



Renovation of Cowfold's Pavilion

Current Status

The Pavilion on the Playing Field is at the hub of the Village and is used by a number of local sports organisations, including the football club and the stoolball club, as well as hosting a variety of community and social activities; it is the venue for the Welcome Club and the Bridge Club as well as being used for special events such as the Village Fete.

It was originally an Army building which was dismantled and reassembled in its current position in 1976. If you have been inside it recently, you will know that it is now well past its sell-by-date and is in urgent need of renovation. Apart from looking run-down, the changing rooms fall short of current standards, particularly with respect to the safeguarding of children, and the community facilities are also inadequate and do not meet the needs of the disabled, for example.

In the Parish Action Plan, 71% of respondents supported a campaign to renovate the pavilion. Fundraising started three years ago and a significant amount of money has already been raised through a number of successful village events. Architects' plans have been prepared and reviewed by key stakeholders and potential funding agencies. They were submitted to Horsham District Council Planning Department in December and approval was received in March. The new design has a similar layout to the current pavilion but has a slightly larger footprint.

The Welcome Club will have swish new facilities for their monthly lunches for the elderly in the Village, the football and stoolball clubs will have up-to-date changing rooms and other village functions and organisations using the pavilion will also benefit from the renovation. A major aim of the project is to act as a catalyst to improve the facilities for the younger element within the village.

The Next Steps

The Parish Council believes that it is now time to accelerate the project and has established an enlarged committee to, first, oversee the building work and, secondly, raise the remainder of the funds required. The committee is led by the Chair of the Parish Council, Vic Allmond, and, in addition to members of the Council, includes representatives from key areas of the Village and the main users of the Pavilion.

Raising the funds will be a major challenge, particularly with the current cutbacks in public spending, and we will need the full support of the village over the coming months. If you want to help, or have any good ideas for raising funds, please contact a member of the Committee.

There will be a chance to see the plans at the Cowfold Village Fete on Saturday 5th July – come along and talk to us there.

Committee Members

Vic Allmond (Chairman)
John Chamberlin
Chris Collins
Ros Daly
Clive Newman
Pat Parsons
Andy Poynter

David Precious (Secretary)
Eileen Precious (Press Officer)
Sue Stanbridge
Kit White
Neil Williams (Vice Chairman)
Janet Wright (Responsible Financial Officer)

Key Figures

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| Cost of renovation | Up to £250,000 |
| Current secured funding | £69,000 |
| Target date for building works to commence | May 2015 |