



Merry Christmas
&
Happy New Year



A message from CPCSC Project Chairman

Here we are at the close of 2016 and I wish all supporters of the scheme to replace the current shop/cafe at Clapham, complements of the Season.

It has been a difficult year for the Project and there have been many delays and disappointments. With Arun District Council deciding to relinquish their lease with the Trustees of the Recreation Ground a whole scenario has emerged. The Trustees have offered the land to the Clapham Parish Council but subject to conditions affecting the shop/cafe. With other uncertainties about the sub-lease held by Neil Austine (the owner of the current shop/cafe business) the Trustees have withdrawn their offer for the time being. We await legal clarification.

A minority of local residents are campaigning for new premises on the Village hall site and this has polarised views. For the record, the CPCSC Ltd remain committed to a replacement building in the same location as it is now. We believe that, even if the Village Hall site were favoured by the majority of local people (there is no evidence of that – quite the contrary), the planning issues around siting and access from the main road would be insurmountable. We challenge the detractors to produce compelling evidence that their preferred site would be a practical proposition.

In closing , I would like to thank all those folk who have expressed support and encouragement for the Project to succeed, so that this valuable amenity can be maintained in the years to come.

Haydn Smith, Chairman, Clapham and Patching Community Shop and Cafe Project Ltd

RECENT FUND RAISING

Many many thanks to everyone's hard work and support

Halloween

Spooky Walks
Raised £300

Xmas Fayre

Proceeds very kindly split between
CPCSCP and C&P Village Hall
£370 was donated to the Project



LEADER GRANT APPLIED FOR

European funding may still be available to assist the project. There are many systems and processes involved to be granted any of this money. One being dependent on the Society (CPCSC Ltd) having been granted a suitable lease on the land, the project Team is in discussion with the County Council on this. It would be a shame, to say the least, if this major grant of up to £50,000 cannot be accessed.

Xmas Fayre 2016



PLANNING APPLICATION IMMINENT

Our architect is finalising plans for the new building prior to an application for Planning Permission being requested. We have undertaken to consult with the Trustees before the planning application goes in.

DRAINAGE PROGRESS

The provision of drainage to the existing building is once again becoming an urgent matter, as Arun Council have set a deadline of 17 February 2017 for this to be done – not many weeks away! The Society has been investigating insurance on the land, as the Trustees will not consent to the works without it and have told us they have been unable to get insurance themselves. We believe we have now found suitable insurance cover and the Trustees have been offered this. The costs will be met from public donations. We await confirmation that these arrangements are satisfactory.

FUNDS

The current bank balance in the Society's account is £10,300

Thanks to all who have attended fundraising events including the

Halloween Walk and Christmas Fayre.

SHARE ISSUE

If the project is given the green light from the Trustees, some further major fundraising will be needed to help finance the new building. As mentioned in our previous Newsletters the Society intends to invite the purchase of shares. This will provide some of the necessary funds required. We would like to do this once planning permission has been granted and a lease has been negotiated for the land needed. We will hold a public meeting to explain the proposals in due course.

The Community Benefit Society	
Haydn Smith (Chair)	871669
Alan Perrett (Vice Chair)	871044
Angela Chapman (Treasurer)	871101
Yvette Fisher (Secretary)	871255
Linda Cooper	
Tracey Headley-Smith	