



When the Parish Council and Reading Room trustees ran the Village Public Works Loan consultation in October last year we stated that we anticipated raising £54,000 from our stage 2 application to the ‘Village Hall Improvement Grant’ launched by DEFRA in April 2019.

We are now delighted to share the news that we have been successful in securing grant funding of £64,922 from VHIG for the Renovation and Extension project. This is a one-off fund of £3 million that works on a first come, first served basis with priority given to those applications which, importantly, have match funding in place. Support by the village for a Public Works loan application provided that match funding. It is targeted at Village Halls who are unable to claim VAT back on building works.

Probably the most important factor that contributed to our success in this application was that we were able to demonstrate that the Village supported both the project and our Public Works Loan application. We thank you for that overwhelming support. We would also like to thank Barbara Pond at Gloucestershire Rural Community Council (GRCC) for her invaluable support with our application.

Because of the village support for the PWL we can now submit more grant applications – as most require match funding to be in place. We were able to submit an application to the Summerfield Trust by their Dec 23rd deadline and have been

invited to submit a second stage application.

There has also been a lot of local fundraising in the last couple of months with lots of fun community events - we have added a further £800 to our efforts with that total now standing at £10,733 . We would like to thank Paul and Sharon Morrish (DLM Band Night), Lindsay Crane, The WI and all other helpers (Christmas Pop Up), Catherine Caradelli, Sandra and Kevin Nicholson and Michelle Bates (Christmas Movie Night and Tree Decorations).

We will send a further note later this month when we hope to share details of the project timescales.

We hope you are as encouraged with this progress as we are and again we appreciate the support received so far.

Shipton Reading Room Trustees
