

2019 Village Hall Report

Staploe and Duloe Village Hall remains closed for safety reasons.

The Parish Council took over as sole trustees from January 2019 to September 2019 as there were problems obtaining property owners insurance. The governing document for the charity was amended to allow for the Parish Council to become sole trustees in the event that it is not possible to form a management committee. After securing property owners insurance, the management committee reformed in September 2019 and resumed their role as managing (and charity) trustees.

The village hall currently holds funds of £725.

However, the Parish Council now have an earmarked reserve of £19,492 towards demolition and rebuilding of the hall and in 2019 paid for many of the costs of the unused hall.

We conducted a questionnaire in November to ask parishioners whether they would prefer to clear the site, rebuild the hall with the same footprint or with an enlarged footprint. Approximate costs were provided and implications for council tax if the Parish Council applied for a £50,000 loan to be funded from precept. 135 questionnaires were delivered to all the households in the parish and we obtained the following results:

Responses: 33

Options	1 – Clear site	5 votes
	2 – Keep at current size	3 votes
	3 – Increased size	26 votes

Local residents also pledged £1,500 as gifts and many people offered a multitude of skills to help with the project – from builders, general labourers to skilled project management.

We will now proceed with our planning application and hope to demolish during summer 2020 and raise funds and apply for grants for the rebuilding project.

We would like to thank Jane Thomson, Ged Meola and Jane Arnold and her family for all their hard work in raising money for the village hall at the recent curry night. They raised a fantastic £438 for the village hall rebuilding project.

I would also like to thank Duloe resident Adam Tarran for inspecting the hall weekly on our behalf.