

Higher Denham Community CIO

NEW HALL - UPDATE MEETING AND CONSULTATION

TUESDAY 8th NOVEMBER 2016

at 8pm in the COMMUNITY HALL

THE STARTING POINT

Last year we held a special residents' meeting to discuss the pros and cons of building a new Community Hall. The vast majority of those attending supported the idea of a new hall, but there were significant reservations about incorporating a nursery within the building as a means of repaying a loan taken out to fund the development. The financial risk and increased traffic were the main issues voiced. Questions were also raised about whether there was a need to replace the existing hall and whether the sums suggested as to the cost of a new hall were realistic. We listened, and have acted on these concerns.

THE GRANT

At the beginning of this financial year, the Committee secured a government grant of £7800 to undertake some preliminary planning studies to answer the questions posed at the last meeting, and to explore the viability of a new idea for funding the new hall. The committee used this money to work with a local architect, who in turn subcontracted some of the work to professional associates that he had used before in similar projects. From this, we now have:

A professional survey of the state of the existing hall

Outline drawings and cost projections for a new hall

Confirmation that the new funding idea is viable

A report from a planning expert on the best way forward

THE MEETING

The Committee now wishes to share all this information with you. Parts of the proposal may be controversial; we want to hear your views. Most importantly, if the plan goes ahead we would be building on green belt land and to be able to do this, it is essential that we have the support of a majority of the local residents.

If we have that support, the Committee believes it will be able to obtain a larger, follow-on grant to take the project up to the planning application stage.

**Please come along, hear the details, have your say and help
shape the future of your community.**