

HOLBROOK ARKWRIGHT HALL COMMUNITY CENTRE (HAHVCC)

ANNUAL REPORT 2014-15 OF THE TRUSTEES' GENERAL COMMITTEE

The HAHVCC Trustees, having submitted a planning application to Amber Valley Borough Council in October 2012, finally received planning permission for a new Hall in late September 2014. The time taken by Amber Valley Borough Council to determine the application should be seen in the context of Government Guidance which indicates that "The [statutory time limits](#) are usually 13 weeks for applications for major development and eight weeks for all other types of development".

HAHVCC considered however that despite the situation described above the Trust finally found itself in October 2014 with a planning permission in hand and considered that little was to be gained by looking back and that it should concentrate on moving ahead - decide the details of our new village hall....and to putting our backs into getting together the rest of the money needed to get the job done. That is what HAHVCC has been doing.

The first monetary item concerned the planning application itself. Amber Valley Borough Council had not only taken an inordinate time considering the application, but had demanded that HAHVCC's consultant architect pay an additional application fee of £962.50 because of the delay. HAHVCC Trustees resolved to challenge this decision and, after an initial refusal to refund the money, were persuaded to return it in late December.

By this time several applications were in hand to try to secure grants from various sources. We then found that our initial financial success - albeit getting our own money back! - was not followed by further successes.

The Ryklow Trust - a charity set up by the late Mr A B Williamson, founder of DEB Chemicals and resident of Killis Lane - said that our new Hall did not fall within the Trust's current priorities.

The Trusthouse Charitable Foundation also turned us down, indicating that Holbrook did not fall within one of their target areas, the Foundation concentrating its resources on deprived areas.

Your Trustees have submitted an application to the Veolia Environmental Fund for £100,000, the maximum allowed and this is under consideration. The Veolia Environmental Fund awards funds derived from Waste Disposal levies.

Your Trustees have also submitted an application to The Bernard Sunley Charitable Foundation, which appears to concentrate its interest on capital projects for community benefit, village halls in particular. A decision on this application is expected within the next two months.

Investigations are also continuing on opportunities that might arise in association with the Government's Lottery Fund.

So...no money yet and only £300,000 to find!

Watch this space!