

## Slaley Commemoration Hall – Appeal Plan Summary Statement

Slaley Commemoration Hall (SCH) will be soon be 100 years old and is in need of extensive alteration and refurbishment to set it up for the use and enjoyment by the community for the future. The work planned covers:

- Extension to the east of the hall to make a new meeting room.
- New toilets where the existing committee room is
- Storage area upgraded
- Decoration of the hall
- Re vamp of the lobby area
- Mobile bar
- New, comfortable seating

Planning permission has been granted for the work

The SCH needs £170k in order to carry out the works. The aim is to achieve this in time for the Hall's centenary which is in two years' time.

### Why do we need SCH?

For the last 100 years SCH has served as a central meeting point for Slaley parish residents and the wider community. This is important for the future as well: a place for local people to meet and socialise is critical to the overall wellbeing of a community.

Having a modern, safe and welcoming venue is needed to host events to facilitate social cohesion and address:

- Loneliness & rural isolation issues
- inclusion for age groups
- access for all – disabled, elderly, parents with young children
- learning new skills
- mental and physical health and fitness

SCH is part of a wider social network within the Slaley community including the two public houses, village shop, church, primary school and village show

### What will the work deliver?

- By delivering the improved facilities new users will want to come and use the hall for events, classes and functions. This will generate income for the hall and the local business community.
- The work will ensure that both meeting rooms can be used without needing to disturb users of the main hall to access the loos. This also addresses safeguarding issues raised by local groups.
- The new toilets will be modern and allow easy access for people with reduced mobility and parents needing access for facilities for young children and babies.

- The new location of the toilets will also remove the current issue of frequently blocked drains, poor foundations resulting in damp and the leaky roof in the existing toilet block.
- The stairs down to the current storage facility for tables and chairs makes moving equipment around difficult and is a deterrent to people choosing the hall as a venue. By raising the storage to the same level as the main hall, it will be a lot easier and less hazardous for users of the hall.

### **Funding**

The SCH committee are committed to raising the funds needed from a range of sources including:

- Local fund-raising events
- Individual endeavours
- Local businesses
- Charitable grants
- Donations

### **Publicity**

The publicity supporting the appeal – banners, websites, parish news and the press etc. – is aimed at:

- Raising awareness of the appeal, events and fundraising
- encouraging people to take action
- thanking benefactors and advising on progress.

Without investment, the hall will eventually become unusable by modern standards, and could see the eventual closure of the hall altogether.