

Duxford Parish Council would love to wish everyone a very Happy New Year. We hope you had a wonderful and peaceful Christmas and are excited for the year ahead.

The Parish Council is now working hard towards developing option B from the referendum result - a village hall with landscaped green space. Our ambition is to remain sensitive to the wishes of all our parishioners and we feel confident that we will present something which is a real asset to our village.

We will be keeping you all updated on the work we are doing with a monthly article in Chatterbox, and of course we are always open to your reactions and suggestions.

Following the result the council created a working party whose job it will now be to come up with an initial plan for the development and management of the chosen option. Every stage will be passed by council until we have a fully formed vision we can share with the village.

So far we have been discussing general concepts, taking into consideration personal preferences and the impact upon our local businesses and school. We have visited seven village halls with a series of questions on building, finances and management.

We will continue to apply for as many grants as we can to ensure that any financial impact is minimal. We are fortunate that we have a reasonable amount in the kitty and we believe we can start making some real progress really soon, particularly on the landscaping side. Any voluntary assistance is, of course, warmly welcomed and encouraged.

We want this project to be a real community effort. We would love to see it as an opportunity to bring the village together to create something special that really works for everyone. We will do our utmost to provide a hall and green space which comprises of the wishes you have shared and that we will all be proud of.

We want this project to benefit our local businesses and provide exciting opportunities. So my first questions for you all are:

- Do we have any wonderful Quantity Surveyors in the village that can help kick start our project?
- Are you an architect?
- A landscape gardener?
- A builder?
- A wildlife expert?

We want to hear from you.

If you enjoy getting muddy, planting flowers, digging holes, and can volunteer your time we also want to hear from you.

We look forward to sharing with you our next update, and in the meantime look forward to hearing from anyone who can help! Please contact the Parish Clerk - clerk@duxfordvillage.com

Thank you,

Councillor Emma Merrells.

On Behalf of The Village Hall Working Party.