

News from Blockley Little Village Hall

The Elisha Smith Institute
Registered Charity No. 1042374
Bell Bank, Blockley, GL56 9BB



Blockley's Little Village Hall in £18,000 upgrade plan

Blockley's uniquely beautiful Little Village Hall is about to undergo a much needed £18,000 refurbishment programme supported by grants from the National Lottery Community Fund, Cotswold District Council and The Summerfield Charitable Trust.

The refurbishment involves creating a better equipped kitchen with a larger floor area in which to work. There will be a hatch through to the main hall and the toilet will be upgraded. The work is expected to be completed by early September with minimal disruption to existing users.

The Blockley Little Village Hall is an attractive Grade II listed heritage building that provides a charmingly unique environment for all kinds of activities, meetings and community events involving up to 50 people. On two occasions it has been transformed into a set for the BBC's "Father Brown" TV series.

Originally constructed in the late 18th Century as a church meeting house by the Reverend Elisha Smith - Baptist preacher, enlightened social reformer and leading Blockley merchant - the chapel was acquired after the First World War and placed in a trust on behalf of the people of Blockley by Elisha's great-grandson Edward Robinson who converted it at his own expense to a village hall.

"These are improvements that many of our users have been asking for", commented chairman Robert Willott. "On their completion we believe that this beautiful village asset will be even more attractive to its current and prospective users."



Interior of Blockley Little Village Hall

Whether a music rehearsal, tea party or business meeting, the Hall has everything the user might need: seating, tables, a well equipped kitchen, Wi-Fi and toilet. If required, light meals and refreshments can be ordered from Craig Stanley's café in the village.

Later this year, modern audio-visual equipment will be installed that will be useful to local groups and businessmen's "away days" alike.



Blockley Little Village Hall – historic balcony

For booking enquiries, please contact Diane McCaul on 01386 700880.

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Pictures attached: (1) Inside the Blockley's Little Village Hall; (2) Blockley Little Village Hall's historic balcony; (3) Blockley Little Village Hall - external view of heritage building.

Further information from:

Robert Willott (chairman) – telephone 01386 700677, email rgwillott@hotmail.com



Blockley's Little Village Hall – external view of listed building