



# Westleton Village Hall

*Registered Charity Number 1026353*



## **Westleton Village Hall - Update on Building Projects**

*To all people who live in Westleton and all people who use Westleton Village Hall  
From Westleton Village Hall Committee  
23/12/2010*

Friends

### **Replacement Heating System**

Those of us on the heating working party are beginning to wish we hadn't decided to change the hall heaters.

You will remember that in July 2010 we outlined the position we had reached and the strategy we intended to follow. We placed an order for the modern infra red heaters in July in the hope that these could be installed after the events of the summer had finished and in time for this winter. The fact that we had had no response to our order by September didn't worry us. Our prospective supplier knew we didn't want the work done earlier. However, the fact that we didn't get any response to our order during September and October in spite of several requests for such a response and in spite of several assurances that our order would be dealt with did worry us. So we felt we had no option but to cancel the order and find an alternative supplier.

The Suffolk Environmental Trust agreed to extend their funding deadline to give us the extra time we needed.

### **So where are we now?**

Being optimists we have decided that there is no such thing as a problem, there are only additional opportunities for creativity. In fact, we may have benefited from this delay, even though it caused us considerable frustration and irritation at the time.

We decided that our original strategy of installing a high level heating system was still be best option as this avoided the obstruction and inconvenience there would be if we mounted heaters at floor level.

But we re-examined the use of infra red heaters and came to believe that these would not, after all be the best option; they would still be a good option, but they could be bettered.

After much thought and debate (but not much argument) we decided to drop the infra-red

approach and go for a long wave electrical system mounted just below the ceiling.

The advantages of this approach will be;

We eliminate the red light,

The system can be programmed to come on in time for regular users,

The system can be turned on manually by irregular users,

Long wave systems offer better thermostatic control than short wave systems so comfort and economy are improved,

Long wave systems are less directional than short wave systems so heat distribution is better.

The disadvantages of long wave radiant systems are;

The heat-up time is longer than with short wave systems so irregular users will need to turn the heaters on before their event,

As there is no red light emitted there is a danger that the heaters will be left on.

We can deal with those two disadvantages by installing 3.6kw units which should heat up the rooms reasonably quickly and by installing a timer which switches everything off when events finish.

We have ordered the heaters and controls and they have been delivered to Beacon Lights In Leiston, who are holding them till we arrange installation. We are meeting with our contractors early in January to plan the installation programme. The hall will have to be closed in full or in part during the installation programme and we recognise that it is important that we honour existing booking arrangements. We realize that many of our users will have arrangements with third parties that must be respected. We also realize that you will all need plenty of notice before we close all or part of the hall.

This is beginning to look like a long hard winter, but we should be about half way through it by January (fingers crossed). Perhaps none of us need to get used to a new heating system during the worst of the winter weather. Subject to our contractor's commitments for 2011 and subject to him being able to hold his quoted prices we will aim to get the bulk of the work done later in the year.

We regret that this project has not gone as smoothly as we hoped and we appreciate your patience. We realize that you will be inconvenienced during the installation programme; we apologise for this and hope that we can keep the inconvenience to a minimum.

*Westleton Village Hall Committee*  
23/12/2010