

### Beckford Community Village Hall Ltd

The committee held its regular monthly meeting on Monday June 22.

Our Treasurer, Jonathan Grice, tabled the BCVH Ltd financial statements for the year ended March 31 2015, showing that there had been a net income of £2,211 on gross receipts of £12,957. He pointed out that the 'total funds' of £26,675 shown on the accompanying balance sheet made no allowance for a valuation of land and buildings. It was agreed that we should obtain a professional valuation, especially in view of a future likely need for this in making grant applications.

The Chairman, Tony Berriman, tabled an annotated spreadsheet setting out proposed elements of refurbishment and extension of the hall, together with some preliminary costings. Refurbishment was largely based on surveyor reports dating from 2011, the estimated cost of which was now some £170,000. Additional potential extensions could add some £127,000, bringing the total to not far short of £300,000. A vote of thanks was carried unanimously to Tony, for the detailed, thorough work of which this was the outcome.

An extensive discussion followed this presentation, and it was agreed that at this point we faced four possible options for decision. These were -

- Option 1. Do nothing
- Option 2. Develop refurbishment only
- Option 3. Develop refurbishment and extension
- Option 4. Rebuild the hall

After further discussion a vote was taken, and it emerged that options 1 and 4 had no support on the committee. We cannot allow the hall to deteriorate further, and the 'rebuild' option, developed in 2012/2013, had turned out to be too expensive. A substantial majority of the committee felt that option 3 was, at least for the time being, the best way forward, although it too would require the support of the village community and the raising of a large sum of money.

The first steps towards developing this option would be to talk with Tennis Club, the Bredon Hill medical practice and the Social Club advising them of the plans and seeking their views. Tony would arrange to talk with each of these groups. Some preliminary ideas on possible grants would be assembled, based on the preliminary cost figures. It was suggested that such essential major expenditure should have been allowed for in the Parish Council precept, and that the Parish Council should be invited to contribute to the work which would be required. This view would be put to the Parish Council.

Further topics covered at this meeting included -

-An 'As It Was' evening would be held in the hall, probably on October 24, and as part of the event a short historic film of the village would be shown. (A 'garden prom' had previously been considered, an attractive garden having been offered as the location, but it was felt that to hold this would be too soon after the very successful 'Summertime in Beckford' evening held in aid of Church funds on June 20).

-It was agreed that Croquet Club should be affiliated to BCVH Ltd on the same basis as the Beckford Tennis Club. The principal reason for this was to give security of tenure to the Croquet Club, although others additionally pointed out that the inclusion of the club would be advantageous when making future grant applications, since it would be further evidence of the benefits which the existence of the club brought to the village.

-The defibrillator had now been installed, and a training programme had been arranged for July 14.

The next meeting of the committee will be on Monday July 27, and the AGM will be held on Monday September 28.

Graham Galer  
Secretary, BCVH Ltd.