Rhossili Village Hall
A Sustainable Focus for the Community

Development Update
Rhossili Village Hall Committee
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27 April 2006  Rhossili Village Hall AGM
Local Need

Identified in a series of reports:

- Rhossili 2000 (March 1999)
- Countryside Exchange (October 1999)
- Community Appraisal (September 2000)
  - 150 of 208 questionnaires returned – 72%
  - 37 of 70 young people also replied – 53%
  - 60% wanted the hall to be renovated
  - 37% also wanted the hall extended
The Project

Status:
• The hall is an unattractive venue in need of refurbishment
  – Inadequate accessibility
  – Poorly maintained kitchen and toilets; insufficient storage
  – Unsuitable venue for young children
  – Limited to one function at any one time
  Resulting in decreasing demand as a venue and therefore diminishing as a focus for the community

Aim:
• To develop a sustainable and maintainable welcoming venue, which acts as a focal point and meets the needs and aspirations of the wider community and those of future generations.
Objectives

• Add a new building linked to the existing hall, to
  – Improve accessibility - new entrance, foyer and toilets
  – Improve facilities – new kitchen, showers and plant room
  – Add accommodation – bunkhouse style in roof space
  – Add flexible space for meetings, exhibitions, ICT
  – Add an office, storage space and a secure play area

• Retain and refurbish the existing hall, including
  – Convert the existing kitchen and toilets into flexible space
  – Redecorate throughout
  – Install hearing induction loop
Local Support and Awareness

• Fund raising
  – Events, donations and covenants
  – Voluntary work in the preparation of the project

• Community consultation
  – Consultation meetings to discuss outline and final plans
  – Milestone meetings to discuss progress

• Information dissemination
  – Leaflet drop to all households and businesses
  – Newsletter and notices throughout community
  – Haven’t used the web site yet...
Maintainability

- Extra flexible spaces enabling concurrent activities, combined with improved facilities, will attract users
- Proposed accommodation will address an established need in the Rhossili area and provide income
- Appointment of a full time Hall Manager (possibly residential) will enable improved management practices
- New practices will focus on the quality of provision
- SMART Targets will enable monitoring of progress and retargeting the provision of facilities
- Leading to widening use of the hall and more income for maintaining the facilities
- Better facilities will benefit local businesses
Added Value and Innovation

- Bunkhouse style accommodation in roof space
  - Affordable accommodation
  - Available to disadvantaged groups
  - Encouraging countryside activities
- Hygiene Kitchen and Produce Market
- Learning Centre; Environment Education Centre
- Local Government use, e.g. Pensions, Job Centre Plus
- Tourist Information Point
- Hire of adjacent land from The National Trust
  - Youth Club and other community activities
  - Small group camping in conjunction with bunkhouse
The Team

• Rhossili Village Hall Building Sub-Committee
  – Voluntary professional input from the community

• Partners
  – Rhossili Community Council
  – The Gower Society
  – The National Trust

• Liaising with other key organisations
  – City & County of Swansea
  – Swansea Council for Voluntary Action
  – The Environment Centre
  – Gorseinon College (Lifelong Learning)
Progress

• Acquisition of land adjacent to Hall
• Architect appointed: Bob Hennings
• Plans drawn up and planning permission granted
• Objective 1 funding secured: £147,803
• Match funding secured: £147,803
  – New building not exempt from VAT, offer of loan obtained to cover shortfall
• Project Manager appointed: Meirion Howells
• Cambrian Construction appointed as builders
• Construction began in early October 2005
• Voluntary professional within the community
  – David Cann has been the key to liaison during the planning and construction phases
# Funding Secured

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Gower Society</td>
<td>£15,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rhossili Community Council (over 3 years)</td>
<td>£1,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rhossili Village Hall <em>Existing funds</em></td>
<td>£21,303</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rhossili Village Hall <em>Loan offer</em></td>
<td>£20,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Swansea CC Sustainability Development Fund</td>
<td>£10,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Swansea CC Local Regeneration Fund</td>
<td>£80,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>EU EAGGF Objective 1</td>
<td>£147,803</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>£295,606</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Awards for All Wales (Kitchen)</td>
<td>£5,000</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Overall Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>£300,606</strong></td>
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## Costs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>£295,606</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kitchen</td>
<td>£23,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dormitory</td>
<td>£19,600</td>
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<tr>
<td>Meeting Rooms and Office</td>
<td>£23,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>External Works and Play Area</td>
<td>£14,200</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>£376,496</strong></td>
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Less Funding: £300,606

Shortfall: £75,890
Next Steps…

• We need further funding to complete the fitting out of the new building.

• Awards for All Wales successful
  – £5,000 towards the kitchen

• CFAP application for capital and recurrent funding failed
  – Just been resubmitted with more evidence of local support:
    • 27 letters from all of the groups that use the hall, plus individuals.

• We should appreciate your continued support, perhaps in the form of a Covenant…
Covenant

- The Village Hall is an approved charity by the tax authorities and therefore, where a donor has given the required permission, it can make a claim from Her Majesty’s Revenue and Customs for Gift Aid.

- Gift Aid claims can only be made by taxpayers.

- In order to make a Gift Aid donation, it is necessary to fill in a Gift Aid form at the time of handing the donation to a member of the Hall Committee. Forms will be distributed soon; they are also available from committee members. The Hall Committee will then send the completed form to HMR and C on your behalf.

- If you pay tax at the normal rate then doing nothing will be fine. However, if your taxable income (after deductions such as pension contributions) is higher than £32,400, then you should tell the tax man via a tax return and you will receive a tax credit on the additional amount.

- Information about Gift Aid is available at: www.direct.gov.uk
  – Just search for “Gift Aid”