allow) the offices upstairs, and new radiators.
- e) Rewiring, and new lighting in the main hall.
- f) An improved small Meeting Room
- g) General redecoration
- h) Certain ancillaries (portable stage etc.)

These proposals reflect certain changes from the original plan with which the Town Council went out to tender in early December. Partly this is due to budgetary constraints, though fundraising is ongoing, and, if you would like to make a financial contribution please contact Councillor Brian Yoxall (Tel 811630) who is now chairing the Group progressing the project. It is partly also in recognition that the plans needed to be modified to encompass more improvements in the areas of heat conservation and sound insulation. Therefore, instead of completely exposing the roof we shall be replacing the present horizontal ceiling with another ceiling 2.9 metres higher and double

glazing in the main hall will be a feature from the outset. We shall also be retaining the kitchen and bar in their present locations, but the bar will be upgraded as will the small Meeting Room between the chair store and the kitchen. General redecoration will give a fresher look to the whole building.

We are committed to the original idea of making the main hall a more flexible meeting/performance space and, as funds become available, we will be introducing a portable stage, audio-visual equipment and new tables and more comfortable chairs.

Work should start in February and be completed by late Spring.

LEGACY FUND

To coincide with the Woodstock@900 celebrations a new and unique fund was established. The declared objective of this fund was to provide a durable and lasting benefit for the residents of Woodstock - a legacy of the Woodstock @900 anniversary. The fund now totals in excess of £10k.

It is the pleasurable duty of Woodstock Town Council to decide how the fund will be spent and the Council will do this after consideration of ideas and suggestions submitted by residents of Woodstock.

The Fund has been publicised in a previous Town Council Newsletter, the Woodstock & Bladon News, the Witney Gazette, the Oxford Mail and on the Council website. We are now in the final stage of the process where Councillors will consider the suggestions we have received and decide on the preferred scheme at the Council Meeting on 14th February.

This is the last opportunity to submit proposals and residents are cordially invited to send ideas and suggestions to the Council. Please send them for the attention of the Town Clerk, Lorraine Watling, at the Town Hall.

Proposals should include, but not be limited to, the sum applied for and a description of the project and benefit that will result. Please bear in mind that qualifying projects must provide a durable and lasting benefit. Finally, please be sure to include your name and contact details and remember that the deadline for submission of proposals is 3rd February.

SEVERE WINTER WEATHER

We reported in the last Town Council Newsletter (November) how we were gearing up for any onset of severe winter weather. All preparation work was complete by the first week in December including the purchase of all necessary equipment and the installation of 6 additional grit bins which have been strategically sited round the town complete with grit and a reserve supply of salt stored at the Community Centre. Fortunately the severe winter weather that was threatened has not arrived but we are ready just in case!

CONCESSIONARY TRAVEL TOKENS

Residents are reminded that any tokens must be used by 31st March 2012

Eligible residents are now issued with a free national bus pass which can be obtained by contacting the County Council from April.

Woodstock Town Council