

## Parish Council's Response to the Recommendations of the Report of the

### Bere Regis Indoor Sports and Community Facility Working Group

- A. The Parish Council notes the community's response to the consultation, in particular "that the Drax Hall has been found to be out-dated and no longer fit for purpose", and that there is overwhelming support for its replacement by a new Community Hall.
- B. The Parish Council endorses the findings of the report and confirms its support for a new Community Hall of the general size and specifications detailed in the report. We believe the new Community Hall's main function is to support community and social activities, including, for instance, zumba, keep fit and short mat bowls, and to generate income by providing an excellent venue for private and public social and educational events. As recommended in para 9.6, we will further consider the desirability and benefits of a larger main hall. If badminton could be accommodated in such a hall we would consider including floor markings and equipment. *(However, we believe that demand may exist for more intensive sport use such as indoor football, and cricket, etc, and we will endeavour to identify this need, if any, and perhaps work with the Sports Club to satisfy that need elsewhere).*
- C. The Parish Council will keep residents informed and involved about the progress towards a new Community Hall.
- D. The Parish Council will establish a Community Hall Sub-Committee which will prepare a project Plan setting out actions, responsibilities and timescales for the successful delivery of a new Community Hall, in line with Terms of Reference to be drafted by the Parish Council. The Sub-Committee will establish two working groups:
  - The **Feasibility Group** will:
    - (a) Consult with local authorities and other regulatory bodies about the feasibility for development on the preferred sites
    - (b) Offer assistance to the Drax Hall Committee in ascertaining the feasibility of converting the Drax Hall, gaining planning consent and in due course selling it for best value within the constraints laid down in its trust deed.
    - (c) Draw up a specification for a new Community Hall, engage an architect to create plans for approval, and produce an estimate of the likely costs.
  - The **Fundraising Group** will:
    - (a) Investigate potential sources of funding for a new Community Hall
    - (b) Create and implement a fundraising plan to raise sufficient funds to deliver a new Community Hall as specified.
- E. The Parish Council undertakes to:
  - Draw up Terms of Reference for the Community Hall Sub-Committee and its working groups.
  - Provide sufficient 'seed corn' funding to enable the project to get underway until income is generated.
  - Enable appropriate training to be undertaken by Sub-Committee and working group members
  - Provide liability insurance cover for the project
  - Ensure VAT recovery takes place
  - Provide administrative and bookkeeping support to the project.
  - Keep Parishioners informed about the project's progress.
  - In due course, when plans are agreed and sufficient funds are available, make the decision to build, and create a structure for the future management of, the new Community Hall

Ian Ventham

25<sup>th</sup> January 2016